

First Christian Visitor

“Where the Grace of God Awaits You.”

www.fcc-bhm.org

VOLUME 2 NUMBER 24 June 15, 2010



CAMP HIGH HOPES

We had another weekend of Camp High Hopes that ended with everyone intact and smiling. As the 28 campers arrived at YMCA Hargis in their cars and buses, counselors began giving and receiving hugs as they reconnected with our group of campers. These mentally challenged adult campers come from group homes in Chilton County, family homes in Shelby County, and from the Jefferson County ARC.

The day was hot but it was packed with fun activities. Jim Langley oversaw the camp with lots of help from Ann Langley. Sharon Orazine, ably assisted by Cassidy, ensured everyone took his medicine on time. Tiffany Horne made a Wal-Mart run for sodas to help beat the heat and did a remarkable job with the campers and her girls. Samantha, Haley, and Georgia Horne were fantastic with campers, especially helping with crafts. One of the girls was overheard saying as she helped with crafts on Sunday, "I want to make sure they have a good time on their last day."

Alyssa Lamb, a first-time counselor, interacted with the campers with the able assistance of her mother, Janice Lamb. K. C. Horne kept the campers cool as they tried to put ice down each other's neck. Deb Carpenter did a great job, as usual, being in charge of our crafts. Virginia and Shine Guthrie had to leave early, but they were very involved with the craft activities.

Mack Carpenter and others had a good time getting the campers on their horses and guiding them around the ring. Shirley Naylor and others led our singing on the hay ride. Even with Jerry Wallace ramrodding the fishing, we still didn't catch the big one, even though we had new fishing gear, thanks to Steve Orazine, Sharon Orazine, and Barry Storer. An 11- pound bass was caught in Hargis Lake last week.

Edd Spencer was in charge of the canoes and managed to keep dry this year. Carlton Horne kept things going with his usual entertaining banter. The day swim cooled everyone off, but Barbara Carpenter, Cassidy, and Kirstyn Rudd kept getting anxious for the night counselor swim because it was delayed by thunder and lightning. They deserved a refreshing swim because these young people were amazingly helpful at camp.

Besides the excitement of riding motorcycles with the Christian Motorcycle Association, some of our campers also rode in a Corvette convertible this year. Saturday evening, we enjoyed Big Gerald's Boston butts and turkey cooked on the grill. Marian Moon, Rita Wallace, and Ann Langley organized serving the hungry campers.

We marveled at the energy of the campers dancing to our live band, and we all had a premonition that Mack Carpenter's back was going

to be out of whack the next day. Bruce Moon, Deb, Shirley, Jerry, Mack, José and others helped to get everyone into the bunks for the night. José Carreras kept us entertained with his intriguing aviation stories experienced in Puerto Rico. Kathy Mann was her usual delightful self and was the lead guitar player in the puppet band on Sunday. Barry Storer was the bingo caller on Sunday, and everyone managed to win great prizes. Clarissa Harms and Jim made the final check of Davis Hall as everyone went his own way looking forward to our next camp.

*Jim
Langley*

THE YOUNG AT HEART

It's showtime! The "Show Stoppers" will perform tap dancing for us at noon, Wednesday, June 30. After a great lunch we will be in for a treat! Some mature dancing, costumes, music, glitter, all the best – just for you! Be sure to sign up and bring your friends for some great entertainment. *See ya, Janet*

MEN'S NIGHT MONDAY JUNE 28

Our own home grown Scott Jackson will speak to us on Men's Night, June 28. Scott has his finger on the pulse of what's hot and what's not here in the Birmingham area. Scott is keenly aware of what is planned in the way of commercial development in our local area and will share with us what the future holds for Birmingham.

Scott has worked for Russell Mills in a variety of different capacities, and is currently the Comptroller for Bayer Properties Inc. here in Birmingham.

Come join us for another "James Gang" meal brought to you by Steve Pasky and his merry men.

Bud Flora

SACRED HARP MUSIC

Thursday, June 17 – Saturday, June 19

Everyday from 9:30 am until 2:30 pm. Lunch provided at 12:00 Noon. Everyone is invited to First Christian Church sanctuary and Family Life Center for this wonderful experience of music and Christian fellowship. Last year approximately 800 people attended.

SUNDAY'S ATTENDANCE

SUNDAY SCHOOL	68
WORSHIP	139
BLESSING OF THE PETS	37

First Christian Church
4954 Valleydale Road
Birmingham, Al. 35242

FIRST CHRISTIAN VISITOR (UPS 0195-880) IS PUBLISHED WEEKLY EXCEPT A WEEK IN DECEMBER AND A WEEK IN JULY, BY FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH. **PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID AT BIRMINGHAM, AL, 35203.** POSTMASTER PLEASE SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO: FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH, 4954 VALLEYDALE ROAD, BIRMINGHAM, AL 35242.

Life In Our Community This Week

Sunday, June 20

FATHER’S DAY

9:00 Sunday School

10:15 Worship Service

Monday, June 21

7:00 Men’s Bible Study

10:00 Staff Meeting

6:30 Mulch Work Party

Tuesday, June 22

9:30 TAN’S Summer Fun Begins

Wednesday, June 23

6:30 Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, June 24

9:30 TAN’S Summer Fun

7:00 Men’s Bible Study on John

GRACE NOTES

- † A great article about the Sacred Harp Convention at our church was in the Birmingham Magazine.
- † There were 13 children in grades 1-5 and 11 sponsors attending the Fun, Food, and Fitness Camp. It was an awesome week.
- † This Sunday is Father’s Day. The children will share bookmarks with all the men in the church in morning worship.
- † Everyone is invited to the Work Day on the grounds, at 6:30 pm, Monday, June 21. Our goal is to place mulch in the flower beds in the front of the church and in the prayer garden.
- † We have a new roof on our sanctuary, the offices, and the playground side of the Family Life Center. Our appreciation is expressed to Nickey Rudd for his leadership in the project.
- † Congratulations to Emmy Raney, granddaughter of Barry & Susan Storer, who graduated from Fort Knox HS in Kentucky. Emmy will attend The Airforce Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

OUR CHURCH HISTORY CONTINUED

On January 28, 1979, Laity Sunday, the KOP mortgage was finally marked "paid in full" and burned in a special ceremony during morning worship.

In March Dr. and Mrs. Garner led the CYF on a Disciples Heritage Tour in Kentucky where the youth made new friends and learned much about their Disciple heritage.

At a called congregational meeting on April 1 an overwhelming majority voted to relocate the church. Dr. Bob Russell, chairman of the 2nd Century Committee, reviewed the history of past events leading up to this moment and provided

CHURCH HISTORY CONTINUED

background information on how each successive phase of the committee's research developed and progressed. Bill Conwell spoke regarding the resolution, recommending relocation, which was considered and approved by the Official Board in November, 1978. After ample time for debate, discussion and questions, it was evident that any decision made would come only after careful consideration of all elements, particularly how such a move would affect all members of the church. Many affirmative votes were made at great personal cost and with a few tears as members recalled marriages, baptisms, moments of joy and moments of deep spiritual conviction. These votes were cast because of a willingness to place the importance of the church, its future and its needs above personal desires and aspirations. This vote was a commitment to carry forward the ministry of Christ into a new field of endeavor.

In May the Rev. George Edwards became Associate Minister and Program Director of Hargis Christian Retreat upon completion of his work as Associate Minister of Linwood Christian Church, Indianapolis. He, his wife Elizabeth (Pepper) and two young sons moved into their new home at the Retreat. Rev. Edwards was installed on June 17, and he and his family were honored at a reception during Coffee Hour.

The Site Selection Committee (Hubert Nall, Chairman) narrowed the search to four available properties, three on Cahaba Valley Road and one on Valleydale Road. At first, one of the properties on Cahaba Valley Road was recommended for purchase by the committee, and the congregation so voted. However, the vote was very close and many were concerned about the condition of that property. After much discussion, further investigation and several trips to the site, it was decided that the Valleydale Road site was the better choice.

There were several items of interest in the Visitor during the summer of 1979: Edd Spencer was called to be senior minister of First Christian Church in Little Rock with installation to take place in October, Jan Watts received her master's degree in music education, and Sharon Orazine accepted a position at Brookwood Medical Center upon completion of her anesthesia training at Baptist Medical Centers.

CHRISTIAN COMRADES SUNDAY LESSON
Sunday, June 20th
“Christian Apologetics Islam”
Arabian Culture Prior to Islam

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