

# First Christian Visitor

*“Where the Grace of God Awaits You.”*

[www.fcc-bhm.org](http://www.fcc-bhm.org)

VOLUME 2 NUMBER 09 MARCH 2, 2010



## EXTINGUISHING THE LIGHT

Every Sunday during Lent choir members will be extinguishing the Lenten Candles during morning worship. This service reminds us of the suffering and death of Jesus Christ. A reminder that the light and life of Jesus living on the earth is ending at the cross. The choir members will share with us the meaning of the following crosses as symbols of his death. We will hear the symbolism of the Anchor Cross, Greek Cross, Jerusalem Cross, Passion Cross, St. Andrew Cross and the Celtic Cross.

## LENTEN WORSHIP

Wednesday, March 3, 10, 17, and 24  
Lenten Dinners at 5:45 followed by  
Lenten Worship at 6:30 pm  
Palm Sunday, March 28 – Easter Songs of the  
Palms and Easter Special Offering  
Thursday, April 1 – Maundy Thursday – Holy  
Communion at 7:00 pm  
Thursday, April 1 – Friday, April 2 from 9:00 pm-  
9:00 pm our 24-Hour Prayer Vigil  
Sunday, April 4 – Easter Sunrise Service at Hargis  
at 6:30 am and Easter Morning Worship at  
10:00 am with Holy Baptism.

## WEDNESDAY NIGHT LENTEN SUPPERS AND WORSHIP

Every Wednesday night during Lent we will have the opportunity to gather in the Family Life Center at 5:45 pm for supper. The cost will be: Adults-\$5.00, children under 10- \$3.00, and children 3 and under are free. Following the meal at 6:30 pm, we will have a thirty-minute Lenten Worship Service in the Farkas Room. The service will focus on the passion of Jesus through the senses of sight, sound, smell, touch, and taste. The schedule for each worship service is as follows:

Wednesday, March 3: Hearing – “Sounds Heard  
On the way to the Cross”  
Wednesday, March 10: Smells – “Smelling the  
Approach of Death”  
Wednesday, March 17: Touch - “The Feel of the  
Cross”  
Wednesday, March 24: Taste – “Jesus Tastes  
The Approach of Death”

Reservations for the meal can be made using the envelope in back of the pews. If you can't come for the meal, please attend the Lenten Worship Service at 6:30 pm. Childcare will be provided for both the meal and the worship service.

## SUNDAY'S ATTENDANCE

SUNDAY SCHOOL	n/a
WORSHIP	147
LENTEN SERVICE	63

## LENT

I have a book in my office titled “Kneeling in Jerusalem”, by Ann Weems. In her book, in a powerful and creative way, she shares about the meaning of Lent.

*Lent is a time to take the time to let the power of our faith story take hold of us, a time to let the events get up and walk around us, a time to intensify our living unto Christ, a time to hover over the thought of our hearts, a time to place our feet in the streets of Jerusalem or to walk along the sea and listen to his word, a time to touch his robe and feel the healing surge through us, a time to ponder and a time to wonder... Lent is a time to allow a fresh new taste of God!*

Have a blessed Lenten season.

*God Bless you, Edd*

## MEN'S RETREAT

**March 12-13 at YMCA Hargis**

All men are invited to the Christian Men's Retreat for men in the Christian Church Disciples of Christ in Alabama and Northwest Florida. The retreat begins with dinner at 6:00 pm on Friday, March 12 and ends after lunch on Saturday, March 13 at 2:30 pm. The theme is “God First – Spirit, Mind and Body.” The resource leader is Rev. Eugene Fisher, Director of Membership for the Pension Fund. Registration cost is \$75 per person.

## BAPTISM AND MEMBERSHIP CLASS

The pastor's class for Holy Baptism meets at 4:30 pm in the Fireside Room. The class is for all children, youth and young adults who are considering baptism. The class meets every Sunday until Palm Sunday, March 28, with baptism on Easter Sunday, April 4, during worship. Please contact Edd or Mary Pat if you are interested.

## WEARING NAMETAGS

Beginning Sunday, March 7 the Membership Mission will be encouraging all members to wear their nametags. They will have different groups in the narthex passing out nametags to all members and friends of the church. The first group to assist with the nametags will be the CYF youth group.

## WEEK OF COMPASSION OFFERING

Our prayers are with the people of Chile. We will continue to receive the Week of Compassion offerings for Haiti, Chile and other areas of the world suffering from disasters. To date we have received \$3449.00 for the special offering of love and compassion for others.



**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS BEGINS MARCH 14  
RUN CLOCKS FORWARD 1 HOUR!**

First Christian Church  
4954 Valleydale Road

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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.

**2010 REGIONAL ASSEMBLY  
APRIL 23-25**

The 2010 Regional Assembly of the Christian Church (DOC) in Al/NW Florida will be held at First Christian Church, Decatur, on April 23-25. Complete information on registration and housing is available on the website: [www.alnwfdisciples.org](http://www.alnwfdisciples.org)

The 2010 Regional Assembly will focus on the theme, “..to the Ends of the Earth.” The assembly will emphasize the mandate from Christ, as found in Acts 1:8, for his disciples to continue his work of proclaiming the good news to the ends of the earth. We will be joined by several partners representing ministries that are taking the Disciples witness to the ends of the earth. These partners include: the Rev. Amy Gopp, the Rev. Sandra Gourder, and the Rev. Felix Ortiz. For additional information, go to: [www.alnfdisciples.org](http://www.alnfdisciples.org).

**Life In Our Community This Week**

**Sunday, March 7**

Third Sunday of Lent

- 9:00 Sunday School
- 10:00 Worship Service
- 10:15 Worship & Wonder
- 4:30 Pastor’s Class
- 5:30 Children & Youth
- 6:45 Snack Supper

**Monday, March 8**

- 7:00 Men’s Bible Study
- 10:00 Staff Meeting

**Tuesday, March 9**

- 9:45 Chapel
- 10:00 Women’s Bible Study
- 7:00 Finance Council

**Wednesday, March 10**

- 9:45 Chapel
- 5:45 Lenten Dinner
- 6:30 Lenten Worship
- 7:00 Choir Rehearsal

**Friday, March 12**

- 7:00 Scrabble at Joye Taylor’s

**Friday-Saturday, March 12-13**

Men’s Retreat at Hargis

**GRACE NOTES**

- † Please continue to pray for Nancy Hubner, who is now at home.
- † Our prayers are with Edith Carreras, who had knee replacement surgery at Brookwood.
- † Congratulations to Nicole Damiano (Weston) and Jesse Weston on the birth of their daughter, Julie Weston, born Monday, Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)  
SUMMER CAMPS 2010**

**Discovery Camp June 5-7, 2010**  
*For those completing 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Grades*

**Junior Camp June 7-11, 2010**  
*For those completing 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Grades*

**CYF Camp June 7-11, 2010, Giltner Hall**  
*For those completing the 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, & 12<sup>th</sup> Grades*

**Chi Rho Camp June 7-11, 2010, Giltner Hall**  
*For those completing 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, & 8<sup>th</sup> Grades*

*All traditional camps are held at YMCA Hargis*

**Fine Arts Camp June 20-25, 2010**  
*For those completing 6<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> Grades*  
Phyllis Kirk, Director

*Fine Arts Camp held at Noah’s Ark Christian  
Retreat Center in Panama City, Florida*

**Applications will be available on the website**

**CHRISTIAN COMRADES SUNDAY LESSON**

**Sunday, March 7<sup>th</sup>**

**“Mission to the Community”**  
**Jonah 1: 1-3; 3:1-9**

**YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE IN 2010**

The following are some wonderful opportunities to serve our Lord at First Christian in 2010. Please choose one and notify Hugh Henderson, Gary Franklin, Edd or Mary Pat. All members of First Christian are encouraged to serve as a member of a Mission.

Worship Mission – Carole Rudd, Chair:  
Responsible for all Sunday morning worship services and special services such as Christmas and Easter.

Education Mission- Julie Henderson, Chair:  
Responsible for Sunday school of all ages, youth work and the total education program of the church.  
Evangelism Mission – Clarissa Harms, Chair:  
Responsible for bringing new members into the life of the church.

Fellowship Mission - Mack Carpenter, Chair:  
Responsible for providing a social life and fellowship activities for the church.

Administration Mission - Mike Mee, Chair:  
Responsible for the financial program, maintenance of property and general administration policies for the church.

Outreach Mission - Sharon Orazine & Liz West, Co-Chairs:  
Responsible for giving to the needy within Birmingham and throughout the world.

Membership Mission - Lisa Burdette, Chair:  
Responsible for care and nurturing of church members.

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