



First Christian Visitor

“Where the Grace of God Awaits You.”

www.fcc-bhm.org

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YOUTH GROUPS TO BEGIN AGAIN!

Mark your calendars for Sunday, September 11, at 5:30. The following are our opportunities for youth groups here at First Christian Church. Plan on bringing your children and their friends. Everyone is welcome. Youth groups not only build memories and friendships they help develop a stronger faith foundation. What we do today to strengthen our child's faith will last a life time. Invest in your child's faith and bring them to church, Sunday school and youth groups. Our youth groups are as follows:

- ▲ Bible Buddies: Ages 4- 1st grade: Sponsors: Julia Williamson & Jeanell Miranda
- ▲ Kool Kids: Grades 2nd – 5th: Sponsors: Deb Carpenter & Sarah Ford
- ▲ Chi Rho youth: Grades 6th - 8th : Sponsors: Deb Carpenter and Nicole Weston
- ▲ CYF youth: Grades: 9th - 12th : Sponsors: Donnette Mee & Mary Pat Spencer
- ▲ Snack Supper Coordinator – Conlee Alderson

Our youth groups will begin at 5:30pm and conclude at 6:15pm with a snack supper at a cost \$2.50 per person. The snack suppers are prepared by our parents and/or grandparents and anyone wishing to provide a simple supper for our children and youth as they sit around the table and have fellowship with one another. Volunteers will be reimbursed for their expenses. Parents/grandparents may pick up their children between 6:30 pm – 6:40 pm. We look forward to another fantastic year so come and join us for a year full of fun, fellowship and faith building.

PARENTS/GRANDPARENTS MEETING FOR YOUTH GROUPS

Sunday, September 18 at 5:30 pm

How well do you know your child(ren), teenager(s), or grandchildren? And how well do you think that they know you? We are planning an evening of fun and games as the adults match up with their children. You are guaranteed to have a good laugh as we discover just how much we all know about each other. We will also do some non-threatening competition games. So plan on attending this night of family fun.

At this meeting we will also invite and encourage parents/grandparents to bring the updated information for our health forms and permission slips. The adults will also have an opportunity to pay in advance for the children's snack suppers as well as sign up to prepare one. Plan now to attend and remember to bring your child's updated information and your check book. See you there!

DELMONT SAID

by Jim Langley

Our own Jimmy Langley has written 99 pages of Southern sayings that will keep you smiling or laughing out loud from cover to cover. The title of his book is *Delmont Said*. The book is a combination of 1000 best southern sayings from Kosciusko to Yeller Creek. Jim became interested in collecting Southern sayings four years ago. He started writing down any saying that he had heard from friends and family, television, the movies and even the internet. He has collected over 5000 sayings, and his book contains only a portion. Jim has already had his first book signing in his hometown of Vernon on August 17.

So if you need a good laugh and would like a copy of this unique book, you may contact Jim at church, call him at home or email him. His email is: j1091649@yahoo.com. The books are \$12.00 each and will make great gifts. Congratulations, Jim, we are proud of you!

THANK YOU EVERYONE!

Thank you to everyone who helped make our dinner theatre "A Night on 42nd Street" a success.

To the guys who came months ago to help build the stage, to the ones who put it together, and to the ones who took it all down, thank you. Also, to the people who gave of their time and talent on stage to the people who supported their efforts by buying tickets and coming to the dinner and show, thank you. I would be remiss if I didn't thank Bill Watts and Kasey Fox for sound and lighting. Thanks to Garry Tyree for photography and Michael Watts for his graphic design and videography services.

I really need to thank my right hand woman who never is in the limelight or gets the credit that she deserves. She is the most gifted artist and hardest worker I've ever known, so thank you Deb Carpenter for every thing you do, because without you, it wouldn't have happened at all! In Christ,

Jan

CHOIR AND BELL CHOIR

Choir rehearsal will resume Wednesday, September 7, at 6:30 pm. There will be a Bell choir organizational meeting on Sunday, September 11, at 1:30 pm and Bell choir rehearsals will thereafter, be rescheduled on Sunday afternoons at 1:30 pm until we play. The Bell choir will play the first Sunday in Advent, November 27. Our Christmas Cantata will be December 11, this year and our first Cantata practice will be September 28, at 7:30 pm. Anyone who would like to participate in any of these musical activities is welcome. Jan

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Life In Our Community This Week

Sunday, September 4

Labor Day

9:00 Sunday School
9:45-10:15 Fellowship Moment
10:15 Worship Service
10:30 Worship & Wonder

Monday, September 5

Office Closed

Tuesday, September 6 – Thursday, September 8

9:30 – 1:30 The Adventure Nook Preschool begins

Wednesday, September 7

6:30 Choir Practice
Thursday, September 8
7:00 Advocates Bible Study
7:00 Women’s Bible Study

GRACE NOTES

- Our sympathy is expressed to Shirley Naylor and family in the death of Shirley's father, Edward Sutton.
- Please pray for Carole Rudd, Carol Dutt, Thomas Barnett, Steve Pasky, and Ray Mohnssen.
- Youth Groups will begin on Sunday, September 11, at 5:30 pm.
- A change of date for the Chi Rho and CYF planning retreat at Horse Pens 40. We will now leave on Saturday, September 17 at 8:00 am promptly. We will return in time for youth groups at 5:30pm.
- Many thanks to Wanda Davis for sharing her marvelous story with us this past Sunday.



If you're blessed to be an American, living in the land of the free and the brave, put something in your Blessing Box this week.

CHRISTIAN COMRADES SUNDAY LESSON

Sunday, September 4th
Paul's Letter to Timothy
1 Timothy 1-3

“THE DISCIPLES”
Sunday, September 4th
Righteousness and Wisdom
Proverbs 3: 1-12

SUNDAY’S ATTENDANCE

WORSHIP SERVICE **154**
SUNDAY SCHOOL **57**

CHURCH HISTORY CONTINUED

The Christian Men's Fellowship held its 2nd annual cook-off in October, 2001, and awarded prizes in several categories. Wayne Ellis won the prize for salad, Steve Pasky for main dish, and Gary Franklin and Gary Taylor tied for best dessert. Hubert Nall took home the Grand Champion trophy for his terrific gumbo.

The children's Christmas pageant, "It's a Small World at Christmas Time", was presented on Wednesday evening, December 12. The production showed the meanings and customs of Christmas for children around the world. The following Sunday the music department presented a dramatic musical to celebrate the birth of Jesus. This presentation was followed by Christmas dinner in the Family Life Center. A Sunday School Advent Festival took place the first four Sundays in December with adult classes preparing breakfast. On the last Sunday of the month, New Year's Eve, the Christian Men's Fellowship prepared breakfast.

The youth of the church sponsored their annual Valentine Sweetheart Dinner and made more than \$700 for summer mission trips. The theme for the Wednesday evening Lenten services, 2002, was "Walking with Jesus". A covered dish supper was followed by a time of singing and inspiration. A simple fellowship supper preceded the Maundy Thursday candlelight communion service. Easter sunrise service was held in the Cornerstone Memorial Garden and was followed by a 5th Sunday breakfast and then Easter worship in the sanctuary.

In April the congregation approved a campaign called "Growing Disciples", an effort to raise at least \$200,000 for long overdue work to maintain and upgrade our existing facilities and to construct a much needed youth ministry center. Ann Langley was chair of the capital campaign planning team. Pledge cards and prayer covenant cards were distributed at a kick-off luncheon on the last Sunday in April. Cards were received during morning worship on Commitment Sunday, May 19.

Many long - time members were saddened by the demolition of our old church building downtown. The stone columns from the building were donated to the Birmingham Zoo, and the front steps of the church were donated for an amphitheater at Turkey Creek Falls near Pinson. In this way, our building continued to serve the people of this community.

Another successful Camp High Hopes was held at Hargis in June with 30 volunteer counselors, 10 from the Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, which also provided a puppet ministry. One of the highlights was the appearance of the Birmingham Hog Club (Harleys), who enjoyed showing their bikes and interacting with the campers.

In June, 12 CYF youth and their leaders went to Jacksonville, FL, to lead a Vacation Bible School for an inner - city children's program.