

First Christian Visitor

“Where the Grace of God Awaits You.”

www.fcc-bhm.org

VOLUME 3 NUMBER 16 APRIL 19, 2011



AN EASTER GREETING

All of us on your church staff join you in praising God for the Good News: Christ is risen! May God raise each one of us with a life filled with love, laughter and praise without end. *Happy Easter!*

Edd Spencer	Mary Pat Spencer
Jan Watts	David Brasher
Cecelia Roberts	Beth Patterson
Chris McCayna	Lloyd Smith
Jennifer Powell	Christina Nelson
Layla Stern	

MAUNDY THURSDAY PASSOVER SEDER AND THE LORD'S SUPPER

Circle your calendar for a holy evening at First Christian this Thursday, April 21st at 6:30 pm in the Family Life Center. The evening begins with a meal furnished by the Fellowship Mission. The cost is \$5.00 for age 11 and over, \$3.00 for ages 4-10, and children under 3 eat free. After the meal, the Worship Mission will lead us in a Passover Seder. The Passover meal was instituted over 1200 years before Jesus. It recalls God saving the people of Israel from slavery to the Egyptians. Jesus celebrated it, knowing that it foreshadowed God's ultimate saving action to be accomplished through Him. We will celebrate the Old Testament Passover Seder, followed with the New Testament Lord's Supper. It will be a holy moment during Holy Week as we prepare for Easter Sunday. Call the office by Thursday morning to make your reservations. The nursery will be open.

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE AND BREAKFAST

Our Easter Sunrise Worship and Breakfast is Easter Sunday, April 24, at 6:30 am at the outdoor amphitheater at Hargis Retreat. The Chancel Choir and the Bell Choir are doing the Sunrise Service this year and would like to invite the congregation to meet with us at Hargis and greet the Easter morning with songs and words of worship to our risen Lord and Savior. Following the service, breakfast will be served in the Hargis dining room at a cost of \$5.75 for adults and children 6 and over, \$3.75 for children ages 3-5, and children 2 years old and under are free. Please call the office by Thursday morning to make your reservations for breakfast.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We welcome Jay Barkley into the church, who comes as a dual member of his home church, Canton Christian, in Canton, Missouri and FCC. Please add his address to your church directory:

4505 Melissa Way
Birmingham, AL 35243 Ph# 637-0293

SUNDAY'S ATTENDANCE

WEDNESDAY LENTEN WORSHIP	67
SUNDAY SCHOOL	78
WORSHIP SERVICE	147

EASTER OFFERING

As we prepare to celebrate the Risen Christ in our lives, may we share in the Easter Offering on Sunday, April 24th. This offering will:

- Support 126 missionaries in 43 countries
- Support congregations in transition with programs of renewal and transformation
- Reinforce the witness of African, Hispanic and Asian-American ministries in the Christian Church (DOC)
- Maintain an effective search and call process for the calling of ministers to ministries of the local and regional church
- Strengthen our church's witness of justice and peace in critical situations of oppression and conflict throughout the world
- Allocate "over and above" financial support to retired pastors and missionaries who receive only minimum pension benefits
- Facilitate resources and programs of evangelism and church growth
- Nurture young church leaders and seminarians in the living of their faith, their academic studies, and short-term practical internships
- Preserve and honors our history and lasting legacy as a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world
- Support social programs of our church which serve "the least of these"

Vacation Bible School Orientation and Training Thursday, April 28 at 10:00

July 25-29 will be here before we know it. Soon we will all be scattering for summer fun and vacations- so before we get away we want to have our VBS training for all our volunteers. We will meet in the Farkas room at 10:00 on Thursday, April 28. We promise to have you out by noon at the latest. We may even want to grab some lunch together. We are excited about our theme and staff. Our theme this year is **Galactic Blast**. Our 4-year-olds through the 6th grade will explore a cosmic adventure focusing on praising our wonderful, incredible amazing, magnificent and awesome God! We will do this through Story Telling, Discovery Time, Crafts, Music, and even our snack time in our Galactic Café'. In addition, each day as we come for our Starship Galactic Praise time, we will have as our special guest, Galileo the Green Gorilla. Not to worry, he is a very friendly Gorilla. Galileo is friends with the Commander of our Starship and they will help us complete our mission. So our first priority is to be **trained** for this special Mission. So Galactic Blast staff and volunteers- please report to your station on Thursday, April 28th at 10:00. See you there. Thanks, Crew, we really appreciate you.

Mary Pat and Julie

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Life In Our Community This Week

Sunday, April 24
6:30 Easter Sunrise Service and
Breakfast at Hargis
9:00 Sunday School
9:45-10:15 Fellowship Moment
10:15 Easter Worship & Baptism
10:30 Worship & Wonder
Monday, April 25
7:00 Men's Bible Study
Tuesday, April 26
9:45 Chapel
10:00 Women's Bible Study
Thursday, April 28
7:00 Women's Bible Study
7:00 Men's Bible Study
Friday, April 29
5:00 Chi Rho & Kool Kids Lock-In

GRACE NOTES

- † The Adventure Nook Preschool would like to thank Pastor Edd for taking our children on a Dinosaur excursion. We all enjoyed it. Thanks again Pastor Edd! *The teachers and students of The Adventure Nook.*
- † The Thursday evening Men's Advocates Bible study will begin a new study on the books of I & II Peter. All men are invited to come every Thursday evening at 7:00 pm.
- † Our joy is with Jody, Amanda and Leah Boyles in the birth of a son and brother, Jackson Scott Boyles. The proud grand parents are Gary and Annie Franklin.
- † Our prayers are with Beverly Smith, who is at Shelby Baptist, and Mac Heaton, who is at Lakeshore.
- † Our men's organization are offering an early spring t-shirt for sale. The shirts are \$10 each, with the proceeds going to help our various & growing projects. A variety of sizes are available & we have one to fit you. See Gary Howard, Jerry Wallace or others for your Disciples shirt. *Thanks, Jerry Wallace*
- † My gratitude is expressed to Bruce Moon and Jerry Wallace, for their Hands of the Carpenter Ministry for our home. *Linda Heaton*
- † Our prayers are with Carly Chandler.
- † Thank you choir for the outstanding Easter Cantata. It was fantastic!

CHRISTIAN COMRADES SUNDAY LESSON

Sunday, April 24th
“The Return of the King”
Revelation 16:13-16 Daniel 11: 36-45

“THE DISCIPLES”
Sunday, April 24th
Ancient Words of Praise
Christ is Risen! Matthew 28:1-17

TWENTY-FOUR HOUR PRAYER VIGIL

The following persons will pray in the Twenty-Four Hour Prayer Vigil that begins at the church this Thursday, April 21 at 9:00 pm and end Friday, April 22, at 9:00 pm. You may come and pray with them and be their prayer partner. Also, those who are not praying at the church are encouraged to pray at home. May all of our prayers be lifted up to God during this holy season of the passion, crucifixion and resurrection of our Lord.

Thursday, April 21

9:00 pm Libby Carpenter
9:30 pm Ann Langley
10:00 pm Jim Langley
10:30 pm Joye Taylor
11:00 pm Hugh Henderson
11:30 pm Edd Spencer
Midnight June Pryor

Friday, April 22

12:30 am Bob Smith
1:00 am Bob Smith
1:30 am Hubert Nall
2:00 am Steve Pasky
2:30 am Steve Pasky
3:00 am Ross Lange
3:30 am Ross Lange
4:00 am Dan Alderson
4:30 am Dan Alderson
5:00 am Barry Storer
5:30 am Jim Thigpen
6:00 am Jim Thigpen
6:30 am Janet Bonds
7:00 am Jerry Wallace
7:30 am Deb Carpenter
8:00 am Clarissa Harms
8:30 am Bud Flora
9:00 am Georgia Flora
9:30 am Wayne & Carol Dutt
10:00 am Jim Baxter
10:30 am Beverly Baxter
11:00 am Rita Wallace
11:30 am Mary Pat Spencer
12:00 noon Connie Tabb
12:30 pm Pat Deaton
1:00 pm Earl Strickland
1:30 pm George Dudley
2:00 pm Edith Carreras
2:30 pm David Hamilton
3:00 pm Marian Moon
3:30 pm Jean Nicholson
4:00 pm Donnette Mee
4:30 pm Aneda Chandler
5:00 pm Jill Pasky
5:30 pm Sandy Hamilton
6:00 pm Jane Belcher
6:30 pm Lucille Leaman
7:00 pm Russell Fountain
7:30 pm Bob Coupland
8:00 pm Sheila Coupland
8:30 pm Paul & Donna Penn