

FIRST CHRISTIAN TIMES

First Christian Church (Disciples Of Christ)
Monday, December 14, 2009



The purpose of this church shall be as revealed in the New Testament: to win people to faith in Jesus Christ and commit them actively to the church; to help them grow in the grace and knowledge of Christ that increasingly they may know and do His will and to work for the unity of all Christians.

Sunday Schedule:

Chapel Worship	8:00 AM
Contemporary Worship	9:00 AM
Sunday School	10:00 AM
Worship	11:00 AM
Youth Fellowship	4:00 PM

Telephone: 817-295-4123
Fax: 817-295-0750

Website: www.fccburleson.org

Office Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 9:00 am-2:00 pm

Dr. Laura Odiorne, Pastor

(817) 295-5538 - Home Phone

E-Mail: pastor@fccburleson.org

Steven Burr, Minister to Youth and Children

(816) 589-2279 - Cell

E-Mail: steven@fccburleson.org; Steven.Burr@TCU.Edu

Terri Lester, Secretary

E-Mail: terri@fccburleson.org

A NOTE FROM PASTOR LAURA

Well Done!

I want to give Kudos to our Minister to Youth and Children, Steven Burr, for successfully orchestrating his first youth Sunday with us, his first Nativity program and his first Advent Festival - and all in one day! I know he had lots of helpers, and we are so grateful for each and every one of you that help make this special event possible for the children and youth of our church every year.

I also want to give thanks for both Steven Burr and Collin Gregory who led all 3 worship services together this past Sunday morning in my absence. This was the first time in 15 years that I've felt like it was ok to go away for a Sunday during Advent. I knew I was leaving things in very capable hands and your affirmations of that have been gratifying as well.

And lest I forget, what a great job our children and youth did of bringing the birth narrative of Jesus to life with creativity and joy.

Advent Blessing to All,
Pastor Laura

Come and Be Blessed!



This coming Sunday, December 20, our Choir and Praise Band are bringing a joint Christmas special for both services to share the joy of Christmas and offer their gift of praise up to God. Come, bring a friend, and enjoy the celebration of our Lord's birth!



BEHOLD WE ARE DOING A NEW THING...



We are expanding our Sunday morning children's ministries. Beginning with the first Sunday in January, the 11:00 service will have children's church for ages 3-5 and we will have children's worship for ages 6-10. Both groups will leave after the children's moment and go to the Family Life Center. The first portion of their time will be together where they will have some music and singing. After music time is over, the groups will divide up. The older group will remain in the Family Life Center and the younger group will go to the room in which they currently meet. There will also be new material for the younger group beginning in January. We will have a training session for all Children's Church volunteers on Sunday, January 3 at 9:30 am so that no one has to make an extra trip up to church or miss out on Sunday school. Invite your friends, children, grandchildren, etc. We want it to be fun for all!



WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

November 29, 2009 -

Early	7
Contemporary & Traditional	81

December 6, 2009 -

Early	5
Contemporary & Traditional	93

December 13, 2009 -

Early	5
Contemporary & Traditional	102

Offering 11/29/09

Gen. Fund	3,275.10
Build. Fund	1,035.00
Thanksgiving Offering	10.00

Offering 12/06/09

Gen. Fund	3,732.00
Build. Fund	1,151.00

Offering 12/13/09

Gen. Fund	2,953.00
Build. Fund	822.00



Visitors and Guests

Bob Lee & Marlene Baysinger in the early service.

Margie Lile; Averi Hinkle; Alex, Kristy & Madison Philips; Melissa Pate; William

Dunaway; Laura Melton & Christie Purvis; Ben Fambrough; Ariel Jorgensen; Anne Beck; Cory & Richelle Smithee; Randy, Deah, Jordan, Cheyenne, Kaylon & Taylor Hollis; Otis Gillespie; Mark Hurt & Rylie Melton in the Contemporary Service

Margie Lile; Averi Hinkle; Marjorie Armstrong; Iris Wilson; Nick Rakestraw; Ariel Jorgensen; Wesley & Sandy Horton; Laura Melton; Don Peavy, Sr., Phil, Jenni & Brendon Hatfield & and our other regular visitors in the Traditional Service.

*We were happy that they worshipped
with us and trust that they found inspiration, fellowship
and love.*

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

Thursday, December 31st
7:30 pm

Come and bring snacks to share and enjoy with everyone. There will be games & movies for the kids and we will have a brief service at midnight! Please come join in the fun as we ring in the new year!



CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2009

9:30 AM	Ladies Bible Study (Foyer)
6:30 PM	Choir Practice (S)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2009

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT - LOVE

8:15 AM	Chapel Service (C)
9:00 AM	Prayer Group (E)
9:00 AM	Contemporary Worship (S)
10:00 AM	Sunday School
11:00 AM	Worship (S)
4:00 PM	Youth Christmas Party

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2009

9:30 AM	Ladies Bible Study (Foyer)
7:00 PM	Choir Practice (S)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2009

6:00 PM	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service (S)
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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2009

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Church Office Closed 12/23-12/25

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2009

8:15 AM	Chapel Service (C)
9:00 AM	Prayer Group (E)
9:00 AM	Contemporary Worship (S)
10:00 AM	Sunday School
11:00 AM	Worship (S)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2009

9:30 AM	Ladies Bible Study (Foyer)
7:00 PM	Choir Practice (S)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2009

7:30 PM	New Year's Eve Party (FLC)
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FRIDAY, JANUARY 1, 2010

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Church Office Closed 12/30-1/1

SATURDAY, JANUARY 2, 2010

9:00 AM	Prayer Group (E)
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SUNDAY, JANUARY 3, 2010

HARVEST HOUSE SUNDAY

8:15 AM	Chapel Service (C)
9:00 AM	Prayer Group (E)
9:00 AM	Contemporary Worship (S)
9:30 AM	Children's Church Training
10:00 AM	Sunday School
11:00 AM	Worship (S)
12:00 PM	Elders' Meeting (E)

No Youth Fellowship

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2010

9:30 AM	Ladies Bible Study (Foyer)
7:00 PM	Choir Practice (S)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 7, 2010

6:00 PM	Band Practice (S)
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SUNDAY, JANUARY 10, 2010

9:00 AM	Prayer Group (E)
12:00 PM	All Church Birthday Luncheon & Ministry Fair (FLC)

MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 2010

9:00 AM	Newsletter Published
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(E) Education (C) Chapel
(S) Sanctuary (FLC) Family Life Center



The Power of Prayer

CONCERNS:

Doyle Fields, Marion Higginbotham's cousin, passed away in Arkansas.

Bethany Bonds had severe swimmer's ear.

Dick & Dorothy Nash

Deondra Owen's friend's father was in a car accident.

Len Gerstner went to the Mayo Clinic for tests on December 7th.

Steve Janusch's blood pressure was too high so his knee replacement surgery has been rescheduled for Friday, December 18th.

Carol Findley's aunt passed away.

Richard Edmonds is recovering from knee replacement surgery on December 9th and is doing well.

Iris Wilson's 2 different neighbors - one's son passed away and another one's brother-in-law passed away. Unspoken prayers.

Natalie Stevens, Lolly Ellis' cousin's wife, has breast cancer. They have 3 young children.

A soldier that Andrew McGee served with in Charlie Company took his own life.

Alex Philips' co-workers & family have lost their heater and it needs to be replaced. They are also having other difficulties.

The Gunn's son is flying to Canada.

The English's daughter-in-law is in India.

JOYS:

New Contemporary service started 11/29/09 and had 31 in attendance!

TCU's perfect season!

Great Thanksgiving Holiday

Ky & Tina Gregory and family are back in the USA!

Robby Owen has a new job at Chesapeake Energy!!

Larry & Needra Womack are back in Burleson.

YOUTH CORNER

Blessings!

This has been such a busy month so far, what with Youth Sunday, the opportunity for me to preach, the Advent Festival, the creation of a new contemporary service (which you should check out by the way if you have not already), and also more to come!

On Dec. 20th, the youth will be having their Christmas party. The Christmas party is tacky Christmas themed, and will be loads of fun! We will be meeting at the church around 3:34 to 4:00, heading to the Parks at Arlington Mall to go ice skating, and after a little bit of free time there, will be heading to my house for a white elephant gift exchange. We return to the church slightly after 10:00 pm and you can expect them to be tired! I am sure that the day will be a lot of fun! On Dec. 21st, I will be heading up north to Kansas City for the holidays for some much needed rest and relaxation after finals week and the busy Advent schedule.

I would like to thank you all for your support on the 13th, which hosted a plethora of events from youth Sunday to the Advent Festival. It wouldn't have been possible without such a great youth group and a great church family!

Soli Deo Gloria!

Steven Burr

UPCOMING EVENTS

January Theme: New Beginnings

February Theme: Love

⇒ Sunday, January 3rd - No Youth Fellowship

⇒ Sunday, January 10th - Youth Fellowship - 4:00 - 6:00 pm

⇒ Sunday, January 17th - Youth Fellowship - 4:00 - 6:00 pm

⇒ Sunday, January 24th - Youth Fellowship - 4:00 - 6:00 pm

⇒ Sunday, January 31st - Youth Fellowship - 4:00 - 6:00 pm

One Sunday Left...

This coming Sunday, December 20th, is your last opportunity to contribute to the love offering for staff Christmas gifts. We have a very talented staff here at FCC and this is a great opportunity to show them how much they are appreciated. If you give cash, please put it in an envelope marked "Staff Christmas Gift" or if you give a check, write that in the memo line of your check so our Treasurer, Peggy Johnson, can know that your contribution is intended for the love offering.



PRAY PRAY PRAY

**"Your word is a lamp to guide me
and a light for my path."
Psalm 119:105**

THANK YOU!

Thank you very much to Pastor Laura for her nice visit, and to all the congregation for their prayers and beautiful cards during my recent illness. I send my love to all of you and look forward to returning to church soon.

Imogene Cottman

We increased our giving to OGMP - Treasury Services of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) by 82.76%. Last year we gave \$1,621.46 and this year as of 10/8/09 we have given a total of \$2,963.33.

Way to Go FCC! Keep up the good work of God!

NOTES FROM THE WORLD OF RELIGION

"Time" Magazine says the Roman Catholic Church is involved in a dispute that has become unusually public. Conservative Catholics, including one Vatican official, are condemning Cardinal Sean O'Malley of Boston for granting a Catholic funeral mass to the late Senator Ted Kennedy. Protesters say Kennedy's pro-choice stance on abortion should have disqualified him for the mass. One of the Cardinal's critics is Archbishop Raymond Burke, former Archbishop of St. Louis, now a Vatican official, who once said he would deny communion to then Presidential Candidate John Kerry for Kerry's stand on abortion. He also warned Catholics they could not present themselves for communion if they voted for a pro-choice candidate.

JANUARY HONORED TO SERVE

Worship Leader: Richard Bryan

Greeters: Michelle McCrory, Clint Bourland

Acolyte Attendant: Angela Kaker

Communion Preparation: Juanice Wichterich

Attendance Books: Doyle DePratter

Children's Sermon:

03 Mary Bryan

10 Suzanne Barton

17 Linda Cronenberg

24 Kaye Gregory

31 Pastor Laura

Scripture Reading:

03 Richard Bryan

10 Carol Gunn

17 Jerry Hay

24 Juanice Wichterich

31 Kaye Gregory

Deacon Team: Paul & Onita Holton,

Mindy Preston, Bobby Lewis

Serving at the Table: Kathy Welch, Burt Bond

3-5 Year Class: Diane Chilton

Elementary Class: Diana McGee

First Time Visitor Follow-Up:

03 Laura Odiorne/Wayne & Anne English

10 Mindy Preston/Faye McLaren &
Barbara Bond

17 Kim Bonds/Cyndy Garrett

24 Michelle McCrory/Don & Kathy Welch

31 Laura Odiorne/Juanice Wichterich

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

1/5 Mary Bourland

1/8 John Pettis

1/9 Lolly Ellis

1/9 Mary Cooper

1/10 Richard Bryan

1/10 Onita Holton

1/13 Evelyn Marr

1/15 Cynde Bishop

1/27 Ronnie Johnson

1/27 Isabel Luck

1/27 Elizabeth Luck

ANNUAL AREA LEADERSHIP EVENT

It's really a learning event and it's for everyone, not just leaders. This year the learning event will be hosted by South Hills Christian Church in Fort Worth on Saturday, January 23, 2010. It will begin at 10:00 am and conclude at 2:30 pm. Registration is \$15 per person and includes lunch. Here are some of the workshops being offered:

- ⇒ Financially Caring for your Staff-led by Tom Hatfield, CPA
- ⇒ Risk Management Issue-led by Attorney Jean Duke
- ⇒ Circles and Beyond (CWF)-led by Rev. Cyndy Twedell
- ⇒ Christian Spirituality-Dr. Valerie Forstman, Dir. Of Admissions at Brite
- ⇒ The Emerging Church-led by Phil Shepherd, Pastor of Eucatastrophe
- ⇒ Singable Music-led by Dana Lobaugh, Minister of Music at First Christian, Arlington

If we register 10 or more, our price goes down to \$12 per person. We should have our registration forms and fees turned into the church office by January 10, 2010, so that a single check can be sent with our registration and the host church can have adequate time to prepare materials and food for the right amount of people.

TBA RETREATS & SUMMER CAMPS

Here's a few upcoming dates for you to start looking at your calendars and planning vacations! Check future newsletters for further information!

2010 MID-WINTER RETREATS

JYF - January 29-31, 2010

A new retreat for 4th & 5th graders!

Chi-Rho - February 5-7, 2010-Grades 6th-8th

CYF - February 26-28, 2010-Grades 9th-12th

We don't have registration deadlines yet, but if you are interested in going to any of these retreats, please call the church office.

2010 SUMMER CAMP*

Grand Camp - June 4-6

CYF Conference - June 14-19

Chi Rho 3 - June 21-26

Niner's Youth Conference
June 29-July 4

Eighter's Camp
July 12-18

*These are the dates that we usually go. If you have a conflict with one of these dates, please call the church office for alternate dates.

IT'S TIME FOR THE MINISTRY FAIR!

Just around the corner, on Sunday, January 10, we will have a birthday sandwich luncheon after the 11:00 am service, and we will include with it a Ministry Fair, much like the one we had last year. At the luncheon, we will once again be celebrating everyone's birthday in the church for the entire year!! The only thing you need to bring is a dessert and yourself.

If the Ministry Fair is new to you or you've just forgotten, each of the ministry teams has a table and display highlighting the various areas of ministry for which they are responsible. They have some explanation of what they do and what that ministry's place is in the life of the church. On each team's table are various sign-up sheets where you can volunteer to participate in that ministry in a specific way, or offer to serve on the team or wherever needed. We limited our Consecration Sunday in November to our financial commitments to the ministries of the church. This will be your opportunity to give thanks to God by sharing your time and abilities in the active ministries of our church.

So, please think about what how you would like to serve and come join us for great fun and fellowship!



DECEMBER HARVEST HOUSE

26 Pounds of Food
\$309.00



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

January 2010



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 9:00 AM - Prayer Group (E)
3 Harvest House Sunday 12:00 PM - Elders' Meeting (E) No Youth Fellowship	4	5	6	7 6:00 PM - Band Practice (S)	8	9
10 9:00 AM- Prayer Group (E) 12:00 PM - All Church Birthday Luncheon & Ministry Fair (FLC)	11 9:00 AM - Newsletter Published	12	13	14 6:00 PM - Band Practice (S) 7:00 PM - Disciples Women (FLC) 7:00 PM - Disciples Men (C)	15	16
17 9:00 AM-Prayer Group (E)	18	19	20	21 6:00 PM - Band Practice (S)	22	23
24 9:00 AM-Prayer Group (E) 12:00 PM - Joint Board/Cabinet Meeting (FLC)	25 9:00 AM - Newsletter Published	26	27	28 6:00 PM - Band Practice (S)	29	30
31 9:00 AM-Prayer Group (E) JYF Mid- Winter Retreat - Athens 1/29-1/31			Regular Wednesday Activities: 9:30 AM - Ladies Bible Study 7:00 PM - Choir Practice		Regular Sunday Activities: 8:00 AM - Chapel Worship 9:00 AM - Contemporary Worship 10:00 AM - Sunday School 11:00 AM - Traditional Worship 4:00 PM Youth Fellowship Theme- New Beginnings	