

FIRST CHRISTIAN TIMES

First Christian Church (Disciples Of Christ)
Monday, November 12, 2007



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:

Early Worship	8:15 AM
Sunday School	10:00 AM
Traditional Worship	11:00 AM
Youth Fellowship	5:00 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) 282-0184-Home Phone

E-Mail: pastor@fccburleson.org

Terri Lester, Secretary

E-Mail: terri@fccburleson.org

A NOTE FROM PASTOR LAURA

Remember that discernment process we went through recently? Remember those goals for ministry that were identified as priorities for our church's ministry in these next few years? Well, if not, you need to go back and look. But let me remind you of two of them. One was to become more visible in the community and another was to expand our outreach ministries with an emphasis on hands-on ministries in the area. So, there is a perfect opportunity to do both just around the corner. It's called HOLIDAY FRIENDS and it happens at St. Matthews Presbyterian Church on Saturday, December 15. Just in case you don't remember what that is, it is an event hosted by Harvest House and the Burleson Ministerial Alliance.

When your life and your family are going through a rough spot and money is tight, the last thing you need is to be embarrassed or humiliated when you need some help getting through that difficult time. This is not the case with Holiday Friends. Our neighbors in need are treated to a sit down dinner – not cafeteria style. They are seated and served a holiday meal with their families. They are entertained by a short play that tells the Christmas story. Then, the children get to go and make gifts for their parents or other adult family members. The adults are escorted with the help of a personal guide that assists them in receiving the appropriate gift cards and in selecting gifts that they may take home and wrap for their children. Then they are escorted to the place where they will receive the ingredients they need to make Christmas dinner at home for their family.

Clearly such a wonderful day needs much preparation and many volunteers to help it go smoothly. How can you help? Holiday Friends needs people to help with preparing and serving the meal. Our church, under the leadership of Brenda Land, has accepted the task of having a gift/craft for 5-7 year olds to make for their parents. Supplies will be needed for that as we bring our own. Also, helpers are needed to assist the children in making the gift. Any adults and/or youth can help in the preparations the week leading up to the event as there will be groups gathering to help each evening around 7:00 pm. For those who would like to help the day of the event, you must be over 18 and willing to fill out a volunteer application and attend one 1 hour training session. There are two different volunteer training sessions. One is Thursday, Nov. 29 from 7:00-8:00 pm. and the other is Saturday, Dec. 1 from 10:00-11:00 am, and both sessions are held at St. Matthew.

As we approach our own seasons of Thanksgiving and Advent, remember that Christmas is about giving. It's about how God gave His only son for our sake and it's about how we can give the love and light of God to others. Please take an opportunity to participate in Holiday Friends. It will bless you as you bless others with a visible extension of God's love, making the meaning of Christmas come alive!

Grace and Peace, Pastor Laura

THANKSGIVING WEEK OFFICE SCHEDULE

The week of Thanksgiving the church office will be open on Monday & Tuesday, November 19th & 20th from 9:00 am - 2:00 pm. The office will be closed on Wednesday & Thursday, November 21st & 22nd. In case of an emergency, please contact an Elder.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Oct. 28, 2007 - Early	6
Traditional	93
Nov. 4, 2007 - Early	6
Traditional	95
Nov. 11, 2007 - Early	8
Traditional	96

Offering 10/28/07

Gen. Fund	4,433.00
Build. Fund	987.00

Offering 11/04/07

Gen. Fund	3,830.00
Build. Fund	512.00

Offering 11/11/07

Gen. Fund	1,407.25
Build. Fund	327.00



Visitors and Guests

Marlene Baysinger; Bob Lee; & Austin & Gina Kirscht in the early service.

Greta Eller; Harue Yokeley; Laura Detzler; Tara O'Neill; Carol Hamilton; Bernie & Mary DeSessa; Sam, Sarah & Brea DeSessa; Carl & Betty Ludtke; Charlene Teague; Shea Pulliam; Rick, Kris, Ryan & Anna Cheek; Kurt, Sandra, Jacob & Leah Voss; Imogene Cottman; Don & Carolyn Vardeman; Audrey McCambridge; Frank & Patti Pace; & 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.



WE NEED YOUR HELP...

We will be putting up the Christmas tree on Sunday, November 25th after our morning worship. If you could stay a few minutes after the morning worship on that day and help we would really appreciate it!

On Monday, November 26th, we will be putting up the decorations in the church. If you can help, please see Rae McGowan.

NEW ADDRESS FOR MARY COOTS

Mary Coots
704 SW Sunset Lane
Burleson, TX 76028
Phone: 817-295-4049



CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2007

9:30 AM Ladies Bible Study (Foyer)
6:45 PM Choir Practice (S)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2007

7:00 PM Board Meeting (E)

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2007

7:30 PM Pastor's Class (FLC)

FRIDAY-SUNDAY, NOV. 16-18, 2007

CYF Fall Retreat

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2007

8:15 AM Early Service (C)
10:00 AM Sunday School
11:00 AM Traditional Worship (S)
5:00 PM Youth Fellowship

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2007

6:45 PM Choir Practice (S)

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2007

HAPPY THANKSGIVING! Church Office Closed

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2007

8:15 AM Early Service (C)
10:00 AM Sunday School
11:00 AM Traditional Worship (S)

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2007

9:00 AM Newsletter Published

(E) Education (C) Chapel
(S) Sanctuary (FLC) Family Life Center

Hello from the Education Department!

It is the time of year to offer opportunities to serve in the Education Ministry of our church. If you would be willing to serve in this ministry, please see Brenda Land. Here are some opportunities:



1. Teach 3, 4 and 5 year old Sunday School on a weekly basis - if you will be gone, there will be someone to take your place.
2. Teach Bible Force (Grades 1st-5th) Sunday School for one month. The materials will be prepared for you - one week of storytelling, one week watching a movie, one week of games, and one week of arts & crafts/cooking/etc.
3. Teach an adult class - be creative! It doesn't have to be something we have had in the past or now. It could be a short term (ex. 6 weeks) or long term (til ?).
4. Direct the Children's Christmas Pageant. The date is December 9, 2007 - Sunday evening.
5. Groups needed to provide stations for the Advent Festival following the Christmas Pageant.
6. Organize the Easter Egg Hunt on March 22, 2008.

If you have questions, ideas, or suggestions, please see Brenda Land or call 817-447-0154.

Thanks for your help!



The Power of Prayer

CONCERNS:

Eric Wichterich is recovering from an emergency appendectomy.

Bill Taylor had an outpatient procedure to open circulation in his leg.

Chet Deeever is facing leg amputation.

The Moody Family

Mike McGowen, a nephew of LaVerne McGowen, who is in his early 30's, suffered a stroke recently.

Darlene Pettis had CT scans to determine the effectiveness of her current chemotherapy. She will begin new chemotherapy this week.

Patti Pace's father recently had two mild strokes.

Jack Gregory, Jr.'s sister, Beth Gregory is home from the hospital recuperating from a staph infection.

Tricia Smith, a friend of Mary Cooper's and a senior at Aledo High School, was in a car accident near Benbrook that killed the 2 boys in the truck with her. She is recuperating at home. She probably will be able to go back to school after the New Year. The seat belt saved her life.

Mike Taylor, Bill & Wilma Taylor's son, had a car accident. He is ok, but his pickup is totaled.

Dana, Bonnie DePratter's daughter, is waiting to get results of tests to see if she has breast cancer.

Karen Moore is having a laparoscopy on November 19th to check for ovarian cancer or other issues.

Iris Wilson had gallbladder surgery. Please pray for her and her family.

Vicki Rubis' father has prostate cancer and will begin treatment soon.

Bill Sholders is having kidney trouble.

Carol Findley's mother.

Michelle Sholders has shingles.

JOYS:

Congratulations to Joshua High School Marching Band for placing 5th at UIL competition and 1st alternate to state.

Thanks to Richard & Brenda Land for hosting a great fellowship at their home on October 28th.

Anne English got good news on her biopsy.

Continued Prayers for

Jerry Yowell, Darlene Pettis, Dick Nash, Steve McGee, Donna Jenkins, Sharon Lewis, Nelda Bruce, Mary Louise Pace, Our country's leaders and world leaders

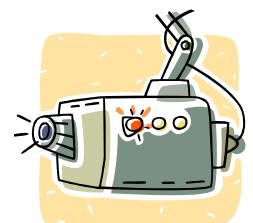
Our own military people:

Sgt. Ky B. Gregory, Lt Col Steve Storch, Wesley Hayley, Tom Brunson, Sr. Airman Cody Gregory, Brenda Wiegert, Max Koller, Jeremy McGee, Staff Sgt. Matthew Land, Jennifer Ross, PFC Andrew McGee, SR James McGee, PFC William Gunn

SPOTLIGHT ON THE BACK ROW

There are many jobs that happen in a church family. Some are highly visible, like delivering the message, leading the singing or serving as Worship Leader or Deacon. But let's take a look at those who serve on our back row. There's Kaye Gregory and Richard Edmonds who serve on the sound board so that we can hear clearly the word of God during worship. There's Ann Gartman who monitors member and visitor attendance. This helps in several ways, but to name two: 1. To enable follow-up contact with visitors. 2. To keep the Pastor and Elders informed if someone who attends regularly isn't around for a while. This might indicate a need for pastoral and spiritual care. Then there is your newly trained and serving AV team who run the computer and project

those prayers, scriptures and song lyrics onto the wall for us. That team consists of Flora Roe, Laurie Carroll, Cyndy Garrett, Cory Land and Paul Holton. Thanks to our friends on the back row who quietly contribute to and enhance our worship life together.



*The Children Of
Dick and Dorothy Nash
Request the pleasure of
Your company in
Celebrating their parents
50th Wedding Anniversary
Saturday, December 8, 2007
First Christian Church
601 SW Johnson Avenue
6:30 PM
Reception following
Family Life Center*

**THANKSGIVING SPECIAL OFFERING
NOVEMBER 18-25**

The Thanksgiving Special Offering benefits 14 colleges and universities and seven theological institutions that receive funding from the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). These institutions have pledged to serve and care for Disciples students and the church and to work in cooperation to produce leaders for the church.

May the scriptures guide you. Psalm 145:1-5
I will extol you, my God and King, and bless Your name forever and ever. Everyday I will bless Your name forever and ever. Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; His greatness is unsearchable. One generation shall laud Your works to another, and shall declare Your might acts. On the glorious splendor of Your majesty, and on Your wondrous works, I will meditate.

Thank you for giving. Your gifts change lives!

On November 26, 1952, the young woman from out in the country and the young man from the big city went to the courthouse. They stood together before the judge to promise their love and devotion to each other. Travel forward to this November 26, 2007 - This couple serves as a wonderful example of the commitment of marriage to their daughter and son-in-law, who share the November 26 wedding date, and to their two grandsons and granddaughters-in-law. Give Bob and Faye McLaren an extra hug as they celebrate 55 years of marriage. Congratulations!

HOLIDAYS A WORLD AWAY...

This past Sunday we gave thanks for the men and women who have served and are serving our country. One in particular, Andrew McGee, will spend this Thanksgiving and Christmas in Iraq. Let's do our best to make home not feel quite so far away. As a church family, let's shower him with love and prayers - but more importantly - CARDS AND LETTERS! Here is Andrew's address:

McGee, Andrew
CO C3/1441 NF 2nd PLT
LSA ADDER, IRAQ
APO AE 09331

If you have an opportunity to send a small gift his way, that would be great too. More than anything, let's make sure he knows he's loved and appreciated. Please start sending your cards and letters now as the mail to overseas areas begins to slow down during the holiday season.

We would also like to send cookies/goodies to James McGee, Cody Gregory and Ky & Tina Gregory. Please bring them to the church on or before November 25th and give them to Ann Gartman or Kaye Gregory.

FN MCGEE, J. E.
Class 0744 MT
NN PTC
101 NNPTC Circle
Goose Creek, SC 29445

Senior Airman Cody Gregory
1773 Popps Ferry Road
Apartment B22
Biloxi MS 39532

Sgt. Ky B. & Tina Gregory
PSC 557 BOX 2461
FPO AP 96379-2461

BOARD MEETING - OCTOBER 25, 2007

The Board accepted the Finance Committee's recommendation to accept Wells Fargo Bank's offer for a 15 year loan at a fixed 7.15 interest rate, which will take 2 years off our present loan and save the church about \$40,000 in interest. Our building payments will increase to \$3,500 each month. The Board gave the Finance Committee permission to move our bank accounts to Wells Fargo Bank and begin loan proceedings.

The nursing home has agreed to pay half the cost of repairing the parking lot. Richard Land has a bid and the congregation will be asked to vote on taking our half of the money for repairs from the Contingency Fund.

The Nominating Committee to fill out going Board and Deacon positions are Kathy Welch-Chairman, Richard Edmonds, Marion Higginbotham, Bill Sholders, and Juane Wichterich.

Barbara Bond
Board Secretary

NOTES FROM THE WORLD OF RELIGION

Retired Missionary Joy Fenner of Garland has been elected the first woman ever to head the Baptist General Convention of Texas. The vote was 900 for her and 840 for her opponent, West Texas Pastor David Lowrie. The vote was one of the closest in BGCT's 121 year history.

The BGCT says it is losing members. But it says so are the United Methodist Church, the Presbyterian Church (USA) and the Episcopal Church. Conservative members have been bolting over issues such as gay clergy.

Unitarians - 250 thousand members in this country - say they are starting an advertising campaign to increase name recognition and inspire pride in Unitarian Universalist Church. The campaign, in connection with Time Magazine, will cost more than \$400,000. It will run through the year.

A Disciples Minister, Michael Kinnamon, has been nominated to lead the National Council of Churches. The nomination goes before governing board and General Assembly at its meeting in November. The Associated Press does not list a church for Kinnamon, saying only that he is an ecumenical leader.

A California research firm has published a study of people ages 16-19 and it says the study doesn't look good for Christianity. The study says the youngsters describe modern day Christianity as judgmental, hypocritical and anti-gay and needs to change. The study is a survey of 440 non-Christians and 305 active churchgoers.

POINSETTIAS

Name _____

Phone _____

Quantity _____

_____ @ \$10.00 each = _____

In Honor Of: _____

In Memory Of: _____

Please turn in this order form along with payment to Onita Holton or the church office by Sunday, November 18th.



MORE NOTES FROM THE WORLD OF RELIGION

A wave of new audio Bibles is on the market with sound effects, music, and actors. One features a roster of black celebrities, among them Forest Whitaker as Moses, Cuba Gooding Jr. as Judas, Blair Underwood as Jesus and Samuel L. Jackson as the Big Guy himself. (The New Testament half already has sold 400,000 copies.)