

FIRST CHRISTIAN TIMES

First Christian Church (Disciples Of Christ)
Monday, November 26, 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

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817-295-4123

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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

Friends,

The Children's Pageant is scheduled for the evening of December 9 at 6:00 pm. As of this letter, we have had no one volunteer to lead it. What this leadership entails is two Sunday School time practices (Dec. 2 and 9 - SS teachers - take note - it's about 1/2 of your Sunday School time at the beginning of the hour) - and one on Saturday morning on the 9th. We have a script and readers need to be selected. Your primary job is to select readers and do the "blocking" (a.k.a. - who comes in when and stands where). Brenda Land has agreed to be the "herder" from the back of the sanctuary so she will be a very capable assistant and she is also aware of where the costumes are for the presentation of the story. If no one volunteers to lead this endeavor by Thursday, I will step in to do so which will mean that my Sunday School class will either meet without me or not meet. That will be up to them. Some of you will also be receiving phone calls and/or letters asking for your help with the Advent festival which is directly following the pageant in the Family Life Center. The Fellowship Committee has been asked to serve beverages for this event, but each family is asked to bring a holiday snack dish to share so we can enjoy each other's favorite holiday treats together.

We are also helping this year with Harvest House's annual Holiday Friends on Saturday, December 15, 2007, from 10:00 am-2:00 pm. We have a Choral Cantata in the morning service on the 16th and a special Christmas Eve service to plan for which we hope to have persons participating in that as well. I know this is a busy time of year with many requests and even demands on your time. Please be generous with your time to our church's ministries. I can assure you that you will spread cheer and receive it in equal measure.

Blessings,
Pastor Laura



DECEMBER NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE

In December we will have only 1 newsletter. It will be published on December 10, 2007. If you have any articles for December, please make sure they are in by 9:00 am on December 10th. Thank you for your help.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Nov. 18, 2007 - Early	8
Traditional	88
Nov. 25, 2007 - Early	7
Traditional	80

Offering 11/18/07

Gen. Fund	2,473.00
Build. Fund	827.00
Thanksgiving Offering	102.00
Youth October Recycle	111.39

Offering 11/25/07

Gen. Fund	4,444.00
Build. Fund	567.00
Thanksgiving Offering	85.00



Visitors and Guests

Marlene Baysinger & Bob Lee in the early service.

Imogene Cottman; Elizabeth, Joey, & Joshua Cain; Kristin Rodgers; Vincent, Jeannie, & Katie Pinner; Carl & Betty Ludtke; Dave, Kim & Shea Pulliam; Rick, Kris, Ryan & Anna Cheek; Patricia Vasenius; Mr. & Mrs. I.E. Shahan; Bodie Nash; Tom, Melanie & Sara Hatfield; Phil & Jenni Hatfield; & 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.

Thank you so much for the generous gift of School Kits received in our New Windsor warehouse on September 18, 2007. This generous gift is deeply appreciated.

I want you to especially know about Church World Service (CWS) assistance in Texas during the past few months. Since April 1 CWS responded to requests in four communities for Health Kits-Austin, Corpus Christi, Eagle Pass, & Johnson City-providing 585 Health Kits. CWS also provided 210 Baby Kits in Corpus Christi and 200 lightweight CWS blankets in Eagle Pass. During September Church World Service has provided training for disaster recovery organizations in and near Wichita Falls, Denton, Abilene, Corpus Christi, Victoria and San Antonio.

First Christian Church is a partner in this work in Texas and throughout the world. We are indeed grateful and ask that you convey this expression of gratitude to the members of the congregation.

Sincerely,
Kevin Murphy
Program Assistant
Church World Service

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2007

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

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2007

HARVEST HOUSE SUNDAY

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:15 AM	Early Service (C)
9:00 AM	Elders' Meeting (E)
9:00 AM	Choir Practice (S)
10:00 AM	Sunday School
11:00 AM	Traditional Worship (S)
12:00 Noon	Congregational Meeting (S)
5:00 PM	Recycle Round-Up

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2007

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

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2007

6:30 PM	Dick & Dorothy Nash's 50th Wedding Anniversary Celebration
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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2007

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

BRING A FRIEND SUNDAY

8:15 AM	Early Service (C)
9:00 AM	Choir Practice (S)
10:00 AM	Sunday School
11:00 AM	Traditional Worship (S)
12:00 NOON	Fellowship Luncheon (FLC)
6:00 PM	Children's Christmas Pageant (S)
6:30 PM	Advent Festival (FLC)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2007

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



BOARD NEWS

The bid on repairing the parking lot has increased by \$11,000, so Richard Land was authorized by the Board to negotiate with the nursing home and report next month on his findings.

Nominations for new Board members, Deacons, and Ministry Team Leaders were presented and approved by the Board. They will be voted on by the congregation at a Congregational meeting December 2.

Ronnie Johnson requested the use of the Family Life Center for basketball practice twice a week the first 2 weeks of basketball season and once a week the rest of the season from 5:30 to 6:30 pm, so it will not interfere with church activities. The Board voted to approve this.



The Power of Prayer

CONCERNS:

Carol Findley's mom is recovering from surgery.

Andrew McGee

Johnny, a friend of Bonnie DePratter's sister, is 19 years old and has a new pacemaker. He is very weak.

Jim Wheeler is recovering from carotid artery surgery.

Karen Moore's surgery went well and she will have a hysterectomy soon.

Rockford Rudd and his wife are at risk of delivering twins early.

Dalton Grisham's, Vicki Rubis' father, cancer hasn't spread.

Sue McKnight, a friend of Betty Wheeler's, was carjacked, but she was unharmed.

Dana, Bonnie DePratter's daughter, tests were inconclusive.

John Higginbotham

Chris Cooper's family following the death of her grandmother last week.

JOYS:

Wesley Kaker came forward n Sunday, November 18, 2007, to make his confession of faith.

Shea Pulliam was student of the month at Mound Elementary.

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

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

DECEMBER 2, 2007

12:00 NOON

(or immediately following morning worship)

We will be giving the church staff a Christmas Love offering again this year. I will take donations the next couple of weeks. You can either give your donation directly to me or put it in the offering plate. If you choose the offering plate, please note "Staff" in the memo section.

Thank you,
Peggy Johnson

NOTES FROM THE WORLD OF RELIGION

Georgia is struggling with a prolonged and devastating drought. This month, Georgia Governor Sonny Perdue and his wife, Mary, led a public prayer for rain on the front steps of the state capitol. The next day, it rained throughout the state, an average of one inch. Not enough to break the drought, but the governor said Georgia is glad to get what rain it can.

HARVEST HOUSE SUNDAY - DECEMBER 2ND

Harvest House is requesting financial contributions only for the month of December. Their pantry is full because of food drives from the schools, and what they really need now is money to help with rent, electric bills, gas, etc. If you were planning to donate to Harvest House this Sunday, please consider a financial donation instead of canned goods.

As always, thank you for your generosity.

THANKS TO THE CONGREGATION

Pastor Laura and the Elders met after worship on November 18th to nominate Elders for 2008. Your input overwhelmingly chose Barbara Bond, Bill Gunn and Marion Higginbotham. We agreed that their spirituality, leadership, etc. are evident and the Elders concurred with your decision.

Barbara, Bill & Marion have agreed to serve and will be voted on by secret ballot at the congregational meeting on December 2nd. This follows guidelines in the By-Laws.

The Elders chose to nominate three so that more could be elected for 2009 and terms will be staggered.

Faye McLaren

The nominating committee of First Christian Church composed of the following people: Kathy Welch, - Chairman, Richard Edmonds, Marion Higginbotham, Bill Sholders and Juanice Wichterich present the following list of names for your consideration:

New Board Members to begin serving in 2008: Lolly Ellis - (3 Year Term), Tommy Kaker - (3 Year Term), Richard Land - (3 Year Term), Jane Ann McGowen - (3 Year Term), LaVerne McGowen - (3 Year Term), Peggy Johnson, Treasurer - (1 Year Term), Stephanie McGee - Youth Representative (1 Year Term)

New Deacons to begin serving in 2008: Kim Bonds - (2 Year Term), Chris Cooper - (2 Year Term), Lolly Ellis - (2 Year Term), Judy Isom - (2 Year Term), Michelle McCrory - (2 Year Term), Ryan Odiorne - (2 Year Term), Steve Rubis - (2 Year Term), Vicki Rubis - (2 Year Term), Don Welch - (2 Year Term), Kathy Welch - (2 Year Term), Rosalyn Wilcox - (2 Year Term), Jody Land - Youth Deacon (1 Year Term), Lacy McGee - Youth Deacon (1 Year Term), Stephanie McGee - Youth Deacon (1 Year Term), Tommy Kaker - Alternate Deacon (1 Year Term), Angela Kaker - Alternate Deacon (1 Year Term), Deana McCoy - Alternate Deacon (1 Year Term), Rae McGowan - Alternate Deacon (1 Year Term)



Elders to begin serving in 2008: Barbara Bond, Bill Gunn and Marion Higginbotham.

These people will be voted on December 2nd at the Congregational Meeting immediately following morning worship.

DISCIPLES WOMEN CHRISTMAS PARTY

The next Disciples Women meeting will be a Christmas party on Thursday, December 13 at 6:30 pm at the home of Mary Bryan, 216 SW Taylor, Burleson. For directions, call Mary at 817-295-3390.

Bring a covered dish to share and a \$5 or less Christmas tree ornament for our game. Also, bring toothpaste for our service project to Harvest House. Remember to bring a penny for each year of your birth if you have a December birthday. And...we will be collecting an offering and year-end outreach giving plans will be made.

The slate of officers for 2008 has been presented and a vote will be held. The nominees are: President - Kaye Gregory, Vice President - Barbara Bond, Secretary - Cyndy Garrett, Treasurer - Ann Gartman, Study and Worship - Juanice Wichterich, Hospitality - Kathy Welch, and Parliamentarian - Sandra Hay.

NOTES FROM THE WORLD OF RELIGION

Under the Wahhabi interpretation of Islamic Law (the law which governs Saudi Arabia) for a woman to be in "seclusion" with a man not her husband is a crime. Eighteen months ago, a 19-year-old woman was sitting in her car discussing the return of some pictures with her former boyfriend. Suddenly, seven men kidnapped the couple and repeatedly raped the woman. A Saudi court sentenced her and her former boyfriend to 90 lashes for being in the car together. An appellate court this month doubled the sentence and suspended the license of her lawyer for talking to the media about the case.

Oh, yes, the rapists were caught and were assessed sentences from 10 months to five years. The case has touched off a rare public debate about the treatment of women in Saudi Arabia.

Members of Fort Worth's Broadway Baptist Church will vote in December whether or not to include pictures of gay members in an upcoming pictorial directory. Three gay couples asked to be pictured together. The congregation will vote on a proposal to allow the pictures of the gay members to be published individually, not together, but have their addresses and telephone numbers published together. The gay couples say they will agree to have their pictures published separately because they don't consider themselves "activists". The lay coordinator of the directory says she was dismissed from her job after the issue came up.

The issue is spreading. This week a Baptist church in North Carolina was expelled from the state's Baptist convention because it welcomes gay and lesbian members. The church's pastor is a former pastor at Broadway Baptist.

DECEMBER HONORED TO SERVE

Worship Leader: Richard Bryan
Greeters: Don & Kathy Welch
Acolyte Attendant: Marion Higginbotham
Communion Preparation: Kaye Gregory
Attendance Books: Richard Edmonds
Children's Sermon: Mary Bryan
Scripture Reading:
 02 Responsive Reading
 09 Responsive Reading
 16 Responsive Reading
 23 Responsive Reading
 30 Responsive Reading
Deacon Team: Paul & Onita Holton,
 Steve & Vicki Rubis
Serving at the Table: Burt & Barbara Bond
Choir Director: Steve McGee
Children's Church:
 02 Ann Gartman
 09 Dorothy Nash
 16 Juanice Wichterich
 23 Mary Bryan
 30 Vicki Rubis
Nursery Assistant:
 02 Juanice Wichterich
 09 Beth Hindman
 16 Carol Gunn
 23 Jody Land
 30 Wilma Taylor



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

12/5 Beverly Sholders
 12/9 Wes Williams
 12/9 Stephanie McGee
 12/10 Austin Bryan
 12/11 Christal McGee
 12/21 Kristi Weil
 12/22 Michelle McCrory
 12/25 Ralph Marr
 12/27 Heinz Wichterich
 12/29 Steven McGee
 12/29 Cody Gregory
 12/29 James McGee
 12/30 Wilma Taylor



LAST CALL FOR COOKIES!!

There is still time for you to bake (or buy) some cookies to send to our military members who are serving our country. Please bring them by next Sunday, December 2nd.

Thank you for your help,
Ann Gartman

HOLIDAYS A WORLD AWAY...

Let's not forget our service men and women serving our country. Let's do our best to make home not feel quite so far away. As a church family, let's shower them with love and prayers - but more importantly - CARDS AND LETTERS! If you have an opportunity to send a small gift their way, that would be great too. More than anything, let's make sure they know they are 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.

MC GEE, ANDREW
 CO C3/1441 NF 2nd PLT
 LSA ADDER, IRAQ
 APO AE 09331

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

Senior Airman Cody Gregory
 1773 Popp's Ferry Road
 Apartment B22
 Biloxi MS 39532

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

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

December 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Regular Sunday Activities: 8:15 AM - Early Worship 10:00 AM - Sunday School 11:00 AM - Traditional Worship 12/2 HARVEST HOUSE SUNDAY-Financial Dona- tions for this month		Regular Wednesday Activities: 9:30 AM - Ladies Bible Study 6:45 PM - Choir Practice				1
2 9:00 AM - Elders Meeting (E) 9:00 AM - Choir Practice (S) 12:00 PM - Congregational Meeting (S) 5:00 PM - Recycle Round-Up	3	4	5	6	7	8 6:30 PM - Dick & Dorothy Nash's 50th Wedding Anniversary Celebration
9 BRING A FRIEND DAY 9:00 AM - Choir Practice 12:00 PM - Fellowship Luncheon (FLC) 6:00 PM - Children's Christmas Pageant & Festival	10 9:00 AM - Newsletter Published	11	12	13 6:30 PM - Disciples Women Christmas Party - Mary Bryan's Home 7:00 PM - Disciples Men Meeting (C)	14	15
16 9:00 AM - Choir Practice (S) 11:00 AM - Christmas Cantata (S) 4:00 PM - Youth Christmas Party	17	18	19 12:00 PM - FCC Friends (Foyer)	20 7:00 PM - Board Meeting (E)	21	22
23 No Youth Fellowship	24 6:00 PM - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service (S)	25  Merry Christmas!	26	27	28	29
30	31					