

FIRST CHRISTIAN TIMES

First Christian Church (Disciples Of Christ)

Monday, October 27, 2008



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

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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) 295-5538 - Home Phone

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Terri Lester, Secretary

E-Mail: terri@fccburleson.org

A NOTE FROM PASTOR LAURA

Webster's dictionary defines *stewardship* as - "the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one's care".

While this is a pretty good starting point, for us as people of faith, it goes much deeper than that. Typically in our history in churches here in the U.S., giving is a voluntary action and we have decided that it should be a private matter, between the individual and God. We take reasonable steps as a congregation to try and honor that privacy as much as possible. Yet, we still tend to get uncomfortable when we talk about money in church. Either we are turned off by the business-like manner in which church budgeting is often approached, or we fail to see the connection between our pocketbook and our faith. Jesus is quoted in the gospels as saying "give to Caesar what is Caesar's and give to God what is God's." So what do we do with that? What does this really mean?

Truth be told, it's all God's. Is it not God who has blessed us with the ability to work? Is it not God who has given us talents, opportunities for education and training, that we have then put to use in the workforce? Is it not God who breathed into us the very breath of life itself? We know the answers to these questions. So, am I writing you to remind you of what you already know and guilt you into your response in choosing what you will commit financially to the church's ministry? No, that is not my intent.

I want us to think of our ministry here at First Christian Church Burleson, and our participation in the wider church and world as a whole as Kingdom work. We are building relationships of care, ministering to those in need, showing compassion on brothers and sisters in Christ and offering belonging to the stranger. Every aspect of our church's various ministries contributes to the larger whole and the mission of living toward the Kingdom of God. Theologian Henri Nouwen writes that, "The Kingdom is where God provides for all that we need. It is the realm of sufficiency where we are no longer pulled here and there by anxiety about having enough."

When we share our financial resources and ourselves in the ministry of Christ's church, we begin to live that Kingdom life, here and now. When we thankfully use our resources to provide for our needs and share with others, we express trust that in God, trust that there will be enough. Needs will be met, love will be shared, and lives will be transformed. In coming together, trusting that each one will share as he or she is called and empowered by God, we become community in a deeper way. We begin to see our common call and are united in a common purpose. There is energy there, and it grows.

Money isn't a dirty little secret. It is an opportunity for each of us to express our trust in the faithfulness of God, our belief in the movement of the Holy Spirit in this place, and our desire to be a part of God's Kingdom minister here and now. As we approach our Consecration Sunday on November 9th, may we all be in prayer-that God will guide us as we ask how much can we give to Christ's ministry in this place.

Peace of Christ be with you,
Pastor Laura

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

October 19, 2008 - No Early Service due to Regional Assembly
Traditional 68

October 26, 2008 - Early 12
Traditional 87

Offering 10/12/08

Gen. Fund 2,085.00
Build. Fund 452.00
Reconciliation 20.00

Offering 10/19/08

Gen. Fund 1,427.00
Build. Fund 497.00



Visitors and Guests

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

Andy Prather; Caleb Estes; Iris Wilson;
Marlene Baysinger; Marjorie Armstrong;
Harue Yokeley; Jeanie Ingram; Imogene Cottman; Shea Pulliam; Julie Lucido; Bernie & Mary DeSessa; Sarah & Brea DeSessa; Carl & Betty Ludtke; Sue Newcomb; Robert & Virginia Popiel; Greta Eller; Katherine Payne; & 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.*

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2008

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

FRIDAY-SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31-NOVEMBER 2, 2008

FCCB Disciples Women Retreat - Athens, TX

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2008

HARVEST HOUSE SUNDAY

8:15 AM Early Service (C)
9:00 AM Elders' Meeting (E)
10:00 AM Sunday School
11:00 AM Traditional Worship (S)
4:30 PM Youth Pizza & Movie
6:30 PM Wellness Ministry Meeting (FLC)

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2008

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

FRIDAY-SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7-9, 2008

Chi-Rho Fall Retreat

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2008

CONSECRATION SUNDAY

8:15 AM Early Service (C)
9:00 AM Prayer Group Meeting (E)
10:00 AM Sunday School
11:00 AM Traditional Worship (S)
12:00 PM Thanksgiving Luncheon (FLC)
5:00 PM Recycle Round-Up

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2008

9:00 AM Newsletter Published

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



CHRISTMAS PROJECT

The Disciples Women are sponsoring a church-wide Christmas project. We will be collecting sweatshirts and sweatpants for the Women's Advocacy group through the Burleson Police Department. When women have been victims of crime, sometimes they have to leave their clothing as evidence and these donations will help provide some comfort.

We are asking everyone to purchase a top and bottom in your own size so we will be able to provide a variety of sizes.

If men want to participate, please purchase a top and bottom in a man's size as they are needed also.



NOTES FROM THE WORLD OF RELIGION

Yet another new Bible will be published in this country next month. The Bible is called "Bible Illuminated" and is more like a coffee table book than a standard Bible. The book features a photo of Martin Luther King Jr. on one page and on another a picture of Actress Angelina Jolie. A photo of a man on fire introduces the Book of Revelation. The book has had great success in Sweden. It looks like a glossy fashion magazine type publication. The book mixes intense photo essays along with passages from the New Testament. In one, a child is shown carrying a gun and includes pictures of people being beaten in the Belgian Congo when it was cruelly administered by King Leopold of Belgium. Oddly enough, the Book industry Study Group says a Bible publishing boom has been underway for several years and is expected to jump in the coming years - all while membership in many mainline churches is dropping.



The Power of Prayer

CONCERNS:

Bob McClellan, Marion Higginbotham's sister-in-law's father, passed away. Prayers for the family.

Jessica Kaker's teacher

Pastor Laura's grandfather had a stroke.

Caleb Estes' mother had surgery and is doing well.

Lisa Johns, a friend of the Pettis family, passed away suddenly from Leukemia. Prayers for her husband, 3 young daughters and extended family.

Betty Wheeler's new grandson, Beau Michael Wheeler, was born on October 22, 2008. He weighed 7 lbs, 1 oz. and was 19 inches long. He was a month early and his lungs were not fully developed. He went to Baylor All Saints Downtown, but is improving.

Jim Boots, Lori King's brother, had surgery to remove a brain tumor. The surgery went well and the tumor was benign.

Steve Sharp, Lori King's uncle, is recovering from heart surgery.

Brad King, Brett King's brother, is missing. Please pray for his safety as they try to find him.

Ronnie Johnson's friend, T.J. Bransom-medical problems

Michelle McCrory is home with the shingles.

Chris Cooper's sister-in-law has some injuries following a car crash.

Lloyd & Kay Cooper's granddaughter's 34 year old husband died unexpectedly last week. He leaves a young family.

Roslyn Wilcox's son has inoperable colon disease.

An Alvarado student passed away unexpectedly.

LaVerne McGowen is going to a blood specialist.

Continued prayers for Valerie Stuart's mom

JOYS:

Our Pastor and others at Regional Assembly.

Daniel McCrory turned 10 years old. We give thanks for his good health.

Gina Kirscht's aunt, Juanell Miller, is improving from medical issues.

Nelda Boots is improving

"O" Birthdays

We raised \$371.00 for Ryan Odiorne's co-worker's family who lost everything in a house fire.

Continued Prayers for

Dick Nash, Steve McGee, Darlene Pettis, Our country's leaders and world leaders

Our own military people:

Staff Sgt. Ky B. Gregory, Lt Col Steve Storch, Wesley Hayley, Brenda Wiegert, Staff Sgt. Matthew Land, Jennifer Ross, Specialist Andrew McGee, Fireman James McGee

October 23, 2008 BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

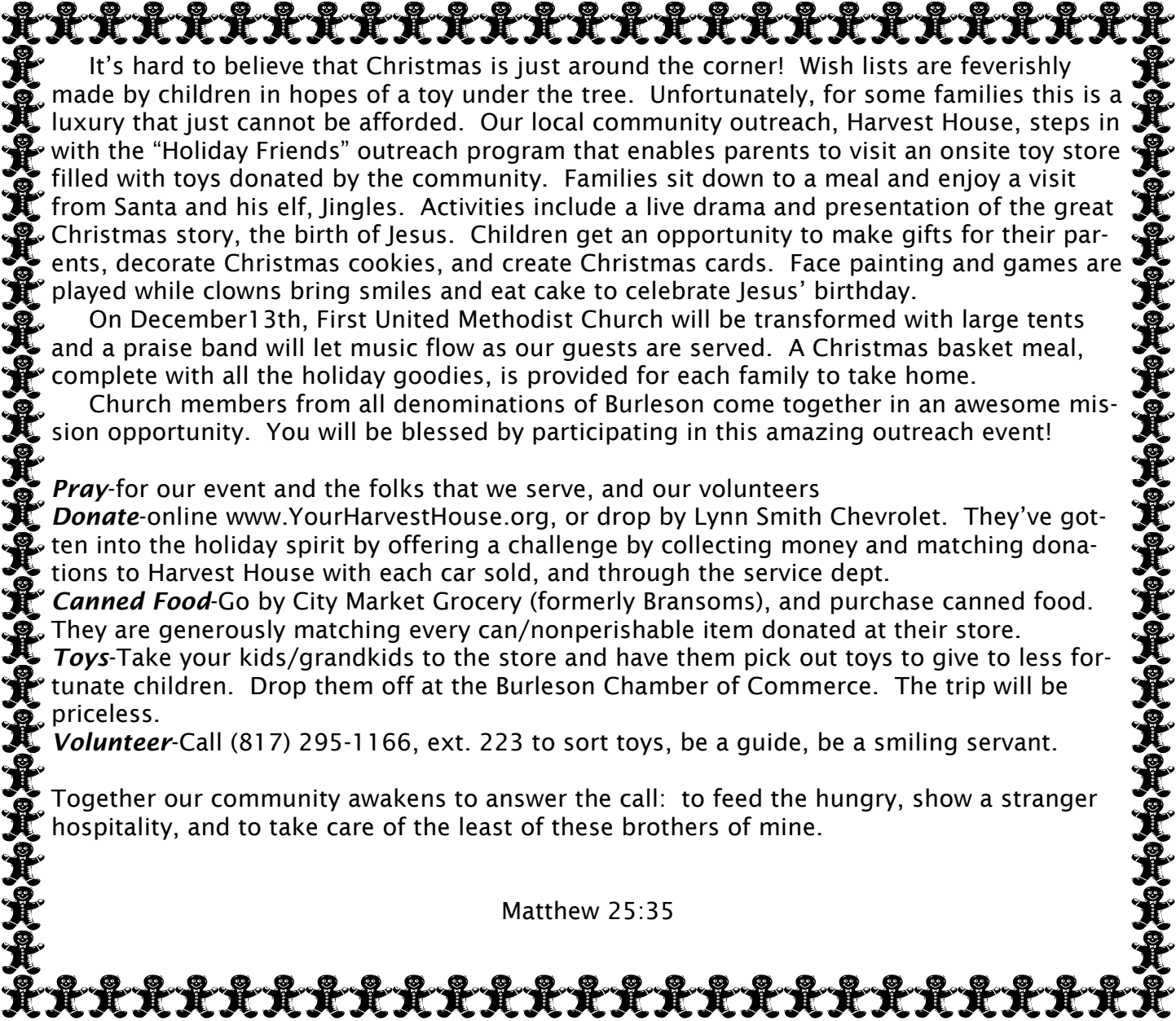
- ⇒ Congregation approved fund expenditures to paint church exterior and to repair the drain in the Education Building.
- ⇒ Stewardship Campaign is underway.
- ⇒ Nominating Committee for 2009 Church Leaders is at work.

BOARD NEWS

PRAY PRAY PRAY



Remember to schedule time each day for **PRAYER** with God..



It's hard to believe that Christmas is just around the corner! Wish lists are feverishly made by children in hopes of a toy under the tree. Unfortunately, for some families this is a luxury that just cannot be afforded. Our local community outreach, Harvest House, steps in with the "Holiday Friends" outreach program that enables parents to visit an onsite toy store filled with toys donated by the community. Families sit down to a meal and enjoy a visit from Santa and his elf, Jingles. Activities include a live drama and presentation of the great Christmas story, the birth of Jesus. Children get an opportunity to make gifts for their parents, decorate Christmas cookies, and create Christmas cards. Face painting and games are played while clowns bring smiles and eat cake to celebrate Jesus' birthday.

On December 13th, First United Methodist Church will be transformed with large tents and a praise band will let music flow as our guests are served. A Christmas basket meal, complete with all the holiday goodies, is provided for each family to take home.

Church members from all denominations of Burleson come together in an awesome mission opportunity. You will be blessed by participating in this amazing outreach event!

Pray-for our event and the folks that we serve, and our volunteers

Donate-online www.YourHarvestHouse.org, or drop by Lynn Smith Chevrolet. They've gotten into the holiday spirit by offering a challenge by collecting money and matching donations to Harvest House with each car sold, and through the service dept.

Canned Food-Go by City Market Grocery (formerly Bransoms), and purchase canned food. They are generously matching every can/nonperishable item donated at their store.

Toys-Take your kids/grandkids to the store and have them pick out toys to give to less fortunate children. Drop them off at the Burleson Chamber of Commerce. The trip will be priceless.

Volunteer-Call (817) 295-1166, ext. 223 to sort toys, be a guide, be a smiling servant.

Together our community awakens to answer the call: to feed the hungry, show a stranger hospitality, and to take care of the least of these brothers of mine.

Matthew 25:35

YOUTH CORNER

Well, we had some battle of the sexes sports competitions during the month of October including basketball and touch football. Here are some upcoming activities for you to put on your calendar and plan to bring friends.

- 11/2 Pizza and a movie - meet at the church at 4:30 pm and finish by 7:00 pm.
- 11/9 Recycle Round-Up
- 11/16 Mystery Outing - more details to follow, mid-afternoon
- 11/23 No Youth meeting/beginning of holiday week
- 11/30 Holiday treats and a movie - 4:30 pm-7:00 pm.

See you Sunday, if not before!

NOVEMBER HONORED TO SERVE

Worship Leader: Burt Bond
Greeters: Richard Edmonds, Michelle McCrory
Acolyte Attendant: Angela Kaker
Communion Preparation: Kaye Gregory
Attendance Books: Steve Rubis
Children's Sermon:
 02 Suzanne Barton
 09 Barbara Bond
 16 Hayley Vastine
 23 Laura Odiorne
 30 Jerry Hay
Scripture Reading:
 02 Juanice Wichterich
 09 Clint Bourland
 16 LaVerne McGowen
 23 Paul Holton
 30 Onita Holton
Deacon Team: Bill & Carol Gunn,
 Chris Cooper, Michelle McCrory
Serving at the Table: Wayne English,
 Steve Rubis
Children's Church:
 02 Wayne English
 09 Mindy Preston
 16 Juanice Wichterich/Peggy Johnson
 23 Lacy & Stephanie McGee
 30 Diane McGee
Bible Force Leaders: Tommy & Kim Bonds
First Time Visitor Follow-Up:
 02 Laura Odiorne/Wayne & Anne English
 09 Mindy Preston/Faye McLaren &
 Barbara Bond
 16 Kim Bonds/Cyndy Garrett
 23 Michelle McCrory/Don & Kathy Welch
 30 Laura Odiorne/Juanice Wichterich



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

11/3 Mary Penney
 11/3 Genna Edmonds
 11/4 Bill Gunn
 11/4 Keira Gregory
 11/8 Misty King
 11/8 Kristen Prather
 11/16 Bryson Bonds
 11/17 Burt Bond
 11/20 Clint Bourland
 11/24 Ryan Odiorne
 11/25 Larry Womack
 11/25 Robyn Lively
 11/30 Kolton Gregory



MORE NOTES FROM THE WORLD OF RELIGION

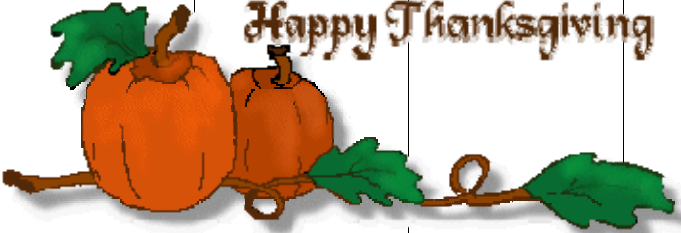
In 1949, the Federal Communications Commission adopted the "Fairness Doctrine" that stated that if a broadcast station espoused a point of view it must allow time for an opposing point of view. The doctrine was dropped in the 80's, but Christian broadcasters are fearful that it may be brought back. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi says she favors bringing it back, apparently as a means of countering the rash of right-wing talk shows, such as that of Rush Limbaugh. But Christian broadcasters fear its return, saying it means they would have to grant air time to opposing religions, or to differing points of view within the Christian faith. Frank Wright, president of the National Religious Broadcasters, says his organization will take the doctrine to court if it is reinstated. (One former broadcaster says the doctrine was never really enforced against religious groups while it was in effect.) Mike Tirone, general manager of a Dallas Christian station, says "God's truth is black and white, period." He says he will battle the fairness doctrine politically on his knees in prayer. Observers in Washington say the doctrine has little chance of coming back.



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

November 2008



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
11/2 Harvest House Sunday						1 FCCB CWF Retreat - Athens, TX 10/31-11/2
2 9:00 AM - Elders' Meeting (E) 4:30 PM - Youth Pizza & Movie 6:30 PM - Wellness Min. Mtg. (FLC)	3	4	5	6	7 Chi-Rho Fall Retreat 11/7-11/9	8
9 CONSECRA- TION SUNDAY 12:00 PM - Thanksgiving Luncheon (FLC)\ 5:00 PM - Recycle Round-Up	10 9:00 AM - Newsletter Published	11	12	13 7:00 PM - Disciples Women Meeting (FLC) 7:00 PM - Disciples Men Meeting (C)	14	15
16 Youth - Mystery Outing-Time- TBD 6:30 PM - Wellness Min. Mtg. (FLC)	17	18	19	20 7:00 PM - Board Meeting (E)	21 CYF Fall Retreat 11/21-11/23	22
23 No Youth Fellowship	24 9:00 AM - Newsletter Published	25	26	27 	28	29
30 4:30 PM - Youth Holiday Treats & Movie	Regular Sunday Activities: 8:15 AM - Early Worship 10:00 AM - Sunday School 11:00 AM - Traditional Worship		Regular Wednesday Activities: 9:30 AM - Ladies Bible Study 7:00 PM - Choir Practice			