

FIRST CHRISTIAN TIMES

First Christian Church (Disciples Of Christ)
Monday, October 8, 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

A few weeks ago during worship, we entered into covenant together as a congregation to embrace and live into the goals for our ministry that were revealed in and through the discernment process.

Now we have come to the truly challenging and fun part - living into them. It is wonderful to have goals. I could set a goal to lose 10 pounds or paint a masterpiece, but without a plan, or strategy to get me there, that goal sits idly by, unmet and staring me in the face. The same is true with our goals for the ministry of this church. So, let's start by reviewing what those goals are. I will list them but each is of equal value for the ministry of our congregation.

1. Attract more young adults and young families.
2. Expand our congregational care ministries toward one another.
3. Be more visible within the wider community.
4. Expand our outreach ministries, specifically in areas of "hands on" involvement.
5. Learn healthy ways to work with conflict within the congregation.
6. To increase member involvement in the ministries of the church.

We need to begin to share ideas, read stories about what other churches are doing and how we can learn from them. These are not the goals of a committee. They are the goals of the whole congregation, and it will take the energy, effort and commitment of the whole congregation to live them into reality. So, if you have an idea, tell someone. Pass it on. Don't presume that persons serving on particular committees already have all the ideas and strategies needed - not at all! And don't presume that if it's something we haven't done before, that it won't work. Sometimes that is precisely what we need and what will work.

It will take a lot of energy and faith for us to grow forward with these goals and turn them into reality. But in my experience, the good Lord provides.

Blessings,
Pastor Laura

WORSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28TH
8:45 AM

DOROTHY NASH'S HOME
216 LESTER STREET

We'll have breakfast while we plan the
Advent season.

To Our Friends at First Christian Church Burleson,
Thanks to everyone that came to the Disciples Day picnic. It was so nice to see old friends. Hope everyone enjoyed it. We hope to make this a yearly event.

Blessings to all,
Shelly Bowden from Grace Christian Fellowship

Offering 9/23/07

Gen. Fund	2,045.50
Build. Fund	517.00
Youth August Recycle	68.67

Offering 9/30/07

Gen. Fund	1,612.75
Build. Fund	245.00
Reconciliation	55.00
Honorarium-Video Fund	25.00

Offering 10/7/07

Gen. Fund	3,125.00
Build. Fund	549.00
Reconciliation	110.00

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Sept. 30, 2007 - Early	8
Traditional	93
Oct. 7, 2007 - Early	7
Traditional	95

**Visitors and Guests**

Marlene Baysinger & Bob Lee in the early service.

Iris Wilson; Imogene Cottman; Greta Eller; Lynn McCoy; Nancy Murphy; Tonya Townsend-Huggins; Avery, Adalyn & Madison Townsend; Carl & Betty Ludtke; Mike & Jennifer Drybola; Dave, Kim & Shea Pulliam; Rick, Kris, Ryan & Anna Cheek; Mary DeSessa; Brea, Sarah & Susan DeSessa; Dusty Elmore; & 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.

HARVEST HOUSE
Little Red School House Facts

428 children assisted, 197 new families, 97 new LRSH families, 359 gift cards given out, \$11, 024.46 in funds raised, \$19,326.79 spent, 126 free haircuts completed on LRSH fair day, over 100 immunizations given by Huguley Mobile Clinic.

Important Events -

Garage Sale	October 12th
Online Auction	November 8th

CALENDAR**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2007**

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

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2007

7:00 PM	Disciples Women Meeting (FLC)
7:00 PM	Disciples Men Meeting (C)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2007

10:00 AM	TBA Board Meeting - Riverside Christian Church - Ft. Worth
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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2007

8:15 AM	Early Service (C)
10:00 AM	Sunday School
11:00 AM	Traditional Worship (S)
12:00 Noon	Cabinet Meeting (FLC)
5:00 PM	Recycle Round-Up

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2007

9:30 AM	Ladies Bible Study (Youth Room)
12:00 Noon	FCC Friends (Youth Room)
6:45 PM	Choir Practice (S)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2007

7:00 PM	Board Meeting (E)
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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2007

CYF Fall Retreat Registration Forms Due
Disciples Women Retreat Forms Due
Stewardship Kick-Off

8:15 AM	Early Service (C)
10:00 AM	Sunday School
11:00 AM	Traditional Worship (S)
2:00 PM	Housewarming Party for Natalie Rubis - Hayley Vastine's Home

No Youth Fellowship

MONDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2007

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


HOUSEWARMING PARTY FOR
NATALIE RUBIS


Sunday, October 21st

2:00 - 4:00 PM

Hayley Vastine's Home

850 Evandale Road

Burleson, TX 76028

817-426-1660

Hostesses Hayley Vastine & Onita Holton

Natalie is registered at Target



The Power of Prayer

CONCERNS:

Chuck Malone, Jerry & Sandra Hay's best friend, passed away. Please pray for his family.
Willie Lewis, Ann Gartman & Juanice Wichterich's brother-in-law, passed away. Please pray for his family.
Robert Shelton, a friend of Ronnie Johnson, is recovering from a heart attack.
Martha Rogers, Marion Higginbotham's cousin, was recently hospitalized.
Mary Cowen's daughter, Jeannie, & Jeannie's husband were on a trip to Cancun and the bus they were on hit a tree and they were both killed. Please pray for their family. Mary is a neighbor of Bonnie DePratter.
Troy Smith had surgery for melanoma on his neck. The cancer has not spread. Pray for a speedy recovery.
Bill Taylor is recovering from surgery.
Cindy Jones' 25 year old daughter may have brain surgery. Cindy works with Diana McGee.
A friend of Cory Land's may have cancer and is very scared. They will have results soon.
Don Ho, a friend of the Gunn's may have melanoma.
Sharon Lewis' medication is very expensive.

JOYS:

Thanksgiving for answered prayers.
Thanks for our beautiful music.

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

DISCIPLES WOMEN MEETING

All women are invited to attend the next Disciples Women meeting this Thursday, October 11 at 7:00 pm in the Family Life Center. Disciples Men are invited to share refreshments with us. This month's hostesses are Peggy Johnson, Juanice Wichterich and Betty Wheeler. The study will be presented by Kathy Welch. Please bring bottles of lotion as our service project for Harvest House. Any kind of lotion is acceptable including hand lotion, body lotion or baby lotion.

Remember to bring your offering, cancelled stamps for St. Francis Village and if you have an October birthday, bring a penny for each year of your age.

Registration forms are available for this year's retreat in Athens on November 9, 10, and 11. Print one from this newsletter or pick up one from the registration table in the foyer across from the sanctuary.

If you need a nursery, call Sandra Hay (817) 297-9905 before Thursday so arrangements can be made.

AND—Thank you to everyone who supported this year's Dessert Auction. All the proceeds will benefit Disciples Women projects.



BBQ DINNER PLEASE NOTE THE TIME CHANGE TO 5:30 PM.

\$10.00 per person

5:30 PM

We'll have a professional square dancing caller.
Please sign up in the foyer.



Richard Land mentioned that our annual Stewardship Campaign begins this coming Sunday, October 14. He has already lined up members to share their thoughts with you about what giving means and I will have my opportunity later to speak to the spiritual and theological implications of stewardship. But in this article, I want to address something very practical; and it relates to the income we will be receiving from the BISD daycare in our building. That income can be a wonderful blessing or a terrible curse. The outcome is entirely up to us. If we, as individuals and as a congregation, decide that since this extra money is coming in we don't need to give as much or that the church doesn't need my particular contribution - then it will become a curse. For we will find ourselves increasingly short of the funds needed for the most basic ministries of the church and no means with which to try to expand any of our ministries. We will be frustrated, angry and even may begin to displace our anger and aim at the daycare itself - who will have done nothing wrong but make a handy scapegoat (either that or the pastor - they're always easy scapegoats).

BUT - if we mentally trick ourselves and behave as if that money isn't there then things will be different. Perhaps we need to live with the belief that the church needs our current contribution for its ministry to be sustainable; and that in order for our ministries to grow, we need to stretch ourselves personally and grow in our financial support of the church. If we do this, even just stretching a little each year, we will grow in so many different ways. Our church's fiscal health will strengthen and our spiritual health will become powerful. Then that extra something we'll be receiving from the daycare will simply be icing on the cake.

Blessing or Curse, you decide.

Peace,
Pastor Laura

NOTES FROM THE WORLD OF RELIGION

The Episcopal Church in America appears on the verge of breaking up. The church's House of Bishops rejected conservative demands to stop consecrating gay and lesbian Bishops. Scores of American parishes have aligned themselves with foreign Bishops and 10 Dioceses representing a tenth of all Episcopalians are ready to break away. Leading conservatives are discussing the formation of a new Anglican body.

Five months ago, American actor Richard Gere playfully planted a kiss on the cheek of Indian actress Shipla Shetty during an AIDS awareness program in New Delhi. She was charged with obscenity and recently was briefly detained when she tried to fly to Berlin for the opening of one of her films. The kiss on the cheek sparked an outcry from hard-line Hindus who claimed the pair had violated the country's strict anti-obscenity laws. Gere said he wasn't aware that he was violating any law and the actress had not known or taken part in the kiss.

The Islamic holy month of Ramadan requires fasting during the daytime. In Palestine, a squad of "Morality Police" has arrested at least 50 people caught eating or drinking in public during Ramadan. The squad was appointed by the West Bank President. Those arrested are accused of "offending public morality" and usually are jailed for 24 hours.

An NBC television series, "Faith in America" says 11 percent of Americans either don't believe in God or aren't sure God exists, and that the rise of atheism is considered a backlash against right-wing evangelists' political activity. The series says that Buddhism is gaining in popularity among young people in the Mid-West. And yet another survey by an organization called the "First Amendment Center" says 74 percent of Republicans, 50 percent of Democrats and 47 percent of Independent voters endorse a constitutional provision declaring America a "Christian Nation".

2007 STEWARDSHIP DRIVE

The Stewardship Ministry Team is hard at work preparing for our annual Stewardship Drive. The dates for stewardship emphasis are as follows:

October 8th	Proposed Budget in Newsletter
October 21st	Stewardship Kick-Off
	Stewardship Packets Distributed
November 4th	Thanksgiving Consecration Dinner at 12:00 Noon
	Questions & Answers about Budget & All Faith/Promise Form Due
December 2nd	Congregational Meeting - Vote on Proposed Budget

Stewardship Moments in Worship:

October 14th	Bonnie DePratter
October 21st	Jerry Hay
October 28th	Linda McDowell
November 4th	Marion Higginbotham

Stewardship Articles for Newsletter:

October 8th	Flora Roe
	Kathy Welch
October 22nd	Sandra Hay
	Michelle McCrory

Your Stewardship Committee includes Richard Land, Peggy Johnson, Angela Kaker, & Richard Edmonds. If you have any questions, please contact one of these people.

WHAT STEWARDSHIP MEANS TO ME

Stewardship means many different things including giving of one's time, talent, and tithes. For me, it goes beyond that, it also means *Giving Back* by taking care of what God has given me and using those resources to help others. My membership and fellowship in this church have given me opportunities I might not otherwise have known about to be of service in some way and I gladly help where I can. Many people in my lifetime have given to me in so many ways, and the best way I can think of to pay them back is to pass it forward by helping others.

Flora Roe

STEWARDSHIP: FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH BURLESON. . . A Family of Christians working together in faith and love!

We are so richly blessed by the shepherding and guidance of Pastor Laura; Elders, Deacons, and leaders serving with dignity and grace; inspiration of talented musicians and choir members; teachers sharing the word of God; fellow Disciples caring and sharing My prayer for each of us is to find a place in Our Family, being stewards of talents and resources to serve God It is His plan!

Blessings,
Kathy Welch

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS & EXPLANATIONS

TEAM WORK

Team work, that's the emphasis of our church teams. Ministry is what we are called by God to do. Team - according to Webster's dictionary, "a group working or playing together". Look over our list of ministry opportunities and determine where God would have you serve. Our goal is for our teams to be strong and lead our church. What are your spiritual gifts? How can you serve God, our church, each other, and our community? Do you have questions about what a job entails? Are you curious about how much time a job will require? Do you feel like you would like to take on a task but aren't sure how to do it? When you get your Faith Promise Form on Oct. 21st, look it over for ways in which you can serve. If you have questions, please see a current team leader, or an Elder, or Pastor Laura. They will be happy to help you answer these questions. They will be happy to provide training and guidance. They will be honored to pray for your work in this church!

STEWARDSHIP EXPLANATIONS

Worship Ministry Teams

The Worship Ministry Team is responsible for the many aspects of our weekly worship service. The primary responsibility of the Worship Ministry Team is to see that our worship service is meaningful and leads others to Christ. For example, this team makes sure that communion preparation is taken care of. They assist in consultation with the musicians and choir leader in choosing songs for worship. They recruit leaders for special services (i.e. Hanging of Greens, and Christmas Eve). There are many areas in which you can serve on this team.

Stewardship Ministry Team

The Stewardship Ministry Team is responsible for planning and monitoring our annual stewardship campaign. Stewardship touches many areas of our lives including: time, talents, financial, and prayer. This team is constantly searching for ways to help us all be good stewards of our lives for God. This team will continue to look at long-range planning goals for our church.

Outreach Ministry Team

The Outreach Ministry Team is responsible for the various aspects of church outreach. How can we best serve the community and the world in which we live? One of the primary projects they currently monitor is our giving to Harvest House. There are many opportunities for service on this team. Is God calling our church to a nursing home ministry? Are we to find ways as a congregation to reach out to the homeless in the area? Come be a part of this team and pray about where God would lead us.

Evangelism & Membership Ministry Teams

The Evangelism & Membership Ministry Teams are privileged to get to know our visitors and new members and to help them become a part of our church family. There are many ways you can serve with these teams including visiting potential new members, preparing food for families in times of death and calling on shut-ins. If you have an outgoing and hospitable personality, one of these may be the team for you.

Christian Education Ministry Team

The Christian Education Ministry Team is one of the biggest opportunities to serve in our church. The Christian Education Team's task is to facilitate our learning and knowledge of God in every aspect of our lives. Whether you are called to teach Sunday School, serve as Nursery Team Leader, or work with Vacation Bible School, the Christian Ed team has a spot for you.

Fellowship Ministry Team

The Fellowship Ministry Team makes sure that we have plenty of Christian fellowship in our church with our church family. From picnics to Thanksgiving dinners they are the party group. If you enjoy planning or hosting parties, then this is the team for you. Who knows, in 2008 maybe we will see a church-wide _____ ??? You can fill in the blank!!

Building Ministry Team

The Building Ministry Team is responsible for all aspects of our building. From maintenance to repair, from special cleaning projects to painting, this team helps to get it all organized. Our building is a very precious asset. Are you willing to help maintain it as God's building?

Property & Grounds Ministry Team

The Property & Grounds Ministry Team maintains the grounds around our building. Mowing, weeding, treating for fire ants, changing our church sign, are some of the responsibilities that the Property & Grounds Team watches over. Are you an outside kind of person? Do you thrive on chasing fire ants? If so, we've got a job for you!

Youth Ministry Team

Do you love our Youth Group? Want to help out with long range planning? Are you willing to assist with our Paper Recycle Fundraiser? Everyone on this team is guaranteed to get at least 5 years younger!

First Christian Church

2008 Proposed Budget Worksheet

***Final Proposed Budget will be approved at Oct. 18th Board Meeting**

<u>Account Line</u>	<u>2007</u>		<u>2008 Oper.</u>	<u>2008 Capital Fund</u>
Total Offerings	\$ -		190,000.00	42,000.00
Expenses:				
Building Payments	36,000.00		42,000.00	
Building Maintenance	3,000.00		4,500.00	6,000.00
Choir Music	-			
Christian Education:	300.00		500.00	
Easter Egg Hunt		-		
Sunday School Curriculum		-		
Vacation Bible School		-		
Background Checks		300.00		
Children's Church		-		
Promotion Sunday		-		
Baptism Certificates		-		
Graduate Gifts		-		
Computer Software & Upgrades	1,000.00		1,000.00	
Copier Maintenance & Lease	1,000.00		1,000.00	
Convention & Education	-			
Evangelism Supplies	200.00			
Fellowship			250.00	
Insurance	11,000.00		11,000.00	
Janitor	8,500.00		5,000.00	
Kitchen Supplies	450.00		200.00	
Office Supplies	2,750.00		2,000.00	
Outreach*	-		15,000.00	
Postage	800.00		400.00	
Publicity	2,000.00		2,500.00	
Pulpit Honorarium	-		400.00	
Salaries:	76,600.00		82,600.00	
Pastor's Package		55,000.00		62,000.00
Youth*		4,000.00		3,000.00
Secretary Salary		14,600.00		14,600.00
Nursery Attendants		1,800.00		1,800.00
Payroll Taxes		1,200.00		1,200.00
Capital Savings	-			36,000.00
Utilities	21,200.00		19,000.00	
Electricity		16,000.00		
Gas		2,000.00		
Water		1,000.00		
Phone		2,200.00		
Van	900.00		900.00	
Gasoline		600.00		
Maintenance		300.00		
Worship Supplies	200.00		250.00	
Youth Events:	1,250.00		1,500.00	
Summer Camp Scholarships		1,250.00		
Curriculum - JYF, Chi-Rho, CYF		-		
Back-to-School Blowout		-		
Kidnapping		-		
6th Grade Bibles		-		
Youth Suppers/Meals		-		
See You at the Pole		-		
Miscellaneous		-		
Total Expenses	\$ 167,150.00		\$ 190,000.00	\$ 42,000.00
*These expenses may be adjusted based on offerings				

FCC, Burleson Disciples Women Retreat

Nov. 9-10-11 ~ Disciples Crossing in Athens

What's In A Woman's Heart

Begins Friday at 9:00 pm in the Lakeside Dorm and ends Sunday after breakfast. Come for the whole time or just on Saturday.

ITEMS TO BRING

Comfortable clothes and shoes, bedding for twin bed, bath toiletries & towel, flashlight, and Bible

ITEMS TO CONSIDER BRINGING

Change for sodas, snacks to share (must be in resealable containers), bottled water, coffee mug, ear plugs (someone might snore), and personal music device

LEAVE VALUABLES AT HOME!

DIRECTIONS TO ATHENS FROM BURLESON

Go north on I-35W. Go east on I-20E. Exit #479B onto Hwy 175E. Follow to Athens. Turn left onto JED ROBINSON LOOP. Exit Hwy 31 and go north (left) about 1/2 mi. Camp is on the right. Look for the stone entrance.

Cost per person:

2 Nights / 4 Meals \$75

Sat. Only / 3 Meals \$60

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Turn in form and money  
to Ann Gartman,  
Kaye Gregory, Sandra Hay,  
Marion Higginbotham,  
or Onita Holton by  
Sunday, Oct. 21.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number/Email \_\_\_\_\_ Dietary restrictions? \_\_\_\_\_

Days attending? \_\_\_\_\_ Drive or ride? \_\_\_\_\_ Time you can leave Burleson \_\_\_\_\_

LADIES, PLEASE INVITE YOUR SISTERS, DAUGHTERS, MOTHERS, COUSINS.... AND FRIENDS!

