

News



Views

February 23, 2011 First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Wilmington, NC

Italics indicate non-FCC group

Sunday, February 27

8:45 am Turning Point Service
9:45 am Sunday School
10:30 am Youth Visit St. John's
Episcopal Church & Lunch
11 am Traditional Worship
1:30 pm Field Studio Recital
Interfaith Guests Depart
5:30 pm Fell. Supper & Follies
Week of Compassion Ends

Monday, February 28

8:30 am Quilters Workshop
12 pm Al Anon
6 pm Beth Moore Bible Study
6:30 pm Spiritual Growth Group
7 pm Quilters-by-the-Sea

Tuesday, March 1

8:30 am Quilters Workshop
5:30 pm Mission Team Leaders
6 pm Circle Martha
6:30 pm Financial Peace Univ.
7 pm Carolina Vocal Arts Ensemble

Wednesday, March 2

10:30 am Circle Mary
6 pm Elders
7:30 pm Chancel Choir

Thursday, March 3

1:30 pm Silver Bees
6 pm Worship Band

Saturday, March 5

7 pm Narcotics Anonymous

Sunday, March 6

8:45 am Turning Point Service
9:45 am Fellowship Breakfast
11 am Traditional Worship
5-7 pm Youth

Recent Attendance

	8:45	11:00
2/20/11	73	94



Special All-Church Breakfast Sunday March 6

9:45 am During the Sunday School Hour

Initiated by the Sabbatical Team and sponsored by the Elders, during breakfast the Elders will lead small group discussions about what spiritually renewing things we can do while Dr. Perry is on sabbatical in 2012.

Each table group will also have the opportunity to be a prayer group for Lent, praying for each other, our church, and our Stewardship Campaign that also begins March 6.

Plan to come for this important time together.

The Follies Return!

5:30 pm Dinner + 6:15 pm the Show Begins



Dinner is covered dish.
Bring a dish for your family and another to share.

Sign up in the welcome area to participate in the variety show.



Week of Compassion 2011

Sharing Brings Joy: To Us. To Others. To God.

Offering envelopes will be in your bulletin again on February 27. This is a special offering "over and above" our regular giving. It is a great joy to be a part of this very tangible way of responding to the world's most critical human needs.

Notices and Reminders

Worship focus for Sunday is *Worshipping God With Our Lives*; Romans 12:1-2, Isaiah 51:1-6



Lectionary Readings for use in your daily practice of prayer and scripture. Isaiah 49:8-16a, Psalm 131
1 Corinthians 4:1-5, 16-23; Matthew 6:24-34



Pray for Our Missionaries
Casilda Luzares serving in Japan.

Elders Please Note: Due to Ash Wednesday, the Elders meeting has been changed to Wednesday, March 2, at 6 pm.

Mission Team Leaders Meeting
Tuesday, March 1, 5:30 pm in Room 12

Want to participate in FCC's mission trips, but don't have the time? Stop by the board outside the sanctuary, where you can purchase food items to be used for our annual Chicken on a Mission fundraiser on Friday, March 25. The board shows the prices and quantity needed for chicken, bbq sauce, potatoes, green beans, rolls, and paper products. Donations can be placed in the box, and you can take off the item you have purchased, so others can see how many items are still needed. The more items we get donated, the more of the fundraising proceeds can go to benefit our Mission Fund. Also, if you would like to help with the fundraiser, please contact Kenny Morris, Jr. at 762-8054. We need helpers for chicken plate preparation and deliveries. If you are interested in selling chicken plates at your workplace, stop by the church office for a flier and tickets. We will serve plates during lunch (11-2) and dinner (5-7), and deliver to locations the purchase 10 or more tickets.

A Word from Lance, cont'd

ideas as a congregation and planning for next summer.

After 21 years of ordained ministry, my hope for my sabbatical time is for my own personal and professional renewal. This time of renewal will include my family. The grant we are applying for takes into account the sacrifices of clergy families and encourages pastors to include family in their plans. My focus will be on spiritual practices such as lectio divina, silence, and daily reflection. I will be spending time in places that will facilitate this as well as reading, journaling, and discussing my journey with spiritual directors. My sabbatical will begin and end with a week long silent retreat. If the grant is received, my family will spend six weeks in Spain and Italy spending time together, seeing historic places, hiking, playing a little golf, and having some time for prayer and reflection on my spiritual life and pastoral ministry.

Sunday, March 6, is a very important Sunday for our congregation and my sabbatical plans. During our Sunday school hour we will share breakfast in the Fellowship Hall, and our Elders and deacons will be leading table conversations about what we sense will be spiritually renewing for our congregation while I am away next summer.

Please be in thought and prayer even now as we listen for God together, and as we share our stories about our own spiritual renewal and our hopes and dreams for FCC. See you Sunday.



Pancakes & Ashes

ASH WEDNESDAY

Pancake supper and Ash Wednesday Worship at 6 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Who, what, where, when?

Church Visiting

This Sunday, February 27, the youth will continue their monthly visit of a different faith community in our area. They will travel across the neighborhood to St. John's Episcopal Church for their 10:30am service.

Mission Fund and Pay Pal

Initiated by our Mission Team leaders and approved by our Stewardship Team, FCC now has a Pay Pal account connected to our Mission Fund! Check it out on our web page! If you have friends and extended family who love to help with tangible mission efforts, let them know! They can donate online and all proceeds go to our Mission Fund which supports Appalachia Service Project, Youth Mission Trips, and our El Salvador mission which includes child sponsorship for school.



Piano Duo Concert Featuring Steve Field and Sharon Miller



Part of the Music on Market Fine Arts Series at St. Andrews Covenant-Presbyterian Church at 16th and Market, the concert is on Saturday, March 5, at 7:30 pm, and is free and open to all. The concert will feature selections by Beethoven, Gershwin, Schubert and arrangements of hymns and spirituals.

In **February**, remember to bring **canned meats** for the Food Pantry.



Put it in the **Little Red Wagon**.

Please do not bring items that have expired or are close to their expiration date. Thank you.



Libby Stanton joined FCC on Sunday, February 20, by transfer of membership. **Welcome to our church family, Libby!**

Please add Libby's information to your church directory: Libby Stanton, 807 Walnut Street, Wilmington, 28401. Cell: 616-0970.



FCC Green Team Update

The FCC Green Team had its first meeting this past Sunday. We discussed several ideas and goals for our church, including expanding our recycling, reducing our use of paper and Styrofoam, and improving our energy efficiency. We will also keep the congregation informed about environmentally friendly community events and things you can do to help our church go green.

When we think of stewardship, we usually think of money, but it can also apply to reducing our waste of materials and energy. Often, environmentalism and financial stewardship can go hand in hand. For example, did you know that you can now read the church newsletter online? Just go to fccilm.org and click on "News". If you would like to stop receiving the paper version of the *News & Views*, contact the church office and you can be added to the weekly email notification when it is updated online. By choosing to receive the electronic version, you not only save paper, but you also save the church money, in the cost of the paper, printer toner, and postage. Keep an eye on the newsletter for ways you can help our church protect God's creation by using our resources wisely.

More who, what, where, when?

Congregations Can Benefit from IRA Charitable Rollover

By now the passage of the tax bill in late December is old news, but it could continue to be a benefit to congregations. Churches should welcome the reinstatement of the IRA Charitable Rollover.

The IRA Charitable Rollover allows individuals 70½ and older to make a direct transfer from a traditional IRA to a qualified public charity. Up to \$100,000 can be contributed from the account during the year.

The transfer does qualify for the required minimum distribution. It must be either outright to a public charity—such as a congregation—or for a specific purpose, but may not be a donor-advised fund or supporting organization. It also may not be used to fund a life-income gift.

This rollover would benefit individuals who do not itemize deductions for income-tax purposes, taxpayers in states that do not allow charitable gift tax deductions or taxpayer who may be subject to the alternative minimum tax.

[Information taken from *Generation to Generation*, a publication of the Christian Church Foundation.]

Vacation Bible School

Children Pre-K through 5th grade are invited to “carry out God’s recipe” at the *Shake it Up Café*, our Vacation Bible School, **August 1-5, 2011**. We will be joined by St. John’s Episcopal Church again this year. Mark your calendars and invite your friends. VBS is open to all children in our community.

Prayer Vigil Volunteer(s) are needed

to head up our annual Prayer Vigil beginning at 6 pm April 15, and ending at 6 pm April 16. Linda Reinger, who has done this before, will provide information and planning ideas. Please contact Becky Shipton or the church office if you would like to do this. The Youth have already signed up for the hard to fill hours of 1 am to 5 am.

Summer Camp for Children & Youth

Summer is coming, and there are great opportunities for you to attend camp in June and July! Children as young as Kindergarten are eligible to attend one of our Regional camps at Camp Caroline. For the youngest children, Uno camp (K-1 grade) is the perfect first-time camp experience. Children attend with a parent and stay one night. Older elementary children have the option of a three day or week-long camp. Camps are also offered for middle and high school students, which include a unique camp for eighth graders. The camp schedule and registration forms are available on the Youth board and on the K’Motion board. First Christian pays ½ the camp fee for church members. Please turn in forms and fee (check made out to FCC) to Rev. González by May 15. Contact Rev. González, if you have any questions.

2011 NC Regional Academy *Freeing Ourselves to Serve*

The 2011 Regional Academy will take place Saturday, April 2, at Barton College in Wilson, North Carolina. Join disciples from around the state to hear keynoter Bill McConnell, and participate in a variety of workshops designed to strengthen the ministry of our church. For more information see the bulletin board by Room 2. Early bird registration is \$45 by March 1.



Global Ministries Update

Friday, February 18, 2011

Greetings Disciples and UCC!

Over the past three weeks we have witnessed a peaceful, yet massive, expression of discontent with economic and political conditions in the Middle East, especially in Egypt. Starting in Tunisia, protests have been manifest in a number of countries of the region, including Jordan, Algerian, Iran, and Bahrain, and has resulted in some governments taking steps to appease their populations, either in response to, or to preempt popular protests.

Global Ministries is following events closely, and is especially keen to share the voices of our partners. In Egypt, we have relationships with the Coptic Orthodox Church and with the Protestant Churches, including the Coptic Evangelical Organization for Social Services. See a list of our partners here: <http://globalministries.org/mee/partners/>

The Protestant Community of Egypt, an official body comprised of and representing the 16 recognized Protestant denominations in Egypt, has issued three statements in the past few weeks, the most recent one coming Thursday (Feb. 17). A news story appeared last week on Global Ministries' website about Egypt, and included links to the previous statements: <http://globalministries.org/news/mee/sectarian-differences-in.html>

This week, the Coptic Orthodox Church spoke to the revolution:

<http://globalministries.org/news/mee/coptic-orthodox-church-on-the.html>;

and the Protestant Community issued its third statement today:

<http://globalministries.org/news/mee/protestant-churches-of-egypt-1.html>.

This most recent statement calls for denominations in Egypt and outside "to hold a day of fasting and prayer for Egypt and the families of the martyrs, next Sunday, the 20th of February, 2011."

Grateful for your partnership in God's global mission,

Peter Makari
Global Ministries Middle East and
Europe Area Executive
makarip@ucc.org

THANK YOU!
THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!
THANK YOU!

Dear Church Family,

I want to thank you for the Valentine Box. It was filled with wonderful stuff I love. Thank you again.

Love, Matt Dean

Dear FCC,

Thank you so much for the Valentine's Day Care package. My housemates and I really enjoyed all of the treats. I always love getting this box because it reminds me of how much my church truly loves me and cares about me. Again, thank you so much.

— Maggie May

Dear FCC Family,

Thank you all so much for the time, energy, and most importantly the baked goods/candies that you all sent me! I look forward to this every Valentine's Day, and I love the right mix between baked sweets and candies that you all package in the box. My girlfriend and I pigged out on them after our Valentine's Day dinner, it was the right way to end the day! Thanks so much, and God Bless you all!

Sincerely, Grant Morine

Dear FCC,

I would like to thank you for going out of your way to think of me as a college student who deserves a Valentine treat, and you are correct with thinking of me that way. Because I let my social worker assign me home work if they want to. Sometimes I assign myself home work. Thanks again.

Love, Camdyn Roberts

Many Thanks to Margaret Respass

for replacing and sharpening the pencils in the sanctuary, and also putting out the guest/prayer cards.

Valentine Boxes for FCC College Students was a huge success. DWM ladies packed 21 boxes/gift bags for our students. Thank you to everyone for making this mission such a great success. Also, a BIG thanks to Les Edwards for providing the boxes and also paying for the postage to mail the boxes. Les has been so generous with our organization. We are truly blessed. Thank you again everyone.

Sherry Hickman, DWM President

Coat Drive A Blessing to Many

Dear Brie,

I want you and all your church members to know just how much the Tileston Outreach appreciated your coat drive. It could not have happened at a better time and you delivered them in such wonderful order that it was so easy to distribute them to our needy. They were so grateful and so am I. Thank you so much for all the warmth and love you shared.

Blessings, Sister Mary Isaac

Dear FCC Family,

Thank you for your concern, cards, calls and prayers during my recuperation from ACL reconstruction. About one out of 250 people respond to surgery with extra swelling and tenderness. It was nothing that the patient has or hasn't done, the surgeons fault etc., just the way nerve receptors, autoimmune responses, etc. react. I'm the one!!! I should have been off crutches and my brace over four weeks ago, yet I still have to use them. This means a slower recovery and more physical therapy than originally planned. I will get where I need to be; it will just take longer. I am appreciative of all the prayers sent my way. It is a rough road but I am slowly getting there. Don't take me off your prayer list yet.

— Diana Wierse

Prayer Concerns

Long Term Health Care Concerns

Wilma Briggs, Helen Dunn, Rosa Gaylord, Foye Marshburn, Betty Nash, Betty Snook, Jeanette Wolfe

Church Family

- Wilma Briggs, moved to Hospice Life Care Center
- Ellie Duckett, participating in a clinical trial
- Dave Dutcher, seeking employment
- Ed Ferrier, Ann Boston's father, moving home to Bill & Ann's this week
- Allan Huband, undergoing chemotherapy
- Jim Lee, undergoing treatment and tests
- Kim Sibbach, stage IV cancer, cancer is in bone marrow, treatment begins in March
- Diana Wierse, recovering at home from knee surgery to repair torn ACL

Friends and Family

- Maxey Bunch, Teresa Bullock's father, broken pelvis, pack pain, internal bleeding
- Tami Estep, Jane & Ellie Duckett's granddaughter/niece, breast cancer
- Jeff Grimes, Joanne Stout's nephew, cancer
- Luis Guardiola, Rev. González' cousin, deployed to Afghanistan
- Debbie Howard, attends a meeting at FCC, recovering from spinal fusion surgery
- Katie, niece of Nancy & Andy Black, facing a long recovery time from a lung infection
- Bill Law, Jane & Ellie Duckett's nephew/cousin, major surgery for esophageal cancer
- Frank Ridgeway, Sherry Hickman's father, recovering from a stroke, undergoing physical rehab
- Matthew Slaughter, Amanda King's fiancé, deployed to Afghanistan
- Warren, friend of Nancy Black, in intensive care with serious health issues
- Kathy Wirkus, Alicia Luse's sister, undergoing radiation and chemotherapy
- Community of Puente Azul, El Salvador
- People of Haiti and Chile

Serving February 27

11:00 Communion Table Prayers

Jeannie May, Bill Reinger

Home-Bound Communion: Bill Reinger, Glenn Brigman, Charlie Vaughan

Deacons

Linda Reinger (captain), Brad Dean, Zach Dean, Alicia Luse, Andy Heath, Marion Vernon, Jeff Wierse

Communion Prep

Andy Heath, Linda Reinger

Children Worship & Wonder

Feb 27 Bridgette Johnson & Chris Wrede

Mar 6 Jamie Wrede & Kelly Ensign

Turning Point Kids

Feb 27 Jane Coleman & Julie Furr

Mar 6 Millie Griffin & Stacey Adam

Minister On-Call Schedule

Feb 25-26 Rev. González 395-5594

Mar 4-5 Dr. Perry 200-9507

Greeters

8:45 Feb 27 Jackie Nicholson & Jeannie May

Mar 6 Ron Gore & Tonya House

11:00 Feb 27 Sue Hunley

Mar 6 Vivian Vaughan

Lay Reader

Feb 27 Lou Hargett

Mar 6 Lauren Perry

Sunday Door Lock-up

Feb 27 John & Jeannie May

Mar 6 Ellen Shepard

Budget Update

Budget through 2/20/11 \$259,964.00

Income 255,845.51

Income Short of Budget \$4,118.49

News & Views
First Christian Church
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Wilmington, NC 28403

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Staff

Lance A. Perry, Senior Minister
Ailsa R. Guardiola González, Associate Minister
of Christian Education and Youth
Stephen Field, Music Director
Travis Price, Turning Point Music Director
David Heinzman, Organist/Accompanist
Myrtle Sanders, Financial Secretary
Tammy Connell, Nursery Attendant
Faith Dietrick, Secretary/Admin. Assistant
John Lanier, Janitorial Service
Tammy Connell, Cleaning Service
Robert Register, Grounds Maintenance
Russ & Carlotta Smith, Spiritual Directors 616-5846

Tel: 762-1389 **Care Line:** 772-9683

E-Mail: Lance Perry: fcclance@bellsouth.net
Ailsa González: fccailsa@bellsouth.net
Faith Dietrick: fccwilm@bellsouth.net

CareNet Counseling Center Partner: 799-1071

Web Address: fccilm.org

A Word From Lance

As you may already know, my sabbatical plans are rapidly taking shape. It seems a little early and there has been some confusion about that. I will be taking the sabbatical during the summer of 2012, but we are planning now because the grant our church is writing is due this May. We are also planning now because this grant includes funds not only for pastoral renewal but also for congregational renewal. Many times while a pastor is away congregations discern some new things they would like the pastor to do and some old things they want the pastor to let go of. A pastor's sabbatical is also a prime time for the congregation to focus on renewal and discernment. Congregations sometimes discover things about themselves that they would like to change whether it's something new to start or something to let go of. It's time to be sharing

[continued inside]