

News



Views

March 16, 2011

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Wilmington, NC

Italics indicate non-FCC group

Sunday, March 20

8:45 am Turning Point Service

9:45 am Sunday School

10:30 am Youth Visit Church & Lunch

11 am Traditional Worship

12 pm Board Meeting

6:30 pm Refreshments

7 pm Healing Service

Monday, March 21

12 pm Al Anon

6 pm Beth Moore Bible Study

6:30 pm Spiritual Growth Group

Tuesday, March 22

6:30 pm Financial Peace Univ.

7 pm Book Club

Wednesday, March 23

7:30 pm Chancel Choir

Thursday, March 24

6 pm Worship Band

6:30 pm Young Adult Gathering

Friday, March 25

Chicken On A Mission Fundraiser

11 am - 2 pm Delivery & Pick Up

5-7 pm Delivery, Pick Up, Dine In

Saturday, March 26

7 pm Narcotics Anonymous

Sunday, March 27

No Turning Point Service

9:45 am Sunday School

10:45 am Blended Worship

Consecration Sunday

Recent Attendance

8:45 11:00

3/13/11 69 94



Chicken On A Mission Friday, March 25, 2011

BBQ Chicken Dinner ♦ \$7.00 per Plate

11:00am – 2:00pm
Pick-up & Delivery Only

5:00 – 7:00pm
Pick-up, Delivery & Dine-In

Free delivery on purchase of 10 tickets or more.

Proceeds Benefit the FCC Mission Fund



March 27, 2011

Notices and Reminders

Worship focus for Sunday is *Worshipping God With Our Lives*.



Lectionary Readings for use in your daily practice of prayer and scripture.

Genesis 12:1-4a, Psalm 121

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17; John 3:1-17



Pray for Our Missionaries

Ryan Turner serving in India.



They're Here!

The new pictorial directories have arrived and will be available in the welcome area on Sunday. Due to the limited supply, please just take one per family.

Lenten Prayer Groups

These groups of up to seven people will meet twice during the next seven weeks. Designed for time of silence together, scripture reading together, listening for God together, and praying for each other and our church, the groups are a great opportunity for our Lenten spiritual journey. **If you would like to be in a group please contact the church office.**

Directory Update

Sara Brown is now using only her landline: 251-5319

CACS needs clean, dry plastic bags for the food packets.

Worship Team Meeting:

Wednesday, March 30, at 6 pm, in Room 6. Light refreshments will be served.

A Word from Ailsa, cont'd.

future, whether a week, a month, six weeks, or years ahead. It seems almost too much to ask for in our short-sighted, I want it now culture.

But, the purple color of Lent reminds us: Get ready. Wait. Prepare. It reminds me of God's command to the Israelites to remember Sabbath, a day for rest and worship: "Six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day" (Exodus 20:8-11a). The Sabbath rest reminds us that the world and our lives are not of our own making. It reminds us that God is the God of time, and God has created enough time to do what is needed. The Sabbath rest gives us time to reflect, get ready, and prepare for the days that lie ahead.

The six weeks of Lent are similar. They are a gift of time to rest from focusing so much on the demands we feel placed on us by our fast-paced culture. They are a gift of time to spend more time listening for God through God's word and in prayer. They are a gift of time to be a little more still and rest in the truth that we are in God's care. Get ready. Wait. Prepare. The mystery of Easter awaits.

In **March**, remember to bring **canned fruit** 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.

Who, what, where, when?

Work on Wilmington

Mark the date, get your hammer and paint brush ready, and sign up to make a difference in our community. Work on Wilmington will take place from 8am - 12pm on April 16. To join the FCC work team, sign up on the mission board outside Room 12, or contact Ann Boston (762-6725) or Rev. González. **Join the helpful hands from across our great city and volunteer on Saturday, April 16.**

Sabbatical Thanks

Our thanks goes out to everyone for your participation at our March 6 breakfast during Sunday School. Your answers to our questions about spirituality were helpful in moving us along with our plans for Lance's Sabbatical.

After we read through your responses, we were able to determine there were at least six areas of interest for spiritual growth among our members present. They were: Retreats/ Study groups/ Prayer groups/ Experimental (blended) worship services/ Encouraging persons on the part of all of us to come and be a part of what we do/and Communication with each other. There were a number of statements that fitted into these categories.

We will now move on toward planning around these above listed items and keep you all informed as we move ahead! I for one am looking forward to that period of time leading into and during the Sabbatical time of June through August of 2012.

Now is the time for all of us to be praying for this opportunity for Lance and his entire family and for us as an entire church as we strengthen ourselves. Thank You again for your participation. If you have other suggestions, please let us know.

— Russell Smith

Stewardship Emphasis: Worshipping God With Our Lives

Dear Friends,

The special event to which Board members are traditionally invited prior to Consecration Sunday will be in conjunction with the General Board Meeting, March 20, following 11 am Worship. There are three other differences, this month:

1. Since the Board Meeting will follow Rev. Mark Opgrand's presentation, all First Christian members are invited to attend, not just Elders, Deacons, Ministry Team Chairs, etc.
2. For this particular meeting, everyone helps defray the food cost. The fee is \$5 per person.
3. The food will be bought in bulk prior to the meeting. Therefore, all who plan to attend are asked to make their plans known so that the proper amount of food can be purchased.

On Sunday, Myrtle Sanders will give a special devotional on Stewardship during the meeting. In addition to our regular Ministry Team reports, several important items of business will be considered.

**** Do make reservations, please! If you are not a Board member and plan to attend, call me to reserve your place at the table! Your input is necessary and valuable. ****

Bonnie Brown
General Board Chair – 791-8360



Lenten Healing Service

Sunday, March 20

6:30 pm Refreshments in Room 12
7:00 pm Service in the Fellowship Hall

Are you tired? Anxious?
Unsure or worried about someone or something in your life?

Tony Campolo, a marvelous preacher, teacher and author, tells about speaking in a church in Oregon a short time ago, and while he was there, he prayed with a man who had cancer. The very next week, he got a call from the man's wife. She said, "You prayed for my husband. He had cancer."

Tony could tell by the tone of her voice what had happened. "He died today," she said. Tony felt terrible, but the lady told him this: "Don't feel bad. When he came into that church last Sunday he was filled with anger. He knew he was going to be dead in a short period of time, and he hated God. He was 58 years old, and he wanted to see his children and grandchildren grow up. He was angry that this all-powerful God didn't take away his sickness and heal him. He would lie in bed and curse God.

The more his anger grew toward God, the more miserable he was to everybody around him. It was an awful thing to be in his presence. After you prayed for him, a peace came over him and a joy came into him. Tony, the last three days have been the best days of our lives. We've sung. We've laughed. We've read Scripture. We prayed. Oh, they've been wonderful days. And I called to thank you for laying your hands on him and praying for healing."

Then this lady on the phone told Tony Campolo a very profound thing. She said, "He wasn't cured, but he was healed."

At the Lenten Healing Service, we will have an opportunity to have prayers said for our healing. You may be in need today of physical healing, emotional healing because of a relationship that is broken in your life. You may need spiritual healing of a sin that has built a wall between you and God.

Will you be cured? Possibly.
Can you be healed? Positively.
Will God be glorified? Absolutely! Amen!

More who, what, where, when?

Grow in Faith: Strengthen our Congregation

Join Disciples from our Region at the 2011 Regional Academy at Barton College on Saturday, April 2. You will enjoy a keynote address by William McConnell, who is recognized as one of America's leading authorities on church transformation. In addition, you will have the opportunity to attend two of sixteen workshops offered that day. For more information see the bulletin board by Rm 2, or visit the NC Disciples website, www.ncdisciples.org

Christmount Discovery Weekend for Women: June 3-5, 2011

All women are invited for a time of relaxation, spiritual renewal, fellowship, and meaningful worship. The weekend includes keynotes, discussion, and lively music.

Carol Anderson-Shores will captivate you with her "Timeless Truths from Women in the Bible - Good Things to Know When the Ground is Shifting Under Your Feet." It's a fresh look at some women of the Bible who have more in common with our struggles today than you would think. Carol's presentation combines one act plays, great speaking, rich content and generous waves of laughter. She has performed around the country and brings a creative approach to telling the stories of our faith as they apply to daily living. Bring your friends for an early summer weekend away with other women of faith.

Registration fees include lodging in the Guest House for two nights, conference fees, and Friday supper through Sunday breakfast.
Single: \$244.50, Double: \$181.25
Triple: \$160.25, Quad: \$149.75.

If you are interested in attending, contact Kathy Jordan at airsho60@ec.rr.com.

Belk Charity Event

First Christian Church Wilmington is participating in the April 16, Spring Belk Charity Event. We have 200 shopping passes to sell. Each pass costs \$5.00. We are able to keep 100% of the ticket sale, and you get the \$5.00 off of your purchase.

The people that purchase a shopping pass are invited to attend the Charity Sale private shopping extravaganza on Saturday, April 16 between the hours of 6 am to 10 am at any Belk Store. There will be special savings, as much as 70%, on rarely, if ever, discounted brands. Belk's customers, who use their charge account, will also earn double or triple points. A person can purchase multiple tickets and use one with each separate purchase.

OUR GOAL FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY IS TO RAISE AT LEAST \$1,000 DOLLARS.

If you are interested in raising money for our programs/ministries/general fund, please see Chris Wrede or Ann Boston for tickets. Proceeds from this event will go to our ministries to help make each of them and our church 'green'. We are focusing on Evangelism (getting the lighting for the beautiful stained glass window upgraded), Hospitality (replace Styrofoam plates with durable plastic), Property (putting in place various recycle initiatives, and energy conservation solutions). We know that these are very difficult financial times and our church is experiencing financial difficulties. This is an opportunity for us to raise money outside our church. This is a win/win/win event. You sell a ticket to a friend, co-worker, family member for \$5—FCC keeps the \$5, the purchaser gets his/her \$5 back on their purchase and Belk's obviously gets people in their stores.

Prayer Concerns

Long Term Health Care Concerns

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

Church Family

- Ellie Duckett, participating in a clinical trial
- Dave Dutcher, seeking employment
- Ed Ferrier, recovering at home
- Ailsa Guardiola González, facing outpatient surgery on March 22, to remove an ovarian cyst
- Allan Huband, taking a pill for treatment
- 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
- Jimmy Childers, Tena Perry's father, recovering at home from heart catheterization
- Cyndie, co-worker of Nancy Black, upon the death of her husband Warren
- 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
- 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 at home and doing well
- Matthew Slaughter, Amanda King's fiancé, deployed to Afghanistan
- Jimmy White, Alen White's father, pancreatic cancer
- Kathy Wirkus, Alicia Luse's sister, undergoing radiation and chemotherapy
- Community of Puente Azul, El Salvador
- People of Haiti and Chile

Serving March 20

11:00 Communion Table Prayers

Harvey Jarman, Bonnie Brown

Home-Bound Communion: Glenn
Brigman, Duane Luse, Russ Smith

Deacons

Faye Hodges (captain), Julianne Black, Greg
Kennedy, Jo Mills, Caroline Shepard, Bryan
Young Hickman, Courtney Young Hickman

Communion Prep

Jo Mills, Lauren Perry

Children Worship & Wonder

Mar 20 Bridgette Johnson & Tricia Heath

Mar 27 Jamie Wrede & Ron Gore

Turning Point Kids

Mar 20 Jeff & Diana Wierse

Mar 27 Chris & Jamie Wrede

Minister On-Call Schedule

Mar 18-19 Dr. Perry 200-9507

Mar 25-26 Rev. González 395-5594

Greeters

8:45 Mar 20 Shawn & Michelle Allen

Mar 27 Steve & Dava Bright

11:00 Mar 20 John & Christie Reaves

Mar 27 Ann Boston

Lay Reader

Mar 20 Charles Vaughan

Mar 27 Ned Lavengood

Sunday Door Lock-up

Mar 20 Greg & Marcia Kennedy

Mar 27 Harry & Millie Griffin

Budget Update

Budget through 3/13/11 \$282,902.00

Income 273,948.36

Income Short of Budget \$8,953.64

News & Views
First Christian Church
2035 Oleander Drive
Wilmington, NC 28403

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FCC Wilmington

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 Ailsa

On Sunday I had the joy of being with our youngest children in Children Worship & Wonder during our Sunday school time. It is always a blessing to be in their presence and to share God's stories with them. Our story Sunday emphasized the purpose of Lent as a time to get read. "Lent is a time when we get ready to celebrate the mystery of Easter," we said together.

This phase, a time to get ready, has really stood out to me. As I look at the world around me, it seems our society doesn't make much time to get ready for anything, much less wait for anything. We live in a world of immediacy and instant gratification. As I thought more about the phrase since Sunday, it also seemed to be saying, "prepare." Again, looking around me I don't see many good examples of well thought-out preparations for the

[continued inside]