

News



Views

November 30, 2011 First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Wilmington, NC

Italics indicate non-FCC group

Sunday, December 4

2nd Sunday of Advent

8:45 am Turning Point
9:45 am Sunday School
9:45 am Spirituality for the Holidays
11:00 pm Traditional Worship
12:30 pm Worship Planning Team
4 pm Youth Kick-Off

Monday, December 5

12 pm *Al Anon*
7 pm *Quilters Christmas Party*
7 pm Stewardship Special Comm.

Tuesday, December 6

6 pm DWM Christmas Get Together
6:30 pm Financial Peace U.

Wednesday, November 7

11 am Circle Mary
7 pm Chancel Choir

Thursday, December 8

1 pm Staff Christmas Party
6 pm Outreach Team Meeting
6 pm Worship Band

Saturday, December 10

8-10 am *AA Christmas Party*
7 pm *Narcotics Anonymous*

Sunday, December 11

3rd Sunday of Advent

8:45 am Turning Point
9:45 am Sunday School
9:45 am Spirituality for the Holidays
11:00 am Traditional Worship
3:00 pm K'Motion & The Vibe
Christmas Caroling
4:00 pm Youth - Mike's Farm

Recent Attendance

	8:45	11:00
11/27/11	83	79

Good News!

Advent & Christmas at FCC

December 2
7:30 pm Carolina Carolers Concert

December 4 - Spend Less

December 11 - Give More
3 pm K'Motion & The Vibe Caroling

December 18 - Love All
5:00 pm Christmas Oratorio
presented by the Chancel Choirs of St. John's
Episcopal Church and First Christian Church
with sopranos Elizabeth Field and Cheryl Cribbs;
mezzo-soprano Marty Brown;
tenor Jerry Cribbs and baritone Benjamin Horrell
Reception following in the Fellowship Hall.

December 24
5:00 pm Walk-In Children's Pageant
10:40 pm Pre-Service Music
11:00 pm Candlelight Service

December 25
No Sunday School
10:00 am Christmas Day Worship

Notices and Reminders

Worship Focus for the 2nd Sunday of Advent is *Spend Less*; Isaiah 42:1-9, Luke 1:26-38.



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

Isaiah 40:1-11; Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

2 Peter 3:8-15a; Mark 1:1-8

Pray for Our Missionaries

Alison Stendahl serving in Turkey.



Stewardship Special Committee Mtg.

7 pm, Monday, December 5

Outreach Team Meeting

6 pm, Thursday, December 8

Kingdom Growth Cards

Christmas is a time when we celebrate the kingdom of heaven coming among us in Jesus Christ as a baby born in a lowly stable. That child grew up and talked a lot about the kingdom of heaven. In the parable of the talents he spoke of this kingdom in terms of the valuable and significant gifts and graces that God has given us and our good use of them. Advent is a great opportunity to put our gifts and graces to use as part of our worship and preparation for our celebration of Christ's coming. On Sunday, November 20, we gave out Kingdom Growth cards to all worshippers inviting everyone to find ways to share their gifts and graces this season. The card has some ideas on the back and a place to record what has been done to be a part of God's kingdom work this Advent and Christmas. We are inviting everyone to bring them back on Sunday, December 18, so that we can begin celebrating how God has multiplied our gifts. If you lost your card or need one, they are available on the table in the welcome area!

A Word from Lance, cont'd

comment about how hard it is to buy for people at Christmas.

We finally got in the groove a little and began to talk about what we know about different family members and what they are passionate about in life. It started to get fun thinking about my brother-in-law, Bill, who is a Baptist pastor and giving a gift through Samaritan's Purse to train an evangelist. He would love that and what a great way to celebrate the good news of Christ's birth. Then we talked about my nephew who is back in school to become a physician's assistant. We're going to send money in his honor to send medical supplies to a poor village through World Vision. For each of the alternative gifts we are going to write a personal note explaining why we chose that gift for that person. We're also going to bake a bunch of Christmas treats for everyone. We did not finish and will need to talk more, but it feels like a good start. Sitting down and talking about meaningful giving at Christmas is a good place to begin. I hope that this year will mark a beginning of something that will grow. Now here's the kicker. When I tallied up our cost for our extended family, it was equal if not a little higher than last year. I was not expecting that, but when you think about it, we are Giving More (of our time and thought in considering gifts and baking goodies.) We are also looking into volunteering somewhere as a family and we're Spending Less (on ourselves and giving to "the least of these" whom Jesus loves). I hope you are having some fun thinking "outside the box" this year as you seek to find more meaning in the Christmas story and Christmas season. See you Sunday.

Who, what, where, when?

Blessed Thanksgiving

The grace and loving care of God was shared with eleven families in the Guardian ad Litem program this Thanksgiving. Many thanks to those who brought food and donated money for the items to go in the baskets. Many thanks also to Boy Scout Troup 19 for their donation of a shopping cart full of canned goods. Beverly Foscolo, our contact with the Guardian ad Litem program, shared in an email how appreciative the families were to receive this generous gift. Since the families eligible for the baskets are those with family placements, they receive no financial aid toward meeting the basic needs of the children in their care. This Thanksgiving gift helps ease that burden.

DWM Christmas Get Together

The DWM Christmas Meeting will be held **Tuesday, December 6, at 6:00 pm** in the Fellowship Hall. We will be preparing our Christmas stockings for the Salvation Army. Due to the fact the stockings are smaller this year, make sure the articles used to stuff the stockings are smaller. We appreciate your help and the kids will too! Our devotional will be led by Carlotta Smith. Don't forget to bring your appetizers! See you on December 6.

Pam Morris, DWM Secretary

Caroling, Lights and More

FCC's youth fellowship groups will have an eventful December. The children's fellowship groups K'Motion (Kindergarten-2nd grade) and The Vibe (3rd-6th grade) have been meeting twice a month since the fall and have participated in service projects like CROP Walk and packing the Thanksgiving baskets. They will see the lights at Mike's Farm and enjoy a sleepover at the Wrede's home on December 2. On December 11, they will go caroling.



Charles Reeves joined First Christian Church by statement of faith on November 27, 2011.

Welcome to our church family, Charles!



Carolina Carolers Concert Friday, December 2, 7:30 pm

The Carolina Carolers are performing this concert as an outreach for FCC. **The concert is free and open to all.** We will be taking donations to support the refitting of the music rooms. It promises to be a great night!

Circle Mary will meet at **11:00 am on Wednesday, December 7, at the home of Becky Shipton**, 333 Apollo Drive for a covered dish lunch. We will be filling small Christmas stockings for the Salvation Army. Please bring small items to fill the stockings. Questions? call Becky Shipton at 262-0545.

The CYF (Christian Youth Fellowship) group will kick-off this month with a variety of activities as we welcome new youth and begin getting to know one another. On December 4, youth will join in games, music, a trip to Wrightsville Beach for a beach scavenger hunt and dinner at Tower 7. They will take a trip to Mike's Farm on the 11th and have a progressive Christmas party on the 18th.

Stewardship Corner

Live sufficiently and give extravagantly.

J. D. Greear

More who, what, where, when?



If You See Any of These Folks, Wish Them A Happy Birthday!

Take a few minutes to share your best wishes with the members of our church family who have birthdays this month.

Linda Best	Nancy Manning
Julianne Black	Bill Morine
Sean Bullock	Grant Morine
Pat Campbell	Lauren Perry
Scott Coleman	Linda Reinger
Asher Ensign	Charles Sanders
Marco González	Rose Saurenman
Cleve Goodnite	Michael Shipton
Will Griffin	Suzanne Spivey
Mabel Haber	Gavin Tarrant
Margaret Jarman	Susan Watson
Jeremiah Johnson	Paul, Lindan &
Ned Lavengood	Jonathan Wierse

If we missed anyone, we are truly sorry. Please let someone on the Membership Team know, and you will be added to the birthday list.



Clear Out the Clutter

FCC youth invite you to clear out the clutter and donate to the yard sale. Proceeds from the sale will go toward activities and scholarships for children and youth Kindergarten - 12th grade in all our fellowship groups. The yard sale will be January 7, 2012, from 7 am-12 pm in the fellowship hall. Place donations behind the orange curtain beginning Tuesday, January 3. (Sorry, but we cannot accommodate donations before that date).



Food Pantry for December

Bring canned beans (any kind) and put them in the Little Red Wagon.



December Book Club

December will be a beautiful month getting ready for our celebration of the birth of Christ. Book Club will also be celebrating the season with food and fellowship at our Christmas Get-Together. We will be talking about the book The Wedding which is by Dorothy West (available in the church library) — or maybe not talking about it. We will meet at the home of Sandra Price on **Thursday, December 15, at 6:00 pm**. Bring an appetizer or a dessert to share. If you have any questions please call me at 805-0432 or Sandra at 763-0094. Join us, please! — Ann Respass



Great Job FCC Family!

We had a total of 94 shoe boxes turned in last week. Thank you so much for showing your love, and helping to put some big smiles on the faces of 94 precious little children when they open your boxes on Christmas morning. We ask you to pray that God will touch the heart of every child who receives a shoe box and that He will bring many children and families to faith in Jesus Christ. Last year Operation Christmas Child delivered shoe boxes in over 130 countries. Thank you again, and may God bless you all. Have a Merry Christmas! — Patsy Emmart

Christmas Day at FCC

This year Christmas day is a Sunday. What a great opportunity to worship God and celebrate Christ's birth on the actual day of Christmas. Our Worship Planning Team has decided that we will have one worship service at 10:00 am. In the manner that we all gather in our homes around the gifts and the tree, we will gather as a church family around the signs and symbols of the season in our sanctuary. Our special time of worship will be for the whole family. Plan to make this a part of your celebration of Christ's birth.

Prayer Concerns

Long Term Health Care Concerns

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

Church Family

- Sara Brown, scheduled for procedure to help with numbness in her hands and legs
- Betty Davis, being treated for depression
- Ellie Duckett, recovering at home from hospitalization
- Doris Eakes, natural treatments for cancer
- Ed Ferrier, Ann Boston's father, dealing with kidney failure
- Linda Frost, recovering from a heart attack at Trinity Grove
- Cooper & Dustin Haigner, in the NICU at Rex Hospital in Raleigh
- Allan Huband, continuing cancer treatment
- Ned Lavengood, recuperating at home
- Lory Scholberg, heart failure, at home under Hospice care; no visitors, cards are welcome
- Jim Lee, undergoing treatment & continuing tests
- Charlie Vaughan, rotator cuff surgery on 12/13
- Diana Wierse, continuing intensive physical therapy on her knee

Friends and Family

- Barbara Ables, Roy Archibald's sister, lung cancer
- Barbara Blake, friend of Libby Stanton, recently diagnosed with lung cancer
- Daniel Boyd, Tena Perry's nephew, deployed to Afghanistan
- Kevin Frawley, friend of Bill & Ann Boston, diagnosed with lung cancer
- Luis Guardiola, Rev. González' cousin, deployed to Afghanistan
- Daniel Kennedy, Greg Kennedy's father, dementia has progressed causing additional issues & concerns
- Cheryl Manus, friend of Tena Perry, moved to Hospice Care in Charlotte
- Aaron Martin, friend of Bill & Ann Boston, diagnosed with liver cancer
- Joe Martin, Bruce & Sherry Johnson's friend, throat cancer
- Peggy Pridgen, friend of Bruce & Sherry Johnson, stage 4 lung cancer
- Ella Sue Stanton, Libby Stanton's mother, recovering at home from hospitalization
- Elsie Stocks, Dava Bright's mother, health issues
- Kathy Wirkus, Alicia Luse's sister, in Hospice care at home

Serving December 4

11:00 Communion Table Prayers

Kenny Morris, Jr., Ellie Duckett

Home-Bound Communion:

Tim Whitehead, Bonnie Brown, John May

Deacons

Bill Boston (captain), Erin Bullock, Vanessa King, Lauren Perry, Will Pridgen, Joy Roberts

Communion Prep

Erin Bullock, Sue Hunley, Thomas Hunley

Children Worship & Wonder

Dec 4 Jamie Wrede & Bonnie Brown

Dec 11 Jamie Wrede & Margaret Jarman

Turning Point Kids

Dec 4 Millie Griffin & Michelle Allen

Dec 11 Bill & Linda Reinger

Minister On-Call Schedule

Dec 2-3 Dr. Perry

Dec 9-10 Rev. González

Greeters

8:45 Dec 4 Lauren Perry & Jim Pettigrew

Dec 11 Don & Valerie Hartsell

11:00 Dec 4 Joy Roberts

Dec 11 Trudē Rennick

Lay Reader

Dec 4 Trudē Rennick

Dec 11 Kenny Morris, Sr.

Sunday Door Lock-up

Dec 4 Chris & Pam Furr

Dec 11 Charles & Myrtle Sanders

Budget Update

Budget through 11/27/11 \$150,739.38

Income 133,386.34

Income Short of Budget \$17,353.04

News & Views
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Wilmington, NC 28403

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FCC Wilmington

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Stephen Field, Music Director
Travis Price, Turning Point Music Director
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Elizabeth Dawsey, Assistant Nursery Attendant
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A Word From Lance

Sunday afternoon my family sat down together to talk about Advent Conspiracy and our Christmas giving while our son Justin was home for Thanksgiving break. It took some doing just to find the time to sit and talk which in and of itself is a symptom of the busyness of life and the challenge to “think outside the box.” To be honest it was kind of tough for the first 15 minutes. Several times we said, “that is what we usually do” for our extended family members. Patterns have developed over time, yet they do not hold a lot of meaning except that we have been doing it that way for some time. It would be very easy just to do the same kind of thing with little or no thought. The time we usually spend is in the mall or at Walmart walking around hoping something will “jump out” at us as a good gift for each person. During those shopping times we usually

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