

News



Views

December 21, 2011 First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Wilmington, NC

Italics indicate non-FCC group

Sunday, December 25

No Turning Point
No Sunday School
10:00 am Christmas Day
Worship

Monday, December 26

12 pm Al Anon
Church Office Closed

Tuesday, December 27

Church Office Closed

Wednesday, December 28

7:30 pm Chancel Choir

Thursday, December 29

6 pm Worship Band

Sunday, January 1, 2012

8:45 am Turning Point
9:45 am Sunday School
11 am Traditional Worship

Monday, January 2

12 pm Al Anon
Church Office Closed

Recent Attendance

8:45	11:00
12/18/11	90 92



Christmas Eve Worship

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

Christmas Day Worship

No Sunday School
10:00 am Christmas Day Worship



Youth Yard Sale: 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).

Legacy Sunday: January 15

Unity in Mission

9:30 am Fellowship Breakfast
11:00 am All Church Worship



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Search for: First Christian Church of Wilmington, NC.

Notices and Reminders

Worship Focus for Christmas Day is *Meeting the Christ Child*; Isaiah 9:2-7, Luke 2:1-14.



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

Isaiah 9:2-7; Psalm 96

Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-14 (15-20)

Pray for Our Missionaries

Tim Rose serving in Guadeloupe/Martinique.

Attention: Building Fund Envelopes for 2012 are on a table across from the Chapel. If you cannot find yours and would like some, please call Myrtle Sanders at 791-2121.

The **church office will be closed** on Monday and Tuesday, December 26 & 27, and also on Monday, January 2.

Please Note: The News & Views will not be published the week of Christmas and the first week of January.

What Goes Up, Must Come Down

The decorations in the sanctuary and outside the church will be taken down **Sunday, January 8, immediately following 11:00 worship**. Volunteers will be needed to take down as well as pack up the greenery and other decorations.

— Worship Team

A Word from Lance, cont'd

actually laughed a good bit, got distracted by a phone conversation with an old family friend, and fumbled around what personal comments we wanted to include on each card. Then we bagged up some of the goodies we had made to ship to family far away. It was more time than we had spent in Christmases past as we considered how to show love to family members. And I think next year will be even more meaningful.

I hope Advent has been different and renewing for you this year even in small ways. The gospel message of the Christmas story is surely one of the grace, love, and presence of God coming in new, surprising, and unexpected ways. The kingdom of God that has come in Jesus is clearly a kingdom that lifts up the lowly and brings down the powerful and proud who have no room for God. May the love of God that brings deep comfort and peace and calls us out into a hurting world fill your life this Christmas season. See you Sunday.

God Speaks Your Love Language

The God Speaks Your Love Language group will have the first meeting on **Tuesday, January 17, at 6:30 pm at the home of Carlotta and Russ Smith**. This book by Gary Chapman challenges us to "feel and reflect God's love." It identifies the five love languages and, using scripture, identifies how God loves. Each person will also identify his/her primary love language and how that gets expressed to others. The group will meet for 6-7 weeks for approximately 1-1 1/2 hours. The cost of the book is \$6.50. Those interested, please contact Carlotta at (910) 616-5846.

Who, what, where, when?

A Wonderful Celebration

Many thanks to Steve Field and the choir for their beautiful gift of music on Sunday evening. The combined choirs of FCC and St. John's were a blessing to all who heard. Many thanks also to Jane Coleman and the team that hosted the reception. The food was wonderful and the Fellowship Hall looked elegant.

Christmas Eve Offering

Last year we began receiving a special offering at Christmas as a way to give meaningfully as we celebrate the birth of Christ. This offering is designated to a special mission chosen by our Worship Team. This year our offering will go to repair damage caused by Hurricane Irene on our Director's Cabin at Camp Caroline and other general repairs from the storm. Camp Caroline provides outdoor ministry experiences to children and youth including special needs children and children who are economically disadvantaged.

Year End Stock Gifts

The mission and ministry we share through First Christian Church is supported by a variety of gifts. In the past some members have found gifts of appreciated stock to be to their advantage in addition to the benefit of the church. Check with your tax advisor and see if this might be a meaningful way to make a year-end-gift. If you have questions, contact Myrtle Sanders, Financial Secretary. Thank you FCC members for your generosity.

FCC Youth In the New Year

The K'Motion (kindergarten-2nd grade) and The Vibe (3-6 grade) groups will continue meeting 4-5:30pm on the second and fourth Sundays of each month. The Christian Youth Fellowship (CYF) group will begin meeting weekly on Sunday, January 8 at 4:30-6pm. On Sunday, January 15 there will be a parents' meeting at 5:30pm for parents of the CYF youth.

Attention Children, Youth & Parents

The annual yard sale will take place on **Saturday, January 7, 7 am-12 pm**. Proceeds from the sale will go toward activities for children and youth Kindergarten - 12th grade. **Your help is needed to set up the day before the sale and during the sale.** Set up will take place Friday, January 6, at 5 pm. Please sign up on the youth board (between rooms 13 & 14) for one of the Saturday shifts (6:45 am-9:30 am or 9:30 am-12:15 pm). Working together, the sale will be a success and help the important ministries with our children and youth.



Stop! Don't Miss It!

Join us to celebrate Darryl Nester's and Mike Overton's Retirement.

We're Having a Pig Pickin.

Where: Elks' Lodge, 5102 Oleander Drive

When: January 7, 2012, 6-11 pm

Contact Person: Vicki Nester, 620-8096

Kingdom Growth Cards

This past Sunday we began collecting our Kingdom Growth cards. These cards are ways you can tell us how you have shared your gifts and graces this Advent season. In the next few weeks we will be celebrating the ways God has used us to respond to the Advent invitation to LOVE ALL. Place your cards in the offering plates on Sunday!

More who, what, where, when?

Annual Performance Evaluations

Annual performance evaluations will be presented to our ministerial team during the month of January. Any member of the congregation wishing to offer comments regarding the performance of our Senior Minister, Lance Perry, over the last twelve months may do so to one of the members of the Pastoral Relations Committee. All comments will be kept in strictest confidence. Committee members are as follows: Duane Luse (256-0751), Jeannie May (632-6949), and Kathy Jordan (231-4416). Performance evaluations for the rest of the staff will be performed in January and February. If you have any comments, please direct them to the appropriate person(s) as follows:

<u>Employee</u>	<u>Reviewer</u>
Ailsa González	Dr. Perry
Faith Dietrick	Dr. Perry
Steve Field	Harry Griffin, Music Comm.
Travis Price	Harry Griffin, Music Comm.
Myrtle Sanders	Mike Brown
Tammy Connell	Lindsey Tarrant for Nursery
Tammy Connell	Alan Anderson for Cleaning
Elizabeth Dawsey	Lindsey Tarrant
Stacy Sibbach	Lindsey Tarrant
John Lanier	Alan Anderson

Disciples Growing in Faith & Ministry

To date, First Christian Church members and friends have pledged \$4,235 to the Capital Campaign of the Christian Church in North Carolina.

Bring **canned beans** in December for the Food Pantry.



Put them in the Little Red Wagon.

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

Lost!! DWM's informational notebook for 2011-2012 year. It is a white, 3-ring binder notebook. Could be anywhere in the church. If found, contact Sherry Hickman at 675-1263.

Found. A grey-green, very small tweed, men's suit jacket. It is in the church office awaiting its owner.



January Coat Drive

Brie Carmo is organizing a winter coat drive again this year. As you "clean out the clutter" and begin setting aside items for the youth yard sale, please hold those no-longer-needed or rarely used coats aside for this worthy cause. We will collect coats January 15-22. They will be distributed locally through the social ministry at St. Mary's Catholic Church.

Donations Needed for a Family of 3

Three sets of twin sheets, three new pillows, three blankets, cleaning supplies, dish/laundry soap, vacuum cleaner, broom, sponges, mop, soap, toothpaste, shampoo, alarm clock. Please put donations on the table behind the orange curtain in the Fellowship Hall.

Stewardship Corner

True Christian giving is centered in the realization that what is most important to me has come as a gift and not through personal labor.

Philip D. and Janet T. Jamieson

Prayer Concerns

Long Term Health Care Concerns

Helen Dunn, Linda Frost, Rosa Gaylord, Foye Marshburn, Betty Nash, Dick Oosterwyk, Betty Snook

Our Sympathy To

- Barbara Anderson and family upon the death of her mother, Lois Hart, on December 5
- Alicia Luse and family upon the death of her sister, Kathy Wirkus, on December 7

Church Family

- Sara Brown, scheduled for procedure to help with numbness in her hands and legs
- Betty Davis, being treated for depression
- Ellie Duckett, continuing cancer treatment
- Doris Eakes, natural treatments for cancer
- Allan Huband, continuing cancer treatment
- Jim Lee, undergoing treatment & continuing tests
- Charlie Vaughan, recovering at home from rotator cuff surgery
- Susan Watson, recovering at home knee surgery

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, in process of returning from Afghanistan
- 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
- Jim Riley, Travis Prices' brother-in-law, deployed to Afghanistan for the 4th time
- Ella Sue Stanton, Libby Stanton's mother, recovering at home from hospitalization
- Elsie Stocks, Dava Bright's mother, health issues

Serving December 25

11:00 Communion Table Prayers

Charles Sanders, Andy Black

Home-Bound Communion:

Fern Huband, Millie Griffin, Becky Shipton

Deacons

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

Communion Prep

Becky Shipton

Children Worship & Wonder

Dec 25 Jamie Wrede and Tricia Heath

Jan 1 Bridgette Johnson & Kelly Ensign

Turning Point Kids

Dec 25 No Turning Point Kids

Jan 1 Andy & Nancy Black

Minister On-Call Schedule

Dec 23-24 Rev. González

Dec 30-31 Dr. Perry

Greeters

Christmas Day: John & Jeannie May
John & Christie Reaves

8:45 Jan 1 Val Moreau & Sam Rose

11:00 Jan 1 Cleve & Bunny Goodnite

Lay Reader

Dec 25 Jerry Roberts

Jan 1 Courtney Young Hickman

Sunday Door Lock-up

Dec 25 Fred Sanders

Jan 1 TBA

Budget Update

Budget through 12/18/11 \$171,294.75

Income 162,613.96

Income Short of Budget \$8,680.79

News & Views
First Christian Church
2035 Oleander Drive
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
Myrtle Sanders, Financial Secretary
Tammy Connell, Nursery Attendant
Elizabeth Dawsey, Assistant Nursery Attendant
Stacy Sibbach, Assistant Nursery Attendant
Faith Dietrick, Secretary/Admin. Assistant
John Lanier, Janitorial Service
Tammy Connell, Cleaning Service
Russ & Carlotta Smith, Spiritual Directors 616-5846

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

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

CareNet Counseling Center Partner: 799-1071

Web Address: fccilm.org

A Word From Lance

In these last moments of Advent, we reflect upon our month-long preparation to celebrate the birth of Christ. What has it been like this year? Any different? Less stressful? More meaningful? Have I worshipped fully — were the distractions of business and shopping less fracturing for my spiritual life? Did I spend less? — less on myself and more on others with not only money, but time and laughter and love? Have I given more? — more of myself and my thought and time to show others how much they mean to me? Have I shown love through it all?

For my family, integrating Advent Conspiracy has taken some time. The shift has been subtle. We sat down Sunday night and wrote out cards for alternative gifts we have given this year. It was not a “super deep” moment. We

[continued inside]

Draft of November 20, 2011, General Board Meeting Minutes

Tim Whitehead, Board Chair, called the meeting to order.

Jerry Roberts offered a devotion.

Jerry Roberts made a motion that the minutes of the last meeting as printed in the Newsletter be approved. Motion was seconded by Ann Boston and carried.

Reports

Financial Secretary: Myrtle Sanders;
See attached

Worship: Dr. Lance Perry advised that the planning team is meeting once a month and discussing scriptures for both services. Legacy Sunday will be 1/15/12 and will be an all church service. There will be one service held on Christmas day at 10:00 am. Worship will be decorating the Sanctuary this coming Saturday for the Christmas season. DWM/CWF will be decorating the Chrismon tree the following Saturday and they will be moving back to the floor area on either side of the Sanctuary.

Christian Education: Rev. González reported that Nancy Cherry-Simcox has agreed to take over Chair position after the first of the year. She thanked the Sunday School Leaders for their commitment. We are in need of a teacher for the 3rd-6th grade class and also for the Youth class. The (5) small groups that met in the fall were very successful and response has been positive. Rev. González

will be leading a group meeting on Sunday mornings that started today. See attached report.

Membership/Evangelism: Vanessa King reported that Membership/Evangelism has started collecting the pew pad registration forms and sending cards to those we see have missed several Sundays. Giving info to Lance on any visitors that sign the pads. We are really happy with the informational cards we ordered and are making them available at events held at the church and also including them in the visitor packets. The office received positive feed back on sending emails to members in the event of a death, etc. and we are investigating the use of a phone tree service. We have started planning for Legacy Sunday. Lauren Perry is in the process of developing a Facebook page for FCC.

World Outreach/CSAS: Ann Boston reported that the Bazaar was a success and as of right now has made \$8,500.00 plus. She and Ellie Duckett will be taking remaining crafts to (2) more craft shows to try and sell. It was decided not to have another bazaar next year but to try something in the spring. The committees will meet on 12/8/11 to discuss distribution of the funds. Items have been collected and K-Motion and The Vibe will be meeting this afternoon to pack Thanksgiving boxes for (10) Guardian Ad-Litem families. Approximately \$2,800.00 was raised for CROP Walk. See attached report.

Draft Board Meeting Minutes con't

Stewardship/Finance: Mike Brown reported they have been meeting regularly and met with Bruce Barkhauer about a new campaign: Saints Alive, Living Generously. It will involve stories of past/present and will make members aware of where the money in the budget goes. They will hold a Bible study on Wednesday nights on 2/29, 3/7, 3/14 and 3/21, and will include a meal. Very thankful that we are in better financial shape this year than last year. See attached report.

Property: Dr. Perry reported that a donation had been made for the lighting of the stained glass window, but the roof is looking so bad that it is being considered to redirect the donation to that project. Alan Anderson is in process of getting estimates. Continuing to have problems with a breaker and causes the church to have no hot water. Parts have been ordered to replace the breaker and that should resolve the problem.

Youth: Rev. González reported that K-Motion and The Vibe will be meeting on the 2nd and 4th Sunday afternoons. Chris and Jamie Wrede will be leading K-Motion. Jane Coleman, Dr. Perry and Roger Bullock have agreed to be youth sponsors and are excited about building our youth program. They will be having a kick off meeting on 12/4/11 to include a trip to Dot Bryant's house for games and activities and dinner at Tower 7 before heading back to the church. They are also planning a trip to Mike's Farm, and a Progressive Dinner Party and possibly a

retreat in January. See attached report.

Hospitality: No report

Nursery: No report

DWM/CWF: Sherry Hickman reported that the newly formatted meetings have been successful. They will be stuffing the Salvation Army stockings at the 12/6/11 meeting. Circle Martha will be taking January off but Circle Mary will be meeting. Jean Abernathy has kindly donated some new Chrismons for our tree. See attached report.

CMF: They continue to work on the cabin at Camp Caroline. Mallory Magelli has been given \$500.00 in Scholarship funds to help cover the cost of her books. They still have some pecans for sale. Report attached.

Deacons: Linda Reinger reported that they are working on projects to get more involved with local missions.

Elders: Bill Reinger reported that the retreat on 11/12/11 "Colors Inventory" was well received. The Elders will meet again in January.

Old Business: It was reported that no total has been given yet for the Capitol Campaign but a little over \$3,000.00 has been pledged.

Draft Board Meeting Minutes con't

New Business: Jerry Roberts asked about status of building fund and Myrtle Sanders advised collections have been slow.

Tim Whitehead brought up that on Sunday mornings the sun comes in the last 2 upper windows in the Sanctuary during Turning Point and blinds those offering music and asked that it be considered to tint or put blinds at those windows. Ellie Duckett made motion to have solution looked into and it was seconded by Bill Reinger. Tim Whitehead agreed to look into it.

It was brought up again about no shower facility available for Interfaith or for other groups who might use the church. Mike Brown advised he had looked into this before and the problem was determining the location of the shower. It was suggested to use the Sunday School classroom next to the ladies room across from the Fellowship Hall. Room 18 was also discussed. Ellie Duckett suggested at some point putting together a team to investigate/research and that a committee be appointed at by the Board chair. A motion was made by Becky Shipton to put together an exploratory committee to get estimates of the cost. Ellie Duckett seconded and motion passed.

Associate Minister: Rev. González reported that the Fall Festival was a success and thanked all that participated and that it is a good opportunity to offer hospitality to our community.

She is continuing to communicate with the young adults in order to establish more regular meetings for the group.

Senior Minister's Report: Dr. Perry thanked everyone that helped with the Fall Festival, Holiday Bazaar, Interfaith and the workday at the church. He encouraged everyone to outwardly focus on the Advent and Christmas season regarding their spiritual lives.

He advised the sabbatical implementation team continues to meet and he is very excited about a planned upcoming retreat. See attached report

There being no further business Tim Whitehead adjourned the meeting and Lance Perry closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Vanessa King, Board Secretary

[Reports & minutes are on file in the church office.]