

First Christian Visitor

“Where the Grace of God Awaits You.”

www.fcc-bhm.org

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PICTORIAL DIRECTORY

This week we will have our portraits made for the new Church Pictorial Directory. Many of us have already made our appointment for the portraits. The following are the days and times for the portrait appointments.

Thursday, Oct. 14 - 2:00– 9:20 pm
Friday, Oct. 15 - 2:00 – 9:20 pm
Saturday, Oct. 16 - 9:30 – 5:00 pm
Monday, Oct. 18 - 2:00 – 9:20 pm
Tuesday, Oct 19 - 2:00 – 9:20 pm

Please check your appointment time and be present for your portrait. Also, if you have not had the opportunity to make an appointment, the church office will be calling you this week. Our goal is to have 100% participation. The church directory will help us all to get to know each other better, to put names with faces. Please remember that you will need to come to church only once for photography and for portrait viewing. You will have the opportunity to purchase portraits and frames on the same day of photography. All portraits come with a 100% unconditional guarantee. You are not required to purchase a portrait. If you have any questions, please contact our membership chair, Lisa Burdette. We look forward to seeing everyone in the directory. Our new Church Pictorial Directory just will not be complete without you!

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT REGISTRATION

Our children will be performing a Christmas musical drama this year at our 7:00 pm Christmas Eve service. There will be a tryout/registration time on Sunday, October 24th at 4:30 pm. All children 5 years old thru the 5th grade are welcomed and encouraged to participate. Rehearsals will start the first Sunday in November at 4:30. I am looking forward to seeing all our children on October 24th at 4:30 pm. *Jan*

BUSY BELIEVERS GATHERING Friday, Oct. 22

If you are between 22-42 and you enjoy the fellowship of other Christians here at FCC, then you are invited to the **Busy Believers** gathering on Friday, Oct.22 at the home of Carlton and Tiffany Horne at 6:30 PM. You are also encouraged to bring your children, a game to play and a dish to share. The Hornes will provide the meat, mac and cheese and drinks. Their address is: 740 Mill Springs Lane, Hoover. If you need directions call: 337-6550. See you there.

CHRISTIAN COMRADES SUNDAY LESSON
Sunday, October 17
“Christian Apologetics - Jehovah’s Witnesses”
Comparison with Orthodox Christianity

YOUNG AT HEART WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27

How well do you know your friends in the Bible? If you saw a lady in an apron, you would know she was Martha, and if you saw a gentleman in a fishing hat, you'd know he was Peter, and if you saw a lady carrying apples, you would assume it was Eve. Now when you come to the October pot luck at the church for lunch, come as your favorite Bible character. Fun and entertainment for you and your friends. I believe that was Jacob carrying a ladder and his brother carrying a can of red bean soup getting ready for the party. See you at noon on the 27th. Sign up on the chart in the narthex.

Janet

TAN FALL FESTIVAL Tuesday, October 26 at 6:00 pm

The TAN Fall Festival is coming, and everyone is invited! Please call the TAN office at 991-9952 if you plan to attend and give them a head count. Chic-Fil-A sandwiches, chips, brownies and drinks will be served. The cost is \$7 per person or \$30 per family. Raffle tickets will be \$1 per ticket or \$5 for 6 tickets and can be pre-ordered and filled out in advance. See ya there! *Beth Patterson, TAN*

PASTOR CLASS

All children, youth, and adults are invited to the Pastor Class beginning Sunday, November 7th at 4:00 pm in the Fireside Room. This class is to help participants prepare for baptism on Christmas Sunday, December 19th during morning worship. Contact Edd if you are interested in attending.

A WALK ON OAK MOUNTAIN

Saturday, October 23, Edd is making his annual walk in the forest of Oak Mountain State Park. This is a beautiful time of the year to enjoy God's creation with the color of leaves and the pleasant cool weather. Come join him at 9:00 am on Saturday, October 23rd at the church. The hike will be an easy hike with fellowship and a moment of Communion. Please bring your back-pack with water, lunch, and a camera.

MEN'S GATHERING MONDAY, OCTOBER 25

The men will meet on Monday, October 25, at 6:30 pm. The speaker will be Scott Jackson as he shares his service to our country in Iraq. This will be a good presentation to hear as we will remember our Veterans on Veteran's Day next month. All men are invited to come for a great meal and new insights on our mission in Iraq.

Where the Grace of God Awaits You.”

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Life In Our Community

- Sunday, October 17
 9:00 Sunday School
 9:45 -10:15 Fellowship Moments
 10:15 Worship Service – Ministry Sunday
 10:30 Worship & Wonder
 5:00 Youth Groups
 6:15 Snack Supper
- Monday, October 18
 7:00 Men’s Bible Study on Zechariah
 10:00 Staff Meeting
 2:00-9:20 Olan Mills Pictures
- Tuesday, October 19
 9:45 Chapel
 10:00 Women’s Bible Study
 2:00-9:20 Olan Mills Pictures
- Wednesday, October 20
 6:30 Choir Practice
 7:30 Cantata Practice
- Thursday, October 21
 7:00 Men’s Bible Study on John
 7:00 Women’s Bible Study
- Friday, October 22
 6:30 Busy Believers Gathering
- Saturday, October 23
 9:00 Walk in Fall Colors on Oak Mountain

GRACE NOTES

- † I want to thank everyone for the cards, prayers and visits. Thank you so much; it has been a real strength for me. I hope I will be back in church before too long.
Sincerely, Jim Thigpen
- † Our prayers are with Gail Burton.
- † Our sympathy is expressed to Steve Pasky and family in the loss of his brother-in-law, David Letner.
- † Our prayers are with Mac and Linda Heaton. Linda fell and broke her leg. Mac has received a pacemaker for his heart.
- † Our prayers are with Judy Dudley’s brother, who is in critical condition in Buffalo, NY.
- † Our total gifts shared for the Reconciliation Offerings were \$1353.00.
- † A great 136th Anniversary & Homecoming. The church was filled with a wonderful spirit. Special gratitude is expressed to Mack Carpenter, who cooked the dinner.
- † The choir invites anyone who would like to sing in the Christmas Cantata to come to rehearsals at 7:30 pm. on Wednesdays.
- † Congratulations to Peggy and Brice Thornbury on the birth of their grandson, Matthew, born October 11, weighing 9 lbs. and 7 oz.

CHURCH HISTORY CONTINUED

The first three Sunday evenings in November, 1988, were devoted to Advent Workshops with several opportunities to help prepare for the holidays: a take home Advent wreath or Jesse tree, preparing a Jesse tree for church, making stockings and ornaments for others, Christmas cards for shut-ins, Nativity sets for classrooms, and making luminaries to light our way during the Christmas season.

Thanksgiving was celebrated with worship at Hargis and a traditional dinner in the new dining hall. The last Sunday in November marked the beginning of the Advent season. Many classes and groups hosted Christmas parties, and the annual pageant and dinner were held a week before Christmas. An old-fashioned caroling party took place on the Friday before Christmas. We gathered in the church parking lot, boarded our new mini-bus, and then set out to spread a little Christmas joy. After caroling, we returned to the church for hot chocolate. The early Christmas Eve service began at 5:00, followed by dinner. The traditional Christmas Eve worship at 11:00 centered around a Candlelight Communion Service. Christmas Day on Sunday began with a light breakfast at 9:45 followed by one worship service. In 1989 a "Banner of Life" was created to record events of the First Christian family throughout the year, happy occasions as well as sad ones: graduations, weddings, births, baptisms, silver and golden wedding anniversaries, retirements and deaths. Symbols were placed on the banner which became a mini-history of the church.

On the first Sunday in January Dr. Ovide DeLage was honored with a reception and gift in appreciation of his five years of dedicated service as Director /Minister of Music. A search committee was formed to seek a replacement for this position. Mardi Gras was celebrated at the January fellowship dinner with each person wearing a mask and a contest to judge the best one. Carleton Horne and Jennifer Hill were crowned king and queen of this first annual Mardi Gras celebration.

The youth groups sponsored a candlelight Valentine dinner in the Fireside Room. Proceeds (over \$550) supported their summer trip. The CYF and Chi Rho led both worship services on youth Sunday.

More than 80 people attended the February All-Church Retreat at Hargis. Rev. Don Lynn of Edmond, OK, was resource leader with the theme, "Freed to Be Me --Accepting God's Gifts for the Future".

The CWF sponsored a Fashion Seminar. Many ladies and their friends enjoyed a delicious lunch, door prizes and a preview of the latest fashions. CWF Cookbooks were available for purchase. On Palm Sunday the second group of Stephen Ministers-in-training was commissioned, and the children helped celebrate this special day by waving palm branches as they carried them to the chancel area.

SUNDAY’S ATTENDANCE	
SUNDAY SCHOOL	75
WORSHIP	145