



First Christian Visitor

“Where the Grace of God Awaits You.”

[visit us at : www.fcc-bhm.org](http://www.fcc-bhm.org) or call us at: 991-5000

VOLUME 4 NUMBER 20 MAY 15, 2012

PENTECOST OFFERING

Each year the Pentecost Offering is taken in Christian Churches (Disciples of Christ) throughout the United States and Canada to support the planting of new churches. Gifts to the Pentecost Offering have allowed the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) to reach more than 45,000 people for Christ and train 1,300 individuals to start more than 730 new churches. One half of the gifts provided to the Pentecost Offering stays in the region where the donor lives and one half goes to Hope Partnership for Missional Transformation to fund the recruitment, assessment, training and coaching of new church pastors, spouses and core team members. This year's offering, will be taken Sundays, May 20th and May 27th.

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR APRIL

Offerings Received	\$ 147,560.62
Offerings Needed	\$ 145,939.10
Income Year To Date	\$ 134,001.56
Expenses Year To Date	\$ 117,140.39
Net Income Year To Date	\$ 16,861.12

If you have ordered an Easter Hydrangea and have not yet paid for it, please place a check for \$19.00 in the offering tray. Thank You.

YOUTH SUNDAY

What an awesome and powerful youth Sunday we experienced two weeks ago. We are so proud of our extraordinary young people here at FCC. Thank you, Young People, for being so open and transparent. You have taught us a great deal . We sincerely thank you for leading us in worship. You are a blessing to us and to so many.

“THIS IS YOUR LIFE”

We had a wonderful time as we honored three of our five graduating seniors. Many thanks to Mac Carpenter, Annie Franklin and to Cara Adams for helping prepare and serve the meal. Special appreciation to Michael Watts for developing the videos. And special thanks to the parents and grandparents who have raised such outstanding young people. We are proud of each of you. Once again congratulations to Allie Eady, Katherine Mee, Elizabeth Miller, Morgan Natale, and Jacob Thigpen. We wish you the very best as you go off to college and beyond.

YOUNG-AT-HEART Wednesday, May 30

Young at Heart is going to smell the roses! Yes, we are taking the bus to the Birmingham Botanical Gardens on May 30th (Wednesday). Our guide will be Taylor Steele, son of Ruth Ann Steele. After our tour, lunch will be at the Gardens Cafe. Taylor has promised a sunny day (hopefully) and the roses have promised to be at their peak of beauty (true fact). Come have a fun day with us and sign up in the narthex, ready to go! (Yes, there are many other flowers we will learn about and see, but the queen herself will be at her best.) *See you! Janet.*

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL ORIENTATION AND TRAINING Sunday, May 20 at 11:30 am

July 23 – 27 is when our VBS will take place and it will be here before we know it! So with that said, we will have orientation and training for our volunteers on Sunday, May 20th immediately following worship. We will meet in the Farkas room. Lunch and child care will be provided. Would you please RSVP, you may call the church office at 991-5000 or email me at: marypat@fcc-bhm.org. I would like to thank you for your willingness to serve in our VBS this year.

With Joy, Mary Pat

HANDS OF THE CARPENTER

The Hands of the Carpenter has been called to help on another function. The L.O.V.E. (Locally Organized Volunteer Effort) has been very active in the restoration of damaged houses in the Pleasant Grove & Concord area and to those folks that were under-insured, non-insured, FEMA denied or just plain in need of some help. Our group will be providing a variety of services to assist their efforts. We'll keep you posted on our progress.

Thank you, Jerry Wallace.

DAVE RAMSEY FINANCIAL SEMINAR

Anyone that has ever spent money, saved money, earned money, worried about money, argued about money, donated money, didn't have enough money or had excess money.....please consider joining us for Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University beginning in August. More details will be given in June and an informational/registration meeting will be held in July. "

Thank you, Tiffany Horne.

BELL CHOIR SUNDAY

This Sunday, May 20th, is Bell Choir Sunday. If you enjoyed the bell duets this last Sunday, you will want to come worship this Sunday with our entire bell choir. We have been preparing since January for this worship service. We are so thankful that we now have four octaves of bells which have given us the opportunity to add special techniques to our music. The bell choir is excited to be able to praise God with our music. We have three pieces with just the bells and one that involves a small chorus of singers and a rhythm accompaniment. Each ringer has multiple bells to ring and one of our ringers is ringing over 10 bells. Come worship with us Sunday at our 10:15 morning service and experience the joy of praising God through music. *In Christ, Jan*

SUNDAY'S ATTENDANCE	
WORSHIP SERVICE	156

THE DISCIPLES Sunday, May 20th

The Resurrection and the Life John 11: 17-27

CHRISTIAN COMRADES SUNDAY LESSON Sunday, May 20th

A Study of Peter's Letters

“Where the Grace of God Awaits You.”

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FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH, 4954 VALLEYDALE ROAD, BIRMINGHAM, AL 35242.

Life In Our Community This Week

Sunday, May 20

- 9:00 Sunday School
- 9:45 Fellowship Moment
- 10:15 Worship Service – Bell Choir Sunday
- 10:30 Children's Worship & Wonder
- 11:15 A Moment of Prayer with Elders
- 11:30 VBS Training and Orientation
- 11:30 Ona-Ruth meet at church

Monday – Thursday

- 9:30 -1:30 The Adventure Nook Preschool

Monday, May 21

- 7:00 Men's Bible Study
- 10:00 Staff Meeting

Tuesday, May 22

- 10:00 Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, May 23

- 6:30 Choir Practice

Thursday, May 24

- 7:00 Advocates Bible Study

- 7:00 Women's Bible Study

Sunday, May 27

- Pentecost Sunday & Holy Baptism and
Lighting of the Memorial Candles

GRACE NOTES

- ⤴ Our sympathy is extended to Donnette Mee and family in the loss of Donnette's grandmother, Marguerite Colvin.
- ⤴ Our sympathy is extended to the family of Jane Davis Morgan, who died last week. She was a member of the church and served as a missionary in the Congo.
- ⤴ Our prayers are with Carl Flock as he recovers from successful heart by-Pass surgery.
- ⤴ Our prayers are with George Dudley, recovering from total knee surgery at Trinity Montclair.
- ⤴ Our prayers are with Carol Dutt and Russell Fountain's mother, Joanne Fountain.
- ⤴ Our prayers are with Cayla Corbin who is resting at home.
- ⤴ Congratulations to Reagan Everling, for achieving a second-degree black belt on December 17, 2011, one of only a few ten-year-olds to reach such a rank. Also, for being awarded the Presidential scholar award for excellence from First to Fifth and for scoring in the top five percent of state national testing scores. Well done Reagan!
- ⤴ Congratulations to Mary Kathryn Nicholson, who graduated on May 7th from Auburn. Mary Kathryn graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing. Well done Mary Kathryn!

GRACE NOTES CONTINUED

- ⤴ Stacy Seremet was recognized as the newest mother in worship on Mothers Day.
- ⤴ Please contact Edd If you would like to join him on a sunset walk on Ruffner Mountain on Saturday, May 19. Please bring water, camera and a snack. We will meet at church at 5:00 pm and after our walk, eat supper at the Olive Garden.
- ⤴ Please note that Mission Council will **not** meet on Monday, May 21.

BLESSING BOXES

“God, who has called you into fellowship with his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, is faithful.” 1 Cor. 1:9

Because He is faithful, we have hope and peace and everlasting joy. What greater blessing could there be? Let us share some our blessings with others. Last year, God used our thankfulness to touch the lives of 33 children. How many will we touch this year? Beginning now and continuing until October, we ask you to consider your daily blessings by contributing to your blessing box. All monies collected through the blessing boxes will be split between The Carly Fund and the Salvation Army's Angel Tree.

Charlotte Brammer, Chair Outreach.

OUTREACH UPDATE

Peggy Daniels has updated the display on the Outreach table. Thank you, Peggy! While you're there, browse the Outreach 2011 scrapbook. You'll also get some idea as to how many lives you've affected through reaching out. Here are a few of our ongoing efforts:

- ⤴ The Carly Fund: Contributions designated to this fund go directly toward the care of little Carly, Dronnie and Aneda Chandler's granddaughter.
- ⤴ Coins for Zach: Little Zack has Progeria, which produces rapid aging in children. Zach's best friend is Mary Pat's and Edd's grandson, Spencer. Our youth will be doing a special project for Zack's preschool as requested by his Mom. Drop your coins (and “folding money”) for Zach into the can on the Outreach table in the Narthex.
- ⤴ Backpack Buddies: We continue to supply bags of food for 40 students at Vincent Elementary School who are at greatest risk of going hungry over the weekend. Sandy Hamilton, as well as a host of others, have been incredibly faithful in this outreach, but their efforts would be for naught without your continued support of local Outreach.
- ⤴ Food Pantry: Feeding the hungry is one of Christ's expectations of us (Matt. 25: 34-40). The food pantry allows us to respond quickly to our neighbors' physical needs.
- ⤴ Local Assistance: Some neighbors need more than food; they need help paying utility bills or re-establishing homes after some disaster

Charlotte Brammer, Chair Outreach.

TRADITIONAL CAMPS 2012
(All Camps Begin and End at 10:00 am)

Discovery Camp - June 23-25, 2012

For those who have completed 2nd or 3rd Grade
Cost: \$135.00 – after June 1st - \$155.00

Junior Camp – June 25-29, 2012

For those who have completed 4th or 5th Grade
Cost: \$225.00 – after June 1st - \$265.00

CYF Conference - June 25-29, 2012

For those who have completed
9th, 10th, 11th, or 12th Grade.

Cost: \$225.00 – after June 1st - \$265.00

Chi Rho Camp – June 25-29, 2012

For those who have completed 6th, 7th, or 8th Grade
Cost: \$225.00 – after June 1st - \$265.00

**ALL TRADITIONAL CAMPS WILL BE HELD AT
YMCA CAMP CHANDLER. FOR MORE
INFORMATION ON CAMP CHANDLER, VISIT:
www.campchandler.org**

THE CHURCH WILL PAY HALF THE CAMP FEE