



## *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 23 JUNE 5, 2012**

### **Camp High Hopes**

We had a beautiful weekend for Camp High Hopes that concluded with happy hearts and tired bodies. We had a total of 37 campers; 25 who spent the night. These special needs adult campers came from group homes in Jefferson County, Chilton County, family homes in Shelby County, and from the Jefferson County ARC. Jim Langley oversaw the camp with lots of help. After supper, we adjourned to Giltner Hall to dance to the music of the Pistons, our official Camp High Hopes band. As usual, the campers danced the night away. We even learned a new dance craze called the Wally. Sharon Orazine insured everyone took their medicine on time. On Saturday, Deb Carpenter did a great job with the craft event. Jerry Wallace helped with the fishing tournament, but unfortunately most of the fish stayed in the lake. Many of the campers were on the other side of the lake paddling their canoes. Then we went to the picnic pavilion for a music and motion exercise. We again enjoyed the puppet ministry starring Larry Darnell. The campers competed for prizes in an all-out bingo game with Libby Carpenter doing the calling. Master Cook Gerald cooked up some of the best ribs we had ever tasted. After the excitement of going around the lake on a hayride, we ended the day with a cool swim in the pool. First Christian members who participated were: Edd and Mary Pat Spencer, Nurse Cassidy and grandma Sharon Orazine, Andrew and Michelle Brown, Kathy Owens, Ann Langley, Libby, Mack Barbara, and Deborah Carpenter, Shirley Naylor, Janice & Bob Lamb, Jerry Wallace, Tiffany, Carlton, Hayley and Samantha Horne, Stacy and Teanna Cason, Charlotte and Clayton Brammer, and José Carreras.

### **Memorial Service for Laura Langley**

There will be a celebration of life service for Laura Langley, on Saturday, June 9, at 11:00 am at our Church. Guests are invited to bring a pot luck dish and to remain afterwards to greet the family and have fellowship following the service.

### **“Loving Well” Ladies Summer Retreat July 18 - 20**

Some people are a joy to love; some are difficult to love; and we all have to deal with some people who are humanly impossible to love. In all those relationships one truth endures: We will never be able to love others well until we have been loved well. And only God can ultimately give us the complete love we so desperately need. Come along with us to a Ladies Summer Retreat for a journey toward “LOVING WELL”. The cost is \$215.00, which includes two night's accommodation and 6 meals, journal, and tote bag. For those who wish to commute, the commuter rate is \$135, which includes 6 meals, journal, and tote bag.

Retreat Date: July 18-20, 2012

Place: Alabama 4-H Conference Center,  
Columbiana, AL.

Please contact Janet Clark for registration and further details. 991-7280(h), 903-7736(c). Registration begins June 3. Deadline is June 14. *Janet Clark*

### **National Sacred Harp Singing Convention June, 14, 15, and 16**

Thank you members of First Christian Church, Birmingham for permitting the thirty-third session of the National Sacred Harp Singing Convention to convene in our facilities. This is the fifth time to be held at First Christian, and it is a joy for me personally to sing with fellow devotees from most of the United States, Canada, Ireland and the United Kingdom. You are invited to participate in all or part of the events taking place on June 14, 15 and 16. This is Thursday, Friday and Saturday before Fathers Day and is the customary time for this Convention. You should arrive by 8:50 am. if you care to observe or participate in the start of each day. Of course you may come any time you choose and are free to go and come as you wish. We enjoy a morning break for refreshments, and then have “dinner on the ground” (actually in the gymnasium) at noon. This takes an hour, and we return to sing again until around three pm. There will be about as many songs sung each day as we hear in our church in a full year! WOW! The authors are anywhere from the Psalms and early Christian composers up to living and attending composers singing with us. On Thursday evening, composers gather to sing new music with a group of experienced singers to sing their songs with or by a group for the first time. Most of the songs are sung full volume, a cappella with different directors choosing songs and then followed by other directors as scheduled by an arranging committee. They indicate on the registration forms if they will direct a song. Both sexes direct, and it is a joy to welcome children who have the courage to step to the center of the singers and “direct” a song. Last year we had about seven hundred register for the convention. I believe our God is honored.

*Hubert Nall*

### **Financial Peace University Classes Aug 12th- Oct 7th**

Romans 13:8 "Owe no one anything except to love one another, for he who loves another has fulfilled the law." If you are looking for a plan for handling your resources God's way that encompasses spending, saving, and giving than please join us. Our church will be hosting Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University this August. There will be all new curriculum that has never been offered before. In nine action-packed lessons, you'll learn how to beat debt, build wealth, find bargains, invest for the future, give like never before, and much more! This information will change your life. The current Financial Peace University classes meet for two hours each week for 13 weeks, during which time the average family pays off \$5,300 in debt and saves \$2,700. With the new curriculum, the time has been cut down to nine sessions to get you started even faster down the path to "live like no one else". We will have an informational meeting on July 15, after church. I you have any questions, Please see Tiffany Horne.

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### **Life In Our Community This Week**

#### Sunday, June 10

9:00 Sunday School  
9:45 Fellowship Moment  
10:15 Worship Service  
10:30 Children's Worship & Wonder  
11:15 A Moment of Prayer with Elders  
11:30 Ona-Ruth at church

#### Monday, June 11

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

#### Tuesday, June 12

6:30 Finance Council

#### Wednesday, June 13

6:30 Choir Practice

#### Thursday, June 14

7:00 Advocates Bible Study

#### Thursday, June 14 – Saturday, June 16

Sacred Harp Singing Convention

#### Saturday, June 16

7:00 pm CYF Returns from Mission Trip

### **GRACE NOTES**

- ✧ Our hearts go out to Jim and Ann Langley, Wayne and grandparents, Hank and Gina Whitehead in the death of Laura Langley. Our prayers for the family are lifted up in the words of Psalms 34:18. “The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit”.
- ✧ Ally Nelson, the eleven year-old daughter of Christina Nelson (Christina used to work in our Nursery), is to have prosthesis bone surgery on June 15, at UAB. A fund has been established for Ally at Cadence Bank under “Tragedy Fund”, to which you may make a donation. Or if you prefer, you can send a card and/or a love gift to Ally Nelson, 1060 Springfield Drive, Chelsea, AL 35043.
- ✧ Congratulations to Peggy and Brice Thornbury in the birth of their twin grandsons, born on May 31. The boys names are Bridon and Christian Hassig.
- ✧ We welcome to our church Dr. Wiley Hales who transferred his membership from First Christian Church in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. His address is:  
2831 Highland Avenue South.  
Apt. 718, Birmingham, AL 35205
- ✧ A volunteer is needed every Tuesday morning at 10:30 am to take the Visitor downtown to the post office. Please contact Edd.
- ✧ Twenty-one Young-at-Heart's enjoyed a day at Botanical Gardens on Wednesday, May 30. Taylor Steele was their guide through the gardens, and he was excellent.

### **Grace Notes Continued...**

- ✧ Please be in prayer for our young people as they journey to Lexington, Kentucky on June 8. Pray for a safe and successful mission trip.
- ✧ All Mission Council members are encouraged to attend the Mission Council meeting on Monday, June 18, at 6:30 pm.

### **CHURCH HISTORY CONTINUED**

Blessing boxes were distributed on Mother's Day, 2011, with all donations designated for the children on the Salvation Army's Angel Tree.

Tryouts for the upcoming Dinner Theatre production of "100 Years of Broadway" were held May 18th and 21st. Bill Watts, Bruce Moon, David Hamilton, Don Wurner and Kasey Fox created a productions system and built a stage for the event.

The May meeting of the Men's Fellowship featured Russell Fountain sharing his story and a lot of history.

Six of our youth and two adult sponsors were also commissioned to their mission trip to the Holy Land on that Sunday. They have sold olive wood products and Boston butts, worked charity sales, cooked and served meals at regional events and much more. Their faith has led them and sustained them. They will visit holy sites and reflect on the events that happened there. They will spend two nights in Nazareth and one night in the desert in a Bedouin tent, with a camel ride the next morning. The rest of their nights will be spent in the homes of Christian Palestinians in Bethlehem. While in Bethlehem they will do mission work in a refugee camp, work with children in orphanages and with the elderly. They will visit many of the places where Jesus walked, preached, taught and healed. They will see where He was born and where He died, and where He was resurrected. What an amazing experience these young people and their sponsors will have as they practice their faith and do His work. Our prayers go with Cayla Corbin, Alyssa Lamb, Katherine Mee, Elizabeth Miller, Jacob Thigpen, Soren Reitsma, Donnette Mee and Mary Pat Spencer. We looked forward to reading their blog and hearing about their experiences when they return home.

#### **THE DISCIPLES**

**Sunday, June 10<sup>th</sup>**

**Living as God's Just People**

**Leviticus 19: 9-18, 33-37**

#### **CHRISTIAN COMRADES SUNDAY LESSON**

**Sunday, June 10<sup>th</sup>**

**A Study of Peter's Letters**

#### **SUNDAY'S ATTENDANCE**

**WORSHIP SERVICE 115**