

First Christian Church Visitor

"Where The Grace of God Awaits You."

visit us at: www.fcc-bhm.org or call us at: 991-5000

Volume 5 Number 17 April 23, 2013



In The Meantime

Jane Hull, Interim Minister

The words of Jesus from the Sermon on the Mount continue to inspire and instruct us. During the final week we will be looking at chapter seven and digging deeply into how these words of Jesus can actually make a difference in our lives. Can these instructions change how we live in such a way that our world can be turned upside down?

As we move into May, we have a month filled with special days and special worship services. During these services we will honor our youth, our high school graduates, our mothers and women of the church. We will celebrate Pentecost and Memorial Day.

On May 5, we celebrate Youth Sunday and This Is Your Life for our high school graduates. We will honor them with a special lunch after church and would love for anyone to attend. There are envelopes in the pew racks to allow you to make reservations for lunch that day. Congratulations to our graduates on a fabulous journey!

On May 12, we will celebrate mothers and all the women who make an impact in our lives. All the women of First Christian will be honored in a special way during worship.

May 19 is Pentecost Sunday – a day we recognize as a birthday for the larger Church. That day we ask everyone to wear red, signifying the fire of the Holy Spirit that infuses the church. We will acknowledge the Spirit in our midst and will celebrate with a birthday party after worship.

May 26 is a time to remember those from our congregation who have passed away since last Memorial Day. There will be a special time of remembrance and prayer during the service. We will remember and recognize the impact these precious lives have had on all of us.

May is a busy month filled with special services. We hope you will celebrate them with us.



CROP WALK 2013!

Only a few days left until CROPWALK 2013. Please check the web site: www.bhamcropwalk.org. We need people to sign up as team members even if you are just making a donation. The Feinstein Foundation is matching funds up to one million\$\$\$\$\$. BUT... it must be donated before April 30th. So stretch those\$\$\$\$. Check out the Outreach Table in the narthex for information. We NEED walkers, route monitors, volunteers, and most importantly: fundraisers! Where will your feet take you?

When: Sunday, April 28, 2013 at 1:30 p.m.

Blessings, Sharon Orazine, Asst. Outreach Chair



YOUTH SUNDAY - Sunday, May 5

Mark your calendar for May 5. It will be a special Sunday as our youth lead us in worship for our youth Sunday. In addition we will celebrate "This Is Your Life" with a luncheon recognizing our graduating seniors following our worship. Please make plans to attend and support our youth and honor our graduating seniors. Reservations for the lunch may be made in church.



THIS IS YOUR LIFE - Sunday, May 5

TIYL (This is Your Life) has been a long-standing tradition here at First Christian. It is a celebration of our graduating seniors as we honor them and wish them well in the years to come. We honor them with a lunch immediately following worship service and a cake with their school colors for dessert. Following the lunch, there will be a short "roasting" of each senior followed by a two-minute video of his/her life. Each senior is also presented ahead of time with a scrapbook from the church which they fill with photos and memorabilia for their life accomplishments thus far. Each senior will have his/her own table with the scrapbook and memorabilia. In addition, each senior who is a member of our church is presented a gift from our church to help them with their college expenses. It is our way of saying, "Congratulations, and we love you and are so proud of you. Remember that this will always be your home church. We look forward to hearing great things from you in the future." Our graduating seniors that will participate this year are: Ayana Crosby, John Howard and Stephanie LaBeau. Kaitlin Rudd, and Sarah Scott will also be graduating this year. The cost of the celebration meal will be \$6.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children under 12. Reservations envelopes may be found in the pews.



MUSIC NOTES

Praise Kids will be singing in church for Youth Sunday on May 5th. We are practicing on Sunday evenings at 5:00 p.m. **Children 4 years through 5th grade** are all invited to come and sing with us. There is still time to learn our two songs so if you know any children that will enjoy singing with us, bring them to church this Sunday at 5:00 p.m. In Christ, Jan

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP AND WONDER

There will be **no Children's Worship and Wonder on May 5**. May 5 is Youth Sunday, in which the youth will be leading the worship service. We invite all children to attend worship in the sanctuary on both of these dates.

First Christian Church
4954 Valleydale Road
Birmingham, AL 35242

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FIRST CHRISTIAN VISITOR (UPS 0195-880) IS PUBLISHED WEEKLY EXCEPT A WEEK IN DECEMBER AND A WEEK IN JULY, BY FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH. **PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID AT BIRMINGHAM, AL, 35203.**
POSTMASTER PLEASE SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO: FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH, 4954 VALLEYDALE ROAD, BIRMINGHAM, AL 35242.

LIFE IN OUR COMMUNITY THIS WEEK

Sunday, April 28
9:00 a.m. Sunday School
9:45 Fellowship Moment
10:15 Worship Service
10:30 Children's Worship & Wonder
11:15 A Moment of Prayer with Elders
3:00 p.m. Bell Choir
5:00 Children/Youth/Praise Kids
6:30 Snack Supper
Monday, April 29
7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study
10:00 Staff Meeting
Tuesday, April 30
9:45 a.m. Chapel
10:00 Ladies Bible Study
Wednesday, May 1
6:30 p.m. Choir Practice
Thursday, May 2
7:00 p.m. Advocates Bible Study
Sunday, May 5
Youth Sunday
10:15 a.m. Our youth lead the congregation in worship
11:30 "This Is Your Life" luncheon to honor our graduating seniors

GRACE NOTES

† Please continue to keep in your prayers our dear members and friends.



BLESSING BOXES

"All the believers devoted themselves to...prayer,"
Acts 2:42 NLT GETTING SERIOUS ABOUT GOD

They took prayer seriously. The New Testament church was conceived in prayer. After 10 days of united prayer in the upper room," Everyone present was filled with the Holy Spirit," v 4- NLT) what happened next?

They launched a church that's still impacting the world after 2,000 years. It was born, bathed and brought to fruition in prayer. How much do you pray? Prayer will make the hard parts of your life easier and more fruitful. You will have a deep peace of heart and soul. Jesus said: Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Walk with me, work with me and watch how I do it. Learn the rhythms of grace. Keep company with me and you'll learn to live freely and lightly. (Mt 11: 28:30 TM) The Word for You Today-2013 Father, I don't know of any better way to live than this? Forgive me when I forget. You have always been there for me, and I know your grace is the way to be blessed In Christ's name. *Peggy & Charles Daniels, Outreach, Blessing Boxes, Carly Fund, and Salvation Army Angel Tree.*



ADVENTURE NOOK MUSIC AND ART SHOW - THURSDAY, MAY 2 at 6:30 pm

We are all invited this Thursday, May 2 at 6:30 pm to come enjoy the Adventure Nook Music and Art Show in the Sanctuary and Family Life Center. Come and celebrate the wonderful music and art from the precious little ones of The Adventure Nook. Refreshments will be served.



MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Monday, May 6 at 6:30 pm

Just a very little change in Men's Fellowship. We have moved our April meeting to the first Monday in May. Got one dynamite speaker that you're really going to like. Mark that calendar for May 6.



HOLY BAPTISM

The church celebrates three special days of worship, Christmas, Easter, and Pentecost. The next special day of worship is Pentecost, which is the birthday of the church. This is a wonderful day to renew your spirit and begin again in commitment to the Lord. Therefore, if you are an adult considering baptism for the first time or a recommitment to the Lord through baptism, consider being baptized on **Pentecost Sunday, May 19**. Please contact Jane if you are interested in this act of worship and re-dedication to the Lord.

THE DISCIPLES

Sunday, April 28

Hope Comes From God's Grace

2 Thessalonians 2: 1-3, 9-17

CHRISTIAN COMRADES SUNDAY LESSON

Sunday, April 28

How to Avoid the Storm

Amos 5:1-17



CAMP HIGH HOPES

Friday, June 7 – Saturday, June 8, 2013

This camp is an FCC tradition carried on for over 25 years, serving intellectually challenged adults from surrounding areas. We provide interaction with the campers through one-on-one experiences, sharing fun activities, food, and Christian fellowship. We will start the camp at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, June 7. At 7:30 p.m., we will have our Camp High Hopes live band playing dance music. We will need a crew of about 10 to 15 counselors to check in campers, to chaperon the dance, and to get the campers to bed. On Saturday June 8, we will have a full day of activities starting with breakfast at 8:00 a.m. and ending between 4:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. We will need a full complement of counselors for Saturday to ensure camper safety. Please consider Camp High Hopes as your opportunity for personal outreach. Contact Jim Langley at 980-1827 to sign up.



2013 GENERAL ASSEMBLY July 13 – 17, 2013 Orlando, Florida

Adult Registration	\$210
Florida Disciples	\$150
Seminarian	\$150
Young Adult (18-30)	\$150
Youth (11-17)	\$100
Child (1st - 6th grades)	\$100
Pre-school (3 months - kindergarten)	\$100

Mail-in Registration

- Mail-in registration is available by downloading and printing the PDF registration form.
- Mail-in forms must be accompanied by a check.

(If you pay with a debit or credit card, please register online.)

Mail your form and payment to:
2013 General Assembly
PO Box 1986
Indianapolis, IN 46206

Refund Policy.

There are no refunds after May 1, 2013.

Contact Us

2013 General Assembly Office
Phone: 317-713-2416

E-mail: generalassembly@disciples.org

Meal event tickets are available for purchase through the General Assembly Registration system.

Check here for a list of ticketed meals and events.

www.disciples.org/ga