

First Christian Visitor

“Where the Grace of God Awaits You.”

www.fcc-bhm.org

VOLUME W NUMBER 40 OCTOBER 9, 2007



transformed
living

If you were not in church this past Sunday, you missed an important gift from your church, the book, *Treasures of the Transformed Life*, by John Ed Mathison. Yes, this year's stewardship campaign starts with a gift from the church and a focus that is entirely different from any campaign I can remember here at First Christian in recent history. In the upcoming weeks, we will study, listen, learn and pray together for our church and each other. The focus of the overall program will also change weekly. To get the most of your gift, you should be in attendance on the next six Sundays and be prepared. That is where the book comes in. Prior to each Sunday listed, read the material in the book for the assigned chapter/topic:

10/14 Priming the Pump
10/21 Drawing Water
10/28 Jumping in With Both Feet
11/4 Offering a Drink to Others
11/11 Pennies in the Fountain
11/18 Filling the Bucket to
Overflowing

Take note that the chapters in the book are not read in order for the weeks ending on 11/4 and 11/11, due to the very special program that we will enjoy on Sunday, November 4th, celebrating the service of our church and many talented individuals through The Adventure Nook's twenty years of ministry in this community.

If your family does not have a book, it is not too late. Contact Charles and Peggy Daniels and they make arrangements for you to obtain one. The first commitment that we are asking for is that each family obtain a book and read it.

Another important aspect of preparation is prayer. This program explores our commitment to God through prayer. You will read in the book a quote of William McGill: "The value of consistent prayer is not that He will hear us, but that we will hear Him." As we begin this program, the Stewardship Committee is asking that each household be intentional in its commitment to prayer for our church, its members and the success of this campaign for the next forty days, observing the following schedule for last names beginning with:

A-B Monday C-D Tuesday
E-G Wednesday H-L Thursday
M-N Friday O-S Saturday
T-Z Sunday

Pray with a focus on the topic of study for the current week. Remember, with prayer all things are possible. Converse with God daily, anywhere, anytime, setting aside a special time to pray as a family. If you live alone, arrange a time to pray with another member of your church family or a friend. As we observe this prayer schedule intentionally and consistently, we will grow spiritually. Remember to be careful what you ask for. God does listen and He does answer prayer. *Libby Carpenter*

SENIOR ADULT RETREAT

**Thursday, Nov. 1 – Friday, Nov. 2, 2007
Begins at Noon on Thursday and concludes
by 1:30pm on Friday.**

"Thanksgiving! People Practicing Productivity"
(Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my

God" Philippians 1:3)

Bob and Kay Stegall

Rolling Hills Camp

Calera, Alabama (off I-65, exit #231)

Cost Options

\$75/person, double occupancy-motel room
(Early-Bird cost is \$65)

\$100/person, single occupancy-motel room
(Early-Bird cost is \$90)

\$50/person for campers and those finding
lodging/breakfast off-site

(Early-Bird cost is \$45)

Camping is available at Rolling Hills

(Contact 205-668-1168 for information about costs)

Early-Bird Deadline is October 20, 2007.

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: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO: FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH, 4954 VALLEYDALE ROAD, BIRMINGHAM, AL 35242.

Life In Our Community This Week

	<u>Sunday, October 14</u>
9:00	Sunday School
10:00	Worship Service
11:00	Week of Compassion Luncheon
11:30	Ona/Ruth w/Clarissa Harms
5:00	Chi Rho Music
5:30	Adult Bible Study
5:45	Praise Kids
	<u>Monday, October 15</u>
7:00	Men’s Bible Study
10:00	Staff Meeting
2:00	Regional Committee Meeting
6:00	Mission Council
	<u>Tuesday, October 16</u>
9:45	Chapel
6:30	PEPP Program in Farkas Room
7:00	Visitation
	<u>Wednesday, October 17</u>
9:45	Chapel
6:30	Choir Practice
	<u>Thursday, October 18</u>
7:00	Pastor’s Cabinet
	<u>Friday, October 19</u>
4:45	BOO at the ZOO with the Young Adults

GRACE NOTES

- † Our sympathy to Gretel Watts and family upon the death of her brother Jeff Arnold.
- † Our Prayers are with Hal Edwards who is in Golden Living Center -Riverchase Rehab.
- † Our prayers are with Camille Allen, the daughter of Mike Mee who is in Brookwood Hospital.

TENNIS ANYONE?

Anyone interested in joining the “Tennis Interest Group” should bring your racquet and meet at Brook Highlands Racquet Club at 6:00 pm on October 7. Beginners through Intermediate are invited for Fun and Fellowship. Call Ann Horne at 991-0498 or Sandy Hamilton at 981-2751 for more information.

CHRISTIAN COMRADES SUNDAY LESSON
“Jacob’s Dream at Bethel”
Genesis 28:10-22

LAST SUNDAY’S ATTENDANCE	
WORSHIP	000
SUNDAY SCHOOL	00

LOOKING AHEAD IN OCTOBER

Sunday, October 7 at 8:00 am - Outdoor

Contemporary Worship in the Outdoor Worship Center

Thursday, October 18 at 7:00 pm - Pastors Cabinet

Friday, October 19 at 4:45 pm - "Boo at the Zoo" with the Young Adults

Saturday, October 20 at 10:00 am - First Christian Welcome Booth at the Mount Laurel Fall Festival

Sunday, October 21 at 2:00 pm - Men's Valleydale Road Clean-up

Thursday, October 25 at 6:30 pm - The Adventure Nook Fall Festival

Wednesday, October 31 at 5:00 pm - Young Adults Halloween Party at the Spencer's

EVANGELISM MISSION NEEDS YOU!

Looking for something fun to do outside on a pretty fall Saturday? The Evangelism Mission needs your help. On Saturday, Oct. 20, we will have a table in the town square at Mt. Laurel's Fall Festival. Just as we did at Hoover's birthday celebration in Spain Park in June, we will have bubbles and candy to give away with information about our wonderful church. Wear your new logo wear or another FCC t-shirt and come help us invite others to visit FCC! If you can help us "man" our table for an hour or so anytime between 10 and 4 on Sat. Oct. 20, please notify Ann Langley at (980-1827) or call the church office. Thanks for helping us go fishing without leaving town! Ann

"Can You Hear Me Now?"

Discerning God's Call to Transformation

Coming on February 8-9, 2008

Dr. Fred Craddock and Dr. Richard Hamm are among the leaders who will be with us for this event that will offer support for congregations and leaders who are committed to transformation in order to do more effective ministry in the 21st century. First Christian Church, Birmingham, will host this event. There will be a variety of workshops offered that will give helpful tools and methods to participants. Congregations are asked to bring as many persons as they would like to this event. The registration cost will be \$200 per congregation, regardless of the number attending, or \$20 per person for individual registrations. Lunch on Saturday will be provided. The event will begin with worship on Friday night with Dr. Craddock preaching.

GRACE NOTES

- † Nineteen adults and children went hiking in Oak Mountain State Park on Saturday, September 29. They realized that Edd was stretching the truth when he said the hike was on level ground!
- † Edd will take our children of The Adventure Nook on a magical walk to see Pumpkin and Halloween Friends.
- † Please participate in our Bible Class for men on Monday mornings and adults on Sunday evenings.



The Young Adult's Group, the Busy Believers, are planning a family outing to the zoo on Friday, October 19th for Boo at the Zoo. We will meet between 4:30-4:45 p.m. since gates open at 5:00 p.m. Please read the exert from the Birmingham Zoo website below:

www.birminghamzoo.com

Wear your favorite costume for the 16th Annual Boo at the Zoo! Make your way through safe trick-or-treat & game zones, organized by local non-profits and child-centered businesses. Ride the train and Ghastly Carousel! Check your appetite at the GORE-may Buffet. See an animal up close at the Harry Potter Alabama barn and be sure to check out the new Slytherin House in the reptile building! Boo at the Zoo will be \$7 each. Also, **mark your calendars for Wednesday, October 31st.** Edd and Mary Pat will host a Halloween Hot Dog Party at their house from 4:30 p.m. until... Bring your own drinks, lounge chair, and an appetizer if you wish. Hot dogs, chips and sodas will be provided for adults and children. Come and relax, Trick or Treat with your children, or just sit and visit.