

# First Christian Visitor

***“Where the Grace of God Awaits You.”***

[www.fcc-bhm.org](http://www.fcc-bhm.org)

**VOLUME X NUMBER 14 APRIL 1, 2008**



## **A WORD FROM YOUR PASTORS**

Well, spring has sprung! What a wonderful time of year, especially for Christians. We see new life all around us, and I know this time of year always makes me feel capable of accomplishing new goals.

Take a minute in your busy week just to step outside and enjoy the beauty of God's creation and celebrate the rebirth of nature that continuously reminds us of Christ, our Savior. May you have a joyous week.

God Bless, Jan Watts

## **THE OUTDOOR WORSHIP CENTER**

Brent shared that the Outdoor Worship Center would always be a “work in progress”. He was correct as new plants have been added for the spring season. Also, all of the memorial bricks in honor or memory of loved ones have been placed along the sidewalk in the Outdoor Worship Center. They look great and bring an awareness of beautiful people associated with First Christian Church.

There has been an interest by individuals and families to order some more memorial bricks. A sign-up sheet will be available on the table in the narthex. The cost of each brick is \$50.00. If you have any questions contact Brent Beatty or Edd Spencer.

## **WATERCOLOR CLASS**

Learn to watercolor! A class is being offered at the church on Tuesdays through the month of April. April 1, 15, 22, and 29 from 9:00 am until 2:00 pm. with a break for lunch. There is no charge for this class, but you may need to buy a few supplies. The first class on April 1 will be about watercolor basics, techniques, etc. In the other classes we will complete one, possibly two, simple paintings in which you will use these techniques. This is a beginners class, no experience necessary. If you are interested, contact Carole Rudd at 678-2440 or email her at: [chrvol@aol.com](mailto:chrvol@aol.com) by March 30. We must have a minimum of six and a maximum of fifteen in order to have the class. Thanks.

## **OUTREACH NOTES**

Sunday, April 6 is the LAST day to take an “egg” from the Lovelady Tree. Also, it is the last Sunday before the Crop Walk. The registration packets will be available in the narthex. If you can't join the walk with us, please make a donation. You can also go to [www.bhamcropwalk.org](http://www.bhamcropwalk.org) for more information. So grab your check book and walking shoes and do something good for your heart... and soul.

Thanks, Liz and Sharon

A beautiful presentation of God's love using majestic pictures of nature along with spiritual thoughts by Ken Jenkins of Gatlinburg, TN.

Invite a friend to this fantastic evening. The nursery will be open.

## **REGIONAL ASSEMBLY TO BE HELD IN MOBILE**

Azalea Hills Christian Church will be the host site for this year's Regional Assembly, scheduled for April 25-27. The assembly's theme is, “The Acts 1:8 Mandate: And you shall be my witness...”. A great slate of speakers has been secured for this three-day regional gathering, including former moderator of the Christian Church, the Rev. William Lee, pastor of the London Avenue Christian Church, Roanoke, VA. Workshops will be held on Saturday afternoon. An all-assembly Fish Fry will be held on Saturday evening. The new Family Life Center at Azalea Hills Christian Church will be the site for many of the events during the assembly. Reservation forms are on the table in the narthex.

## **PROJECT HOMELESS CONNECT**

On any given night more than 2,104 people are homeless in the Birmingham area. With the increased cost of living and decrease of jobs, more families and individuals find themselves in a situation of homelessness. Project Homeless Connect is an innovative, nationwide movement aimed at finding solutions for the homeless. For one day, in one location, Project Homeless Connect will give homeless people the opportunity to access an array of on-site services including; services for housing, medical needs, employment, veterans, pet care, haircuts, bicycle and wheelchair repair, and much, much more. More than anything else, Project Homeless Connect is about making our community a better place for everyone.

Our first ever Project Homeless Connect in Birmingham will be held on April 5th, 2008 at the Boutwell Auditorium.

Come be a part of the solution to homelessness. If you are interested in volunteering along with Jim Langley, Joye Taylor, and Edith Carreras; call Jim at 980-1827 or go to the Hands On Birmingham Website:

[www.handsonbirmingham.org/specialevents](http://www.handsonbirmingham.org/specialevents)



TO SEND IN A CHECK FOR YOUR EASTER LILIES! PLEASE NOTE ON YOUR CHECK FOR “LILIES”. Thanks, Cece

**THE SPIRITUAL SIDE OF NATURE**  
**Friday, April 11 at 7:30 pm**

First Christian Church  
4954 Valleydale Road  
Birmingham, Al. 35242

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

<u>Sunday, April 6</u>	
9:00	Sunday School
10:00	Worship Service
11:15	Trustees Meeting
11:30	Rebekah at Rocky Ridge
5:30	Bible Study on Genesis
5:30	Youth Groups
5:45	Praise Kids
7:00	Snack Supper
<u>Monday April 7</u>	
7:00	Men’s Bible Study
10:00	Staff Meeting
7:00	Lydia w/Julie Henderson
<u>Tuesday, April 8</u>	
6:00	PEPP Program
7:00	Finance Council
<u>Wednesday, April 9</u>	
9:45	Chapel
5:30	Girls Vocal Group
5:30	Worship Mission Mtg.
6:30	Choir Practice
<u>Thursday, April 10</u>	
6:30	Pastor’s Cabinet
<u>Friday, April 11</u>	
7:30	Ken Jenkin’s Program “The Spiritual Side of Nature”
<u>Thursday, April 12</u>	
9:00-1:00	Aneda Chandler’s Brunch/Shower

GRACE NOTES

- ✚ Our thoughts and prayers are with Linda and Mac Heaton, on the loss of his sister, Mable Lackey, this past weekend.
- ✚ Our prayers are with Luci Colee, on the loss of her cousin, Martha Ann Craychek.
- ✚ We are pleased to welcome TyLeigh Juarene Cason, daughter of Stacy and JC Cason, granddaughter of our pastors, Edd and Mary Pat Spencer. TyLeigh was born on March 28 at 3:59 pm. She weighed 7 lbs. and 15 oz. and was 22 inches long. Stacy and TyLeigh are resting at home.

SUNDAY ATTENDANCE	
SUNDAY SCHOOL	52
WORSHIP SERVICE	108

CHRISTIAN COMRADES SUNDAY LESSON	
“Daniel Keeps Covenant in a Foreign Land”	
Daniel 1:8-20	

EASTER LILIES

When we see an Easter Lily, it reminds us of all the new life around us at spring time. This new life is what we have when we make Jesus our Lord. The following lilies are given in memory and honor of loved ones to celebrate this new life in Jesus Christ.

<u>Given By</u>	<u>In Memory, or Honor of</u>
The Langleys	In honor of David Braswell
Georgia Flora & The Carney Family	In memory of Ron Carney
The Flora Family	In memory of Jeanene Flora
Nickey & Carole Rudd	In memory of Ruby Rudd
	In memory of Our Annie Rudd
The Chi Rho and Jacob Thigpen	In honor of Nicole, best Sponsor
John & Connie Tabb	In memory of Patti Boyce
	In honor of Joy Tabb
Scott & Kathey Long	In honor of Carole Allen
	In memory of Edith Garrison
Lucille Leaman	In memory of Loved Ones
Clarissa, Hannah & Emma Harms	In memory of Daryl Harms
The Harms Family	In memory Hal Edwards
	In honor of
	All the young families
The Harms Family	In memory of Edith Garrison
Boyce & Virginia Guthrie	In honor of
	our Eight Grandchildren
The Carpenter Family	In honor of Margaret Willis
Brent& Donna Beatty	In honor of Sarah,
	Jacob & Rachel Beatty
Russ & Pat Favorite	In memory of Sister Vickie
Donni Garrison	In memory of Edith Garrison
	In honor of Jamey Garrison
	In honor of Don Garrison
John Hard	In memory of
	Roselyn & Stephen Hard
Buzz & Nancy DeVore	In memory of
	Ed & Vera Cholette
	In memory of
	Bernie & Henri DeVore
Charlie & Cindy Thigpen	In memory of Harriet Thigpen
Wanda Swihart	In memory of Delmar Cezar
Luci & Jim Colee	In memory of
	Jack & Harriet Tillman
Bill & Jan Watts	In honor of The Watts Kids
	In memory of:
	Bill & Mary Watts
	Jane & C.G. Thomason
Jane Belcher	In memory of Evans Belcher
Nancy Franklin	In memory of Mary N. Franklin

CAMPS AT FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH		
ADVENTURE DAYS 2008		
June 23-25-27	1-3 grades	9:00-11:30 am
July 7-9-11	4-5 grades	9:00-11:30 am
July 14-16-18	4 yrs- K	9:00-11:30 am

Full of activities, games, crafts, stories and much more!  
Cost \$10 (A non-refundable registration fee)

**PERFORMING ARTS CAMP 2008**

*"It's Cool in the Furnace"*

July 28 - August 1

9:00 am – 12:00 pm

For ages 6 yrs. to 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Cost \$65 of which \$25 will be a non-refundable registration fee. A performance will be held on Sunday, August 3 at 10:00 am.

Limited registration – hurry!

Registration forms are in the office.

**REGIONAL SUMMER CAMPS**

The region has released dates for the 2008 Summer Camp season. The deadline for all camp registrations to be submitted to the church office is NOON on May 12. This year, three of the four camps will be held during the same week. The dates and costs are:

*Discovery Camp* – June 7-9 Cost \$125  
(children completing 2-3- grades)

*Junior Camp* - June 9-13 Cost \$210  
(youth completing 4-5 grades)

*Chi Rho Camp* - June 9-13 Cost \$210  
(youth completing 6-8 grades)

*CYF Conference* - June 9-13 Cost \$210  
(youth completing 9-12<sup>th</sup> grades)

*Fine Arts Camp* - June 20-25 Cost \$210  
( youth completing 6-12<sup>th</sup> grades)

The church pays half of the cost. Full scholarships available if needed.

**HAVE YOU HEARD WHAT'S COMING?**

What is just around the corner and is for those of us that are silver around the edges... The right word for that is gilded. Now that you know who you are, you soon will know that something special is being planned just for you on May 28<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 pm here at our church. Mark your calendars now; there will be food of the finest and entertainment, with a laugh, just for you. It is a much needed time of gathering for us gilded folks that love the Lord. Tell you more later! *Janet Bonds*

**CAMP HIGH HOPES**

Mark your calendars for Camp High Hopes. It is the event for which you have been waiting. Spend some time in the fresh air at YMCA Hargis Retreat. It is an entire weekend of fun, and it is all free. You get to spend the weekend with some really great people. And if you get the urge you can do some exciting things like fishing, canoeing, horseback riding, swimming, motorcycling, hay riding, and dancing the night away.

The campers are mentally challenged folks who live in group homes in the surrounding counties. First Christian Church has had a special bond with some of these campers for years and years. Many have no family and this is their most special event of the year.

We need counselors! Mark your calendar for June 7-8. You have the option of sleeping over or sleeping at home and returning in the morning. Please contact Jim Langley at 980-1827 if you can participate.