

2810 E. 14th Street, Greenville NC 27858

Phone: 252 / 756-3138

fccpastor@embarqmail.com

Mail: PO Box 2366, Greenville NC 27836-0366

fccadmin@embarqmail.com

The Voice

of First Christian Church

Rev. Reece Jones, Minister
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Marilyn Lee, Editor
January 2016

**WEDNESDAY MORNING
BIBLE STUDY – 10:30am
January 13TH, 20TH, & 27TH**

**CHURCH CABINET RETREAT
Saturday, January 9th
10am - 4pm**

**INSTALLATION OF BOARD OFFICERS,
ELDERS, & DEACONS
January 10TH – DURING WORSHIP**

**BACKPACK PALS PACKING EVENT
January 10TH – Noon**

**YOUTH LOCK-IN
8PM Friday, January 15TH to
1PM Saturday, January 16TH**



WIVES – came forward during the Hymn of
Invitation on December 20th. We Welcome,
Amanda and her three young children:

Xavier, Quentin, and Katie. Amanda grew up in FCC Greenville; we are so happy to have her back!

RALLY NIGHT RESUMES!

JANUARY 6TH / 13TH / 20TH / 27TH

5:30PM – SUPPER

\$5.00 – ADULTS

\$5.00 – CHILDREN 13 YEARS & OLDER

\$3.00 – CHILDREN 12 YEARS & YOUNGER

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 6TH: THERE IS NOW A \$20 LIMIT FOR FAMILIES (IMMEDIATE, BIOLOGICAL).

2015 RALLY NIGHT MEAL SIGN-UP

The January – May 2016 dates are listed on the easel in the narthex. Please sign up to do a meal! Call Sandy Steele (531-5156) or DeLane Knight (714-4091).

Church Cabinet Retreat

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9TH -- 10am - 4pm

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

MINISTER

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC / ORGANIST / PIANIST

YOUTH DIRECTOR

CHURCH SECRETARY

2016 OFFICIAL BOARD CHAIR

2016 CMF / CYF PRESIDENTS

2016 CWF OFFICIAL BOARD REPRESENTATIVE

2016 MISSION TEAM CHAIRPERSONS AND CHAIRS-ELECT

2016 CHAIR OF ELDERS

2016 CHAIR OF DEACONS

A Dutch treat lunch (\$4.00) will be served.

BACKPACK PALS PACKING EVENT! JANUARY 10TH – FOLLOWING WORSHIP

Please plan to stay a few minutes after the service on **Sunday, January 10th**, to pack bags for Backpack Pals. We can share our resources and our physical energy to fill many bags to feed the 62 children we serve each weekend. This simple act of packing bags proves our commitment to helping those in need. It is also a way to share our love. Afterwards, you may find your own lunchtime meal to be most enjoyable knowing that someone else has been fed.

Brandon, Judy, Sally & Wanda

CWF MEETING

DATE: MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 2016

TIME: 10:30AM

LOCATION: Church Parlor

SPEAKER: Donna Whitley

All are invited and encouraged to bring a friend to experience fellowship in the new year!

A Donation Has Been Given . . .

to the Greenville Community Shelter in honor of First Christian Church to include its Staff, Board, Teachers, Officers, Mission Team Chairs and Members, CWF, CMF, Elders, Deacons and all of the helping hands and loving hearts!

REMEMBER WITH PRAYERS, CARDS, CALLS AND VISITS

IN ASSISTED LIVING/NURSING HOME/ FACILITIES

Scrappy Proctor, Floyd Read, and Nell Speight

MEMBER / VISITOR CONCERNS

Jason Adams, Dot Baverstock, Muriel Bennett, Muriel Bennett, Sheron Bennett, Bobby Boone, Carlton Corbett, Nancy Corbett, Sylvia Corey, Della Dayson, Elizabeth Deasy, Joanne Ellington, Louis Gaylord, Bob Gurganus, Wanda Cox Harrington, John Heath, Robert Hill, Louise McGinty, Keith Montgomery, Melvin "Big Daddy" Moore, Carrie Oakley, Mardell Remick, Roy Smith, and Raye Troutman.

India West is serving in the U.S. Army at Ft. Bragg, NC.

OTHER CONCERNS

Sandra Allen (Karen Averette's niece), Dawn Bayles (Michelle Smith's cousin), Val Barnhart (Marla Harrell's sister), Rachel Bixby (friend of Sally Wheeler), Edna Boone (Jewelle Boone's mother-in-law), Norwood Bradshaw (co-worker of Alysia Bright & Crystal Gardner), Evelyn Brooks (friend of Alysia Bright), Brenda Brown (Tim Manning's aunt), Becky Bundy (Dawn Manning's mother), Angie Byrne (friend of Lana & Chris Warren), Reg Coltrain (friend of the Mannings), Sharon Cox (Wanda Harrington's cousin), Jean Dornemann (friend of Claudy & Reece Jones), Nicole Doty (Marla Harrell's niece), Tara Driver (friend of Wanda Harrington), Jean Eber, (Marla Harrell's mother), Benton Edwards (friend of Marla Harrell), Charles Edwards (Becky Edwards' father), Savannah Ferguson (Sheron Bennett's granddaughter), Charles Griffin (Marsha Griffin's father), Mary Edna Haislip (Dynita Gottschall's mother), Edwin Hall (Jim Hall's father), Marty Harrell (Marla's husband), Ruby Hodges (Joanne Ellington's sister), Meg Lee (David Lee's stepmother; Nicolas Lee's grandmother), Carolyn Marshall (Gladys Chianello's sister), Tina Martin (Michelle Smith's sister), Ann Mays (friend of Carolyn Strother and Donna Diehl), Anthony Mayberry (student of Beth Anne Stork), Patrick Milligan (Marsha Hall's brother), Hazel Mills (Wanda Harrington's cousin), June Montgomery (Keith Montgomery's sister), Mitzi Moye (friend of Dawn Manning), Melissa Nelson (friend of Holly Jefferson), Parker (patient of Lana Warren), Julie Peaden (co-worker of Dawn Manning), Neva Peaden (friend of Lana Warren), Shamus Phillips (Donna Diehl's grandson), Gary Pollard (Lisa Oakley's uncle), Doug Reid (Robin West's father), Martha Roberson (friend of Alysia Bright), Emily Robertson, Lillie Rodgers (friend of Sally & Howard Wheeler), Vini Rohrbaugh (Marla Harrell's brother), Max Scheetz (Donna Diehl's father), Kimberly Schlien (friend of Wanda Harrington), Mary Lee Smart (friend of Dawn Manning), Janet Sneed (Sandra Everett's aunt), Tim Summerlin (Muriel Bennett's son), Sally Tarkington (friend of the Mannings), John Tilley (Anne's husband), Jay Tripp (Judy Carlton's son-in-law), Kylie Ward (friend of the Bennetts), William Wood (friend of Marla Harrell), Rex Woolard (Sara Kleinknecht's uncle), and Jackie Yongue (Bonnie Perkins' niece).

Please keep these families in your thoughts and prayers:

Melinda Shivers (Dwayne's mother) was called to Life Eternal on November 27th.

George Stewart (Karen Averette's brother-in-law) was called to Life Eternal on Dec. 1st.

Georgia Godwin (Betsy & Charles Godwin's granddaughter) was called to Life Eternal on December 10th.

Tony Warren (Chris Warren's father) was called to Life Eternal on December 10th.

Beverly Queen (Bonnie Perkins' sister) was called to Life Eternal on December 23rd.

6th – 12th SUNDAY "SALT & LIGHT"

January's Sunday Salt & Light will meet on Sunday, January 10th @ 5:30pm at the home of Karen & Whit Brown! This will be an awesome night, so make plans to

attend! Bring a friend, a healthy appetite and an open mind!!! Be ready to grow spiritually through new relationships and fellowship! See you on January 10th!!

WHO: All 6th-12th Youth

WHAT: Sunday Night Salt & Light

WHEN: Sunday, January 10th @ 5:30pm

DINNER: TBA

WHERE: Karen & Whit Brown 726 Butterfly Ct. Winterville, NC 28590

****If you need transportation, please let us know – don't miss out****

Dawn & Tim Manning

Avis & Stephen Wicher

Karen & Whit Brown

Stacey & Jeremy Cook

Josh Gentry

Disciple Men's (CMF) Breakfast

We will meet at **8am on Sunday, January 24th**, in the Family Life Center. All men of the church are invited.

CYF MIDWINTER

CAMP CAROLINE

February 5 - 7, 2016

Registration forms are available in the narthex or from Rev. Josh, Youth Director. This event is for 9th – 12th grades.



February 4th

Lifeline Screening Event – Family Life Center

February 5th-7th

CYF Midwinter – Camp Caroline

February 14th

Salt & Light at home of Stacey & Jeremy Cook

February 21st

Bean Bag Toss Tournament

1:30pm—Registration 2pm—Tournament begins

LIFELINE SCREENING EVENT AT FCC IT'S TIME TO REGISTER

First Christian Church is pleased to offer a preventive health event. Life Line Screening, a leading provider of community-based preventive health screenings, will host their affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings on **February 4th, 2016** in the Family Life Center. Five screenings will be offered that scan for potential health problems related to: blocked arteries which is a leading cause of stroke; abdominal aortic aneurysms which can lead to a ruptured aorta; hardening of the arteries in the legs which is a strong predictor of heart disease; atrial fibrillation or irregular heart beat which is closely tied to stroke risk; and a bone density screening, for men and women, used to assess the risk of osteoporosis. Register for a Wellness Package which includes 4 vascular tests and osteoporosis screening from \$149 (\$139 with our member discount). All five screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. **In order to register for this event and to receive a \$10 discount off any package priced above \$129, please call 1-888-653-6441 or visit www.lifelinescreening.com/community-partners.**

Our Statement of Calling

First Christian Church is called to share the word of God by living God's peace.

People who love God and each other

Emphasis on God through Jesus Christ

All are welcome

Compassion for all

Engage in building the community of faith through Jesus Christ

FROM OUR MINISTER . . . cell: (252) 883-4495

As we begin a New Year, many of us will make New Year's resolutions; we will think about some of the things we aren't doing very well and some of the things we aren't doing at all, and then we will make some commitments and promises to do better. Hopefully, we will be realistic about our resolutions and not try to do things that are either unrealistic or even downright impossible. I also hope that we all think about some spiritual resolutions that will help us grow and mature in our faith.

During the season of Advent, especially over the last two weeks, I tried to help you in this endeavor by sharing with you some things that we ought to consider giving to God during the Christmas season, but then I reminded you that we should not stop at Christmas but carry them over into the New Year. I also told you that I hoped my six suggestions for gifts we should give to God was just a starting point for you to add on to. Just to remind you, I suggested that we give back to God – our circumstances, our darkest moments, our lives and hearts, our time, a promise to pursue high road or principled living and a commitment to forgiveness.

As I said, I believe that all of these are things that every person who is a Christian should consider giving to God as we move forward into 2016. But, don't stop here; what are some other things or areas of your life that are specific to your situation that need to be handed over to God? I would encourage you to reflect on that and then make some good resolutions that, if followed through on, will make a difference in your life.

I am excited about entering a New Year; it is a time to get excited and for us as a local congregation to move forward as we continue to share the Good News of the Gospel with the people we come into contact with. Happy New Year!

Grace and peace,
Reece



ATTENDANCE / COMMITMENT/ EXPENSES IN NOVEMBER 2015

AVERAGE WEEKLY WORSHIP ATTENDANCE: 144

MONTHLY

YEAR-TO-DATE

Contributions: \$34,876.99
Expenses: \$24,490.57

Contributions: \$212,042.82
Expenses: \$257,953.54

*And I said to the man who
Stood at the gate of the year:
Give me a Light that I may
tread safely into the unknown!
And he replied: Go out into the
darkness and put thine hand
into the hand of God. That
shall be to thee better than light
and safer than a known way. . .*

Minnie Louise Haskins 1876-1957

**This poem was quoted by King George 6th
Christmas 1939.**