

First Christian Church(Disciples of Christ)  
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# The Voice

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## of First Christian Church

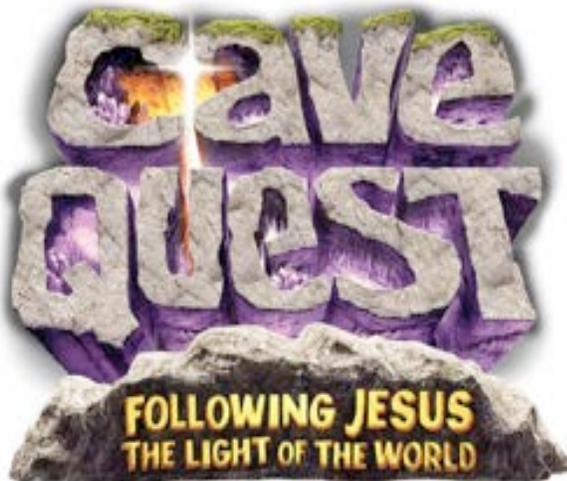
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Rev. Reece Jones, Minister  
Volume XII, Issue 7

Marilyn Lee, Editor  
July 2016

**MID-SUMMER RALLY NIGHT!  
WEDNESDAY, JULY 13<sup>TH</sup>  
5:30PM**

**HOOKERTON DISTRICT MEETING  
THURSDAY, JULY 28<sup>TH</sup>  
GROVE PARK CHRISTIAN CHURCH, KINSTON**



**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL  
AUGUST 1<sup>ST</sup> – 5<sup>TH</sup>  
5:30PM – 8:30 PM  
CYPRESS GLEN LUNCHEON**

Please plan to attend the Dutch-treat luncheon at Cypress Glen on **Thursday, July 21<sup>st</sup>, at noon**. This is a wonderful opportunity to visit with our church members residing at Cypress Glen.

Jewelle Boone, Outreach Mission Team Chair

**UP  
COMING  
EVENTS**

August 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>

VBS – Cave Quest

November 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>

Fine Craft and Art Sale and Bar-B-Q

## **FROM THE OUTREACH MISSION TEAM**

We want to give a BIG thank-you to all our church members for all you do during the year to help others. Signing cards on Sundays, giving money for Agape Camp, collecting items for the Food Bank and Hope Lodge, helping to pack Backpack Pals food bags, preparing shoeboxes for Samaritan's Purse, preparing meals at Crossroads Community Shelter are just a few things our church does to help others. What a wonderful congregation we have that freely gives of their talents and gifts. We truly live up to our Statement of Calling which is PEACE. Once again, thank you!

Jewelle J. Boone, Deborah Price, Lee Adams, Theresa Rumph & Dorothy Burkett



### **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



### **SALT & LIGHT THANK-YOU!**

The Salt & Light Youth Group would like to say a big "THANK YOU" to our FCC family for all of your love, prayers and support this year! We had an amazing journey and we are looking forward to what the future holds for this group of youth! The vision is now a living reality and the all-inclusive approach that we stand for "Spiritual Growth, Relationship Building and Fellowship" is present in all that we do! As we move forward into the fall, we are super excited to see what God has in store for us and how he will use Salt & Light to do his work in our FCC family of faith and in our local community!

### **“CAVE QUEST”**

#### **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL AUGUST 1<sup>ST</sup> – 5<sup>TH</sup>**

Get your hard hats out, your flashlights shining bright, and your heart ready for an amazing week where our “FCC Underground Adventure” will let kids learn to follow Jesus – the Light of the World! Come out to Cave Quest and join us for great Bible stories, crafts, games and songs! It's our prayer that VBS will allow God's love to come to life like never before...touching lives, changing hearts and drawing kids and adults alike closer to God!!

**WHO: Ages 3 – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**(There will be a nursery provided for ages 3 and under)**

**WHEN: August 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>**

**WHERE: FCC Family Life Center**

**TIME: 5:30 – Dinner 6:15-8:15 – VBS**

**Registration forms can be found in the narthex, the church office or on our church website at [www.firstchristiangreenville.org](http://www.firstchristiangreenville.org)**

## REMEMBER WITH PRAYERS, CARDS, CALLS AND VISITS

### IN ASSISTED LIVING/NURSING HOME/ FACILITIES

Scrappy Proctor, Nell Speight, Maggie Smith, and Bebe Tripp

### MEMBER / VISITOR CONCERNS

Jason Adams, Brayom Anderson, Dot Baverstock, Muriel Bennett, Sheron Bennett, Bobby Boone, Vera Congleton, Carlton Corbett, Nancy Corbett, Sylvia Corey, Della Dayson, Grace Eddings, Joanne Ellington, Erv Evans, Elizabeth Gaylord, Louis Gaylord, Bob Gurganus, Wanda Cox Harrington, John Heath, Robert Hill, Margaret Kittrell, Marilyn Lee, Louise McGinty, Melvin "Big Daddy" Moore, Mardell Remick, and Raye Troutman.

Stephen & India West Silverthorne are 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), Elias Belmadani (Donna Whitley and Kacem Sebti's grandson), 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), Cynthia Caracci (Elizabeth Deasy's niece), Norma Casper (friend of Sandra Everett), Reg Coltrain (friend of the Manning's), Kristey Coulter (friend of Marsha Griffin), Sharon Cox (Wanda Harrington's cousin), Nicole Doty (Marla Harrell's niece), Tara Driver (friend of Wanda Harrington), Benton Edwards (friend of Marla Harrell), John Faulstich (Beth Anne Stork's father), Bonny Feldbush (Leslie's mother), Savannah Ferguson (Sheron Bennett's granddaughter), Lindsey Gardner (Traci Anderson's sister-in-law), Janie Griffin (Marsha Griffin's mother), Mary Edna Haislip (Dynita Gottschall's mother), Edwin Hall (Jim Hall's father), Marty Harrell (Marla's husband), Dale Harris (Sandra Everett's nephew), Myra Jane Harris (Sandra Everett's sister-in-law), Ruby Hodges (Joanne Ellington's sister), Lewis Keech (friend of Rebecca Chahid), Meg Lee (David Lee's stepmother; Nicolas Lee's grandmother), Gloria & William McGraw, Carolyn Marshall (Gladys Chianello's sister), Tina Martin (Michelle Smith's sister), Patrick Milligan (Marsha Hall's brother), Hazel Mills (Wanda Harrington's cousin), June Montgomery (Keith Montgomery's sister), Melissa Nelson (friend of Holly Jefferson), Julie Peaden (co-worker of Dawn Manning), Neva Peaden (friend of Lana Warren), 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), John Rose (friend of Judy Carlton), Max Scheetz (Donna Diehl's father), Kimberly Schlienz (friend of Wanda Harrington), Mary Lee Smart (friend of Dawn Manning), Tim Summerlin (Muriel Bennett's son), Sally Tarkington (friend of the Mannings), John Tilley (Anne's husband), Dotson Tippitt (Sally Wheeler's brother-in-law), Jay Tripp (Judy Carlton's son-in-law), Mindy Tysinger (friend of Mary Marshall Heckstall), Teresa Van Oordt (Sandy Steele's sister), Kylie Ward (friend of the Bennetts), Kim Watson (friend of Don & Susan Edwards and Sandy Steele), William Wood (friend of Marla Harrell), Rex Woolard (Sara Kleinknecht's uncle), and Jackie Yongue (Bonnie Perkins' niece).

**Dot Garcia was called to Life Eternal on June 9<sup>th</sup>. Please keep the Garcia family in your thoughts and prayers.**

## FROM OUR MINISTER . . . CELL: (252) 883-4495

As we find ourselves in the beginning of the summer, I have just begun a new sermon series on the primacy of love in the life of the Christian. Over the next several weeks, we are going to walk our way through I Corinthians 13, that great chapter on love, a chapter that describes God's amazing love for us. This love is known as agape love, a love that is unconditional, unmerited, sacrificial and eternal. From a practical perspective, agape love is not just a concept that describes how God loves us; it is also the way that we are called to love others.

Perhaps the most important theme of this series is the reality that love is the defining characteristic of a Christian. The way that others are going to know whether or not we are genuine followers of Jesus Christ will be through our love. When they look at us, will they see us loving others like Christ loves us? That is what matters the most. So often, we like to think that it is what we say, or what rules we follow, or how long how list of doctrinal distinctive is that shows people we are Christians. Paul tells us in I Corinthians, however, that it is love that will ultimately be the determining factor when it comes to how others view our faith.

As a local congregation then, our goal is to practice this love in our worship, our outreach, our decisions and our priorities. We are called to love all people and to welcome them into our community. I am hoping and praying that this walk through I Corinthians will help us do just that as we try to share the good news of Jesus Christ with the people that we have contact with.

One of the ways we do that is through our Vacation Bible School (VBS), which will begin on August 1<sup>st</sup> and run through the 5<sup>th</sup>. Every year we bring in a large number of children from outside our church and introduce them to a God of grace and mercy. Often, these children attend another church; just as often, though, they aren't going anywhere. Through our VBS we are hoping to introduce new families to our church, but more importantly we are trying to show them that God loves them unconditionally. By the end of the week, we hope that children leave with an understanding that the God of the Bible is a God that is focused more on forgiveness than on wrath.

In order to pull this off, though, it takes all of us working together. I want to encourage every member of our church to get involved and help with VBS. No matter how old or young you are, you can make a difference. We have all sorts of things that need to be done in preparation for the week, so be listening for opportunities to help. It will be another great VBS at First Christian.

Grace and peace,  
Reece



**The Fine Craft and Art Sale and Bar-B-Q dates are on the calendar!  
Please reserve November 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> for our fun(d)raising  
weekend events. It takes all of us to make the weekend a success!  
Sally Wheeler & Judy Clark**

## **A MESSAGE FROM REV. VALERIE MELVIN**

Please take a moment to invite as many women as you can to our Fall Retreat at Christmount. It will be an intentional time of refreshing, teaching, prayer, and over-the-top fun! The registration form is right here for your convenience. And yes, you can register on-site (*but you might miss the pretty bag*).

If you come across someone who wants to come in for one-day only, please give them my number 252.291.4047 ext. 204. We'll make it happen!

I know we will be blessed, because God is waiting for each of us at Black Mountain!

Bishop-Designate Valerie Melvin  
Senior Pastor  
First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)  
206 Holderby Street  
Reidsville, NC 27323  
Church Phone: 336.349.3910



**NC DWM Retreat Registration**  
August 12-14, 2015

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Church \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
 District \_\_\_\_\_ First time? \_\_\_ Yes

**REGISTRATION FEES**  
 Registration begins at 3:00 on Friday, August 12

\_\_\_ Registration Fee \$25.00  
 \_\_\_ Registration received at Christmount after Monday, July 29 Fee \$30.00

**HOUSING**

All housing is non-smoking. Please rank your choice of housing (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, etc.). Housing requests will be honored on a first received, first served basis. Reservation form must be received for each roommate. Your reservation will be confirmed only when this form is received in the Christmount Office with deposit. **NO reservations will be made by phone.**

Roommate(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have difficulty walking? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No

Special health needs: \_\_\_\_\_

**Guest House Motel Rooms**

(per person for weekend; linens provided, 2 queen beds)

- Single  \$198
- Double  \$ 99
- Triple  \$ 66
- Quad  \$49.50

**Group Lodge – 32 Bunk Beds**

(per person for weekend)  
 \$52 (with linens)  
 \$42 (without linens)

**2 Watson Cottages** (min. 4 people, max. 6; no linens)

(per person for weekend)

\$57

**RV Park** (per site for up to 2 adults)

\$52

**Davis Hall** (half bath in each room; shower on hall)

Room 1 Double Bed (cost per room for weekend)

\$62 (with linens)  \$52 (without linens)

Rooms with Single Beds (cost per person for weekend)

\$38 (with linens)  \$28 (without linens)

Cabins (bunk beds, no linens, min. 3 persons)

\$44

**NOT lodging at Christmount; Facility Fee \$17.00** (must be paid)

**MEALS**

**Check with your group and be sure you all sign up for the same meals if you are riding together.**

**Meal reservations and changes must be made by August 1.**

Friday: Supper \_\_\_\_\_ \$13.50 (FRIDAY SUPPER MUST BE SENT IN WITH FORM. NON-REFUNDABLE)  
 Saturday: Breakfast \_\_\_\_\_ \$9.50 Lunch \_\_\_\_\_ \$11.50 Dinner \_\_\_\_\_ \$13.50  
 Sunday: Breakfast \_\_\_\_\_ \$9.50

\_\_\_ I am not eating any meals at Christmount.

Special dietary needs: \_\_\_\_\_

**Make check payable to Christmount.** Mail registration form, registration fee, cost for ½ weekend lodging and \$13.50 if you plan to eat supper on Friday to:

**CHRISTMOUNT**  
**222 FERN WAY**  
**BLACK MOUNTAIN, NC 28711**  
 Phone (828) 669-8970 FAX (828) 669-6301



**ATTENDANCE / COMMITMENT/ EXPENSES IN MAY 2016**

**AVERAGE WEEKLY WORSHIP ATTENDANCE: 151**

**MONTHLY**

Contributions: \$ 19,010.41  
 Expenses: \$ 21,927.63

**YEAR-TO-DATE**

Contributions: \$ 91,528.75  
 Expenses: \$ 112,420.45