

First Christian Church(Disciples of Christ)
2810 E. 14th Street, Greenville NC 27858
Phone: 252 / 756-3138
Mail: PO Box 2366, Greenville NC 27836-0366

fccpastor@embarqmail.com
fccadmin@embarqmail.com

The Voice

of First Christian Church

Rev. Reece Jones, Minister
Volume XII, Issue 9

Marilyn Lee, Editor
September 2016

RALLY NIGHT RESUMES!
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7TH
5:30PM

SUNDAY SCHOOL KICKOFF BREAKFAST
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11TH – 9:15AM

SALT & LIGHT (6TH – 12TH GRADES)
SEPTEMBER 11TH – 5:30PM
HOME OF STACEY & JEREMY COOK

CYPRESS GLEN LUNCHEON
SEPTEMBER 15TH – NOON

CYF RETREAT @ CAMP CAROLINE
SEPTEMBER 23RD – 25TH

CHI RHO RETREAT @ CAMP CAROLINE
SEPTEMBER 30TH – OCTOBER 2ND

CYPRESS GLEN LUNCHEON

Please plan to attend the Dutch-treat luncheon at Cypress Glen on **Thursday, September 15th, at noon**. This is a wonderful opportunity to visit with our church members residing at Cypress Glen.

Jewelle Boone, Outreach Mission Team Chair

CMF Breakfast Meeting

Our next Disciples Men (CMF) meeting will be held on **Sunday, September 25th, at 8:00 a.m. in the Family Life Center**. Come enjoy breakfast and that special FCC fellowship.

Brian Hufford, CMF President



CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP



MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2016

**10:30 AM, CHURCH PARLOR
FUN, FELLOWSHIP, AND A PROGRAM**

ALL LADIES ARE INVITED, BRING A FRIEND!

Prayer Ministry Group Begins September 6th!

All are invited to attend the Prayer Ministry Group on Tuesday mornings at 9:00AM at First Christian Church. Please join us in the Board Room on Tuesday, September 6th, for the first meeting.

We are gathering weekly to pray by name for all those listed in the concerns of the church as well as other personal and global intentions. The facilitators, Brian Hufford and Rev. Elizabeth Deasy, welcome all who want to participate in this new ministry of prayer.

NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS!

Rev. Mike Goff will begin teaching a new adult Sunday school class beginning **September 11th at 9:45am** in the first classroom on the right as you walk down the hallway from the Family Life Center. The class will be a study of Jesus and the gospels through the lens of current mainstream biblical scholars. The introduction will explore the gospels as a unique genre of literature, how the gospels were produced, and when they were written. The class will do a textual study of Mark because scholars generally agree that Mark was the first gospel written and was used as a source by Matthew and Luke.

Two books are recommended, but not required, for class participants: (1) The New Oxford Annotated Bible in the New Revised Standard Version, and (2) Jesus: The Life Teachings, and Relevance of a Religious Revolutionary by Marcus J. Borg. Both books can be purchased through Amazon or Barnes and Noble. The most economical way to buy the study Bible is in hardback.

The class is designed for people who are interested in a mature study that will challenge many traditional assumptions American Christians have about Jesus and the Gospels.



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



REMEMBER WITH PRAYERS, CARDS, CALLS AND VISITS

IN ASSISTED LIVING/NURSING HOME/ FACILITIES

Joanne Ellington, Freda Kovalchick, 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, Joanne Ellington, Charles Godwin, Bob Gurganus, Wanda Cox Harrington, John Heath, Robert Hill, Holly Jefferson, 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), Val Barnhart (Marla Harrell's sister), Elias Belmadani (Donna Whitley and Kacem Sebti's grandson), Ashlynn Bennett (Sheron Bennett's granddaughter), Eugene Bleiler (Kurt Stork's uncle), Norwood Bradshaw (co-worker of Alysia Bright & Crystal Gardner), Brenda Brown (Tim Manning's aunt), Becky Bundy (Dawn Manning's mother), Angie Byrne (friend of Lana & Chris Warren), Beth Ann Cole (friend of Sandy Steele), Kristey Coulter (friend of Marsha Griffin), A.E."Bud" Cox (Wanda Harrington's uncle), Ed Diehl (Donna Diehl's husband), 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), Ruby Hodges (Joanne Ellington's sister), Lewis Keech (friend of Rebecca Chahid), Dottie Knight (Chris Knight's mother), Meg Lee (David Lee's stepmother; Nicolas Lee's grandmother), Susan Lillie (Lester Everett's cousin), Gloria & William McGraw, Tina Martin (Michelle Smith's sister), June Montgomery (Keith Montgomery's sister), Neva Peaden (friend of Lana Warren), Doug Reid (Robin West's father), Newton Riggs (DeLane Knight's father), Martha Roberson (friend of Alysia Bright), Emily Robertson, Vini Rohrbaugh (Marla Harrell's brother), Elaine Romeo (Elizabeth Deasy's cousin), Max Scheetz (Donna Diehl's father), Kimberly Schlien (friend of Wanda Harrington), Tim Summerlin (Muriel Bennett's son), 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), Zach White (D.H. Conley student), William Wood (friend of Marla Harrell), Rex Woolard (Sara Kleinknecht's uncle), and Jackie Yongue (Bonnie Perkins' niece).

Margaret Wilson (Deborah Price's aunt) was called to Life Eternal on August 16th. Please keep the Wilson and Price families in your thoughts and prayers.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR! CHURCH WORKDAY – OCTOBER 8TH, 9AM COFFEE & DONUTS WILL GREET YOU!

The Property Mission Team is planning a church workday on **Saturday, October 8th, beginning at 9am** and going until we complete the projects. Areas where we will be working are the kitchen, storage room in FLC, pressure washing the sidewalks, putting pine straw out front, and raking stones in the back. We need as many volunteers as possible to pitch-in. Please mark **October 8th, 9am** on your calendar!

Jason Arnold, Property Mission Team Chair

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

Although summer is not technically over, we begin our new church year the week after Labor Day. After being off for the summer, numerous opportunities for spiritual growth and learning start back at the beginning of September. Both of our Wednesday Bible studies start back on September 7th. The morning Bible study will begin a study on the Gospel of John. This takes place at 10:30 in the parlor. The evening Bible study will pick up where we left off in the Book of Acts. We meet at 6:30, after RALLY Night supper, also in the parlor. I know that we all have busy lives and that setting aside time for Bible study takes some effort and sacrifice, but I want to encourage all of us to try to make that effort.

We also begin our Sunday school on September 11th. During my time at FCC, I have tried to facilitate and provide different types of Sunday school opportunities for church. I see that really coming to fruition this year. In addition to the class I lead for parents who have children at home, the Fellowship class that Brian Hufford leads, and the Camille Gaylord class, we are adding another adult class this year. Mike Goff will lead it, and there is another article in the newsletter that addresses that class more specifically. Just as with the Bible studies, I want to encourage everyone to find a Sunday school class that you can be involved in. So much comes from being in one of these learning environments. Not only do we gain knowledge and understanding about God and God's will for our lives, we also put ourselves in places where we can establish relationships with the other members of our congregation.

In addition to traditional Bible studies and Sunday school classes, we are also starting a new opportunity for us to come together weekly for prayer. Rev. Elizabeth Deasy and Brian Hufford will lead this. They too have provided some information in this publication about that. Prayer is one of the most important things we do as a worshipping community and to have an opportunity for more focused, consistent corporate prayer will do nothing but enhance the spiritual condition of our church.

Please take some time to prayerfully consider all of the things we have going on in our church. Sunday morning worship is important; in fact, it is the most important thing we do. But it is not the only thing that we do. Bible study, Sunday school, RALLY Night, and prayer time together will make a difference in your life. I promise it will. But in order to take advantage of this difference, we have to be present. I am looking forward to a great year as we continue to live out all that God has called us to do.

Grace and peace, *Reece*

6TH – 12TH SUNDAY “SALT & LIGHT”

September's Sunday Salt & Light will meet on Sunday, September 11th @ 5:30pm at the home of Stacey & Jeremy Cook! 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 September 11th!!

WHO: All 6th-12th Youth

WHAT: Sunday Night Salt & Light

WHEN: Sunday, September 11th @ 5:30pm

DINNER: Tacos with all the fixins'

WHERE: Stacey & Jeremy Cook 321 Joseph St. Greenville, NC 27858

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

Dawn & Tim Manning

Karen & Whit Brown

Jennifer & Jereme Blizzard

Avis & Stephen Wicher

Stacey & Jeremy Cook

Emma Brothers

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 8th Church Workday
October 16th Homecoming
October 22nd Operation InAsMuch
October 27th Hookerton District Meeting @ Hooker Memorial CC
November 18th-19th Fine Craft and Art Sale and Bar-B-Q



The Fine Craft and Art Sale and Bar-B-Q dates are on the calendar! Please reserve November 18th and 19th for our fun(d)raising weekend events. It takes all of us to make the weekend a success! All proceeds will go toward Outreach to assist with the church budget.
Sally Wheeler & Judy Clark

BACKPACK PALS

We have been serving children in need from Elmhurst Elementary with our Backpack Pals outreach for five years. We have heard from the Guidance Counselor the positive impact this program has had in the children's school behavior and attendance. Twelve small snacks can transform a restless hungry child into a child ready to listen and learn.

The items we send have been selected for their nutritional value, ease of opening for little hands, and for being lightweight for taking home for the weekend.

Please consider a monetary donation dedicated to Backpack Pals - our pooled resources do make a difference! Checks can be made payable to FCC with "Backpack Pals" on the memo line.

Brandon, Judy, Mary, Sally and Wanda

UPCOMING CAMP CAROLINE RETREATS –

Registration Forms are in the Narthex.

CYF Fall Retreat – 9th–12th Grade
September 23rd – 25th

Chi Rho Retreat – 6th – 8th Grade
September 30th – October 2nd

For active youth: ½ registration fee (\$45) will be paid by First Christian Church. Parents of active youth just need to write a check for \$45 to FCC and we will take it from there.

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RALLY Night Resumes Wednesday, September 7th!



We will have Bible studies for grades K-2nd, 3rd – 5th, and 6th – 12th. We will also have an adult Bible study led by Reece Jones. Dinner will be served at 5:30pm. Spiritual activities begin at 6:30pm.

*B's Bar-B-Q B's Green Beans B's Coleslaw
Homemade Mac & Cheese – Marilyn Lee
Homemade Desserts – Mary Nau



Sunday School Kickoff – September 11th!

Breakfast will be served at 9:15am and Sunday School classes begin at 9:45am except the Adult Fellowship Class which begins at 9:30am. We will have two children's classes (grades K-2, 3-5), a youth class (grades 6-12), and four adult classes including a special needs class.



**Disciples Woman-to-Woman Middle East 2015
Project North Carolina Representative, Blanca Faasii
Will present a program about her experiences in the
Middle East
On
Sunday, September 25, 2016
at 3:00 PM
First Christian Church, Grifton
Please plan to attend the program and tea**

A love offering will be taken to support the Woman-to-Woman program

Call 252-560-7972 or e-mail ecu77psychurse@yahoo.com by September 18 with a number of women planning to attend.



ATTENDANCE / COMMITMENT/ EXPENSES IN JULY 2016

AVERAGE WEEKLY WORSHIP ATTENDANCE: 125

MONTHLY

Contributions: \$ 17,286
Expenses: \$ 18,209

YEAR-TO-DATE

Contributions: \$ 125,341
Expenses: \$ 151,624