

THE CALLER Summer Edition

Baptism of Chase Smith by Bob Stegall

The family of First Christian Church welcomes Chase Smith, who came forward in worship on July 24 and made his public confession of faith in Christ. Chase is the son of Ray and JoAnn Smith. His brothers are Chris and Cory. He will have followed the Lord in Christian Baptism on July 31.

Teacher Appreciation Sunday by Bob Stegall

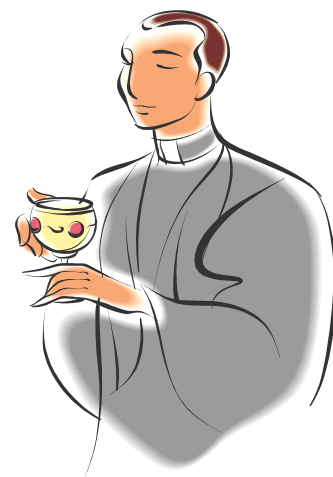
We will be observing teacher recognition Sunday on August 14 at the 10am worship service. There will be a covered dish fellowship to follow. I have been impressed with the number of school teachers, principals and workers in the public education system who attend First Christian Church. Teachers are blessings from God in the way that they teach and guide us. Be present. Invite a teacher to be our guest. Invite them for both worship and lunch. Also, write a story of how a teacher has blessed you. Stories will be shared at the lunch. Tim Harwell will preside at our sharing. Kay has prepared a special bookmark in recognition of our teachers. The theme for the day will be 'Apples of Gold' from Proverbs 25:11: "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in a setting of silver." Thanks be to God for our teachers.

Children's Sunday by Mary Jane Heuer

Children are leading worship service on Sunday August 7. The theme is the Good Shepherd and the Lord's Supper. Scripture will be read from Psalm 23 and I Corinthians. The children will be sharing in word and in music. **As a side note, please see p. 5 for an opportunity to help children in need!**

August Sermon Series by Bob Stegall

- Telling our Stories of Jesus*
- 7 Let the Children Speak
Luke 18:15-17
- 14 Teacher Appreciation Sunday
Proverbs 26:6-15
- 21 When the Brothers Talk
Genesis 33:1-17
- 28 Telling our Baptism Stories
Acts 8:26-40



Baptism Renewal Service by David M. Chism

I invite the congregation to anticipate a special worship service to be scheduled either in the month of October or November. The event promises to be a highly festive occasion, but more importantly, a time for remembrance of our own baptism, redemption, and adoption into God's family.



Question to Ponder by Mary Jane Heuer

This summer our elementary children have been studying the history of the Christian (Disciple of Christ) at Bethany Village. One Sunday, the focus was on the Bible and its importance to the DOC denomination. That day one of our children asked our "granny" a question that we all can ponder.

"I WONDER WHICH BIBLE VERSE OR STORY MOSTLY REPRESENTS WHO YOU ARE?"

I wonder how you would reply to this question. The adults present were amazed!

NURSERY SERVING MINISTRY

Sunday, August 7	Burke and Heather Conditt
Sunday, August 14	Amy Mitchell
Sunday, August 21	Kathy Harwell
Sunday, August 28	Janie Burke



August Children's Ministry by Mary Jane Heuer

WORSHIP SERVICE PRACTICE / PIZZA

On Saturday August 6 from 11 to 1, for all children through 5th grade.

SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE

On Sunday, August 7 and 14, Dr. Bob Stegall will be joining us in the Meeting House to share beliefs with us about the Christian Church (Disciple of Christ). This is for all of our last year's first through fifth graders. Join us in the Meeting House for a special time together.

Sunday, August 21 and 28, we will have combined classes for our children. Please have children come to the Worship and Wonder Room. Following the Walking Horse Show we will have children start in their new classes for the fall.

WORSHIP AND WONDER

Sunday, August 14	A New Heaven, a New Earth, A New Jerusalem
Sunday, August 28	NO WORSHIP AND WONDER



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August 2011

For specific times and details, see the articles on the other pages.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		Circle IV				
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Children's Worship Svc. Choir picnic 5pm					Elementary Children's Sleepover	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Men's Breakfast Teacher Appreciation Sunday / Lunch		Circle I				
					CCF (4th/5th)	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Elders						
					Celebration Horse Show begins...	
28	29	30	31	Schedule your fishing trip with Bob anytime this month		
Board						

Wednesday Schedule is suspended for the summer.

Prayer Concerns of the Church

*You are cordially invited to
Retirement Reception Honoring*

*Charles McDonald
Director of Member Services
Duck River Electric*

*Sunday, July 31, 2011
2pm to 4pm*

*DREMC Auditorium
1411 Madison Street*

Nursing Homes or Assisted Living

*Celebration Way
Cecil Cleek
Alpha Philpott*

*Christian Care Center
Mildred Bobo*

*Carriage House Inn
Melba Henry
Milbrey Eakin*

*Donaldson Place
Opal Summerall*

*Glen Oaks Rehab
Wallace Hancock*

*Vanderbilt Hospital
Elise Troupe*

At Home

*Lisa Adams
Terry Craig
Wade Crick
Billy Gunter*

*Wallace Hancock
Gerrell Haynes
Normanda Huffman*
Miles McCullough
Pete Phillips
Rhonda Reed
Cornelia Riddle
Earlene Stallings
Bill and Naomi
Thompson
Ted York*

Building/Stewardship Report

Many of you are aware that we have been postponing some maintenance issues until we retired the building mortgage. Your Board has selected 3 projects that we feel need addressing:

1. The caulking in the protective covers over the Stained Glass windows has failed and we have water intrusion occurring. The only fix is to replace the protective covers as well as repair the damage.
2. The steeple is in need of pressure washing.
3. We have some drainage issues on the east side of the Sanctuary.

The cost of these repairs is going to be about 45 thousand dollars with item 1 being by far the most expensive.

In the early spring we had a major repair to the Sanctuary HVAC Unit. This repair was about 17 thousand dollars. Our Building Maintenance Fund did not have enough in it to pay all the cost of this repair.

At its last meeting your Board authorized the borrowing of 50 thousand dollars to cover the cost of the upcoming projects plus finish paying for the repair. In the coming weeks you will see activity taking place to complete the projects before winter. There were more projects considered but these were the ones that were deemed the most necessary. These projects will be funded through the Building Maintenance Fund. The Stewardship Committee and the Board will be developing a strategy to retire this debt. Please consider a regular donation to this fund.

General Fund Report

Throughout the 2011 calendar year, our giving has been down. With everyone working together, we have maintained a positive bank balance through cost cutting measures. Though we are still far from budget, there is some good news. We have paid off a major obligation and weekly giving is showing signs of improvement. Please pray that going forward we can adequately fund the programs and ministry of our Church.

-Stephen Philpott

A Note of Reflection about the General Assembly

Thank you so much for allowing me to represent First Christian Church at the National Disciples Conference in Nashville last month. I took a class called "Praying in Color". It was fantastic and in the near future the Youth Group will be learning how to pray in color also! One of the speakers during the Business Meeting said this statement "Are you a fan of God or a follower?". Funny how one sentence sticks in your mind and makes you ponder over it.

Blessings,

JoAnn Smith
Chair, Creative Worship Team

Children's Christmas Play

We are very thankful that Shana Pitts has agreed to head up the children's musical/play for this Christmas! Practice is tentatively scheduled to begin during the month of October, after the conclusion of Bob Stegall's WOM children's class. In the past only 1st through 5th graders were encouraged to participate; however, starting this year, ANY child interested, no matter the age, is encouraged to participate!

David Chism

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BACK TO SCHOOL SLEEPOVER:



FILL THE BEAKER !

Friday, August 12, 7pm - Arrive at church

Saturday, August 13, 8:30am - Parents

Activities include a worship experience, making something for our teachers, and back-to-school games. Please bring sleeping bag or roll, pillow, clothes, Bible, money for breakfast, 2011-2012 Permission Form (located on Communication Table or attached to email) toothbrush. Also, don't forget "Fill the Beaker" items!

School is right around the corner and a part of preparing to go to school is getting supplies. Many students in our community are unable to get supplies, so we are asking children to collect and bring any of the following to the sleepover:

- Crayons
- Zipper Crayon and pencil holders
- Elmer glue
- Stick glue
- Underwear Size 4-8
- New or slightly used clothes:
 - sweat shirts
 - coats
 - sweater
 - pants
 - shirts
 - blouses
 - skirts
 - dresses
 - shoes
 - socks (size 4-9)
 - book packs



Let's overflow the beaker located in Gathering Area!

Please sign up by Wednesday, August 10 so adequate food and supplies can be obtained.

CHRISTIAN CHILDREN FELLOWSHIP (4/5th Grade Ministries)

Our new year starts on Friday, August 19 from 6:30 - 8:30pm

Bring money to eat at Hardees and then back to church for devotion, games and looking ahead.

Parents are asked to come at 8:00 p.m. for a meeting. We will discuss the following:

- What you see this ministry accomplishing
- When and time to meet
- Share what the children would like to accomplish
- Making plans

Please RSVP by Wednesday, August 17



Let's Go Fishing by Bob Stegall

Our 'all-church fish fry' is Sunday evening, September 18. Come to Alabama and go fishing with Interim Bob below Wilson Dam on the Tennessee River and help catch the fish. The trip is 2.5 hours one way. We will fish for 2 to 3 hours. All baits, fishing equipment, and life jackets will be provided. Children are welcome with a parent present. Teams may also come, and may take turns and enjoy the park and waterfall while watching the other team fish. Make your plans with Interim Bob. Some may want to bring their own boats. The catfish are biting. We will meet at the rock pile pier below Wilson Dam. Anyone over 16 will need a \$26 seven day permit, which can be purchased from any Walmart in Alabama.

-Interim Bob



We thank God for the memorials have been given in remembrance of the following:

MARY ARNOLD
Doris McNamee

GEORGE DYE
William & Virginia Ann Haynes

EDWARD C. HUFFMAN, SR.
Doris McNamee
Randy & Barbara Owen

MARY HOWARD GOWEN
Randy & Barbara Owen

MAC PALMER
Charles & Mae Coffey
Randy & Barbara Owen

RK THOMPSON
Randy & Barbara Owen

TIP THOMPSON
Randy & Barbara Owen

Infant Supplies Needed

The *Help Us Grow Successfully* program is getting low on supplies for our babies (birth - 12 months). We are looking for donations, particularly from the youth or younger children. We need infant boys and girls clothing, diapers, wipes, long-sleeved layette gowns, sleep sacks, socks, newborn hats, and pacifiers. Please let me know if you can help us. Thanks so much!

-Tera O. Davis

August Birthdays

1	Arin Harwell	11	Franklin McKamey	23	Karley Simmons
2	Don Smith	12	Amanda Scott	24	Brenda Hancock
3	Joyce Boggs	15	Sue Arnold	25	Freida Newell
	Don Price	19	Rachel Farrar	28	Milbrey Eakin
4	Kobe Simmons	20	Elaine Philpott		Nichole Yockey
	McLain Sinquefield	21	Janelle Douglas	30	Mitchell Warren
5	Chase Smith	22	Carlena Potts	31	Christopher Smith
7	Tyler Lewis		Mattie Ray Wiser		

July Budget Report (through June)

General Budget needed per month \$
 General Budget received through June 20 \$

