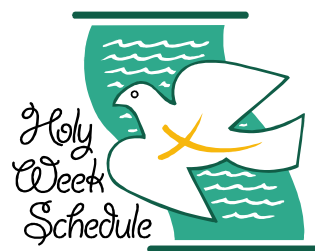


Good News

... from First Christian Church
of Sherwood

Volume 45, Number 3

April 2010



The past 10 months have held many memorable experiences for me here at FCC. I have laughed as we joked together. I have certainly enjoyed the brunches. There have been the special times with people; whether it was during hard times or good ones. Relationships have been started and dreams have been shared. I want to thank you for the opportunity to walk through this time of transition with you. I want to thank you for being willing to share your thoughts, hurts, hopes and lives.

In looking ahead I believe that God has wonderful plans for FCC. Those plans will lead to touching the lives of others with care and help. Those plans will offer growth and transformation for our own lives. Those plans will not just “happen” but will emerge as we offer ourselves for Christ’s use. They will happen as we allow God to work in us and through us. They will happen as we live out the norms of behavior we have accepted as a congregation more and more.

The future holds many exciting things; some beginning in just a few days with the Holy Week Services and Easter Celebration. I pray for God to help us mature spiritually, to serve humbly, and to succeed in being a light of joy to others.

Steve

Holy Week Services

6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday
March 31, April 1 and April 2

Wednesday Mike Grundy will lead a special service through music and thoughts.

Thursday Julie Wallace will lead a time of reflection on the response to Jesus.

Friday Julie Wallace will lead a service as we reflect on life without Christ.

Easter Sunday we will have a sunrise service on the grounds at 7:00 a.m., followed by a pancake breakfast in Chalice Hall. We will have our Traditional Worship in the sanctuary at 9:00 a.m.; there will be Sunday School classes for everyone at 10:00 a.m. and our Praise Service in Chalice Hall at 11:00 a.m. Please make plans to spend Easter morning (April 4) at FCC of Sherwood. We will honor our annual tradition of Flowering of the Cross on Easter morning. Everyone is asked to please bring flowers for the Flowering of the Cross with you to church Sunday morning. If you are able to bring extra flowers, please do, so you can share with our guests.



**TRASH &
TREASURE SALE**
April 24; 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Our annual Trash and Treasure sale is coming Saturday, April 24. You can start bringing your items to church. If possible, bring them during office hours, Monday-Thursday between 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. If these hours are not convenient, please call the church office and let us know when you can come so someone will be here to open Chalice Hall. Items will be stored in Chalice Hall's storage room at north end of the building. If you need your items picked up, please let us know.

Thank you for your generous donations. We hope to see you all at the sale! ~ Fellowship and Events



Board Notes:

Sunday, March 21, the Board met, and some of the things discussed were:

Holy Week schedule and Easter Sunday plans. The Easter Egg hunt is on the calendar for Sat., 4/3.

Trash & Treasure sale is on the calendar for Sat., 4/24.

Board approved sending a letter to the Great River Region requesting that Dr. Julie Wallace be licensed to serve as pastor in the Region.

Music Minister Search Committee has met with a couple of applicants. Please keep this group in your prayers.

If you would like to find out more about these items, or what the Board did, please contact a Board member.

Did you greet these visitors?

March 7: Jordyn Hutchins, Alex Salvador, Eric & Dena Holbrooks, Kennie Zarembor, Zachary, Scott & Megan Hairston

March 14: Scott Hairston, Mark Parsley, Hogan Family, Erik & Dena Holbrooks, Churchills, Doug Manes, Cary Elbert

March 21: Cary Elbert, Harmon Family, Rob Raeke, Debra Smith, David, Susan & John Ferguson, Scott & Megan Hairston, Tracy Norman, Andru Watkins



**FEED THE
HUNGRY**

The Food Pantry will continue to collect baby food for the month of April. Baby cereals, jar food, graduates foods, all types of baby food will be welcomed. The Food Pantry can always use Sweet & Low and Splenda for diabetic guests. Please remember the Food Pantry when you are shopping and put these items on your shopping list then bring it with you to Church anytime during the month and place your gift in the basket located in the Narthex.

Thanks so much!

**April CWF and CMF
Meetings**

The Christian Women and Men's Fellowship Groups invite all the men and women of the church to attend their monthly potluck supper and meetings on the second Tuesday of each month. This month's meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 13, at 6:30 p.m. in Chalice Hall.

The evening hosts will provide the main dish, and you are asked to bring a salad, vegetable, fruit or dessert to complement the meal.

Weekly Attendance

March 7:	9 a.m. Worship: 72
	Sunday School: 28
	11 a.m. Service: 45
March 14:	9 a.m. Worship: 78
	Sunday School: 34
	11 a.m. Service: 48
March 21:	9 a.m. Worship: 80
	Sunday School: 23
	11 a.m. Service: 35

A Girl, I once Knew

By: Robyn Rosamond

There was this girl I once knew that I thought was quite peculiar until she told me this story that I will never forget. I don't remember her name but I would like to share her story. One winter night, she started her journey back to her college dorm room from a nearby store, and on the way she took a short cut to get back to her room quicker. With only a short time left to make it to her dorm, a guy came from behind and knocked her down, beat and raped her until she pretended to be dead. Laying there in a pool of blood, she prayed and prayed until she passed out... (At this point in the story I said, "oh no, how horrible"). She said, "No, not really, it gets better." (I'm thinking, "how?") She proceeds to tell me that it took her months and months to heal. She said after the rape, she walked out in front of cars and she tried to slit her wrist. Again, I calmly interrupted her and said, "This sounds worse to me." And her reply was, "No, not really, it gets better."

She said after months of praying and attending support group after support group, she still did not find peace within herself after what happened. Until one day, her Bible would not open to any other scripture but the one that said, "Thou shall love thy enemies" or scriptures that spoke of "forgiveness." She said she was being led to forgive her attacker. I shouted, "Do what?!" She said it was not easy but the Holy Spirit was with her every step of the way and she was able to look her attacker in the eye and forgive him. She said from that very moment on, she was at peace.

I share this girl's story because it shows just how powerful God really is and how God really does work in mysterious ways. If you let it and obey it, the Holy Spirit will lead you and guide you in ways you cannot imagine. The girl in this story is me. Our God is an Awesome God!

*Be exalted, O Lord, in Your own strength! We will sing and praise Your power.
Psalm 21:13*



Thank you to everyone who turned in a nominating form! We greatly appreciate your suggestions and input. Please continue to keep our committee and the work we're doing in your prayers.

The Nominating Committee

We are called to pray...

Military men, women and families, Brad Neaves, Derrick Coleman, Mike Bolton, Michael Washington, Jimmie's nephew Kyle, Darius Counts, Jared Rieathbaum, Matt Dedman, Crystal Anders, Adam Kangieser, FCC of Sherwood, Ben Maness, Ron Coins, Jeannie Smith and mother, Lynley & Steve Summers, John Siebert, Hazel Roberts, Brent, Nolan, Nina Ferguson & Sabrina, Bill & Carolyn Hale, Mary & Mike Walker, Susie Gillihan, Shirley Jones, Kathy Reline, the Hutsell Family, Joe Szarwinski's brother and family, unspoken, Willie Cullins, Robert Smith, Aileen Silliman, Zoe Goss, Preston Wallis & family, Mary Magby, Frank Ludwig, Junne Jackson, Sharon Pennell, Garry Ripka, Laura Cook, Lisa Smith, son Landon and family, Rose McCabe and family, Lori McCaleb, Karen Cornwell, Katherine Mayers (Peggy's sister-in-law), Gabriel Magnusson, family & friends of Mike Thomason, Gail Gilley & son, Elizabeth Sadler, Baby Evan Love and family, Rod Fanning, Robert Clark & family, NLR High School students, faculty and families

Our loving prayers and deepest sympathy are extended to Elaine Anderson, Ron Owens and family in the death of Barbara Anderson Owens.

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We're on the Web!
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Where Love is a way of Life



*APRIL SHOWERS don't always mean
little droplets from the sky!!!*

*This "April Shower" is for
Wes Hampton and Susan Fanning who
are going to be married on
May 22, 2010.*

*The CWF of First Christian Church of
Sherwood is sponsoring an all church
shower for these two special people on
April 11, 2010 at 12:15 p.m. in
Chalice Hall*

*Wes and Susan are registered at
Bed, Bath and Beyond and at Target.*

*Let's "shower" these two as they start
their new life together*

FCC's Easter Egg Hunt will be Saturday, April 3, and will begin at 10:00 a.m. for children 12 and under. We are accepting donations of candy to fill the plastic eggs for the great hunt, please bring your donations to the box located in the Narthex. Children need to bring hard-boiled eggs with them on Saturday morning for decorating; the church will provide the egg dye, stickers, etc. Please invite your neighbors, family and friends to participate! Please join us Saturday morning with lots of kids! The Easter Bunny is looking forward to seeing you there.



Stewardship Report

March 7:	\$2,255.57
March 14:	\$1,800.00
March 21:	\$2,427.00
YTD Offering:	\$29,733.15
YTD Expenses:	\$26,057.15
YTD Budgeted Offerings:	\$31,236.00

Chalice Hall 2010

YTD Gifts:	\$5,447.50
YTD Payments:	\$7,089.00

There is still time to join the FCC adult volleyball team, anyone interested should come to practices on Friday nights in Chalice Hall at 6:30 p.m. We still have spots on the team, or just come and practice with the team.



The Tournament is on the calendar for April 16 – 18. There will be a meeting for those interested in helping with the Tournament in the youth room during brunch on March 28. If you have questions about the Volleyball Tournament or want to sign up, please call the church office or contact Philip Cullins at philip0616@hotmail.com

APRIL SERVING SCHEDULE

Table Preparation: Doyle & Kelly Phillips
Front Porch Callers: Betty Tompkins; **Greeters:**
Usher: Rod Kimball and Tom Reline

DATE: April 4

Worship Leader: Jennifer Mikesell

Elders: **Offertory** – Anita Norman; **Communion** – Jimmie Birdsong

Deacons: Doyle Phillips, Kelly Phillips, Tink Dedman and Kim Scott

Children's Church: Joy Cagle

DATE: April 11

Worship Leader: Doyle Phillips

Elders: **Offertory** – Reg Mikesell; **Communion** – Marilou Coins

Deacons: Peggy Griffin, Philip Cullins, Wes Hampton and Susan Fanning

Children's Church: Anita Norman

DATE: April 18

Worship Leader: Ron Flowers

Elders: **Offertory** – Georgia Pounders; **Communion** – Mike Pounders

Deacons: Joy Cagle, Don Cagle, Jean Jenkins and Hunter Jenkins

Children's Church:

DATE: April 25

Worship Leader: Kim Scott

Elders: **Offertory** – Ron Flowers; **Communion** – Carla Flowers

Deacons: Harry Skyles, Missy Lee, Tommy Lee and Jennifer Mikesell

Children's Church: Jean Jenkins



If you plan to use the church facilities for any function, please contact the church office to reserve your time and space on the calendar to help avoid conflicts with other activities.