

Good News

... from First Christian Church
of Sherwood

Volume 45, Number 6

July 2010



Greetings!

What a great time to be alive and to be at FCC Sherwood! Wonderful things are happening here and we are grateful for all of God's blessings. I hope you will celebrate our five new members this past month (Michael and Ann Berry, David Fox, David Berry and Shirley Jones) and take time to welcome them.

Other gifts to celebrate are the beginning of the Marriage Relationship Workshop series which will continue with it's second class later this month, a meeting with worship leadership teams that included about 40 people who are devoted to making worship happen each week, a number of new visitors and their positive comments, a great Vacation Bible School program offered to the community, and watching the community come together to support each other in times of special needs. Be sure to take a minute to Thank God for how He continues to shower us with His blessings.

Coming up: We will be starting a new series in worship titled: "Extreme Makeover

Heart Addition!" It's a series of lessons on letting God heal the conditions of our heart that keeps us from experiencing His abundant life. Topics will include:

- The Struggle with Independence
- Comparison Troubles (comparing ourselves to others)
- A Bitter Root
- A Balancing Act (finding balance in life in an unbalanced world)
- The Tyranny of the Favor Line (trying to keep up with doing it all right)

My prayer is that God will use these times of worship to challenge us, encourage us, and build us to stronger and more joy filled followers of His. Hope you will be there.

In His Love,
Julie

Music Notes

This Sunday, July 4, Kim Scott and Bro. Michael will be singing a beautiful arrangement of 'America the Beautiful' in both the traditional and the praise services.

If you are planning on being a part of the Christmas choir please let Bro. Michael know as he is already looking at Christmas cantatas and trying to find one for us to do.



Welcome to all of the new members of our leadership team! Your nominating committee through much prayer and diligence found these capable and willing department chairs and each of them are up for the challenges that lay ahead. As a church we appreciate each person's efforts and gifts and we want to see all of these work together for the common good of God's family, therefore, if you have any questions or would like to volunteer your gifts or time in any of the following departments please contact:

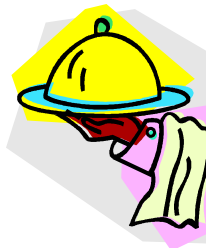
Deacons: Tink Dedman, 834-2409
Elders: Georgia Pounders, 771-1417
Evangelism: Betty Tompkins, 835-0885
Fellowship & Events: Kelly Phillips, 352-0860
Missions: Jimmie Birdsong, 650-1014
Personnel: Mike Pounders, 771-1417
Property: Doyle Phillips (Temporary), 940-5081
Spiritual Life: Susie Gillihan, 835-2651
Stewardship & Finance: Tom Farley, 835-4907
Trustees: Betty Skyles, 834-1442
Worship: Ron Flowers, 834-5841
Youth: Kim Scott, 912-6054

I would ask that we all lift each of these individuals up in prayer and encourage them whenever we have the opportunity. Together as a family in Christ our goal is to lift up and support those around us. I know God has great things in store for us in the coming year and these leaders will help keep us on that path.

Peace in Christ!
Doyle Phillips - Board Chair 2010 - 2011

We are called to pray...

All our U.S. Service Men and Women and their families; Brad Neaves; Derrick Coleman; Mike Bolton; Michael Washington; Jimmie's nephew, Kyle; Darius Counts; Jared Rieathbaum; Adam Kangieser; Crystal Anders; Matt Dedman; FCC Sherwood; Jimmie Birdsong & family; the Summers family; Hazel Roberts; John Siebert; Brent, Nolan & Nina Ferguson; Ethan Isgrig; Reg Mikesell; Pauline Frazier; Mark Lero; Michael Berry; Bill & Carolyn Hale; Peggy's sister-in-law, Katherine Mayers; Don's mom, Jimmie Cagle; Joy's mom, Sue Scrivner; Shirley Jones' brother-in-law, George Love; unknown; Zoe Goss; Preston Wallis & family; Mary Magby; Frank Ludwig; Laura Cook; Lisa Smith, son Landon & family; Rose McCabe & family; baby Evan Love & family;



***July CWF & CMF
Meetings
Tuesday, July 13***

COME AND ENJOY FUN AND FELLOWSHIP

CWF and CMF (Christian Women's Fellowship and Christian Men's Fellowship) will go out to dinner on Tuesday, July 13, instead of meeting at the church.

Place: Creeghan's Irish Restaurant
301 Main Street
North Little Rock, Arkansas
Time: 6:30 p.m.

This outing is for all, so come join us for a good meal, laughter and fun. Please let Anita Norman (833-3567/920-6762) or Ron Flowers (834-5841) know so we can get an approximate count and make reservations. Even if you forget to let us know, come anyway. There is always plenty of room.

Spiritual Reflection

By: Anita Norman

I've seen t-shirts that say "Work in progress—God isn't finished with me yet"! The more I think about this, the more I know these words were meant for me. I wish I could say that I had the perfect childhood, the perfect growing up years, the perfect marriage and a fairy tale ending to all. But, I can't.

As I look back, I know now that God was always with me, even though I wasn't with Him. I knew about Him and His Son, Jesus, from going to different Sunday Schools with friends but I didn't have Jesus in my heart. My grandmother and my dad intervened as much as they could to protect me from my mother, but sometimes it wasn't enough.

I escaped from an abusive home environment into an abusive marriage at the age of sixteen. During this marriage, I know now that God was protecting me and though friends were trying to make me see that He loved me, I wasn't listening.

Then, by the grace of God, came Tom, and the beginning of my spiritual journey. From New Jersey to Arkansas with two children, a dog, (yes, a dachshund) and a hamster, here we come in the middle of July. The first Sunday here, my mother-in-law (Mom) said "let's go to Sunday School". Wow, what is this—big people going to Sunday School? Again, looking back, I now know that this was God's plan for me all along—I just had to listen—to wait for a loving husband and family who would guide me and the children on the right path. Oh, it was rough giving up some old ways and actions, but God was patient (and so was Tom).

FCC has been the cornerstone for me. It was here that I learned unconditional love and how to give love back. In good times and in times of grief, my brothers and sisters in Christ have been there and I know they always will be.

I was talking to my daughter and she said something that really made me feel humble and very appreciative of where I am today: "Mom, you had a rough childhood and a rough first marriage with my father, but through all of that you have grown and your strength and guidance have given Bill and me what we needed. From your experiences, we have learned and passed down to our children what love and respect is".

I don't know what God has in store for me, but I am ready, willing and able to listen to Him and to paraphrase what I said in the beginning, God isn't finished with me yet and even though He forgets to tell me what He has planned for me, I'm ready to listen.

Be glad in the Lord, and rejoice, ye righteous: and shout for joy, all ye that are upright in heart.

Psalm 32:11

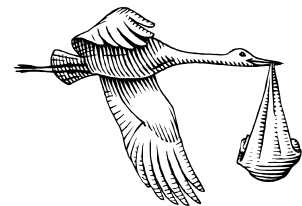
IT'S TIME FOR SHOWERING

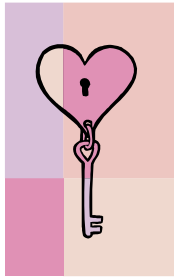
Scott, Megan and big brother, Quaid, Hairston are anxiously awaiting the newest member of their family, a baby girl, who is expected to arrive in August.

CWF is sponsoring an all church baby shower on July 11, 2010 at 12:15 p.m. (immediately following the Praise Service).

Scott and Megan have registered at Target and Babies R Us for their baby girl.

Come one, come all and let's show the Hairstons what FCC love is.





Marriage Relationship Workshop and Date Night

“Remember When” is the title of our next workshop on rekindling the fire in your marriage. The 45 minute informal and fun class time will help us remember what we love in our relationships and bring back lots of warm feelings with practical and applicable tips.

Saturday, July 31, at 5:30 p.m. we will meet in the library and leave at 6:15 p.m. to go on a date with our special other.

Childcare is provided from 5:15 until 8:00 p.m. Please RSVP to the church office so we can plan enough fun for everyone!

Stewardship Report

June 6:	\$2,594.00
June 13:	\$2,903.00
June 20:	\$1,478.75
June 27:	\$1,723.00

YTD Offering:	\$63,544.16
YTD Expenses:	\$58,313.69
YTD Budgeted Offerings:	\$67,678.00

Chalice Hall 2010

YTD Gifts:	\$16,042.50
YTD Payments:	\$16,541.00



You can write only one check for your tithe and building donations; just be sure you note on the check or envelope how you want the money applied.

Weekly Attendance

June 6:	9 a.m. Worship: 65 Sunday School: 27 11 a.m. Service: 50
June 13:	9 a.m. Worship: 78 Sunday School: 20 11 a.m. Service: 42
June 20:	9 a.m. Worship: 55 Sunday School: 25 11 a.m. Service: 50
June 27:	9 a.m. Worship: 64 Sunday Brunch 11 a.m. Service: 47

Did you greet these visitors?

June 6: Rod Fanning, Blake Sutor, Lee Zimmerman, Nancy Barrows, Matthew Fowles, Susan Holland

June 13: Nancy Barrow, Cary Elbert, Deborah Smith, Trisha & Kyleigh Chamblee

June 20: Jeff, Annie Beth & Isabelle Cauley, David Rousey, Stephen Stair, Cary Elbert, Jason & Trina Lee & daughters, Nancy Barrow, Trisha & Kyleigh Chamblee

June 27: Stephen Stair, David Rousey, Nancy, Emily & Marilyn Barrow, Deborah Smith & granddaughter, Kyleigh Chamblee



In the Garden

Do you know what's worse than finding a snake in the flower garden? Well to us gardeners it is finding a wet soggy cigarette butts. The snake at least is one of Gods creations, and a cigarette butt is one of death and illness! Please respect the Gardner down her knees pulling up weeds by the dozens and don't add to her burden! Many thanks to all of you that help us out.
Love and kisses, Susie Gillihan



What a true blessing to welcome five new members into the fellowship at FCC!

Michael and Ann Berry come to us by transfer of letter from England Baptist Church and are already busy and active in the life at FCC. Michael serves as the Minister of Music for our Traditional Service and is part of the Praise Band. They are both active in the Intercessory Prayer Group. CWF and CMF, VBS, and Ann is already working in the Food Pantry. In addition to Michael being a very talented musician and vocalist, both Michael and Ann love being active in the church, they enjoy working with children, leading children's programs, doing mission outreach and more.

David Berry also comes by transfer of letter from England Baptist Church. David majored in accounting and banking in college and is a branch manager for Centennial Bank. He likes working with sound equipment, computers and electronics, is an avid volunteer in the community and enjoys church work. It's reported he has a massive collection of Monopoly games, pieces and ornaments. David is already actively helping with the sound system in both services at FCC.

David Fox grew up in Sherwood and moved to Texas where he performed in musical theater and attended Texas Tech University with a major in Human Development and Family Studies with a minor in music. David taught 3rd grade in Grand Prairie, Texas for several years and served as a missionary to Penza, Russia during the summers. He has been in the Peace Corps and worked in community development and taught English in Macedonia, Europe. In his spare time, David enjoys study of Biblical history, anthropology, biking, and hiking. He is a music hobbyist, having scored short documentary films, play productions, and enjoys tinkering with music technology and working with the sound equipment at FCC.

Originally from Hot Springs, Shirley Jones has been a Pulaski and Saline County

resident most of her life. She has moved back to North Little Rock and is enjoying retirement from the VA Hospital, where she was a nurse, and more recently from real estate in Benton, where she was part owner of Old South Realty. She enjoys playing computer games and playing with her two cats, Katie and Ms. B. Always up for good conversation and a cup of coffee, Shirley has many interests. If she isn't up on a topic, she is very curious to get the details and learn something new. She has a wicked sense of humor so don't be fooled by her shy smile. Her knee replacement was quite the ordeal last January and the loving care she received from Sherwood FCC meant the world to her.

Interfaith Hospitality Network

The Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN) opened its doors in the greater Little Rock community in 2005. Interfaith is a non-profit organization with a mission to help homeless families achieve independence and provide area congregations with local mission activities. IHN depends greatly on the outreach and compassion of area religious groups to make their mission a success story, but they also has expenses just like any organization, in 2007, 2008 and 2009 IHN was blessed to have some very successful fundraisers to help support the program. Unfortunately, the same has not held true for 2010, and IHN has found it necessary to suspend the network operation, and will take a 4-6 month hiatus from hosting homeless families. IHN is very grateful to all who have continued to support this important outreach and has already received some wonderful ideas for getting the network back on track. Please set aside the evening of July 15 (time and place to be determined), to meet with the board to discuss new opportunities and ideas. Keep thinking and praying.
Shari Coote

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Sherwood, AR 72120

501-835-5505
e-mail: SherwoodFCC@aol.com

We're on the Web!
www.sherwoodfirstchristian.com

Where Love is a way of Life

Faces of Ministry

The 2010 Regional Assembly will be held Friday, November 5, through Sunday, November 7 at First Christian Church in McComb Mississippi. If you are interested in attending the Regional Assembly, please contact Pastor Julie Wallace, or Doyle Phillips, Board Chair for more information.



The Berry's 6th Annual 4th of July Extravaganza!

Saturday, July 3, 2010, 7:00 p.m.
3018 Shady Side Drive, Sherwood, AR
833-0040

Please bring a food dish to go with BBQ
hot dogs.

Bring your own lawn chair.

Featuring:

Great Fellowship!

Great Food!

**A Fantastic Firework display will begin at
9 p.m.**

Extravaganza will be cancelled if raining.

JULY SERVING SCHEDULE

Table Preparation: Mark & Cheryl Ferguson and Peggy Griffin

Front Porch Caller: Betty Tompkins

Ushers: Tom Reline and Rod Kimball

DATE: July 4

Worship Leader: Betty Tompkins

Greeters:

Elders: **Offertory** – Georgia Pounders; **Communion** – Lisa Vest

Deacons: Doyle Phillips, Kelly Phillips, Don Cagle and Nicholas Cagle

Children's Church: Joy Cagle

DATE: July 11

Worship Leader:

Greeters:

Elders: **Offertory** – Betty Tompkins; **Communion** – Mike Pounders

Deacons: Mark Ferguson, Cheryl Ferguson, Wes Hampton and Susan Hampton

Children's Church: Jean Jenkins

DATE: July 18

Worship Leader: Doyle Phillips

Greeters:

Elders: **Offertory** – Marilou Coins; **Communion** – Anita Norman

Deacons: Philip Cullins, Jennifer Mikesell, Averie Summers and Sarah Vest

Children's Church:

DATE: July 25

Worship Leader: Kim Scott

Greeters:

Elders: **Offertory** – Jimmie Birdsong; **Communion** – Ron Flowers

Deacons: Scott Vest, Peggy Griffin, Kim Scott and Derrick Cagle

Children's Church:



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.