

Good News

... from First Christian Church
of Sherwood

Volume 45, Number 5

June 2010



Greetings!

What a wonderful time it is to be part of FCC Sherwood. I hope you are celebrating the many blessings we have been receiving here. Be sure to give God thanks for:

- *Two new staff members to round out our staff, Michael Berry for Traditional Music and Mike Grundy with Contemporary Music.
- *The ability to buy some much needed new sound equipment in both the sanctuary and in chalice hall.
- *Many first time and returning visitors.
- *All time record participation in contemporary service on Mother's Day of 75 and traditional service had 77.
- *Another week of hosting the Interfaith Hospitality Network for a homeless family. Many people have celebrated what a positive experience this was.
- *Three amazing students in our family who have graduated from high school.
- *Completing another course of Financial Peace University as a service to the community.
- *The "Finishing Well" of all of the 2009/2010 Leadership teams. Say a special thanks to someone who served

on the board or on a committee or provided leadership throughout the last year.

*The election of all the new 2010/2011 officers, department chairs, and committee members with so many willing to serve.

*Many, many more wonderful blessings are flowing here and we are grateful for all of those not specifically mentioned also.

Energy and excitement are continuing to build and God has promised to continue pouring out His abundant blessings upon us. Pray for and check out some of the upcoming blessings that are headed our way:

*A new group for singles who are 18-30 years of age for fellowship and study and service.

*Marriage workshops and Date Nights for anyone who wants to bless their significant relationship. The first one is scheduled for June 5.

*Training with the new team of Elders, Deacons, and Worship Leadership teams.

*Vacation Bible School and many more...

all coming up this month! We are indeed blessed. I thank God for each of you and I thank each of you who are playing a role in seeing so many miracles happen in our midst.

With Gratitude and Passion,
Julie

A Spiritual Journey

By: Mitzi Mosier

I was a shy child. No, really, I was. I would hide behind my momma's skirt. Anyone that knows me now (and if we haven't met, we will soon!) knows that it is hard to imagine me ever being shy.

I grew up in Camden, south of here. I always knew I was loved by my parents and my brother. I learned so much from my parents, especially my daddy on how to be a friend and also learned how important family is. However, children were not the focus of parent's lives back then. We were a middle/low income family but I didn't know it at the time. I never did without anything I needed and we fit in with all the other families that we knew. We did have one problem in our household. My daddy was a binge drinker. We never knew when he would come in drunk and mad. So, in the middle of the night, too many times for me to count, my momma would swoop us up and go to my grandmother's home or somewhere else where she felt safe. She thought she was doing what was best for us. Sometimes he would leave and there would be peace in the home for a while but then they always got back together. I know there are many of you reading this that know what I mean when I say we "walked on eggshells". That was my life a big part of the time.

So you may wonder how did this shy little girl from a dysfunctional home get to First Christian Church in Sherwood? Well, first you have to know about a secret weapon many of us had: Praying grandmothers! Ma Davis (my daddy's mother), Mam-Ma Madie (my mother's mother) and Momma Mitt (my great grandmother on my mother's side). They all three had heartaches and hardships of their own but they loved the Lord and went to church every time the doors were open. My daddy's family attended the Assembly of

God church and my mother's family attended the Church of Christ. Night and day, right? ☺ I loved to go to their homes. We had lots of cousins we played with that lived either in the home with them or right down the gravel road. I loved to go to church with them, too. In particular my daddy's sister, Bertha, (Aunt Bo Bo to all the kids) took a special interest in all her nieces and nephews and also lived 2 doors down from us. She would take me to church, and of course, to every Elvis movie that came to town!

So, there is the background... then what happened? Are you on the edge of your seats yet?? Well, age 13 happened and I discovered boys! I was shy no more and loved the attention from them. My group of friends all had similar backgrounds. No cheerleaders, beauty queens or majorettes in our group. Like all teenagers we just wanted to fit in. We girls ended up hanging out with guys much older than us. There would be parties and alcohol. I did not drink (how horrible that would be for my mother to find that out!) but I loved having a group to call my own. We had "drama" at all the parties, fights would break out, and it was just a mess. You may wonder where the parent's were. Well, leading their own lives and believing us when we lied about where we were going.

I began to feel uncomfortable at these parties. I felt like I didn't belong there any longer. I knew that if I didn't change the path I was headed down I would end up raped, an alcoholic myself, a drug addict, in the gutter or maybe even dead. I knew it was time for a change.

One of my friends in our group attended a Southern Baptist church and invited me to join the youth choir for the summer. I couldn't really sing but I thought maybe this is my chance for a new direction. I am so thankful to this friend even now today. God was really speaking to me and calling me to Him. I had the strong background of knowing who He was and knowing about

His Son, Jesus. Now I could live the life that was being shown to me by this loving church family. Several of the girls from the youth group came to my home and asked me if I wanted to ask Jesus into my heart. YES, I DID! It was the most important day of my life.

So, back to how did I end up here at FCC? With that kind of background? Well, my spiritual journey has been on a curvy road as I'm sure many of you have had. I met my husband, Jim, right about the time I changed from one type of life to another. I was so thankful that he was already a Christian. He has been along for this crazy life of ours for over 34 years. He, along with our daughter, has been the biggest blessings in my life. We moved away from Camden and visited several churches but did not put God or a church family first in our lives during those early years of our marriage. However, when we had Katelynn we knew we wanted to bring her up in the church and we got our focus back on the Lord. Yet again, God placed wonderful people in our lives that mentored us and took us on a steady path in our Christian faith. We were members of a conservative Presbyterian church for 12 years. We learned so much about the bible and what the Christian walk is all about.

We left that church in search of one that had a strong youth group for Katelynn. We tried several churches but really didn't find one that felt "right". One day Katelynn told us that several of her friends in band at Sylvan Hills High School attended FCC in Sherwood and they had invited her to visit. So, the last Sunday of December in 1999 we showed up and we were welcomed with open arms. It felt like home the first day and it still feels like home today.

Has my spiritual journey been easy? Yes, sometimes. Other times, not so much. I can be very stubborn and want things my way. However, does God have His hand on me? Yes, all the time. You may ask, even when you had cancer 2 years ago? Yes,

especially then. My growing up years were hard but I would not trade my life. The difficulties I had back then have made me a stronger person today. I am surrounded by loving people everyday of my life and I look forward to the rest of my life. I will have struggles, health issues, and problems of many kinds. Can I keep on my journey? No matter what lies ahead? Yes, remember those praying grandmothers? I am one now!

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2010 HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS: Ashley Lee, Brandy Lee and Hunter Jenkins

Our Church will recognize these special students during our 9:00 a.m. Worship on



Sunday, June 6, and we will have a cake and punch reception in Chalice Hall at 12:15 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend!

The Education Ministry would like you to participate in making a scrapbook page for each of our graduates. Please take one or two sheets of paper for each graduate and make a page for each one that will be meaningful for them. The pages are on the table in the Church Narthex and in Chalice Hall.

Please take a few moments to jot a favorite scripture, note of encouragement or fond memory on your paper and return it to the Church no later than Saturday, June 5. We ask that you please limit yourself to no more than two pages per family, so there is room in each book for all to participate.

Do not fear, O land, rejoice and be glad, for the Lord has done great things.

Joel 2:21



What a generous and thoughtful gift you presented to me last week (maybe not thoughtful to my waistline).

It was such a joy to be your interim. Thank you for the opportunity, the support and the many kindnesses.

God Bless,
Steve Wallace

Weekly Attendance

May 2:	9 a.m. Worship: 58 Sunday School: 26 11 a.m. Service: 38
May 9:	9 a.m. Worship: 77 Sunday School: 22 11 a.m. Service: 75
May 16:	9 a.m. Worship: 65 Sunday School: 30 11 a.m. Service: 48
May 23:	9 a.m. Worship: 53 Sunday School: 20 11 a.m. Service: 40

Did you greet these visitors?

May 2: Lee & Chris Zimmerman; Nancy, Matt, Marilyn & Emily Barrow; Erik & Dena Holbrooks; Michael & Ann Berry

May 9: Jason & Tina Lee; Charles & Sandra Troutt; Cary Elbert; Nancy, Matt, Marilyn & Emily Barrow, Clarice Lackie; Sam Delisle; Emily Patterson; David Berry; Hannah & Hope Maley; Anna Beth Cauley; Stephen Stair; David Rousey; Michael & Ann Berry; Erik & Dena Holbrooks; Lee, Kim & Chris Zimmerman

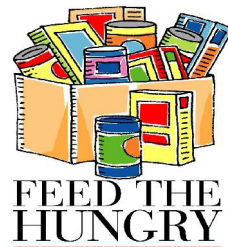
May 16: John, Andy & Jordan Lee; Julian & Portia Copeland; Emily Patterson; Stephen Stair; David Rousey; Cary Elbert

May 23: Michael & Ann Berry; Emily Patterson; Stephen Stair; David Rousey

Worship Leadership Meeting Sunday, June 6, 4 p.m.

Please attend if you are an elder, deacon, worship leader, on the worship committee, part of the music ministry team or are interested in working with Worship. We will be discussing vision and strategies for both worship services.

After the worship meeting, the deacons will meet to vote for the new deacon chair to serve June 1, 2010 – May 31, 2011.



The Food Pantry will collect canned soup and canned meats for the month of June. 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!

June 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, June 8, 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.

Young Singles Cookout



We are looking for all singles between high school graduation and 30 years old who want to have some fun and hang out together.

Date: June 4

Time: 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Place: Steve and Julie Wallace's
2805 Woodsgate Drive,
Little Rock.

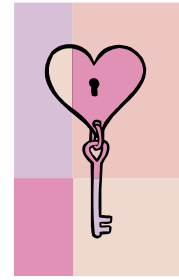
What: Hamburgers, Hotdogs, all the
fixin's and lots of laughter!!!

We will take a few minutes out to discuss what direction the participants would like to see this group go. So call to let us know if you are coming and how many friends you want to bring and join in a casual laid back kind of evening to have some free food and fun! Please call the church office at 835-5505 to RSVP or you can call Julie at 217-9129 with questions.

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, Ron Coins, the Summers family, Lucy Flewellen, John Siebert, Hazel Roberts, Brent, Nolan, Nina Ferguson & Sabrina, Bill & Carolyn Hale, Selina Rice and family, Reg Mikesell, Pauline Frazier, Mike & Mary Walker, unspoken, Zoe Goss, Preston Wallis & family, Mary Magby, Frank Ludwig, Junne Jackson, Sharon Pennell, Daniel Eppinette, Lisa Smith son Landon and family, Rose McCabe and family, Katherine Mayers (Peggy's sister-in-law), Baby Evan Love and family, Shirley Jones' brother-in-law

Our deepest sympathy and loving prayers are extended to the Wallace Family in the death of Steve's grandmother.



Marriage Workshop and Date Night

A fun and informative evening is coming on Saturday June 5 starting at 5:30 p.m. in the church library. It is a time to celebrate and rekindle the love that God has given us for our partners. The schedule is:

*5:30 p.m. sharp we will start a brief

light, fun and informative experience to help you in your relationship. It is a non-threatening environment designed to offer spiritual growth and improved satisfaction with your mate. (A few good laughs are guaranteed.)

*6:30 p.m. DATE TIME. You are encouraged to go spend some special time alone together to discuss what you have learned or to simply enjoy each other.

*8:00 p.m. please be back at the church to pick up your kids if you have utilized the nursery.

Nursery and childcare will be provided at the church from 5:15 until 8:00 p.m. with games and arts and crafts and lots of fun activities. You will need to bring your child a sack dinner and a snack will be provided.

Please call the church office (835-5505) to sign up for the workshop so that we can prepare adequate supplies and also to register for the free childcare.

*I will bless the Lord at all times; His
praise shall continually be in my
mouth.*

Psalms 34:1

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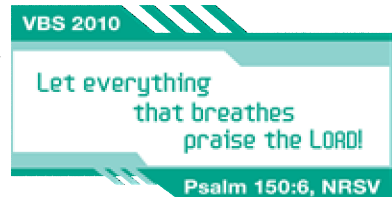
We're on the Web!
www.sherwoodfcc.org

Where Love is a way of Life



Vacation Bible School
June 27 – 30, 2010
6:00 p.m. – 8:15 p.m.

Mark your calendar and start inviting children ages 4 years old up through 7th grade to our “*Galactic Blast VBS!*” We’ll go soaring through the scriptures and have tons of fun. If you would like to sign up as a VBS volunteer, please contact Lisa Vest or the Church office. Please come and be a part of this fun-packed week and don’t forget to invite lots and lots of kids!
Thanks!!!



JUNE SERVING SCHEDULE

Table Preparation: Don and Joy Cagle

Front Porch Caller: Betty Tompkins

Ushers: Rod Kimball and Tom Reline

DATE: June 6

Worship Leader:

Greeters:

Elders: Offertory – Lisa Vest; **Communion** – Betty Tompkins

Deacons: Wes Hampton, Susan Hampton, Tyler Hampton and Harry Skyles

Children's Church: Anita Norman

DATE: June 13

Worship Leader:

Greeters:

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

Deacons: Doyle Phillips, Kelly Phillips, Kim Scott and Hunter Jenkins

Children's Church: Jean Jenkins

DATE: June 20

Worship Leader: Doyle Phillips

Greeters:

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

Deacons: Philip Cullins, Don Cagle, Joy Cagle and Derrick Cagle

Children's Church:

DATE: June 27

Worship Leader: Jennifer Mikesell

Greeters:

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

Deacons: Peggy Griffin, Jennifer Mikesell, Missy Lee and Tommy Lee

Children's Church: Joy Cagle



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.