

# The Herald

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)



September 2008

Pastor: Katherine Bryant Graves

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### Homecoming Sunday, Sept. 7th

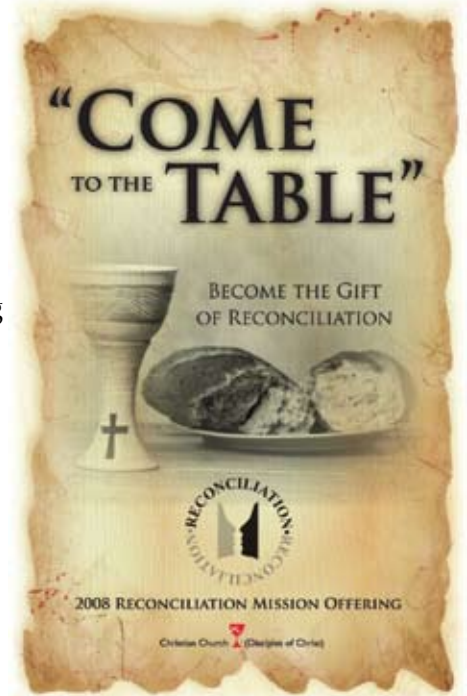
Come prepared to Remember the sacred stories of our shared journeys; Restored by the welcoming aroma of comfort foods; Renewed by participation in wonder and worship with hospitality and joy. Feast your eyes and ears on the enthusiasm and vitality surrounding FCC's plans for the fall. Our staff is passionate and visionary about their respective ministries. Our Board is hard at work. Our members and friends are brimming with talent and creativity. Things are happening at FCC!

- 9:30 Choir Rehearsal
- 9:45 Christian Education for All Ages
- 10:30 Worship for all Ages  
(Nursery Care Available)
- 11:45 All Church Potluck

## Reconciliation Special Offering

In this world of hate and violence, the ministry of reconciliation is not the work of a few diverse congregations, like ours, but rather an urgent appeal from God to the entire Body of Christ worldwide. Please support generously the Reconciliation Offering as our General and Regional churches work hard to teach and lead us on the path of reconciliation. Thanks to your giving to this crucial offering in the past, our congregation received financial assistance for three of our leaders to be trained in pro-reconciliation and anti-racism. Your dollars make a difference as we learn what it means for all of us, regardless of race, class, income or nationality, to come to the Table in order to become Jesus' gift of reconciliation for the whole world.

Janet Hellner-Burris  
Pastor of the Christian Church  
of Wilkinsburg  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania



**Sept. 28 and Oct. 5th**

## Giving Until it Helps

Giving is, I think, the most vital and meaningful aspect of the Christian faith. When the time comes to "pass the plate," my dear friend, Reverend Bob Helm always says, "From that which we have been given, freely let us now give." Christians hold that all we have, our lives even, is a gift from God and we are, at times, called upon to give of our gifts to support the spiritual community. In our short time in Carbondale, I've been amazed by the giving power of this congregation and the good that comes of it. As we all

know, however, support for good is constantly needed and now is the time for us to pledge our ongoing support of First Christian Church. This year we ask that you "give until it helps." You will soon be receiving a formal letter from Dia Parr and I, with a pledge card, asking for your support. Though financial times are tight, won't you please make giving to the missions of FCC a continuing priority?

Bless, Alan Benson  
Chair, Stewardship Committee



## Fall is upon us!



This fall we begin an emphasis on Christian formation and worship, guided by an ecumenical curriculum entitled "Seasons of the Spirit." The curriculum provides educational resources for all ages and incorporates the use of the common lectionary to connect our individual and communal experience within the witness of the larger church in worship, service and discovery. In our 9:45 a.m. classes, children, youth and adults will be engaging the biblical texts which relate to the emphasis in worship. All activities are meant to unite the body of Christ in God's full embrace and graciousness. Christian education is not just for kids and worship is not reserved for adults. Because God is never "done" with us, both activities are important for Christian formation at any age or stage of our lives!

Seasons of the Spirit is a collaborative effort by various educators, liturgists, pastors and musicians from various denominations in the United States and Canada, including the Disciples of Christ. They offer more material than we can use on any given Sunday including helps in worship planning, music, liturgy, service projects and meditations. The staff and Congregational Care have worked in concert to map out our worship, education and music programs for the coming season. Following you will find our Order of Worship with this new curriculum in mind. I hope you will find food for thought from the many and unique ways in which this blending of education and worship is designed to celebrate the seasons of the spirit!

### GATHERING TO WORSHIP

- 10:25 am
- Instrumental Prelude
- \* Indicates all stand
- 10:30 am
- Welcome & Greeting
- \* Choral Introit
- \*Responsive Call To Worship \*Proces-
- sional Hymn
- \*Opening Prayer

### PROCLAIMING THE GOOD NEWS

- Engaging the Gospel
- Message in Music
- Sermon
- Responsive Reading
- (or Prayer of Confession)

### FCC SETS THE TABLE

- Pastoral Prayer
- Prayers of the People
- Meditative Silence
- The Lord's Prayer in Unison Instrumental Offertory
- (The Deacons receive our offerings)
- Hymn of Communion
- Call to the Table
- \*The Doxology
- \*Elders' Prayer for the Bread
- \*Elders' Prayer for the Cup
- Words of Institution & Distribution
- Instrumental Meditation

### LIVING THE GOOD NEWS

- Announcements
- Hymn of Dedication
- Choral Benediction
- Instrumental Recession

## FCC GOES FORTH IN SERVICE

## Yard Sale

Many thanks to everyone who participated in our annual Mission Yard and Bake Sale! That includes everyone who contributed items for us to sell, baked goodies for our bake sale (a tremendous outpouring), helped set up, worked at the sale, shopped at the sale, and cleaned up afterwards (some 16 people appeared on Saturday after the Sale for that important task). It seems that everyone in our congregation who was able contributed in at least one of these ways, and some of you did all of these things!

Everything left over from the sale was delivered to various agencies- most of it to the Thrift Shop run by Church Women United, but we also contributed all the books to the Public Library, as well as sending needed items to Good Samaritan Ministries, Oak Grove Nursing Home and the migrant camp in Cobden.

The proceeds from the Sale total about \$2500, and Outreach will be meeting to determine the distribution of these funds to local and global charitable organizations.

**Congratulations to everyone for a job well done!**

Martha Ellert, Tom Kilpatrick and Eileen Troutt-Ervin  
2008 Yard Sale Committee  
Outreach Division



## Things you should know

**CPR/AED** - In late June, 5 members of our congregation were re-certified in CPR/AED by Dr. Peggy Wilken at SIU. Those completing the 2 night course were Marge Schulhof, Bob Schulhof, Theresa Ullman, Dia Parr and Al Parr.

Did you know that if you have a sudden cardiac arrest that your chances of survival are:

- Less than 1% without treatment;
- With immediate CPR your chances increase to 5%-12%
- But with the AED your chances of survival increases to 40%

We are very fortunate that we at First Christian have an AED and trained members to use it so that our congregation may benefit from this life saving service.

We will have a demonstration of the use of AEDs by Dr. Peggy Wilken in the near future-WATCH FOR THE ANNOUNCEMENT ON THE HOT LINE AND IN THE FCC WEEKLY.



**FLU SHOT CLINIC**, by Jackson County Health Department, Thursday, October 16th from 4:30 pm until 6:00 pm in the narthex.

1.) Flu and pneumonia shots are available. Flu is \$20 and pneumonia is \$35—pneumonia shots are only needed one time if taken at or after age 65.

2.) Medicare is accepted but you must bring your Medicare Card and the proof of any supplement you have...please note that some supplements will not pay for the service.

3.) State of Illinois insurance will pay if:

- You are full time with the State
- You are retired from full time with the State
- You are the surviving spouse of a full time employee of the State
- Family members of full time State employees are not covered

4.) Vaccine will be available for children.

5.) Anyone in the community may receive this service at this time.

6.) No appointment is necessary Questions? Call Marge 967-8198 or fcparishnurse@aol.com.

## Mary & Martha

MARY AND MARTHA will begin the new season on Thursday, Sept 11th at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring a salad to share and come to enjoy our movie "Lars and the Real Girl". This is a humorous film about some of the customs churches have and how we view any change of those. It should make for some lively discussion. Our book discussion of Misquoting Jesus by Bart Ehrman, will begin the 3rd Thursday in October (the 16th) at 7:00 pm at the home of Marge Schulhof. Each member will purchase their own book for this discussion. If you want to attend the movie and discussion and not the book group that is ok and we look forward to seeing all who can come.

## Knitting Ministry

KNITTING MINISTRY will resume its regular schedule on Wednesday (2nd Wednesday each month) at 4:30pm until 5:30 pm. Knitting Ministries of other churches will be invited to join us for the evening and to remain for the first Wednesday night dinner afterward. We are at this time in need of Prayer Shawls, as our supply is low. We will make plans for our Pink Scarf sale at Fall Fest on October 18th. Get out your knitting projects and plan to join us for this "kick off" meeting.

## Outreach

It's often apparent to me when a group just "clicks". The other day, while sitting at Lone Star Restaurant, I noticed a large group having lunch together. Smiles and peals of laughter were on display for all to see and hear. How refreshing and energizing it was to watch this group and even though I didn't know them, I probably wouldn't have had any trouble joining them if I had been asked. They were interacting joyously with one another, enjoying a sense of community that can't be faked or forced. True fellowship was happening here!

Ok, time to rewind a bit. Remember spring, when we all thought warmer weather would never come, when we thought that the ice would just swallow us all up and we'd never see another flower bloom or tree leaf out again? Sitting here at the end of summer, I can't believe that fall is already upon us, that time of waiting for spring so long passed. It surely doesn't seem so long ago, but time marches on and school is starting again, and the slow, easy days of summer are fast becoming just another memory.

So, spring. It brought a new neighbor to our block. I'm sure you all have experienced this, seeing a moving van, perhaps taking a plate of cookies or fresh bread over to welcome them to the neighborhood. After all, in neighborhoods like mine, we look after one another, are there for one another. It's a true community. So, when our newest addition to the block moved in, a newly divorced mother with a young child, we opened our arms. Did we have to? Certainly not! Each of us, busy in our own ways, could fill our time with the multitude of things that life demands. Yet, something within

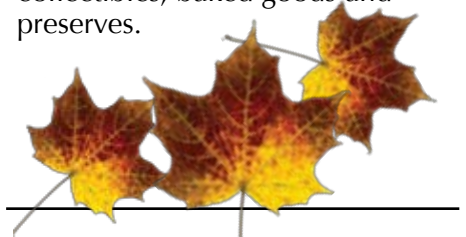
each of us yearns for community, calls us beyond the day to day routines to reach out, touch someone.

I have now gotten to know my newest neighbor well. I can't imagine our neighborhood gatherings without her sweet, smiling face, her gentle nature, her soft-spoken wisdom. She is a part of us, and I cringe to think what would have happened if we hadn't reached out to her. She told me not too long ago that she moved here under quite a bit of stress, but she truly believed that God brought her to this neighborhood for a reason. She has brought us joy, and perhaps we have helped a little as she heals from the pain of starting a new life. So yes, I definitely think that God had a hand in directing her here, and calling us away from the comfort of our homes to introduce ourselves, and invite her into our spaces. This past weekend, as we were all sitting on my neighbor's deck, enjoying one another's company, I imagine there were people driving by, looking at us in our easy companionship and thinking "Wow, that group really clicks. They are having so much fun!" They would be right in their assumption. This one block in the neighborhood does click, despite the differences in our personalities and backgrounds. Each day I thank God for this community of friends. It's a large part of what makes Southern Illinois home for me.

Information will be coming soon to let you know about church social events being planned (Blue Sky again, anyone?). Our first one is tentatively slated for the first Friday in October, barring any conflict with the church calendar. Stay tuned. Blessings~ Debra Whitledge

## Fall Fest

Save the Date! On October 18th the tradition of Fall Fest continues at First Christian Church. As usual, the festivities will include homemade doughnuts, craft sale, silent auction items, chicken and dumplings in the evening, and live music. Look for sign-up sheets in the narthex, starting on September 28th, for contributions of food for the dinner, craft items and collectibles, baked goods and preserves.



## Shop for a cause

Shop Macy's and help your church at the same time! Make a \$5 donation and earn 20 percent off Saturday, Sept. 20. The money raised will be split between the Health Ministries' knitting program and the on-going improvements to the Christian Education Building. We're making a lot of exciting changes, including a new, safer nursery for all our littlest disciples here and on the way! Thanks to all of you who have already given of your time, talents, and money to improve the facilities for our children. See Marleen to get your 20 percent off coupon.



## The Show Must Go ON!!



I am very proud to announce that my dream and vision to have my own theatre company has become a success. Housed right here in First Christian, is Carbondale's newest theatre company, Dance4Grandma Theatricals. I have been planning for almost 2 months for the creation of such an organization, and after the hard work, I am very proud to say that we are up and running! Our first production will be *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown*, which will be performed here at FCC on November 20th, 21st, and 22nd at 7:30p.m! Tickets will go on sale soon and can be purchased in the office or from me! The ticket price is \$20.00 and is assigned seating.... Please, mark your

calendars and come join us in our 1st production! We also have a '50s Dinner Theatre musical dated for February 12th, 13th, and 14th. More information will follow, so keep your ears and eyes open. We are also looking for support and YOU can help! We are seeking business advertisements to be placed in the back of our playbill, and we need patron support and sponsorship. If you are interested in helping support the performing arts right here in FCC, please talk to me or visit [www.d4gtheatricals.com](http://www.d4gtheatricals.com). We need your support! So, stay tuned to your local HERALD for more information, and I hope to see your faces at our 1st production of "You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown."

Derek M. Hamblin  
Director of Music, FCC  
Artistic Director,  
Dance4Grandma Theatricals

## Up to the Minute Music News

As you can guess, choral activities are getting ready to start here at FCC, and you are invited to sing and participate with us. No auditions....no worries.... just have a love for music and you will be a hit with us! We rehearse every Wednesday at 6:45pm in the sanctuary, and every Sunday at 9:30am before services start. Our 1st rehearsal for the fall will be on September 3rd at 6:45 when we will be preparing for the Homecoming Service on Sunday, September 7th. All are invited! Come make a joyful noise with us!

Derek M. Hamblin  
Director of Music, FCC  
Artistic Director,  
Dance4Grandma Theatricals

## What Paul Meant

A Review by Jason Arnold

Paul isn't such a bad guy! This is the opening argument of the newest book by the author of *What Jesus Meant*. In this new volume, *What Paul Meant*, Garry Wills examines the common conceptions of Paul as well as the overall message of Paul's writing in the proper context that they were to be received. In the end, Wills suggests that what Paul meant is the same as what Jesus meant: Love God and love your neighbor.

For centuries, Paul has been viewed by many scholars and Chris-

tians as being on the same pedestal as Judas Iscariot. Judas may have brought about the death of Christ's body, they say, but Paul brought about the death of his spirit. For many years, his letters have been regarded with gloom and negativity, often times being painted as misogyny and general hatred. His writings have been used as a bludgeon against women, gays, and Jews. Wills contends that those interpretations have been taken out of context, and when examined in their proper historical sense, illuminate a very different side of Paul that many of us have not known. Wills, for example, discusses at length the misconception that Paul felt that women should

be subservient to men. On the contrary, he suggests, Paul felt that women should be very active in the ministry. Wills then discusses several women, which are alluded to by Paul, as being very much leaders in their faith.

As a the reviewer for this book, I have struggled with the writings of Paul and have always approached his work with uneasiness. Wills' thoughtful and scholarly examination of the seven letters in the New Testament (those that can be directly attributed to Paul) will be spiritual brain food for those who enjoy surprises and discoveries on their journey of faith.

We are so excited to unveil our brand-new Christian Ed program! We've made changes based on the input of our pastor, our parents and Christian education professionals. Some changes are still in the works, so stay tuned for all the ways we're continuing to build on and improve our Young Disciples program!

## Our New Sunday School

Starting Sept. 7, we will kick off our program with a new approach to Sunday School and a new earlier time. Come join us at 9:45 a.m. before worship for an exciting adventure into ancient Egypt as we continue learning about Moses and the Exodus.

All children ages 3-11 will begin the morning together in our creative arts room on the third floor, learning the story for the day in interactive ways and helping to tell it with costumes and props. Next, the children will break for activities and games related to the story.

Our Little Disciples, ages 3-6, will meet in the newly refurbished Little Disciples room for their activities under the direction of Megan Crowell and volunteers. Check out the great work Debra Whitledge has done in creating a Noah's Ark mural for that room! Our Exploring Disciples, ages 7-11, will rotate their activities between many learning centers: the craft room, the creative arts room, the youth room, and outdoors whenever possible. I will lead this class with assistance from volunteers.

Who are these volunteers you wonder? Glad you asked. Every parent and grandparent with children in the program will be invited to help out on an occasional basis.

Also, we have wonderful volunteers who are or were educators to help us as well! We would like to ensure that there are two responsible caregivers with every group of children for everyone's safety. This model also allows for everyone to have an opportunity to participate and no one to have to shoulder the weekly responsibility of a Sunday School class, which is important for a congregation as busy as we are!

## Our New Nursery

Children ages 0-2 have a brand-new nursery, thanks to the efforts of so many people! Come take a look at the results of a lot of hard work. And thank you to the many people who have donated money and time to this worthy cause. We still have fundraising to do to make up for some of the costs, so please consider helping us out by buying the Macy's coupons we're selling this month for \$5 or by making a donation. Nursery care will be available during both Sunday School and worship, and it will be staffed by a rotation of church mothers and grandmothers.

## Our New Worship Service

Worship will change slightly to accommodate our kids, involving them more when and where we can. We will have plenty of activities available to keep younger children occupied during the service, and nursery care will be available for wiggle worms. Children will be assuming many roles throughout the worship service, including offering the opening prayer, reading scripture, serving as junior deacons, learning the sound board, providing music, etc. If there is a particular way to contribute to worship that your child might enjoy, please let me know.

## Our New Youth Programs

Our program for Twelves and Teens is still under construction. In cooperation with all the parents for this age group, we are developing a program that will fit our kids best. Please know that this age group is a priority for us this year, and we will have the best program we can as soon as we can. Until further notice, Twelves and Teens are invited to join in learning with their parents in the adult Sunday School class or in assisting with younger children.

## Our New Children's Choir

Debra Whitledge will be directing a children's choir that will meet bimonthly during worship. Stay tuned for more information about this!

Yours in Christ,  
Marleen Shepherd  
Christian Education Coordinator

## Important Dates

**Sept. 7** – Homecoming  
Sunday fall program kick-off!  
9:45 a.m. Sunday School,  
10:30 a.m. worship. Can't  
wait to see you all there!!!



# September Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 <b>Labor Day</b>	2	3 6:45 pm Chior Rehearsal	4	5	6 Auditions for "Charlie Brown"
7 9:45am Christian Ed 10:30am Worship 11:45 Church Potluck <b>Homecoming Sunday</b>	8 <b>Office Closed</b> Katherine in Chicago at Pastors' workshop	9 Katherine in Chicago at Pastors' workshop	10 Katherine in Chicago 4:30pm Knitting 5:30pm Supper & Table Talk 6:45 pm Choir Rehearsal	11 Katherine in Chicago at Pastors' workshop 6:00pm Mary & Martha at church	12	13
FCC Does Meals on Wheels						
14 8:30am Elders Meeting 9:30am Choir 9:45am Christian Ed 10:30am Worship 11:45am Facilities & Finance and Outreach	15 <b>Office Closed</b> Katherine's Sabbath	16 5:00pm Tools for Worship	17 5:30pm Supper & Table Talk 6:45 pm Choir Rehearsal	18	19	20
21 9:30am Choir 9:45am Christian Ed 10:30am Worship 11:45am Congregational Care	22 <b>Office Closed</b> Katherine's Sabbath	23 5:00pm Tools for Worship	24 5:30pm Supper & Table Talk 6:45 pm Choir Rehearsal	25	26 6:30pm Adams/Young Rehearsal	27 2:30pm Adams/Young Wedding
28 9:30am Choir 9:45am Christian Ed 10:30am Worship 11:45am Board Meeting	29 <b>Office Closed</b> Katherine's Sabbath	30				

**Elder of the Month** - Tamara Workman  
**Deacon of the Month** - Tim Damian  
**Worship Coordinator** - Johnna Moutell

We do not have a service list for this month. We realize that people have changes in schedules which makes it difficult to have an accurate list. At this point we are evaluating what is the best way in getting volunteers and remind those who signed up.

### DEACON TEAMS 2008

#### TEAM #1

Juli Claussen, Tim Damian, Toby Nelson, Donna Waller

#### TEAM #2

Stephanie Graves, Tom Kilpatrick, Monica Tichenor, Debra Whitledge

#### TEAM #3

Kathy Deutsch, Brice Dion, Nancy Mallett, Ron Graves

*Please find a replacement if you are unable to serve on the Sunday your team is scheduled and let the office know for the bulletin when possible. The office tries to have the bulletin ready for print by Thursday of each week.*

## *First Christian Church September Birthdays and Anniversaries*

### Birthdays

- 9/1 Ruth Fligor
- 9/1 Silvia Lenzini
- 9/4 Ron Graves
- 9/5 Madeline Miller
- 9/6 Martha Beck  
Charles Mallet
- 9/12 Tim Damien  
Jay King  
Shirley Elliott
- 9/20 Shanna Cooper
- 9/22 Alexis Ellis
- 9/28 Bill Hunter



### Anniversaries

- 9/1 Judy Ashby & Hugh Mulldoon
- 9/2 George & Grace Hussey

## Contacts

### Pastor Katherine Graves

Cell: 924-2129  
pastorkatherine@fcc-carbondale.org

Church Office - Mary Burnam

Office Hours: 9-12/1-3 Tue - Fri  
office@fcc-carbondale.org  
mburnam@fcc-carbondale.org  
Phone: 457-6817

### Children's Ed. Marleen Shepherd

marleen@fcc-carbondale.org  
Marge Schulhof, Parish Nurse  
fcparishnurse@aol.com

### Derek Hamblin, Music Min. Dir.

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### Board Chair

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### Vice Chair

Jak Tichenor

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