

First Christian Courier

Disciples of Christ



March Issue

2010

“Christ First Makes a Difference”

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PREPARING FOR *EASTER*

Ash Wednesday Service
Feb. 17, 5:00 p.m.

Taize Services
Sunday Nights, 6:30 p.m.
Feb. 21, 28, Mar. 7, 14, 21



Palm Sunday Service
March 28
8:30 & 10:40 a.m.

Community Holy Week
Noon Services at FCC
Mon.-Fri.,
Mar. 29, 30, 31, Apr. 1, 2

24 Hour Prayer Vigil
Noon Apr. 1 - Noon Apr. 2

Maundy Thursday Service
(Cantata by Choir)
April 1, 7:00 p.m.

Easter Services
April 4
8:30 & 10:40 a.m.

WEEK OF COMPASSION *OFFERING FOR HAITI*

The Administrative Board decided at the February meeting to designate all offering given on Sunday, February 21 to WOC - Haiti. Funds given to WOC - Haiti to date total \$2610.

Donations for the Hygiene Kits for Haiti are being accepted through February 21. Items needed are hand towels, wash clothes, bath soap, band-aids, wide-tooth combs, nail clippers, toothbrushes, and gauze pads.

In Loving Memory

Our sympathy is extended to Clinton Whitesel's family. Clinton died on Jan. 28.

Prayers to Bruce Maggard and family in the death of his sister, Ruby Maggard.

Prayers to Kathie and Alan Bettler in the death of Kathie's mother, Lyda Mae Rogers.

Our sympathy to Carolyn Curtis and family in the death of her husband, Charles Curtis, who died on Feb. 8. Charles is the brother of Harriet Luxon.

Prayers to Sarah Beth Dickey in the recent loss of her grandfather.

Prayers to Tonya Singleton and family in the passing of her uncle.

Sympathy to Dean Gatwood and family in the loss of his wife, Grace Gatwood. Grace died on Feb. 5 in Tennessee.

Prayers to Charles and Jean Metcalf in the recent loss of his sister, Rebecca McCutcheon.

Prayers to Dale, Connie, Sara, and Wesley Byers in the recent death of Dale's brother.

Sympathy is extended to the family of Harold Jennings, husband of Opal, who died on Feb. 11. Prayers to his sister, Jane Parrish, niece, Clara Mae Parrish, and sister-in-law, Helen Jennings.

Serving Schedule for March



Date	8:30 Service Elders Serving	10:40 Service Elders Serving	10:40 Service Worship Leader
3-7-10	Sharla Davidson John Davidson	Gary Westerfield Diana Botner	<i>Diana Botner</i>
3-14-10	Bruce Begley Steve Gamble	Bob Biggin Steve Gamble	<i>Mary Ann McKinney</i>
3-21-10	Reid Singleton Scott Browder	Jan Tunnell Ellen Fritz	<i>Sandy Hunter</i>
3-28-10	Paul Hale Diana Botner	Bobby Herbst Bobby Robinson	<i>Joe Rice</i>

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!

Richard Cobb IV	March 1
Brandi Ramey	March 1
Coleman Turpin	March 2
Maggie Green	March 5
Katheryn Adams	March 6
Marie Abney	March 7
Darnetta Congleton	March 7
Jeanne Herndon	March 7
Jennifer Bowlin	March 8
Huston Cormney	March 8
Tyler Brewer	March 9
Evelyn Williams	March 10
Wayne Baxter	March 11
Helen Carnes	March 11
Carson Herbst	March 11
Carla Horn	March 11
Nancy Cotton	March 12
James Neale	March 12
Mary Richards	March 13
Tulley Cormney	March 14
Jenna Cornelison	March 15
John Combs	March 16
Mike Gordon	March 16
Linda Everman	March 17
Mary Clay Hamrick	March 17
Lacey Luxon	March 17
Claude Sallee	March 17
Rosemary Burrus	March 18
Jennifer D. Lopez	March 19
Catherine Horn	March 19
William Luxon	March 19
Jessie Snider	March 19
Leslie Stapp	March 22
Sarah Durbin	March 23
Sean Singleton	March 23
Douglas Jenkins	March 24
Brittany Begley	March 27
Brent Horn	March 28
Kelli Stapp	March 28
Carey Christian	March 29
Sandy Hunter	March 29
Robin Tudor	March 30

Home Communion, March 14: Kim DeCoste, Gary Westerfield, Diana Botner, Bobby Herbst, Ellen Fritz, Kate Bartok, Mary Sue Bowlin, Steve Bowlin

McCready Service, March 21:

Kim DeCoste and Jan Tunnell

Diaconate 8:30 Service March:

Eddie Pullins and Bodie Snell

Diaconate 10:40 Service March: Betsy Burch, Richard Cobb, Rob Congleton, Vicki Daugherty, Jillian Fichitola, Kevin Goehrig, Betsy Grise, Randi Herbst, Brent Horn, Carla Horn, Sandy Hunter, Bruce McIntosh, Rosalind McIntosh, Mike Noland, Lloyd Rhodus, Fanny Rice, Aaron Sciascia, Traci Sciascia, Kay Stapp, Leslie Stapp, Mike Stapp, Laura Weitkamp

Diaconate Team Leaders March:

Kevin Goehrig, Rob Congleton, Lloyd Rhodus

Communion Preparers March:

Bruce Begley and John McKinney

Bus Drivers March:

Richie Cobb and Richard Cobb 623-7131

Greeters:

February 21: Henry and Donna Morgan
 February 28: Bobby and Sue Ann Herbst
 March 7: Mike and Jane Noland
 March 14: Tommy and Darnetta Congleton
 March 21: Jim and Jill Cornelison
 March 28: Jim and Lolly Harris



CHURCH MEETINGS...

- **DWM Board, Mon., March 1, 4:30 p.m.**
- **Board Meeting, Mon., March 1, 7:00 p.m.**
- **Worship Committee, Sun., Feb. 14, 5:00 p.m.**
- **DWM Circle Meetings, Mon., March 15**
- **Elders Meeting, Sun., March 21, Noon**
- **Leadership Meeting, Mon., March 22, 7:00 p.m.**

LILIES FOR EASTER

Please use the enclosed insert to place your order for Easter lilies to be used in the sanctuary. You may also call the church office to place an order. 623-4383. Estimated cost: \$18-\$20. You may pay when the fixed cost is announced. Orders due by March 21.

Joey Herbst is leading a bible study group on the One Year Bible. This class is open to anyone and is a discussion type class. This group meets on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.



DISCIPLES 101

For newcomers & those wanting a refresher...

Introduction to Who We Are &
What We Believe & Practice

Sunday, March 14, 9:45 a.m. in Pastor's Office



There is a sign-up calendar located on the bulletin board in the coffee room to choose a Sunday this year to provide flowers for the sanctuary. You may also call the church office to schedule. 623-4383



E. R. Begley

Norma Robinson
Bill and Peggy Rice
Eugenia Haden

Barbara Griggs

William Griggs

Charles and Ruth Griggs

William Griggs

Twila Hisle

DWM Group 1 & Guild

Lucille Sallee

Richard and Jacqueline Vance

Fanny Rice

Alpha Delta Kappa

Jan Barnes

Harry and Betty Bush

Bobby and Sue Ann Herbst

Mr. and Mrs. Russell Roberts

Michael and Barbara Osborne

Beverly and Shirley Dezarn

Pauline and Doug Ison

The Robin Gillum Family

Donald and Jane Birch

Rebecca and Gordon Dunning

Steve and Lisa Gamble

Bob and Janet Herbst

Bobby and Betty Sallee

Lisa Collins

Marcus and Wanda Mullins

Edgar and Lona Ison

Ed and Donna Miracle

Jill Whittaker

Geneva Jones

L. Iris Lewis

Callie Kinard

Norma Robinson

Sheila Goehrig

L. Iris Lewis

Ruby Maggard

William Griggs

Walter Roy

Ron and Ann Durham

Sada Tudor

William Griggs

George and Louise Williams

Dorit Nunn

CONGRATULATIONS ON WEDDING!



Robbie Grise married Tara Hoffert on January 30th in Fort Thomas, Kentucky. He is the son of Betsy Grise, and Owen and Debbie Grise, and is the grandson of Mary Tipton.

W.O.W.

Widows or Widowers Luncheon

Tuesday, March 2

11:30 a.m. at Olive Garden

With Dr. Betsy

C.P.R. TRAINING

Our Disaster Response Team is hosting a C.P.R. training for certification, to be held at FCC on Saturday, April 10, 8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon. Cost to register is \$30, to cover materials. Our instructor, our own Sandy Hunter, is volunteering his time to provide this valuable resource. Thanks to Sandy! *FCC Disaster Response Team*



We need substitute people to help prepare communion when our regular preparers are out of town or just need a break. The wonderful people who have been preparing communion have been doing it for several years and they prepare three months during the year. If you could give an hour a week (Fri. or Sat.) when one of the regular preparers is out of town, or would be interested in doing it on a regular basis, please call the church office at 623-4383 and Anna Land will get in touch with you about this important task. *Thank you from the Worship Committee.*



First Christian is very blessed to have wonderful people who are so willing to serve and contribute to Bereavement Lunches.

Those helping with the Clinton Whitesel luncheon on Jan. 30 were Eleanor McKinney, Georgeann Smith, Clara Parrish, Betsy Burch, Carolyn Curtis, Marie Abney, Anita Curry, Vicki Daugherty, Mildred Brandenburg, Betty Blakemore, and Jane Gordon. Special thanks to Bobby Robinson for delivering the food to the family on a snowy Saturday.

Charles Curtis' luncheon was held on Feb. 11 and those who helped included Julia Ramey, Lenore Robinson, Norma Robinson, Lolly Harris, Betsy Burch, Eleanor McKinney, Sandy Clark, Sue Dunaway, Connie Adams, Joanne Whitlock, Kitty Dunn, Pat Hesselberth, Jane Gordon, Darnetta Congleton, Jan Barnes, Fanny Rice, Kathryn Power, Betty Blakemore, Alice Jane Ballew, Shirley Gibson, Kate Bartok, Janice Luxon, and Bob and Martha Nell Stauffer.

Heavens to Betsy

SPIRITUAL SPA FOR THE SOUL



The season of Lent began with Ash Wednesday, February 17th, and continues until Easter Sunday, April 4th. Lent is a time of prayerful preparation for experiencing anew the events of Holy Week, culminating in the celebration of Christ's resurrection. We will continue to observe the Lenten season throughout Sunday morning worship services, and with special evening candlelight services called "Taize" services, Sundays at 6:30 p.m. The Taize services are contemplative and reflective, with music, scripture, prayer, and meditation. During Holy Week, there will be special services for Palm Sunday, each weekday with community services held at our church, a Maundy Thursday Cantata and Communion Service, and Easter Sunday services at 8:30 and 10:40. We will also be holding a 24-hour Prayer Vigil, beginning at noon on Maundy Thursday, April 1st, and continuing through noon on Good Friday, April 2nd.

I know it's a busy season for everyone, and as a pastor, it's like running at full-throttle! But I found that taking these moments to participate in those special services and in the prayer vigil were each like a "spiritual spa," a time for nurturing my soul and finding peace amidst the chaos of life.

It is my hope that this Lenten and Easter season will be more than ritual and tradition, but will truly be a season of enriching your spiritual life and faith journey.

You may have heard of people in other traditions "giving up something for Lent." The point in such sacrifice is to use this time to seek forgiveness and healing, and to acknowledge and give thanks for Christ's ultimate suffering for us on the cross. For most of us, this "giving up" of something has not been part of our tradition, and is foreign to us. Yet for still others, it has become a time not of "giving up," but of "giving more"—of going above and beyond the usual, in preparation of this holy season.

As Disciples of Christ, we don't usually "give up" something for Lent. But in recent years, I have begun this practice, as a small way to sacrifice something, in light of the world-changing sacrifice Christ made for us on the cross. I have found it to be spiritually rewarding and have seen great changes others have made in their lives. I have seen people quit smoking who had tried it many times, but who succeeded, because of the spiritual aspect of quitting during Lent. Whether or not you give something up, or you seek to do more of something—such as spending more time in reading the Bible, praying, or serving—Lent can be a wonderful time of growing spiritually. However you choose to observe Lent, let it become a special time in which you intentionally do something differently.

Let it be 40 days of purpose-filled living and giving and doing. Let it begin at home, as we deepen our spiritual lives in our families. For those of you who are parents, this could be a wonderful family spiritual experience, as you take time together to pray and learn during this special season. For couples, this could be a time of strengthening your relationships. Whatever your family ties, you can make this an incredible time of tying your faith and family life more tightly together. If you're alone, this could be a special time of sharing your faith journey with a friend.

May we each experience anew the transforming power of God's Holy Spirit and the amazing love of His Son and our Savior.

Blessings to you this Lenten and Easter season!

Dr. Betsy

ACCORDING TO STEPHANIE



As I write this article, it is not yet Valentine's Day—which is also the day of my service of installation. I wish I could take this opportunity to reflect on that day, but that's not possible from this vantage point! I am sure it will be a wonderful day as we covenant with one another in ministry. I hope the installation service reminds us that all—despite one's age, race, gender, or educational level,—are called to minister. It is not something reserved for those who attend seminary and who are called to vocational ministry. Each one is charged with the task of seeking to minister wherever you are in life. What an awesome task! I hope you will keep your eyes and ears open to the myriad of possibilities that God places before you.

By the time you receive this, we will have begun Lent with the Ash Wednesday service on February 17. This year my Lenten discipline is one of “taking up and laying down.” I will “take up” the practice of praying the Divine Hours three times daily. I began this practice a few years ago during Lent, and I often return to it for the joy and peace it gives. Although monastic communities offer these prayers multiple times throughout the day, I will focus on an extended time ordered by my meals. I never forget to eat, so this is my reminder for that time of day to also engage in the prayers! Pastors who are working with the congregational transformation “Surfing the Edge” were also encouraged by Alan Roxburgh, our facilitator for this process, to engage in this activity. I find that when I take the time to quiet myself and enter into an attitude of prayer, I tend to be more patient, less anxious, and more aware of God's presence throughout the day. My “laying down” might seem a little silly, but I am skipping my consumption of Diet Coke. This is my afternoon crutch. If I feel sluggish in the slow hours of the afternoon, I find myself reaching for this beverage for the jolt of caffeine. There is also the added health benefit: I just don't need that stuff in my body. And I know it. I've known it for a long time. During Lent, and hopefully after the season, I will continue to rely on God and self-care to give me the energy I need to do the tasks God has placed before me.

If you haven't decided on a Lenten discipline, it's not too late. Eliminate an unnecessary food item that you crave, add prayer/devotion time, include an opportunity to serve the community, or find time for extended silence. A pastor I know allows for thirty minutes of silence during the days of the Lenten season. That sounds like quite a challenge, but I am certain that it is extremely rewarding. I know it's not easy to find the time, energy, or the motivation to “take up or lay down.” That is precisely *why* we need to do it! God is never too tired or busy for us. Let us return the favor by a small gesture of discipline.

God bless you as you journey to the cross this Lent. *Stephanie*

Spring Break Opportunities!!

Are you staying in Richmond during Spring Break? There are all kinds of opportunities to serve in the community. Hope's Wings has contacted me needing some help with children's activities during the week of Madison County's break. Also, we could help out at The Mission (and I'm sure there are numerous other places that we could schedule to go to). We could observe prayers at the Islamic Prayer Center in Lexington (Fridays at noon), visit a synagogue, or observe at the Hindu Temple. These are great experiences that occur sometime other than our usual meeting time. Contact me and we'll work on an activity during the week of your Spring Break. You can reach me at stephaniefcc@bellsouth.net.

Proposed Mission Trip: **Summer Action Program at Heifer Ranch** **in Perryville, AK, July 18-23**

Heifer international is a nonprofit that alleviates hunger, poverty, and environmental degradation through gifts of food and income producing farm animals and training. These animals provide a source of protein, such as eggs and milk, for children and generate income for families through the sale of animal products. Since 1944 Heifer has helped over 4 million families in 125 countries become self-reliant. Each family “passes on the gift” by giving one or more of its animal's offspring to another family in need.

For those who have completed grades 6-12

FCC Richmond Staff

Dr. Betsy Goehrig, Senior Minister | Rev. Stephanie McCormick | John Stegner, Director of Music
Linda Hensley, Organist | Brenda Young, Custodian | Connie Adams, Administrative Assistant

First Christian Church
P.O. Box 216
Richmond, KY 40476

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Richmond, KY
Permit No. 100

Deadline for the April Courier
March 12

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

Update on Souper Bowl of Caring

\$151 was collected on February 7th to go to God's Outreach in Richmond. \$5,308,237 + was collected by 4,555 organizations throughout the world for various charities. This number increases by the minute as some organizations are still reporting. Thank you for your generous support of our Youth and for helping local families get the food they need!



CHURCH FAMILY FUN NIGHT

FRIDAY, FEB. 19 - 6:30 p.m.
BRING APPETIZERS & GAMES

**Join us for a night of
inter-generational fun!**



CHURCH CHILI COOK-OFF

SUNDAY, FEB. 21 - NOON
YOU MAY BRING A CHILI ENTRY
OR JUST COME AND ENJOY
GREAT CHILI

See you there after church!