



The Chalice

A Newsletter for Members & Friends of First Christian Church, Conroe



November 26, 2007

Advent Hope



From the
Pastor



Dr. Wes Morgan

Someone has said that time exists so everything can't happen at once. Our lives are bounded by time. Calendars, datebooks, schedules and alarm clocks exist to remind us that we can easily be overwhelmed by the rush of time and events. We are conscious that time is passing and that our future is coming at us. In the progression of time we are aware of past, present and future. We do not always give the same amount of attention to these three facets of time. At some points we are more aware of the past -- what has been and is no more. At other points we are more aware of the future -- what is not and will yet be. At any present moment we are affected both by a past that we can remember and interpret and a future that we can anticipate and invest with meaning. However, it is in the present that we must come to grips with time and its influence on our lives. Coming to grips with time is one of the purposes of worship. Especially, this is true in



Welcome New Member

Sunday, November 25, Chris Sullivan was baptized and received into the membership of the church. Please welcome and pray for Chris!

Christian Sympathy

We extend our Christian sympathy to Hugo Dammann and his family at the death of his mother, Kathy Dammann, who died last week in South Africa. Hugo has returned home for the services. Please keep Hugo and his family in your prayers. Hugo is Peggy Piper's son-in-law.



Everyone
Please Wear Purple
Sunday, December 2

Everyone, please wear purple Sunday as we begin our Advent services.

this season -- the season of Advent. There are always four Sundays in the worship season of Advent, and each Sunday has a special theme. The themes, in order, are Hope, Peace, Joy and Love. Hope is more closely bound to the dimensions of time than the other three themes. Hope has its roots in the past. Hope is acted out in the present. HOWEVER, hope is primarily identified with and shaped by the future. Hope calls to us from the future and invites us to move forward into that which we do not yet know, but trust is, or will be there. For us, as Christians, the origin of our hope is God. God, who is always ahead of us, invites us to come into the future God is preparing. God has never called people to the past. God always calls us into a future that is not quite yet but is in the process of becoming. Just as we are also in the process of becoming so is our future. Now our hope is fed by remembering the faithful ways God has dealt with us in the past. Our hope is strengthened by being aware of God's presence with us in the here and now. And our hope is empowered by the promise of what shall be and that we shall be a part of it. Because we know that God has been faithful we can open ourselves toward the future and live in HOPE!

I look forward to seeing you Sunday so we can worship God together and strengthen our HOPE!

Love & Blessings,
Wes <+><

These are the lessons that your Pastor is reading in preparation for the Sunday services. Please read them as a part of your preparation. The ones that are underlined will be the basis for the sermon.

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Jeremiah 33.14-16

Psalms 122

Romans 13:11-14

Matthew 24.36-44



With Sincere Appreciation To Our Church Family

We thank all of you for the prayers, phone calls, cards, and especially all the love during this difficult time dealing with Johnnie's Mom's passing. We love all of you!

Jarrold, Johnnie & Atticus Walker, and Ronnie Gilman

~~~~~

#### Thanks from Vicki and Robert Hill

Thank you all so very much for your cards, phone calls, and everything that you did to show your love to our family during the illness and passing of Vicki's mother. Words can not express our deep gratitude to the Day School and church family.

## Lunch Bunch

Members, friends, and visitors are welcomed and encouraged to come join in the fellowship.



Dec 2 - Garden Café

Dec 9 - Margaritas

Dec 16 - Hunan Village

Dec 23 - Black Eyed Pea

Dec 30 - Joes Pizza

### Congratulations

Congratulations to Cassidy Perkins who marched with Camp Broadway in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

### Ruth Wilson Turns 97

Happy Birthday to Ruth Wilson who will be 97 on December 5. Ruth lives at 200 Camelot #409, Conroe Texas 77304. We extend our love and best wishes for a very Happy Birthday, Ruth!

### December 1

#### FCC Fellowship Breakfast

We meet for breakfast together every first Saturday of the month at Ryan's for breakfast and fellowship. Everybody is invited to come along and share this time together.

#### For the Record November 25, 2007

**Early Service:**

**Late Service:**

**JAM: No JAM**

**Offering: \$5,716.50**

*Please help us update our Prayer List. If we have left anyone off who should be on this list, please let us know. Also, please let the church office know when we can remove a name from the list.*

**MEMBERS:** Barthlynn McCoy, Charles LaCarter; Occie Bonds; Rosie Joyce; Jacque Frazier; Vicki, Robert, Morgan and Matthew Hill; Mattie Curry, Bill & Pat Keyser; Genevieve Thompson; Johnnie and Jarrod Walker; Ron Gilman

#### **CONTINUING PRAYER FOR RELATIVES & FRIENDS:**

Margaret T. **Cole** – mother of J. Cole; Walter **Lowe** – father of V. Hill; Edward **Schraeder** – brother of H. Schraeder; Marjorie **Slothower** – mother of J. Wooderson; Bryce **Stevenson** – relative of B. Harris; Susan **Perkins** – relative of D. Yates; Jean & Roy **Harris** – relative of S. Harris; Robert **Stevenson** – brother of B. Harris; Libby **Higgins** – sister of M. Goode; Lene **Velasquez** – friend of the Keyzers; Jace **Sandoval** – friend of R. & B. Harris; Amy **Yanez** – granddaughter of R & D Yates; **Diane** – daughter of D. & S. Lubs; Jeff **Adams** – nephew of P. Keyser; Ann **Harris** – daughter-in-law of S. & B. Harris; Anice **Roberts** – sister-in-law of M. Caldwell, Dawn **Luttrall** - daughter of J. Luttrall; Sydney **Curtis** – daughter of K. McQueeney

**IN MILITARY: Operation Love and Comfort for Soldiers in Iraq;** Erik **Bumguardner** (Iraq) – nephew of J. Luttrall; Keith **Watson** – uncle of K. Foster; Tony **Biernesser** – boyfriend of K. Foster; Marshall **Brown** (Iraq) – friend of B. Provencher;

## ***“Praising God – Reaching out – Teaching love – Serving God and people!”***



Visitors for Sunday, November 25, 2007: Rosella Dreyer; Roy Allen; Kyle Martin

Tech Sgt Scott **Ransom** – W. Fick; Justin **Keyser** – grandson of P & B Keyser.

#### **NEW PRAYER**

**REQUESTS;** Rylie **Elsmore** – daughter of C. & K. Elsmore; Cecil **Wells** – friend of C. Sullivan; Kathy **Thomas** and her dad – friend of K. McQueeney; Meryl **Waisanan** – friend of M. Schraeder; Don **Martin** – relative of K. Vance; Gene **Vance**, Gene Vance – friend of B. Cave; Ranji **Bessard** – relative of B. Cave; Chris **Largent** – friend of B. Cave; Edna **Williams** – friend of the Keyzers; Gabby **Stockton** – JAM teen; Gloria **Lupkey's sister**; Robert **Austin** – father of A. Corley; Hugo **Dammann** – son-in-law of P. Piper.

**HOMEBOUND:** Joe Fee; Charlie Fennell; Margaret Ferguson; Jeane Shearer; Ruth Wilson; Dave Coyne; T. C. Harvill; Mary Carr



#### **The Secret Santa**

As a young man, Larry Stewart lived hand to mouth. He occasionally had to ask for a free meal or a few dollars until he found a job. To him, that was humiliating.

Stewart didn't give up. He kept working and saving, and he eventually owned cable television and long-distance telephone services in Kansas City, Missouri. He made millions.

Knowing what it was like to have nothing, Stewart started anonymously giving money to the needy every December. He started in 1979 by giving away \$5 and \$10 bills. Then, as his own fortune increased, Stewart handed out \$100 bills.

The secret Santa tried to remain anonymous. He identified himself when it became apparent a tabloid was about to. He gave to the poor, he said, “as a Christmas gift to himself.” Giving to the needy gave Stewart the greatest joy possible.



**December 19  
Christmas Caroling**



# YAH YAH'S



## The Yah Yah's Play and Dinner Theater Trip

The Yah Yah's are going to dinner and then to the Creighton Theater December 15 to see "Miracle on 34th Street."

### "Miracle on 34th Street"

Kris Kringle is the personification of good will and holiday spirit. As Macy's holiday Santa, he enchants children and shoppers so completely that he is deemed dangerous by fellow employees who question his competency and plot to ruin him. A small girl's belief in Santa and the magic of the holiday is at stake in a climactic courtroom decision. This hilarious, tender and charming show for the entire family is a Christmas classic.

Contact Bobbie Harris 936-441-3424 to make reservations

Anyone in the church is invited to participate.

Meet at the church at 5:00 pm.

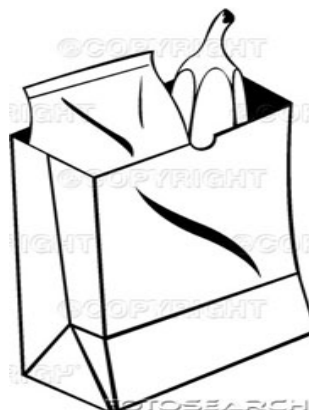
## GROWING SPIRITUALLY-

### Payer and Bible Study

6:00 pm

There are two great ways to grow spiritually – PRAYER AND BIBLE STUDY!

"GROWING SPIRITUALLY" meets each Thursday. Each meeting of the class will feature study of the Bible and time for learning and practicing different forms of prayer. Child care is always provided



Fill a Bag for Christmas Baskets

## Christmas Baskets

We have so many families who reach out to FCC for food pantry help that we had unfilled requests for Thanksgiving baskets. We will provide additional families with Christmas baskets on December 20.

Would you like to use this occasion as a Christmas lesson for your children or to simply personalize your giving for this food ministry? On December 2 and December 9, in the foyer, there will be bags with messages and a list of food. If you would take one of these bags and fill it with the listed items, it will be given from your blessed family as a blessing to another. Your children might decorate the list to make it a joyful presentation of God's love for all.

These bags need to be returned no later than December 16 to the church library. We will add other items for large families and perhaps a cake mix and frosting, etc., plus the Christmas meat and place it all in a colorful basket.

## Christmas Turkeys

We will be distributing baskets on December 20 and will need 25 or so turkeys. If you'd like to provide a turkey, call Sharon Martin 936 447-2743 so we can find a freezer. If you'd like to have us purchase a turkey for you, about \$13 covered each one for Thanksgiving.

# Christmas Plays



## ***Night Fell, the Literal Version***

We have been blessed with the presentations of two Christmas plays. The first one is presented by the Children's Sunday School classes. The children's Christmas program this year is "Night Fell, the literal version."

Presented during the second service December 9

First Christian Church Of Conroe  
Drama Ministry  
Presents

## Bethlehem's Best

(A Christmas Musical based upon  
Luke 2:1-20 Matthew 2:1-2, 8-11)

Words By Laurie Zelman

Music By Mark Miller

Join Us for:

### An Advent Afternoon

Featuring singers, musicians and actors from  
The FCC Chancel Choir, The Foundation, We Praise 3 and JAM  
PLUS actors, singers from our church family

**Sunday December 16**

At 4:00 PM

Refreshments and a Christmas sing along will follow in the parlor



# Poinsettias

We will be using Poinsettias to decorate the church for Christmas. The cost of the Poinsettias is \$ 8.00. Please use this form to reserve your Poinsettias.

\_\_\_ Yes, I/we want to give Poinsettias to the church:

*In Memory of* \_\_\_\_\_

*In Honor of* \_\_\_\_\_

*As a gift to the church* \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Tel \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to First Christian Church and mark "Poinsettias." Fill out this form and put in offering plate or return to church office. You can take them home on Christmas Eve.



## FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH FAMILY & FRIENDS

(New & Old)

YOU ARE INVITED TO

Christmas at the Schraeders'

Celebrating the true meaning  
Of the season  
(hope, peace, joy and love)

Sunday, December 2

5:00 p.m. – until  
(come & go/come & stay)

2006 Shasta Ridge Dr.  
Conroe  
936-756-5989

**Please bring a favorite holiday goodie**  
And enjoy the fun and fellowship!

directions:

**I-45 to League Line Rd.**

(at Cracker Barrel & Outlet Mall)

**go west on League Line Rd.**

only about .9 mile

**at 4-way blinking red light, turn left**

<Across from main entrance to Panorama>

(into Dominion Ridge)

**second street on right (Shasta Ridge)**

**turn right**

**house on the right (2006) just before cul-de-sac**

**Please call 756-3554 or 756-5989**

**If you need child care**



**CHRISTMAS PARTY AT THE SCHRAEDERS**

## Annual Parent's Day Out

*Jesus is the Reason for the Season* is the theme for our annual Birthday for Jesus Party/Parent's Day Out. It will be Dec 8 from 10a-4pm. This is a free event. Kids need to bring a lunch (make sure their name is on it) and an unwrapped baby gift to be given in Jesus' name.

We are now taking reservations. We especially need to reserve spots for the nursery, nursery age 0- 2 years, in order for us have the appropriate number of caretakers. You may sign up in the parlor after church or call the church. On the day of the event, all ages will sign up in the gym and then be taken to appropriate groups. Registering will begin at 9:30 a.m., Saturday, December 8. The 3 & 4 years old will be in the children's wing, Pre-K thru 3rd grade will be in the gym. **(updated)**



## Children's Christmas Pageant

This year Children's Christmas pageant is set for Sunday, Dec. 9, in the second service. Children's pageant involves kids from birth to 6<sup>th</sup> grade. The Christmas play, "Night Fell", is the Christmas story done in a humorous way. The children will also sing Christmas carols. We began learning the songs in Sunday School. Families should have their CD and the words to practice with their children at home. Practices will continue Sunday in Sunday School, for about 15-20 minutes. We will have dress rehearsal from 4-5p December 8<sup>th</sup> after our Christmas workshop.

## Upcoming Christmas Events:

**December 2**  
Christmas at the  
Schraeders

**December 8**  
Birthday Party for Jesus/  
Parent's Day Out

**December 9**  
Children's Pageant

**December 15**  
Blue Christmas  
Yah Yah's Play & Dinner  
at Creighton

**December 16**  
Advent Afternoon:  
Bethlehem's Best  
4:00 pm

**December 19**  
Christmas Caroling

## Christmas Boxes for our Service Men and Women

We are making Christmas Boxes to send to our service men and women. If you would like to be part of helping make their Christmas a little more joyful, following are the items that we will be putting in the boxes. Please remember that we do not need cheese crackers or peanut butter crackers at this time as we have plenty of those..



Beef Jerky, tuna, Vienna sausage, chips, peanuts, gum, cookies, snack bars, candy, fruit cups, peanut butter, Slim Jims, pretzels, Hot Tamales, trail mix, or anything that you think they might like. We appreciate the great love and compassion that FCC church family has shown to this project. The outpouring of love that we receive back from our soldiers make this project worthwhile. We will be needing money donations to mail this next shipment of boxes. Thanks again for all the help.

(Bobbie and Si Harris and Jim and Judy Hopper)



# Weekly Calendar of Events

## Sunday, December 2, 2007

8:15 am Service of Hope  
 9:00 am Chancel Choir Practice  
 9:25 am Children's Sunday School  
 9:30 am Adult Sunday School  
 10:45 am Worship  
 2:00 pm Venture Crew  
 5:00 pm Christmas at the  
 Schraeders

## Monday, December 3, 2007

9:00-3:00 Day School  
 6:30 pm Cub Scouts  
 6:45 pm Chalice Bells

## Tuesday, December 4, 2007

9-3:00 am Day School  
 9:00 am Hug A Bears  
 9:30 am Soup Kitchen  
 7:00 pm - Boy Scouts

## Wednesday, Dec. 5, 2007

9:00 am - Noon - Food Pantry  
 4:00 pm - Guitar  
 6:30-8:00 - JAM  
 7:00 pm - Choir /The Foundation  
 8:00 pm Al-a-teen

## Thursday, December 6, 2007

6:00 pm - Bible Study

## Friday, December 7, 2007

## Saturday, December 8 2007

Birthday Party for Jesus  
 Parents Day Out

## Sunday, December 9, 2007

8:15 am Service of Hope  
 9:00 am Chancel Choir Practice  
 9:25 am Children's Sunday School  
 9:30 am Adult Sunday School  
 10:45 am Worship  
 Children's Christmas Pageant  
 2:00 pm Venture Crew

## Sunday, December 2, 2007

Church School: 9:30 am

**Morning Worship: 8:15 am &  
 10:45 am**

**Sermon:** Dr. Wes Morgan  
**Worship Leader:** Rosie Joyce  
**Elders:** Bob Smith  
 Donna Smith

**Sound Manager:** Bill Schneider  
**Video Artist:** Jan Lewis  
**Greeters:** Doris Yates  
 Debby Blackburn

**Head Deacon:** Pete Kelly  
**Diaconate:** Joan Rascoe;  
 Bud Rascoe; Pete Kelly; Cindy Ortiz;  
 Brittani Macey; Leslie Joslin; Jeff  
 Mathews; Michele Mathews

**Early Service:** Tammy Conner  
 Peggy Piper  
**Preparing:** Jeff Mathews

**Acolytes:** Michele Mathews  
 Hannah Elsmore  
 Rylie Elsmore

December Parlor Hosts

## First Christian Church

3500 North Loop 336 West

Conroe, TX 77304

Church (936) 756-3554

Pastor (936) 203-4089

Day School (936) 756-3521

[www.fccconroe.org](http://www.fccconroe.org)

Email: [fccconroe@consolidated.net](mailto:fccconroe@consolidated.net)

## FCC STAFF

Pastor: Dr. Wes Morgan  
 Secretary: Shirley Taylor  
 Dir. Children's Ministries: Jean Harvill  
 Student Ministry: Robert & Vicki Hill  
 Police Chaplain: Pete Kelly  
 Choir Director: A.J. O'Pry  
 Accompanist: Jan Cole  
 Sound Manager: Bill Schneider  
 Day School Director: Vicki Hill

## Office Hours

Mon - Thurs 8:30 am - 2:30 pm

## Deadline for Newsletter

Monday



## Lock Up Schedule

## December

11/11/25-12/1 Larry Corley

12/2-12/8 Wes Morgan

12/8-12/15 Harvey Schraeder

## December Flowers

## Poinsettias

\$8.00 each

Order now

Non-Profit  
 U.S. Postage  
 PAID  
 Conroe, TX  
 Permit No. 16

Invite a Friend to Church Next Sunday!