



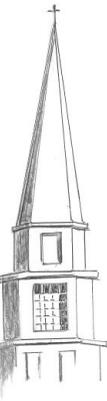
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# The Visitor

A publication of  **First Christian Church**  
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST) • GREENSBORO, NC

July 25, 2018



## School is still out for summer— but it's time to collect supplies for our neighbors

Each year we fill backpacks with school supplies and share them with children at Glen Haven Community Center and Cone Elementary School. Please help us collect: notebook paper, pocket folders, 1-subject notebooks, composition notebooks, crayons (24 count), scissors, #2 wood pencils, colored pencils, rulers, glue sticks, pencil pouches, erasers, and pencil sharpeners. There is a collection box in the Gathering Space.



## Please help us continue and even increase our donations for the Food Pantry and the Cone Elementary School Food Backpack Program

No matter the season, there are hungry people in our community. We are grateful for your support of our outreach programs. If you prefer making a monetary donation, please put "food pantry" on the memo line. **Here's what we need for**

**The Food Pantry:** carrots, corn, green beans, peas, canned potatoes, applesauce (jars and cups), spaghetti, spaghetti sauce, macaroni and cheese, rice, soups, cereal, oatmeal, grits, peanut butter, canned fruit, jelly canned chicken, tuna fish, canned pasta, boxed pasta, flour, sugar, coffee, cooking oil, syrup, kidney beans, baked beans, mixed vegetables, instant potatoes, black eyed peas, spinach, Manwich, beets, cranberry sauce, sweet potatoes, lima beans, stewed or diced tomatoes, tomato paste

**Cone Elementary School:** boxes of individual cereal, oatmeal, grits, individually wrapped 100% fruit juice or shelf stable milk, peaches, pears pineapples, etc. in light syrup and /or apple sauce, can chicken or tuna with small bottle of mayo, peanut butter, small or individual cups/cans of beans, soup, beef stew, spaghetti and meatballs, ravioli, beefaroni, lasagna, mac and cheese, cups or cans of spinach, string beans, carrots, etc., packs of crackers, graham or animal crackers, multigrain bars, pudding cups, popcorn, etc.

*To know and love God, to nurture each other, and to reach out and welcome all people in the name of Jesus Christ.*

*love. serve. hope.*

**FIRST  
CHRISTIAN CHURCH**  
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

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## A Note from Our Director of Congregational Life



Friends,

Author Rick Hamlin suggests that singing is a way to pray. At times I've heard people say they can't pray or they don't know how to pray or they don't have words for their prayers. Sometimes, too, I've heard people say that they don't believe in prayer.

If singing is one way to pray, I'm praying pretty often; and, I imagine, many of you are praying often as well. Some of us are ~~singing~~ praying in the shower and in the car and when we're changing diapers. Just me? (I'll keep my made-up diaper ditties to myself.)

In his HuffPost article, "To Sing is to Pray," Hamlin says, "Praise is healing. Praise takes you out of yourself and puts you back into God's world. Praise is a song." Do you agree that praise is healing? Praise has been healing for me. When I've found myself in seasons of grief or in times of trial, songs have encouraged me and sustained me.

This July marks 15 years since my father's passing. I remember the days and months following his death: I didn't feel like I could pray and I couldn't sing but I surrounded myself with the songs of others.

While single scripture verses require an understanding of their context, I love citing the power of song in Acts 16:25-26: "Around midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them. All at once there was such a violent earthquake that it shook the prison's foundations. The doors flew open and everyone's chains came loose."

Wow. Prayer and song shook the foundations of a prison, freeing everyone from their chains.

I believe in the power of song and the power of prayer. Perhaps singing is a way to pray. Perhaps silence is prayer. Perhaps "prayers fly from all directions," as Mary Oliver posits.

Also from Mary Oliver, this poem titled "Praying:"

It doesn't have to be  
the blue iris, it could be  
weeds in a vacant lot, or a few  
small stones; just  
pay attention, then patch  
a few words together and don't try  
to make them elaborate, this isn't  
a contest but the doorway  
into thanks, and a silence in which  
another voice may speak.

Grateful for the songs and prayers of the church,  
Melissa

P.S. I've enjoyed leading worship this month. Our songs series wraps up and we turn our attention to movies. But first, check out some song favorites from church members on page 5.



## July Serving Schedule, Birthdays, and Anniversaries

### AUGUST 5, 2018

**Elders:** Laura Tebow and Terry Simon **Deacons:** JoAnn Tucker, Anna Young, Leah Guthrie Loy, Robertson Rcham, Ken Garner and Les Rose **Acolyte:** Harper Moses

**Children's Church:** Amanda Desselles and Brigid Otoo

**Worship Leader:** Madison Steadman **Building Responsibilities:** Cliff Greaves

### AUGUST 12, 2018

**Elders:** Terry Simon and Laura Tebow **Deacons:** Troy Desselles, Robin Lund, Bill Lund, Diane Gillespie, Jamie Cannady, and Cindy Boehling **Acolyte:** Charlie Manley

**Children's Church:** Amanda Desselles and Brigid Otoo

**Worship Leader:** Emily Viverette **Building Responsibilities:** Cliff Greaves

### AUGUST 19, 2018

**Elders:** Eleanor Bray and Mike Wildman **Deacons:** Jason Myers, Judy Garrett, James Thomas, Susan Cox, Kasey Bogan, and Lewis Woodruff **Acolyte:** Jack Wildman

**Children's Church:** Amanda Desselles and Lora McPhail

**Worship Leader:** John Flynt **Building Responsibilities:** Cliff Greaves

### AUGUST 26, 2018

**Elders:** Mike Wildman and Eleanor Bray **Deacons:** Brad Light, Debbie Light, Olivia Steadman, Bill Wiley, Larry Collins, and Meredith Cooper **Acolyte:** Emily Sharpe

**No Children's Church**

**Worship Leader:** Mike Wildman

**Building Responsibilities:** Cliff Greaves

### BIRTHDAYS

8/03 Anna Young  
8/05 Chuck Jones  
8/09 Martha Cargo  
8/09 Ann Fry  
8/17 Norah Sharpe  
8/18 Stephanie Guthrie-Johnson  
8/18 Dian Young  
8/20 Terri Drew  
8/20 James Gordon  
8/20 George Manley  
8/22 Vicki Simon  
8/22 Mary Ann Wood  
8/23 Jack Norwood

8/27 Brenda Huth  
8/28 Joyce Howell  
8/29 Mike Wildman  
8/31 Dorisa Norwood  
8/31 Sarah Smith

### ANNIVERSARIES

8/08 Leslie & Chris Gooding  
8/17 Don & Barbara Moehring  
8/20 J.T. & Judith Moore  
8/24 Charles & Hazel Jones  
8/25 Babs & Jamie Gordon  
8/30 Rob & Lee Moses



## FCC Beyond Words

Pictures are worth a thousand words? We think so! In recent weeks we have featured a photo from a church member on our website and in our weekly emails. We encourage you to share your pics with us; send photos to [info@fccgreensboro.org](mailto:info@fccgreensboro.org).



#FCCbeyondwords

## Meal Train for the Huths

Shannon Huth begins chemotherapy at the beginning of August. Friends of the family are coordinating a meal train so that anyone who is interested can share a meal with the family during the coming months. Visit [mealtrain.com/trains/ey1vny](http://mealtrain.com/trains/ey1vny) to sign up or learn more.

## New Contact Info for Church Member

Christian Hutchens, 515 Benton Blvd., Apt. #2325, Savannah, GA 31407

Has your contact info changed? Send your current address and email to [info@fccgreensboro.org](mailto:info@fccgreensboro.org). Would you like a new directory? Directories are available at the Welcome Desk at the church.

## Words of Thanks

*From Dick and Beverly Isaacson*

We are grateful for the many cards, calls, and visits during Dick's illness and recovery. Thank you to everyone for the support.

*Dick and Beverly's son, Michael Isaacson, captured the photo to the right when a young church member made a visit.*



**JUST WONDERING...QUESTIONS & ANSWERS BY RETIRED DISCIPLES MINISTER,**  
REV. JT MOORE

## What ordinary happy event did Jesus use to depict the 'kingdom'? (Luke 14:15-24)

It is significant that we remember that Jesus thought of his kingdom and his service in the form of a banquet or a feast; in other words, a happy experience! People feasting together is a symbol of joy and happiness, a time of sharing, a time of laughter. This description is a silent condemnation of that follower of Jesus who is afraid to enjoy himself and seems to take all the color out of life, like the sun shining but never seeing it. A gloomy Christian is a contradiction in terms.



First Christian Church is a place where thoughtful people **think**. It is also a place where thoughtful people **do**. We take seriously Jesus' commandment to love our neighbors. It is our mission to know and love God, to nurture each other, and to reach out and welcome all people in the name of Jesus Christ.



## RECENT ATTENDANCE

June 24: 95      July 1: 82      July 8: 93      July 15: 77      July 22: 78

## PRAYER CONCERNS

Please contact the church office if you would like a name added to or removed from the prayer list.

Angie Wethington	JoAnn Alley	Robin Lund	Micky Tamer
Ann Fry	Roger Stanley	David Hodgkin	Bev & Dick Isaacson
Leroy Bymaster	Betty Wilson	Steve Ball	Shannon Huth
Gary Yeager	Phyllis Collins	Amanda Oliver	
Chuck Jones	Ed & Emo Wagoner	Don Angel	

## FROM THE OFFICE

A flat screen TV and DVD player were stolen from the church at the beginning of July. No signs of forced entry to our building have been noted and no other items were stolen. A police report was filed with the Greensboro Police Department. Leaders are discussing next steps. A church member has donated a new TV and DVD player to replace the stolen items.

## FROM OUR TREASURER, STAN WARD

We continue to respond to God's many blessings on our church and community with gifts and offerings of \$165,000 in the first six months. We remain slightly ahead of our budget for the year. These gifts benefit our efforts to continue the purpose of our church to serve. Despite the dedication of our property team, our building continues to challenge us with its ongoing needs. These demands may present further considerations in the coming months. "As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace." 1 Peter 4:10

## GIFTS TO FCC

Giving a gift to the church is an act of worship. Did you know there are many ways to make a gift to First Christian? Visit our website at [fccgreensboro.org/giving](http://fccgreensboro.org/giving) to read our narrative budget and to learn about online giving. If you would like to make a gift of stocks and securities, we are now using TD Ameritrade. For more information about how to do so, please contact the church office, our bookkeeper Pam Reese, or one of our trustees: Sam Tucker, Lora McPhail, or Charles Jones.

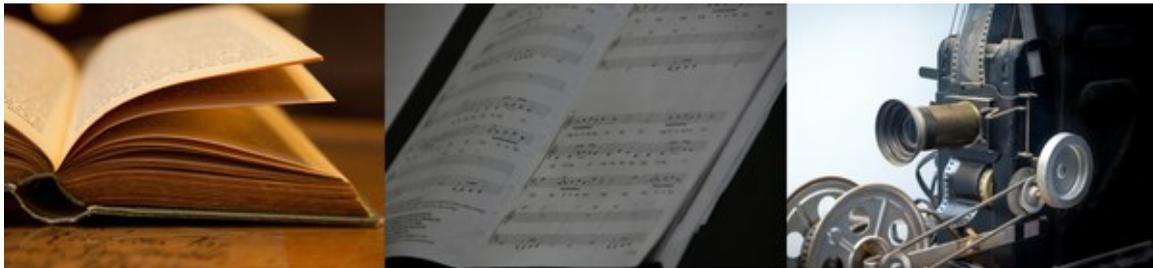
SUNDAYS AT FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

**9 a.m. Small Group**  
**10 a.m. Worship**  
**11 a.m. Fellowship and Coffee Hour**

AUGUST CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

**Bell Choir Rehearsal**, Sundays, August 5 and 19, at 11:15 a.m.  
**Men's Coffee Group**, Wednesday, August 1, at 9:00 a.m.  
**Potluck Dinner and Outreach Project**, Help Fill the Backpacks,  
Wednesday, August 22, 6:00 p.m.  
**Ladies' Coffee Group**, Thursday, August 23, at 9:00 a.m.  
**Fourth Friday Craft Night**, Friday, August 24, at 6:00 p.m.  
**Vintage Kings & Queens Play Cards**,  
Monday, August 27, at 9:30 a.m.

Find the full calendar online at [fccgreensboro.org/calendar](http://fccgreensboro.org/calendar)



Summer 2018: **Stories, Songs, and Movies**

**Coming Soon to a Theater Sanctuary Near You**

*The Greatest Showman, Wonder, Wonderstruck, and Moana*

As summer winds down, the worship series will feature a movie that challenges us to think about our faith in new ways. Worship with us at 10:00.



Come early on Sunday mornings for small group. The 9:00 a.m. small group Bible study will connect to each Sunday's film. Coffee is ready at 8:45; come as you are able!

**The Power of Song**

Our July songs series highlighted how music has a powerful effect on our lives. On our website you can listen to short reflections from church members on the power of song; many thanks to Travis Bogan, Sam Tucker, Bella Myers, and George Manley for speaking during worship in July. Other church members have shared their favorite song titles and reasons why.

*Favorite song and why:*

*Majesty and How Great Thou Art*

Both were played/sung at our wedding.

*It is Well With My Soul*

*Yahweh (Signature of Divine)* by Needtobreathe

It speaks of the Imago Dei found in each person.

*In the Garden*

It's a family favorite.

*Silent Night*

Christmas Eve candlelight service always moves me.

*I Am Thine*

*Blessed Assurance*

Assurance that with God I'm going to be okay.

*Let There Be Peace on Earth*

I am concerned for our democracy and the whole world.

**Around the Table: August Table Talk schedule**

Aug. 2: Table Talk at Taste of Thai, 1500 Mill St.

Aug. 9: Table Talk Serves Dinner at the YWCA, 1807 E. Wendover Ave.

Aug. 16: Table Talk on Tap at beerthirty, 505 N. Greene St.

Aug. 23: Table Talk at the Home of the Greaves

Aug. 30: No Table Talk



**Save these Dates!**

Saturday, September 8, 9:00-1:00, Leadership Retreat

This event is for all church leaders: board members, trustees, elders, and ministry team members, as well as anyone else who wants to join in the fun. We'll spend time getting acquainted with our new organizational structures, go over our vision and action plan, and have some time for the ministry teams to meet together. Plus, as always, we'll worship, play, and break bread together. Don't miss it!

September 29: Church-wide Cleanup and Cook Out, Cleanup begins as early as 8 a.m.; Cook out begins at 4 p.m.

