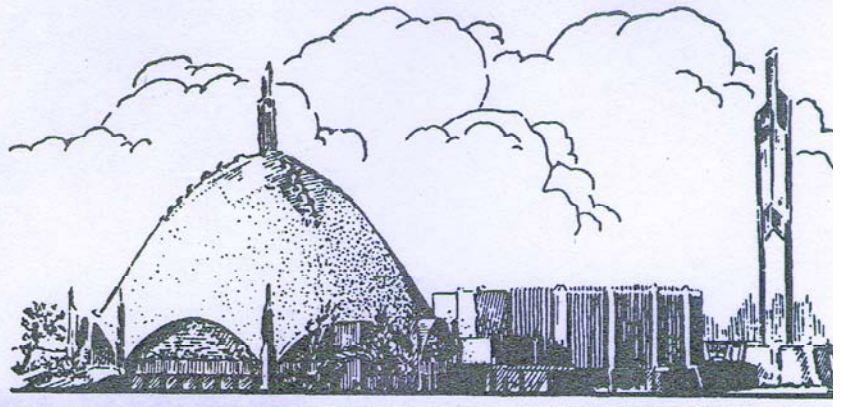


FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

... "For the things that matter most"

Volume 22 Number 14

July 16, 2009



CHEERS FROM CHUCK

By the time you read this Penny and I will be in upstate New York at the Chautauqua Institution. This is an adult education center which was founded in 1874 by the Methodists to train their Sunday school teachers. Since then it has opened its doors to everyone and offers programs which include a devotional service and a lecture on science in the morning, an afternoon lecture on a religious topic, and an evening of opera or theatre.

We will be staying in a house owned by the Christian Church. We will report back on how it went in case you might be interested in attending.

Jeff Hamilton will be preaching on the two Sundays I will be gone. I will be back in the office on Wednesday, July 22. Let's all support Jeff with our attendance at worship.

See you Sunday (July 26),

Chuck

Window on the World

Neighboring Churches

Last week I met once again with the new coalition of churches that are cooperating to find ways to be of service to our wider community.

Those churches involved are: First Christian, Crown Heights Christian, Crown Heights Methodist, First Presbyterian, Westminster and Wesley Methodist.

We heard a fine presentation last week from Georgie Rasco, who is Director of the Neighborhood Alliance. (Georgie spoke at one of our FOCUS sessions about a year ago.)

Georgie said that churches could be helpful to neighborhoods in several ways. One possibility would be to join in the National Night Out on Tuesday, September 15.

A congregation might host a block party on that night. Furthermore, churches can find a way to visit with and get to know the officers of our local neighborhood associations.

The point is that a congregation shares in the concerns of the neighborhood in which it is located and it is well to get to know **the** folks around us better.

One translation of the Great Commission is “Go into your neighborhood.”

Peace and Prayers,

Jeff

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

WOW! We had one of the “Luckiest of Pots” on the 28th. Cooks you know you did great.

We would like to recognize those stalwarts that help in the clean up. Whether it be after yourself, your table, or generally, you are noticed and appreciated. Good Scouts leave their camp better than they found it and you are the best.

The Appreciation and Send-Off for **Tim Olson** and family is confirmed for **Sunday, August 16th**, after church. **Geneva Smallwood** is contacting all department chairs to help provide finger snacks for the reception.

Respectfully,
Bruce Smallwood

College Scholarships

The **Board of Trustees of First Christian Church Oklahoma City** requests students who are members of First Christian Church

and wish to apply for a college scholarship for the 2009 Fall Semester to pick up an application at the information brochure rack at the foot of the escalator.

Students that are already attending college, please provide a copy of your college transcript for the last semester. A grade point average of 2.5 (C+) is required.

Please send your application to:

**The Board of Trustees
First Christian Church
3700 N. Walker Avenue
Oklahoma City, OK, 73118-7031**

The applications need to be received by the Board of Trustees **no later than August 7, 2009.**

Burt Culp, Chairman

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS



New Horizons News:

June 28, 2009

Reporter: **Wanda's Helper**

We were pleased to welcome Sarah Page as a visitor today. She is a friend of Robbie Rattan. We continued our discussion of hymns and scriptures.

We also looked at praise and worship. Sarah was a great help. Her background is in various worship traditions. Hymns are a way of giving unity and commonality to worship. We also touched on the role of yoga in

spirituality. A number of our members were helping with the potluck meal.

New Horizons News:

July 12, 2009

Reporter: **Wanda Fisher**

Welcome this warm Oklahoma Sunday. We were happy to see our absent members.

Our scripture lesson this morning was from Luke 12:56. We discussed the meaning of the word “Hypocrites”. What is the context of this word in the Bible?

What about “crisis-time” and Christ – Time”? How would you describe these in your own life?

Come join our Sunday morning talk. All are welcome.

Loyal Partners News:

July 5, 2009

Liz Burdette

Song leader Larry Marsh led us in singing two patriotic hymns to commemorate the 4th of July holiday. New class president Max Newland read us a thank you card from Judy Lash for her gift and farewell party we gave her when she moved to Arizona.

We miss Mary Jane and Leslie Harrison who are homebound following Mary Jane’s fall in their Edmond home.

We were treated to a lesson from guest teacher, Dr. Chuck Shorow, who used a large map to illustrate his lesson. He pointed out that all events of the Bible took place in the Middle East, which played a key role in world history. Two of the first civilizations of the ancient world were born there thousands of years ago.

An amusing entrance by Chuck’s wife Penny to remind him it was church time was the closing event.

Loyal Partners News:

July 12, 2009

Liz Burdette

Our class caregiver Fran Read reported that Mary Jane Harrison is in Mercy Hospital following surgery. Norma Snelson said that longtime member Mary Lou Moore and her husband Jack had moved to the Legend Retirement Center due to Jack’s poor health. Mary Lou worked on Mobile Meals here for more than 20 years.

Also, our longtime active members George and Marion Steinmeyer are moving to New Mexico to be near their daughter.

Class president Max Newland read a letter from Judy Lash, who is settling down with her daughter’s family in Arizona.

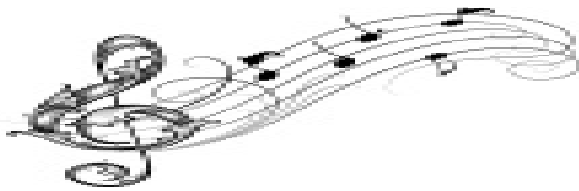
Betty Burns presented our lesson, and provided refreshments.



From The Preschool

Virginia Nolen, Director

The preschool CDO is in full swing for our summer program. Our summer enrollment is a whopping 75 kiddos. Our summer program goes through July 30th. The preschool would like to give a big THANK YOU to John and David for moving the new mulch to the playground. I thank you, First Christian Church for your prayers and ongoing support for this preschool children’s day out.



From the Music Department

Dr. Nettie Williams

The big news in the music department is Creekside Music Theatre Camp which began Monday, July 6th. Ten very talented boys and girls make up the cast for this summer's production of "Jukebox Canteen".

Songs of World War II fill the building each morning and the singing, dancing and painting fill the rooms and add a new vitality to this 50 some year old facility. We have put together a remarkably talented staff this year. Our accompanist is Beau Mansfield from Norman who has accompanied music theatre at OU for several years. He sings in the Oklahoma Master Chorale and was an accompanist for one of our **Concerts Under the Dome** this past season. Our set director is Lexy Jones, the granddaughter of Nancy and Larry Batten and the niece of Michael Batten of our congregation. Lexy has been attending our church since she was a small child whenever she visited her grandparents. Lexy is a senior in high school in Tulsa and wants to become a graphic artist after college. She will have the great fortune of spending some time with our own graphic artist, Charlotte Lewin, some afternoons after camp.

Tickets are available for the Creekside Dinner Theatre scheduled for July 23rd at 6:00 pm. The menu will consist of fried chicken, roasted potatoes, salad, rolls and cake. The tickets sell for \$7.00 for adults and children will be admitted at no charge.

A very special feature of the evening will be the honoring of our World War II veterans in our church. All veterans and their wives will have a special seating in the Jewel Box Theatre for the show following the dinner. Any of our veterans who are planning to come should notify Nettie as soon as possible so reservations can be made for you.

Once again, the Fine Arts Committee is playing a very supportive role in our camp with their delicious snacks for the breaks each day. Thanks to all of you who come down each day with wonderful goodies for us.

If all the details can be worked out the Creekside Campers will be performing in our worship service on Sunday Morning.



Joyce Parsons provides talents for dedication to our church . . .

Liz

Special kudos go to Joyce Drew Parsons who honored three longtime members last Sunday that shared June birthdays marking 90 or more years of age.

She prepared a special table in the foyer containing colorful cakes, flowers and balloons. A tall chart listed names of honorees: Francis Thompson, Wiley Bell and Liz Burdette, all members of Loyal Partners Sunday School Class.

“Joyce continues to bless our church,” said Sue White, president of Christian Women’s Fellowship, “with her talents, generosity and concerns for others.”

She is noted for decorating the dining hall for all occasions, plus serving as chairman of the Deaconesses, Loyal Partners Class teacher and vice president of CWF.

Joyce served as State Executive Director of the Oklahoma Retired Educator Association for 10 years. (She is the first director ever to travel to all state counties to speak to retired teacher groups.)

Several months ago she was appointed to Oklahoma State AARP Executive Council where she will meet regularly with state officials. Recently she met with Congressman Dan Boren to discuss health issues, and she will be filling speaking engagements throughout the state.

Welcome New Member

We were pleased to welcome into our fellowship last Sunday, July 12, Kristina Allen. Kristina visited the church the Sunday of our Pot Luck meal and got to meet several people then. She likes the friendliness of the congregation and the worship. You will get to know this warm and out going young woman in the weeks ahead. (She told Nettie she would like to sing in the choir!) Kristina lives nearby at 2504 N. Hudson, Apt E OKC, 73103

Church Deacon, Robbie Rattan, Commutes Record Miles to FCC



Liz Burdette

Kudos to Robbie Rattan, who travels the farthest of any church member to serve as a deacon and attend church.

Robbie, who is completing his Masters Degree at Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford, Oklahoma, drives an hour to the home of his parents, Phil and Kathy Rattan, on west Memorial Road on Saturday night.

Then he accompanies them on their 30 minute drive to First Christian Church on Sunday mornings where they are longtime deacons.

Robbie graduated from Piedmont High School and attended UCO three years before transferring to Southwestern Oklahoma State in Weatherford to pursue his masters degree in Parks and Recreation Management. He also works full time for the University Press Department where he hand tools small leather objects, such as belts, Bible covers and notebooks.



He will receive his degree in December and anticipates possible employment in Colorado.

Robbie's family has a long history at First Christian Church. His mother's parents, Helen and Glen Harkins, were active members at the 10th and Robinson Church.

Also, his grandparents, Travis, Sr. and Clare Rattan, and his Aunt and Uncle, Travis and Patricia, are longtime members.

Music has been an integral part of the lives of the Rattans. Robbie began taking piano lessons when he was in the first grade. (At our church's covered dish luncheon Robbie provided our piano entertainment.)

Kathy is currently playing the clarinet in the Oklahoma City Symphonic Band.

Clare sang in our church choir for many years.

Phil has been a Boy Scout leader since Robbie was a Cub Scout at the age of five. He has held many positions, and he is currently serving as Assistant District Commissioner of Boy Scouts.

Kathy cites Mabel Howard as a special friend who was Kathy's mother's close friend and co-worker in CWF for many years.



From the Property Department,

As the summer heat pours down upon us in large numbers, every effort is being made to assure your comfort when you attend church. The church will have no air conditioning the first week of August in order to replace the cooling tower which houses water for the cooling unit. At this time, consideration is being given to close the church offices for that week and staff will either take vacation or work at home. I am happy to announce that Trinity School has now moved into the youth and family center after making some wonderful repairs to the facility to make it more compatible for their needs. Also a contract is in the works for renting our bell tower to Cox Wireless. These two rentals will bring \$60,000 to our general fund per year. Also, Trinity School will now assume all the utility cost for the youth and family center which was formerly paid out of our Property Department Budget, thus freeing up funds for other uses in property. That is good news.

Larry Marsh, Chairman of Property Department

From The Chairman

Thanks to everyone for their responses to the Board Meeting. For replies or comments please use:

Bruce Smallwood
1419 Oak Springs Lane
Edmond, OK 73034

or e-mail: brugen@att.net

Next board meeting in September.

Bruce

August Birthdays

Date	NAME
08/02	Steve Filkins
08/04	Jordan McDonald
08/06	Mary Fore
08/06	Nelle Mengers
08/07	Robert Gee
08/09	Marge Cowperthwaite
08/09	Irene Dodson
08/09	Robbie Rattan
08/10	Dean Higganbotham
08/11	Brenna Hatfield
08/12	Alexandra Gruber
08/12	Virginia Riddles
08/13	Geneva Smallwood
08/14	Bobby Parker
08/17	Morgan Chaney
08/18	Alan Axworthy
08/18	Betty Burns
08/18	Burt Culp
08/24	Micki Davy
08/24	Donna Eckel
08/24	Christopher Faries
08/25	Elizabeth Peters
08/25	Marion Steinmeyer
08/26	Jane Painton
08/26	Tempie Simon
08/27	Mrs. Georgia Vaughn
08/29	Mike Nelms
08/31	JoAnn Leuszler
08/31	Travis Rattan, Jr.
08/31	Clay Smith

A
 Reception
 To Honor
George and Marion
Steinmeyer
 Sunday, July 26, 2009
 Following Worship
 Hosted by the
Fine Arts Committee
The Steinmeyers are
moving to
Clovis, New Mexico
 Following approximately
 70 years of membership.

August Anniversaries

Date	NAME
8/7	Dick & Cathy Villaflor
8/9	Nickolas & Marlene Dav
8/12	Max & Sandra Newland
8/14	Don & Grace Boulton
8/15	Mike & Michelle Nelms
8/16	Robert & Ruby Gee
8/17	Sherman & Diane Cole
8/18	David & Pat Correll
8/22	Thomas & Ann Redwine
8/29	Joe & Linda McDonald

August 2009 Events

Sunday – August 2, 2009

9:30 am Church School
10:30 am Worship
11:45 am Fellowship Coffee – Lobby

Monday – August 3, 2009

Jewel Box Closed

Tuesday – August 4, 2009

9:00 am Card Makers

Thursday – August 6, 2009

7:00 am Elders Meeting – 104

Sunday – August 9, 2009

9:30 am Church School
10:30 am Worship
11:45 am Fellowship Coffee – Lobby

Monday – August 10, 2009

Jewel Box Closed

7:00 pm SOLO Discussion – Dining Room

Tuesday – August 11, 2009

9:00 am Card Makers – Dining Room
9:00 am Mobile Meals – Kitchen
11:30 am CMF Luncheon – Dining Room

Wednesday – August 12, 2009

5:30 pm Finance Committee – 104

Sunday – August 16, 2009

9:30 am Church School
10:30 am Worship
11:45 am Tim Olsen Appreciation Reception – Dining Room
12:30 pm Oklahoma School Science & Mathematics Convocation – Sanctuary

Monday – August 17, 2009

Jewel Box Closed

1:30 pm Mary/Martha Group – Dining Room

Tuesday – August 18, 2009

9:00 am Card Makers – Dining Room
9:00 am Mobile Meals – Kitchen
11:30 am CMF Luncheon – Dining Room
11:30 am SKIL Board
12:00 pm Property Committee - 104

Sunday – August 23, 2009

9:30 am Church School
10:30 am Worship
11:45 am Fellowship Coffee – Lobby

Monday – August 24, 2009

Jewel Box Closed

Tuesday – August 25, 2009

9:00 am Card Makers – Dining Room
9:00 am Mobile Meals – Kitchen
11:30 am CMF Luncheon – Dining Room

Wednesday – August 26, 2009

5:30 pm Finance Committee – 104

Sunday – August 30, 2009

9:30 am Church School
10:30 am Worship
11:45 am Fellowship Coffee – Lobby

Monday – August 31, 2009

Jewel Box Closed



65 years of ministry at the 2009 General Assembly in Indianapolis!

The first official collection taken under the name Week of Compassion was February 20-27, 1944, with funds benefiting the Wartime Service Fund. In the intervening years, WoC has sent disaster and development aid to thousands upon thousands around the world, around the year.

We're looking forward to seeing many of you in July, and we have a great deal in store for those of you attending!

We are thrilled that Kathleen Norris will be the key note speaker at the WoC dinner Friday evening, July 31, at the Marriott Hotel. "Kathleen is the award-winning poet, writer, and author of The New York Times bestsellers The Cloister Walk, Dakota: A Spiritual Geography, Amazing Grace: A Vocabulary of Faith, and The Virgin of Bennington. Exploring the spiritual life, her work is at once intimate and historical, rich in poetry and meditations, brimming with exasperation and reverence, deeply grounded in both nature and spirit, sometimes funny, and often provocative."

We will also be honoring Johnny Wray for 16 phenomenal years of faithful service and dedication to Week of Compassion's ministry that evening. We hope you will join us as we celebrate and praise God for our ministry together! To make your reservation, e-mail ecleveland@wocdisciples.org.

There will be two opportunities to have copies of Kathleen's books signed on Friday, from 10:30-11:30 a.m. and again, from 1:00-2:00 p.m., in the WoC booth. A number of her books will be on sale in the Exhibit Hall bookstore.

Please be sure and stop by the WoC booth and visit with us, and also, with three of our valued partners who will be sharing the booth with us – Church World Service, Foods Resource Bank, and IMA World Health. There will be plenty of resources available and many opportunities for hands-on service presented. Stop by, and let's share new ideas for mission and outreach!

WoC is also sponsoring three exciting Resource Groups and co-sponsoring one of the Learning Tracks. For the full listing of WoC events at General Assembly and a description of the workshops and learning tracks.

For those of you not able to journey to Indianapolis, we will miss you. Please know that we rejoice in our ministry together. We count each and every one of you as our most valued partners as we reach out to the world in Christ's name through Week of Compassion.

Week of Compassion is sharing resources and changing lives. Thank you for sharing your resources and helping to change lives.

-Amy Gopp

Week of Compassion Continues to Respond to Humanitarian Crisis in Pakistan

In Pakistan, the displaced seek shelter house by house. Awalkhan has four spare rooms in his modest house, now a temporary hostel to 30 people. "Because I had spare rooms, I host them," Awalkhan said, sitting on the edge of a traditional rattan charpoy bed. "They have no other way."

The people in Awalkhan's home are like most in Pakistan who are displaced by the fighting between national army and Taliban forces. They left in a hurry, with little more than the clothes on their backs, and fled to the home of a relative or close friend.

Just as Church World Service, Week of Compassion's implementing partner in the region, has provided food packages and blankets in the nearby Sheik Yasin Camp, where 9,000 displaced persons live in tents, the agency has also provided food and supplies to families who have opened their homes to people in need.





Next Newsletter Input Date:

Articles by July 30, 2009

Sunday School & Date Sensitive Items

August 3, 2009 (by NOON).

Publication Date: August 6, 2009

Please send all newsletter articles to the following e-mail address or turn in articles to the church office or at the box on the wall outside the print room at the church.

Bess Gunn:
Gunn.B@fccokc.org

Max Newland
Newland.M@fccokc.org

Please note that we are continuing to add names to the **E-mail Version** of the **First Christian Church Newsletter**. We are very excited that now so many people/families receive their newsletter by e-mail only. If you wish to receive your newsletter by e-mail only, please send an e-mail to **Max Newland** at the e-mail address above including the e-mail address to which you would like the newsletter sent.

FCC Staff

Dr. Charles Shorow	Senior Minister
Rev. Jeff Hamilton	Associate Minister
Dr. Nettie Williams	Music Director
Marilyn DeFee	Business Administrator
Chuck Tweed	Director Jewel Box Theatre
Virginia Nolen	PS/CDO Director
Dr. Timothy Olsen	Organist
Bess Gunn	Editor

“A CHURCH OF DISCIPLES PASSIONATE FOR FAITH. FREEDOM. FAMILY.”

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Church Website: www.fccokc.org
Church Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

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Come Worship With Us!

30 a.m. – Every Sunday for Worship



Rev. Chuck Shorow

Home phone: (405) 513-5435
Chuck's cell phone: (405) 464-3067
Church E-mail: Shorow.C@fccokc.org