



**Attendance**

February 5: **161**  
 February 12: **174**

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Sunday Worship	8:30 am 11:00 am
Sunday School	9:45 to 10:45 am
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal	Thursdays, 5:30 to 6:30 pm
Adult Handbell Choir Rehearsal	Thursdays, 6:30 to 7:15 pm
Men's Breakfast	Saturday, 2/18 9 am
Board Meeting & Congregational Meeting	Sunday 2/19 after 2nd service
Ash Wednesday Service	Wednesday 2/22 7 pm
Book Bunch	Thursday, 2/23 4 pm

# The Christian Visitor

We believe that God is calling us to be a faithful, growing church that demonstrates true community, a deep Christian spirituality, and a passion for justice.

**Vol. 54, No. 4**

**February 15, 2012**

## **TORNADO SIRENS AND WEATHER RADIOS: A REMINDER OF THE WEEK OF COMPASSION**

The wailing of neighborhood sirens and the unique nagging tones of weather radios are the sounds of Spring in Indiana. Preparedness is the watchword. Remembering what happened in Joplin and Birmingham tornadoes, we give thanks that First Christian Church used the Week of Compassion as part of its preparedness drill last year. No frenzied response to twisters was needed to elicit emergency funds. We had already given to the February appeal.

When a tsunami flooded the Japanese coast, money was readily available from our Indianapolis WOC center. Still some members gave extra offerings for the Week of Compassion when the news cycle of disasters reminded them of friends in Japan or of interstate trips through Missouri and Alabama cities.

Last year in Pakistan a flood prevailed for weeks in contrast to our repeated flash flood warnings. Farmers and flood plain residents there are still recovering with WOC and Church World Service help.

When the sirens and the beeping radio noise stop, we can experience simple relief or we can practice compassion, using the warning signal to remind us that at every moment there is an emergency response or a long-term disaster recovery operation representing us somewhere in the world.... where Week of Compassion offerings are providing food, shelter, clothing and resources for development.

Last February members of First Christian Church gave \$2808 to this special offering. We need to resupply the fund for inevitable but unpredictable 2012 needs "around the world, around the year."

**Please prepare to share in the  
 WEEK OF COMPASSION SPECIAL OFFERING  
 Sundays, February 19 and 26, 2012**



## Moderator's Message

by Linda Abe

On Sunday, January 29, at 12:15 PM, the Board of FCC met in the Chapel Gathering Place. The Board welcomed members of the congregation who came to listen to the proceedings. The following is an annotated summary of the issues that were discussed.

- Connie Myers, Nominating Committee member put forward a name for trustee of FCC which was added to the slate of nominees for Elders, and Deacons, previously received.

***On Sunday, February 19, following each worship service, there will be a brief congregational meeting to approve the nominees for Elders, Deacons and Trustee, as well as the 2012 balanced budget for the church.***

- Pastor Helen expressed her thanks and appreciation for expressions of congratulations on her recent marriage. She reported that an additional listening session was held for young families to gather responses to her Faithful Connections Vision for 2012. She reported that she has been moving forward to engage people to take leadership roles.

***Eleven members of the congregation have stepped forward to take leadership in worship by presiding at the table and presenting the Invitation to Giving on a rotating basis.***

- Treasurer, John Ambler reported that at this time, \$108,078.13 has been received for *Here for Life* funds.

***These funds make it possible to cover the expense of approximately \$80,000 for roof repair on the west side of the building, without using our line of credit. Roof repair for the sanctuary is now going forward. If there are any who could make a further contribution to Here for Life at this time, those funds might make it possible to continue paying roof expense without using the credit line.***

- Jim Gray, Finance Committee member put forward a plan for a balanced budget with a slight positive net income. The budget was approved by the Board.

***Copies of the budget in detail are available on the desk in the reception area. The congregation will vote on the proposed budget at the congregational meeting following worship on February 19.***

- The Board approved the use of \$5,000 of the \$20,000 that Mt. Gilead gave to FCC to pay Andi Fletcher, who will be Youth Director. Mt. Gilead stipulated that \$5,000 of their gift be designated for youth.

***Stephanie Trippel, youth member of the Board, expressed an enthusiastic second to the motion that the hiring of Andi Fletcher be approved.***

The next Board meeting will be on Sunday, February 19, at 12:15 PM in the Chapel Gathering Space. All are welcome to attend.

~Linda Abe

## Our Life Together

### Sweetheart Spaghetti Supper a Success!

CYF's Sweetheart Spaghetti Supper on February 12 was a remarkable success! Delicious meals were served by candlelight in the Great Hall in celebration of Valentine's Day and in support of our CYF group's New York City Mission trip in June, with over \$1000 raised! CYF extends thanks to all for the extraordinary hard work, creativity, and generosity from all quarters of our congregation.

### Congregational Meeting and Board Meeting

After worship services on **Sunday, February 19**, the congregation will consider a number of issues of great importance to our church community. The congregation will vote on nominated deacons, elders, and trustees, and will vote whether or not to accept the budget which was recently approved by the Board. We hope that all members will be present to cast their vote! Please contact Daniel at the church office for a copy of the proposed budget.

Following the congregational meeting, the Board will meet in the Chapel/Gathering Space. All members of First Christian are invited to attend and participate.



### Gathering Place Breakfast in need of designated gifts AND volunteers

With well over 125 hot breakfasts served each Sunday morning to people living in poverty and experiencing homelessness, the breakfast program needs your gifts of time and treasure. Because FCC's annual operating budget does not cover all the expenses related to this ministry, the Gathering Place Breakfast relies on the generosity of folks who designate "above and beyond" gifts to this vital ministry. Please make checks payable to FCC and designate "breakfast" in the memo line.

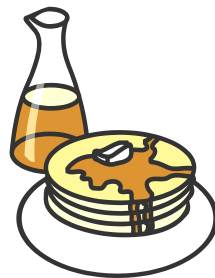
The Gathering Place breakfast also needs volunteers — particularly someone with administrative skills to recruit, schedule, and coordinate other volunteers. Please talk to Jim Beeson if you feel called to this ministry.

### Disciples Men's Hot Breakfast

All men are invited to join this group whose purpose is to bring Disciples men together for fellowship, discussion, programs, trips, and, of course, food! We will be hosting a hot breakfast on **Saturday, February 18 at 9 am** in the Great Hall. We hope to see you there!

The subject this month will be "Fix-up Projects" at the church building. Trustees Phil Lewis and possibly Roger Isaacs and Pastor Helen will present the program. Maybe we, as a group, can do something positive to improve and maintain our beautiful building.

If you have any questions, please contact Bob Thrasher at (812) 332-1229 or [rthrasher316@att.net](mailto:rthrasher316@att.net). We hope to see you bright and early!



## March Birthdays

3/1	Avila Sullenberger	289 N. Washington St. Spencer, IN 47460
3/2	Andy Stafford	1628 Bellemeade Ave. Bloomington, IN 47401
3/3	Jim Ray	2001 E. Hillside Drive Bloomington, IN 47401
3/5	Marge Blewett	3312 S. Commons Drive Bloomington, IN 47401
3/5	Kelsey May	1 East Duxbury Drive Bloomington, IN 47408
3/6	Bill Knapp	3687 Tamarron Drive Bloomington, IN 47408
3/7	Bob Orr	722 W. Warren St. Mitchell, IN 47446
3/13	Tom Trippel	3464 E. Maritime Ct. Bloomington, IN 47401
3/13	Glenn Read, Jr.	120 North Lexington Dr. Bloomington, IN 47408
3/14	Mark Calvert-Rosenberger	1030 Graywell Drive Bloomington, IN 47401
3/15	Donna Beams	7151 S. National Point Rd. Bloomington, IN 47403
3/15	Janet Rowland	3791 Regents Court Bloomington, IN 47401
3/15	Eugenie Sullivan	2301 Fritz Drive Bloomington, IN 47408
3/16	Roy Whiteman	4600 South Victor Pike Bloomington, IN 47403
3/17	Cage Partlow	2521 E. Sailor Lane Bloomington, IN 47401
3/20	Amy Stafford	2806 Thrushwood Dr. #B Austin, TX 78757
3/21	Charles Watkins	1144 E. Benson Court Bloomington, IN 47401
3/22	Helen Hempfling	1222 E. Tremont Way Bloomington, IN 47401
3/22	Carol Isaacs	2959 Ramble Road West Bloomington, IN 47408
3/23	Shirley Pace	3166 Carnaby St. West Bloomington, IN 47401
3/23	Marlene Vass	1009 Waltz Court Bloomington, IN 47401
3/25	Jeff Eller	4001 Rosewood Dr. Bloomington, IN 47404
3/25	Emily Werner	4950 White River Drive Bloomington, IN 47404
3/25	Jan Parrott	543 Green Road Bloomington, IN 47403
3/26	Doug Cull	3144 Eden Dr. Bloomington, IN 47401
3/26	Marie Settle	316 E. Dodds Street Bloomington, IN 47401
3/26	Mavis Siebenthal	800 N. Bell Trace Circle Apt. 313 Bloomington, IN 47408
3/26	Billie Yost	1915 W. Myrtle St. Calistoga, CA 94515
3/27	Nancy Heimer	307 Lakewood Drive Bloomington, IN 47408
3/28	Brian Jackson	3693 S. Sowder Square Bloomington, IN 47401
3/28	Charlie Sinn	2559 S. Smith Road Bloomington, IN 47401
3/30	Marti Black	2724 McCartney Lane Bloomington, IN 47401
3/31	Brandon Lee	1028 S. Henderson St. Bloomington, IN 47401
3/31	Doris Brineman	1141 Linden Drive Bloomington, IN 47408
3/31	Lois Tilford	2807 Dale Ct Bloomington, IN 47401

## Music Ministry Announcements and Opportunities

### Protecting our Pipe Organ—Volunteers Needed! Date changed!

We need your help! As the roof work is set to begin in mid-March, the organ will be sealed for its protection on **Saturday, March 3rd at 10 am**. Anybody interested in helping should be moderately agile, able to move in confined spaces, and okay with heights. However, don't let this scare you—we need to get all the help we can get!

The organ will be silenced for approximately two to four months, during which we will explore other ways of musical leadership during services including the piano. When the roof project is complete, the entire organ will be cleaned to ensure no dust has landed in the pipes or the mechanism. If you are interested in helping protect our organ, please contact Kevin Neel at [kwneel@fccbloom.org](mailto:kwneel@fccbloom.org).

### Rehearsal Reminders:

- **Sanctuary Choir** rehearses every Thursday from 5:30 – 6:30 pm in the music room.
- **Handbell Choir** rehearses every Thursday from 6:30 – 7:15 pm in the handbell room.
- **Junior Choir** will have its final rehearsal on February 19 from 4 – 5 pm in the music room. They will share what they've learned in worship on **Sunday, February 26**.

### Performance of Fauré *Requiem* conducted by Ryan Endris

In his final doctoral recital at Indiana University, our own music director, Ryan Endris, will be conducting a performance of *Requiem* by Gabriel Fauré and *The Lark Ascending* (Romance for Violin and Orchestra) by Ralph Vaughan Williams with the University Chorale and the Conductors Orchestra. The concert takes place on **Saturday, February 18** at 8:00 pm in Auer Hall (located in the Simon Building on Jordan Ave.). We hope you will show your support for Ryan by coming to experience two beautiful and inspirational masterpieces!

### ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP

February 22, 7 pm  
Sanctuary

### *An Invitation to Abundance*

Ash Wednesday invites us to take that first step toward recognizing our need to open our lives up to the healing power of God's forgiveness and the power of God's mercy in the midst of our sin and brokenness. *This service provides an ideal opportunity to reach out to a friend, relative, or neighbor with an invitation.*

Designed for people of all ages, the service will include music, scripture, prayer, guided meditation, symbolic actions, and the tradition imposition of ashes as a sign of God's forgiveness through Christ.

Childcare will be provided for infants and toddlers.

### World Day of Prayer Friday, March 2

The Monroe County branch of Church Women United invites all to attend its World Day of Prayer program at Clear Creek Christian Church, 5405 S. Rogers Street. The topic to be discussed is "Let Justice Prevail."

A bible study will take place at 11 am and the worship service begins at 12 noon, refreshments to follow.

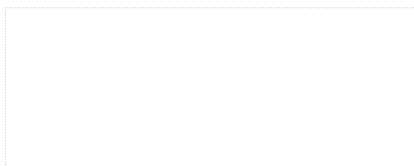
For further information, call Diana Smith at 332-0855, or Carol Peterman at 323-7823.

First Christian Church  
(Disciples of Christ)  
205 E. Kirkwood Avenue  
Bloomington, IN 47408

812-332-4459  
fcc@fccbloom.org  
www.fccbloom.org

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**Lectionary Readings**

**February 19**

2 Kings 2:1-12  
Psalm 50: 1-6  
2 Corinthians 4:3-6  
Mark 9:2-9

**February 26**

Genesis 9:8-17  
Psalm 25:1-10  
1 Peter 3:18-22  
Mark 1:9-15

**March 4**

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16  
Psalm 22:23-31  
Romans 4:13-25

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