



# FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH



DOWNTOWN ON THE  
COURTHOUSE SQUARE

April 2009

## A Note from the Pastor ...

### Gratitude

I thank my God for you all, making my prayer with joy, thankful for your partnership in the gospel.

*Philippians 1:3-5*

Time and again I have said "Thank you" to so many of you for the encouragement you give and the various kindnesses you have shown me. I have meant it every time. But really those are words we cannot say often enough to one another. If I may modify a slogan from a movie of nearly 40 years ago, "Love means always saying "Thank you." Gratitude is a foundational element of relationships. Gratitude recognizes what someone has already done for another, and so focuses upon other persons and not upon oneself. Some may think the promise of heaven and the threat of hellfire is the best way to keep church order; but God's people, living every moment in thanksgiving for what God has done, create a spirit of humility and graciousness that spreads naturally among brothers and sisters, who are becoming more and more thankful for one another.

So I am thankful for you. For the elders and for the deacons; for Disciples' Women who do so much for outreach in the community and for fellowship among our members; for the media team and all they do to enhance worship; for the choir who offers up beautiful hymns each Sunday morning and leads us in singing praise to the Loving Lord; for the youth and children who make everyone of us feel a little younger, and who make it such a joy to share those few special moments in worship; for the greeters who show our best face to the visitors; for the laughter and brotherhood of the Salad Kings.

I know you, too, are grateful for your friends here at First Christian, for they display the love and kindness of our Lord in many ways.

--- Mike



### Church Staff

#### Ministers

Members of First Christian Church

#### Minister

Rev Michael Dunson

#### Choir Director/Pianist

Marilyn VanSchoelandt

#### Song Leader

Don VanSchoelandt

#### Media Team

Dusty Smith

Carol Harrison

Kathy Jordan

#### Nursery Attendant

Jaime Wheeler



**HE IS RISEN!**

**HE IS RISEN INDEED!**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- ◆ April 5: Camp Registration Due
- ◆ April 6: DWM Meeting
- ◆ April 10: Good Friday Service
- ◆ April 12: Easter Sunday Brunch
- ◆ April 19: O&E Team Meeting
- ◆ April 20: Salad Kings
- ◆ April 24: Lunch on the Square
- ◆ April 25: TBA Assembly
- ◆ April 26: Newsletter Deadline

**Many folks want to serve God, but only as advisors.**

## MISSION STATEMENT

First Christian Church is a Christ-centered community of believers who are being transformed by the grace of God:

- to nurture faith through Scripture, prayer and fellowship
- to minister to the whole person, body and mind
- to embrace and share the spiritual gifts of each individual, and
- to magnify the compassion of Jesus through service with dignity.



## Financial Picture



March 2009

Receipts – \$7655  
Expenditures – \$8208.36

**Easter Sunday Brunch**

**April 12**

**9:30 am**

**Fellowship Hall**

## Moderator's Memo

For all Christians, this April brings us the celebration of the Risen Christ. Easter Sunday will be on the 12<sup>th</sup> of April. I invite all to come and take part in the Easter service. Along with the message, we will have special music and song.

Our next Board meeting will be held on May 17. We will be nominating the positions of our new Board officers for the up-coming year. Also I would invite all each Sunday to take part in welcoming our visitors. You all do such a good job in making them feel at home. Keep up the good work.

**Kirk**

## Words from the Worship Team

We are entering into the season of Eastertide. Eastertide spans from April 12 through May 31. Through Christ, the sacrificial Lamb, God has brought into being a new creation. Humankind is no longer bound to sin and death. HE IS RISEN! Let the world rejoice!!

Palm Sunday – Palm Sunday is on April 5<sup>th</sup>. The children of the church will distribute the palm leaves to the congregation during the worship service.

Good Friday – The Good Friday service will be held on April 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

Easter – Easter is on April 12<sup>th</sup>. The day will start with an Easter brunch in the Fellowship Hall. The Worship Service will begin at 11 a.m.

Blessings, **Mylessa**

## A Report from the Stewardship Team

Thanks, Cindy, for all you do. I feel inadequate returning as leader of the Stewardship Team following your leadership. You always put your heart and soul in all that you do and your dedication is greatly appreciated.

Stewardship is not just about money, it's also about sharing your time and talents. We are blessed with many who give of time, talent and money in our time of need. We are thankful for all your gifts as well as all the love shared within our congregation.

We invited any of you who are interested in being a part of the Stewardship Team to join us at our meetings. Your thoughts and ideas will be welcomed as we work toward revitalization and our vision for the future of our church.

Blessings, **Mattie**

### *Food for thought*

Excerpts from *The Joy and Responsibility of Stewardship* by Paul J. Meyer

“It is vitally important that as stewards we understand the basic truth: Everything is God's, absolutely everything!”

“Since a steward is someone who manages what belongs to another person, and because God created the universe, everything is his by right of creation. As objects of his creation, we are stewards at best and never owners. This reality affects us in every area, from our finances to our time and from our abilities to our children. It has all been entrusted to us by God. Scripture says, ‘The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world and all who live in it.’ (Psalms 24:1). This does not leave much for us to claim credit for, does it?”



## DWM Dish

The DWM meeting will be held on **April 6th at 6pm** in the Fellowship Hall. We will have dinner and a meeting. The final vote for the new officers will be held, and I know that Mattie Wesson, Mylessa Wheeler, and Kathy Jordan have done a great job finding volunteers for next year's officers. Thanks ladies!

We had the Tetrizzini Lunch on the Square, and we are looking forward to the April Lunch on the Square now. We will be having **King Ranch Chicken on Friday, April 24th, from 11am - 1pm**. Look for the sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall. Set-up will be at 6pm on April 23.

We also have our **Easter Brunch to prepare for on April 12th**. This has become such a wonderful tradition that I look forward to it each year. What a great group of people to spend this glorious morning with, my church family. This is a great time to invite family and friends to join us, and take part in the Worship Service. Everyone is looking for a great place to go to church on Easter, so let's bring them to FCC in Belton this year!

Thanks!  
Hope Brown

## Helping Hands Thrift Shop



The Helping Hands Thrift Shop will opening the beginning of April 2009. They are still in need of volunteers to run the shop. For those who are interested, please contact Mike Bergman, Executive Director, Helping Hands Ministry, Office 939-7355, Cell 541-4015 or [mikebergmanhelpinghands@gmail.com](mailto:mikebergmanhelpinghands@gmail.com).

**Exercise daily in God--no spiritual flabbiness, please!**

1 Timothy 4:7b *The Message*

## Snapshot of the Month

Our snapshot for the month of April is Kirk Wallace.

Kirk was born at Kings Daughters Hospital. He has been a life long resident of Temple Texas. He attended Reagan Comet School, Travis Jr. High, and graduated from Temple High School. He can still sing the fighting songs for each; just ask him to sing them for you.

Kirk's family, that includes an older sister and younger brother, attended Immanuel Baptist Church while Kirk was growing up. He was presented with a trophy for never missing Sunday School. Judy says it is still on display in their home.

He met and married the love of his life, Judy Wallace, 28 years ago in 1980. They have two children, a daugh-



ter and a son and two wonderful grandsons.

Kirk works for the BNSF, in the signal department, (so when you are sitting there waiting for the rails to go up and they don't or the rails come down too soon, we now know who to call), and has been there for 28 years also. Judy tells us she is the one who got him the job.

Kirk enjoys several hobbies such as golfing, gardening, and gambling, and we heard from Judy that he is also an excellent artist. His affinity for art came about to prevent Judy from buying "high priced" art.

He joined The First Christian Church of Belton in 1999 and has held several positions: Deacon, Elder, President of the Board and also sings in the choir.

Doug & Jody Suhr/Snapshot Editors

## APRIL SERVICE CALENDAR

	April 5	April 12	April 19	April 26
Communion Elder	Mattie Wesson	Tom Tapman	Amy Larson	Charlene Tapman
Offertory Elder	Cindy Capps	Kathy Jordan	Cindy Capps	Kirk Wallace
Early Deacon	Mattie Wesson	Kirk Wallace	Hope Brown	Mattie Wesson
Deacon 1	Mylessa Wheeler	Mylessa Wheeler	Mylessa Wheeler	Diane Pressley
Deacon 2	Diane Pressley	Terri Holwerda	Terri Holwerda	Terri Holwerda
Deacon 3	Kathy Jordan	Hope Brown	Kirk Wallace	Hope Brown
Deacon 4	Max Jordan	Diane Pressley	Judy Wallace	Judy Wallace
Communion Preparation	Tom Tapman	Kirk Wallace	Mylessa Wheeler	Tom Tapman
Homebound Communion	As needed	(Ankenbauer) Charlene Tapman	As needed	(Ankenbauer) Mattie Wesson
Ride for Thelma	Kathy Jordan	Mattie Wesson	Tom Tapman	Judy Wallace
Greeters	Judy Wallace	Doris Sanders	Max Jordan	Marilyn Ankenbauer
Refreshments	Mattie Wesson	Easter Brunch	Kathy Jordan Cindy Capps	Blake & Hope Brown
Acolytes	Derek Smith	Allyson Mains	Darren Smith	Aleshia Mains
Youth & Children's Moment			Mylessa Wheeler	
Worship Leader	Dusty Smith	Tom Tapman	Jody Suhr	Rita Bartlett

### Prayer List

Unity in the Church  
Those serving our country  
Helping Hands Ministry  
Robert & Marianne Ammerman  
Joseph Andrews  
Bill & Marilyn Ankenbauer  
Tot Avant  
Barbara  
Rita Bartlett  
Lucille Booth  
Cindy Capps  
Daffy Carpenter  
Becky Chafin & family

Shelly Chapman's mother  
Gladys Cockrum  
Janice Cockrum  
Richard Colpitts  
Heather Cotter  
Wes & Susan Craig  
Dr. Lynn & Judy Curry  
Donna Dencklau  
'Dad' Elkins  
Todd Erskine  
Melinda Gallagher  
Thelma Grammond  
Haley & Lexie



Teresa Hernandez  
Kayla Holwerda  
Kimberly Jackson  
John Kucker  
John Lehrmann  
Niecie & Stacy McGill  
Meredith  
Helen Meurer  
Sharon Moore  
Ants Palm-Leis  
Paul Parker  
Anna Paruzinski  
Patricia's mother

Gilbert Perez  
Ovella Phillips  
Employees of Spansion  
Charline Spears  
Marion Spiller  
Floyd & Joyce Spindle  
Penny Stofer  
Jody Suhr  
Kirk Wallace's grandmother  
Faye Washington  
Debbie Whitson  
Reagan Whitson  
Elsie York

# APRIL 2009

Sun                      Mon                      Tue                      Wed                      Thu                      Fri                      Sat

<p><b>Sunday Schedule:</b>                  9:30 am Sunday School                  10:45 am Fellowship                  11 am Worship Service                  12:15 pm Choir Rehearsal</p>			<p>1                  6pm Prayer Time                  6:30pm Bible Study</p> <p><i>Birthday:</i>  <i>Aleshia Mains</i></p>	2	3	4
<p>5 <b>Palm Sunday</b>                    Camp Registration due</p>	<p>6                  6pm DWM Meeting</p>	7	<p>8                  6pm Prayer Time                  6:30pm Bible Study</p>	9	<p>10                  6:30pm Good Friday Service</p>	11
<p>12 <b>Easter</b>                    9:30am Easter Brunch</p>	13	14	<p>15                  6pm Prayer Time                  6:30pm Bible Study</p>	16	17	<p><i>Birthday:</i>  <i>Blake Brown</i></p>
<p>19                  O&amp;E Team Meeting</p>	<p>20                  6pm Salad Kings</p>	21	<p>22                  6pm Prayer Time                  6:30pm Bible Study</p>	23	<p>24                  I am Lunch on the Square</p> <p><i>Birthday:</i>  <i>Don VanSchoelandt</i></p>	<p>25                  9am TBA Assembly</p>
<p>26                  Newsletter Deadline</p>	27	28	<p>29                  6pm Prayer Time                  6:30pm Bible Study</p>	30		

**LECTIONARY READING**

<p>April 5</p> <p>Mark 11:1-11                  Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29                  Sermon Text:                  John 12:20-33</p>	<p>April 12</p> <p>Acts 10:34-43                  Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24                  1 Corinthians 15:1-11                  John 20:1-18                  Sermon Text:                  John 20:1-18</p>	<p>April 19</p> <p>Acts 4:32-35                  Psalm 133                  1 John 1:1-2:2                  John 20:19-31                  Sermon Text:                  John 20:19-31</p>	<p>April 26</p> <p>Acts 3:12-19                  Psalm 4                  1 John 3:1-7                  Luke 24:36b-48                  Sermon Text:                  John 21:1-14</p>
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## COME AND SEE



### First Christian Church

April 2009

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Pastor: (254) 598-8278  
E-mail: fccbelton100@sbcglobal.net (Pastor)  
fccbeltonjan@sbcglobal.net (Ministry Assistant)

*The Will of God never takes you to where the Grace of God will not protect you.*

## Recipe of the Month

### Sad Cake

#### Ingredients:

4 eggs (beat well)  
1 box, (2 cups) light brown sugar  
2 cups Bisquick  
1 tsp vanilla  
2 cups chopped pecans



Shown topped with ice cream and chocolate

#### Directions:

Mix together brown sugar and Bisquick  
Add chopped pecans- stir again  
Add vanilla and eggs- mix well...  
Spread into GREASED 9 X 12 pan  
Bake at 325 for 45-50 minutes

Hint: Let cool before cutting.

Hope you enjoy,  
Jody Suhr

## 2009 General Assembly

July 29– August 2, 2009

Indianapolis, Indiana  
At the Indiana  
Convention Center

Register online:  
[www.disciples.org/ga](http://www.disciples.org/ga)

Check for updates on  
the bulletin board in  
Fellowship Hall.

Stole makers needed to create stoles for worship.  
Wholeness Café to discuss Disciples' future.  
Pre-Assembly events to share the love of Christ.  
Elders' Conference on Wednesday, July 29.  
More information online at [www.disciples.org/ga](http://www.disciples.org/ga)

