

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

Elders on Call

Janet Bonds
Georgia Flora

Serving Diaconate

Andrew Ford, Kimberly Jones, Jeff Jones, Mae Margaret Davis,
Barry Dillon, Jennifer Dillon, Lynn Eastman, Ardis Gillespie,
Cameron Gillespie, Susan Storer, Ashton Strachan

Communion Preparer

Sarah Ford

Acolytes

Dominic Mirabito
Lauren Blankenship

Sunday School Greeter

Earl Strickland

Worship Greeters

Bob & Lyn Frederickson (Door)
Donna Strickland (Sanctuary)

Children Worship & Wonder

The Parable of the Mustard Seed
Joye Taylor (storyteller)
Mae Margaret Davis, Jennifer Powell (greeters)

Nursery Volunteer

Susan Scales

Rev. Troy Tatum
Senior Minister

Rev. Robin Blakemore
Associate Minister

Rev. John Allen Bankson
Music Director

David Brasher
Pianist/Organist

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Disciples  of Christ

"Where the Grace of God Awaits You"



April 29, 2018

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

WELCOME

We're delighted you're here today, and we hope you'll find this to be a meaningful time of worship with a vibrant community of faith.

NEW HERE?

If today is your first time visiting at First Christian Church, please be sure to stop by the welcome table near the front doors so that we can give you a small gift to thank you for worshipping with us.

CONNECTION CARDS

We ask everyone to take a few moments during worship to fill out the Connection Card included in this bulletin. You may place your card in the offering when it is received.

WORSHIPPING WITH CHILDREN

Children age 3K through fourth grade are encouraged to participate in Worship and Wonder, a special worship and education experience designed just for them. Young people may leave the service for Worship and Wonder following "A Time for Children." Of course, children of all ages are welcome to participate in morning worship, and childcare for infants and toddlers is available in the church nursery for all or part of the service. Worship bags with activity sheets, crayons, and children's bulletins are available in the narthex.

WAYS TO GIVE

Thank you for investing your gifts in the mission and ministry of First Christian Church. Your act of worship through giving is appreciated. You can give in person by cash or check, or online by visiting www.fcc-bhm.org/give or by scanning the QR code to the right with your smart phone. You may also contact the church office to learn more about automated giving.

GET IN TOUCH

fcc-bhm.org | info@fcc-bhm.org
office: 205-991-5000 | clergy on call: 205-295-6708



We recently launched our annual stewardship campaign to fund our mission and ministry for 2018-2019. The impact our gifts can make is immeasurable. Our gifts are what make possible life-changing ministries like Vacation Bible School, children's and youth groups, choir and music ministry, local outreach, Sunday morning worship services, and so much more. This campaign provides the opportunity not only to raise funds for ministry but also to renew the faith foundations in our church. We trust that with all of us in prayer together, we will experience spiritual renewal as a congregation.

Our theme is, "Seeds: Tending the Garden of God's Love." For the next several weeks, church members will share how God has been growing their faith at FCC. We have the opportunity through our generosity to plant seeds in God's garden, so that our faith, and God's kingdom, may produce great fruit. Pledge cards can be returned to the church office or placed in the offering plate. You may also complete your pledge online at www.fcc-bhm.org/give, with the option of setting up a recurring gift at the same time.

Please know, at whatever level you are able to participate in this campaign, we value your gift and we value each giver. We simply ask the members and friends of this congregation do as Paul advised the church in Corinth, "Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Corinthians 9:7).

God is able to grow great things in and through First Christian Church. The harvest will come, if we are faithful in sowing the seeds of hope in this church, in our community, and in our world. We hope you will join us in tending the garden of God's love through your prayers and your financial support.

THANK YOU FROM THE ADVENTURE NOOK

Thank you to everyone who came out to support TAN. We exceeded our goal of raising \$1,000 for our program! This event would not have been possible without The TAN Advisory Board which includes chairman, Shaina Berry, Sylvia Almond, Sarah Ford, Katie Matthews, Donna Penn, and Joye Taylor and, of course, Mack Carpenter's amazing spaghetti dinner! A special thanks to Rev. Troy Tatum for his unwavering support of The Adventure Nook. We are so blessed to have the love and support of FCC.

-Ann Browning, Director

THIS WEEK

Today, April 29

10:15 AM Morning Worship
4:00 PM The Table
5:00 PM Children and Youth

Monday, April 30

7:00 AM Men's Bible Study
11:00 AM Staff Meeting

Tuesday, May 1

10:00 AM Ladies' Bible Study

Wednesday, May 2

6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

GET INVOLVED

MEMBERSHIP CLASS OFFERED MAY 6

Are you new to First Christian? Would you like to know more? If you're just getting started, we suggest attending "New Beginnings" on May 6 from 11:30-1:30. We'll gather after church for lunch and conversation in a small group. Designed especially for visitors and new members of our congregation, "New Beginnings" will help you learn more about who we are and how you can connect in ministry and mission. Please, contact the church office (205-991-5000) to sign up or Robin Blakemore (robin@fcc-bhm.org) for more information.

THE LOVELADY CENTER

The Outreach Committee is launching an on-going donation drive to benefit The Lovelady Center, a Birmingham non-profit dedicated to wholly healing women and families touched by addiction and domestic abuse. A list of on-going needs of the center is located on the table in the Narthex closest to the church office. Feel free to take a list. Items may be dropped off in the designated Lovelady Center box located in the gym. This is a simple way our congregation can help this amazing ministry touch lives and break the cycle of addiction, abuse, and poverty, certainly answering Jesus'

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: JULY 9-13, 2018

Mark your calendars, and make plans now to join us for this exciting week of Rolling River Rampage VBS! Register by going to www.fcc-bhm.org or fill out a form in the narthex and return to the church office. Call the office (205-991-5000) or email Dixon (dixon@fcc-bhm.org) with any questions.

We Gather Before God

Prelude *Whatever It Takes* arr. Brasher

Introit *Thine Is the Glory* MACCABEUS

*Call to Worship Rev. Troy Tatum

Leader: We come together this day, drawn by the light of God's love.

People: In God's eternal kingdom, darkness and despair are vanquished.

Leader: In God's eternal realm, peace and hope reign.

People: Let us praise the Lord with our music and our voices.

Leader: Let us praise the Lord with our service and compassion.

People: With glad and joyful hearts, let us lift our praise to the Lord!

*Hymn of Praise *We Sing Your Mighty Power, O God* Red Hymnal No.64

*Invocation and Lord's Prayer Rev. Troy Tatum

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

*Prayer Response *Gloria Patri* Red Hymnal No. 35

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen, Amen!**

*Passing of the Peace

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

A Time for Children Rev. Robin Blakemore

Children age three through fourth grade may leave for Children's Worship & Wonder

Invitation to Present Gifts Ashton Strachan

Offertory Music *God and God Alone* McHugh

*Doxology Red Hymnal No. 46
Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication Rev. Troy Tatum

We Offer Our Prayers With Love

Pastoral Prayer Rev. Robin Blakemore

We Gather at Christ's Table

Communion Hymn *Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether* Red Hymnal No. 392

Invitation to Communion Janet Bonds

Prayer of Communion Georgia Flora

Words of Institution 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

This is the Lord's Table; all believers in Christ are invited. As the communion elements are passed, please partake of the bread and hold the cup so that we may share together after the congregational response.

Elder: The Lord Jesus, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, broke it and said, "This is My Body which is given for you."

Communion Music *Be Still and Know* Chapman

Elder: In the same way also the cup, after supper saying, "This cup is the new covenant of My Blood. Do this as often as you drink it in remembrance of Me."

People: As often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

We Proclaim God's Word

Scripture 1 Corinthians 3:1-9

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem *Psalm 100 (Jubilate Deo)* R.N. Roth

Sermon "Growing Up" Rev. Troy Tatum

We Respond With Our Lives

Invitation to Discipleship Rev. Troy Tatum

*Hymn of Discipleship *For the Fruit of All Creation* Red Hymnal No. 714

We Go Forth to Love and Serve

*Announcements & Benediction Rev. Troy Tatum

*Congregational Response *Come, Sing A Song of Harvest* Red Hymnal No. 719

**Come, sing a song of harvest, of thanks for daily food!
To offer God the first fruits is old as gratitude.**

**May God, the great Creator, to whom all life belongs,
accept these gifts we offer, our service and our songs.**

*Postlude *God and God Alone - Reprise* McHugh

**All who are able please stand.*