

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Staff

Minister – Rev. Tom Goebel
Music Director – Ron Montgomery
CCF Director – Sandra Brennan
Secretary – Dona Sulzmann
Custodian – Rosa Jennings

Office Hours

9:00 AM – 1:00 PM Monday through Friday

First Christian Church
627 Paul W. Bryant Drive
Tuscaloosa, AL 35401

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

(Disciples of Christ)
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FEBRUARY 2013

THE EPISTLE

Greetings Faithful! Have you noticed that we are significantly increasing in membership? Have you observed the many visitors we have had these last few months? Have you witnessed the increased presence and involvement of the university students in the work and worship of the church? Have you noted the number of children up front during Children’s Moment and the call for teachers for our newly forming Children’s Sunday School? Have you spotted the new members of the choir? Have you observed the updates to our facilities and grounds? Are you aware that we are now bearing fruit from having adopted the *New Beginnings* program that has revolutionized our church structure and ministries? Are you aware that we now have a “growth budget,” as we emerge from several years of a “survival budget” (all occurring during an economic “downturn”)? And this is just a short list of all the great things happening at FCC. I have quoted this many times, but 300 churches a month close in America, which translates that only 15% of the churches are growing. Well faithful members of First Christian Church, Tuscaloosa, welcome to the 15%!

When I arrived at this church almost 2 years ago I outlined what it was going to take for us to change direction and grow. You responded and now our shared hopes, dreams, and goals are coming true with the blessing of God. Why, you ask? Well, I should ask you! YOU are the catalysts of change by being faithful, inviting, welcoming, loving, and caring. YOU are giving, volunteering, praying, meeting, listening, responding and continuing to do all the other things, both big and small, that YOU do. What an exciting time to be a member of First Christian!

So I charge all of you to continue on this path. It is working, sisters and brothers, and we are beginning to see the results. With our shared commitment and continued faith God will assure that 2013 will even exceed our lofty expectations. I am so very excited about this year! I’ll see you in worship or at the many events and activities planned for this year.

Blessings to all of you for being so faithful and loving,

Tom



February 3

Polly Bailey
Kathy Mason
***Pat Coleman**
***Ken Largin**
Mike Largin
Kate Matheny

February 10

Polly Bailey
Kathy Mason
***Alice Gibson**
***Cindy Harris**
Brenda Tanner
Gary Tanner

February 17

Polly Bailey
Kathy Mason
***Joe Duncan**
***Brimley Hocutt**
Chris Largin
Kenny Sulzmann

February 24

Polly Bailey
Kathy Mason
***Jon Atkinson**
***Kim Farish**
Rosa Jennings
Steve Jennings

Liturgist:

Jon Atkinson



Hope Circle will meet at **9:30 am** **February 4th** at the church.

Serendipity Circle will meet at **5:30 pm** on **February 11th** at **Steamers**.

Circle I will meet at the church on **February 12th** at **9:45 am** to go to **Another Broken Egg**.

CMF Breakfast
8:00 am
February 10th



Coleman Berryhill
Wiley Hales
Nelda Williams
Joan Woody



We welcome **Margie Harless** into the FCC family—she joined the church **January 27th**.



will begin on **Ash Wednesday (13th)** and meet each **Wednesday** through **March 27th**. Please sign up so we will know how many to prepare food for. Also, if you would like to prepare (alone or with a buddy) a lunch one of these seven weeks, please sign up for that also.



Saturday, February 23rd
6:00 pm
Men Chefs Needed!

Please register early.

Supper begins at 6:00 pm (chefs should arrive by 5:00).

FCC will provide condiments for the chili. Chili should be prepared before coming to the cookoff.

Please bring enough for a large group. Guests will vote for their favorite chili. A prize will be given to the winner! The purpose of this

event is to support the **East Tuscaloosa Community Soup Bowl**

Financial donations will be accepted at the event.



A Regional Gathering in the
Worship of God

Friday, February 8
7:30


First Christian - Birmingham
Rev. Dr. William Willimon,
Speaker
Former Bishop
North Alabama Conference
United Methodist Church

(no cost to attend this worship service; offering taken to defray costs.)

Saturday, February 9
9:00 am - 2:30 pm
(registration @ 8:00 am)

"Invited and Inviting"
Workshops aimed at helping church leaders focus on what it means to be "invited" and "inviting" in all its ministries.

\$25/person or
\$250/congregation
(please sign up in narthex)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
					Helen Gibson	Will Largin
3 3:00 Ministry Teams	4 9:30 Hope Circle	5	6 6:30 Circle of Prayer 7:00 Choir Danny Christian	7	8 Regional Gathering First – Birmingham 7:30	9 Workshops 9:00 – 2:30 (w/lunch)
10 8:00 CMF Breakfast	11 5:30 Serendipity	12 9:45 Circle I Billie Brennan	13 Noon – Lenten Lunch  7:00	14 	15	16
17 Jeannie Largin Kathy Mason	18 10:00 Merrill Gardens  Brinley Hocutt	19	20 Noon – Lenten Lunch 6:30 Circle of Prayer 7:00 Choir	21	22	23  6:00 Faith Largin Paul Roberts
24	25	26 Gary Tanner	27 9:30 Soup Kitchen Noon – Lenten Lunch 6:30 Circle of Prayer 7:00 Choir	28 Dayton Sparks	29 David Bailey	