

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Staff

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

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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SEPTEMBER 2012

THE EPISTLE

There's a line written by Carl Perkins that states: "If it weren't for the rocks in its bed, the stream would have no song." I interpret that to mean that if it weren't for the bumps along the way, we would not grow into our fullest being -- and would never create the beautiful song that is within us. What a great metaphor for life. No one wants adverse circumstances, but since you are here on Earth, and are a human being, tough times come and go. It is how you perceive those times that will make a difference in your future.

So often during the bumps against the rocks in life Christians will spend more time wondering whether they are experiencing a punishment or test from God, rather than focusing on the Grace and Power of God to see them through it. I'm in the mood for quotes today so I'll give you another one: "If God brings you to it, God will bring you through it!"

It's the bumps, after all, that builds our character and makes us the faithful Christians that we are. Adversity is just a part of life. So no matter the reason for the adversity, focus on the Power of God to see you through. And watch, as your faith and character builds, how the tune of your life becomes like the stream: peaceful and serene.

Blessings,
Tom



September 2 *Dona Sulzmann*
 Robert Gibson
 Ed Carson
 ***Kate Matheny**
 ***Letitia Roberts**
 Kenny Sulzmann

September 9 *Dona Sulzmann*
 Robert Gibson
 Alice Gibson
 Brandi Hewitt
 ***Brenda Tanner**
 ***Gary Tanner**

September 16 *Dona Sulzmann*
 Robert Gibson
 ***Allison Barger**
 ***Sandra Brennan**
 Joe Duncan
 Brinley Hocutt

September 23 *Dona Sulzmann*
 Robert Gibson
 Jon Atkinson
 Kim Farish
 ***Rosa Jennings**
 ***Steve Jennings**

September 30 *Dona Sulzmann*
 Robert Gibson
 Allison Barger
 Sandra Brennan
 ***Pat Coleman**
 ***Chris Largin**

Liturgist: **Dona Sulzmann**
 *communion preparation



Hope Circle will meet at **9:30 am**
September 11th at the church.

Serendipity Circle will meet
Monday, September 10th at 5:30
 at the church.

Circle I will meet **September 11th**
 at the church at **10:00 am**.

Reminder: Start planning now for
 our CWF Annual Fall Retreat
 October 5-7th! Applications are
 available in the church office.
 Register early to take advantage of
 the Early Bird fees!! Remember,
 1/2 of the registration cost is paid
 by CWF.

CMF Breakfast
September 9th
8:00 am



Coleman Berryhill
Wiley Hales
Lewis family
Joan Woody



Mission Council
Sept 9th
6:00 pm

*To Dads Church Family,
 Thank you for all the prayers,
 cards, calls, and visits while
 Daddy (Virgil) was so ill. He
 loved all of his church family.
 Thank you also for all you did and
 offered to do when he passed away.
 His service was just as he wanted
 it. Thank you Ron and choir for
 singing beautifully one of Daddy's
 favorite hymns.
 Your friends in Christ,
 Virginia and Lamar McElroy*



...The **Harris, Walker**
and Sparks families
 spent a week at the
 beach.

...**Allison Barger** also
 made "1 more" trip to
 the beach before school started.

...Thanks to **Ron Montgomery** and
 members of the Crimson
 Pride Barbershop Chorus
 for the wonderful concert &
 Ice Cream Social!

...**Ginger Bailey** has moved to
 Franklin, TN.

...**Polly Bailey** visited her sister in
 Tennessee.

...It was great to see so many friends
 at the District II meeting here on
 August 19th! We were especially
 happy to see **Woodie Payne's**
 mother, **Mrs. Murphy** and brother
Sam Walker Murphy from Jasper.
 Also **Wiley Hales** was here
 representing Birmingham-First!
 Excellent speaker, music from our
 Praise Band, delicious food and
 wonderful fellowship with Disciples
 from around the state!

Christmas Extravaganza!!

The time for our annual
 "Christmas Extravaganza!" is
 fast approaching!! Only 3
 short months away!! We
 already have a couple of
 things lined up that I know
 you won't want to miss! If
 you would like to perform in
 the "CE," contact Sandra
 Brennan (886-4273), or
 Dona Sulzmann in the church
 office. If you don't already
 have an act, don't worry, we
 have places for you!! Also, we
 are looking for a few props to
 be used that evening. We
 need kazoos, a man's pipe, a
 duck call, chef hat(s), hula
 hoops, swimming pool gear
 (snorkel, fins, floaties, etc.),
 and some Crimson Tide Fans!
 Thanks for helping make our
 annual Christmas Party and
 "Christmas Extravaganza!"
 extra special this year!!

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
30						1
2	3  Gabriel DeJesus Sue Goebel	4 Dona Sulzmann	5 Circle of Prayer 6:30 Choir 7:00 Brian Gibson	6 Bailey Farish Buddy Harris	7 Sue/Tom Goebel	8  GAME DAY Western KY 2:30
9 CMF Breakfast 8:00 Mission Council 6:00 Karen Barger Stephen Jennings	10 Serendipity 5:30	11 Hope Circle 9:30 Circle I 10:00 Andrea Minear	12 Circle of Prayer 6:30 Choir 7:00	13 Shawn Sparks	14	15
16 Louise Scott	17 Merrill Gardens 10:00	18 Mike Minear	19 Soup Kitchen 9:30 Circle of Prayer 6:30 Choir 7:00	20	21	22  GAME DAY FL Atlantic Robert Gibson Rosa/Stephen Jennings
23	24	25	26 Circle of Prayer 6:30 Choir 7:00	27	28 Ray Saunders	29  GAME DAY Ole Miss