



# E-REPORTER

November 16, 2009  
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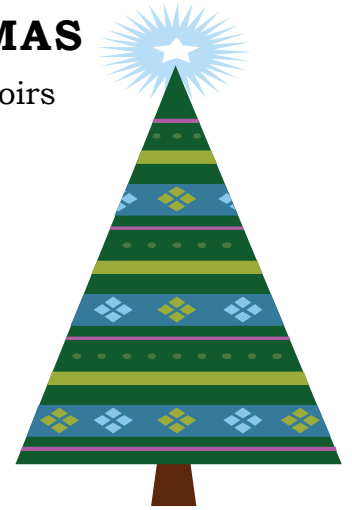
## STORIES ABOUT CHRISTMAS

Featuring FCC's Adult & Children's Choirs

**Sunday, December 6th**

◆ **Combined Worship service**  
**@ 10:30am**

◆ **Full program @ 6:30pm**  
**refreshments following**



### Bible Reading Plan

Week of November 22:

Sunday– II Peter

Monday– Deuteronomy 16-19

Tuesday–Ezra 6-10

Wednesday– Psalms 134-136

Thursday– Ecclesiastes 9-10

Friday– Zechariah 8-14

Saturday– Acts 17-18



### **Community Thanksgiving Service**

Monday, November 23rd @ 7pm

Evergreen Christian Church

Speaker: Rick Stratton - Salem Assembly of God  
FCC Worship Team will be leading worship

The Salem Food Pantry needs our help Saturday at 10am.  
Please come to the Community Center to help if you are able!

### **COLLEGE CARE PACKAGES**

We will be assembling college care packages the first week of December. If you would like to donate items, there will be boxes in both foyers or you may give any money donations to Kim Martin. Our college students really appreciate this touch of love from home! Thank you!!

**Students, if you have not turned in your new college address, please do so ASAP!** Parents, please call the church office, Kim Martin, or John Mann with your student's address.



**Sunday, November 22**  
8:15 a.m. Early Worship  
9:30 a.m. Bible School  
10:30 a.m. Worship  
12:00 p.m. Thanksgiving Dinner  
4:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal  
5:00 p.m. Decorating the Church  
No Evening Worship

**Monday, November 23**  
10:00 a.m. S.A.M.

**Tuesday, November 24**  
6:00-7:00p.m. Worship Team  
6:30 p.m. Prayer & Praise

**Wednesday, November 25**  
No Evening programs

**Thursday, November 26**  
**Happy Thanksgiving!**  
Church office Closed

**Friday, November 27**  
Church Office Closed

### Prayer Requests:

#### BARNES ST PETERS

Craig Liddle

#### ST MARYS

Wyett Colclasure

#### AT HOME

Peggy Wilson

Warren Smith

Aleen Crosby

Jackie Dye

Karl Squibb

Sandy Dries

Anne Young

Joe Molenhour

Warren Williams

Naida Telford

Gerry Hower

Bud Burden

Earl Gain

Sue Courson

Mack & Joyce Myers

Bob & Betty Westman

#### Missions of the Month

Gospel Broadcasting Mission; Christian Chaplaincy Commission; **ACM International**, Carl Stevens family

Facts & Figures	November 15, 2009
8:15 am Worship	170
Bible School	174
10:30 am Worship	209
Total Worship	379
*Ministry Fund Offering	\$11,143.46
Weekly Ministry Needs	\$12,461.54
*Add. Designated gifts	\$ 199.00
Total	\$11,342.46



Angie Williams	2
Brock Thomas	3
Ellen Shanafelt	4
Tyler Williams	5
Zach Garrett	5
Barbara Williams	7
Jim Martin	8

#### ANNIVERSARIES

M/M Bob Stroud	2
M/M Jeff Baldrige	3
M/M Bob Wilson	6

Sonshine School  
 teachers & students  
 wish everyone a  
 Very Blessed Thanksgiving.  
 God loves us all!

**November 22, 2009**

**Elders:** Doug Williams, Ed Dolbeare (underlined - Offering prayer)  
**Meditation:** Ed Dolbeare  
**Deacons:** 8:15–David Blair, Jerry Boswell, Max Dye, Ron Hayes, Jeff Molenhour, Steve Schumpert, Marshall Goostree, Steve Bandy; 10:30–\*Tim Alvis, \*Mark Zinzilieta, Chuck Tinsley, Brad West, John Williams, Jim Rainwater, Randy Rose, Bob Russell...underlined to serve shut-ins, asterisk to serve Doctor's.  
**Attendance Tabulation:** 8:15–Wayne Puricelli; 10:30–Tom Garrett  
**Worship Tech:** Gary Kennedy, Logan Pontious  
**Nursery:** 8:15–Linda Puricelli, Terri Blair; 9:30–Mary Piper, Karen Collier, Sandra Banning; 10:30–Alyssa Williams, Pat McArthur, Cheryl Kennedy  
**Stepping Stones:** Michele Webb, Joli Lybarger  
**Toddler Room:** 8:15–Brittany McKinzie; 10:30–Sydney Tefft  
**Preschool Greeter:** Chris Apgar  
**Kidz Church:** 8:15–Brian & Sandra Banning; 10:30–Grant Green  
**Care Team Leaders:** 8:15–; 10:30–Jim & Sandy Martin  
**FIM Captain:** Jan Luse  
**Greeters:** Joe & Cheryl Pemberton, Lucy Molenhour, Norm & Diane Barton  
**Ushers:** 8:15–Keith Kemp; 10:30–Pat Baldrige  
**Section Hosts:** #1-Brian Banning; #2-Vernice Young; #3-Betty Jane Easley  
**Parking Lot:** Curt Piper, Kyle Kell, Randy Helm  
**Baptismal:** 8:15–Janet Padberg; 10:30–Joan Buhnerkemper  
**Communion Preparation:** Steve Schumpert

### COMMITTEE REPORTS NEEDED

We will soon begin working on the Annual Report and committee reports are needed. If you are the chairperson or coordinator on a committee, please have your reports to the church office no later than Wednesday, December 2nd. You can drop them off at the office or email them to [office@fccsaalem.net](mailto:office@fccsaalem.net).



### PACK THE PANTRY

In the past we have supported "Pack the Pantry" to help feed the students at Colegio Biblico. This college trains Spanish speaking students from several countries for various Christian ministries. Our Missions Committee has given \$500 for this project. We would like to have \$1,000 by December 6th to send with Pete & Mary Lee Beal as they return to work there for several months. Please make checks payable to First Christian and write "Pack the Pantry" on the memo line. The checks may be put in the offering plate, given to Bonnie Smith, or left in the church office. Gracias!



### VOLUNTEER FOR MINISTRY

Please pick up a ministry list in the foyer and take some time to evaluate where God may want you to get involved. When completed, please place the form in the ministry box in the foyer or return it to the church office by December 14th.



### DESTINATION UNKNOWN

SAM (Sharon's Adventure Ministry) is planning a trip on Monday, November 30 to ??? We will leave FCC at 8:45am. You will need lunch money (and spending money if you wish). We will have lunch at ???, then we will visit ??? We should return between 5:30-6:30pm. Sign up by Wednesday, November 25th outside the church office, or call the church office to be signed up. Call Sharon Sullens at 548-1563 if you have questions.



### ATTENTION LADIES

Ladies, save the date: Saturday, April 17, 2010 for the 2nd annual Oil Belt Ladies Day. "You Will Go Out in Joy And be led forth in Peace!" Featuring Linda Mirate of Wabash, IL, worship led by Dee Ann Schnautz and workshops by Jackina Stark & Deanne Mott. Watch for more information as the date gets closer.



### **DON'T FORGET... THIS SUNDAY (22ND)... THANKSGIVING DINNER**

Please RSVP to the church office, 548-0867. The suggested donation at the door is \$5 (children 12 and under eat free.) If your last name begins with: A-M, bring a salad, N-Z, bring a dessert. If you know of any shut-ins who would like a meal delivered, please call the church office.

### **Coming Up on the Calendar**

#### **November**

- 21–set up for Thanksgiving, 8:30pm
- 22–Thanksgiving Dinner, noon
- 22–Choir rehearsal, 4pm
- 23–Community Thanksgiving Service
- 24–Prayer & Praise, 6:30pm
- 25–No evening programs
- 26–Thanksgiving
- 29–Leadership class, library, 9:30am
- 29–Choir rehearsal, 4pm

#### **December**

- 1–Leadership Team Meeting, 7pm
- 2–MOPS, 9:15-11:15am
- 6–Combined morning service, 10:30am
- 6–last day to accept nomination
- 6–Leadership class, library, 9:30am
- 6–Choir & Children's Christmas prog.
- 8–Prayer & Praise, 6:30pm
- 8–Board Meeting, 7pm
- 13–Annual Congregation Mtg., 6pm
- 15–Prayer Meeting, 7pm
- 16–MOPS, 9:15-11:15am
- 19–SMA Bell Ringing
- 22–Prayer & Praise, 6:30pm
- 24–Christmas Eve Service, 4pm
- 30–No evening programs

## **Mann's Masterpiece**

**John Mann** / Youth Ministry  
[jmann@fccsaalem.net](mailto:jmann@fccsaalem.net)

Husbands, men, this one is for you! I remember when I first started dating Katie. We spent every waking minute on the phone. Before we even went on our first date, I had racked up a \$400 phone bill!! That was before the time of unlimited night and weekends!

We wanted to know everything about each other. It didn't matter what we said, we hung onto each other's every word! What happens, though, after 1, 2, 5, 10 years of being together? Gentleman, are you still willing to rack up a \$400 phone bill just to talk with your wife? Do you still hang on her every word? I know I don't, but I should! I should be willing to get another job, just to pamper my wife.

We are to love her like Christ loves the church. I think it's interesting how Paul sets up a picture in Ephesians of how husbands and wives should relate to each other. It is very clear that, then and now, men desire respect, but it is even clearer that, then and now, women desire love. To quote a band from my youth, "Love is a verb!" We need to be living our love for our wives. Our kids need to see us loving our wives. Your neighbors need to see you loving your wives. Younger men need to see older men love their wives. Your wife is your bride. If we, the church, are Christ's bride and he gave everything up for us out of His love, and he is our example of how to love our wives; then how much more do you need to give up for your wives?

So men, husbands, pamper you wife, not just this week, but always. Trust me, I need to follow my own advice, and I will. Don't just tell your wife you love her, show her!

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## **Dave's Musings**

**Dave Jarrett** / Creative Arts Minister  
[djarrett@fccsaalem.net](mailto:djarrett@fccsaalem.net)

### **Is it time to Clean house?**

I was reading a few days ago through some of the chronicles and all the kings of the northern and southern kingdoms. The story of Josiah is always close to my heart because we have a nephew named for the boy king. The great thing about King

Josiah is that when he was made aware of all the wrong going on he completely cleaned house. Completely. No compromises. No excuses. No holdouts. All the idolatry and pagan worship practices were cleaned out. No remnants.

I don't know about you, but I am much better at hiding my mess than cleaning it. If you were honest, you would have to admit much of the same. Have you ever been to someone's house where everything looks clean, only to find it all shoved in the closets or behind a closed door? Really, that's ok when it comes to your house, but not when it comes to your life in Christ.

Jesus accused the Pharisees of being whitewashed tombs. Looking good on the outside but dead on the inside. Let that not be us! Let us clean out. Not pushing the sin and bad practices behind a door. Burn them. Destroy them. Worship the Lord God with a clean house, not a picked up front room! It is my hope and prayer that I can always manage to be a cleaner and not a hider. It's my prayer for you too. What do you need to reform? Allow God to speak to your heart and soften you for that purpose. So that we may all be more fully His and His alone.

You can read about Josiah's turning to God and his reforms in worship in 2 Chronicles 34.

Humbly, Dave

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## **Case in Point**

**Casey Elmore** / Children's Minister  
[celmore@fccsaalem.net](mailto:celmore@fccsaalem.net)

This past Sunday our daughter was sick so Ashley and I decided that it would be best to keep her at home. Ashley stayed home on Sunday morning to take care of her and I stayed home in the evening so that Ashley could go to small group. It is unusual for either of us to miss a church activity. We were both brought up in families who were

very active in the church so it is normal for us to be present when something is going on. This being the case, one might think that it would have felt strange for us to stay home. However, to be perfectly honest, it did not really feel strange at all. It did not take long for us to become busy with what we were doing and forget about what we were missing out on. Don't get me wrong. I feel that we did the right thing for our daughter; however, it made me realize how easy it could be for someone to get out of the habit of gathering with the church and spending time with the Lord. That is a scary reality.

We need that time with the Lord and with fellow believers like our bodies need sleep. We can miss out on a little sleep here or there without really being able to detect much of a difference for a while. This is especially true if we replace it with something such as caffeine. However, caffeine does not give our bodies what it really needs like healthy energy and a strong immune system. When we lose sleep it makes it easier for the germs and viruses to attack. Do you see where I'm going with this?

When we miss out on time with the Lord and with fellow believers we are depriving our souls of something that is vitally important. Our defense against the enemy is weakened and spiritual growth does not occur how it should. That is why God gave the command to remember the Sabbath and keep it holy (Exodus 20:8). It is also why the early church continually devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer (Acts 2:42). So, I would like to use this article as an opportunity to encourage us all to keep our time with the Lord and with other Christian's at the top of the priority list. We need it.

## From Phil's Desk

Phil Martin, *Preaching Minister*  
pmartin@fccsalem.net

This past Sunday I taught about how worship and justice are inseparable. As the Scripture says, it is impossible to say we love God and not love our neighbor (1 John 4:20). We hear a lot these days about human rights and social justice. Bono, the lead singer of U2 has been singing that song (message) for a decade or more. It's a good thing that there is a growing concern for the poor and the oppressed around the world.

I must admit it hasn't always been my concern. When I heard someone, usually of the younger generations, talk about "social justice" I cringed a little – I saw it as a threat to salvation by God's grace. "We're not saved by our good works" would be my response (Ephesians 2:8-9). But lately I have seen my error. It is true we are saved by God's grace, but it is equally true that the response of my salvation should be to love my fellow man. Social justice should be the single greatest apologetic of the Christian Church.

For too long we (the Church) have turned a blind eye to the injustices of the world. And yet we have a better and more perfect response to injustice than any secularist could fathom – not only can we stand in the gap for the less fortunate, we have the hope of salvation to offer to the weak, the hungry, the poor, and the mistreated.

Secularists want social justice without God, which is to deny the very truths that compel us to help. Because we are created in the image of God, human life is sacred. We have value, worth, and dignity. Science by itself doesn't give us any basis for that view. So when a society loses its belief in God, it starts to believe that humans are only valuable based upon their contribution to society—Godless science ultimately de-values life.

Because we are created in the image of God we are accountable for each other's lives. Martin Luther King, Jr., and other civil rights leaders took their views directly from this way of thinking about God and humanity. Dr. King even talked about the image of God in his sermon "The American Dream."

This is why the Christian view demands we are pro-life, for there is an unbroken connection between human life in the womb and human life in all other stages and circumstances. It's why early Christians condemned abortion and cared for abandoned babies. It's why if you say you are a Christian and are pro-choice, you'd better check whether you are acting in obedience to God. Dr. Tim Keller wrote "When you believe in the image of God, the circle of protected life expands. But when you don't believe in the image of God . . . the circle will continually contract" around self and personal rights.

*In His Grip, Phil*



*First Christian Church*  
1200 West Boone Street  
Salem, Illinois 62881

www.fccsalem.net  
office@fccsalem.net  
618-548-0867

***Return Service Requested***

### **Staff**

Phil Martin, *Preaching Minister*  
Dave Jarrett, *Creative Arts Minister*  
John Mann, *Student Minister*  
Casey Elmore, *Children's Minister*  
Dawn McCoy, *Secretary*

### **Elders**

Dennis Charlton                      Doug Williams  
Ed Dolbeare                              Wayne Hawkins  
Craig Vieira                                Tom Garrett

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