

The Messenger



November 30, 2016

Charlyson

SPECIAL THANKS to our FCCG kids, parents, and the Children's and Youth Choir Directors—*Tammy Holcomb* and *Judy Grasham*— for your efforts in organizing this program!

Behind the Scenes: The Christmas Story (Plus)



A reader's theatre production by Frist Christian Church Garland Youth and Children's Choirs on Sunday, December 4th at 6:00pm

~VISIT OF THE WISE MEN~

Special Reception Immediately Following the Program

Moment's Reflection

Thank you for noticing

I've noticed how you make an extra special effort to invite friends and welcome visitors into our congregation. I've noticed you noticing all our visitors and friends. On my way to the pulpit Sunday, or following worship, I've noticed you greeting and talking with new people. Your generosity of spirit encourages me. Much as I love who we are, I also love the church family God is calling us to become. I'm certain that there are new people with which God wants us to join in the journey of faith.

I know that your personal and family schedules are filled with places to be and things to do, but you've taken the time to share the happiness you feel at our church with others. Bless you. You've taken the time to invite and welcome others because doing so is in your nature. But by these seemingly simple acts of kindness you've also chosen to do the important work of Christian outreach. Scripture says, *"Welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you."* (Romans 15:7)

Each time I'm given the joy of welcoming a new member into our church family, I'm mindful that this new person has decided to join us in the journey of Christian faith because you've taken the time to invite them.

I appreciate that so many of you make a point to look up and out from your own circle of friends and family to see many others who come to worship with us. It makes my spirit feel good when you take the time to introduce me.

So, **"Thank you for noticing."** -Dan

A MANGER SUITE



Chancel Choir

Christmas Cantata

Sunday, December 11th

During Worship Service

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

Saturday, Dec 24th at 6pm and 11pm

NOTE: 6pm service will be child-focused

Wassail will be served in the narthex

Christmas Day and New Years Day Worship Services at 10:00am

- No Sunday School
on Christmas or New Years Day



FCCG YOUTH ACTIVITIES



WAY TO GO, FCCG YOUTH!

202 pieces of food were collected by the youth to donate to the homeless and a fun time was had by all at the dance party on Nov 27. **THANKS** to all who contributed! And **special thanks** to DJ Ed, Renee Godwin, Shay Houston and all sponsors for hosting an awesome night!

NO Sunday Evening Youth Activities on Sunday, Dec 4th

CYF Lock-In at the Church

7:00pm Friday, Dec 9th—7:00am, Saturday, Dec 10th

JYF/Chi-Rho/CYF Christmas Caroling

Sunday, Dec 11th; meet at the church at 1:30pm; return at 6pm

PARENTS OF CHILDREN AGES 2-3RD GRADE:

We would love to have your children sing with us in the Children's Pageant this year (on Dec 4). We have a moment in the pageant for the beloved "**AWAY IN A MANGER**", and if your child is not participating with either the Children's Choir or the Youth Choir we would love to have them join us on stage to sing this carol. On Sunday morning there will be a time in their classes to sing through the music to help them become familiar with the melody. The night of the pageant, we will practice this song on stage at 5:30pm, so if you can have them there around 5:20pm that would be very helpful. We ask that they wear something festive for the performance, but this can be as simple as jeans and a red or green t-shirt or as fancy as they wish (though probably not tiaras!). Thanks for making this a special event!

-Judy Grasham and Tammy Holcomb



OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

MIKE'S KIDS

Supports children who have been abandoned or families who have been forced out of their homeland to a new country. Needed items are:

* New or gently used clothes and shoes (clean and usable) - **not** winter clothes, as donations will be given in a summer climate

(new underwear and socks—all sizes, are especially needed)

* New or gently used toys (working, with all pieces)

*Bicycles

*Kitchen utensils

*Canned goods

DONATION BOXES are under the stairs, outside Fellowship Hall. **DEADLINE FOR GIVING IS SUNDAY, DEC 11TH.**



ANGEL TREE

is in Fellowship Hall, ready for you to choose an Angel. **GIFTS NEED TO BE AT THE CHURCH BY FRIDAY, DEC 9TH.**

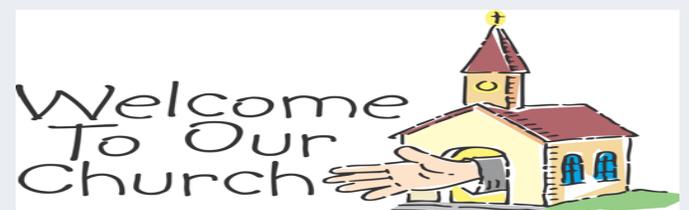
DWM December Circle Meetings

Morning Circle

Monday, December 5th
at 9:30am

Evening Circle

Tuesday, December 6th
at 6:45pm



WELCOME new member **Darlene Willard**, who recently joined FCCG.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Circle of Fellowship

Martha Ferrell
Marilyn Fowler

Cup of Life

Pat Spradley

Fishers of Families

Gail Greene
Quentin Scruggs

God's Messengers

Nina Wood

Hands of Faith

Mike Whalin

Shepherds

Sharon Campbell

The Grapevine

Joyce Witt Boyd
Dylan Godwin

Fusion: a merging of spirituality into real everyday life

Jesus was in a small group.



life change happens in small groups

The basic purpose of Fusion is to provide space and time to consistently connect with one another and God. Its goal is to help "fuse" (meld, unite, weave) our faith and spirituality into all aspects of our lives. This Fall, Fusion has developed into a small group ministry. We currently have two small groups that meet once a month. One group meets on Friday evenings and the other meets Saturday evenings. If you are interested in joining a small group, please let Rev. Casey know.

CHANCEL CHOIR

Rehearsals are held on
Wednesdays at 7pm.

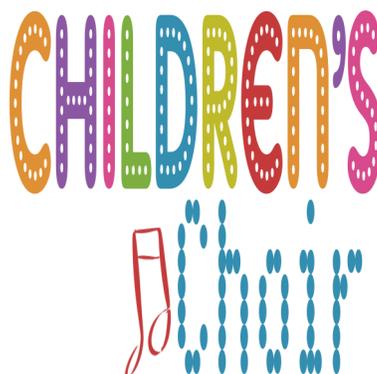
Contact Stan McGill for
more information.

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HANDBELL CHOIR

Rehearsals are held on
Wednesdays at 6pm.

Contact Virginia McBee
for more information.

**CHILDREN'S CHOIR**

(4 yrs-3rd grade)

Rehearsals on Sunday evenings,
5:30pm-7:00pm. *Special
rehearsal schedule for Advent
season; contact Tammy
Holcomb.*

**YOUTH CHOIR**

(3rd grade and up)

Rehearsals on Sunday evenings,
4:00-5:00pm.
*Special rehearsal schedule for
Advent season; Contact Judy
Grasham.*

DIACONATE GATHERING

Sunday, December 4, 2016 (This Sunday!)
10:15 to 11:15am in the Sanctuary

Who Should Come: All current Deacons, but especially Deacons who will continue or begin terms of service in 2017

Leaders: Dr. Dan along with Current Diaconate Chair, Kim Schnitker, and incoming Diaconate Chair Denise Armstrong, and Co-Chair Elaine Roeger



The key phrase for this Sunday's meeting is **SERVANT LEADERSHIP**.

You may have thought you were asked only to serve Communion on Sunday mornings. Important and sacred as that work is, you were also called to be a **Servant Leader** in Christ's Church.

Simon Sinek describes **Servant Leadership** like this: "Leadership is not a rank or a position. Leadership is a service to be given."

By the manner of his life and his words, **Jesus taught:** "Whoever would be great among you must be your servant." (Matthew 20:26)

In this spirit of **Servant Leadership**, I want us to gather as Deacons to think about two things:

1. What is the scriptural origin and meaning of being a Deacon in the Church?
2. How exactly do I express my willingness to be a Deacon by serving at the Table (aka, training instructions for service at the Table).

Christmas Poinsettias

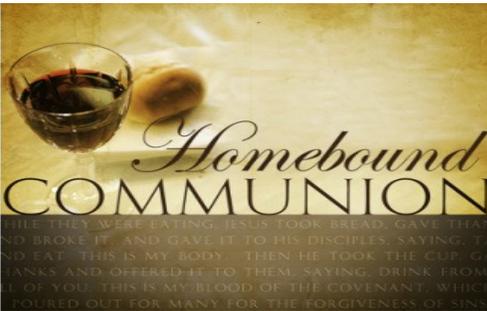
Order forms for Christmas Poinsettias available in Fellowship Hall and the Church Office. Deadline for ordering is Sunday, December 11th.



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS—Christmas Season

The church office will be closed Friday, December 23 through Monday, December 26 for the Christmas holiday; and Monday, January 2, 2017 for the New Years holiday.

Dan Jones will be out of the office December 26, 2016 through January 2, 2017.



HOMEBOUND COMMUNION

Served on the first Sunday of each month by an Elder. If you would like to be served, please contact the Church Office.

Buy A Brick

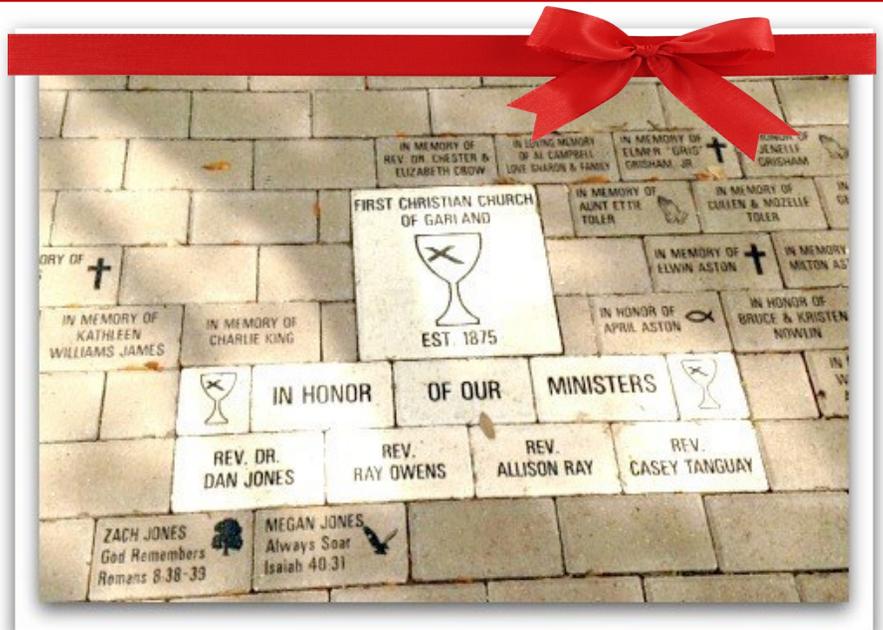
A Great Gift Idea, or a Great Way to Honor or Memorialize Loved Ones During the Holiday Season

Contact Kathleen Yant;

kyant1@aol.com;

972.496.0534 or Eva McKannan;

patevamck@verizon.net; 972.414.1737



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