

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:**

Marc and Becky Clay

**Wednesday Night Activities**

**Wednesday Night Activities will temporarily stop after May 30** so that those who volunteer to serve from August through May can get a much deserved break to refresh and re-group! This will include all youth group activities, adult Bible study, and our dinners. Normal Wednesday night activities **will resume on August 1**. For more information, contact Lee Dunbar.

**WEDNESDAY EVENING MEALS FOR APRIL:**

- May 2 - Pulled Pork Sandwiches, mac & cheese, & dessert
- May 9 - Hotdogs, baked beans, chips, & dessert
- May 16 - Hamburgers –n– fixins, chips, & dessert
- May 23 - Wings & Drumsticks, pasta salad, & dessert
- May 30 - BBQ Chicken, potato salad, corn cobs, & dessert

Beginning **June 3**, Junior Church will no longer include fourth- and fifth-graders. It will be provided for first- through third-graders only, from that point on. For more information, contact Lee Dunbar.



**Monthly Ladies Get-together** is on the first Thursday of each month and meets in the **Fellowship Hall**, at **1:00 p.m.** You are welcome to bring a snack if you like. This month, the group is meeting on **May 3!** For more information, contact Diane South, at 988-9718.

**Weekly at FCC:**

**Sundays**

- 8:00 a.m., Worship Team rehearsal (*sanctuary*)
- 9:00 a.m., Sunday School
- 10:00 a.m., Worship Service & nursery
- 10:25 a.m., Junior Church, 1<sup>st</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders \*  
(\* - Junior Church meets right outside the main entrance to the sanctuary, when directed)

**Tuesdays**

- 7:00 p.m., Ladies Bible Study (*Connection Café*)

**Wednesdays**

- 6:00 p.m., Fellowship Meal (*Fellowship Hall*)
- 6:30 p.m., Worship Team rehearsal (*sanctuary*)
- 6:45 p.m., Youth classes
- 7:00 p.m., Adult Bible study



**Ministry Staff**

- Ron Nolen, *Pastor*
- Kevin Adkins, *Minister of Worship & Connections*
- Rob Shawhan, *Youth Minister*

**Office Hours:**

Monday-Thursday.....8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
Friday.....8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

**Phone:** (478) 987-5428

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First Christian Church  
P.O. Box 1512  
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**First Christian Highlights  
MAY 2012**

*“Connect to God, Grow in Christ, Serve Others”*

*From the Pastor’s Desk*

I wanted to update you on my recovery. I am making good progress. I am still on some medications but everything seems to be good. God is in the process of restoring me daily and I hope to milk this heart surgery thing for as long as I can (just kidding!).

Last Friday evening, the Worship Team and Youth Band presented a concert of praise music. This is a new one for us and a good indication of the quality of both groups. They were a blessing to us! What was amazing to me was that both youth and adults were worshipping together.



**Connect to God** – seems rather simple and it is. God is trying to connect with us through His Son, Jesus Christ. Now, He wants us to connect with Him. And one of the best ways to connect to God is through worship (which includes praise, prayer, communion, giving, and the Word preached). As summer quickly approaches, make sure you connect to God—even in the midst of a busy schedule! By the way, **Grow in Christ** and **Serving Others** are important during the Summer months, as well.

I also want to remind you that **Child Dedication Sunday** is on Mother’s Day (May 13). If you desire to participate, please call the church office by May 9. This is a great commitment that one makes on behalf of their children: to raise them to know God!

Thanks,  
**Pastor Ron**

## Spaghetti Lunch

May 20, 11:15 a.m.



**\$5.00 per person**

\$2.00 per child 10 & under  
(Children 2 & under FREE)

**Take out plates available**

*\*Proceeds go to help fund  
this summer's CIY trip*

**REMINDER FOR THOSE WHO SIGNED UP:**

### Ladies Bible Study

Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m., in the Connection Cafe

### Wednesday Night Study

#### Christ and Islam

Pastor Ron is in middle of a teaching a compelling study on Islam (Understanding the Faith of the Muslims) on Wednesday evenings, in the Connection Café.

*If you would like a book to use as a study guide let the church office know. We do have a few more on hand.*

### Monthly Ladies Lunch

*(third Thursday of each month)*

For May, this fun group of ladies are going to meet at **The Oil Lamp**, in Perry. See you there on **May 17, at 11:30 a.m.!** For more information, contact Diane South, at 988-9718.

### FIRST IMPRESSIONS TEAM SCHEDULE:

- 5/6 - Larry, Carolyn, Lynn, Allan, Amanda, Pat, Lee, and Linda  
5/13 - Charles, Krystal, Susan, Robin, Margaret, Brenda, Johnny, and Tara  
5/20 - Charles, Kendall, Veronica, Ann, Susan, Kelly, Ken, and Cheryl  
5/27 - Phil, Michael, Virginia, Kayleigh, Jimmy, Kastina, Allen, and Cheryl

### NURSERY SCHEDULE:

- 5/2 - Lisa A.  
5/6 - Gayle, Carolyn, Melanie  
5/9 - Melinda L.  
5/13 - Diane B., Jessica J., Leigh  
5/16 - Brandy  
5/20 - Nina, Kastina, VOLUNTEER  
5/23 - VOLUNTEER  
5/27 - Brandy, Kathryn, Cheryl  
5/30 - VOLUNTEER

### CONNECTION CAFÉ SCHEDULE:

- 5/6 - sh1: Steven K and Pat P; sh2: Mary and Mike K; sh3: Bryan and Twyla S  
5/13 - sh1: Steven K and Jessica J; sh2: Cheri R and Leigh S; sh3: Robert and Belinda M  
5/20 - sh1: Steven K and Jessica J; sh2: Amanda L and Allan L; sh3: Tonya H and Virginia S  
5/27 - sh1: Steven K and Elizabeth C; sh2: ; Pat P and Brian A; sh3: Pat P and Ann V

### Whom Do You Serve?

*by Jennifer Pierce*

If you have ever studied the Old Testament or even read it a little bit, you may have noticed that many people worshiped a false god named Baal. Over and over again, God told His people Israel not to worship Baal themselves. Worship of Baal was disgusting and sad. Worshipers of Baal cut themselves, hurt other people, and did all kinds of crazy things to show Baal their affection. But Baal was just a stone god, reproduced by whatever artisan had the skill to make the statues.

We don't worship stone gods, but there are many other things that fit the same pattern. The name Baal means master. What things master you? Think about it for a minute. If you can't imagine life without it or even a day without it, it probably masters you. If you don't think you would survive without it, it may be your master. What is your Baal? And what hardships do you inflict on yourself and others in order to serve this master?

#### 1 Corinthians 6:12:

*"Everything is permissible for me, but I will not be mastered by anything."*

I find it extremely interesting that the name Baal has the same meaning as the word Lord that we use for God and Jesus. Why serve any other master that will only make us and those around us miserable when we can serve the True Master who loves us enough to die for us? Paul says in 1 Corinthians 6:12, "Everything is permissible for me, but I will not be mastered by anything." Can you say the same for yourself? Are you tired of being mastered by something or many things that rob you of happiness? Are you tired of feeling hopeless, defeated, and powerless? Don't give up! Change who you serve. In Romans 7, Paul asks, "Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God-through Jesus Christ our Lord!" Our Master, Jesus Christ offers deliverance. And his deliverance brings life and peace. Who is your master?