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First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
 Of Stillwater, OK, Inc.
 411 W. Mathews Ave.
 Stillwater, OK 74075-7517

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Facts & Figures for July 25, 2010	
Attendance(124 & 117).....	241
Sunday School.....	124
General Fund Receipts.....	\$5,624.00
Capital Fund Receipts.....	\$1,00500
Loose Offering/Sunday School.....	\$347.10
Non-Budget Funds Receipts.....	\$17957.30
2010 Facts & Figures as of June 30, 2010	
YTD Budget Receipts.....	\$250,952.36
YTD Budget Expenses.....	\$266,718.16
Net Receipts over Expenses.....	(\$15,765.80)
Presented by Kay Smith, Treasurer , dkwsmith@suddenlink.net	

Please come to the special Mission Camp worship on Thursday night at 7pm before the board meeting at 8pm.

Have you seen the new e-version of this newsletter? Let the office know you'd like to receive it regularly at office@fcc-stillwater.org.

The Stillwater Christian is a weekly publication of First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). The deadline for articles each week is 1pm Monday.
 Tracy Freeman, Receptionist/Editor
editor@fcc-stillwater.org
 Church Office Phone: 405.372.7722
 Fax: 405.372.7726
 Find *The Stillwater Christian* and more information about our church at
www.fcc-stillwater.org
 Send prayer requests and general email to
office@fcc-stillwater.org

The Stillwater Christian

Volume 2010

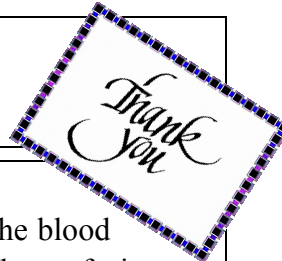
July 27

Inside This Issue	
Announcements	1
Care and Feeding of a Candle	2
Children/Youth News	3
Facts & Figures	4


**Specially Called Official Board Meeting
 Thursday, July 29th at 8:00pm**

SAVE THE DATE!
 The search committee for an Interim Associate Minister has selected an individual to pass on to the board for their approval. Pending Board approval of this candidate, we will have a meet and greet time with him (and hopefully his wife) on **Thursday, August 5 from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.** The committee is very excited about this candidate and looks forward to the possibility of his coming to be in ministry with us.

Thank You To the Volunteer Painters
 A huge thank you to all the volunteers who helped paint the Small Fellowship Hall! Something new begins August 29th!



Thank You from Steve Harrist
 Steve Harrist sent a note to Jim Baker expressing his gratitude for the blood drive at FCC and to all the donors. He said, "I have received blood transfusions about every two weeks since my diagnosis of leukemia in late April. The kindness and generosity of friends and strangers has been life saving for me. Please let everyone know how grateful I am. Sincerely, Steve Harrist". The next blood drive is September 12.

Guest Minister Scott Freeman to Preach Sunday

 Owen Cayton will be away next Sunday with the Mission Camp group in Disney World. In his absence, he has asked Scott Freeman, a new member here to preach Sunday, August 1st. Scott received his M.A. in Ministry from Trinity Theological Seminary. He was a Youth Minister for over 13 years and a Preacher for eight years. Scott and his family placed membership with us last winter and he is happy to serve in this way.

**Join us this Sunday for Guest Minister Scott Freeman's message, "Cheeks and Miles" based on Psalm 107:1-9, 43 and Matthew 5:38-42
 Traditional 9:00am • Sunday School 10:10 • Contemporary 11:10**



The Care and Feeding of A Candle

Owen Cayton, Senior Minister

pastor@fcc-stillwater.org

revocayton.blogspot.com

It may be stating the obvious, but I am going to say it anyway: First Christian Church of Stillwater, OK is in a time of transition. In the past three years, after 7 to 8 years of stability, staff wise, the congregation has had to replace the Senior Minister and now has to replace the Associate Minister. We have also had to look for new music leadership in the first service, a new custodian, and a new receptionist.

Whew, that is a mouthful! It is also a lot for any one church to go through. And yet, even beyond that, this church is in a transition that many other churches are in as well. The culture around us is changing faster than it has ever changed before. Churches all over are struggling to respond to that change. As Merl Miller has wisely suggested in a couple meetings, we are in the middle of a paradigm shift. This is not a minor transition for us or any other church that requires simple changes, a paradigm shift requires a whole new way of looking at things.

Put all of that together: the changes in staff and the changes in the world around us, it is enough to make anyone stop and take a deep breath. It can, and I believe, should be cause for concern. It should make us collectively stop and take a look at where we are.

I also believe times of transition are good. They are absolutely important for the life of our church and the life of the Church universal. Times of transition are also incredible opportunities for transformation to occur. These are God shaping moments. What makes them good, even if they are a bit disconcerting and hugely anxiety producing, is that we are able to stop and intentionally take a look at where we are.

This is a moment we can intentionally listen to God. God, who led Israel through the Red Sea, will surely lead us in this moment! I have confidence not only in the God we serve together, but I have confidence in the people God has entrusted with this moment in the life of the church. There are some good; no, there are some amazing people in this place at this time!

Not only that, but even while being in the middle of massive transitions, there are still exciting things going on in this congregation. Remember our Mission and Commissioning Sunday? All of those people stood in the front of the church ready to serve in groups on behalf of the church – Mission Camp, adult mission trip, youth trips, Friendship Camp. In addition there are so many of us serving in places in this community: take a look at those banners in the sanctuary and the multiple pictures there and tell me that we don't have amazing people here – and we're not done with pictures!

On Monday night, I had dinner with the youth at Mission Camp. As I was speaking with one of the youth sponsors, they were amazed. They were amazed by the event and what it has taken to get it put together. They were amazed by our youth and the maturity they have shown in deciding to do this kind of event rather than going on a trip somewhere. Finally, they were astounded at the level of hospitality they were receiving at the hands of those from this congregation who showed up to help serve. When I tried to brush the last comment away and say, "Oh, it's really nothing, we are glad to serve." He stopped me and said, "No, really, they have done more than just serve us dinner, they have also made sure that we know we are welcome."

Let our hope in God be unwavering!

Shalom,

Owen



CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

Sondra Ladd, Children/Youth Ministry Director

youth@fcc-stillwater.org
firstchristianyouth.blogspot.com



What an amazing week we are having! It is every bit as fantastic as we have planned and expected it to be! We have over 150 people working all over the Stillwater community serving. Stay tuned to hear the stories and see the pictures.

Once Mission camp is finished, we will be Disney World bound! We meet Saturday morning, at 4:30am and need to leave no later than 5:00am. It's a tight schedule— don't be late! We will return on Wednesday, August 4th and be back in Stillwater between 9:00pm and 10:00pm. For more details and flight information, check Sondra's blog.

Fall Enrollment at the FCC Preschool Is Now Open!

The preschool is open for children three months to 4 years old.

Please call Christy Anderson at 405-372-7726, ext. 114.

Class times and days vary depending on age.



Monthly Energy Savings Report

June 2009	53,000 KWH	\$4,079.25
June 2010	36,640 KWH	\$3,340.21
Savings	16,360 KWH	\$739.04

The monthly savings are possible with a better management of the church cooling/heating system and the use of electronic and LED lights. If you are interested in doing the same at home, contact Ron Beer or John Leonard, property supervisor.

Who to Contact, July 31– August 4

Owen and Sondra are leading the Mission Group in Disney World. If you need to reach church leadership for anything, please contact Sharon Gober, chair of the elders. You may reach her at (cell)747-4103 or (home)377-7563.