



CHRISTIAN CHURCH

focus

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | CARROLLTON GEORGIA |

NOVEMBER 2022 – VOLUME 47



Dearest Church family, over the next couple of weeks, Wendy and I will be traveling in the footsteps of the apostle Paul. As you can see from our itinerary below, we will get to visit many of the cities where the apostle Paul planted churches and visited churches and churches to which he wrote letters of affection and correction. Please pray for us as we travel, that God might use this time to enrich us and enrich our teaching and ministry at 1st Christian church. I look forward to sharing with you some of our experiences, and insights into the gospel of our wonderful Savior. Thank you in advance for being present in worship for the preaching of Jason Faircloth on November 6, and Scott Gregory on the November 13. They are not only gifted teachers, but they are working very hard on these messages, and I am certain they will be a blessing. I will catch them and you online the next couple of weeks, and then see you on Sunday, November 20.



Randy Barnhart
Senior Minister



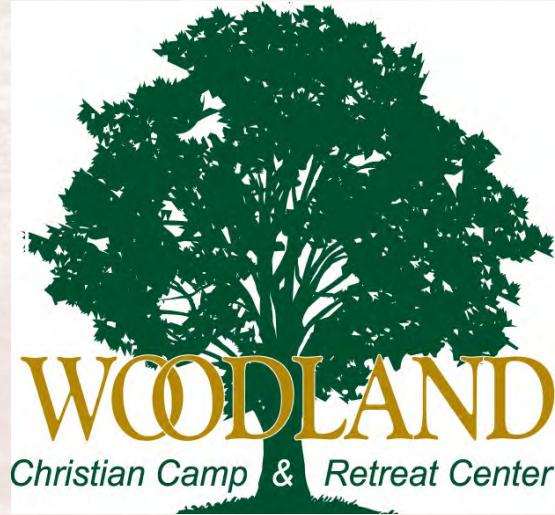
Daily Itinerary

DAY 1	Departure from USA	▼
DAY 2	ARRIVAL IN ATHENS	▼
DAY 3	CORINTH & CENCHRAE	▼
DAY 4	THESSALONIKI & VERIA	▼
DAY 5	AMPHIPOLIS, PHILIPPI & NEAPOLI	▼
DAY 6	JOURNEY TO ISTANBUL	▼
DAY 7	ISTANBUL	▼
DAY 8	CAPPADOCIA	▼
DAY 9	KONYA	▼
DAY 10	ANTIOCH IN PISIDIA	▼
DAY 11	LAODICEA & HIEROPOLIS	▼
DAY 12	EPHESUS	▼
DAY 13	DEPARTURE - Return Home	▼

MONEY TALKS

Join us Sunday
November 6th and 13th
as Jason Faircloth & Scott
Gregory continue the sermon
series Money Talks.

A BIBLICAL TAKE ON EARNING,
SAVING, SPENDING, AND GIVING



Woodland Christian Camp Update

2022 Summer Camp programs were a huge success! We had over 3,300 campers and volunteers on-site. This is a 33% increase from last year; what an immense blessing! Thank you to our donors who made this possible, as well as our amazing volunteers. We are grateful for your commitment to Woodland and the sacrifices made - missing work, sweating, and riding the broom around the room; thank you for making wonderful memories with our 800+ Woodland campers. What a profound impact! Planning is already underway for Summer Camp 2023; the calendar will be released at the Annual Meeting in late November.

Our Retreat season is going extremely well! Retreats and Summer Camp programs actually ran simultaneously at the end of July and into early August. Our staff has been very busy facilitating Ropes Courses, working on facility projects, and hosting weekend events. We've far surpassed last year; in fact, this August - October will actually be our largest on record!!

What We Need: 1) Please continue your **prayers** for our current Retreat Hosting ministry and the Woodland Staff. 2) Do you know of any high school or college students who could help **work weekend Retreats**? We are in need of kitchen staff and assistance with Ropes Course facilitation. Contact the Camp Office for more information. 3) Consider **hosting** a church/group event at Woodland! We offer day events through our Ropes Course programming, as well as overnight Retreats for all ages. 4) We've already begun recruiting for next year's **Summer Staff**! Can you recommend any college-age students who would be a great fit? We hire 12-15 young adults each summer that work as lifeguards, kitchen staff, and activity facilitators. Woodland provides room and board, along with a generous base pay. View full details at woodlandcamp.org/summer-camp/summer-staff. 5) **Donate!** A donation of any amount is such a blessing to Woodland. Your gift will help fund our ministry efforts throughout the year, especially during our slower winter months.



HAYRIDE

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6TH
5:00 PM
KING FAMILY FARM

491 OAK GROVE ROAD TEMPLE, GEORGIA
BRING YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS
ADMISSION IS FREE

CONTACT

AUBREY@1STCHRISTIANCHURCH.COM OR
CALL 770 832 3974 FOR MORE INFORMATION

The 2022 Trunk or Treat was a huge success, with over 1,000 neighbors stopping by our church. Thank you to all those who brought candy, opened your trunks, and helped out. The church staff appreciates all who served!



1st Kids

Stand: Don't face your fears alone

Courage is being brave enough to do what you should, even when you're afraid.



Morning Time

As your kid starts their day, encourage them by saying something like: "I saw you being brave when you . . ."



Drive Time

While on the go, ask your kid: "What is something brave you saw or heard about someone doing?"



Meal Time

At a meal, ask everyone at the table: "What is something that people are afraid of? What is something you are afraid of?"



Bed Time

Pray for each other: "God, even when other people around us are scared, help us to be brave and to trust in You. Whether that's making the right choice, being kind to someone, or whatever it may be."

*Aubrey Parson,
Children's Pastor*

Week One

Joshua and Caleb
Numbers 13-14



You can do what you should even when others are afraid.

Week Two

David Anointed/Goliath

1 Samuel 16:1-13 and 1 Samuel 17:1-51

You can do what you should even when things seem impossible.

Week Three

Daniel Is Thrown Into a Den of Lions

Daniel 6

You can do what you should because God is with you.

Week Four

Esther

The Book of Esther

You can do what you should even when you don't know what will happen.

MEMORY VERSE

"Be strong and brave. Do not be afraid. Do not lose hope. I am the LORD your God. I will be with you everywhere you go." Joshua 1:9b, NIV

Service Project

Did you know that we have a free food resource right here on E Ward street, within walking distance of our campus? The Little Free Pantry Program is a city-wide resource where anyone can donate and anyone can take food and other non perishables that are inside the box.

This November, we want our church to stock up the 12 pantries that are located around the city of Carrollton! For the first three weeks in November, we will be taking donations of non-perishable and hygiene items that will be placed inside the pantries on a service day.

The service day will take place on MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21ST. Volunteers will meet at the church at 10:00 AM to sort donations, eat lunch and share a prayer for the people who will be affected by the donations, and then we will disperse into the city to stock the Little Free Pantries! Even if you cannot contribute to the items needed, we covet your prayers and would love to have you come volunteer on the service day.

Items needed:

Soups (with a POP top)	Grits/Oatmeal	Granola Bars
Canned fruit	Crackers	Deodorant
Nuts/Trail Mix	Instant Potatoes	Soap (travel size)
Juice/Juice boxes	Peanut Butter	Shampoo (travel size)
Canned Chili	Cereal/Pop Tarts	Toothbrushes
Applesauce	Tuna	Toothpaste
Mac and Cheese	Microwave Popcorn	Toilet Paper
Ramen Noodles	Rice/Pasta	Brushes/Combs

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact aubrey@1stchristianchurch.com or call/text: 678-378-8809. We want to celebrate this time of Thanksgiving by blessing those who are less fortunate in our own community.



Estimates of Giving Sunday, November 20th

On Sunday, November 20 we will present our estimate of giving for the 2023 calendar year (we will have cards for you at church), and place them on the altar. In order that we can more successfully plan out the church's ministry for the coming year, we are asking each member and regular attender to make an estimate of his or her financial gifts for 2023.

Please note, these cards represent your prayerfully considered *estimate of what God would have you give during the year. As always, you can increase or decrease your estimate of giving without question, should your circumstances change during the year.*



*Senior Fellowship meets the second
Tuesday of each month
In the Family Life Center.
November 8th, 12 - 1 PM*

Meal cost is \$10.00 per individual.

Please contact Paul@1stChristianChurch.com or
call 770 832 3974 to reserve your seat.



**November 5, 2022 at 7:30 pm
November 6, 2022 at 2:30 pm**

*Proceeds will go to the Salvation Army
Christmas program for needy families*

**306 College St. Carrollton, GA
770-832-3974**

[**Click here to get tickets**](#)

Bob Gibson will be giving a short program at the November 8 Senior Fellowship. Bob will be sharing interesting information he has learned through his hobby of coin collecting. For several years Bob and Hazel attended FCC during the summer months. After their move from Colorado, we are blessed to have them in our services every Sunday. The Joyful Givers are pleased to have them as regulars in their SS class.



Member Spotlight

Twenty miles may be considered a reasonable commute for a job, but few people would consider it reasonable milage to church. However, for the last five years Terry and Jeri Hampton have been wending their way from Buncombe, Georgia, to First Christian Church where they have found a church family to love and a place to serve. Jeri had grown up in a Christian Church in Illinois and during all of the years they lived near Fort Myers, Florida, they attended Christian Churches. In fact, they were charter members in the establishment of the Northside Christian Church during part of those years. In retirement, Terry and Jeri moved to Georgia to live in the community where their son Craig's family called home. Since the Baptist Church, practically next door to their new home, served most church going folk in the small community, they began attending there. Several years passed before they determined that they really needed to get reconnected to a Christian Church that shared their vision of God's Word and work.



Jeri says they visited First Christian three times and got three invitations to lunch. They had no doubts but that they had found a welcoming church. Besides that, they were impressed with Randy's preaching and found Ron Shepherd's Sunday School class entertaining and inspiring. Immediately, they learned of the R and R ministries of Billy and Cindi Ressler which to this day has their heart. Besides helping as they can with that ministry, Terry has been a good right hand man to Tony Ward in helping with lawn maintenance, keeping the filters on the AC units cleaned, etc. Terry and Jeri are on the communion prep rotation and the greeter's rotation for the 9 a.m. service. Jeri enjoys the Alpha group of ladies and each year makes twenty or so pillow cases for delivery to the local women's shelter.

Look these folks up to make their acquaintance and ask about their family. They will fill you in on their sons Jeff (Florida) and Craig (Georgia), and the two granddaughters they adore. If they seem pretty excited about their family, it may be because they have become great grand parents to three babies in the last 18 months.



**Daylight Saving
Time Ends
November 6th**



Jake McPike
Youth Minister



The following article was taken from churchleaders.com and was written by Benjamin Kerns. Benjamin is a contributor and curriculum writer for youthministry360.

Youth Ministry in the Church Is the World's Most Important Job

Is youth ministry in the church that vital? To me, I don't think the headline is an oversell. I truly believe this with all my heart. I've always thought youth ministry was the *best* job in the world. But more and more, I'm convinced it's also the *most important*.

You see, we live in a culture that has totally abandoned kids. Chap Clark has been talking about this for years. But now we're realizing the full ramifications. Clark argues that adults have abandoned kids, who now occupy the "world beneath." All the organizations that were supposed to come alongside families and support the character development and care of kids have abandoned kids as well. Teachers teach to the test, coaches coach for the win, and even youth workers plan for the numbers. And in all of this, kids go unseen. Teens are living in this hidden world where it is truly the *Lord of the Flies*.

We're seeing the fruit of this abandonment with the astronomical rise in anxiety, depression and suicide. We see teens self-medicating with anything they can get their hands on. They're trying to be distracted by as much technology as they can consume between dopamine hits from social media platforms.

This Is Where Youth Ministry in the Church Comes In

Students are abandoned. They live in the cloud and are being destroyed internally. Yet they're still human beings whom God made in his image. Teenagers desperately need human interaction, human connection, and human care.

That's why youth ministry in the church is so crucial. When you step in, slow down, and actually see a kid, you make a true impact on them. By acknowledging young people's humanity, seeing them through the lens of Christ, and speaking words of love and affection on them, you're actually changing their lives.

This requires you to not be on your phone. Don't buy into the dopamine rush and trick yourself that you're actually connecting with kids because you're present in their online world. Those things are important, but that's not where transformation happens. Life change occurs in actual human interaction. And it's that human interaction and empathy that builds the strands in kids' hearts so they can actually encounter God and experience the love, grace, and empathy found in Christ.

In this brutal culture, you're one of the only adults in these kids' lives who actually sees them. You're one of the only people who doesn't need anything from them, who doesn't need them to perform. You only need to make eye contact with them and remind them of their true humanity and true worth. And because you're one of the only adults who do this, this makes your job and calling the most important job on the planet!

So don't slack off. And don't lose heart! Embrace your calling to do youth ministry in the church. And work with all your might to love your kids...right into the kingdom of God!

1ST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
**UPCOMING
EVENTS**

**November 2 - Youth Group & 1st Kids 6 PM
Adult Study: Raising Godly Children in an
Ungodly World 6 - 7:30 PM
Joseph Study 6 - 7:30**

**November 4 - Celebrate Recovery 6 PM food,
7 PM program**

**November 5 - The Best Christmas Pageant Ever
7:30 PM**

**November 6 - The Best Christmas Pageant Ever
2:30 PM**

**November 8 - Food Pantry 9 - 10 AM
Senior Fellowship 12 noon - 1 PM
Voting Day**

**November 9 - Alpha 10 AM
Youth Group & 1st Kids 6 PM
Adult Study: Raising Godly Children in an
Ungodly World 6 - 7:30 PM
Joseph Study 6 - 7:30**

**November 11 - Celebrate Recovery 6 PM food,
7 PM program**

November 14 - Omega 6:30 PM

**November 16 - Youth Group & 1st Kids 6 PM
Adult Study: Raising Godly Children in an
Ungodly World 6 - 7:30 PM
Joseph Study 6 - 7:30**

**November 18 - Celebrate Recovery 6 PM food,
7 PM program**

**November 25 - Celebrate Recovery 6 PM food,
7 PM program**

November 30 - Youth Group 6 PM

RESPITE

I saw the sun rise slowly
as if peeping though the trees,
while the obscurities of Presence
wafted gently on the breeze,
reflecting hidden shadows,
caressing undersides of leaves.

Tiny drops of dew hung gracefully
on grassy-headed blades,
while sunlit diamonds sparkled bright
on ripples of the lake,
calming stormy hearts and peace once
more
for His glorious Name's sake.

Soon a bird was stirred
to sing its praise
as crickets joined
to strum their tune.
glancing high above I glimpsed
the silver slipper of the moon.

What a lovely, peaceful moment
in the midst of so much pain,
and I thanked the King of Glory
for this respite from the rain,
knowing godliness with contentment
truly is the greatest gain.

The Bible teaches us that our talents are to be used to glorify God and further His Kingdom. First Christian Church overflows with talented people who apply this teaching to their daily walk. Many of us know Libby Hill, who attends 9 a.m. worship, for her knowledge of the Bible and her career as an artist. We may not have known she also tries her hand at poetry. With this poem, Libby thanks God for His grace and the contentment found in faith.



Libby Hill

LIBRARY CORNER

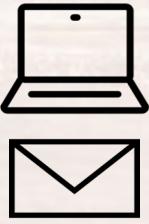
Have you noticed that the leaves are falling, mornings are very chilly and evening darkness comes sooner with each passing day? This can only mean that fall is upon us and winter fast approaches. These changes will cause many of us to spend more and more time indoors. Often this time will be spent with an interesting book. While I encourage you to read books from the FCC library, a change of pace is always a good idea.



If you are a fan of jigsaw puzzles or always thought you'd like to give them a try, your FCC library has a solution. Stop in the library and peruse our new swap and share puzzle corner. You are invited to bring any puzzle you have completed and trade it in for a new challenge. There will be no sign-up sheets and no time limits....easy peasy...bring one puzzle and borrow one. **WARNING:** Don't overdo puzzle time as II Chronicles warns us to not be a "stiff necked" people!

Margo Shepard, FCC librarian

WAYS TO **GIVE**



1stChristianChurch.com

306 College Street
Carrollton, GA 30117



Sunday
(Giving boxes located in foyers)
Text 1stcc to 73256

October Numbers

	<u>10/2</u>	<u>10/9</u>	<u>10/16</u>	<u>10/23</u>	<u>10/30</u>
Attendance	271	201	247	281	273
Offering	\$21,286.66	\$15,532.00	\$4,484.00	\$10,772.63	\$13,227.00
YTD Received	\$541,400.61	\$556,932.61	\$561,416.61	\$572,189.24	\$585,413.24
YTD Needed	\$574,307.60	\$588,665.29	\$603,022.98	\$617,380.67	\$631,738.36