



# CHRISTIAN CHURCH

## *focus*

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | CARROLLTON GEORGIA | JULY 2025 – VOLUME 74

## INTRODUCING THE CARING HANDS MINISTRY

What if your presence could be the very thing that brings someone hope? That's the heartbeat behind our new **Caring Hands Ministry**—a simple, powerful way to bring Christ's love to those who need it most. Whether it's sitting beside a hospital bed, praying in a nursing home, or visiting someone who feels forgotten, this ministry reminds people they are *seen, known, and loved*.

Jesus said, *"I was sick and you visited me."* (Matthew 25:36) *Caring Hands puts that into action—one visit, one prayer, one heart at a time.*

**Ron Shepherd** is leading the charge, and he's putting together a team of compassionate people who want to be used by God in this powerful way.

**Everyone is invited to an informational meeting on Wednesday, August 6 at 6 PM in the First Christian Church Family Life Center** to learn more. Come explore how *you might be part of this life-giving ministry.*

Contact [Paul@1stChristianChurch.com](mailto:Paul@1stChristianChurch.com) or call 770-832-3974 to register.







*Jake McPike*  
Youth Minister



This year, for our summer trip with our students, we ventured to a familiar location. We took 22 people to Saint Mary's, GA, and Fernandina Beach from June 17th to 21st. This is the second time we have been to this location with our group, and this year was a great experience for us! Students enjoyed great community, good food, time in the pool, and the beach (of course).

While there, we spent a significant amount of time studying the book of Daniel. We specifically looked at the "big three" stories in Daniel: The Meal Plan (Daniel 1), The Fiery Furnace (Daniel 3), and The Lion's Den (Daniel 6). Students have alone/quiet time in the mornings where they interact with the Scripture and answer questions on it. At night, they hear a message specifically on this same text, which ties the day together.

A special thank you goes out to our incredible adult sponsors who made the trip possible. The sponsors this year were Chris and Lindsay Carr, Jacob and Hannah Joiner, Daniel Taylor, Kelsey Traylor, and Erica McPike.







*Brittany Vibhakar & Beth Morgan*



*Volunteer Paul Vandecar uses his guitar to tell about Jesus and Brenda Holland captivates children with the story of Joseph.*

## Vacation Bible School:

Thank you to everyone that helped make VBS such a wonderful week! We were able to share the love of God with 75 children over the four days. It was awesome to hear the children share “God sightings” throughout the week – times they saw God in their lives and surroundings. We then invited them to come back on Sunday to hear the end of Joseph’s story!

## Summer Fun:

Summer is in full swing! We had a great time at the mother/daughter ice cream social where we painted, ate & discussed Psalm 39:8 (“Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in him.”).

Many family events are scheduled this month before school starts back! These events require an adult to be in attendance with the child(ren) they bring. This is a wonderful opportunity to get to know some of the other families in the church while enjoying quality time with your child (grandchild, niece/nephew, etc.).

- Wednesday, July 9<sup>th</sup> @ 6PM: Family Bingo – Join us in the children’s center for taco salads, bingo & prizes!
- Sunday, July 13<sup>th</sup> @ 2PM: Father/Son Fun at the Carroll County Rec Department (Gymnastics gym) – Hop into the foam pit, have a nerf gun battle & more!
- Wednesday, July 23<sup>rd</sup> @ 6PM: Family Movie Night – Kick back, eat some popcorn and enjoy a movie in the children’s center!
- Wednesday, August 13<sup>th</sup> @ 6PM: Wednesday Night Kickoff





# PARKING LOT RENOVATIONS



In mid-June, Macintosh Paving completed the repaving of our parking area. The project included grading processes aimed at enhancing water drainage and reducing the slope of certain parking spaces.



## GIVE ME SHELTER

The newly installed awning at the entrance of our Family Life Center, expertly crafted by Ralin, serves as a powerful symbol of safety and comfort, embodying the welcoming spirit of 1st Christian Church. This essential addition not only shields families and individuals from the scorching sun and drenching rain but also enhances the overall experience of entering our facility, ensuring that everyone feels cared for, regardless of the weather. With the improved overhead lighting that accompanies the awning, visitors can navigate the entrance with confidence, particularly during low-light conditions, reinforcing our commitment to providing a secure environment for all.





# FATHER'S DAY BRUNCH



We want to take a moment to extend our heartfelt gratitude to each of the volunteers for their incredible efforts in putting together our recent Father's Day fellowship meal. Your hard work and dedication truly shone through, creating an event that celebrated Dads and father figures.

Your commitment to serving others, whether by cooking, setting up, or simply bringing joy to the room, made the evening truly enjoyable for everyone. Thank you for your selflessness, generosity, and the love you poured into making the day so special.





# BRING A FRIEND DAY & POTLUCK JULY 20TH

There's something truly special about gathering with our 1st Christian Church family, and we invite you to join us for a delightful fellowship dinner—commonly known as a potluck—immediately following the 11 AM service on July 20th! This is not just a meal; it's a heartwarming opportunity to create lasting connections, share laughter, and enjoy delicious dishes brought by our wonderful FCC members. Imagine the joy of breaking bread with friends, both familiar and new. We encourage you to bring a friend along—what better way to introduce them to the warmth and camaraderie that defines our Church family? Let's celebrate the beauty of fellowship and the joy of sharing our favorite recipes. Mark your calendars; we can't wait to see you there!



Contact Paul at 70-832-3974 or see Carrie Veal to sign up to bring your favorite side dish.

## LIFE GROUPS

BETTER TOGETHER

## JOIN A LIFE GROUP!

If you've ever felt like church is more than just sitting in rows on Sunday, you're absolutely right. Life was meant to be lived in circles—where people know your name, listen to your story, pray with you, and walk alongside you through life. That's why we're relaunching Life Groups this fall, and you're invited to be part of something life-giving, meaningful, and deeply encouraging.

In a world where people feel more disconnected than ever, Life Groups create space to connect, grow, and serve together. These small, caring groups meet weekly to laugh, study Scripture, pray, and build real relationships. You'll find strength when you're struggling, joy when you're celebrating, and hope when life gets hard. You won't just be encouraged—you'll be an encourager to others.

We're excited to announce that Billy Kaylor will be leading this new Life Group initiative, and he's eager to help you find a group—or even help you start one! Yes, you read that right. If God is nudging you to gather a few people and begin something new, we're here to walk with you every step of the way.

Sign-ups begin soon. Let this fall be the season you meet new friends—because life is better together.

# PARENT POWER

## WHAT BUILDS A CHILD'S CONFIDENCE?

Confidence in a child doesn't come from trophies, popularity, or even talent. It comes from knowing—deep in their soul—that they are loved, accepted, and valued just as they are. A child's sense of worth begins at home, long before they ever step into a classroom or onto a sports field.

What builds a child's confidence? The answer is surprisingly simple: presence, praise, and purpose. A parent's consistent, loving presence tells a child, "You matter." When we sit beside them, even in silence, we're whispering, "You are not alone." Praise, when offered for effort and character—not just achievement—instills the truth that who they are is more important than what they do. And when we give them a sense of purpose—by teaching them they are fearfully and wonderfully made by God—we plant seeds of confidence that no storm can shake.

The world will try to measure your child by grades, goals, and glitter. But as Christian parents, we must help our children measure themselves by a higher standard: God's unfailing love. That's where true confidence begins.

*"The Lord is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear?" (Psalm 27:1)*

Senior



**FCC Senior Lunch at Suttons is  
on the third Thursday of each  
month, at 11:30 am. All those  
over 50 years of age are invited  
(Dutch treat).**



# PICKLEBALL

1<sup>ST</sup> CHRISTIAN CHURCH



SUMMER SCHEDULE  
**MONDAYS &  
WEDNESDAYS**  
**6:00 - 8:00 PM**



**3 INDOOR COURTS**



# FOOD PANTRY



2nd Tuesday of each month  
9-10 AM

1<sup>ST</sup> CHRISTIAN CHURCH



# UPCOMING EVENTS

7/2- Pickleball 6-8 PM

7/6- Celebrate Recovery 4 PM

7/8- Food Pantry 9 - 10 AM

7/9 – Alpha 10 AM, Pickleball 6-8 PM, Family Bingo Night 6 PM

7/13– Father/son fun at the Rec. Dept. 2 PM, Celebrate Recovery 4 PM

7/14 –Pickleball 6-8 PM

7/16- Pickleball 6–8 PM

7/20– Fellowship Meal after the 11 AM Service, Celebrate Recovery 4 PM

7/21– Pickleball 6-8 PM

7/23– Pickleball 6-8 PM, Family  
Movie Night 6 PM

7/27– Celebrate Recovery 4 PM

7/28– Pickleball 6-8 PM

7/30– Pickleball 6-8 PM

## WAYS TO GIVE



Text 1stcc to 73256



Sunday (Giving boxes)

1stChristianChurch.com

306 College Street

### June Numbers

#### Weekly Offering Needed

\$17,211.54

6/1

6/8

6/15  
Father's  
Day

6/22

Attendance

255

267

278

251

Offering

\$28,309.00

\$13,532.55

\$14,399.00

\$12,135.50

YTD Received

\$417,645.07

\$431,177.62

\$445,576.62

\$457,712.12

YTD Needed

\$378,653.88

\$395,865.42

\$413,076.96

\$430,288.50