

News and Views

First Christian Church
Albuquerque, New Mexico

March 2007

First Christian Church Vision 2007

By: Todd Zeter

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Our purpose is sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ with people, and leading them into a fully devoted relationship with Him.
Matthew 28:18-20, 22:37-39

Last month we were presented with a new vision for the church. Like any event or series of events that requires planning, the vision can be summarized in terms of both short- and long-term planning. Short-term milestones might include such items as renovating the sanctuary or starting the Sunday night prayer services. Long-term goals might involve building on to our existing facility or developing programs that require greater resources than are currently available.

In all of these activities, we pray for and look for God's guidance and blessing. Sometimes, this comes to us quite by surprise – consider that within a day or so of Tom giving his vision for the church, the Boy Scouts that meet here contacted him about a service project that would benefit the church. As a result, the scouts will be painting the Family Center in the next month or so.

Also, on the Sunday after Vision Sunday, we talked about being led by the Holy Spirit in Sunday School, and I asked if anyone in the class had a story they would like to share.

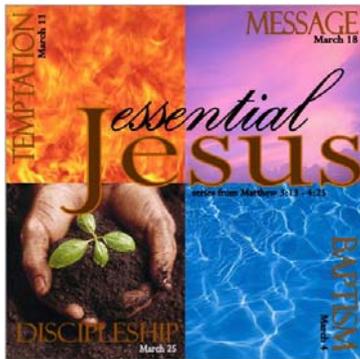
Jason Helm told us about how within the course of a week, he and Lisa visited Albuquerque, received job offers, put their house on the market, sold their house, and were on their way here. He also pointed out that this was at exactly the same time our BLAST program was getting off the ground, and that he and Lisa were actively seeking a way to get involved in a children's program.

Coincidences? I doubt it – more like God helping us meet our short-term goals. I can't wait to see how He helps us meet our long-term needs!

In teaching the book of Acts in Sunday School, it occurred to me that much of what the early church did involved both short- and long-term planning as well, and that they were probably just as surprised as we might be about how things fall into place. In Acts 1:8, Jesus told the disciples to "be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Think of "Jerusalem" to be short-term planning and "Judea, Samaria, and the ends of the earth" to be longer-term planning.

Continued on page 4

New Sermon Series
coming in March....



Don't miss it!

Staff

Tom Caffery

Senior Minister

Ben Headley

Youth Minister

Ryan Nelson

Worship Minister

Candice Summers

Administrator

Nan Scott

Bookkeeper/Receptionist

Debra Asher

Communications

Paul Eggleton,

Custodian

Contact Us

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Email: Staff@fccabq.org

Website: www.fccabq.org

The Sunday *Bulletin* and monthly *News & Views* can also be available at www.fccabq.org.

Audio downloads of Sunday's sermons at www.fccabq.org

To receive the *News and Views* via email rather than the USPS contact Debra Asher, dasher@fccabq.org.

Deadlines

Sunday *Bulletin*

Wednesdays, 9AM.

April *News & Views*

Monday, March 12, noon.

What's Happening in Missions

Report on All God's Children, Inc.
With excerpts from Jim and Denise Hayes'

All God's Children is a mission supported by First Christian Church.

Because of the Zimbabwe government, Jim and Denise Hayes are being forced to close the orphanage in Zimbabwe. The following are excerpts from their latest newsletter:

"We feel strongly that God is shutting the door on our work in Zimbabwe and telling us to move on. We do not understand His ways but we do TRUST Him. He has a purpose in all of this and one day we will see it."

Two of their biggest concerns are the welfare of the children at their home and the Zimbabwe government using the children and their organizational name to raise funds that will not go to the children or the orphanage.

Jim and Denise also write the following:

"To all of you, we want to give our assurance that we are still doing the Lord's work! We are taking one day at a time, trying to bring Joy back into our lives again after this devastating takeover and asking God to lead us in His will. After 16 years of service in Zimbabwe, we have not made any decisions in haste. With God's blessings we are going to move our work to other African countries, with more involvement in evangelical and charity work with AIDS orphans. There are visas and work permits to apply for, packing to be done and plans to be made. We will keep you posted as events unfold, and we hope to have more definite news for you by the 2nd quarter of this year. We continue to covet your love, prayers and support and as long as you have faith in us, we will continue the work that is so dear to our hearts."

Please keep Jim and Denise in your prayers as well as all the children from the orphanage.

Your missionaries in Africa,
Jim, Denise and Lucy Hayes

Even after hearing this great commission, I doubt the disciples had much idea about the short- and long-term meaning of this, and probably didn't make a lot of long-term plans that took them very far outside of Jerusalem. That is, until the church was persecuted and scattered as described in Acts 8. Even then, I doubt that their long-term plans had much to do with the Gentiles (especially not the Samaritans!) until Cornelius invited Peter to come to his house, where he baptized him – an uncircumcised Gentile. Not too long after this, a large gentile-based church began in Antioch and soon, with the beginning of Paul's missionary journeys, the church began to truly start to go to the ends of the earth.

One of the things I always try to draw my Sunday School class into thinking about is what the people of the time must have been thinking, and how similar our thoughts are today on most of the same issues. After all, human nature hasn't changed too much in 2,000 years. The thought of where this church will go, in both the short- and long-term excites me tremendously, and I am sincerely looking forward to working with all of you to ensure that, with God's blessing and direction, First Christian will, as did the early church, do some great things in the days and years ahead.

We are well under way with Vision 2007! Todd's article is just a peak at what God is doing behind the scenes to honor us with his presence and power. You will be hearing more of these "Holy Coincidences" in the future. I am pleased to update you on a couple more initiatives:

We started our first **TREK 101** class on February 25th. This class is for anyone interested in becoming a Christian or to join our church family in membership. We go over the basics of what we believe and the vision and values of FCC...then we invite the attendees to respond to Christ and to membership.

Our first **Elder's Prayer Service** will be March 18th at 6:00 p.m. The purpose is to pray for the members and regular guests and to provide an opportunity for individuals, couples or families to come and be prayed for by the Elders. Our desire is for anyone who has a need be it physical, mental/emotional, spiritual, to confess sin, or others to come and be prayed for by the Elders. Keeping all things confidential and in line with God's Word (James 5:7-19) we want everyone to grow in Jesus Christ.

The service will be from 6-7 p.m. and you can come anytime during that hour for prayer. We will ask you for the details of your need and pray for you. A private counsel and prayer time is also available upon request. Our Elder's and Pastoral Staff are always available for prayer and counsel when a need arises...feel free to contact them at elders@fccabq.org.

We commit to listening to God and being proactive in our quest to sharing and leading.

Tom



The New Mexico Christian Convention is coming later this month! We are inviting you to this statewide gathering to worship and fellowship with others as we are challenged to "Make A Difference."

NMCC is being held at the beautiful campus of the LifeWay Glorieta Conference Center in Glorieta, New Mexico (just north of Santa Fe). This overnight event will have praise and worship led by our own FCC worship team, teaching, and relaxation. Pastor Tom will be leading one of the four workshops (Making A Difference in Relationships) on Saturday. Our children and youth will be gathering together in their own special programming too.

Reserve your hotel room directly with LifeWay Glorieta Conference Center by calling **1-800-797-4222**. The Convention Registration can be turned into the church office.

Hotel-style Room (up to 4 people)	\$49.95
Dorm-style Room (up to 4 people)	\$12.00 per person– must provide own bedding
3 Cafeteria Meals/person	
(adults & teens)	\$25.00
(ages 6-11)	\$15.00
(ages 3-5)	\$9.00

Fri. supper, Sat. breakfast & lunch. These are NOT optional. There are NO refunds on missed meals.

Hope to see you there as we "Make A Difference."

March Anniversaries

- 2 Larry & Kay Brownfield
- 6 Ken & Nan Scott
- 11 Joey & Verlanda Natewa
- 13 Paul & Debby Eggleton
- 16 David & Amanda Catanzaro
- 19 Bob & Barbara Friberg
- 24 Jerry & Alice Rouse



March Birthdays

- 1. Tom Caffery
Bill Hendren
- 4 Linda Stansbury
- 5 Mary Erickson
- 6 Lynn Headley
Marcella Smith
- 8 Cindy Asher
Jim Frazier
- 9 Eric Gfeller
Madi Headley
- 10 Mike CINTRERAS
- 11 Ethel Bobb
Chuck Winters
- 12 Jenny Shepard
- 13 Jessica Dye
- 14 Mike Mitchell
- 15 Pat Hill
- 19 James Loftus
- 21 Adam Davie
Pat Fleming
Shaye Romero
- 22 Melissa Davie
Clayton Moore
- 24 Rhoda Winters
- 25 Dione Judy
- 27 Sandra Zeter
- 29 Addie Mohney
- 31 Dorothy Burnett
Michael Noonan

March Holidays



- 11 Daylight Savings time begins



- 17 St. Patrick's Day



- 21 First Day of Spring

Prayer Requests

New or Updated Prayer Requests

Jeff Krueger. From Pamela Caffery. 4th stage leukemia.

Jennifer. Pat Fleming's sister. Pancreatic Cancer.

May Livesay. Praise. Good report from Eye Doctor. Follow up on 3/27.

Rose Figueroa. From the Allison's. Her baby grandson is in ICU.

Shelly Swope. Her mother has had a minor stroke. Pray for quick healing.

Sheri. From the Kurtzs. Family having many problems.



Join us for great food and fellowship.
Dinner is at 6pm... see you there!

March 7, 2007
Spaghetti, Salad and Bread
Cooks: Dan & Jane Duran

March 14, 2007
Corned Beef & Cabbage, Rolls
Cooks: Marcella Smith & helpers

March 21, 2007
Baked Ham, Scalloped Potatoes, Green Beans, Rolls
Cooks: Bud & Mary Cavin

March 28, 2007
Jambalaya, Sourdough Bread, Salad
Cooks: Xavier & Lesley Miller

Dessert, coffee, tea, and punch included each week.

First time guests free!

Suggested donations are:
Seniors \$3, Children \$3
Adults \$4, Families \$10.

Call the office 294-0630 by 10 a.m. on Tuesdays or sign-up on your Welcome Card on Sunday, so that we can have a proper count.

Bring a friend!

What's Happening in Ministry

Senior Saints March Activities

Thursday, March 1
8 AM

The church van will leave at 8 am
for the Owl Café in San Antonio.



Thursday, March 15
9 AM

Breakfast at Vic's Café
on Osuna.



March 23-24
New Mexico Christian
Teen Convention
Glorieta, New Mexico

Cost is \$62 per person
plus snack money
The church van will leave at
2:30 on the 23rd and return
around 5:30 on the 24th.



Got Pictures? Is your Scrapbook empty?

Lesley Miller is hosting a scrapbooking group at her house every other Tuesday at 10:30. For the month of March, the group will meet on the 6th and the 20th. Bring a dish to share in the pot luck lunch. Children welcome. For further details or if you are interested in coming, call Lesley at 453.4303.

Ladies' Book Club

Our book for the month of March is *Annie Freeman's Fabulous Traveling Funeral* by Kris Radish. We will meet on Thursday, March 29, at 6:30 PM at the home of Sandra Eichenberg. Interested in joining us? Call Lynn Headley, 293.4930, for details.



Vacation Bible School



June 18-22, 2007 will begin our third Holy Land Adventure Vacation Bible School here at First Christian Church, Galilee By-The-Sea.

At this seaside experience, everyone becomes a member of a Tribe of Israel, where they'll savor meaningful traditions and rituals—and discover the what it was like when Jesus walked the earth!! Watch for upcoming opportunities to work in this exciting ministry.

Communion Preparation

A volunteer is still need to prepare communion for the month of December in 2007. Please contact Debra Asher if you are interested in helping in this ministry at 294.0630, Ext. 102.

Townhouse for Rent

Jane Duncan is looking for someone interested in renting her townhouse for the next two years. Two bedrooms, full bath, kitchen, garage etc. \$650 per month plus utilities, no smokers, not pets, no children. For further information, call 797.4752.

Car Needed

Someone in our congregation is in need of a car. If you have a car that you could donate, please contact the church office.

Thank You

A great big Thank You to Lanie Peltier who has taught the Ladies' Sunday School class for the last ten years. Lanie is taking a sabbatical from teaching Sunday School. God bless you Lanie as you listen to His calling.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sunday

Worship Service—8 AM
Bible School—9 AM
Fellowship—10 AM
Worship Service—10:30 AM
Youth Meeting—6 PM

Address label

www.fcc@abq.org

Sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ with people and leading them into a fully devoted relationship with Him.



Presents the 2007

Make A Difference Conference

March 23-24, 2007
LifeWay Glorieta Conference Center
Glorieta, New Mexico

*Full Nursery Ministry
Children's Sessions
Awesome Youth Sessions!
Friday Evening Afterglow
Workshops
Recreation...Relaxation*

led by the best Christian College

Featured Speaker...
Tim Coop
Pentecost Christian Church
Tucson, Arizona

*Conference Registration is \$25 per family / \$10 per person
Rooms are \$49.95 per room (4 to a room) ...so invite a friend or two!
3 buffet style meals are \$25 per adult / \$15 for kids 6-11 / \$9 kids*

See page 4 for further details