

# FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

## Staff

Minister – Pastor Phillip Hayes  
Music Director – Ron Montgomery  
Youth Director –Justin Stiles  
Children’s Director – Sandra Brennan  
Secretary – Dona Sulzmann

## Office Hours

9:00 AM – 1:00 PM Monday through Friday

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**First Christian Church**  
**627 Paul W. Bryant Drive**  
**Tuscaloosa, AL 35401**

# FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

*(Disciples of Christ)*  
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## SEPTEMBER 2010

## THE EPISTLE

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I am beginning to learn some of the properties of kudzu. I recently read an article by a pastor named Chip Hale. He said that the plant was introduced in 1876, and it quickly caught on as an ornamental and forage plant. In the 1930s the Soil Conservation Service promoted kudzu for erosion control, and in the 1940s the Civilian Conservation Corp paid farmers \$8 an acre to plant the vines. Maybe you have noticed that the Southeast is apparently well suited for kudzu, and it is rather aggressive here.

Kudzu took over Pastor Hale’s grandfather’s yard and threatened his crop fields. His grandfather said, “Kudzu is the closest thing I know to sin. If you let it take root in your life, it will destroy everything it touches.”

Some times good things that come along can be like kudzu. At first they seem to be beneficial, but then they take over our lives. And like kudzu they choke the very life out of us.

Kudzu is hard to weed out of places where it has taken root. Sin is also hard to root out; but we can, through the grace of God.

Here’s a final comment of an unrelated subject. Are you getting excited about participating in New Beginnings? I am. I have no idea where God will lead us, but I am anticipating the discovery.

Blessings,  
Pastor Hayes



September 5     *Robert Gibson*  
                       *Muir Steward*  
                       Allison Barger  
                       Sandra Brennan  
                       \*Chris Coleman  
                       \*Pat Coleman

September 12    *Buddy Harris*  
                           *Polly Bailey*  
                       \*John Bennett  
                       Cynthia Duncan  
                       Joe Duncan  
                       \*Kim Farish

September 19    *Wiley Hales*  
                           *Dona Sulzmann*  
                       \*Alice Gibson  
                       \*Brandi Hewett  
                       Brenda Tanner  
                       Gary Tanner

September 26    *Woodie Payne*  
                           *Kathy Mason*  
                       \* Sylvia Colon  
                       \*Jose DeJesus  
                       Brinley Hocutt  
                       Martha Hocutt

Liturgist:            Kate Matheny

*Hope Circle* will meet at 9:30 am  
 September 6<sup>th</sup>.

*Serendipity Circle* will meet at  
 5:30 pm September 13<sup>th</sup> at the  
 church.

*Circle I* will meet for September  
 14<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 at the church.



*CMF Breakfast*  
 8:00 am  
 September 12<sup>th</sup>



*Sandra Brennan*  
*Natalie Cason*  
*Dot Elder*  
*Evelyn Harman*  
*Leah Roberts*  
*Dona Sulzmann*

## **ETHICAL GUIDELINES FOR CONGREGATIONAL CONDUCT**

### **Section VII. Our Relationship as Members to the Church Universal**

- a. With the church universal we proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord and Savior of the world. In his name and by his grace we accept our mission of witness and services to all people.
- b. We are bound to God and one another through covenant, and through baptism we are made one with the whole people of God.
- c. We are called to express the unity God bestows by ecumenical study, dialogue, cooperation and expression.
- d. Because all Christians in the church universal have the obligation to uphold the Christian life in the face of the evil forces of our day, we will cooperate with other church bodies in living the Christian witness.
- e. We will support acceptable agencies of Christian cooperation in local, national, and/ or global manifestations of the Church's life.





- f. So as to establish no barriers that might prevent any of Jesus' followers from communing with us, we will remember that He invites his believers to the Lord's Table in the spirit of Christian love and unity.

If you have a new e-mail address, new cell phone number, have taken your house phone out, or have made any information change (than what's in the current church phone directory), please let me know. I need to make an update (or new edition) for the benefit of our new members and attendees. (Remember, this is NOT an official member directory, just a current attendance directory.)



Dona

**Need Desserts**  
*for football game days –  
 September 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>. Please  
 help us out by baking a cake,  
 cookies, brownies, or some other  
 non-iced dessert for us to sell.  
 Lots of people will be here for  
 these first two games.*

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
			<b>1</b> 6:30 Circle of Prayer 7:00 Choir	<b>2</b> 7:00 NB (Coleman)	<b>3</b>  Gabriel DeJesus	<b>4</b>  San Jose State – 6:00 Dona Sulzmann
<b>5</b> 2:00 Sisters Study  Brian Gibson	<b>6</b> <i>Labor Day</i> 9:30 Hope Circle 1:00 NB (Harris home) 7:00 NB (Matheny)  Bailey Farish Buddy Harris Beverly/Coleman Berryhill	<b>7</b> 6:30 Men’s Prayer 1:00 NB (Sulzmann) 6:00 NB (Gibson)	<b>8</b> 6:30 Circle of Prayer 7:00 Choir	<b>9</b> 7:00 NB (Coleman)  Stephen Jennings	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>  Penn State – 6:00  Andrea Minear
<b>12</b>  8:00 2:00 Sisters Study 6:00 Board Meeting	<b>13</b> 1:00 NB (Harris home) 5:30 Serendipity 7:00 NB (Matheny)  Shawn Sparks	<b>14</b> 6:30 Men’s Prayer 10:00 Circle I 1:00 NB (Sulzmann) 6:00 NB (Gibson)	<b>15</b> 6:30 Circle of Prayer 7:00 Choir	<b>16</b> 7:00 NB (Coleman)  Louise Scott	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Alabama @ Duke 2:30  Mike Minear
<b>19</b> 2:00 Sisters Study	<b>20</b> 10:00 Merrill Gardens 1:00 NB (Harris home) 7:00 NB (Matheny)  Jackson Hall	<b>21</b> 6:30 Men’s Prayer 1:00 NB (Sulzmann) 6:00 NB (Gibson)  Caver Sigler	<b>22</b> 10:00 Soup Kitchen 6:30 Circle of Prayer 7:00 Choir  Robert Gibson Rosa/Stephen Jennings	<b>23</b> 7:00 NB (Coleman) AL/NW FL Church Secretaries Meeting (Anniston)	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Alabama @ Arkansas
<b>26</b> 2:00 Sisters Study	<b>27</b> 1:00 NB (Harris home) 7:00 NB (Matheny)	<b>28</b> 6:30 Men’s Prayer 1:00 NB (Sulzmann) 6:00 NB (Gibson)	<b>29</b> 6:30 Circle of Prayer 7:00 Choir	<b>30</b> 7:00 NB (Coleman)		