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First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
605 Memorial Boulevard
P. O. Box 441, Narrows, VA. 24124

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Parsonage phone: 540-726-7231
Church email: fccnarrows@verizon.net

Website: www.fccnarrows.org
Ed Tiller (interim minister)

Cell phone: 540-922-6656

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DECEMBER 2012



Our Deepest Sympathy

To The Tom Spangler Family at the losses of
Tom Spangler Sr. and Phyllis Spangler's sister
Barbara Byers and Family of Mary L. Tabor.

We offer our Love and Caring.

The Congregation

Sunday, December 16: If you know of someone in our community who is in need and could use one of our Christmas baskets, please give the name to Sandra Spangler or Ed Tiller no later than this day.



The children's Christmas program will be presented during the Sunday morning worship service. Please plan to attend and bring family and friends with you.

After the worship service, we will have a hotdog lunch and birthday party for Jesus in the fellowship hall.

Thank you!



First Christian Church, for your many prayers and kindnesses extended to us and our mom Dickie Ingram. While we are saddened by our loss, we are heartened by the strength of her faith and yours.

Judy and Richard Ingram

Monday, December 24: Christmas Eve communion and candlelight service will be held at 7:00 PM. Plan to attend this very inspiring and meaningful service.

Sunday December 2, 2012
Advent Service 3:00 PM

Sunday December 9, 2012
Christmas Cantata 11:00 AM

Tuesday, December 25: Jesus' Birthday! Merry Christmas!

**DONATIONS ARE NEEDED FOR
CHRISTMAS FOOD BOXES**



By Dec. 2 and Dec. 9. Food Boxes will be delivered on Dec. 16 after church or congregational dinner. We have plenty of canned vegetables. Items needed include breakfast items, boxed and loose potatoes, canned sweet potatoes, canned fruit, canned pastas, cake mixes and icing, dried beans, soup, spaghetti, spaghetti sauce, spam or treet, peanut butter. Thanks so much for your help!!

HELPING HANDS BACKPACKING

Our Helping Hands Backpacking Ministry to NEMS is going well. We are now serving ten students. We have received another \$1000.00 grant from Two Cents a Meal through the Presbyterian Church in Narrows. The next big packing will be on Dec. 3, 2012 at 6:30 in the Fellowship Hall. We also need weekly volunteers to help with the weekly packing. Please let any CACS member or Ed Tiller know if you can volunteer. Please come and join in this great ministry to NEMS students.



If you would like to place a poinsettia in our church during Advent, you can order one from Cindy Light at 726-2478 or you can get one from another place. Please let Cindy Light know if the poinsettia is placed in memory or in honor of someone.



The members of the preschool committee say "thank you" for the wonderful support given in the sale of the nuts and RADA Cutlery. The funds raised will help support the ministry of our preschool. Another order before Christmas is available. See Sandra Spangler or Mary Johnston "SOON".

CWF Day Group, Anna's December 11, 2012 at 12:00 PM

The members of the worship department say "thank you" to all the people who helped with the hanging of the greens. Our church is beautifully decorated for the advent and Christmas seasons.

CHRISTMAS PAST

Each Christmas I remember the ones of long ago; I see our mantelpiece adorned with stockings in a row. Each Christmas finds me dreaming of days that used to be, when we hid presents here and there, for all the family. Each Christmas I remember the fragrance in the air, of roasting turkey and mince pies and cookies everywhere. Each Christmas finds me longing for Christmases now past, and I am back in childhood as long as memories last.



**BLESSED
NUMBER FOR
REJOICING IS**

53

This number reflects how many shoe boxes were donated from our church this year for Operation Christmas Child. This is a great outreach ministry to the children of the world.

PLEASE DON'T FORGET

The birthday party for residents at Riverview Nursing and Rehabilitation will be on Thursday, December 20, at 2:30 PM.

If you would like to help, contact Sandra Spangler. Please come and help us make the residents birthday special. This month we will also be bringing Christmas joy to them.

Donations to help with the cost can be placed in the offering plate and mark it for Riverview birthday party.

CACS is collecting new Christmas cards and stamps to be taken to NRV jail so that inmates can send cards to their friends and family. Just put an donations in the box in the Narthex. The deadline is Dec. 9, 2012.

CACS will be joining other groups in ministering to homeless men through To Our House. More details will be announced later.



**PRESCHOOL
NEWS**



Greetings to all,

The pre-schoolers came together on Oct. 31, 2012 to celebrate a Fall Carnival. Everyone had a great time. The children had to register and collect their bags at the first station where they had to answer a very important question. The question was, "What did Noah feed the animals?" Here are their answers. Noah fed the animals cheese, said Eli Graham, Elizabeth Shipbaugh said plants apples, Olivia Ferguson apples/bananas, Rose Scott bananas, Alexis Perdue M&M's, Summer McCroskey carrots, Gilbert Peckham apples, Brogan Martin hay, Lexie Sander chocolate, Joria Pennington strawberries, Brooklyn Perdue corn and Jaelynn Journell dinosaurs. As you can see there were a lot of different foods that would be fed.

Merry Christmas Everyone!

Ms. Shelia

MINISTER ON VACATION

Ed and Linda will be on vacation in a warm climate December 26, 2012, to January 3, 2013. In case of an emergency, contact John Robertson or Glenn Shrader.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

CWF Night Group, Church Dec. 11, 2012
7:00 PM

Our special Christmas offering will be received on December 16, 2012.

Each Region is led by a Regional Minister who not only serves as a programmatic leader and as an administrator for the many and varied ministries of the church, but gives general pastoral oversight of all members of the church in a given Region.

With your Christmas Offering, you support the ministries offered by the Region that serves your church.



CHRISTMAS

We wrap our gifts in bright paper, we choose each one with care. But the most precious gift in the world was wrapped in swaddling clothes there. Our material gifts are unwrapped, admired and displayed to our friends but the gift of the Blessed Saviour is seldom mentioned as the day ends. No tinsel or bright colors adorned him, he was born in a manger low, he slept in the hay with animals, yet on the world his love did bestow. We sometimes sing songs of his birth, we feast and revel in sin, the object of God's love and sacrifice is oft ignored as it was at the inn. Let's rejoice in the gift of life, let's display in our lives, love and peace, for the Christ of Christmas is holy, his giving and love never cease.

THOUGHTS ABOUT CHRISTMAS

EXCHANGE

Would you exchange a perfect gift that tears apart or causes no rift, of course not we would exclaim, It's just I have another one the same. Oh, no you don't rings sad but true, this one was given just for you. The other may look the same but looking closer bears no name. What would you give as an exchange for your soul, without a name. That gift given so long ago is not yours to exchange, but to sow. The exchange is but a passing though for that gift could not be bought. It's attached to our soul by only a spirit, but strong is the bond contained within it. No man can break or snatch away this perfect exchange on Christmas Day. No exchange necessary on his lay away plan. He adopted me with a nail scarred **hand**.

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CHILDREN & YOUTH NEWS

DECEMBER 2012

Bring a Pillow and a Blanket
 Bring a Snack and Drink to Share and
 a \$5.00 Gift
 Youth Lock-In
 Friday, December 7th
 7pm until 8am



Bible Lessons

Christmas Crafts for our Shut-ins
 Mission Project for Older Youth
 Play Practice, Games, Movies, and More!!!

Dinner and Breakfast will be served!
 Fun Will Be Had!

God's Word Will Be Seen, Heard, and Felt!

BIRTHDAY PARTY
 FOR JESUS
 December 16, Sunday



Christmas Program during morning
 worship, then join us to celebrate the
 birth of Jesus. We will have lunch.



CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

*December 16, Sunday
 At Morning Worship*

*Our youth will present two short plays. The
 youth will also lead the entire service.*



RIVERVIEW NURSING HOME BIRTHDAY PARTY

December 20, Thursday, at 2:30pm
We will sing and help with the party.
Come and brighten someone's day!!!

Thanks to
 everyone who
 helped with Fall
 Festival. We
 appreciate the
 donations of the
 pumpkins by Bobby
 and Lucinda Hale
 and Jane Garrett.
 We had a great
 time celebrating
 together as a
 church family.



CHURCHWIDE CAROLING, COOKIES, & COCOA

December 23, Sunday
 5:00 pm



We will go caroling to our
 Shut-ins and other members
 of our church.

Following this we will have
 Cookies and Cocoa.

SERVING IN DECEMBER 2012

If you are unable to serve, please arrange for a substitute and contacted Ed Tiller at 726-2111 so he will be aware of who is serving.

<p><u>ELDERS</u> Glen Shrader Brenda Caldwell Robert Trent, alternate</p>	<p><u>DEACONS</u> Kevin White* Hollie Ferguson Jim Tabor Lee Blaker * denotes chairperson of groups</p>	<p><u>DEACONESSES</u> 2nd Katrina Lucas 9th Joyce Robertson* 16th Jane Garrett 23rd Chris Trent 30th Debbie Snidow</p>
<p><u>JUNIOR DEACON</u> Chase Lawson <u>LOCK BUILDING</u> Tom Johnson</p>	<p><u>GREETER</u> 2nd Lynda, Atkins Macy 9th Mary Johnston 16th Greg Lee 23rd Sherry Ferguson 30th Rick Pruett</p>	<p><u>NURSERY</u> 2nd Jennifer Crawford 9th Rachel Palmer 16th Lynda Atkins 23rd Debbie Snidow 30th Katrina Lucas</p>
<p><u>ACOLYTES</u> 2nd Ty Robertson Mya Robertson 9th Chad Blaker Emily Beaver 16th Tyler Wofter Grace Trent 23rd Slater Ferguson Emily White 30th Emily White Grace Trent</p>	<p><u>CHILDREN'S SERMON</u> 2nd Michelle Robertson 9th None 16th None 23rd None 30th None</p>	<p><u>READ SCRIPTURE</u> 2nd Stan Ferguson 9th Kevin White 16th C.G. Thomas 23rd Shaina Palmer 30th John Robertson</p>

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



PREPARED ESPECIALLY FOR



December Birthdays And Anniversaries

3	Corky Martin	19	Jerry & Sabrina Johnston Leliah Pruett
4	John & Christy Lawson		
12	Jack & Doris Dunbar	22	Pete Ferguson
13	George & Brenda Caldwell		Ed & Linda Tiller (51)
18	Christopher Green	26	Franceina Turner
	Greg & Michelle Robertson	31	Stan Ferguson Lucinda Hale Jonathan Martin Light

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