

the **Visitor...**

. . . bringing into your home the news and ministries of
First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Vallejo

after-church barbecue set for Mezzeras' house

Continuing our recent trend of gathering in members' homes for social events (game nights and cookouts), the Mezzeras will be hosting a backyard barbecue following worship on Sunday, August 28th (some copies of last month's *Visitor* gave the wrong date). We'll all just head on over when worship ends, so why not come to church dressed comfortably so you can enjoy the outdoors? If you can come, bring something to share that fits in with a barbecue/picnic: chips, salads, fruit, whatever. See you there!

Miracle Day is coming!!!!

You ask, "What is Miracle Day?" Well it is a local mission trip for all ages. At the end of the day, you'll feel like you have been helped more than those you helped! The date is November 5th. The places are Garfield FCC in Santa Cruz, Oakland FCC and Fairview Community Church in Trowbridge. The need is a willingness to help our fellow Disciples in beautifying their buildings and property. If you are interested, let Carl Cordes know. See the information in the back of the sanctuary.

Bring-A-Friend Sunday

Sunday, August 28th will be a "Bring-A-Friend Sunday." We each need to think long and hard about whom we know that is without a church home. Is there a relative who hasn't found a church to his or her liking? Or a person in your life who could use a good church family's support? What about that neighbor who is always home on Sunday mornings? Have you ever thought about inviting a co-worker to church?

Even if you think you don't know anyone who doesn't go to church whom you could invite to Bring-A-Friend Sunday, that doesn't let you off the hook. We want to see a big turnout at church that day, so if you don't have any friends without a church, invite some friends who go to another church to come to our worship service for just this one Sunday. Invite them to join us for the church barbecue after worship, too. It should be a really fun day, and a perfect way to acquaint all of our guests with our congregation.

step up your recycling: inkjet and toner cartridges

The foyer of the sanctuary is fast becoming a recycling center! In addition to the battery recycling bin, you will now find there two boxes for recycling your used cartridges from your printer. The small box is for inkjet cartridges. The big one is for toner cartridges from your laser printer (if you bring these in for recycling, try to re-pack them in the original packaging if you can). We will be sending our used cartridges to a company that reuses them where possible; we will actually get paid for some of the ones it can reuse! Those that are not reusable, the company will recycle and properly dispose of so that they stay out of landfills. And all of this is a service provided at no cost to us.

So get in the habit of bringing your used cartridges - along with your batteries - to the church on Sunday morning. Ask your boss what your office does with its spent ink and toner cartridges. Maybe you could bring them to be recycled through the church. And ask your friends and neighbors, too. We can do a lot to touch the earth lightly.

ministry matters

education report

by Carl Cordes

Sunday School this year will start September 11th. It will be similar to last year. We will be offering two classes for the elementary to high school kids. Also, we will be having some special times together as well as doing another Youth Sunday. In addition to Youth Sunday, we hope to involve the kids in our regular services.

We are looking for teachers. All we ask is that you teach for a three month period. What a great time to have your spiritual life nourished. I don't have any formal training in teaching, but you can just be yourself and teach the kids how to love and learn about the person who loves them. We also will be having some adult classes. Times and subjects will be announced at a later date. If you are interested in teaching kids or adults, please just ask me. We still need three or four more.

Also on September 10th, I hope to have some of us attend a regional event called "Children's Ministry Mini-Retreat" which will be held at Vacaville Christian Church. The cost is only \$15.00. Look in the back of the sanctuary for more information.

work with outreach

by Helen Mezzera

I'm excited to be back working as Outreach Coordinator, and I'm anxious to hear new ideas for study and projects. Let's be innovative in what we do and how we do it. Let's do some brainstorming over coffee - let's set a date! Meanwhile, I'm inviting you to work on this year's Global Holiday Faire planning committee, which will be meeting soon. With lots of input and support, this could be an incredibly rewarding year.

worship

by Ted Goode

Headlines read, "Visitor Deadline"! Well, this is the beginning of our fiscal year and I wanted to assure you that as the elected Worship Ministry Coordinator I am interested in hearing from those interested in working with me (and Judith, of course) to reflect on, envision and plan the worship experience during the year. Please let me know if you are interested. I am also open to suggestions about changes or desire to keep things the way they are. Anything you can offer as endings to the following open-ended statements, please let me know:

I really like....

I miss.....

I'm tired of.....

Can we do more.....

I have visited other churches and really enjoyed.....

The service is.....

Why don't we _____ more often.....

Let me hear from you!

within the church family

meet our newest members, Michele and Michael Lane

by Glenda Goode

Michele and Michael Lane joined the family at First Christian Church on July 10th. Both are originally from Oklahoma and attended the University of Oklahoma at Norman. Michele graduated with a double major in piano and voice and Mike majored in physics and math. A few years after graduation they moved to Louisiana (ask them about being "Lost in LA for 25 years"!!!) where Mike worked for several years as an engineer for an oil company and then returned to his chosen field as an environmental engineer (still in Louisiana). Michele has taught piano and voice at all levels - elementary through college, and was instrumental (pun intended) in teaching, coaching, encouraging and otherwise nudging a very talented young man into the music field - probably only one of many! They finally made it west first to Bakersfield (where they experienced their first earthquake) and then to Fairfield. Mike is the Project Manager for the Fairfield/Suisun Sewer District and Michele, who is a member of Music Teachers Association of California, (MTAC) is looking to re-enter the teaching world once they are REALLY moved in!

Here are some hints for questions that elicit fascinating answers: What is the origin of the term "sooner"? • Of the wild and tame life surrounding (and in) their house, which keeps rattlesnakes away? Squirrels? Deer? The Dog? Peacocks? A Cat? Humans? The Snake Police? • Who does not have perfect pitch (besides most of us, that is!)? • What are their two granddaughters' names?

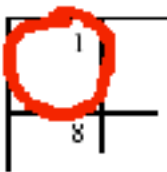
Michele and Michael – **WELCOME!**

news & notes

Jeanne Cordes just got back from a trip to Southern California where she visited Murray and Kathy Mattice, as well as Disneyland, California Adventure, and Sea World.

The Miller family went to Florida (after Angel got back from camp at CGC).

Judith, Fred, and Ken attended General Assembly in Portland (Ken as our delegate). We can't wait to hear all about the assembly and all the exciting things that went on there!



mark your calendars

August

- 1 - Peace Prayer Service. 7 p.m. in the sanctuary.
- 13 - FCC A's Game and cookout. 1 p.m.
- 28 - Bring-A-Friend Sunday. Church barbecue following worship at the Mezzeras' house.

September

- 5 - Peace Prayer Service. 7 p.m. in the sanctuary.
- 11 - Sunday School starts for the fall.

October

- 1 - Cocoa Brunch and scrapbooking workshop.
- 3 - Peace Prayer Service. 7 p.m. in the sanctuary.
- 8 - October Peace Fest. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at the church.



*Finished with the **Visitor**? Don't forget to recycle!*

