

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)
CONCORD, CA

SEPTEMBER 29, 2011
OCTOBER 26, 2011

CROSSROADS

First Christian Church, Concord is honored to present

THE SWEET POTATOES

Featuring Kelly Macleod, Laura Hall & Rick Hall

Acoustic driven American music with a fresh twist!

In Concert

Saturday, November 5

7:00 p.m.

Tickets: \$10 in advance / \$15 at the door

call 925/685-7503 for reservations



www.thesweetpotatoes.com

Laura Hall (*WHO'S LINE IS IT ANYWAY*) and **Kelly Macleod** (*PRIVATE LIFE*) have been friends for a long time, and have always shared a love of music by folks like Emmylou Harris, Patti Griffin and the Dixie Chicks. But they started making music together after Kelly starred in *SLICE OF PIE*, a movie written by Laura's husband, **Rick Hall**. Their collaboration on the film led the singer/songwriters to form their band, The Sweet Potatoes, and write and produce their self titled cd.

This will be a fun, inspiring, family friendly concert, featuring the music of *The Sweet Potatoes*, Laura's faith music, and Rick's story telling.



Compass

Spiritual But Not Religious? Not Interested.

-- The Rev. Dr. Russell Peterman, Senior Minister

If I had a dollar for every time someone has told me that they are 'spiritual but not religious', we could probably renovate all the bathrooms on our campus. And maybe still have enough to put on a new roof. That response has become sort of the standard explanation of many in our culture who no longer find the need to be a part of a religious community. To me, however, its sort of a cop-out; a way of avoiding doing the difficult work of developing a well-rounded relationship with the divine.

A couple of years ago I had a chance to meet Lillian Daniel and hear her preach. Lillian is a pastor of a dynamic UCC church outside of Chicago and as well as being a prolific writer who has been published in journals, magazines and the Huffington Post, as well as penning a handful of books.

In a recent article she speaks about her response to this explanation. In it she writes:

On airplanes, I dread the conversation with the person who finds out I am a minister and wants to use the flight time to explain to me that he is "spiritual but not religious." Such a person will always share this as if it is some kind of daring insight, unique to him, bold in its rebellion against the religious status quo.

Next thing you know, he's telling me that he finds God in the sunsets. These people always find God in the sunsets. And in walks on the beach. Sometimes I think these people never leave the beach or the mountains, what with all the communing with God they do on hilltops, hiking trails and... did I mention the beach at sunset yet?

Like people who go to church don't see God in the sunset! Like we are these monastic little hermits who never leave the church building. How lucky we are to have these geniuses inform us that God is in nature. As if we don't hear that in the psalms, the creation stories and throughout our deep tradition.

Being privately spiritual but not religious just doesn't interest me. There is nothing challenging about having deep thoughts all by oneself. What is interesting is doing this work in community, where other people might call you on stuff, or heaven forbid, disagree with you. Where life with God gets rich and provocative is when you dig deeply into a tradition that you did not invent all for yourself.

Thank you for sharing, spiritual but not religious sunset person. You are now comfortably in the norm for self-centered American culture, right smack in the bland majority of people who find ancient religions dull but find themselves uniquely fascinating. Can I switch seats now and sit next to someone who has been shaped by a mighty cloud of witnesses instead? Can I spend my time talking to someone brave enough to encounter God in a real human community? Because when this flight gets choppy, that's who I want by my side, holding my hand, saying a prayer and simply putting up with me, just like we try to do in church.

I give thanks for you, my faith family, for your willingness to keep showing up, bearing one another's burdens and sharing in one another's joys, and daring to work out our faith and discover God in the lives we share together.

I'll see you on Sunday.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Russ'.

*Serving In Worship...***October 2, 2011**

"Enough"

Deuteronomy 26: 1-11

9:00 AM**Scripture Reader:** Kathleen DeGiobbi**Elder:** Tim Rose**Diaconate:** Todd Morgan, Ryan Morgan & Mike Cluster**11:00 AM****Greeters:** Scott Bisbee & Don DeGiobbi**Scripture Reader:** Bill Bush**Elders:** James & Kay Jezek**Diaconate:** Lori Landberg [captain], Collier Laird, Dee Laird, Kelli McKean & Dick McClaskey**Ushers:** Patti Halter [captain], Pat Watson & Kay Waggoner*Serving In Worship...***October 16, 2011**

Romans 12: 1-2

9:00 AM**Scripture Reader:** Pat Twigg**Elder:** Ellie McDougal**Diaconate:** Mary Watts, Michele Watts & Kristin Rose**11:00 AM****Greeters:** The Hile Family**Scripture Reader:** Linda Smith**Elders:** Carolyn Partney & Tim Rose**Diaconate:** Patti Halter [captain], Jim Skaggs, Helga Skaggs, Don DeGiobbi & Bill Plambeck**Ushers:** Elaine Sherman [captain], Linda Smith, Ruth Langley & Michele Watts*Serving In Worship...***October 9, 2011**

Acts 2: 37-47

9:00 AM**Scripture Reader:** Ellie McDougal**Elder:** Marty Appel**Diaconate:** Lisa Morgan, Emily Morgan & Heather Raymond**11:00 AM****Greeters:** Roy & Lonnie Graves**Scripture Reader:** Lynne Hile**Elders:** Cindi Brazee & Bob Coslett**Diaconate:** Diana Carlisle [captain], Dean Henry, Jake Henry, Doris Hamblin, Judi Carlisle & David Tarvin**Ushers:** Elaine Ortiz [captain], Jim Skaggs, Helga Skaggs & Chris Walker*Serving In Worship...***October 23, 2011**

Genesis 2: 4b-9, 15

9:00 AM**Scripture Reader:** Janet Gay**Elder:** Diane Maltester**Diaconate:** Joyce Parlin, Bill Bush & Zak Gay**11:00 AM****Greeters:** Kay & James Jezek**Scripture Reader:** Toni Barmore**Elders:** Joan Payne & Denise Schneider**Diaconate:** Gloria Mattson [captain], Elaine Ortiz, Tom Kilpatrick, Toni Barmore, Cecelia Ambach & Chris Walker**Ushers:** Doris Hamblin [captain], Dee Laird, Gloria Mattson & Arlene McNamar

*Serving In Worship...***October 30, 2011**

"Stewards of the Mystery"

I Corinthians 4: 1-2

9:00 AM**Scripture Reader:** Zak Gay**Elder:** Tim Rose**Diaconate:** Todd Morgan, Ryan Morgan & Mike Cluster**11:00 AM****Greeters:** Toni Barmore & Judi Carlisle**Scripture Reader:** Carolyn Partney**Elders:** Kay & James Jezek**Diaconate:** Lori Landberg[captain], Collier Laird, Dee Laird, Kelli McKean & Dick McClaskey**Ushers:** Patti Halter [captain], Pat Watson & Kay Waggoner

WITNESS OUR WELCOME

WOW

10th ANNUAL INTERFAITH
WORSHIP CELEBRATIONCome Celebrate God's Inclusive Love
Welcoming All of God's Children;
Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual,
Transgender and Straight AlliesSaturday, October 15th, 2011 at 4:00 PM
Beth Chaim Congregation
1800 Holbrook Dr. Danville, CACarol Lynn Pearson: Author and Actress; will share her stories of Mormon families who embrace their gay children with fierce devotion, Ms: Pearson's book *No More Goodbyes* is an inspiration to people of all religions.Rev. Jane Spahr: Recipient of the *Spirit Award* for furthering education, affirmation and dignity in the GLBT community

The WOW celebration is sponsored by more than 30 organizations, including PFLAG & Rainbow Community.

Reception to Follow. Questions: 925-736-7146 or 837-6944**October Greeters**

- Oct. 2 Scott Bisbee & Don DiGiobbi
- Oct. 9 Roy & Lonnie Graves
- Oct. 16 The Hile Family
- Oct. 23 Kay & James Jezek
- Oct. 30 Toni Barmore & Judi Carlisle

**Change of Address**

Please add the following address change to your directory:

Meg Sumner-Moore
Bryn Mawr College
Box C-1391
101 North Merion Avenue
Bryn Mawr, PA 19010

The Back Gate Is Open on Sundays

There have been requests by members of the congregation to have the back gate open on Sundays so that they do not have to exit onto Willow Pass Rd. after services. This gate is now open on a regular basis.

Halloween Bash Cancelled

Working together, the Youth and Outreach Ministry teams have decided not to put on the Halloween Bash this year as we have in the past. Attendance and participation in this event has dwindled in recent year as several other churches have taken our lead and began hosting similar events. The timing of this event also complicated things as it is just prior to our hosting the **Winter Nights Shelter** the first week in November. We appreciate all those who have helped with the Halloween Bash in the past and look forward to finding and creating new ways to serve the community around us.

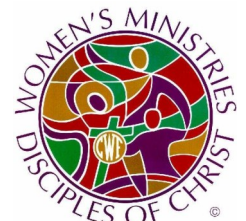
CWF News

Christian Women's Fellowship happily sent a check to the region for Dollars for Diapers.

Our current service project is to bring socks, any size, any color to give to our guests at Warm Winter Nights.

Our regular meetings are 1pm on the second Monday of each month. We would like to see YOU there.

For more information, contact Linda Smith at 689.3987 or lassmith2@att.net



Welcome New Members!



On September 11, we welcomed Jamie Hodges and Sara Stokes into membership. Jamie and Sara are engaged and will be married here in the sanctuary on October 16th.

Jamie was born in San Luis Obispo but raised here in Concord. He has visited over the years but started coming regularly around January. His mom, Joyce Parlin, is a long time member. He has two daughters, Peyton (who was baptized on Easter) and Alexa. His birthday is January 8th.

Sara has visited with Jamie and started attending regularly in June. She is a Pleasant Hill native. Her birthday is June 7th. She is the manager at Gesinee's Bridal Shop here in Concord.

They have a teacup chihuahua named Chowder and love to go camping. Jamie also plays softball and Sara and the girls go to the games to cheer him on. Jamie is also a big Dodger's and Rams fan but also enjoys going to watch the A's play. If you haven't already met them, please take a minute next Sunday to welcome Jamie and Sara to our church family. Their address is 2921 Wildflower Drive, Antioch, CA 94531. Their phone number is 925-305-7275.

We also welcomed Irene Moreno in membership on September 11. Irene is from Cumberland, Maryland originally where she attended a Disciple church. Her father was in the Navy and they moved to Alameda in 1966 and then to Concord in 1969 where she was member here at FCC Concord until she married in 1971 and moved to West Virginia. She returned to FCC Concord with her father, Wallace McKee, about 8 months ago. Irene has 3 children (2 girls and 1 boy) and 2 granddaughters. She loves animals and has 2 dogs and 3 cats. She helped start a non profit group called Umbrella of Hope, which provides low cost vet care to animals. She currently an Instructional Designer that creates materials and trainer led classes for medical software. Irene loves music and baseball and spending the day at Marineworld with her family.



If you haven't already met her, please take a minute next Sunday to welcome her to our church family. Her address is 4232 Scenic Avenue, Pittsburg, CA 94565. Her phone number is 925-497-3309.

Abundant Giving through Abundant Living Save the Dates

On June 5, 2011, First Christian Church started its 126th year of service to the community of Concord. During the month of October we will again celebrate a time of giving with our Stewardship Campaign for 2012.

Our theme, **Abundant Giving through Abundant Living**, is based on the scripture John 10:10: Jesus said, "I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly." We will spend a month sharing our faith and witnessing to the abundance of blessings given to us by God and the love of Jesus Christ.

We will accept pledge cards from people in the spirit shown in 1889 when two ladies of the church, Mrs. Henry Whitman and Mrs. Charles McCellan, drove the streets of Concord in a horse-drawn surrey to collect donations that would retire a remaining building debt of \$1500. That year, everyone in Concord gave money to FCC, including the Catholics and the Presbyterians!

Dr. Eugene Peterson shares this thought from the Apostle Paul when he spoke to the Christian community in Corinth: *Remember: a stingy planter gets a stingy crop; a lavish planter gets a lavish crop. I want each of you to take plenty of time to think it over, and make up your own mind what you will give. That will protect you against sob stories and arm-twisting. God loves it when the giver delights in the giving. God can pour on the blessings in astonishing ways so that you're ready for anything and everything, more than just ready to do what needs to be done.* (II Corinthians 9:6-8).

If you would like to share your "story of abundance" during a worship service, please talk to James or Kay Jezek to put your name on our list of storytellers.

James and Kay Jezek
Stewardship Team



All Hands Church Clean-Up

Saturday October 15, 2011 is your chance to help support FCC Concord by joining with your church family to help clean-up the campus. This morning of work and fellowship will begin at 8am and end at Noon. In these 4 hours, we will weed, prune, dig, repair sprinklers, wash windows, clean pews and get our church home ready for the upcoming Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas Seasons. Please help the House and Grounds Committee plan the work agenda by placing your name on the sign-up sheet that will be available in the Narthex this Sunday.

Winter Nights Rotating Family Shelter

For the last several years the Winter Nights Program has provided a clean, safe, and warm facility at night and a daytime services center for homeless families with children and for homeless seniors. For the last several years FCC Concord has participated in this program, hosting 1-2 weeks each year before taking a break last year, allowing other congregations to participate. This year we will be hosting and welcoming guests once again for the week of **November 7-14**.

The program serves up to 30 persons at any given time. We will provide space, meals, and volunteers. Bedding will be provided, and professional staff will supervise the shelter 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

For this to be a successful week, however, we will need the participation of many of you! There will be an informational meeting for all those interested in participating on **Sunday, October 9 @ 10a**. Please come find out what volunteer positions are needed and how you can be involved! There will also be a table in the Narthex taking sign-ups the next several Sundays. Please sign up now!



October 2011 for First Christian Church, Concord

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p>Sunday Services unless otherwise noted are at 9am and 11am in the Sanctuary Sunday School for all ages at 10am.</p>	<p>For non-church events, please look on our website at www.concordfcc.net</p>					1
<p>2 10am Muffins w/the Minister/Library 12:30pm Ministry Council & Potluck/Library 1:30pm Youth Bike Ride/W.C.</p>	<p>3 7pm Elder's meeting/Library</p>	4	5	6	7	8 8:30am Miracle Day/ UCC Livermore
<p>9</p>	<p>10 1pm Rachel Ruth Circle/Library 7pm Pastoral Relations/Russ' Office</p>	11	12	13	14	15 8:30am House & Grounds
<p>16 1pm Youth Lunch/Todos Santos Park</p>	17	18	19	20 7pm Finance Team meeting/Library	21	22 2pm Fall Fest begins/ Mayfair Stockton CC 3pm Homeless Meal Preparation/Kitchen
<p>23 12pm Fall Fest ends/Stockton Mayfair CC</p>	24	25	26	27	28	29
<p>30 12:30pm Administrative Council & Potluck/Library 1:30pm Youth Group/Youth Bldg.</p>	31					



CROSSROADS

AN INCLUSIVE, LOVING COMMUNITY OF FAITH AND JUSTICE,
SEEKING, CELEBRATING AND SERVING CHRIST THROUGH OPEN
MINDS, COMMITTED HEARTS AND WILLING HANDS.



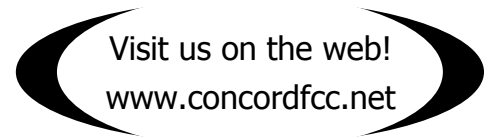
FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST) IN CONCORD

Staff:

Senior Minister:	Rev. Dr. Russell Peterman:	russ@concordfcc.net
Student Associate:	Hope Attenhofer	hope@concordfcc.net
Director of Youth Ministry	Katie Thompson	katie@concordfcc.net
Office Administrator:	Andie Raymond	andie@concordfcc.net
Organist:	Robert Coslett	
Childcare Co-ordinator:	Antoinette Bulatao	
Website:	www.concordfcc.net	

Contact Information:

Office Hours: Monday to Thursday: 9 am—3 pm.
Phone: 925-685-7503 Fax: 925-685-0963
Address: 3039 Willow Pass Rd., Concord CA 94519



CROSSROADS:

Email submissions and subscriptions to: info@concordfcc.net
Please limit your articles to not more than 350 words.

Submit your articles on ministry news and upcoming events; report on past events; send pictures!

Submission deadline for next issue: Monday, October 24, 2011.



October Birthdays

Lloyd-Roberts	Emrys	1-Oct
Payne	Joan	6-Oct
West	Kym	7-Oct
Carlisle	Scott	8-Oct
Schneider	Bobby	9-Oct
Carlisle	Clay	10-Oct
Hertz	Clayton	11-Oct
Rollins	Christopher	14-Oct
Canfield	Dottie	16-Oct
Rose	Abby	16-Oct
Nadeau	Gordon	19-Oct
Hecker	Janet	20-Oct
Watts	Michele	22-Oct



October Birthdays continued

Appel	Marty	24-Oct
Maltester	Annie	27-Oct
Mitchell	Greg	28-Oct
Rose	Paula	28-Oct



October Anniversaries

HUFF	Cheryl & Garry	3-Oct
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