



THE VISITOR

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Dec. 05, 2014
Vol. 73, No. 17

Second Sunday of Advent Worship, December 07

The Word came...
Jesus said "Keep Awake"
...and dwelt among us.

The Word came... is the first of four sermons for the season offered by Rev. Brad Stagg. Hymns of the Advent, the lighting of the peace candle, and music by the Drennan Singers will highlight this second Sunday.

Children will practice for the pageant during the Children's Worship time.

**Special Administrative
Board Meeting**
December 7th after the
10:30 worship service

Pancake Breakfast



**Sunday
Dec. 14**

9:00 - 10:15 a.m.

Yonker Fellowship Hall

Menu: Pancakes, eggs, sausage, beverage

The *Disciples on Campus* (DOC) college ministry is raising funds for their **Winter Break Mission Trip to Clarksdale, MS. The mission team will be serving and learning in Jan. 2015**

Living Nativity Friday, Dec. 5 6-8 p.m.

This tradition began in our congregation several years ago and presents the story of Jesus' birth. It is acted out on the east lawn and sidewalk utilizing members of the church, costumes, taped music with narration and special lighting. Planned to coincide with the opening of stores in the downtown District, the Living Nativity will run every half hour from **6:00 - 8:00 p.m.** Refreshments and warmth will be served in Bethany Hall throughout the evening.



- *Come by and take in the unique rendition of an ancient story. Bring a friend...
- *Stay for hot chocolate and fellowship...
- *There still might be a spot for a little angel or shepherd too...so it's never too late to join!
- ***All who have signed up already: meet in the Narthex 20 min before showtime.**

Give to VAC Christmas: Families yet to Sponsor

There are 12 individuals yet to be sponsored (buy & wrap gifts, pay for a meal). The youth groups will shop/wrap if any want to donate the funds to sponsor a family. This Sunday in the Narthex is the last opportunity to sponsor a family.

STARS Lights and Lunch

Space is limited for the **Christmas Light Tour** on Monday, December 8. RSVP to the church office.

Make sure to make a reservation for the **STARS luncheon**, Wednesday, Dec. 17, 11:45 a.m. Soup, breads and dessert will be the menu and children singing will be the annual program. There is transportation from LENOIR WOODS if you are interested. Please note it in your RSVP to the church office. Join us all you 55+ folks!

*STARS is the 55+ Fellowship Group of
First Christian Church*



Women's Christmas Brunch

Saturday, Dec. 6
9:00 a.m.

Yonker Fellowship Hall

All Women Invited!

Don't forget our Christmas Brunch for all women of the Church and their guests this Saturday, December 6, at 9:00 am in Yonker Fellowship Hall. It is for all ages and there is no charge. No program, just fun, fellowship, and delicious goodies. Come one and all !!! Please RSVP to the church office (449-7265) if you have not done so already.

The Waiting Song

What a great group of singers in the pews last Sunday as we hung the greens. We really owned the hymn *People Look East!* It was good to begin the Advent season in song. The songs of preparation are so important to our Advent journey. They tell the story of *us*. They tell the story of God's people in ancient times and in times like 2014. As we sing about waiting, preparation, origin, prophecy we are more ready for what is coming. As we sing about hope, peace, joy and love, we know anew what God is about in Jesus' birth. As we sing songs of advent we will know better, hear more clearly, and see with new eyes what is promised in the birth of the Messiah.

There are around 32 hymns of Advent (12) and Christmas (20) in our Chalice Hymnal. We would be remiss to not offer the beauty of each tune and the power of each story within them. We have a great scheme worked out that we get to sing them all and work our way from Advent hymns into Christmas. Four worship services of advent, a pageant, Christmas Eve, and a Sunday after Christmas give ample opportunity to sing them. So, come to everything this season and sing with us ALL the hymns of faith that are our story. They are worth the time and voice.
~Jimmy Spear

PS: Speaking of ample – there are many Advent devotionals in the narthex for your perusal. Take one! We have some for kids too!

Church Dine-Out
Friday, Dec. 5, 5:30 p.m.
Bob Evans Restaurant
Everyone Welcome!

Weekly Reports
Nov. 23, 2014
Received this week \$7,655
Received to Date \$169,969
Needed to Date \$175,427
Attendance - 234
(includes early service - 50
and visitors - 8)
Nov. 30, 2014
Received this week \$8,176
Received to Date \$178,145
Needed to Date \$184,901
Attendance - 223
(includes early service - 56
and visitors - 25)



Oasis Dec. 10 5:30 pm Yonker Hall

Meal & Program hosted by
Church in Society

Sign up on the Sunday Pew Pad
sheet, in the church
office, or call 449-7265.



The JYF (Junior Youth Fellowship 3-5th grade) created the unique Advent wreath wall at the portico entrance to Yonker Hall. The kids in four small groups created four different expressions of the Advent wreath. Check them out!



BOOK O R N E R

To help you get in the spirit of the holidays Christmas books are on display on the top shelf of the Book Cart in the Narthex. Some old treasures, and some really good recent editions. Among them is what is called "A Christmas story for our time," *The Memory Quilt*, by T.D. Jakes who has been a recent New York Times bestselling author.

~On the Book Cart

News of Our People

Our sympathy to **Susan Allen** on the loss of her mother, **Dorothy Allen**, who's Memorial Service, was held at FCC, Tuesday, December 02, 2014.

Tommy Tomlin is home recovering very well from his surgery. **Ed Bright** is home recovering from Wednesday's successful hip replacement surgery. **Freda Martz** needs our prayers for strength and comfort, as she was rejected for heart-valve replacement surgery. **Dan Niday** was placed on home hospice care; Dan is a long-time member and father of **Sharon Ronchetto**.

Prayers are needed for peace, justice, & reconciliation for a community torn apart in the wake of the violence in **Ferguson, MO**.

Ladies' Book Club



The Ladies' Book Club does not meet in December. Please join us at noon in Bethany Hall on Jan 14 to discuss *The Mockingbird Next Door* by Marja Mills.



Thank you to all who sent cards and said prayers on my behalf during my recent colon cancer surgery.

Your prayers worked! The cancer was only stage 2, and since the cancer was removed by surgery, no chemotherapy will be necessary, just recuperation. Doctors tell me it will be six to eight weeks before I can go back to doing everything I did before surgery. ~Tommy Tomlin

Dec. 7
Erica Watson

Dec. 8
Alexandra Estes
Gabriel Palmer
Kenzie Von Talge

Dec. 10
Marjorie Carter
Curtis Snow
Cheryl Unterschut
Willie Wheeland



Dec. 12
Will Bower
Cliff Tompson

Dec. 13
Virginia Ivey

Future Youth Meetings/Dates:

Dec. 5: Living Nativity

Dec. 7: Children's Choir 4:00 -5:00

JYF 4:30-6:00

CYF 6:00-7:30

Dec. 14: Pageant

Dec. 21: Caroling Party

JYF (grds 3-5)

Chi-Rho (grds 6-8)

CYF (grds 9-12)



Save Paper Rolls

Paper towel and toilet paper cardboard tube/rolls are always needed for the ongoing craft needs of the children's and youth ministry programs. We are completely out. This shocked Jimmy Spear as he noted there were tons when he left in August. The kids have been busy! Please leave them in sacks in the office or if you are feeling like a hike take them to the "craft room" on the west end of the third floor. We will also take old buttons, craft sticks, and other quality craft supplies that you are needing to discard. Thanks!

Come Help Us Wrap

Remember to come help Drennan Group wrap Christmas gifts for the kids at The Hill (Coyote Hill Christian Children's Home) ~ Monday, December 8, 12:30 to 2:30 pm, First Presbyterian Church (south door, top floor), 100 Hitt Street. Please bring your own scissors and scotch tape. Thank you and we might just be singing Christmas carols!!!

Calling All Artists!

We invite you to submit 1 to 3 pieces to Artists Among Us, a showcase of art by members of our congregation- past, present, and future. All media areas are welcome, including but not limited to: drawing, painting, photography, ceramics, sculpture, woodwork, jewelry, fibers, etc. Pick up your entry form in the church office. If you have any questions, please contact Kim Leon at 573-529-1617 or kimberlykleon@gmail.com.

Entry Form: DUE 1/04/15

Opening Reception: January 24, 5 to 7 p.m.
Music, art, food and good company!!!

The Christmas Pageant December 14 7:00 p.m.



The Annual Christmas Pageant will be held Sunday evening, December 14. The tradition is long standing and brings out a full sanctuary in the coldest of conditions. How great it will be to hear again the ancient story and see the portrayal of the holy family, shepherds, angels and wise men by children and adult friends in the congregation. With carols sung and instruments played, we will all have a chance to partake in the night's joy.

A "white gifts" offering will be collected again this year. All are encouraged to bring nonperishable canned/boxed food wrapped in white paper. This tradition reminds us of the importance of the giving, and not the type of gift. The food will be shared with the local food pantry.

A huge **tasting party** in Yonker Fellowship Hall will follow the pageant. All are encouraged to bring a finger food-cookie-dessert-appetizer type of holiday deliciousness to share.

All participants should be on the 3rd floor of the Education building at 6:15 p.m. Preschool angels meet in the nursery at 6:15 p.m.

Scenes from the Christmas Bazaar



Kids waiting on tables made \$65+ in tips and have donated it toward the FCC Capital Campaign!



Pictured are just some of the scenes from the Christmas Bazaar held in Yonker Hall on Nov. 21. Children and youth helped serve the morning breads and coffees along with a warm soup lunch.



Good crowds came out to eat and shop at the wide variety of vendors selling crafts, art, gifts, and other unique items. Brenda Mosby and her team made the day a good one around the place. Proceeds continue to be added to the "stage curtain fund."

The Visitor

First Christian Church

101 N. 10th Street
Columbia, MO 65201
573-449-7265

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Columbia, MO
Permit No. 75

Ministerial Staff:

Rev. Brad Stagg, Senior Minister
brad@firstchristian.org
Rev. Jimmy Spear, Associate Minister
jimmy@firstchristian.org
Laura Shirey, DOC Intern

Music Staff:

Mary Bancroft, Coord. of Music & Organist
maryebancroft@yahoo.com
Adriene Price, Director of Chancel & Bell Choirs
singers.and.ringers@gmail.com

Mother's Day Out: Tracy Westhoff, Director
tracy@firstchristian.org

Columbia Area Older Adult Ministry:

Rev. Sally Robinson, Chaplain
chaplainsal@yahoo.com

Support Staff:

Kay Beissenherz, Administrative Assistant
fcc@firstchristian.org
Fred Mottaz, Business Manager
fred@firstchristian.org
Keith Picker, Custodian

Minister Emeritus:

Dr. John J. Yonker

Return Service Requested

The Mission of First Christian Church: to know God and follow Jesus Christ

Serving Schedule - Sunday, Dec. 7

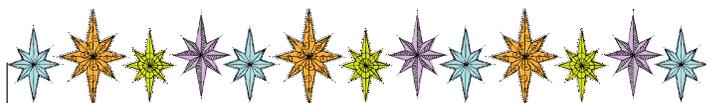
Van Driver: Perry Stemmons
Office Receptionist: Carole Harris-Randerson
Flower Ministry - Arranged by: Deb Batterson
Delivered by: Harlan Hackett

Servers for 8:30 Worship Service

Worship Assts.: Alan and Connie Street
Elder: Bettie Koelling

Servers for 10:30 Worship Service

Communion Preparation: Bob & Linda Hutton, Susan Klockow
Liturgist: Bragg Stanley
Elders: Eric Seaman, Fred Mottaz, Sarah Read
Deacons: The Garton Team
Greeters: Charles Koelling (*N. Door*), Bettie Koelling (*S. Door*)
Doris Neidhardt (*Atrium*), Nannie Lou Mallett (*Portico*)
Ushers: The Mountjoy Team
Banner Bearers: Jack Bower and Carleigh Snow
Candlelighters: Ella Rogers and Max Gregory
Children's Worship: TBA



This Week (Dec. 7 - 13)

- Sun.** - Drennan Singers at both services
- Bell Choir, 8:30 a.m., 3rd Floor, Education Bldg.
- Special Administrative Board Mtg., after 10:30 service
- Children's Choir, 4:00-5:00 p.m.
- JYF (grades 3-5), 4:30-6:00 p.m.
- CYF (grades 9-12), 6:00-7:30 p.m.
- Mon.** - Newsletter deadline and Church Staff Mtg., 2:00 p.m.
- Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 5:30 p.m., Sanctuary
- STARS Light Tour, 6:30-9:00 p.m.
- Tue.** - Tuesday Bible Study, 10:30-11:30 a.m., Morris Parlor
- Wed.** - Men's Lunch, 11:30 a.m., Senior Center
- Oasis, 5:30 p.m., Yonker Fellowship Hall
- Stewardship & Finance Committee, 5:45 p.m., Keystone
- DOC (college group), 8:45-10:00 p.m., Bethany Hall

