



THE VISITOR

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

February 28, 2014
Vol. 72, No. 28

Worship Sunday, March 2

Traditionally known as Transfiguration Sunday, this coming Sunday will mark the last in the season of Epiphany. "Rise, and Have No Fear" is the title of the sermon for the day by Rev. Brad Stagg based upon texts from 2 Peter 2:16-21 and Matthew 17:1-9.

Congregational singing will be based upon the powerful hymn *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*, the moving words of *Restless Weaver* set to the familiar tune BEACH SPRING and table time set to *Now We Come Before God's Presence*. The Chancel choir will present the quiet and reflective anthem entitled *Oh Love That Will Not Let Me Go*.



"A service for repentance & receiving of ashes"

**March 5, 6:30 p.m.
Sanctuary**

This service to begin the Lenten season will include hymns, prayers, a brief meditation and the imposition of ashes.



The First Sunday in Lent Worship for March 9

God of Grace and God of Glory; My Jesus, I Love Thee; Here I Am, Lord – three expressions of faith story through tune and verse and our hymns for this Sunday. The first Sunday in Lent will focus our attention toward "Preparation for Resurrection" – a series of sermons and worship focus for the next seven Sunday. As we prepare our first move will be "Confessing Our Sin," a sermon based upon Genesis 2 & 3, the story of Adam.

Remember to set your clocks ahead one hour on Saturday night, as daylight saving time begins Sunday.



Update on March Meetings

The **March Cabinet Meeting** has been canceled. The **March Administrative Board** meeting will be held electronically (via email) to vote on the slate of church leaders presented by the Nominating Committee. No physical meeting on March 11.

There will be a **Congregational Meeting on Sunday, March 23**, following both worship services for the purpose ratifying the slate of leadership from the Nominating Committee.

confessing acting reconciling seeing orienting accepting raising

PREPARATION
for Resurrection

A sermon & worship emphasis for the season of Lent 2014

Bit from Brad

Pulpit Exchange

I hope you found last Sunday's pulpit exchange to be as wonderful as I did! So far I've only received raving reviews about Rev. Amy Gearhart's presence with us this past Sunday. We thank her and Missouri UMC for "loaning" her to us. For those not here this past Sunday, FCC participated in a Five-way Pulpit Exchange: I went to First Baptist; Carol McIntyre of First Baptist went to Calvary Episcopal; Knute Knudson of Calvary went to Broadway Christian; Tim Carson from Broadway went to Missouri UMC; and Amy to us here at FCC.

The good folks at First Baptist were warm, friendly, and gracious and they send their regards, especially to their former staff member, Moray Kiehl. How wonderful it was to feel connected to the larger ecumenical church! There's just something about worshipping with another Christian in the own house of worship. Like eating with someone in their own house, when we can occupy the same space, even for a short while, it's just easier to understand them. I've heard over and over, let's do it again next year! Well, I can't make promises for the other clergy, but I'm up for it if they are.

Capital Campaign Committee

As you'll read in this edition of *The Visitor*, our Admin. Board voted last week to create a Capital Campaign Committee to address our serious deferred maintenance issues. Our fearless leaders, Genie Rogers and Rich Montgomery have already called their first meeting to be held Monday, March 3; please keep them in your prayers as our Capital Campaign Committee prepares to tackle this vitally important challenge.

Indeed our facilities are suffering terribly; we are rotting at the top and rusting at the bottom. The current estimated costs range from \$3.3 to \$4.3 million. Unfortunately if we don't act quickly these costs will only increase as time continues. Material & labor costs only go up; percentage rates won't get any lower should we have to borrow funds; and our rate of deterioration is increasing exponentially, not linearly. We are at a critical juncture especially when it comes to Halting the Deterioration and Life Safety Issues.

So please give your prayers for the Capital Campaign Committee and their endeavor. Also, please give the committee your attention when they begin communication. ~Blessings, Brad

News of Our People

Prayers of comfort are extended to the family of **Lt. Bruce Britt**, the Columbia firefighter killed last week in a rescue call at MU. His wife Leigh and small child continue to held in prayer by our congregation.

Prayers of healing are extended to: **Paula Kurtz** having had successful knee surgery is not recuperating at Lenoir Healthcare Center. **Russ Chandler** is now home from a hospital stay last week after a serious ice fall.

The 3rd floor is getting closer to completion. With paint up and carpet installed the next move is cleaning and moving in. Jimmy Spear and the Children's Education Dept. will be working to reimagine and prepare the space for children and youth to return to their domain!

Nora Dietzel and **Monica Palmer** have dazzled audiences in the CEC's recent production of Young Frankenstein. These ladies are funny!

Thank You!

The birthday flowers, delivered by Julie and John Hickey, are beautiful; they surely symbolize the love and kindness of First Christian Church. Thank you, deeply, for all of your thoughtfulness.
~Elizabeth Hensley

Disciples in a Bus on a search for their Heritage!

Join church friends for a tour of a lifetime! The Disciples Heritage Tour to Bethany, West Virginia and Cane Ridge KY is April 7-11, 2014. There are up a few spots left in the bus. Talk to Jimmy Spear to claim one!

Eat Pancakes for The Hill

Come and Support the Kids at The Hill. Coyote Hill Christian Children's Home is having their annual all-you-can-eat Pancake Breakfast fundraiser Saturday, March 15, 7:00 am to 12 noon at the Memorial Baptist Church, 1634 Paris Road. Adults~\$5.00; ages 3-12~\$3.00; under age 3~free.

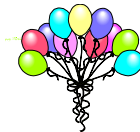
Ladies' Book Club

Spoken from the Heart by Laura Bush is the Book Club's choice for March.



Women will gather at noon in Bethany Hall on March 12 to discuss this popular First Lady's autobiography. April's pick is *The Orchardist*, by Amanda Coplin.

Your Special Birthday!



Marceline Shamberger

101 on March 2



March 2

Marceline Shamberger
Victoria Sheppard

March 3

Sally Estes
Sue Haynes

March 4

Sharon Ronchetto

March 5

Cathy Seltsam
Khons Volmert

March 6

Robert Dierking
Andrew Janssen
Nancy Watson

March 7

Michael Taylor

March 8

Valerie Freed
David Keithley
Andrea Smith

March 12

Liam Rose

March 13

Anna Poole

March 14

Donna Houston
Pat Rainey

March 15

Mary Dysart
Kimberly Williams

Youth Groups

March 2

Chi-Rho: 4:30-6 p.m.

CYF: 6-7:30 p.m.

Children's Choir: (k-5)

March 2: 4:30-5:30 p.m.

Chi-Rho Bells

Mar. 2: 4-4:30 p.m.

Future Youth Meetings:

March 16: Chi-Rho & CYF

Mar. 23 & 30: no mtgs/sprg brk

Summer Camp Sign Up:

Brochures and forms are being passed out at youth group meetings this month.

www.neolacamps.org

Youth Groups

Mar. 9

JYF: 4:30-6 p.m.

CYF: 6-7:30 p.m.



JYF (grds 3-5)

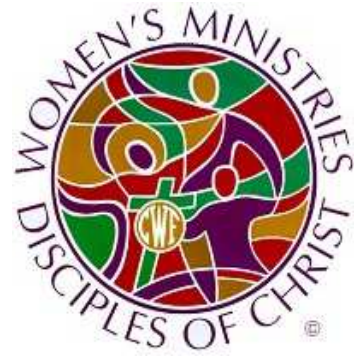
Chi-Rho (grds 6-8)

CYF (grds 9-12)

Silent Bazaar

To: The Women of First Christian Church and Friends who would like to Honor them,

Spring is right around the corner and that is the time when the Christian Women's Ministries/CWF Board begins planning the budget for next year.



Each year we send a "Silent Bazaar" letter out requesting monetary donations to support the work of the CWF. It is a "Silent Bazaar" because we are asking for donations and not asking anyone to make or buy anything, unlike the Christmas Craft Bazaar where proceeds went to the vendors and the Stage Curtain Fund.

The CWM/CWF has two major fund raisers to support our many worthwhile projects, the Election Day Luncheon in the Fall (thanks to Brenda Mosby and Mimi Roberts for their superb organizational skills!) and the Silent Bazaar in the Spring. The majority of our budget comes from these two fund raisers and the rest from CWF group offerings.

What do we use the money for? It is divided almost equally between donations to: 1. Church projects, 2. Local women's/children's charities, 3. CWF Women's activities and events.

Donations to:

1. CHURCH PROJECTS; FCC Youth Projects; Vacation Bible School; Loaves and Fishes; Breakfast for Brethren; Woodhaven; Disciples Mission Fund; Shawl Ministry.

2. LOCAL WOMEN'S/CHILDREN'S CHARITIES; Coyote Hill; True North Women's Shelter; Nora Stewart Early Learning Center; Rainbow House; Meals on Wheels; Ronald McDonald House; Buddy Packs Mid-Mo Food Bank.

3. CWF ACTIVITIES & EVENTS: Election Day Lunch; Fall Women's Dinner; Christmas Women's Brunch; Spring Garden Tour and Luncheon; Speaker Honorariums; Study Materials; Yearbooks; Supplies, postage & cards; Quadrennial Expenses.

In the past few years we have been able to increase the amount of our donations and to give to non-budgeted items such as \$50.00 to Chaddock Home for Disturbed Children, a NE Area CWF project and \$200.00 for the Central Missouri Stop Human Trafficking Coalition, the International Disciple Women's project.

Please give prayerful thought and consider giving a donation so we all can join together and accomplish the mission of the church. We ask that you make checks payable to CWF and place all cash donations in an envelope marked CWF. Return it to the church office or put it in the offering plate **by April 15**, so we can complete our 2014-2015 Budget in a timely manner.

Thank you,

Tommy Gay Evans, President, Christian Women's Ministries/CWF

Attention Attention Attention



Here's a great idea for you to expand your fellowship opportunities at First Christian, and perhaps learn a new skill or refresh an old one.

The Shawl Ministry is looking to grow its participation and would love to hear from you about joining their group. No need to worry about your level of skill as the group will guide you through training or refresher courses.

Our group is a wonderful part of the First Christian experience with prayer shawls that welcome babies, send off high school seniors, and comfort the sick and mourning.

We have a great time and meet at **10 a.m. on the third Wednesday** of the month with knitting, crocheting, snacks and fun fellowship. Come join us. Contact Pamela Hoepfner at 442-1718 or Hoepfner@socket.net for all the details.

WE'LL PUT YOU IN STITCHES.

Celebrate Mardi Gras at Millersburg CC Supper & Auction March 8, 5-7 pm

Millersburg Christian Church (DOC) invites you to a supper and auction with proceeds going to support the ministries of their church. Check the bulletin board for the menu and other details. The church is located 10 miles east of Columbia at 4527 State Road J.

Admin. Board News

FCC's Administrative Board met Tuesday, February 18, 2014 for a regularly scheduled meeting. In one of its best attended meetings, the Admin. Board voted on three items. The first item presented was a motion from the Master Planning Committee, endorsed by the Property Department, to accept the Tiered Prioritization Structure (based on the Facility Condition Assessment Report) as the specific, actionable Building Plan so as to move forward with building repairs and renovations. Along with the motion, a friendly amendment was added that included 1) a reminder that the Master Plan contains renovation ideas and 2) a commitment to review and discuss the Master Plan before proceeding with Tiers 2-5.

Tier One addresses "Life Safety and Halting the Deterioration" of FCC's Facilities; estimated costs are \$1.23 million. Tier Two is subdivided into two categories: Tier Two A and B for renovating the Education Building is an either A OR B. Tier Two A, major renovation to the Education Building, is based upon \$100/sqft for a total estimated cost of \$2.086 million; Tier Two B, minor renovation of the Education Building, is based upon \$50/sqft for a total estimated cost of \$1.043 million. Tier Three updates the Sanctuary and estimated costs are \$297K; Tier Four renovates Higbee Hall for an estimated cost of \$660K; and Tier Five renovates Bethany Hall for an estimated cost of \$70K. The grand total estimate for all five tiers ranges from \$3.3 to \$4.3 million, based on minor or major renovations for the Ed. Bldg.

This motion passed unanimously.

The second item brought before the Admin Board was another motion from the Master Planning Committee to create a Capital Campaign Committee, so as to raise the funds needed for the above capital needs created by years of deferred maintenance. The motion also proposed the slate for the Capital Campaign Committee: The following individuals will constitute the Capital Campaign Committee: Genie Rogers, Co-chair; Rich Montgomery, Co-Chair; Bob Hutton, Rev. Moray Kiehl, Amy Marrero, Ben Micek, Dave Nichols, Joe Reardon, Steve Smith, Carol Slusher, Susan Gray, Dan Giesecke, ex officio; Rev. Brad Stagg, ex officio.

This motion passed unanimously.

The third item was an item from the Property Department requesting permission to discuss with the County about possibly working together to transform Village Park (at the corner of 9th and Walnut) into a parking lot. At one time, when the City leased the church's parking lot, the City agreed to maintain and manage Village Park as part of the rental agreement. When the City built the large parking garage, they no longer needed our parking and the lease discontinued. FCC then found another party to lease the church's parking lot, the County. However, when the City discontinued the lease, they failed to notify the City's Park and Recreation Department so they continued to manage the park even though there was no lease. A couple of weeks ago, the City notified FCC that the City would no longer manage the park effective October 1, 2014.

With that information, the Property Department asked the question, would the County consider doing the construction to change the park into more parking spaces, which we would lease back to them for free until their construction costs were compensated for (in approximately 2 years or so.) After discussing the matter, the Administrative Board believed it is worth having a conversation with the County to see if they are even interested in the idea.

The motion passed unanimously.



Dinner for Six

6 people having
3 meals together over the course of
3 months --- dinner for six is back!

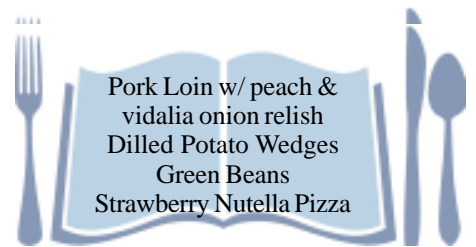
Join us in this great opportunity for church folks to become friends! New groups will be formed for the next *Dinner for Six* season of April, May, June. Sign up by contacting the church office: 449-7265 or fcc@firstchristian.org or Betty Montgomery: bettymontgomery@charter.net or 443-7817.

Sign Up by March 16

CAFÉ

Christian Action Fellowship
Education
Wednesday Evening

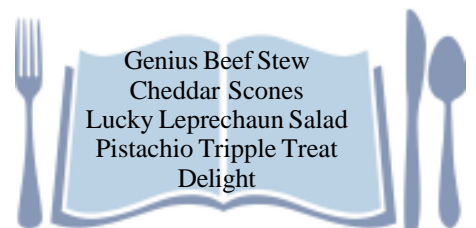
March 5
Menu



Program: *Ash Wednesday Service*

6:30 p.m. - Sanctuary

March 12
Menu



Program: *Outward Disciplines*

part three in a conversation led by Brad Stagg on Spiritual Disciplines.

6:15 p.m. - Morris Parlor

Looking ahead to March 19: *Corporatate Disciplines*, part four of the conversation

The Meal: 5:30-6:15 pm

A unique menu created each week by church chef, Laura Estes is served buffet style in Yonker Fellowship Hall.

Cost: Adults - \$8, Teens (ages 13 thru college) - \$5, Children (ages 5-12) - \$3, Children (under 5) - free, Family Special Rate - \$18.

**Reserve your spot in the church office or by putting "CAFÉ" on the Sunday pew pad.

Serving Schedule - Sunday, March 2

Van Driver: Carol Slusher

Office Receptionist: Betty Moon

Church School Greeter: Carol Hughey

Flower Ministry - Arranged by: Marion and Sarah Storm

Delivered by: Marion and Sarah Storm

Servers for 8:30 Worship Service

Worship Assts.: Alan and Connie Street, Tom Hughey

Elder: Bettie Koelling

Servers for 10:30 Worship Service

Communion Preparation: Elizabeth Mottaz, Pat Rybolt and Taylor Humble

Liturgist: Deborah Scott

Elders: Jacki Davidson, Harlan Hackett, Nora Dietzel

Deacons: The Campbell Team

Greeters: Betty Moon (*N. Door*), Colleen Nilges (*S. Door*)

Bill Carney (*Atrium*), Sonya Carney (*Portico*)

Ushers: The Mountjoy Team

Banner Bearers: Will Bower and Elayna Mottaz

Candlelighters: Kameron Freed and Luke Stagg

No Children's Worship this week

This Week (March 2 - 8)

- Sun.** - Pastoral Care Trng., 2:00-3:30 p.m.
- Chi-Rho Bells, 4:00 p.m.
- Children's Choir, 4:30-5:30 p.m.
- Chi-Rho (grades 6-8), 4:30-6:00 p.m.
- CYF (grades 9-12), 6:00-7:30 p.m.
- Mon.** - Church Staff Meeting, 2:00 p.m.
- Baptism and Discipleship Class, 4:30-6:00 p.m., Parlor
- Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 5:30 p.m.
- Capital Campaign Committee Mtg., 7:00 p.m., Parlor
- Coffman-Watson Group, 7:00 p.m., Susan Gray's home
- Tue.** - Tuesday Morning Bible Study, 10:30-11:30 a.m.,
Morris Parlor
- Wed.** - Men's Lunch, 11:30 a.m., Senior Center
- World Outreach Mtg., 5:30 p.m., Keystone Room
- Baptism & Discipleship Class, 5:30 p.m., Yonker Hall
- CAFÉ : dinner, 5:30 p.m., Yonker Fellowship Hall
- Ash Wednesday Service, 6:30 p.m., Sanctuary
- DOC (college group), 8:45-10:00 p.m., Bethany Hall
- Thur.** - STARS - Orchids & St. Louis Trip, 8:30 a.m.
- Fri.** - Church Dine-Out, 5:30 p.m., Bob Evans Restaurant
- Sat.** - Northeast Area Cabinet of Women's Ministries,
9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Bethany Hall

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

Serving Schedule - Sunday, March 9

Van Driver: Kim Leon

Office Receptionist: Diana Provenzano

Church School Greeter: Colleen Nilges

Flower Ministry - Arranged by: Barbara Rothenberger

Delivered by: Cliff and Mary Tompson

Servers for 8:30 Worship Service

Worship Assts.: Jerry and Mary Daugherty, Betsy Hofmann

Elder: Jerry Daugherty

Servers for 10:30 Worship Service

Communion Preparation: Roy and Joy Overacre, Ryan Hunsaker

Liturgist: Brenda Martin

Elders: Ben Nelms, Sharon Winner, Fred Mottaz

Deacons: The Creasy Team

Greeters: Dan Gieseke (*N. Door*), Holly Gieseke (*S. Door*)

Bill Carney (*Atrium*), Sonya Carney (*Portico*)

Ushers: The Burnam Team

Banner Bearers: Maddie Marrero and Olivia Johnson

Candlelighters: Andrew Stormer and Julia LaHue

Children's Worship: Julie Nichols (*ldr.*), Amy Marrero (*hlpr.*)

This Week (March 9 - 16)

- Sun.** - Daylight Saving Time Begins
- JYF (grades 3-5), 4:30-6:00 p.m.
- CYF (grades 9-12), 6:00-7:30 p.m.
- Mon.** - Newsletter Deadline & Church Staff Meeting, 2:00 p.m.
- Baptism & Discipleship Class, 4:30-6:00 p.m., Keystone
- Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 5:30 p.m.
- Financial Task Force Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Bethany Hall
- Tue.** - Tuesday Morning Bible Study, 10:30-11:30 a.m., Parlor
- Wed.** - Men's Lunch, 11:30 a.m., Senior Center
- Ladies' Book Club, Noon, Bethany Hall
- Baptism & Discipleship Class, 5:30 p.m., Yonker Hall
- CAFÉ : dinner, 5:30 p.m., Yonker Fellowship Hall
program, 6:15 p.m., Morris Parlor
- DOC (college group), 8:45-10:00 p.m., Bethany Hall
- Thur.** - Columbia Area Older Adult Ministry Mtg., 5:15 p.m.,
Bethany Hall
- Fri.** - Phyllis Tickle Lecture #1, 2:00-5:00 p.m., MU Student
Center
- Community Worship Service with Rev. Cleaver II,
7:00 p.m., Missouri United Methodist Church
- Sat.** - Phyllis Tickle Lecture #2, 10:00-12:00 p.m., MU Tate Hall
- Phyllis Tickle Lecture #3, 1:30-3:00 p.m., MU Tate Hall

The Visitor

First Christian Church

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573-449-7265

Ministerial Staff:

Rev. Brad Stagg, Senior Minister
brad@firstchristian.org
Rev. Jimmy Spear, Associate Minister
jimmy@firstchristian.org

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
MOM23ROCKS@aol.com

Columbia Area Older Adult Ministry:

Rev. Sally Robinson, Chaplain
chaplainsal@yahoo.com

Support Staff:

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

Minister Emeritus:

Dr. John J. Yonker

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Return Service Requested

INFO for STARS: STL to visit Missouri Botanical Garden Thurs. Mar. 6

For the STARS group headed to the Missouri Botanical Garden, the day will include garden touring (walking or by tram), seeing the annual Orchid Show and lunch in St. Louis.

8:30 a.m. departure.
\$10 travel fee
Return by 5:30 p.m.

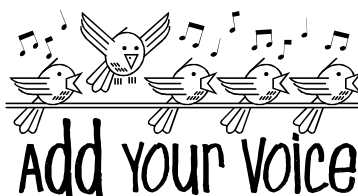
The bus is full but we can extend to a car if needed.
RSVP to Carol Slusher.



STARS is the 55+ Fellowship Group
of First Christian Church

Community Choir Event

On Friday, March 14th at 7:00 p.m., First Christian Church will take part in a community-wide church service, to be held at Missouri United Methodist Church, in honor of Phyllis Tickle (lecturer and authority on religion and spirituality in America) visiting Columbia. The service will include a mass choir comprised of members of the area's participating churches. If you are interested in singing with this group, you are urged to join us! Music is available from Adriene Price. Rehearsals are to be held at Broadway Christian Church, under the direction of Nollie Moore. For more information, or to request your copies of music, please contact Adriene at singers.and.ringers@gmail.com or phone 864-4355. We hope to have you with us for this uplifting event!



There will be **no newsletter next week**. The *Visitor* will be back on the regular schedule March 9-15.

Weekly Report

Feb. 23, 2014

Received this week \$5,168
Received to Date \$298,678
Needed to Date \$299,743
Attendance - 211
(includes early service - 45
and total visitors - 13)