



THE VISITOR

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Nov. 21, 2014
Vol. 73, No. 16

Worship Sunday, Nov. 23

For the last Sunday of the Christian year, we pause in worship to center ourselves in God's presence with songs of the Thanksgiving season, prayers of praise, campaign commitments to present, and the Word to hear. Rev. Brad Stagg will preach "Bring it Up" based upon Ezekiel 37:11-14. The Chancel Choir will sing in 10:30 and a trio of Brenda Mosby, Adrienne Price, and Jimmy Spear will sing in 8:30. There is a place for you this Sunday at FCC!

The Capital Campaign's
Commitment Sunday is
this Sunday, **Nov. 23!**
Place your pledge card
or gift in the Offering
Plate at either service!

First Sunday of Advent Worship, November 30 "Hanging of the Greens"

In what has become one of the favorite worship services of the year, we will celebrate the beginning of Advent with the HANGING OF THE GREENS service on Sunday, November 30. At both early and late services greenery will be hung in the sanctuary as appropriate scripture verses and readings will interpret the symbolism and meaning of the service.

Advent brings the beautiful music of the Christmas season, and this year will be no different; we begin with advent hymns! With the greens hung, the Chrismon tree lit, and the first candle aflame the congregation will continue the Advent journey.

A season of waiting, anticipation, and yearning for a God to be with us will be our focus in the coming weeks. Join us in worship.

Christmas Bazaar

Saturday, November 22

8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Yonker Fellowship Hall

Lunch Served, Sweets and Fair Trade



If you would like to help with the Christmas Bazaar this Saturday, there is still time to call. We can use your help in the kitchen anytime from 7:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Your favorite sweet breads are needed for serving early and cookies and candy for the Cookie and Candy Caravan. We will be setting up all day Friday so if you could bring your baked goods early that day, it would be greatly appreciated. There is still room for your little one to serve tables and an adult or teen to be their partner. Please call Brenda Mosby at 442-7507 and we will find a spot for you!



Women's Christmas Brunch

Saturday, Dec. 6

9:00 a.m., Yonker Fellowship Hall

All Women Invited!

ALL women of the Church are invited to our annual Christmas Brunch Saturday, December 6, at 9:00 AM in Yonker Fellowship Hall. ALL ages are invited and please invite your friends also. The Brunch is sponsored by our CWF/Disciples Women's Ministries, and there is no charge. Come and enjoy some delicious goodies, wonderful fellowship, and share the festive spirit with 3 or 4 generations of our Church family. Please **RSVP by Monday, December 1**, on the church attendance pads, the sign-in sheet in the church office, or call the church office. Come enjoy the Christmas spirit with us.

Bit from Brad

The sound of pennies filling a large kitchen pot echoed through the sanctuary and reverberated all the way up to heaven! That's what happened Sunday as more than 35 children of FCC poured out their pennies (and more than a few nickels, dimes, and quarters) in support of our Capital Campaign. There's an old saying in youth ministry: "Children are not the future of the church; they are the church!" That couldn't have been truer than this past Sunday. For weeks the FCC's children struggled, worked, and convinced parents, family, friends, and neighbors to contribute to their jar of pennies. Each kid set a goal to raise as many pennies as they are tall. I think each one of them raised their goal and several exceeded it! I know for sure that Brady Marrero did! And bless his heart, he worked so hard but was too sick to be there Sunday, so his sister Maddie poured his on his behalf. Talk about dedication! Thank you Brady and Maddie! And thank you to all the girls and boys who raised pennies of our Capital Campaign!

In the Bible Jesus comments on the gifts of the rich publican and the poor widow. Asking his disciples which has given more, Jesus instructs his followers that the poor widow has given more, not in dollars but in percentage. For while the rich publican gave of his excess remainder, the widow giving her mite gave all she had to God.

As we near our Commitment Sunday, I hope and pray that you will spend much time in prayer and soul-searching asking God how you should respond. Trish and I certainly are praying and discussing how we'll respond. I hope you will join us in bringing your pledge card or gift this Sunday for Commitment Sunday. Join us in "Protecting Our Legacy!"

See you in church! Blessings, Brad



Oasis Dec. 3 5:30 pm Yonker Hall

Pizza, Salad & Dessert - \$5
Bingo Night!

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

No Oasis Thanksgiving Week



CYF was all Rockbridge Nov. 16. For the first time ever in Jimmy's memory there were all RBHS students at the previously dominated Hickman CYF. Come on Kewpies, bring it back!

Sunday, November 23:

4-4:30 pm: Children's Choir
4:30-6 pm: JYF Youth Group
6-7:30 pm: CYF Youth Group

Future Youth Meetings/Dates:

Nov. 30: Chi-Rho, CYF
Dec 5: Living Nativity
Dec. 7: JYF, CYF
Dec. 14: Pageant
JYF (grds 3-5)
Chi-Rho (grds 6-8)
CYF (grds 9-12)



News of Our People

Dorothy Allen continues at home under hospice care with her daughter, **Susan Allen** at her side.

Jordan Barnes is home recovering from outpatient sinus surgery.

We offer our sympathy to **Mark & Brenda Martin** on the loss of **Mark's** father, Don Martin.

We also offer our sympathy to **Gloria & Bob Fay** on the loss of Gloria's nephew, Arnold Gamiz, age 22 who died tragically in an auto accident in the Philippines.

Bob Hutton's mother fell, breaking her collar bone and re-breaking her femur for the fourth time.

Tommy Tomlin is having colon surgery at Boone Tuesday, November 18.

Brad Volmert's mother, Agnes Volmert has entered a critical time in her battle against Stage 4 cancer.

Bragg Stanley requests prayers for his brother, Thompson Stanley.

Ed Bright will have hip replacement surgery next Wednesday, November 26.

No Newsletter Thanksgiving week!



<u>Nov. 25</u> Chanda Hughey Micah Hulen	<u>Dec. 4</u> Brenda Martin Linda Ridgeway
<u>Nov. 29</u> Maxwell Crane	<u>Dec. 5</u> Carole Harris-Randerson
<u>Dec. 1</u> Charles Koelling	Mike Randerson Erik White
<u>Dec. 3</u> Paula Hoenes David Read	<u>Dec. 6</u> Deborah Garton Alan Leach

Be a part of the Living Nativity - Friday, December 5 Come and see, stay for warm fellowship!

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.** Hot refreshments, cookies and warmth will be served in Bethany Hall throughout the evening.

Be a Set Up Helper:

*Day of event outside music and lights set up.

(3 people needed)

*Inside costumes setup.

(3 people needed)

*Night of event costume room leaders/helpers.

(3 people needed)

Talk to Jimmy Spear or Steve Humble to volunteer.



Be a Living Nativity Character:

Shepherds

Wise Men

Angels (mostly little)

Herod

Mary and Joseph

*Sign up Sundays Nov. 23 & 30 in the Narthex/email Jimmy.

*Participants: All who have signed up meet in the Narthex 15 min. before showtime. Most characters perform two shows. No practice necessary.



STARS to Branson

It was even cold in Branson as ten ladies and Jimmy spent two days in that place for the Irish superstar Daniel O'Donnell concert and some outlet shopping. Pictured is the fun traveling group as they lunch near Osage Beach.

Banquet Hosts

First Christian was host to Mid-America Center for Ministry's Annual Fall Dinner on November 7. Over 100 people were in attendance at the annual fund-raising and graduation ceremony. Mid-Amer. Center for Ministry was formerly called Missouri School of Religion. MCM is historically connected to FCC as the FCC building was home to the school's first classes way back in the beginning days. While their offices are in Jefferson City MCM is an online education program educating persons for ministry in a three year track toward the Certificate in Pastoral Ministry. Pictured are FCC folks in attendance, Frances Brown, Rev. Sally Robinson, and Rev. Moray Kiehl. Not pictured are Rev. Jimmy Spear who serves on the MCM Board of Directors and Dr. Ken Watson who is an MCM instructor. Laura Estes catered the event with rave reviews.



Room at the Inn Will be Opening Soon!

The Room at the Inn winter shelter, whose mission is to provide a warm and safe place to sleep, will be opening earlier this year (December 11, 2014) and will be closing later (March 10, 2015). The hours of operation are 7 p.m. - 7 a.m. Details are still being finalized so *please* watch upcoming Visitors for updates!! The need is always great and will be even greater this year with the extended days of operation. A list of needed tax-deductible donations has been posted on the church bulletin board (outside the church office) as well as on the Church in Society bulletin board in Yonker Fellowship Hall. If you have *any* questions, please contact Sarah Storm at 573-289-0072. Otherwise, stay tuned!

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

Two Unique Gift Giving Ideas

Give to VAC Christmas Sponsorship Program

Winston S. Churchill once said, "We make a living by what we get. We make a *life* by what we *give*." As the Christmas season is quickly approaching we want to ask you, "What kind of *life* do you want to have?" and we hope that part of your answer will be giving a nice Christmas to a person in need. There are approximately 1,150 low-income families that participate in the Voluntary Action Center's (VAC) Holiday Program each holiday season, and this program provides gifts and a voucher for food to make a holiday meal.



This Christmas, FCC has agreed to sponsor 9 families (41 people). One way that you can *give* is to sponsor a family member. The Christmas Tree project table will be in the Narthex during the next two Sundays (November 23rd and 30th). The suggested spending is \$50-75. A "wish" list will be provided to make shopping easier. We are asking for the gifts to be brought to church by December 10th.

The VAC's Holiday Program is just one of the many programs that the Church in Society supports and is one of many ways that you can make your *life* one of *giving*.

Give a Pig! Give a Goat! Give Heifer International Gifts this Christmas

Jimmy has returned from his much deserved Sabbatical and the World Outreach Department reminds you that we decided to raise \$5,000 for a Heifer Ark in honor of Rev. Jimmy Spear. He takes care of us in so many amazing ways we want to honor him in this way. Our goal is to raise this money by the end of December 2014 and we are getting close. We have raised over \$3,400 so far. A flock of geese or a trio of rabbits will make a great Christmas gift or birthday gift for a friend or family member. This will be the gift that keeps on giving. Make your check to First Christian Church and in the memo section write Gift Ark and drop it in the offering tray on Sunday or drop the check off in the church office. We have cards you may give to your family or friend telling them of your donation in their honor. We will have the Heifer display in the Narthex the first three Sundays in December. If you want to do some activities at home with your family check out the Heifer International website for more details at www.heifer.org. You will also see how your gift will make a difference in people's lives.



~World Outreach Department



On Sundays, December 14 & 21, our sanctuary will be even more beautiful with poinsettias placed there in honor or in memory of loved ones.

Order your Poinsettias

To order, complete the information below and return the slip, along with your contribution to the church office.

The poinsettias will be ordered by the church and placed in the sanctuary for you. They may be picked up after the 11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service.

Please return this form by: December 7

I (we) are giving # _____ total Poinsettia(s) at **\$8.00 each**.

In **MEMORY** of: _____

AND/OR

In **HONOR** of: _____

Please list the following name or family as donor: _____

Serving Schedule - Sunday, Nov. 23

Van Driver: Royce Palmer

Office Receptionist: Tom Gray

Flower Ministry - Arranged by: Gene and Micki Kirkham

Delivered by: Gene and Micki Kirkham

Servers for 8:30 Worship Service

Worship Assts.: Jerry and Mary Daugherty, Opal Stites

Elder: Larry Burnam

Servers for 10:30 Worship Service

Communion Preparation: Genie Rogers, Hartley and Kim Rogers

Liturgist: Max Schaefer

Elders: Harlan Hackett, Larry Veatch, Tommy Tomlin

Deacons: The Stanley Team

Greeters: Susan Klockow (*N. Door*), Janelle Patterson (*S. Door*)

Pat Ritchie (*Atrium*), Jordan Barnes (*Portico*)

Ushers: The Scott Team

Banner Bearers: Ava Hoenes and Elizabeth Martin

Candlelighters: Olivia Johnson and Andrew Stormer

Children's Worship: Holly Gieseke

This Week (Nov. 23 - 29)

- Sun.** - Capital Campaign Commitment Sunday
- Bell Choir, 8:30 a.m., 3rd Floor, Education Bldg.
- Lenoir Healthcare Worship, 3:30 p.m.
- Children's Choir, 4:00-4:30 p.m.
- JYF (grades 3-5), 4:30-6:00 p.m.
- CYF (grades 9-12), 6:00-7:30 p.m.
- Mon.** - No Newsletter this week
- STARS to Broadway CC for T-Giving Meal
- Church Staff Mtg., 2:00 p.m.
- Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 5:30 p.m., Sanctuary
- Drennan Singers Rehearsal, 6:30 p.m., Sanctuary
- Tue.** - Tuesday Bible Study, 10:30-11:30 a.m., Morris Parlor
- Wed.** - Mother's Day Out not in session
- Men's Lunch, 11:30 a.m., Senior Center
- Thr.** - Thanksgiving Day, office closed
- Fri.** - Office Closed for holiday



Serving Schedule - Sunday, Nov. 30

Van Driver: Dan Gieseke

Office Receptionist: Jennifer Gwinner

Flower Ministry - Arranged by: Don and Brenda Mosby

Delivered by: Don and Brenda Mosby

Servers for 8:30 Worship Service

Worship Assts.: TBA

Elder: Carol Hughey

Servers for 10:30 Worship Service

Communion Preparation: Valerie Freed, Taylor Humble, Larry Burnam

Liturgist: Nora Dietzel

Elders: Nancy Watson, Ken Watson, Marilyn Schappert

Deacons: The Creasy Team

Greeters: Tom Gray (*N. Door*), Susan Gray (*S. Door*)

Moray Kiehl (*Atrium*), Joyce Stanley (*Portico*)

Ushers: The Burnam Team

Banner Bearers: Joseph McCormack and Lena Schaefer

Candlelighters: Mia Gregory and Liam Rose

Children's Worship: Kim Boger

This Week (Nov. 30 - Dec. 6)

- Sun.** - First Sunday of Advent - Hanging of the Greens
- Bell Choir, 8:30 a.m., 3rd Floor, Education Bldg.
- Lenoir Healthcare Worship, 3:30 p.m.
- Chi-Rho (grades 6-8), 4:30-6:00 p.m.
- CYF (grades 9-12), 6:00-7:30 p.m.
- Mon.** - Newsletter deadline and Church Staff Mtg., 2:00 p.m.
- Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 5:30 p.m., Sanctuary
- Drennan Singers Rehearsal, 6:30 p.m., Sanctuary
- Financial Task Force Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Bethany Hall
- Tue.** - Tuesday Bible Study, 10:30-11:30 a.m., Morris Parlor
- Cabinet Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Morris Parlor
- Wed.** - Men's Lunch, 11:30 a.m., Senior Center
- World Outreach Mtg., 5:00 p.m., Keystone Room
- Oasis, 5:30 p.m., Yonker Fellowship Hall
- DOC (college group), 8:45-10:00 p.m., Bethany Hall
- Fri.** - Church Women United, 9:30 a.m., Community Methodist
- Church Dine-Out, 6:00-8:00 p.m., Bob Evans Restaurant
- Living Nativity, 6:00-8:00 p.m., front lawn & Bethany Hall

The Visitor

First Christian Church

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

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

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Return Service Requested

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

Thank You Election Day Luncheon "Delivery" Workers!

THANK YOU to the great crew who shared their time and energy in making it possible for 179 folks to have our yummy Election Day lunch delivered to them: to our soup/chili "dippers", **Donna and Will Houston**; to our "stage crew" who bagged and boxed the meals, **Helen Stemmons, Susan Ramsey, Diana Provenzano, Tommy Gay Evans, and Cherry Hinderberger**; AND to our "delivery crew" (who not only shared their time and energy, but their gasoline as well!!), **Perry Stemmons, Harlan Hackett, Charlie Koelling, Anne Campbell, Gerald Ramsey, Jerry Miller, Jimmy Spear, Bragg Stanley, Marion Storm, Fred Mottaz, and Ken Watson.** ~Sarah Storm

Listen In...
Radio Spots M-W-F

KFRU-1400 AM @ 6:55 am
KBXR-102.3 FM @ 7:20 am

Weekly Report

Nov. 16, 2014

Received this week \$5089
Received to Date \$160,451
Needed to Date \$166,569
Attendance - 231
(includes early service - 47
and visitors - 16)

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