



THE VISITOR

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Dec. 04, 2015
Vol. 74, No. 16

Worship for the Second Sunday of Advent, Dec. 6

Prepare...the way
based upon Luke 3:1-6

Prepare.... 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 chancel choir will highlight this second Sunday in Advent.

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

Coffee Hour

(and donuts!)

Sundays in December

9:20-10:20 a.m.

in Yonker Hall

sponsored by the Membership Department

Advent Studies for Adults

Sunday Mornings

9:30 - 10:20 a.m. in Bethany Hall

Not a Silent Night:

Mary Looks Back to Bethlehem

Amy Marrero and Eric Arnett will lead on Adam Hamilton's study dvd and book by the same title. Books will be provided and can be checked out for the duration of the study or people can buy their own from an outside source (Amazon, etc.)

Wednesday Evenings

December 9, 16, 23

Hark the Glad Sound

7:00 p.m. Keystone Room

Jimmy Spear will lead an advent bible study centered around the theme of "song." The songs of Zechariah, Mary, Angels and the Church will be the four week focus. Books will be ordered for participants but not required. (\$5 per book)

Living Nativity - Friday, Dec. 4 6 - 8 p.m.

Now a tradition on the night of Columbia's Living Windows Downtown District event, our church presents the story of Jesus' birth. The story is depicted on the east lawn and sidewalk of the church utilizing members of the church, costumes, taped music with narration and special lighting. 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.**

* As a courtesy to those who are participating in the Living Nativity, **pizza supper will be offered from 5:15** on in Yonker Hall. Come eat before costuming.

Special Administrative Board Meeting
December 6th after the 10:30 worship service
(approving the FCC financial policy)

STARS - Lights & Lunch

Join us in seeing the holiday lights of Columbia on the **Christmas Light Tour**, Tuesday, December 8, 6:30-9 p.m.. Space is limited, RSVP to the church office, or on pew pad "lights."

Be sure to make a reservation for the **STARS luncheon**, Tuesday, Dec. 15, 11:45 a.m. Soup and breads provided. Bring snacks/desserts "potluck" to fill out the table. A program of stories will be paired with the MDO children singing. 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. 5

9:00 a.m.

Yonker Fellowship Hall
All Women Invited!

ALL women of the Church are invited to our annual Christmas Brunch Saturday, December 5, at 9:00 a.m. in Yonker Fellowship Hall. ALL ages are invited. Please invite your friends. The Brunch is sponsored by our CWF/Disciples Women's Ministries, and there is no charge.



Christmas Pageant & Tasting Party December 13 7:00 p.m.

Excitement is building for the the annual Christmas Pageant that will take place on Sunday, December 13. In preparation, song practice for children ages pre-k to 5th grade continues to take place on: **Sundays, Dec. 6 and 13.**

Practice takes place during the 10:30 worship service, in the Children's Worship time before creative play. Leaders meet the children in the Children's Chapel and lead the groups in Pageant song practice.

We will assume all children in children's worship will be involved unless leaders are otherwise told by parents. The groups are as follows: Pre-K singing angels, K-1 rainbow bells, 2nd-5th singing choristers. Robe fitting Dec. 13.

In order to sing in the pageant the children need to be in a majority of the practices. Attendance will be taken. Thanks. Talk to Jimmy Spear with questions.

End of Year Giving

Reminder: The end of the 2015 Tax Year is drawing near. All donations credited for 2015 must be received in the church office or post-marked by December 31, 2015. Individual giving statements for 2015 will be mailed in January. Please note: offering checks received in the offering plate in January 2016 will be counted for the 2016 Tax Year, even if the check is backdated to December 31, 2015.

JYF (grds 3-5) &
Chi-Rho (grds 6-8)
4:30-6:00 p.m.
CYF (grds 9-12)
6:00-7:30 p.m.

youth
@ fcc

Dec. 4: Youth in Living Nativity
Dec. 6: Chi-Rho & CYF
Dec. 13: No groups-Pageant, 7pm
Dec. 20: Christmas Caroling



The Fred List family would like to thank all of you who were so generous with the time, help and advice as we prepared for and held Dad's memorial service. Your kindness will not be forgotten. Thank you. ~Rick, Elaine and Lucia

My family and I are overwhelmed with the love and support you have shown to us over the past weeks. We are grateful for the hospital visits with Jimmy before and after the surgery, flowers, delicious meals, cards, prayers and hugs. Thanks for being such a blessing to us during this time. ~David Potthast

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

A flock of geese or a trio of rabbits will make a great Christmas gift for a friend or family member. Indeed, this kind of gift keeps on giving. By giving to Heifer International, your gift buys an animal that can help sustain a person or family in a third world country.

There will be a Heifer display in the Narthex **Sundays, December 13 and 20.** Make your check to First Christian Church and in the memo section write "HEIFER". We have cards you may give to your family or friends telling them of your donation in their honor.

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

Christmas Bazaar Thanks

What a fun day! Seeing our young people serving others in their red aprons and soda jerk hats, meeting new and old friends as they stopped by to see if there was something special they needed for a Christmas gift. It was a day of "thanksgiving." Thanks to everyone who helped in so many ways to make this another success!



CYF Shops for VAC

Last Sunday night the CYF made their annual trek to fulfill the final buying (\$600 worth) of gifts for the remaining VAC individuals sponsored by FCC. The group shopped for 8 folks in one hour!

Dec. 6

Deborah Garton
Alan Leach

Dec. 7

Erica Watson

Dec. 8

Alexandra Estes
Gabriel Palmer
Kenzie Von Talge

Dec. 10

Marjorie Carter
Curtis Snow
Cheryl Unterschutz
Willie Wheeland

Dec. 12

William Bower
Clifford Tompson



Pancake Breakfast



Sun., Dec. 13

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 Nashville, TN. The mission team will be serving and learning in Jan. 2016

The Administrative Department will make available to the church membership a Staff Christmas Fund to honor our excellent church staff during this Christmas season for their combined efforts in helping make our church one in which we can all take great pride.



Checks should be made to First Christian Church with "Staff Christmas Fund" noted on them. Deadline for contributions is Sunday, December 20. Please note that the gift will be divided evenly among the staff members-ministers, office staff, music staff and custodian.

News of People & Place

Opal Stites is recovering from her hospitalization and will be for a short while at The Neighborhood.

Weekly Offering Report: Nov. 22, 2015

Offerings Received this week \$5,355
Offerings Received to Date \$171,142
Offerings Needed to Date \$172,707

Nov. 22 Attendance: 214
(includes early service - 47, visitors - 11)

Weekly Offering Report: Nov. 29, 2015

Offerings Received this week \$6,341
Offerings Received to Date \$191,023
Offerings Needed to Date \$182,360

Nov. 29 Attendance: 258
(includes early service - 59, visitors - 25)



What is this?

The bulletin board on the east staircase between floors 2 & 3 of the Education Building is presently featuring fine pieces of original artwork by the members of the 3rd-5th grade Sunday School class. The bible stories they have been studying this season span from the creation story through Elizabeth and Zechariah. Each Sunday the students create a visual rendition of the story learned in class. Their creativity is outstanding and a must see! The living timeline will be up for a few weeks. Check it out!



CL Class Ends

The CL Class held its last gathering Sunday, Nov. 29. Gathered were long time members pictured at left Charlie and Betty Koelling, Lorene Trickey, and Marsha Rawlings. The class was organized as the Christian Leaders Class in 1940 with an

attendance of over 50 in those early years. It was led in the beginning by Ken and Sue Davis (CK Hoenes grandparents). The group, a place for younger adults in the years of church growth, was a great benefit to the church. A number of teachers have led the group with Marsha Rawlings as the present teacher. Thanks CL Class for a great legacy.

Capital Campaign Progress Report



A Missouri Builder crew member prepares to hoist a piece of coping (metal flashing) to cover our water-saturated capstones. Over 500 feet of capstone must be covered. They hope to complete the installation by end of week. Missouri Builders is also the contractor for the Sanctuary Roof project, beginning Tuesday, December 1; hopefully the sanctuary roof will be completed by Christmas!

Church Dine-Out
Friday, Dec. 4, 5:30 p.m.
Bob Evans Restaurant
Everyone Welcome!

Come Be A "Wrapper" With Drennan Group!

Do you want to see what the kids at Coyote Hill Christian Children's Home are getting for Christmas? Come help Drennan Group wrap the kids' presents on Mon., Dec. 7, 12:30 - 2:30 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church, 16 Hitt St. Park in the lot south of the church, come in the south door, and take the elevator to the top floor. Please bring your own SCISSORS and SCOTCH TAPE. I will ask Kari if my new great-grandson Sam could make an appearance!! Come and have fun with us, and thank you so much for your help. Questions? Call Sharon Winner, 239-2900.

The Visitor

First Christian Church

101 N. 10th Street
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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 Floyd, 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

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

Return Service Requested

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

SERVING SCHEDULE Sunday, Dec. 6

Van Driver: TBA

Office Receptionist: Pat Rybolt

Flower Ministry - Arranged by: Barb Rothenberger

Delivered by: Tommy Gay Evans

Welcome Station: Tommy Tomlin

Servers for 8:30 Worship Service

Worship Assts: Eric Seaman, Will and Donna Houston

Elder: Larry Burnam

Servers for 10:30 Worship Service

Communion Preparation: Betsy, Lauren and Lexi Hofmann

Liturgist: Roy Rogers

Elders: Mark Mills, Sarah Read, David Read

Deacons: The Garton Team *Ushers:* The Mountjoy Team

Greeters: Colleen Nilges (*N. Door*), Jacki Davidson (*S. Door*),

Tom Gray (*Atrium*), Susan Gray (*Portico*)

Banner Bearers: Kameron Freed, Liam Rose

Candlelighters: Luke Stagg, Ava Martin

Children's Worship: Julie Nichols (ldr.); TBA (hlpr.)

CHURCH CALENDAR Dec. 6 - 12

Sun., Dec. 6

- Coffee Hour, 9:15-10:20 a.m., Yonker Hall
- Special Administrative Board Mtg., after 10:30 worship
- Bible Study, 4:30-6:00 p.m., Morris Parlor
- Chi-Rho (grades 6-8), 4:30-6:00 p.m.
- CYF (grades 9-12), 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Mon., Dec. 7

- Newsletter Deadline and Church Staff Mtg., 2:00 p.m.
- Drennan Group, 12:30-2:30 p.m., First Presbyterian Church
- Drennan Singers Rehearsal, 6:00 p.m., Sanctuary

Tues., Dec. 8

- Tuesday Morning Bible Study, 10:30 a.m., Morris Parlor
- Cabinet Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Morris Parlor

Wed., Dec. 9

- Ladies' Book Club, 12:00 p.m., Bethany Hall
- Wed. Bible Study, 12:05-12:55 p.m., Morris Parlor
- Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 5:30 p.m., Sanctuary
- Advent Study, 7:00 p.m., Keystone Room

Thr. Dec. 10

- STARS Christmas Light Tour, 6:30-9:00 p.m.
- College Town Hillbillies Session, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Yonker Hall

Sat., Dec. 12

- Columbia College Commencement, 12:00 noon