



THE VISITOR

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Sept. 18, 2015
Vol. 74, No. 06

Worship Sunday, Sept. 20

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing is perhaps one of the top hymns we sing well at First Christian. It will be featured as the big opener this Sunday. Other hymns include *Called as Partners in Christ's Service* will be at the Invitation. It is a great hymn by Jane Parker Huber expressing our shared ministry in God's church. It is set to the familiar hymn tune BEECHER. For communion our voices will soar with a lightness with *I Come with Joy*.

"The Greatest" is the title for Brad's sermon on Mark 9:30-37. While we are not planning any surprise nuptials this Sunday, we never know how the Spirit might move... Join us in worship for what could be the greatest way to start the week.

Bible Study Opportunity X 3

Join Rev. Brad Stagg in study over the bible texts that guide the church's worship each week. Three occasions will be offered weekly to provide folks opportunity to engage scripture and study.

Sunday, 4:30 - 6:00 p.m., Morris Parlor - *NEW!* (starts Sept. 20)

Tuesday, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m., Morris Parlor

Wed., 12:05 - 12:55 p.m., Bethany Hall. - *NEW!* (starts Sept.23)

Festival of Sharing — Pack of Sharing Begins Sunday

Empty Bags with lists will be available this Sunday in the Narthex and in the coming weeks in the church office. Please pick one up, fill the gallon zip lock bag with the contents needed and bring back to church -- to the narthex or church office **NO LATER than SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4th**. This outreach activity is sponsored by the World Outreach Department.

We are filling Student Dental Packs (value at \$11) and Women's Prison Packs (vaule at \$9). Monetary donations are also welcome. Make checks payable (and place in offering plate) to First Christian Church with notation "Fest. of Sharing packs."

Festival of Sharing is a church response to hunger, poverty and injustice in the world. It is an outreach program and support project that gathers people and resources each fall in Sedalia, MO at the Missouri State Fairgrounds. This year it will be held on Oct. 17. It is ministry of the Missouri Conference of the United Methodist Church. FCC, Columbia annually contributes "packs" in support of the cause.



Women's Fall Dinner



September 21

6:00 p.m.

Yonker Hall

Bring a friend!

On Sept. 21st please bring items to donate to **True North and/or Nora Stewart Early Learning Center**. True North can use hygiene items and Nora Stewart school supplies. ~Susan Ramsey

This year the CWF will be taking a free will offering to be used for our many service projects instead of just collecting for one project. Blessings and Thanks! ~Colleen Nilges

A Happy Couple! Welcome Robert!

Adriene Price and Robert Floyd were united in holy matrimony in a surprise service in the middle of 10:30 Worship Service on Sunday, September 13, 2015. Adriene, our choir director, and Robert who have been dating for over a year, secretly planned with Rev. Stagg to share their nuptials before the congregation because this congregation has "truly become our family!"

After Robert "officially" joined FCC by transfer of membership, Brad put on his wedding stole, Robert and Adriene produced rings, shedding their choir robes to reveal her wedding dress and his suit -- they were ready to be wed. Organist Mary Bancroft even intertwined Canon in D and Clarke's Trumpet Voluntary into the day's music. Three separate times the congregation spontaneously erupted into applause during the ceremony expressing their joy and support.

It is the honor of *The Visitor* to present to you: **Mr. & Mrs. Robert & Adriene Floyd!**





Church Picnic

Sunday, October 4

12:00 Noon!

Bethel Park

(Located on Bethel Street between Nifong Blvd. and Southhampton Dr.)

All-Church Picnic Details...

All the food (hamburgers/hotdogs, chips, beans, watermelon) and table setups are provided. Bring a lawn chair. The picnic is sponsored by the Membership & Evangelism Departments. They are in need of some helpers for the picnic! If you can help set up, clean up, bring tomatoes and onions, or yard games please email Natalie Barnard at natbow@yahoo.com or call after 3 pm to 314-479-3882.



We want to thank everyone for all their prayers, calls, cards and visits during Tom's hospitalization and continuing health therapy. Thanks to Jacki Davidson for bringing beautiful flowers from the church. Brad's support and visits buoyed our spirits and those of our family. Everyone at FCC is part of our family and are so appreciated.

~Tom and Susan Gray

Weekly Offering Report: Sept. 6, 2015

Offerings Received this week \$9,127

Offerings Received to Date \$82,221

Offerings Needed to Date \$82,272

Sept. 6 Attendance: 186
(includes early service - 44, visitors - 7)

Weekly Offering Report: Sept. 13, 2015

Offerings Received this week \$6,752

Offerings Received to Date \$88,973

Offerings Needed to Date \$90,210

Sept. 13 Attendance: 248
(includes early service - 46, visitors - 34)

The Faithful Struggle to Forgive



Saturday, October 17

9:00 a.m. to 1:45 p.m.

Broadway Christian Church, Columbia

Forgiveness is part of the journey of faith for many Christians. It is, on the one hand, something that compels us toward right relationships and justice. On the other hand, forgiveness is hard work that requires energy, spiritual integrity and honesty.

Sponsored by

The Stalcup School of
Theology for the Laity
at Brite Divinity School

Presented by

Joretta Marshall

Executive Vice President and Dean and
Professor of Pastoral Theology and Care,
Brite Divinity School, Fort Worth, Texas

Book Study: Jimmy Spear will lead a study in connection with this lecture and based on Joretta Marshall's book "**How Can I Forgive?**" The books are \$10. Order yourself or let Jimmy know asap if you would like him to order one for you. *The 7 session study will be offered on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. in Keystone Rm., October 7 through November 18.* Please RSVP interest to Jimmy.

Capital Campaign Progress Report

Completed Projects:

Education Building roof replacement & HVAC improvements.

Projects in Progress:

The Property Department brings several items before the Admin Board on Sept. 15, including:

- A Contract with Missouri Builders for the Sanctuary Roof Replacement Project;
- A Timeline from Boone County regarding the Park-to-Parking Lot Project;
- A Report from the Mid-Continental Restoration regarding masonry affecting the church's capstones requiring repair and/or replacement.
- Installing HVAC gas lines on Edu. Bldg roof -- next week!

Results of the Administrative Board's decisions will be shared in the next edition of The Visitor.

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.



Sept. 20 JYF & CYF
Sept. 27 CR & CYF
Sept. 27 CYF to Room at the Inn
 (mission overnight experience)
Oct. 4 JYF & CYF
Oct. 11 CR & CYF
Oct. 18 JYF & CYF
Oct. 25 CR & CYF
Oct. 31 (Sat.) Trunk and Treat

African Child Sponsored

AFRICA the country of Botswana and the LEPHOI CENTRE FOR THE BLIND was chosen by our FCC Children as the place to sponsor a child through the Global Ministries Child Sponsorship program. The program works closely with partner organizations that have long-established links with the UCC and Disciples. Collaborating with partners, your gifts to Child Sponsorship provide food, basic health care, clothing and in some cases housing, school fees, uniforms, books and training.

On Sun., Sept. 13 the children of FCC were presented with the project and they welcomed the opportunity. They chose to sponsor a child from the LEPHOI CENTRE. This center is located in Francistown, Botswana. The residential center is a hostel for about 50 children that are totally blind or have seriously impaired vision. The children range from eight to 18 years old. They are taught braille in English and Setswana and other important living skills. When the children are ready, they are integrated as far as possible with other children at the same educational level. The hostel is administered by the Botswana Synod of the United Congregational Church of Southern Africa. \$30 per month will be raised from the Children's Worship time offerings and subsidized by the World Outreach Dept. budget.

We will soon receive the name, picture, and story of the sponsored child and have a chance to communicate in friendship with him/her. Stay tuned.

Trunk 'n Treat
Sat., October 31
3-5 p.m.

Drennan CWF Group
 will meet
 Tuesday, September 22
 1:00 p.m., Fireside Room
 Lenoir Woods Community Center

Join the "College Town Hillbillies" for music and fun

The College Town Hillbillies (CTH) is an acoustic jam group made up of members of the church and folks from the community. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month from 6:30-8:30. Anyone who plays an acoustic instrument at any level, or likes to sing is welcome to join the group. Anyone who does not play or sing but just wants to come and listen is more than welcome. We are not a "polished band" but we come together for music, song, fun, and fellowship. Our next session is September 24th in Yonker Hall. If anyone has questions, or wants to be put on the CTH mailing list, e-mail Bragg Stanley at jbstanley_2000@yahoo.com or call 573-808-5604.

STARS (55+ Group)



A planning meeting was held for STARS and the following activities were set forth for this fall season:

Mystery Trip: Thursday, October 1. 9am departure, sights, lunch, return by 5pm.

(Note: The KC Benton exhibit did not pan out and will be scheduled for November.)

Fall Color Tour: Thursday, October 22. Hop on the bus for the annual driving tour of hills and colorful trees. We always find beauty in this annual trip along with a good lunch and other sights.

News of People & Place

Bill and Betty Moon will celebrate their 63rd wedding anniversary on Sept. 21. **Steve and Jessica Humble** celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary on Sept. 8. **Kevin & Tina Wine** were married at FCC on Sat., Sept. 12.

Prayers for healing: **Tom Gray** began chemotherapy this week. **Jeff Underwood** is home from hospital. **Elizabeth Mottaz** was diagnosed with thyroid cancer which has spread to her lymph nodes; she'll have surgery on Oct. 1. **Jonathan La Hue** broke his arm and is recovering well.

Christy Von Talge's father Mike Wilson died on Sept. 6 in Greenview, IL. We pray for God's comfort & strength for **Christy, Shawn, Kayla, and Kenzie.**

Calling all 3 year olds!!

Mother's Day Out has 4 spots open in our program in our Monday, Wednesday and Friday Preschool class. Remember too, that church members get 5% off of their tuition!! Please contact Tracy at 573-449-6964, for more information about this opportunity!

Your Special
 Birthday!



Ray Lansford-95
 on September 25



Sept. 20
 Kyle Boger
 Carleigh Snow

Sept. 24
 Ashley Chandler
 Steven Lightner
 Rachell Oliver

Sept. 21
 Bob Hutton
 Justin Sheppard
 Lisa Zimmer

Sept. 25
 Ray Lansford
 David Nichols

Sept. 23
 Dorothea Dierking
 Cheryl Stevens

Sept. 26
 Mimi McRoberts

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

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

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Columbia, MO
Permit No. 75

Return Service Requested

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

SERVING SCHEDULE - Sun., Sept. 20

Van Driver: Don Mosby
Office Receptionist: Betty Moon
Flower Ministry - Arranged by: Dan and Holly Gieseke
Delivered by: Dan and Holly Gieseke

Servers for 8:30 Worship Service

Worship Assts: Tom and Carol Hughey, Jerry Daugherty
Elder: Jerry Daugherty

Servers for 10:30 Worship Service

Communion Preparation: Buddy and Kim Boger, Trish Stagg
Liturgist: Pat Rybolt
Elders: Brenda Mosby, Don Mosby, Jean Hall
Deacons: The Rogers Team
Greeters: Trish Stagg (*N. Door*), Amy LaHue (*S. Door*),
Dan Gieseke (*Atrium*), Holly Gieseke (*Portico*)
Ushers: The Rose Team
Banner Bearers: Jack Bower, Delaney Batterson
Candlelighters: Joseph McCormack, Kira Hoenes
Children's Worship: Eric Arnett (ldr.); Holly Wheatley (hlpr.)

CHURCH CALENDAR - Sept. 20-26

Sun., Sept. 20

- Children's Choir Practice, 4:00-4:30 p.m.
- Bible Study, 4:30-6:00 p.m., Morris Parlor
- JYF (grades 3-5), 4:30-6:00 p.m.
- CYF (grades 9-12), 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Mon., Sept. 21

- Newsletter deadline and Church Staff Mtg., 2:00 p.m.
- Fall Women's Dinner, 6:00 p.m., Yonker Fellowship Hall

Tues., Sept. 22

- Tuesday Morning Bible Study, 10:30 a.m., Morris Parlor
- Drennan CWF, 1:00 p.m., Fireside Rm., Lenoir Comm. Ctr.
- Evangelism Dept., 6:45 p.m., Keystone Room

Wed., Sept. 23

- Wed. Bible Study, 12:05-12:55 p.m., Bethany Hall
- Brummett-Harrah group, 2:00 p.m., Donna Houston's home
- Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 5:30 p.m., Sanctuary
- Church in Society, 5:30-6:30, Yonker Fellowship Hall
- Capital Campaign Mgt. Team, 6:30-8:00 p.m., Keystone Room
- DOC (college group), 8:45-10:00 p.m., Bethany Hall

Thr., Sept. 24

- College Town Hillbillies, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Yonker Hall

Sat., Sept. 26

- Northeast Area Disciples Women Fall Assembly, 10:00 a.m.,
FCC, Kirksville MO