



THE VISITOR

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

March 18, 2016
Vol. 74, No. 28

Palm Sunday

Join us this March 20, Palm Sunday, for the triumphant joy shared in the news of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. Hymns of the day: *All Glory Laud and Honor, I Am Thine, O Lord* and *The Voice of Jesus Calls His People*. The Chancel Choir will present, in both services, the story of the passion in a unique and moving cantata entitled "*Sanctuary, A Cantata of Hope and Peace*" by Joseph M. Martin. Hymn tunes include: FINLANDIA, WEARY LAND, and WAYFAIRING STRANGER.

Downtown Blessing of the Palms!

Members of our congregation are invited to join the other downtown congregations in the Ecumenical Blessing of the Palms Service on Palm Sunday morning. We will gather in the Narthex to get orders of worship and palm branches at 10:15 and then process together out through the Bell Tower entrance, west on Walnut and down 9th Street to Broadway for the 10:30 service. Bring a friend and join us for this event which is a witness to the unity in Christ shared with our brothers and sisters from other churches!

If you don't join the Ecumenical Blessing of Palms downtown join us in the Sanctuary at 10:30 for a hymn sing prior to a late start of worship.



Holy Week

March 20 - 27

Maundy Thursday

Join us Thursday, March 24, at 7:00 p.m. for a worship service focused on Jesus' Last Supper with his disciples and the events that followed - prayer, betrayal, trial, crucifixion and death. A series of scriptures, hymns, special music, the extinguishing of lights and communion will help us journey through the stories that tell of the end of Jesus' life. Childcare for infants through preschool will be provided in the nursery.

Easter Sunday

Come celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ at one of our two services at either 8:30am or 10:30am. Both services will feature music by the Chancel Choir and all our hymns will be accompanied by a brass quartet. Children's Worship will be offered during the 10:30 service. Childcare is offered all morning. There will be Sunday School at 9:30 am!

Easter Lily Order Forms Due - Mar. 20

See Inside:

- ForColumbia 2016
- Wine to Water



All-Church Workday "spring yard clean-up" March 19, 9:00-noon



As we prepare our hearts for Easter, we also need to prepare the churchyard by trimming bushes, raking leaves, and spiffing up. Bring a willing heart to serve and your yard tools. A grilled burger tailgate fellowship will follow. Call Fred (449-7265) with questions.



12 acts from songs to readings to dancing dogs wowed this crowd at the Green Potluck & Talent Show held March 13

Nominating Comm. Slate

The 2015-16 Nominating Committee proposes to the congregation of First Christian Church at its annual March Meeting on March 20, 2016 after each service the following slate of candidates.

New Elders to the Elder Service Board:
Janelle Patterson, Bragg Stanley, Sarah Storm, Debbie Taylor

New Deacons to the Deacon Service Board:
Brice Moeller, Mary Moeller, Larry Dietzel, Michael Snyder, Lisa Snyder

Junior Deacons:
William Bower, Julia LaHue, Madeline Marrero, Elayna Mottaz, Audrey Snyder, Aiden Fullington (early service)

3 Elders to the Administrative Board:
Dan Backues, Bryan Garton, TBD

7 Deacons to the Administrative Board:
Bobbi McCormack, Jay Creasy, Bud Batterson, Allie Schomaker, Debbie Garton, TBD, TBD

Filling one Unexpired Deacon position until 6-30-17: Brianna Shepherd

Permanent Fund Trustee: Holly Gieseke

Elder Co-Chairs: Jacki Davidson & Jessica Humble

Deacon Chair: Susan Klockow

Administrative Board Officers

Moderator: CK Hoenes
Vice-Moderator: Eric Arnett
Secretary: Jan Davis
Treasurer: Dan Gieseke

Congregational Meeting



**March 20th after
each Worship Service**



Thank you for all you have done for our family during Roy's passing. Thank you to Rev. Stagg for all of the visits, comforting words and a wonderful service. Thank you to Mary and Nora for the beautiful music at the service. It was very personal to us and we thank you for that. Thank you to Janelle and all of the circle members who helped with the luncheon. It was very comforting to be able to have a place to come to and spend a bit of time with family and friends. Thank you for all of your work to help us through this time. ~Karen Rogers & family

As the recipient of the Brooker Scholarship for ministry in 2015-16, I want to say "Thanks!" As I move toward the end of the year, the scholarship has allowed me to have a great year in divinity school at St. Paul School of Theology. I have learned with some wonderful students and faculty, and my classes have been a tremendous help in shaping my ministry. I appreciate this partnership with my friends at First Christian. ~Austin Dey

Joyce and I would like to send our heartfelt thanks to you for all the cards, notes, and prayers regarding the death of my brother, Thompson. He passed peacefully on February 23rd and he was buried March 11th at the Florida National Cemetery. It is especially in times of sorrow and celebration that our church family is so important and so appreciated. Again, thanks to everyone. ~Bragg Stanley

Drennan to Meet

Drennan CWF group will meet on Tuesday, March 22nd at 1:00 in the Fireside Lounge at Lenoir Woods. Bonnie Fay will give the program and worship.

Weekly Offering Report:

Mar. 13, 2016

Offerings Received this week \$5,2934

Offerings Received to Date \$288,620

Offerings Needed to Date \$306,702

Mar. 13 Attendance: 193

(includes early service - 26, visitors - 19)

News of People & Place

Congratulations to **Tommy and Anne Tomlin** on their 56th wedding anniversary, March 19th.

Prayers this week are extended to **Lexy Bell's grandmother, Barbara**, of Mexico MO, for peace in the last days of life.

Thanks to Sunday's fellowship lunch hosting team: **Betty Montgomery, Janelle Patterson, Carol Slusher, Lisa Snyder, and Opal Stites**. Rich and Betty Montgomery chair the Membership Department which was the group that hosted the Green Potluck and Talent Show as the March all-church fellowship event. April all-church fellowship events include **Wine to Water** (World Outreach sponsored) and the **Annual Garage Sale** (Student Ministry sponsored).

The Friday Movie Classics for spring kicked off their first of four, once a month events, with "Casablanca." Fifteen people came out on March 11 and enjoyed the movie event in the newly reopened 3rd floor cinema. The next movie is set for Friday, April 8.

Mothers Day Out Preschool still has a couple of spots for PreK students (age 4 by August 1, 2016) and a couple of spots for Toddlers (age 1 by August 1) and one spot left for a 2 year old (age 2 by Aug. 1). Please contact Tracy: 573-449-6964 or Tracy@firstchristian.org.



Birthdays

Mar. 21

Russ Palmer

Lexie Ruffolo

Wolfgang Schaefer

Mar. 24

Jonathan LaHue

Kirsten Leach

Helen Stemmons

Mar. 22

Grace Henry

Mar. 25

Natalie Barnard

Mar. 23

Jared Swope

Mar. 26

Libby Weber

UPCOMING SCHEDULE:

Mar 20 -- Chi-Rho & CYF
 Mar. 27 -- Easter - no mtgs.
 Apr. 3 -- JYF & CYF
 Apr. 10 -- Chi-Rho & CYF
 Apr. 17 -- JYF & CYF
 Aprl. 24 -- garage sale setup

ON SUNDAY NIGHTS:

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

YOUTH GROUPS

Holy Week

Holy is the week...

Holy, consecrated. belonging to God...

We move from hosannas to horror
with the predictable ease
of those who know not what they do.

Our hosannas sung,
our palms waved,
let us go with passion into this week.

It is a time to curse fig trees that do not yield fruit.
It is a time to cleanse our temples of any blasphemy.
It is a time to greet Jesus as the Lord's Anointed One,
to lavishly break our alabaster
and pour perfume out for him
without counting the cost.

It is a time for preparation...
The time to give thanks and break bread is upon us.
The time to give thanks and drink of the cup is imminent.
Eat, drink, remember;
On this night of nights, each one must ask,
as we dip our bread in the wine,
"Is it I?"

And on that darkest of days, each of us must stand
beneath the tree
and watch the dying
if we are to be there
when the stone is rolled away.
The only road to Easter morning
is through the unrelenting shadows of the Friday.
Only then will the alleluias be sung;
only then will the dancing begin.

~*Kneeling in Jerusalem* by Ann Weems

STARS...the 55+ Fellowship Group

April 14, Thursday {Rolla's Dinosaur}
 Rolla MO and more featuring *Missouri Dinosaur Bones* at the Clark Museum of Missouri Geology at UM-Rolla. Lunch and afternoon touring of churches, shops and the area. RSVP by Sun., April 10. Put "Rolla" on the pew pad.



New Local Hands-On Mission

We are participating in ForColumbia 2016, a city-wide, multi-church service opportunity on April 23. You won't want to miss this chance to love on the residents of Columbia during this family-friendly event. In addition to receiving a free t-shirt, lunch will be provided for all volunteers, as well as childcare for infants-5th grade from 8:30-1:00 p.m. Stop by our table in the foyer or sign up online at <http://bit.ly/FCVolunteer2016>



ForColumbia is the practical outworking of a vision to unite Christian churches from all over our community to show the love of Christ to our neighbors through a weekend of service. On April 23, we are gathering with other church groups /believers in Columbia to be salt and light to our community. It is time we found a way to work together, share lunch, and even an after-party for food and fellowship with other churches in Columbia. We are excited to be a partnering church and we can't wait to share this experience with you and your family!

Sign up on Sundays in the Narthex. Look for the ForColumbia table.

Wine to WATER
Saturday, April 16, 2016
 7-9 pm | Rock Bridge Christian Church
 301 W Green Meadows Rd, Columbia, MO

Wine to Share, Water for All

Wine, food and compassion for those in need of water.

For childcare please RSVP to Jimmy Spear at jimmy@firstchristian.org by Sunday, April 10.

A benefit for Week of Compassion

Sponsored by First, Broadway, Olivet and Rock Bridge Christian Churches

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

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, Mar. 20

Van Driver: Steve McCormack

Office Receptionist: Bobbi McCormack

Flower Ministry - Arranged by: Dan and Holly Gieseke

Delivered by: Dan and Holly Gieseke

Welcome Station: Pat Rybolt and Jeff Underwood

Servers for 8:30 Worship Service

Worship Assts: Roy and Rachael Fullington

Elder: Tommy Gay Evans

Servers for 10:30 Worship Service

Communion Preparation: Jeff Underwood, Ed and Eva Bright,
Logan Garton

Liturgist: Jessica Humble

Elders: Jacki Davidson, Tommy Tomlin, Hayley Batterson

Deacons: The Rogers Team *Ushers:* The Rose Team

Greeters: Tom Gray (*N. Door*), Susan Gray (*S. Door*), Joyce
Stanley (*Atrium*), Frances Brown (*Portico*)

Banner Bearers: Culleen Snow, Elizabeth Martin

Candlelighters: Carleigh Snow, Kate Volmert

Children's Worship: Eric Arnett (ldr.); Trish Stagg (hlpr.)

CHURCH CALENDAR Mar. 20 - Mar. 26

Sun., Mar. 20 Palm Sunday

- **Congregational Meeting, after each worship service**
- **Blessing of the Palms Downtown (see front page)**
- Coffee Hour, 9:20-10:20 a.m., Yonker Hall
- Bible Study, 4:30-6:00 p.m., Morris Parlor

Mon., Mar. 21

- Newsletter deadline and church staff meeting, 2:00 p.m.

Tues., Mar. 22

- Tuesday Morning Bible Study, 10:30 a.m., Morris Parlor
- Drennan CWF group, 1:00 p.m., Fireside Lounge, Lenoir W.
- Evangelism Department Mtg., 6:30 p.m., Keystone Room

Wed., Mar. 23

- Wed. Bible Study, 12:05-12:55 p.m., Morris Parlor
- Brummett-Harrah Group, 2:00 p.m., Stemmons' home
- Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 5:30 p.m., Sanctuary
- DOC (college group), 8:45-10:00 p.m., Bethany Hall

Thr., Mar. 24 Maundy Thursday

- Maundy Thursday Service, 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary
(Baptism and Discipleship Class to attend together)