



GIVE THANKS

~ a worship focus for November ~

Give thanks for... The Great Thanksgiving: Christ! (Nov. 20)

Worship: Christ the King Sunday, Nov. 20

Celebrating the last Sunday of the Christian year and anticipating Thanksgiving, Rev. Stagg's sermon is entitled "The Great Thanksgiving" based Jeremiah 23:5-6 and Luke 23:32-43. Concluding our study of Luke's gospel, we read of Jesus' passion on the cross, remembering what kind of king Jesus is for all of us! We respond to Jesus' good news through our Thanksgiving Offering, benefitting Disciples of Christ colleges, seminaries, and divinity houses.



Christmas Bazaar

Saturday, Nov. 19

8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Yonker Fellowship Hall

Christmas Cookies & Candy
Crafts Gifts Art Pottery

- Shop for your Christmas gift list.
- Stop in for morning coffee and breads.
- Stay for lunch (\$8): soup, sandwich, dessert.



The Thanksgiving Offering benefits the Colleges, Universities, Seminaries, and Divinity Houses affiliated with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). These learning communities are an extension of the church, challenging students to understand and respond to God's call to serve.

From the very beginnings of the movement, Disciples have founded institutions of higher learning, encouraging students in their intellectual pursuits. The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is still committed to higher education. Your gift to the Thanksgiving Offering helps underwrite the education of students attending one of our fourteen undergraduate institutions and our seven seminaries or divinity houses.

Attending a Disciples College or Theological School is possible through the scholarships and grants that are made available by generous individuals, the Disciples Mission Fund and your gifts to the Thanksgiving Offering.

Please give generously this Sunday to this year's Thanksgiving Offering.

STREET STORIES Glimpses of Homelessness



November 18-19 7:00 pm

November 20 3:00 pm

We will host this year's production
 in the First Christian Ch. Sanctuary

Proceeds go to Turning Point and Room at the Inn

Suggested donation - \$10

Tickets available at the door or online

<https://everyeventgives/event/streetstories/all>

Approach the Decade

Well, friends, the first week of November is our anniversary. I arrived on your friendly shores in the late fall of 2007. I have been in the practice of counting the summers, and there are pictures of nine summer mission trips on my office wall.

Yes, nine summers. The first round of kids are all in graduate school, married, traveling the world, or just taking on adult life. I am still in contact with most of them and could not be more proud of who they have become. The kids in CYF now were 6 and 7 years old back in our first year. When I look at them on Sunday nights I can't imagine them so young and surely don't remember it. It is interesting how time flies when kids are growing.

As we start year ten I hope we can both – you and I— keep at it. I hope I can find something to do among you that is fresh and new. I hope I will carry on that which is time honored and holy. I hope you will come along for both – the new and old. I have noticed that it would be very easy to just do that which we have done already these nine years over again. Thus, I am thinking on what might be possible for us in this next year. What would bring a new challenge for me AND you. Help me brainstorm?

In this year we will finally get on with mission and ministry unencumbered by building problems or construction. In this year I hope we learn more about what it is to be an inclusive church of a broader group of God's people. In this year I hope we will read new books and pray louder. I hope we will listen differently and pause longer in places where the Spirit is moving.

I am glad to be your pastor. Thanks for these nine years of shared ministry. Happy Anniversary.
~Jimmy Spear



I want to thank the church and Carol Slusher for the beautiful flowers she brought to my home. Also, thanks to her for picking me up for church. It was very much appreciated.
~Mary Ann Niedergerke



Voluntary Action Center Christmas Project

November is here, which means the holiday season is right around the corner. Each year there are parents who are not able to provide Christmas presents or dinner for their families. The Voluntary Action Center (VAC) has a Holiday Program. The Holiday Program is VAC's single largest program. It provides families, elderly and disabled individuals with gifts and food for the holidays that they may not have had otherwise. In addition to toys, books, and games, families often receive needed clothing and household supplies.

Each year First Christian Church adopts families from the Holiday Program and sets up an Angel Tree in the Narthex. To make this outreach project successful we need your help! Please stop by the Angel Tree on Sunday, November 20, to select a person for which to shop. This would be a perfect opportunity for families, Sunday School groups, etc. to come together to adopt a person/family.

Gifts need to be purchased and brought by Nov. 27 to Bethany Hall, 9:30-10:30 a.m.

If you are unable to shop but would like to give a monetary donation to support this cause, the CYF Group will go and shop for you! Thank you for your support for the VAC Holiday Program!

~Elizabeth Mottaz

Report for Sun., Nov. 13, 2016

Offering - \$7,743

Attendance - 236

Includes: early service- 54, visitors-12

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

Nov 20 Chi-Rho, CYF

Future Fall Group Dates:

Nov 20 CR, CYF
Nov. 27 CYF - shopping for VAC gifts
Dec. 4 Living Nativity
Dec. 11 Pageant
Dec. 18 CYF Christmas Caroling

DOC - Disciples on Campus

College group meets Wednesday nights 8:45-10 p.m. in Bethany Hall

Here is what you need to know...

The Living Nativity – DEC 2, 6-8 p.m.

Sign up in the Narthex Nov. 20 & 27 to help & participate

Needed: Leader for refreshment evening in Bethany Hall

Set up help needed week of Living Nativity (one evening)

Set up help needed day of Liv. Nat. (12-2pm)
Needed: children, youth, adults to costume and act out parts

Pageant – DEC 11, 7 p.m.

Music Leaders needed for:

Older kids singing

Little kids bells

Littlest kids angels

Pageant Practice for kids pre k-5th held on Nov. 27, Dec. 5, Dec. 11 during Children's Worship Time.

~Jennifer Alexander, Advent Dept. Chair

News of People & Place

Cliff Tompson continues his rehabilitation at Lenoir's REACH unit for his fractured hip.

Shirley Park is scheduled for an outpatient lumpectomy on Wednesday, Nov. 16; she requests our prayers for peace and reassurance for the procedure itself, recovery, and the pathology report to follow.

Interested in Ringing Bells? Experienced or first-timers are welcomed to join our **Bell Choir** Sunday morning rehearsals at 8:30. Talk to **Adriene Floyd**, she'll tell you all about it!

Our food ministry team, coordinated by **Hayley Batterson**, needs help serving one of our church members, **Freda Martz**. Contact Hayley at hccb78@aol.com.



Christmas Eve News

It was evident this past Sunday that it is a new day for the Chancel Choir. This season's choir really has brought a new dedication and strength to weekly practice and Sunday singing. With this momentum, we are glad to announce a special Cantata entitled "LIGHT" to be presented on Christmas Eve.

This year Christmas Eve falls on a Saturday. Given that a Saturday does invite a new set of dynamics for getting to church in the evening by 7 p.m., and that we will be back in worship on Christmas Day, great care was taken in the creation of this year's plan for Christmas Eve. The worship and music staff, in consultation with the Cabinet have agreed upon the following plan:

Christmas Eve: 5-6 p.m. Sanctuary open for quiet meditation and personal communion

Christmas Eve: 7:00 p.m. Worship that will include chancel choir cantata, carols, lessons, communion, and candlelight

Christmas Day: 10:30 a.m. One worship service with choir and celebration of Jesus' birth

New Year's Day: 10:30 a.m. One worship service

Getting to Know Church Departments

The ministry and mission of First Christian Church are carried out through the organizational structure of an Administrative Board, Cabinet, and Departments. In the coming months the *Visitor* will offer descriptions of these departments that the congregation would take greater ownership in knowledge of them.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (adult):
(Bill Carney, chairperson)

The department will work with ministers to plan, facilitate and support educational programs for adults, including the following:

Sunday Morning:

· **Pathfinders/Basic Class:** *Bethany Hall*
A group of adults explore the Bible and whatever else is of interest as they grow their faith in their daily living. (Class members lead)

Tuesday morning/Wednesday noon:

· *Bible Study with Brad Staggs*

Library: (library keepers – Frances Brown & Joyce Stanley)

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (children and youth):
(Cindy Rose, chairperson)

The department works with ministers to supervise the Mothers' Day Out Pre-School, and to plan, facilitate, and support educational programs for children and youth, including the following:

- *Sunday School for children preschool through high school* (Pre-school, River of Life, Youth Class)
- *Children's Worship (Church)*
- *Children's Choir & Chimes*
- *The Christmas Pageant*
- *Trunk or Treat*
- *Vacation Bible School*

Several of our high school members were recently on winning teams at the district and state level. **Julia Bower** was on the Rockbridge golf team that took second place at the state level match. **Eli Gaffney and Jadie Arnett** were on the Rockbridge HS varsity cross country teams that won first place at the district level.



Bragg Stanley was recognized at the Missouri School Counselor Associations State Conference with the Ed Ailor Award for his 42 years of service in the school counseling profession.



Birthday Blessings

<u>Nov. 21</u>	<u>Nov. 25</u>
Laura Crane	Chanda Hughey
Jamie Estes	Micah Hulén

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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Return Service Requested

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

SERVING SCHEDULE Sunday, Nov. 20

Van Driver: Dan Gieseke

Office Receptionist: Kim Rogers

Flower Ministry - Arranged by: Mary Jane Anderson

Delivered by: Mary Jane Anderson

Welcome Station: Pat Rybolt & Jeff Underwood

Servers for 8:30 Worship Service

Worship Assts: Jerry and Mary Daugherty

Elder: Carol Hughey

Offering Counters: Mary Daugherty and Doug Smith

Servers for 10:30 Worship Service

Communion Preparation: Mike, Lisa and Audrey Snyder

Liturgist: Amy LaHue

Elders: Mark Mills, Brenda Martin, Jacki Davidson

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

Greeters: Joyce Stanley (*N. Door*), Bette Scavone (*S. Door*),

Linda Ridgeway (*Atrium*), Doris Neidhardt (*Portico*)

Banner Bearers: Cullen Snow, Elizabeth Martin

Candlelighters: Carleigh Snow, Chase Hofmann

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

Offering Counters: Cindy Smith and Brenda Martin

CHURCH CALENDAR Nov. 20-26

Sun., Nov. 20

- Bell Choir, 8:30 a.m., Bell Room (3rd floor Ed. Bldg.)
- Coffee Hour, 9:20-10:20 a.m., Yonker Hall
- Chi-Rho Youth Group (grades 6-8), 4:30-6:00 p.m.
- CYF Youth Group (grades 9-12), 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Mon., Nov. 21

- STARS to Broadway CC for Thanksgiving Feast, Noon
- Newsletter deadline & Church Staff Mtg., 2:00 p.m.
- Drennan Singers Rehearsal, 6:30 p.m., Sanctuary

Tues., Nov. 22

- Tuesday Morning Bible Study, 10:30 a.m., Morris Parlor

Wed., Nov. 23

- No Mother's Day Out (Wed. - Fri.)
- Wed. Bible Study, 12:05-12:55 p.m., Bethany Hall
- Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 5:30 p.m., Sanctuary

Thr. & Fri., Nov. 24 & 25

- Thanksgiving Holiday, office closed

