



THE VISITOR

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Nov. 25, 2016
Vol. 75, No. 16

Worship Nov. 27 1st Sunday of Advent Hanging of the Greens

Once again it's time for the start of the Christian New Year with our annual Hanging of the Greens Worship Service. At both services we ceremonially prepare our sanctuary and we spiritually prepare our hearts for the Advent and coming Christmas seasons.

Come join this wonderful church tradition as we hang wreaths and garlands around the sanctuary, decorate the Chrismon Tree with beautiful hand-made ornaments, and light the first of four Advent Candles to kickoff this Advent Season. Let us prepare for Christ's coming into our hearts as we "get into" this holy season! Come sing and celebrate this Sunday at FCC!!!

Note the special Advent informational insert in this *Visitor*. Be sure to keep it around for the details to worship and fellowship in the coming season.



Women's Christmas Brunch

Saturday, December 3
Yonker Fellowship Hall
9:00 a.m.

All women are invited to our Christmas Brunch on Saturday, December 3, 9:00 a.m. in Yonker Fellowship Hall. Invite a friend; bring your mother or daughter to share in good food and fellowship. Please RSVP on the Sunday pew pad with "BRUNCH" or in the office before November 28.

Living Nativity Dec. 2, 6 - 8 p.m.

Pizza supper will be served to all participants in fellowship hall beginning at 5:00 p.m.

All participants need to be in the Narthex between 5:30-45 p.m. if in the 6 p.m. show. Participants are needed to do at least two shows. There are 4 total starting on the half hour between 6-8 p.m.

Sign up in the Narthex this Sunday for...

Hospitality Volunteers needed:
Leader for refreshment time in Bethany Hall.
Cookies for refreshment time.

Set Up Volunteers needed:
Set up help needed week of Living Nativity (one evening probably Tues. or Wed.)
Set up help needed day of Living Nativity (12-2pm)

Participants needed: children, youth, adults to costume and act out parts.

Christmas Pageant Dec. 11, 7 p.m.

Pageant Practice for kids pre k-5th grade: held on Nov. 27, Dec. 5, Dec. 11 during Children's Worship Time. Children must attend practice to participate.

~Jennifer Alexander, Advent Dept. Chair



Columbia Handbell Ensemble December 9th at 7:00 p.m. FCC Sanctuary

Mark your calendars for Friday evening, December 9th at 7 pm when the Columbia Handbell Ensemble will present a Christmas

concert here at First Christian Church! The ensemble, under the direction of Ed Rollins, is one of the premier handbell groups in the Midwest, and has been asked to perform in Boston, Massachusetts in the summer of 2017.

Founded in 1988, the ensemble is dedicated to the pursuit of musical excellence through the art of handbell ringing. Currently, there are four members of FCC performing with the group: Debbie Taylor, Brenda Martin, Kelli Embry and Adriene Floyd. Tickets are \$10 at the door; \$7 in advance and \$1 for kids 12 and under. For advance tickets contact Ed Rollins: 442-1149 (rollins@fbc-columbia.org). This concert is sure to put you in the holiday spirit!



Voluntary Action Center Christmas Project

All Angel Tree gifts and donations need to be brought to Bethany Hall on Nov. 27th between 9:30-10:30 a.m. Thank you!

Room at the Inn (RATI) Opening December 4!

RATI (whose mission is to provide to those in need a warm and safe place to sleep) will open its doors on Sunday evening, December 4, 2016 (through March 1, 2017). The hours of operation are 7 p.m. – 7 a.m. The need is always great and will be even greater this year with the earlier opening date of December 4. There are many ways in which you can help with this ministry:

1. Go to roomattheinncomo.org and learn of the available volunteer opportunities and then sign up!

2. Donate supplies (needed supplies will be listed in upcoming *Visitors* as well as posted on the Bulletin Board located outside the Church office and on the Church-in-Society Bulletin Board located in Yonker Fellowship Hall). Current need: heavy, winter gloves (Donations can be left in the plastic bin outside the Church office door.)

3. Monetary donations can be placed in Sunday offering trays or dropped off at the Church office. Please note RATI on the cash envelope or in the memo portion of the check; checks can be made to "FCC".

TRAINING: Volunteer training sessions are provided as listed below. These sessions are very helpful in providing volunteers with an overview of RATI and the duties and responsibilities of the volunteer shifts.

Upcoming Training Sessions:

November 29: Fairview United Methodist Church (6:30 p.m.)

December 6: Broadway Christian Church (6:30 p.m.)

January 21: Missouri United Methodist Church (9 a.m.)

If you have *any* questions or need assistance with signing up for volunteer shifts, please contact Sarah Storm at 573-289-0072.

Report for Sun., Nov. 20, 2016

Offering - \$5,653
Attendance - 190 (includes: early
service- 53, visitors- 5)

Wrapping for the Kids

Drennan Group's annual December service project for several years has been helping to wrap the Christmas gifts for the kids at Coyote Hill Christian's Children Home. It is so neat and overwhelming to see all the donated gifts that have been given by our CoMo neighbors and friends. What a blessing it is so these kids have the best Christmas ever.

We would like to invite all women (and men) of the Church to join us as we wrap on Monday, Dec. 5, from 1-3 pm at the First Presbyterian Church, 16 Hitt Street. Park south of the church in their parking lot, come in the south door, and take the elevator to the top floor. You may bring your own scissors and scotch tape as we have in the past. A NEW REQUEST this year is that they need Christmas wrapping paper, decorated bags, and decorated or plain shirt-size boxes. Their supply is getting low so if you could bring a roll or two of kid-friendly paper that would be great. As we know boxes are needed to wrap clothes, and bags are GREAT for those hard to wrap gifts!!! If you cannot wrap but would like to donate paper/bags/boxes, that would be appreciated. Send them with a Drennan member or let me know if you want to drop them off in the church office, and I will pick them up the morning of Dec. 5th.

Thanks again for helping us help the kids at The Hill. Any questions, call Sharon Winner, 239-2900.

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.



Nov 27 CYF

CYF will meet at 6pm for dinner then shop for VAC family gifts.

Done by 8:15 p.m. Bring \$5.

Future Fall Group Dates:

Dec. 4 Living Nativity

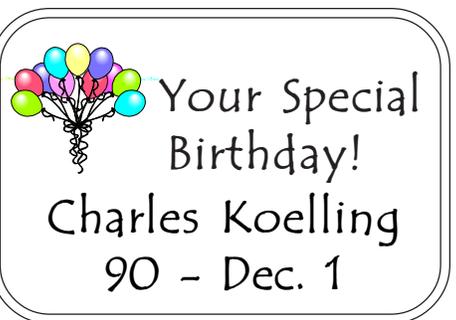
Dec. 11 Pageant

Dec. 18 CYF Christmas Caroling

DOC - Disciples on Campus

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

DOC is making plans for their **Winter Break Mission Trip** set for January 2-7. They will learn and serve in Tulsa, OK and be housed at Harvard Ave. Christian Church.



CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Nov. 19th was a great day! We had many shoppers and the kids were kept busy taking orders and waiting tables. What a great opportunity for us to serve others and have fun doing it. Thanks to everyone who volunteered and those who made goodies for us to sell. Be ready to do it again next year!

News of People & Place

Dave Nichols was given the 2016 Public Works Leader of the Year Award by the Missouri Chapter of the American Public Works Association. Congratulations, Dave!

Shirley Park is home recovering from a lumpectomy, awaiting the pathology report.

Sympathy is extended to the families of:

Serena White who died Nov. 10. A private family service will be held this spring in Junction City, KS.

Don Seltsam who died Nov. 17. Rev. Spear led a private graveside service on Nov. 21 at Memorial Cemetery.

Cherry Hinderberger whose father, Vernon Ludwig died Sunday, Nov. 20 in south MO.

Warming Station Needs Volunteers

The Warming Station needs volunteers starting **December 11 through February 26**. During the winter we host guests from the Room at the Inn (RATI) from 6:45-9 on Sunday mornings before they go to Wilkes Blvd Church for breakfast. We have a cart set up with everything on it to make coffee and heat water in the Higbee Center. Volunteers need to be at the church by 6:00 a.m. If you cannot stay the full time, that is OK. Please make a note of that on the signup sheet in the Narthex. You must be 18 years old, and we need at least one gentleman each morning. Also, we need drivers to take our guests to Wilkes Blvd Church in our bus (no CDL needed). The bus needs to be ready to leave at 8:50.

If interested in hosting or driving, please sign up in the Narthex. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at kcat3@aol.com, cell #573-864-1151 or at home 573-445-9893. Thank you for your compassion towards this needed cause.

~Janelle Patterson



Thank you to everyone that helped with Anne Tomlin's reception. Everyone joined in with lots of fellowship, teamwork, and fun. Thank you again for the help and support from my Church Family!

~Janelle Patterson

Your many, many kindnesses during my hospital stay are deeply appreciated. Visits from ministerial staff and church members, communion sharing, thoughtful cards and notes, beautiful flowers, the cheerful prayer shawl - all have helped me greatly in the healing process. Thank you, my friends.

~Elizabeth Hensley

Two are to be thanked as we come to the end of organist Mary Bancroft's fall hiatus:

Thanks to **Schuyler Wheeler** for a wonderful job serving as our organist. Thanks to **Jean Hall** for a most dedicated job serving as pianist for the 8:30 soloists and the Chancel Choir for both Wednesday rehearsal and Sunday performance.

Thank you, Schuyler and Jean!!



Dec. 1
Charles Koelling

Dec. 3
Paula Hoenes
David Read



Order Your Poinsettias

On Sundays, December 11 & 18, our sanctuary will be even more beautiful with poinsettias placed there in honor or in memory of loved ones.

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 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service.

Please return this form by: **December 4**

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:

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
sallyarobinson16@gmail.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, Nov. 27

Van Driver: Carol Slusher

Office Receptionist: Carol Slusher

Flower Ministry - Arranged by: Dan and Holly Gieseke

Delivered by: Dan and Holly Gieseke

Welcome Station: Jan Davis and Steven Humble

Servers for 8:30 Worship Service

Worship Assts: Susan Gray, Bob Hutton, Linda Hutton

Elder: Tommy Gay Evans

Offering Counters: Barnard and Carol Hughey

Servers for 10:30 Worship Service

Communion Preparation: Carolyn & Curt Snow, Max Schaefer

Liturgist: Angela Nance

Elders: Julie Hickey, John Hickey, Janelle Patterson

Deacons: The Hunsaker Team *Ushers:* The Scott Team

Greeters: Janelle Patterson (*N. Door*), Nannie Mallett (*S. Door*),

Eva Bright (*Atrium*), Ed Bright (*Portico*)

Banner Bearers: Kate Volmert, Lena Schaefer

Candlelighters: Jack Bower, Delaney Batterson

No Children's Worship this day (Hanging of the Greens)

Offering Counters: Janelle Patterson and Gene Taylor

CHURCH CALENDAR Nov. 27-Dec. 3

Sun., Nov. 27

- Hanging of the Greens Sunday
- Bell Choir, 8:30 a.m., Bell Room (3rd floor Ed. Bldg.)
- Coffee Hour, 9:20-10:20 a.m., Yonker Hall
- Lenoir Healthcare Worship, 3:30 p.m.

Mon., Nov. 28

- Newsletter deadline & Church Staff Mtg., 2:00 p.m.
- Drennan Singers Rehearsal, 6:30 p.m., Sanctuary

Tues., Nov. 29

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

Wed., Nov. 30

- Wed. Bible Study, 12:05-12:55 p.m., Bethany Hall
- Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 5:30 p.m., Sanctuary
- DOC (college group), 8:45-10:00 p.m., Bethany Hall

Fri., Dec. 2

- Church Dine-Out, 5:30 p.m., Bob Evans Restaurant
Everyone Welcome!
- Living Nativity, 6:00-8:00 p.m., FCC front lawn and
Bethany Hall (for refreshments)

Sat., Dec. 3

- Women's Christmas Brunch, 9:00 a.m., Yonker Hall