



Calling Volunteers for Room at the Inn!

Volunteers are needed to help staff the Room at the Inn. There are several different 'shifts' available so, if you feel you can help with this ministry, please go to www.roomattheinn.com for more information and SIGN UP!

Broadway Christian Church is hosting RATI until Jan 29; Missouri United Methodist will be hosting Jan 29-Feb 12; First Presbyterian will be hosting Feb 12-Feb 19; First Baptist will be hosting Feb 19-Feb 28. If you have any questions, please call Sarah Storm at 573-289-0072.

in this issue:

- * STARS plans
- * Float trip announced
- * Super Bowl Youth Schedule
- * VAC Christmas thank you
- * **DISCIPLE U**

Warming Station Volunteer Opportunity

Feb. 12 & 19 still need: 2 hosts and 1 bus driver each Sunday.

Sign up in the Narthex on Sunday or call the church office (449-7265) or Janelle Patterson.

Let Your Light Shine

The Sundays after Epiphany

This Sunday, January 29:

Come worship with us this Sunday and Let Your Light Shine! This is the fourth of Rev. Stagg's nine-week sermon series on "Light!" This week we study Micah 6:6-8 and Matthew 5:1-12 for the sermon, "The Light of the Beatitudes!" May God's shining truth illuminate and transform your life!

Congregational singing will begin with *Blessed Assurance*; move at the Invitation to *My Shepherd, You Supply My Need*; and at the table we will share *Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts*. Harlan Hackett will offer special music in the 8:30, the Chancel Choir in the 10:30 service.

The Game

By Kimberly Potthast

Real life isn't like chess

Because there are more colors than black and white.

Because white shouldn't always be first.

Because there isn't only two kinds of bishops.

Because being a queen is not the only way a woman can be powerful.



Kim Potthast, an avid reader and writer, is a junior at Rockbridge High School and an active member of CYF. She is the daughter of David and Debbie Potthast. Kim responded to a call for writings/poetry to be featured at the 2017 Columbia Values Diversity Celebration and offered the above.

The 24th Annual Celebration of the life and teaching of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was held January 12 at the Expo center. First Christian has long been a table sponsor as an advocate of diversity. This year we invited two CYF upperclassmen to join the table and realized we should have been all along. We will continue in the coming years to offer the chance to share this unique event with active high school upperclassmen of FCC.

STARS

...the 55+ Fellowship Group

The planning committee has met, bringing many great ideas, and landed on the following schedule of events for the first half of 2017.



February 23 – Thursday

Midway Flea Market - Rocheport – Boonville
Antiques, shops, lunch and Boonville's car museum. RSVP in office or pew pad "FLEA" to save your spot.

March 23 – Thursday

Kansas City – touring two DOC churches of note, lunch and a museum

April 6 – Thursday

Theater in KC - "Boeing, Boeing" at the New Theater, Overland Park
See next week's Visitor for info on RSVP.

April 26-27 – Overnight Trip to Springfield, IL for all things Lincoln!

May 18 – Thursday

St. Louis – Options include: Magic Chef Mansion, US Grant Home "Whitehaven," Griot Black History Museum – final plan to be made at a later date.

June – Hosting an All Church Salad Luncheon at noon on a Sunday.

June – Movie Matinee in FCC Cinema with planning lunch for fall season.

July – Mama Mia at Lyceum in Arrow Rock, July 19/20.

August – Lunch Lakeside at Barb's lake house with fish fry.

September – Sedalia and Bosworth Mansion (reschedule from fall 2016), Daum Museum.

Save the Date!

April 29, 2017

Serving Columbia, side by side



Youth Gatherings 2017

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.



Group Mtg. Schedule:

Jan 29 JYF & CYF

Feb 5 CR & CYF

SUPER BOWL SUNDAY CHANGE:

Chi-Rho will meet at 12:00 for lunch and a movie at church.
CYF will meet after 5 p.m. at the Marrero home for a Super Bowl party. Kids can meet at Marrero home or ride bus from church at 5pm. Kids will get text with address & notes.

Feb 12 JYF & CYF

Feb 19 - Pres Wknd – CR TBA.

CYF Overnight Retreat:

Sunday noon till Monday 7pm

Needed:

A Strong-Armed Ringer!

Did that headline get your attention??? Good! The handbell ensemble is looking for that special person who possesses a positive attitude, loves to fellowship with his or her church family, has a little bit of musical experience (or at least can keep a steady beat) and is looking for a new way to serve in 2017! Don't get me wrong; I love the way Robert Floyd rings those bass bells, but he simply has too MANY of them! He needs an assistant bass-bell-ringer! Is it you???

Bells rehearse each Sunday morning during the school year at 8:30 a.m. Yes, it sounds early, but every one of us in the group thinks that the joy of ringing is more than worth losing that extra hour of sleep. Will you think about giving us a try??? ~Adriene Floyd

For more information, contact Adriene at singers.and.ringers@gmail.com.

Thanks!

I am immensely thankful to have received the Vera M. Purdy Scholarship. My first semester has been great and I appreciate your financial backing. It means a lot to me to belong to such a supportive congregation over these many years. ~Jack Creasy

Thank you to all my church family for the Christmas, birthday and get-well cards. Thanks, also, for Drennan messages, Lorene and Fred's Chancel Flowers and faithful visits. Thanks, especially, for Brad's beautiful prayer before my surgery. All were greatly appreciated. ~Shirley Park

Brad, thank you for stopping by to see me every day while I was in the hospital. I am sure the prayers you said with me helped my head. The lap robe is beautiful, I have used it every day since coming home. Also, thank you to the members who signed the card I received today, your words meant a lot to me. ~Bonnie Fay

Thank you so much for the flowers from Church that Eric Seaman brought me. I now live at the Terrace on the other side of town. I'm 92! ~Louise Ward

Extra Fridge?

Do you have an extra little (dorm style) refrigerator laying around unutilized? The Older Youth Sunday School Class could use a small refrigerator for their Sunday morning drinks. As we buy drinks/snacks in quantity, having them accessible in our room for the group of 10+ youth each Sunday would be ideal. Thanks. Talk to Jimmy Spear.

Report for Sun., Jan. 15, 2017

Offering - \$6,928

Attendance - 74

(includes: early service-17; visitors-0)

Report for Sun., Jan. 22, 2017

Offering - \$6,889

Attendance - 161

(includes: early service-31; visitors-9)

Quarterly Membership Report: 2nd Quarter (Oct. - Dec. 2016)

First Christian Church, Columbia, Mo

At the July 2016 Congregational Meeting the following was asked to be reported: "a quarterly report, for the upcoming year, addressing membership trends, actual numbers vs. budget numbers and a membership plan."

Baseline Numbers: Totals as reported in the 2016 Yearbook and Directory of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) for First Christian Church in Columbia, MO (Dec. 31, 2015):

	7-1-16	9-30-16	12-31-16
Total membership:	928	940	935
Participating membership:	443	458	454
Avg. Worship Attendance:	189	180	182

Additions:

By confession of faith/baptism:	9	0	0
By transfer:	7	0	2
By birth:	2	2	0

Removals:

By death:	8	5	4
By transfer/other:	1	0	2

Actual Numbers vs. Budget Numbers

See the table below for FCC's current financial status; it is a compressed Income and Expense Sheet, with budget and actuals. Expanded financial statements are available upon request.

Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual - July through December 2016

	Jul 1, '16 - Jan 24, 17	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
OFFERINGS	261,593.46	254,230.91	7,362.55	102.9%
PERMANENT FUND	100,451.18	95,666.88	4,784.30	105.0%
PROGRAMS	112,133.15	128,018.56	-15,885.41	87.59%
RENTAL	17,597.07	15,527.16	2,069.91	113.33%
SOURCES - OTHER	3,506.20	2,024.19	1,482.01	173.22%
TRANSFERRED MEMORIAL FUNDS	18,500.00	9,250.00	9,250.00	200.0%
UNBUDGETED INCOME	-14,704.41	0.00	-14,704.41	100.0%
Total Income	<u>499,076.65</u>	<u>504,717.70</u>	<u>-5,641.05</u>	<u>98.88%</u>
ADMINISTRATIVE	248,455.19	257,427.03	-8,971.84	96.52%
ADULT EDUCATION	36.00	725.00	-689.00	4.97%
ADVENT	333.27	450.00	-116.73	74.06%
CHILDREN EDUCATION	1,513.53	1,950.00	-436.47	77.62%
CHURCH IN SOCIETY	5,530.96	7,560.68	-2,029.72	73.15%
COL. AREA OLDER ADULT MINISTRY	31,845.33	44,678.04	-12,832.71	71.28%
COMMUNICATION	8,247.59	8,218.52	29.07	100.35%
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS	1,512.81	275.00	1,237.81	550.11%
EVANGELISM	125.71	1,810.00	-1,684.29	6.95%
MEMBERSHIP	3,067.65	2,270.00	797.65	135.14%
MEMORIAL	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
MOTHERS DAY OUT	66,406.82	71,559.17	-5,152.35	92.8%
OFFICE	11,222.58	9,430.76	1,791.82	119.0%
PROPERTY	65,133.46	68,284.22	-3,150.76	95.39%
SCHOLARSHIP	8,200.00	8,450.00	-250.00	97.04%
SERVICE BOARD OF DEACONS/ELDERS	500.00	0.00	500.00	100.0%
STEWARDSHIP	104.16	196.77	-92.61	52.94%
STUDENT MINISTRY	2,833.10	6,797.45	-3,964.35	41.68%
WORLD OUTREACH	9,364.13	10,245.73	-881.60	91.4%
WORSHIP	4,379.54	6,094.36	-1,714.82	71.86%
YOUTH MINISTRY	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
Z UNBUDGETED	<u>14,136.97</u>	<u>1,700.05</u>	<u>12,436.92</u>	<u>831.56%</u>
Total Expense	<u>482,948.80</u>	<u>508,122.78</u>	<u>-25,173.98</u>	<u>95.05%</u>
Net Income	<u>16,127.85</u>	<u>-3,405.08</u>	<u>19,532.93</u>	<u>-473.64%</u>

Membership & Evangelism Plans

The Evangelism Team continues weekly staffing of the Welcome Station, collecting of Visitor Information Sheets, and Calling of Visitors. The Team will initiate a Visitor & Member Campaign corresponding with Spring Training this February and March; also plans are underway for June Canoe Float Trip for adventurous individuals and families.

The Membership Department hosted a variety of Advent and Christmas events, including the Living Nativity reception in Bethany Hall and the annual Tasting Party following the Christmas Pageant. Upcoming events including a Potato Fellowship Lunch on Sunday, Feb. 12 and Green Potluck and Talent Show, Sunday, Mar. 12.

With leadership from the clergy, Adult Christian Education begins its **Disciple U** initiative, a cumulative adult Christian Ed curriculum in areas such as Disciples of Christ beliefs, prayer, service, leadership development, and other areas. Rev. Stagg begins a 4-week book study on Cartwright's *People of the Chalice* and will lead a course on prayer during Lent. Rev. Spear will lead the Baptism and Discipleship class and other classes in early spring.

The Elders continue offering pastoral care to members through Communion Connection, visitations, and have created a taskforce to explore the breadth of invitation to all people and how FCC might live more fully into that calling. That subcommittee should have their first meeting prior to the Elders' Feb. 13 meeting.

Report from Week of Compassion:

Toward the end of 2016 there were significant disasters around the world. From Hurricane Matthew impacting communities along the US coasts, as well as wiping out 90% of the crops in Haiti, to the continued crisis in Aleppo where thousands of families continue to struggle to survive in the midst of the civil war. Just when we begin to feel overwhelmed, a Facebook notification, email inquiry, or donation alert from you revives our faith in our prayers that compassion for the world is still needed, and shared.

In the month of December alone, Week of Compassion provided nearly \$600,000 in emergency aid, enabling us to provide 22 responses in 5 states and over 14 countries around the world.

From all of us at Week of Compassion, thank you for your compassion and generosity. We are grateful for your partnership - together, we help shine the light of Christ's peace to the world. Thank you!

We Anticipate Week of Compassion

The annual WEEK OF COMPASSION will be observed between Sundays Feb 12 and 19. Special offerings for WOC will be collected both Sundays.



FCC's World Outreach Department will serve a lunch to raise awareness and funding for Week of Compassion.

Baked Potato Bar

*February 12, at noon in Yonker Hall.
Make plans now to attend.*

God is most tangibly present in this world where people hunger, thirst, lack adequate clothing and shelter, and are sick or imprisoned. Christ claims as family members people who suffer.

Christ is so present in them that when you feed the hungry, care for the sick, welcome the stranger – you feed, and care for, and welcome Christ.

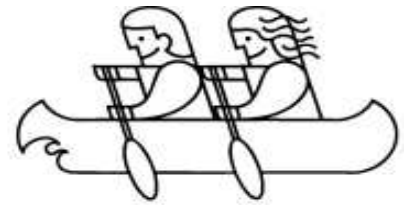
When you give through Week of Compassion to those who suffer from natural disaster, war, or systemic poverty, you let them know: *You are here.*



“Just as you did to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.”
(Matthew 25:40)

Float Trip Anyone!?

Can you imagine leisurely floating down a beautiful Missouri river on a warm sunny day with your friends and family? Consider it!



The Evangelism Department has reserved 9 canoes and 10 kayaks for us to float on the Current River on Sunday, June 11, 2017. We can travel as a group to the river together Sunday morning, Brad Stagg will conduct a casual "River Sermon" then we'll partake in a 4 hour float and return to Columbia that evening. This will be a day float, however you have the option to travel down at your leisure on Saturday and stay in a cabin, or take advantage of the RV hookups overnight, then join the rest of the group Sunday morning for the worship service and float. There is a suggested donation of \$30 per canoe. Families welcome!

In order for us to plan, we need to get a feel for our congregational interest. **IF INTERESTED**, please let Pat Rybolt know by Friday, February 17 if you be a "Sunday only" floater or if you plan to stay overnight then float. You may, also, put "Float" on the Sunday pew pad. If you have questions or would like to reserve a canoe/kayak, please contact Pat at 573-442-3040 or Pat@musicsuite.net. See you on the river!

DISCIPLE U

the learning track for disciples at FCC

"Disciple U" is a new approach beginning this year for the teaching of church history, theology, bible study, christian living, stewardship, spirituality and prayer. Revs. Stagg and Spear will soon present a general outline. To start off this new education plan, a class on what it is to be a part of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) will be offered this season.

DISCIPLES 101: A book study
"People of the Chalice" by C. Cartwright
- a four week course -
Sundays Feb. 12, 19, 26, Mar. 5
4:30 - 6:00 p.m., Keystone Room

Please RSVP for the ordering of books (\$9 pay in class):
email Brad Stagg - brad@firstchristian.org or call the church office. Put "DU book" on the pew pad.

News of People & Place


Mary and Mike Bancroft have a new grandson. **Michael Henry Bancroft** was born, Sunday, Jan. 15 to **Alan and Gracyn Bancroft**. He weighed 8 lbs. and was 21" long. Congratulations to all!

In the coming week we hold in our prayers the following friends:

Bonnie Backues, surgery on Jan. 24;
Willie Mae Wheeland, a biopsy on Jan. 24;
Jeff Wheeland, surgery on Jan. 30;
Debbie Potthast, brain surgery on Jan. 31.
Dana Heavin in rehabilitation as she regains movement following a stroke last week.


Home and back at church Sunday, from recent hospital stays, **David Polach** and **Bonnie Fay**. **Frances Brown** has an "all clear."

As Revs. Brad and Jimmy minister to these friends they, as always, will pass along a prayer shawl and the prayers of the congregation.



Your Special
Birthday!

Jim Ross
94 - Jan. 28
Millie Bolman
98 - Feb. 2



Happy
Birthday!

<u>Jan. 29</u> Anita Dresser Bryan Freed Cole Galbraith	<u>Feb. 1</u> Amy Marrero
<u>Jan. 30</u> Ronald Sheppard Debbie Taylor	<u>Feb. 2</u> Millie Bolman
	<u>Feb. 4</u> Susan Palmer

Mid-Mo Church Music Festival

Sunday, February 12, 2017
3:00 p.m.

Olivet Christian Church
1991 South Olivet Road, Columbia, MO

The public is invited to attend this special event. Our own First Christian Chancel Choir will be participating, so please come out to support them. Audience members will vote for a "people's choice" award with the winners determined by the most money received from audience members. Half of the proceeds will go to a charity of each group's choice. The other half will help defray the cost of the Mid-Mo Church Music Festival. It is hoped to develop into a teaching clinic for next year.

Featured Department: World Outreach

The ministry and mission of First Christian Church are carried out through the organizational structure of an Administrative Board, Cabinet, and Departments. This week we feature a description of the World Outreach Dept. so that the congregation would take greater ownership and knowledge.

World Outreach:

(Sally Robinson, Chairperson)

The department helps the congregation to be aware of causes and ministries beyond the Columbia community. These include promotion of activities and offerings which support the ministries of The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Mid-America Region, and the following:

- *Festival of Sharing* (assisting with the preparation of kits that are given at the festival)
- *Heifer International* (Provides some 30 types of animals- including cows-to help people throughout the world empowering them to help themselves through sustainable agriculture and commerce)
- *Week of Compassion* Disaster relief and development fundraising & awareness
- *Global Ministries of the CC (DOC)*
- *Woodhaven Capital Campaign*

Church in Society

The VAC Angel Tree was a success this year! A HUGE thank you to everyone who sponsored a child or adult in need this holiday season. There is a presentation board in the Narthex of the church that displays the thank you cards and letters that we have received. Please take the time to look at all the grateful families that we made their holiday season a little brighter! Below is one letter that the Church in Society wanted to showcase to you.

Words cannot express the gratitude I feel for you spending your time and money to help provide our children with the Christmas that they deserve. The past few years have been very rough. It's like every time we take a step forward, something happens and we end up taking two steps back. We try so hard but we can't get ahead enough before a car breaks down, someone gets sick, or worst of all - we lose someone we love. Almost a year ago now my second daughter's father passed away. It was devastating and still hurts like it just happened yesterday. We miss him so much. Life is hard enough without losing the people we love. I'm trying to keep my daughter active because I know how bad she is hurting since she no longer has a dad. She's been in competitive cheerleading for a few years now, so that helps. At the same time though, it is adding stress of me because it's so expensive. I can hardly afford our bills let alone all the extra cost associated with cheerleading. She is playing basketball now too, which isn't nearly as costly, but still requires some money. My oldest daughter is in high school and wants to attend college to become a registered nurse. She also works very hard to achieve her goals. This Saturday she takes the ACT for the first time. My youngest daughter contributes to our family by making us smile often. I'm very proud of my girls. They are strong and driven. I'm proud of my family. As a parent, I want to provide everything they deserve and I feel like a failure when I come up short. Sometimes I just feel completely hopeless. People like you bring me hope. Thank you so very much for caring! We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

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

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Return Service Requested

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

SERVING SCHEDULE Sunday, Jan. 29

Van Driver: Eric Seaman
Office Receptionist: Gene Taylor
Flower Ministry - Arranged by: Chris Creasy
Delivered by: Chris Creasy
Welcome Station: Jennifer Alexander and Jan Davis

Servers for 8:30 Worship Service

Worship Assts: Susan Gray, Will and Donna Houston
Elder: Donna Houston
Offering Counters: Kim Reardon and Bob Hutton

Servers for 10:30 Worship Service

Communion Preparation: Vicki Johnson, Brice & Mary Moeller
Liturgist: Fred Mottaz
Elders: David Read, Sarah Read, Richard Hoepfner
Deacons: The Rogers Team *Ushers:* The Burnam Team
Greeters: Sue Wright (*N. Door*), Pat Wright (*S. Door*),
David Potthast (*Atrium*), Debbie Potthast (*Portico*)
Banner Bearers: Kate Volmert, Lena Schaefer
Candlelighters: Jack Bower, Delaney Batterson
Children's Worship: Kim Boger (*ldr.*) TBA (*hlpr.*)
Offering Counters: Jerry Miller and Deb Batterson

CHURCH CALENDAR Jan. 29 - Feb. 4

Sun., Jan. 29

- Warming Station, 6:00-9:00 a.m., FCC Higbee Center
- Bell Choir, 8:30 a.m., Bell Room (3rd floor Ed. Bldg.)
- Coffee Hour, 9:20-10:20 a.m., Yonker Hall
- JYF Youth Group (grades 3-5), 4:30-6:00 p.m.
- CYF Youth Group (grades 9-12), 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Mon., Jan. 30

- Newsletter deadline & Church Staff Mtg., 2:00 p.m.
- Nominating Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Keystone Room
- Evangelism Team Mtg., 6:30 p.m., Keystone Room

Tues., Jan. 31

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

Wed., Feb. 1

- Wed. Bible Study, 12:05-12:55 p.m., Bethany Hall
- World Outreach Mtg., 5:00 p.m., Keystone Room
- Chancel choir Rehearsal, 5:30 p.m., Sanctuary

Fri., Feb. 3

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