



**THE**  
 October 13, 2017  
 Vol. 76, No. 10

# First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) VISITOR

**Our mission: to know God and follow Jesus Christ**

**Oct. 15 & 22** **9:35am**

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A  
**DISCIPLE OF CHRIST**

**Rev. Brad Stagg's Office**



Gathering for worship this Sunday will find the congregation centered around two texts; Philippians 4:1-9 and Matthew 22:1-14, with Rev. Stagg's message entitled "The Parable of the Wedding Banquet". *All My Hope on God is Founded, I am Thine O Lord* and *Here at Thy Table Lord* will be congregational hymns. The Chancel Bells handbell choir will ring the prelude and offertory in the 10:30 service and the Chancel Choir will bring a fresh anthem. The 8:30 service will feature another great soloist! Join us!



## The Blessing and Dedication of Two Cousins

We were proud to celebrate with Jesse and Jordan Barnes, and Jade Mooney, the blessing and dedication of Eli Denver Barnes and Rowan Makenna Mooney last Sunday.

These cousins are the grandchildren of Mark and Janet Mills. Pictured above from left to right: Jesse Barnes, Eli Barnes, Jordan Barnes, Rev. Spear, Jade Mooney and Rowan Mooney. We welcome these newest little ones into a special covenant with their FCC church family.

**TRUNK 'N' TREAT**

AN AFTERNOON OF SPOOKTACULAR FUN, FOOD, GAMES & PRIZES!

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29**  
**TRUNK-N-TREAT \* 3 PM**  
 \* **FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH** \*  
 101 N 10<sup>TH</sup> ST. COLUMBIA MO

**DON'T FORGET TO WEAR YOUR COSTUME!**

**Decorate a Trunk?** Reserve your parking spot by contacting the church office or putting "TRUNK" on the Sunday pew pad. **Trunk 'n Treating starts promptly just after 3:00 p.m.** When we run out, we run out! Games and fun will last until after 4pm. Food this year will be a lighter afternoon snack. More next week on baked goods for the cake walk.





## Bit from Brad

A few weeks ago, while preaching several sermons on forgiveness (those were the lectionary Scriptures for those Sundays), Trish asked me, "Brad, why didn't you include anything from Johann Christoph Arnold's book, *Why Forgive?*" It's a favorite of ours. "Well," I said, "I can't include everything!" But her point was made. If you've never read *Why Forgive?* I highly recommend it. Chapters include: "The Cancer of Bitterness;" "Ending the Cycle of Hatred;" "Bless Your Persecutors;" "The Deeds of Mercy;" "When Reconciling is Impossible;" "Forgiveness and Marriage;" "Forgiving a Parent;" "Blaming God;" "Forgiving Ourselves;" "Accepting Responsibility;" "Not a Step, But a Journey;" and others. Arnold shares story after story after story of true lives dealing with forgiveness, sometimes successfully, sometimes not. Along the way he shares Jesus' teachings. Here's one excerpt:

John Plumber lives the quiet life of a Methodist pastor in a sleepy Virginia town these days, but things weren't always so. A helicopter pilot during the Vietnam War, he helped organize a napalm raid on the village of Trang Bang in 1972 – a bombing immortalized by the prize-winning photograph of one of its victims, Phan Thi Kim Phuc.

For the next twenty-four years, John was haunted by the photograph – an image that for many people captured the essence of the war: a naked and burned nine-year-old girl running toward the camera, with plumes of black smoke billowing in the sky behind her. For twenty-four years John's conscience tortured him. He badly wanted to find the girl to tell her he was sorry – but he could not. Turning on himself, he grew more and more depressed (the collapse of two marriages didn't help), and he began to drink.

Then, in an almost unbelievable coincidence, John met Kim during an event at the Vietnam War Memorial on Veterans Day, 1996. Kim had come to Washington, D.C., to lay a wreath for peace; John had come with a group of pilots unable to come to terms with their shared past, but determined to stick together anyway. In a speech to the crowd, Kim introduced herself as the girl in the famous photograph. She still suffered immensely from her burns, she said, but she was not bitter, and she wanted people to know that others had suffered even more than she had: "Behind that picture of me, thousands and thousands of people... died. They lost parts of their bodies. Their whole lives were destroyed, and nobody took their picture."

Kim went on to say that although she could not change the past, she had forgiven the men who had bombed her village, and that she felt a calling to promote peace by fostering goodwill between America and Vietnam. John, beside himself, pushed through the crowds and managed to catch her attention before she was whisked away by a police escort. He identified himself as a former pilot in Vietnam and said that he felt responsible for the bombing of her village twenty-four years before. He says: "Kim saw my grief, my pain, my sorrow... She held out her arms to me and embraced me. All I could say was 'I'm sorry; I'm sorry' – over and over again. And at the same time she was saying, 'It's all right; I forgive you.'"

John says it was vital for him to meet face to face with Kim, to tell her that he had agonized for years over her injuries. Without having had the chance to get that off his chest, he is not sure he could have ever forgiven himself. As it turned out of course, he got even more than he hoped for: Kim forgave him. Reflecting on the way the incident changed his life, John maintains that forgiveness is "neither earned nor even deserved, but a gift." It is also a mystery. He still can't quite grasp how a short conversation could wipe away a twenty-four-year nightmare.<sup>1</sup>

May you know the joy, peace, and mystery of forgiveness!  
Blessings, Brad

<sup>1</sup>-Arnold, Johann Christoph. *Why Forgive?* Farmington, PA: The Plough Publishing House, 2000, pg. 126-128.

## Who am I?

- She is a 2nd grader in San Francisco, CA in this picture.
- She has a passion for gardening.
- She is a retired elementary teacher.



The answer will be in next week's VISITOR!

If you would like to submit a baby picture, elementary or high school picture, or simply a fun guess-who shot, e-mail it to [fcc@firstchristian.org](mailto:fcc@firstchristian.org) or bring it by the office and we'll scan it and give it right back! Happy guessing!



## News of People and Places

Prayers this week are gathered for **Wilke Wilkerson** (recent hospital stay), **Susan McCarty** (recent surgery), and **Jeff Wheeland's** sister-in-law, Esta.

**Your Giving Story:** Thanks to those who donated toward the Festival of Sharing. There is still great need in hurricane ravaged Puerto Rico. Disciples of Christ church leaders on the island still welcome your gifts through 'Week of Compassion' toward relief efforts. There is great need. 'Week of Compassion' is our avenue to help now.

## Where Were You in 1918?



Ms. Mary Richardson, our resident proofreader and FCC member, celebrated her 99th birthday at Chili's with a group of well-wishers including Trish Stagg, Robert Floyd, Fred Mottaz, Kay Beissenherz, Rev. Brad Stagg, Anne Campbell (daughter) and son-in-law, Jim Campbell. Thanks for all you do, Mary!



**October 15** Megan Potthast  
**October 16** Julie Hickey and Holly Wheatley  
**October 18** Rebekah Hart and Lisa Snyder  
**October 20** Sydney Embry  
**October 21** Lauren Cupp and Ann Volmert



## Church Basketball Season

Slam dunking, behind-the-back passes, Jesus talking...and that's just in the parking lot! If hoops are your thing, here's your chance.

'Disciples + Basketball' is hosted in the Christian Life Center at Broadway Christian Church. On Sunday afternoons at 4pm, the 5 Columbia area Disciples of Christ churches - Rock Bridge CC, Broadway CC, Olivet CC, Fifth Street CC and First CC will come together for fellowship, fun and free throws! If you're interested in playing, contact the church office or e-mail Rev. Sarah Klaassen at sarah@rockbridgecc.org. Men and women are welcome. Fire off some threes, FCC!



## Breakfast for our Brethren

*Breakfast for our Brethren* provides breakfast every Saturday morning for people in need and is so beneficial to our community! FCC is hosting this breakfast throughout October. There are many ways for you to help that will allow this event to be a success! You can choose a Saturday morning to come and serve (7:00-9:00am), provide food and drink (please sign-up in the church office), donate small toiletry items, and/or provide a monetary donation to have items purchased on your behalf.

**Report for Sun., Oct. 8, 2017 Total Offerings \$7499**  
**Attendance 162** (incl. early serv-34) (Visitors-9)

## Sunday, Oct. 15: JYF & Chi-Rho

Meet at the church at 4:00 p.m.; we are headed north of town to the Palmer's for a hayride and bonfire. Wear appropriate shoes, etc. Pick up will be at church at 7:15 p.m. Friends are welcome; traveling by church bus and private cars; please make guests' parents aware. Dinner of hotdogs, chips, drinks, s'mores served.



DATE	JYF	CR	CYF
Oct. 15			X
Hayride	X	X	
Oct. 22		X	X
Oct. 29	Trunk	n	Treat
Nov. 5		X	X
Nov. 12	X		X
Nov. 19		X	X

**JYF grades 3, 4, 5**  
 bi-weekly 4:30-6:00pm—Yonker

**Chi-Rho (CR) grades 6, 7, 8**  
 bi-weekly 4:30-6:00pm—Bethany

**CYF grades 9,10,11,12**  
 weekly 6:00-7:30 p.m.—Bethany

Sign up in the office  
 or on the Sunday  
 worship pew pad.



## October 22 (Sunday) - CLAYSVILLE FOR LUNCH

Join us for a Sunday lunch at the Claysville General Store. Fried chicken and country ham with all the sides served family style. RSVP by Sun. Oct. 15.

## November 9 (Thursday) - ST. CHARLES

Get set for a full day of fun in historic St. Charles. Details are coming soon regarding this wonderful trip. Sign up today!



## 5th Annual Christmas Bazaar Saturday, November 18

If you are interested in selling your specialty items, you need to be a part of our Christmas Bazaar! We have one space left. Please call Brenda Mosby at 442-7507 for further information.

## 19th Annual Election Day Luncheon November 7, 2017

**Just another reminder!! We can use your help!** There is plenty of work to be done before and on election day; tickets to be sold, pies to be baked or money donated for others to bake them for you.

We have a lot of fun working together and serving our community, plus this is the primary fund-raiser for CWF and its many service projects! Sign up in the Narthex on Sunday. We will find a place for you to serve.

If you have questions, please call Brenda Mosby at 442-7507.

Lunch served 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

**\$8 lunch of chili/soup, sandwich, pie and drink**

**Advance tickets, delivery and carry-outs are available**



## Help Us Help Others

Nora Dietzel and Jimmy Spear served at the Food Bank's Mobile Food Pantry at the end of September. Will you join us in this unique serving ministry? Pass out food with us on the fourth Wednesday of the month at Indian Hills Park (northeast Columbia, east on Aztec off Ballenger) from 3:45-6:00pm. Let Jimmy Spear know if you are joining.





**The Visitor**  
**First Christian Church**  
101 N. 10th Street  
Columbia, MO 65201  
573-449-7265

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Columbia, MO  
Permit No. 75

**Ministerial Staff:**

Rev. Brad Stagg, Senior Minister  
brad@firstchristian.org  
Rev. Jimmy Spear, Associate Minister  
jimmy@firstchristian.org

**Music Staff:**

Mary Bancroft, Coordinator of Music & Organist  
maryebancroft@yahoo.com  
Adriene Floyd, Director of Chancel & Bell Choirs  
adriene@firstchristian.org

**Mother's Day Out Pre-School:**

Tracy Westhoff, Director  
tracy@firstchristian.org

**Columbia Area Older Adult Ministry:**

Rev. Sally Robinson, Chaplain  
sallyarobinson16@gmail.com

**Support Staff:**

Robert Floyd, Office Manager  
fcc@firstchristian.org  
Fred Mottaz, Business Manager  
fred@firstchristian.org  
Keith Picker, Custodian

**Minister Emeritus:**

Dr. John J. Yonker

**Return Service Requested**

**CHURCH CALENDAR OCTOBER 15-21**

**Sunday, October 15**

- Bell Choir warm-up to play service, 8:30-9:30am, Bell Room
- Coffee Hour, 9:20-10:20 a.m., Yonker Hall
- Sunday School, 9:30am, Child/Youth, 3<sup>rd</sup> Flr;  
Adults, 2<sup>nd</sup> Flr, Keystone
- Discipleship Class, 9:35-10:20am, Rev. Stagg's Office
- Chancel Choir Warm-up, 9:45-10:20am, Morris Parlor
- Youth Hayride and Bonfire, 3:00-5:00pm, Palmer House
- CYF, 6:00-7:30pm, Bethany Hall

**Monday, October 16**

- Church Office Staff Meeting, 2:00-3:00pm, Keystone

**Tuesday, October 17**

- Tuesday Bible Study, 10:30-11:30am, Morris Parlor

**Wednesday, October 18**

- Shawl Ministry, 9:30am, Millie Bolman's House
- Wednesday Bible Study, 12:05-12:55pm, Bethany Hall
- CWF Board Meeting, 5:00-6:30pm, Yonker Hall
- Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 5:30-6:30pm, Sanctuary

**Thursday, October 19**

- NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
- DOC, 4:30-6pm, Bethany Hall
- CAOAM Advisory Board Mtg., 5:30-6:30pm, Yonker Hall

**Friday, October 20**

- Regional Assembly
- Jones/Chernov Wedding Rehearsal, 5:30-7:00pm, Sanctuary

**Saturday, October 21**

- Regional Assembly
- Breakfast for our Brethren, 7:00-9:00am, Yonker Hall
- Jones/Chernov Wedding, 4:00pm, Sanctuary

**SERVING SCHEDULE SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15**

**Bus Driver:** Russ Palmer

**Office Receptionist:** Carole Randerson

**Welcome Station:** Pat Rybolt and Jeff Underwood

**Flower Ministry**

**Arranged and Delivered by:** Chris Creasy

**Servers for 8:30 Worship Service**

**Worship Assts:** Roy & Rachel Fullington and Donna Houston

**Elder:** Donna Houston

**Offering Counters:** Mary Daugherty and Mary Moeller

**Servers for 10:30 Worship Service**

**Communion Prep:**

Erin & William Bower and Derrick Evers

**Liturgist:** David Read

**Elders:** Bragg & Joyce Stanley and Bill Carney

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

**Greeters:**

Perry Stemmons (N. Door)      Helen Stemmons (S. Door)

Sue Wright (Atrium)      Pat Wright (Portico)

**Banner Bearers:** Kate Volmert and Kayla Von Talge

**Candle Lighters:** Gabe Palmer and Alex Johnson

**Children's Worship:**

Hayley Batterson (Idr.)      Christy Von Talge (hlpr.)

**Offering Counters:** Harlan Hackett and Diana Provenzano