



THE
November 17, 2017
Vol. 76, No. 15

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) VISITOR

Our mission: to know God and follow Jesus Christ

Voluntary Action Center Christmas Project

The Church in Society Department of FCC has received from The Voluntary Action Center the names and needs of 50 individuals needing gifts and meals this Christmas. The Holiday Program is VAC's single largest program serving families, elderly and disabled individuals in Columbia.



We have adopted families (this year 50 persons) from the VAC Holiday Program. The whole church is invited to participate in this outreach opportunity. Please stop by the Angel Tree on **Sunday, November 19 or 26**, to select a person(s) for which to shop and get

more detailed information. **All gifts need to be brought to church by Dec. 3.** 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!



DECORATE *fcc*

Sunday, November 26
4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

decorate
create
eat



Worship for Thanksgiving Sunday November 19

Thankfulness shows up in our worship more than one Sunday a month; however this coming Sunday provides more of a focus in prayer and song. Hymns like *Let All Things Now Living* and *Come, Sing a Song of Harvest*. Rev. Stagg's sermon "The Parable of the Talents" will be based upon Matthew 25:14-30.

THANKSGIVING OFFERING NOV 2017

www.DisciplesMissionFund.org

Colleges & Universities
of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Seminaries & Divinity Houses
of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Higher Education & Leadership Ministries
of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)



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. Currently, over 50,000 students attend our fourteen Disciples-related colleges and universities or seven seminaries and divinity houses. In the past twelve months, over 12,000 students have graduated from these fine schools.

On November 19, FCC will collect the Thanksgiving offering. Your gift to the Thanksgiving offering helps to support the work of our institutions of higher education such as Columbia College, Culver-Stockton College and William Woods University.

This November, please give generously to this year's Thanksgiving offering. Your gifts make a world of difference as Disciples continue our legacy of supporting education and our institutions of higher learning.

101 N. 10th Street
Columbia, MO 65201
(573) 449-7265



www.firstchristian.org
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Bit from Brad



Capital Campaign Update

Pictured above are contractors with Meyer Electric pulling wire to update our fire alarm system so we can have a safe facility.

Below is an update on the Capital Campaign which draws to a close on Dec. 31, 2017. What an amazing journey it's been so far!

Tier One—Financial Capital Campaign – Funds continue to come in! As a matter of fact, our consulting firm, Church Development, says a successful capital campaign receives 90-95% of its pledges. I'm happy to report that as of Oct. 30: FCC has received 98% of pledges! With \$801,949 received of \$816,998 pledges, we are only shy of receiving \$15,049 to reach 100%. Fred Mottaz and I project that FCC will receive another \$27,000, meaning we may achieve 101-102% of pledges!!! Wow!!! So the anticipated \$27,000 plus the \$51,040 on hand means we should have \$78,000 for our remaining projects of which we've budgeted \$65,000 in cost estimates. Hallelujah!!

Remaining Projects

Alarm System Updates – Meyer Electric has run the wires and we anticipate the completion of this project by the end of the month.

Hand Rails – Four sets of hand rails need to be installed in various places: balcony stairwell, chapel hallway by south doors, atrium ramp and the back stairwell in the Education Building. Finding contractors to bid the job is the next step.

South Exterior Doors – We've received one bid for \$17,000 and I've committed to working with Fred to find 2-3 more bids as this sounds high.

Balcony Railing – We have one option on this matter and we'd like to find at least two more options; then present these options for congregational input before reaching a decision. In the meantime, the Stewardship and Finance Department in contact with the Property Department recommends that the balcony be temporarily closed due to safety and liability issues until the necessary safety upgrades are completed. The vote to temporarily close the balcony goes before the November 13th Admin Board. I'll let you know the results in next week's *Bit from Brad*.

Tier Two

CM Engineering was hired last spring to report on the electrical and plumbing systems in the Education Building. They delivered a preliminary report requesting more information to finalize the report. I spoke with Rob Latimer and Kent Hays on two separate calls the week before last and gave them information to complete the report. I hope to receive the final report in 2-3 weeks. Upon receiving that report, I will send copies out to the Property Department and the Master Planning Committee members. This is a critical step before progress can be made in Morris Parlors or other Educational Building locations. I'll keep you posted as progress continues!

Thank you to all who have given time, talents and/or treasures for this critical endeavor so we may continue to be a mission center where people can "Know God and follow Jesus Christ!"

Blessings, Brad

Report for Sunday, Nov. 12, 2017 Total Offerings \$13,139.34
Attendance 196 (incl. early service-47) (visitors- 7)

Who am I?

- This east coast woman met her west coast husband in college.
- She enjoys cats and country music.
- She has been at FCC for 20 years.

The answer will be in next week's VISITOR!

If you would like to submit a picture, e-mail it to fcc@firstchristian.org or bring it by the office and we'll scan it and give it right back! Happy guessing!



And I Only Have to Drive 8 Blocks?



We need your help to shuttle Warming Station folks from FCC to Wilkes Boulevard Methodist

Church on Sunday mornings. It's simple. The riders board at 8:50am, you drive about 8 blocks to Wilkes Blvd. Church, your riders get off the bus and you return. So you haven't ever driven the church bus, but you'd like to help? No problem. A brief bus orientation will get you ready for the job. This is a great way to serve others without a huge time commitment. If you feel the need to serve in this important ministry, please sign up in the narthex or contact the church office in person or by e-mail at fcc@firstchristian.org. Thank you for your dedication to those in need!

Women's Brunch
 Saturday, December 2 9:00am
 Yonker Fellowship Hall at FCC
Enjoy great food and fellowship
Casseroles, salads, desserts, drinks and blessings!

RSVP by November 28 to
c_colleen@yahoo.com
 or in the church office.

I really appreciate all my church friends who have sent sympathy cards, and prayed for me during this sad time. My special thanks to those of you who attended Marvlee Ridgeway's graveside service. You have all been a comfort to me.



Blessings, Linda Ridgeway



News of People and Places

It is with great joy that we announce a celebration of 10 years with **Rev. Jimmy Spear!** Join us for a reception in the fellowship hall between services on Sunday, December 10! Congratulations, Jimmy! We are fortunate to have you serve FCC!

There are three dates left for chancel flower purchases; January 14, April 8, April 15. If you would like to honor someone special or celebrate the memory of a departed loved one, this is a wonderful opportunity to do so. After the worship services, the flowers are delivered to those celebrating birthdays over 90, shut-ins or those in hospitals who need an uplifting reminder from their church family. They are only \$30 and you may sign up in the church office. Thank you!

DECORATE fcc! Don't forget to help us decorate the church on the Sunday after Thanksgiving. The sanctuary greens, large tree with lights and chrismons, another tree for the Fellowship or Bethany Hall and setting up the outdoor stable; we need active ladder people for sure — the tree is tall! Families are most welcome and we will have activities for children while parents are helping put up the decorations. Ornament making and special Christmas Veggie Tale watching is in store for our kids. Childcare for really little ones is also on the list. We will end the night with a light supper in Yonker Hall. We hope to see you Sunday, November 26 at 4pm!

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 Children's 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. 4th, 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. Please bring your own scissors and scotch tape as we have in the past. This year decorated bags (all sizes) and decorated or plain shirt-size boxes are needed. The boxes are needed to wrap clothes and bags are GREAT for those hard to wrap gifts!!!

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



Something New at FCC

There are many moments in our lives when we need comfort. There are tough times when we yearn for consolation. The suffering people who looked for the long-awaited Messiah were given a hope-filled image of God in the writings of Isaiah. It expresses the belief that no matter what happens to us, God will be there to comfort and support us.

Christmas can be a time for many when we are in need of that reassurance and comfort. Perhaps we are grieving over the loss of a loved one, struggling with illness, or have experienced the loss of a job. We wonder how we will get through the holidays. This year we are having a special "Blue Christmas Worship Service— A Service of Hope and Healing" at 3:00pm on Sunday, December 3.

Those looking for comfort, hope, wholeness, and renewal will have the support they need for the holidays with a time of quiet reflection and meaningful words and music.



November 21 Laura Crane and Jamie Estes

First Christian Church
101 N. 10th - Downtown Columbia

Christmas Bazaar

Saturday
November 18
3am-2pm, Fellowship Hall

Arts & Crafts
Coffee & Breads 8-11am
Lunch Served 11:30am-1pm
(soup-sandwich-dessert \$8)
Christmas Sweets

Christian Women's Fellowship Project

JYF - CHI-RHO - CYF

YOUTH

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Columbia, MO

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

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

CYF grades 9-12
weekly 6-7:30pm Bethany

Nov 19—Chi-Rho and CYF meet

The Visitor
First Christian Church
101 N. 10th Street
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Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
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Columbia, MO
Permit No. 75

Ministerial Staff:

Rev. Brad Stagg, Senior Minister
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Rev. Jimmy Spear, Associate Minister
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Music Staff:

Mary Bancroft, Coordinator of Music & Organist
maryebancroft@yahoo.com
Adriene Floyd, Director of Chancel & Bell Choirs
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Mother's Day Out Pre-School:

Tracy Westhoff, Director
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Columbia Area Older Adult Ministry:

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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 NOVEMBER 19-26

Sunday, November 19

- THANKSGIVING OFFERING SUNDAY
- Chancel Bells Rehearsal, 8:30am, Bell Room
- Coffee Hour, 9:20-10:20am, Yonker Hall
- Sunday School, 9:30am, Child/Youth, 3rd Flr;
Adults, 2nd Flr, Keystone
- Chancel Choir Warm Up, 9:45am, Morris Parlor
- Chi-Rho, 4:30-6:00pm, Bethany Hall
- CYF, 6:00-7:30pm, Bethany Hall

Monday, November 20

- MDO T'giving Fundraiser, 8:30am-12:00pm, Yonker
- Church Office Staff Meeting, 2:00-3:00pm, Keystone
- Drennan Singers Rehearsal, 5:30-6:30pm, Sanctuary

Tuesday, November 21

- MDO T'giving Fundraiser, 8:30am-12:00pm, Yonker
- Tuesday Bible Study, 10:30-11:30am, Morris Parlor

Wednesday, November 22

- NO Wednesday Bible Study
- NO Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, November 23

- HAPPY THANKSGIVING-- Office Closed

Friday, November 24

- Office Closed

Sunday, November 26

- CHANCEL BELLS PLAY IN THE 10:30 WORSHIP SERVICE
- CHURCH DECORATE! 4:00pm, Sanctuary

SERVING SCHEDULE SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19

Bus Driver: Eric Seaman
Office Receptionist: Bobbi McCormack
Welcome Station: Pat Rybolt and Jeff Underwood
Flower Ministry Arranged and Delivered by:
Carol Slusher

Servers for 8:30 Worship Service

Worship Assts:
Jerry & Mary Daugherty and Jan Davis
Elder: Cherry Hinderberger
Offering Counters: Mary Daugherty and Doug Smith

Servers for 10:30 Worship Service

Communion Prep:
Kim Rogers, Wyatt Rogers (Jr), Hunter Rogers (Jr)
Liturgist: Amy La Hue
Elders: Vicki Johnson, Sally Robinson and Fred Mottaz
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: Gabe Palmer and Alex Johnson
Candle Lighters: Amelia Leon-Rudy and Ryley Batterson
Children's Worship:
Hayley Batterson (ldr.) Amy Marrero (hlpr.)
Offering Counters: Cindy Smith and Janelle Patterson