



THE  
November 24, 2017  
Vol. 76, No. 16

# THE VISITOR

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

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



## DECORATE *fcc*

**THIS Sunday, Nov. 26  
4:00 - 6:00 p.m.**

*Decorate, create, eat*

## The Details of Decorate *fcc*

Join us in decorating the church **this Sunday**. The sanctuary greens, large tree with lights and chrismons, another tree for the Fellowship or Bethany Hall and setting up the outdoor stable are all on the list. We need active ladder people for sure — the tree is tall! Families are most welcome with activities for children while parents are putting up the decorations. Childcare for really little ones is also on the list. We will end the night with a light supper in Yonker Hall.

**Living Nativity - see inside, pg. 2**



## 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](mailto:c_colleen@yahoo.com)  
or in the church office.

## VAC Christmas Project FINAL Sign Ups

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 whole church is invited to participate in this outreach opportunity. This is the **LAST WEEKEND** 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!



## Worship for Sunday, November 26

With one more Sunday to share worship before Advent begins, our focus will be found in two texts that mirror/match/parallel in the people of God hearing of the basic tenets of faithful living — getting into the place of eternal life. Rev. Jimmy Spear will bring the morning message "Don't be a Goat!" based on Ezekiel 34:11-24 and Matthew 25:31-46. Hymns for the day include *Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service, For the Fruit of All Creation* and *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*.

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



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## Bit from Brad

Thanksgiving greetings to you all. I am thankful for our dedicated and faithful congregation. I am thankful for my wonderful family and that we have a roof over our heads and

food on the table. I am thankful that God has blessed First Christian Church with people on our Administrative Board with the vision and fortitude to make a decision regarding our balcony railing. Last week I promised that I would give you an update on the vote. By unanimous decision, the FCC Board voted to temporarily close the balcony, effective immediately. It was expressed clearly by the Board Members and me that we are hopeful the repairs will be completed by Easter! An e-mail of this was sent to the congregation and a copy of the letter is posted on our bulletin board outside the office. As always, if you have any questions, feel free to call.

As we make our way into the season of Advent, may we all remember how blessed we are. May we keep the focus upon God and his great gift of love born so many years ago; a gift that saved us all. I would encourage you to invite friends, neighbors, relatives...all who might need this message of true love and encouragement. I look forward to seeing you in the pews of our wonderful church— just not in the balcony. Trust me, it is a different perspective for me, too.

Blessings, Brad

## Who am I?

- This lady is an Indiana Hoosier by birth.
- She joined FCC 19 years ago.
- She is a ringer in the Columbia Handbell Ensemble.

The answer will be in next week's VISITOR!

If you would like to submit a picture, 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! Last week's 'Who am I?' was **SARAH READ!**



## Living Nativity Fri. Dec. 1, 6-8pm

Now a tradition on the night of Columbia's Living Windows Downtown District event, our church presents the story of Jesus' birth. The story is depicted on the east lawn and sidewalk of the church utilizing our members, costumes, taped music with narration and special lighting.

**PARTICIPANTS READ HERE:** A *Pizza supper* will be served to all participants in Yonker 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 shows total starting on the half hour between 6-8 p.m. (youth, children primarily).

Sign up in the Narthex this Sunday

### 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.

Come by and take in the unique rendition of an ancient story. Bring a friend...Stay for hot chocolate and fellowship...

## Blue Christmas Worship Service

*A service of hope and healing*  
Sunday, December 3  
3:00pm



## A Blue Christmas Service?

Christmas can be a time when we are in need of 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" on Sunday, December 3 at 3pm.

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.

**Report for Sunday, Nov. 19, 2017 Total Offerings \$5207**  
**Attendance 146** (incl. early service-43) (visitors- 12)

*Youth Group "regular meetings" are now on break until January. Youth are encouraged to participate in the variety of weekly Advent season activities offered.*







## News of People and Places

Prayers of healing are extended to **Jay Creasy** who had knee surgery on Friday, November 17, and is recovering well at home; **Jan Davis** who will have rotator cuff surgery on November 27; **Khons Volmert's** mother, Thep Keopraseut, who is hospitalized in St. Louis; **Debbie Taylor's** mother, Marlyn Clements.

**Drennan Group** meets Tuesday, November 28, in the Fireside Lounge of Lenoir Woods at 1pm.

**A DECADE later...** FCC is saving the date to share in the 10th anniversary with our Associate Minister, **Rev. Jimmy Spear**. Join us for a reception in the fellowship hall between services on Sunday, December 10. There will not be Sunday School on this day.

Sunday School: Thanks to **Mark Mills and Jordan Barnes** for this semester of teaching the Sunday morning youth class. The class will be taught by Rev. Jimmy Spear through December and another team will share leadership in January. **Adults** will be offered a Sunday morning class Nov. 26, Dec. 3, and 17 on texts and themes of Advent at 9:30am in the Keystone Room.



### Holly a Hit with MDO Kids

Wednesday, November 15, Holly Gieseke



came to Mother's Day Out Preschool and read her two wonderful books! Reading to children is just one of the many ways Holly volunteers here at FCC and we thank her for all she does. If you'd like to find out more about purchasing Holly's books, please inquire in the church office or e-mail [fcc@firstchristian.org](mailto:fcc@firstchristian.org). They make great gifts.

## FCC Warming Station to Open Sunday, December 10! Volunteers Needed!

FCC will again host guests from the Room at the Inn (RATI) on Sunday mornings from December 10, 2017 through March 11, 2018. Guests from RATI arrive around 6:45 - 7 a.m. and depart (by Church bus) around 9 a.m. for Wilkes Boulevard Methodist Church where guests will be served breakfast. **More information will be provided in the next Visitor and a signup sheet will be available in the Narthex beginning this Sunday, November 26.**

We need YOUR help in making this ministry happen! Volunteers are needed to serve as:


- 1. Warming Station Bus Drivers:** Arrive at FCC no later than 8:30 a.m. to prepare the bus for departure at 8:50 a.m. A CDL license is not required. To drive the FCC bus you must be (1) a Church member, (2) over 25 years old, (3) provide a copy of your current driver's license to the Church office, and (4) become familiar with the operation of the Church bus.
- 2. Warming Station Hosts:** Arrive at FCC at 6:00 a.m. to start preparation of coffee and hot water. NO food is served. We provide papers and magazines for guests to read. Guests mingle and talk among themselves; we join in conversation if included.

Please check your calendars to determine when you might be able to help! If you have any questions about driving the Church bus, contact the Church office @ 573-449-7265. If you have any other questions **OR** wish to go ahead and sign up to help, contact Sarah Storm @ 573-289-0072 or [marions@centurytel.net](mailto:marions@centurytel.net)!


### Wrapping for the Kids



The Drennan Women's Group invites all women (and men) to assist in their annual December service project, which for several years has been helping wrap Christmas gifts for the kids at Coyote Hill Christian Children's Home. Join us 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. 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. Questions? call Sharon Winner at 239-2900.


The Christmas Light Tour is planned for Monday, Dec. 4. 6-8:30pm. Sign up in the office or on the pew pad this Sunday!  **STARS** ...the 55+ Fellowship Group

*Your Special Birthday!*  
**Charles Koelling, 91**  
**December 1**



**November 25**  
 Chanda Hughey and Micah Hulén

**December 1**  
 Charles Koelling





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

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Columbia, MO  
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**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 NOVEMBER 26-DECEMBER 3**

**Sunday, November 26**

- Chancel Bells Rehearsal, 8:30am, Bell Room
- Coffee Hour, 9:20-10:20am, Yonker Hall
- Sunday School, 9:30am, Yth., 3<sup>rd</sup> Flr; Adlt., 2<sup>nd</sup> Flr, Keystone
- Chancel Choir Warm Up, 9:45am, Morris Parlor
- Chancel Bells in the 10:30 worship service
- Lenoir Healthcare Worship, 3:30pm, FCC Elders
- DECORATE!** Join us for the set-up of decorations, 4 – 6pm  
Ornament making for children, soup supper for all.

**Monday, November 27**

- Church Office Staff Meeting, 2:00-3:00pm, Keystone
- Drennan Singers Rehearsal, 5:30-6:30pm, Sanctuary

**Tuesday, November 28**

- Tuesday Bible Study, 10:30-11:30am, Morris Parlor
- Drennan Group, 1:00pm, Fireside Lounge-Lenoir

**Wednesday, November 29**

- Wednesday Bible Study, 12:05-12:55pm, Bethany Hall
- Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 5:30pm, Sanctuary

**Thursday, November 30**

- NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
- Disciples On Campus (DOC), 4:30-6pm, Bethany Hall

**Friday, December 1**

- Church Dine-Out, 5:30pm, Bob Evans Restaurant
- Living Nativity, 6-8:00pm, Church Lawn

**NEXT SUNDAY, December 3**

- DRENNAN SINGERS, BOTH SERVICES!
- HANGING OF THE GREENS, BOTH SERVICES!
- “Blue Christmas Service: A Service of Hope and Healing” 3pm

**SERVING SCHEDULE SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26**

**Bus Driver:** Carol Slusher  
**Office Receptionist:** Janelle Patterson  
**Welcome Station:** Lexy Bell  
**Flower Ministry Arranged by:** Gene Kirkham  
**Delivered by:** Fred Mottaz

**Servers for 8:30 Worship Service**

**Worship Assts:**  
Brice & Mary Moeller  
**Elder:** Susan Gray  
**Offering Counters:** Mary Moeller and Kim Reardon

**Servers for 10:30 Worship Service**

**Communion Prep:**  
Judy & Ron Longaker and Coleman Rogers(Jr)  
**Liturgist:** Harlan Hackett  
**Elders:** Richard & Pam Hoepfner and Don Mosby  
**Deacons:** The Hunsaker Team **Ushers:** The Scott Team  
**Greeters:**  
Janelle Patterson (N. Door) Nannie Lou Mallett (S. Door)  
Eva Bright (Atrium) Ed Bright (Portico)  
**Banner Bearers:** Izzy Arnett and Delaney Batterson  
**Candle Lighters:** Lillian McCormack and Kira Hoenes  
**Children's Worship:**  
Eric Arnett (ldr.) Trish Stagg (hlpr.)  
**Offering Counters:** Diana Provenzano and Jerry Miller