



THE
December 22, 2017
Vol. 76, No. 20

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) VISITOR

Our mission: to know God and follow Jesus Christ

Emmanuel - God with Us, Revealed in Us
Two Sundays of Worship at 10:30 a.m.

The 4th Sunday of Advent, Dec. 24

One worship service will be offered this Sunday morning. A "regular" Sunday liturgy will be shared for the last Sunday of the Advent season. Rev. Stagg will bring the message "Emmanuel: God's Household Builder."
Hymns for day will include *Joy to the World*, *While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks* and *What Child is This*.

The 1st Sunday of Christmas, Dec. 31

One worship service will be offered as we gather to ring in the new year with our prayers of thanks and anticipation. Bring your last of 2017 — the prayers, shares and cares. If needed, we just might leave them at church to be ready for January 1 and all that begins on Monday. Rev. Jimmy Spear will bring the message "But when in the fullness of time..." based upon Galatians 4:4-7. We will continue to sing seasonal hymns *The First Noel*, *Go Tell It on the Mountain* and *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*.

*Please note there will NOT be Sunday School offered either Sunday, Dec. 24 or 31. There WILL be coffee hour.

Christmas Eve
Sunday, Dec. 24

10:30am
One Sunday morning worship service

5:00-6:00pm
Sanctuary open for quiet meditation & communion

7:00pm
"Emmanuel: The Word"
Lessons & Carols, Communion & Candlelight

Welcome, Vlad and Lisa Chernov!

You may have seen them in our worship services and they were just recently married at FCC! Vlad and Lisa Chernov joined our membership on Sunday, December 17 by transfer from the Crossing and Calvary Episcopal. We are so happy to have them as an active part of FCC! Welcome!



Sunday, December 31

9:30 am
Coffee Hour

ONE
Worship
Service
10:30 am

*new,
year's
eve service*

101 N. 10th Street
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(573) 449-7265



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Have a Magical Christmas Brad, Trish, Luke, Annie & Noah

Before meeting Trish much less blessed with Luke, Annie, and Noah, that I would one day take my family to meet "the Mouse." I promised to take them to see the Magic Kingdom and Epcot (long before Animal Kingdom and Hollywood Studios.) Strange, but true! And now at the ripe old age of 54, the promise has been fulfilled; which, by the way, is wonderfully satisfying!

Sure there were hot days, expensive foods, long lines and four days driving a car when even an extra-long Expedition wasn't long enough as nerves and patience frayed, but still it was deeply satisfying! Was it Mickey Mouse? No. Was it the new Star Wars area? No. Was it the Avatar ride, Flight over Pandora? While a super cool ride, the answer remains no. Then what? A promise fulfilled! Sometimes, the longer the wait and the greater the anticipation for the fulfillment of the promise, the greater the satisfaction experienced when the promise is fulfilled. I think Jesus' coming into the world is like that. Promises made during King David's reign during 1000BC; then more promises made during Isaiah's days circa 721BC; and still more promises made during the writing of Daniel around 165BC, only heightened the anticipation of the people of God for Messiah, God's anointed, to deliver the people from bondage and restore them to God's favor. For over a thousand years, God's people waited for the promises to be fulfilled.

And they were!

In a manger in Bethlehem God came and dwelt among us through a child born to virgin; not born to princes, not the son of an emperor. Instead, a child was born to suffer, die and be raised again so that we might live and establish peace on earth. The promise is fulfilled and is being fulfilled. Those with faith in the Christ child know how deeply satisfying those fulfilled promises are. May you know the peace and deep satisfaction of Jesus Christ this Christmas season!

From my family to yours, Merry Christmas!!

Blessings, Brad, Trish, Luke, Annie and Noah Stagg

Bit from Brad

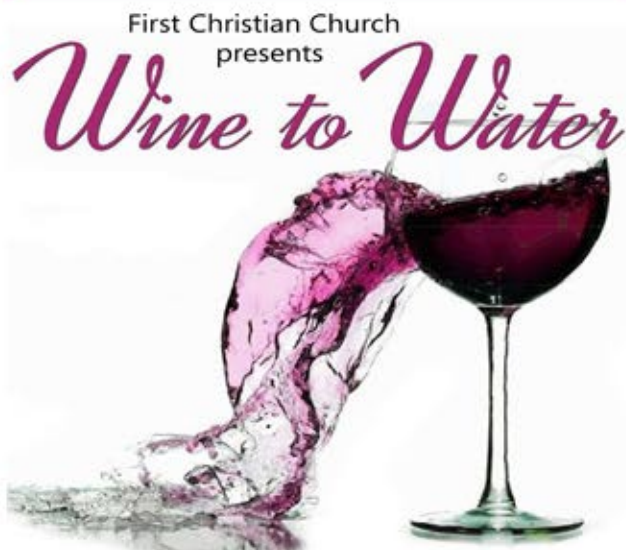
Last summer Trish, the kids and I made our first ever journey to Walt Disney World in Orlando. While my parents and sisters have been; I had never made the pilgrimage to the Magic Kingdom. Somewhere in my mind along life's journey, I made a promise to myself and my future family, long before

Winter Outreach

RATI (Room At The Inn), whose mission is to provide a warm and safe place to sleep to those in need, is in full swing. The hours of operation for the guests are 7 p.m. – 7 a.m. The need is always great and will be even greater this year with RATI being open this season through March 17, 2018. Go to www.roomattheinncomo.org and learn of the available volunteer opportunities and then sign up. Your donations of supplies or monies are always needed.

This winter will mark the third season for FCC to serve as a sponsor/partner with RATI (Room at the Inn) by hosting the **Warming Station** on Sunday mornings from approximately 7-9am. We provide shelter and a warm beverage to RATI guests for two hours and then our Church bus transports the guests to Wilkes Boulevard United Methodist Church for shelter and breakfast. Guests start arriving approximately 6:50 – 7:00am. There are plenty of ways to help those in need in our community.

Never done it before? Have questions? No problem. To sign up or get more info, please contact Sarah Storm at 573-289-0072.



First Christian Church
presents
Wine to Water
Bethany Hall
January 27, 2018 6:00-8:00pm

Wine, food and compassion for those in need of water.

For childcare please RSVP to Jimmy Spear at jimmy@firstchristian.org by Sunday, January 20



Your Special Day
Birthday Anniversary
Dorothy Baumgartner, 91 **Ben & Beth Nelms**
December 25 55 yrs.—December 27



Ladies' Book Club Gets Ready to Read!

Mary Daugherty, Janelle Patterson, Amy Lahue, Tommy Gay Evans, Linda Hutton, Jean Hall and Peggy Veatch pictured here enjoyed lunch and good conversation at their December meeting at Glenn's Cafe. Traditionally the group skips meeting on December. This year there was no book assignment, just good food and conversation.

The next meeting will be January 10th in Bethany Hall. *The Wright Brothers* by David McCullough will be our pick, to be led by Barb Rothenberger.

Youth Groups Return Jan 21

Jan 21: Chi-Rho & CYF

Jan 28: JYF & CYF

Feb 4: Chi-Rho & CYF

Feb 11: JYF & CYF

Group Times: Chi-Rho (grd678) / JYF (grd345) 4:30-6pm
CYF (grd9-12) 6-7:30pm



Merry Christmas from Mother's Day Out



Pictured (rear) Karla Broderson, Leila Willmore
(middle) Carol Alexander, Nicole Westhoff, Julie Smith, Christy Von Talge
(front) Tracy Westhoff, Renee Mayhan, Emma Yager

Our MDO program serves 72 children from 70 families with activities, mind-challenging pre-school education and lots of fun! The MDO staff is full of awesome people and we thought you'd like to get to see them. Drop in sometime!



UN-DECORATE fcc
Sunday
Jan. 7, 2018 4:00 pm

*Un-decorate * fellowship * eat*



News of People and Places

Sympathy is extended to **Khons and Brad Volmert, Kate and Annie** in the Dec. 17 death of Khons' mother Thep Keopraseut of Marble Hill, MO. Services were held on Dec. 21.

In and out of the hospital this week and continuing in our prayers: **Wilke Wilkerson, Lorene Trickey**. Prayers are requested for **Robert Floyd's** mother Jean Floyd as she begins chemo treatments to fight Hodgkin's lymphoma.

Chris Creasy shares the following prayer request in this week: "Jack is having a tonsillectomy/adenoidectomy on Wednesday, Dec. 20 in Springfield with recovery in Columbia. Also, our daughter, **Laurel**, is due to have her 2nd baby (a baby boy this time!) this Friday, Dec. 22 in California. There will soon be a rose on the organ in honor of this special occasion! **Jay** continues to recover from his knee procedure and is anxious to be 100% recovered, but not quite there yet. Never a dull moment in the Creasy household :). Thank you."

Addition: In thanking the crew for the my anniversary party I omitted **Holly Wheatley**, who poured through 750 digital photos to create the slide show and print outs on the bulletin board. THAT was a job! ~Jimmy Spear

Thanks to **Brenda Mosby** and **Janelle Patterson** for serving up the great supper to those who Christmas Caroled, Dec. 17.

To all our friends at First Christian Church,
Thank you for sharing in our loss of Jim with your cards, calls and visits.
~Tommie Ross & Family

There will not be a VISITOR newsletter published next week. Keep this one to get you through. See you again on these pages January 5 with all kinds of news of the winter program season!

- December 25** Jesus Christ,
Dorothy Baumgartner, Susan Ripley
- December 27** Linda Chandler, Emma Hawkins
- December 29** Becky Baumgartner, Kevin Crane, Paula Kurtz,
Shirley Park, Scott Schaefer
- December 30** Jan Davis, Jerry Miller, Fred Mottaz
- January 1** Eva Bright, Steve Gieseke, Jeri Sheppard
- January 3** Debbie Potthast
- January 4** Paige Freed, James Hoffman
- January 5** Lindsay Chandler, Hiliary Nichols



Report for Sunday
Dec. 17, 2017
Attendance 206
(incl. early service-43)
(visitors- 12)



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

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U.S. POSTAGE
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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:

Rev. Sally Robinson, Chaplain
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Support Staff:

Robert Floyd, Office Manager
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fred@firstchristian.org
Keith Picker, Custodian

Minister Emeritus:

Dr. John J. Yonker

Return Service Requested

CHURCH CALENDAR DECEMBER 24—January 6

Sunday, December 24

- Coffee Hour, 9:20-10:20am, Yonker Hall
- Chancel Choir warm up, 9:45am, Morris Parlor
- ONLY ONE MORNING SERVICE— 10:30am
- Sanctuary Open for Meditation & Communion, 5-6pm
- 7:00pm Lessons, Carols, Candlelight, & Communion Service

Monday, December 25

- Church Office Closed— Merry Christmas!

Tuesday, December 26

- NO TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY

Wednesday, December 27

- NO WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY
- Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 5:30pm, Sanctuary

Thursday, December 28

- NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

NEW YEAR'S EVE, Sunday, December 31

- Coffee Hour, 9:20-10:20am, Yonker Hall
- Chancel Choir warm up, 9:45am, Morris Parlor
- ONLY ONE MORNING SERVICE— 10:30am

NEW YEAR'S DAY, Monday, January 1

- Church Office Closed— Happy New Year!

Tuesday, January 2

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

Wednesday, January 3

- Wednesday Bible Study, 12:05-12:55pm, Bethany Hall
- World Outreach Department Mtg, 5:00pm, Keystone Room
- Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 5:30pm, Sanctuary

Thursday, January 4

- DOC Winter Break Mission Trip to Brookfield, MO Jan 4-7
- NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Friday, January 5

- Church Dine-Out, 5:30pm, Bob Evans Restaurant

SERVING SCHEDULE SUNDAYS, DEC. 24 & DEC. 31

Bus Driver: Carol Slusher (24th) Dan Gieseke (31st)
Office Receptionist: Carol Slusher (24th) Richard Barnard (31st)
Welcome Station: Lexy Bell (24th) Jennifer Alexander (31st)
Flower Ministry Arranged and Delivered by:
Jerry & Mary Daugherty (24th) Will & Donna Houston (31st)

Servers for 10:30 Worship Service

Communion Prep:

(24th) Joe & Kim Reardon and Madeline Marrero (jr)
(31st) David & Julie Nichols and Cindy Ruffolo

Liturgist: Robert Floyd (24th) Fred Mottaz (31st)

Elders: Fred Mottaz and Dan Backues (24th)

Colleen Nilges and Brenda Martin (31st)

Deacons: The Hunsaker Team (24th) The Rogers Team (31st)

Ushers: The Scott Team (24th) The Burnam Team (31st)

Greeters:

(24th) Dan Backues (*N. Door*) Lisa Zimmer (*S. Door*)
Susan Klockow (*Atrium*) Amy La Hue (*Portico*)
(31st) Sue Wright (*N. Door*) Pat Wright (*S. Door*)
David Potthast (*Atrium*) Debbie Potthast (*Portico*)

Banner Bearers: Amy Leon-Rudy and Ryley Batterson (24th)

Lillian McCormack and Kira Hoenes (31st)

Candle Lighters: Izzy Arnett and Delaney Batterson (24th)

Paige Freed and Sam Pine (31st)

Children's Worship: H. Batterson (ldr.) Amy Marrero (hlpr.) (24th)

Eric Arnett (ldr.) Richard Barnard (hlpr.) (31st)

Offering Counters: Diana Provenzano and Harlan Hackett (24th)

Deb Batterson and Brenda Martin (31st)