



THE
January 5, 2018
Vol. 76, No. 21

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) VISITOR

Our mission: to know God and follow Jesus Christ

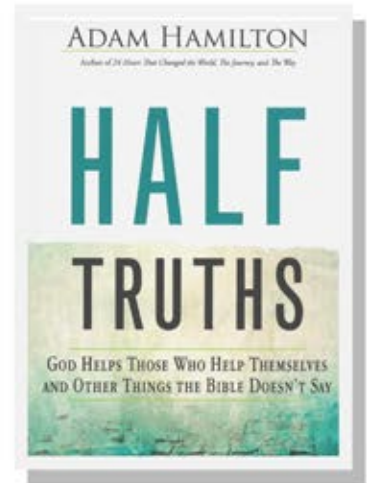
Worship for Sunday, January 7 "Of Baptism, New Life, & a New Year"

We are excited to start 2018 with you! A new year often means changes; most of which we hope are for the good. There was a change coming for the children of God and it was the change for which they had been waiting. John the baptizer revealed there would be one more powerful than he to arrive and things would be different for us all. The coming one would be baptizing by the Holy Spirit rather than with water! This incredible declaration by John, and Jesus' baptism, will be discussed by Rev. Stagg in Mark 1:4-11. There will be joyous singing as we join in the hymns: *As With Gladness*, and *Go Tell It on the Mountain*. The chancel choir will fill the sanctuary with a wonderful version of *Mary, Did You Know*. See you Sunday as two worship services and Sunday School resume.

Exciting New Adult Study Coming Soon!

Sunday Mornings: 9:30 a.m.
Keystone Room, 2nd floor
6 weeks: January 14-Feb 18

Join the adult class for this study on Adam Hamilton's new book. The class is led by members and books can be purchased for \$10. This study will include a video segment by Hamilton, book and bible discussion. Those who currently attend the Sunday morning adult class will receive an email invite to reserve a book. All are welcome and others can contact Jimmy Spear to reserve a book; jimmy@firstchristian.org.



Sunday
January 7
4:00 pm

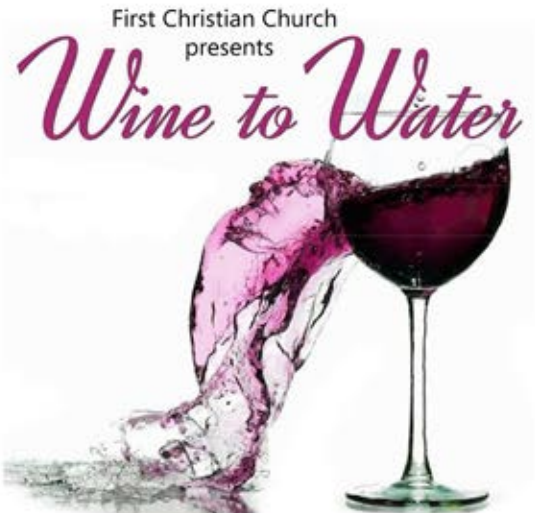
** un-decorate **
** fellowship, eat **

UN-DECORATE *fcc*

The sanctuary looked GREAT for the advent and Christmas season and now it's time to restore it to its previous glory. Help us put all the decorations away for another year. The items to put away are:

- sanctuary chrismon tree and greens
- nativity set in Morris Parlor and sanctuary
- outdoor stable
- Bethany Hall greens
- Yonker Hall tree.

See you at 4 on Sunday!



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 21

Wine to Share, Water for All

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



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www.facebook.com/FirstChristianColumbiaMO

The Life & Death of Caroling

Last year did us in, I think. Our annual Christmas caroling to homebound and senior living facilities on the Sunday before Christmas had grown in participation over the years from just the CYF and parents to church folks and youth combined. In recent years we had a growing group of 30-40 people go on the 2 hour caroling adventure and come back to church for a fun soup supper. Last year there was a bad ice storm that struck the weekend before Christmas and shut our caroling down.

With that 2 year time span between caroling nights our church forgot the reason for that particular part of the season. If you have ever gone with us you know well the feeling of sharing a few carols in the living room of a church friend who is not able to be at church in person, singing the season. If you have ever gone with us you know your terrible singing voice is no match for the combined voice of a group of carolers. If you have ever gone with us you know the feeling found deep within when a resident in a nursing home, who doesn't speak or react much, mouths the words to the familiar Silent Night as it is sung in the institutional space now called home 24/7. If you have ever gone with us you know that the 2 hour adventure around Columbia seeing friends of our church is one of the most important things you will do at Christmas time.

This year with the weather cooperating, arrangements were made to sing in the homes of several of our homebound members and nursing home settings. We told them to expect us and they were glad to. For many years that has meant dividing into two teams to reach the folks on the list. This year, when 12 people arrived at church to carol we quickly made a new plan: houses and individual cases only, 5 dining rooms at Lenoir would have to be skipped. I went back there the next day to apologize for not showing up.

The band of merry singers traveled the town and caroled their hearts out. They ministered to our folks, that is for certain.

Now, if we are not to be a caroling church then so be it. But never again am I doing an open "y'all come" expecting the usual and then apologizing for not showing up. If we Christmas carol again it will be by small group with that ministry goal and project in mind. They will be committed and know their crowd. We will support any endeavor. I wish I could say the youth and I would do it. But the carol is gone from them it seems as well.

I'll remind you in October to talk it over and see what it brings.
~Jimmy Spear, Associate Minister

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.



Thank You

Thank you to everyone who helped with Bill Crawford's bereavement luncheon. The way we come together in a time of need makes me proud to be a member of FCC. I know it meant a great deal to the family.

~ Janelle Patterson



In Case You Missed It...

If you didn't make it to FCC's Christmas Bazaar, you missed a fun day. We have such talent in this Church! Not only could you have bought all your Christmas gifts, but some really cute kiddos would have waited on you for your morning sweets and coffee or lunch.

If you have a special craft, perhaps you would like to be one of our vendors next year? Contact Brenda Mosby if you have any questions. The 2018 Christmas Bazaar will be Saturday, November 17. Start planning now for the Bazaar!!



January 8 Bryan Garton and Sam Pine
January 10 Samantha Fullington, Ava Hoenes, Darren Pine and Cindy Rose
January 13 Jeff Alexander, Anastasia Palmer and Louise Ward

Your Special Birthday

Louise Ward, 93 on January 13

**Report for Sundays
Dec. 24
and Dec. 31, 2017
Offerings \$ 18,242.72
Attendance
310 (24th) 172 (31st)
(visitors– 18, 9)**

To everyone who contributed to the Staff Christmas fund, thank you for your generosity. We appreciate your gift and will continue to do our best for all at FCC.
~FCC Staff

Youth Groups Return

January 21

Group Times:

Chi-Rho (grd 6-7-8) /

JYF (grd 3-4-5) 4:30-6pm

CYF (grd9-12) 6-7:30pm



Jan. 21	Chi-Rho/CYF
Jan. 28	JYF/CYF
Feb. 4	Chi-Rho/CYF
Feb. 11	JYF/CYF
Feb. 18	Pres. BREAK
Feb. 25	Chi-Rho/CYF
Mar. 4	JYF/CYF
Mar. 11	Chi-Rho/CYF

Mar. 18	JYF/CYF
Mar. 25	Sprg BREAK
Apr. 1	EASTER Day
Apr. 8	Chi-Rho/CYF
Apr. 15	JYF/CYF
Apr. 22	Chi-Rho/CYF
Apr. 29	JYF/CYF

January is LOCAL!

Archaeology & Lunch

Thursday January 25— 11:30am

Join us for a fun-filled day in Columbia as we enjoy a Mexican food lunch at Agave then tour the MU Archaeological Museum! RSVP by Tuesday, January 23.



February is not far, neither is Fayette!

ART Museum at Central Methodist Univer. & Emmet's!

Be looking for details on this one coming soon.

Images from Christmas Eve

Top: The Chancel Choir sings "All is Well" with Gabe Palmer as soloist. Bottom: Candelight to celebrate the birth.



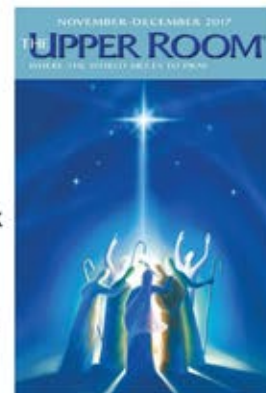
News of People and Places

Jay and Chris Creasy are grandparents for the second time. Miles Patterson was born to Laurel and Trent Bartling on Dec. 22 in San Francisco, California.

The health report: Many around FCC are battling seasonal colds, but it is the FLU that has really gotten some of our folks. Recently **David Chrisman** and **Bob Leach** were hospitalized. Both have been released. **Brenda Martin** offers the name of her soon-to-be daughter-in law, Bridget Butkievich, as she is suffering a severe illness, hospitalized and dealing with tests to determine a prognosis. **Bill and Betty Moon's** daughter and son-in law, Sue and Dave Smith, were injured in an auto accident on Dec. 29 outside Columbia. They give thanks to be alive and welcome prayers for recuperation.

The **DOC—Disciples on Campus** college student ministry group will spend three days in early January in Brookfield, Missouri on a short Winter Break Mission Trip. The group will stay at First Christian Church in Brookfield and serve two agencies in the community that help those in need. Keep the team of 10 in your prayers as they learn and serve a couple counties away.

Would you be interested in receiving an **UPPER ROOM** devotional guide? Several have inquired. A group publication or individual subscriptions can be made. Talk to Jimmy Spear if interested. The **UPPER ROOM** is a daily devotional guide with a long history and reader base in protestant churches. A year's subscription is about \$15 and comes in regular or large print variety.



Thanks to **Joe, Kim, Abigail Reardon, Maddie Marrero and Bill and Sonya Carney** for stepping right in and helping prepare and clean up communion on Christmas Eve morning and evening.

Crash Bar Installed!

It may not be the most glamorous item on the wish list at FCC, but this update of our sanctuary helps increase the security and compliance of our facility. The previous latch lock was evaluated by the fire marshal as a potential safety and fire hazard. Our new crash bar allows a quick exit in case of fire—AND— helps secure the sanctuary against intrusion. It's just one more step toward completing the many projects around us. In case you don't know where to find it— as you face the chancel, look to your left at the double doors by the Sacristy.



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 JANUARY 7-13

Sunday, January 7

- DOC Winter Break Mission Trip to Brookfield, MO
- Bell Choir rehearsal, 8:30am, 3rd Floor 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
- UNDECORATE fcc, 4:00pm

Monday, January 8

- Church Office Staff Meeting, 2:00-3:00pm, Keystone
- Nominating Committee Meeting, 6:30-8:00pm, Keystone
- Worship Department Meeting, 6:30-8:00pm, Bethany Hall

Tuesday, January 9

- Tuesday Bible Study, 10:30am, Morris Parlor
- Elders Diversity Meeting, 4:00-5:00pm, Keystone

Wednesday, January 10

- Regional Retreat, Morris Parlor
- Ladies' Book Club, 12:00pm, Bethany Hall
- Wednesday Bible Study, 12:05pm, Morris Parlor
- Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 5:30pm, Sanctuary

Thursday, January 11

- NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
- Regional Retreat, Morris Parlor
- Diversity Breakfast, 7:00am, Expo Center

Saturday, January 13

- CYF Retreat

SERVING SCHEDULE SUNDAY, JANUARY 7

Bus Driver: Russ Palmer
Office Receptionist: Bobbi McCormack
Welcome Station: Debbie Garton & Trish Stagg
**Flower Ministry Arranged &
Delivered by:** Eric Seaman

Servers for 8:30 Worship Service

Worship Assts:
Brice & Mary Moeller and Tommy Gay Evans
Elder: Tommy Gay Evans
Offering Counters: Mary Moeller and Sarah Storm

Servers for 10:30 Worship Service

Communion Prep:
Betsy Hofmann, Lauren Hofmann (JR), Eva Bright
Liturgist: Tommy Tomlin
Elders: Harlan Hackett and Eric Arnett
Deacons: The Garton Team **Ushers:** The Mountjoy Team
Greeters:
Jerry Miller (*N. Door*) Kathy Miller (*S. Door*)
Monica Palmer (*Atrium*) Russ Palmer (*Portico*)
Banner Bearers: Chase Hofmann and Brady Marrero
Candle Lighters: Ava Martin and Kaedon Wheatley
Children's Worship:
Holly Gieseke (*Idr.*) Valerie Freed (*hlpr.*)
Offering Counters: Debbie Taylor and Janelle Patterson