

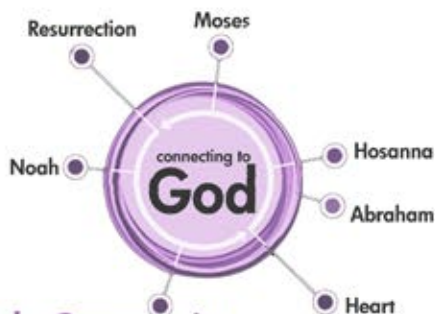


Our mission: to know God and follow Jesus Christ

Connecting to God: The Holy Community Sunday, March 4

The community of God's people, in order to be holy and connected to God, needs direction and affirmation, right? God gives a set of commandments, when paired with Jesus' words, gives us the place from which to develop the practices of our life - our nuclear family, our friendships and our church community. Rev. Jimmy Spear will bring this week's morning message based upon a text from Exodus 20:1-17.

As the 3rd Sunday in Lent is shared in worship this Sunday, our hymns of praise will include two familiar to us; *Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing* and *Take My Gifts*.



Holy Community 3rd Sunday in Lent

One hymn this week, *Purer in Heart, O God*, is not a new hymn having the music and words dating to 1877. Fannie Davison from Carthage, MO was 26 years old when she wrote the hymn. Having not sung it at FCC in recent years, it will bring a new melody and message. However, some may recall the gospel song as sung in old camp and youth days. It is found in the prayer and guidance section of the Chalice Hymnal.



Sunday Adult Class in March

"Talking to Your Children (or Grandchildren) About Faith"

Join us on three Sundays, **March 4, 11 & 18**. This class will be led by Sarah Read in the Keystone Room beginning at 9:30am. Join a multi age group for learning and conversation this Sunday.

ALL-CHURCH GARAGE SALE

(whole church project - donate, set-up, volunteer)

Donation Drop-Off: March 4 & 5



Sun. March 4 - Youth set up starts at 12:00pm
ALL donations dropped off:
Sunday, Mar. 4, 12:00-3:00 pm
(Youth will unload cars)
Mon. March 5, 8:00am-8:00 pm

Not accepted this year: Computers, Monitors, Televisions
Please donate clean items.

Volunteer for Setup & Pricing: March 4-7



Volunteers are welcome and needed at any of the following times. Please sign up in the narthex, the church office, or see Jimmy Spear.

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

Day Workers 8-5 pm
Evening Workers 6-8 pm

Come to the Sale & Tell Others!



Friday, Mar. 9, 4-8pm
Saturday, Mar. 10, 8-11am

The Garage Sale fully funds all summer/winter student mission trips. This sale is a serving opportunity for the whole church family and is sponsored by the Student Ministry Department.



Bit from Brad



February Board Actions: Last Tuesday the Administrative Board passed two business items. First, the Board approved a motion recommended by the Columbia Area Older Adult Ministry Advisory Board to increase the budget for Rev. Sally Robinson's health insurance premium. As CAOAM is ministry under FCC's umbrella of responsibility and given that they have the funds to cover the increase, the Board passed the motion unanimously.

Second, the Board approved a motion from the Stewardship & Finance Dept. to direct the gifts from Alex "Bud" & Fern Smith estate to pay off in full the Capital Campaign Line of Credit debt (\$210,592) with the balance of funds to be directed to remaining Tier One Projects, and that a plaque be made and hung in the church commemorating the Smith's contribution. This decision came with the recommendation and counsel of Bud's close friend, Perry Stemmons. The Board passed the motion unanimously.

With this directive, our Business Manager, Fred Mottaz made the necessary arrangements with the financial institutions and permanent fund trustees, and as of Thursday, Feb. 22, First Christian Church is now completely DEBT FREE!!! Thank you Board, Trustees, Capital Campaign donors, Perry Stemmons, and most especially Fern and Bud Smith!!! Thank you for your generous and gracious spirits supporting First Christian Church!!

An Amazing Quarter: The financial quarter of October, November, December, 2017 revealed some good news about the progress of First Christian Church. Each of these data points are positive, but given that all of them happened at the same time is rather amazing!

Our 3-year Tier One Capital Campaign finished on December 31 with 101% of all pledged giving. When we figure in unpledged gifts, FCC received 106% of pledges. I've been told: "That's unheard of!!"

During that same time our Operating Budget received a \$60,000 surplus helping us through the typically lean winter quarter.

Of that \$60,000 surplus, MDO contributed \$18K net income. This is now the second year in a row in which FCC no longer subsidizes MDO, rather they now help fund the church.

Because we've addressed many of the building needs, our Repair Account on which we usually draw, has built up to \$120K, which will allow us to tackle the CYF room and other items not covered by the Tier One Capital Campaign.

In that same time, we collected a nice Love Offering to our Associate Minister, Rev. Jimmy Spear for his 10 Year Anniversary.

According to Fred Mottaz, you provided the Largest Christmas Staff Bonus since Fred has been on staff since 2005; I know it was 30% larger than last year's Christmas Bonus.

Comparing Average Worship Attendance from Oct-Dec 2016 with Oct-Dec 2017, FCC experienced a 5% gain in worship attendance.

Due to the generosity of Fern & Bud Smith and the action taken by our Board last Tuesday, FCC is now Debt Free!!

These are amazingly good signs; the building challenges we've had to overcome and that we are members of THE fastest declining denomination in the nation!

We still have a long way to go! But it's nice to see encouraging, positive signs along the road to being sound rather than popular.

God bless each and every one of you for your steadfast commitment, devotion, and sacrifice to the ministry and mission of First Christian Church!! God bless you and God bless FCC!!

Blessings, Brad

Report for Sunday, February 25, 2018

Attendance 211 (includes early service- 61) (visitors- 29)

Total offerings: \$5,369.75

Week of Compassion Giving Results

Two weeks of special offerings have yielded:
\$2229.73



Property Work Day Coming Saturday, March 17!

Get your tools ready; shovels, rakes, clippers, gloves, hands, blowers, etc!
Details coming in the next Visitor!



March 3 Sally Estes, Sue Haynes and Angela Nance

March 4 Sharon Ronchetto

March 5 John Hamilton, Brice Moeller, and Khonsavan Volmert

March 6 Andrew Janssen

March 7 Michael Taylor

March 8 Valerie Freed and Andrea Smith



Childcare Ministry Team

The childcare team in the nursery on Sunday mornings consists of **Cheryl Stevens and Angela Pigg**. Cheryl and Angela both have been in the childcare business professionally for many years and bring a warmth and nurture to our littlest members and guests ages birth to pre-k (5 years old).

Both are longtime Disciples with long ties to our congregation. Other volunteers who fill in when one of our team is away include Jan Davis, Colleen Nilges, Emma Hawkins, and Cindy Rose.



Loaves N Fishes Serving a Success

Many thanks to all who helped with FCC serving Loaves and Fishes on Feb. 26. Susan Gray, Elizabeth Mottaz, Janelle Patterson, and Colleen Nilges cooked on Sunday, then on Monday, Blair Johnson and Reid Glenn from the DOC group, Rev. Spear, Chuck Scott, Allie Schomaker, Colleen Nilges and Pat Rybolt served and cleaned. We served 146 meals to a very thankful group of hungry people. Thanks to each of you and to the church for supporting this outreach ministry. We made a difference in the lives of these people today.

~Mary Moeller



Mar. 4	JYF/ no 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

Youth Group Times

**JYF (grd 3-4-5)
Chi-Rho (grd 6-7-8)**
(on alternating weeks)
4:30-6:00pm

CYF (grd 9-12)
6:00-7:30pm

CYF - Spring Break:
Mar. 28, 3:30-6pm
Serving at Mobile
Food Bank



News of People and Places

Sympathy is extended to **Pat Rainey** in the death of her husband **Glenn Rainey**. Long time members, Glenn and Pat have lived in recent years in Shelbina MO. Glenn died on Feb. 25. A service will be held at a later date by family members. Look to the Columbia Tribune for an obituary.

Long time 10:30 worship visitor, **Joane Dixon** died Wednesday, Feb. 21 after a brief illness. Services celebrating her life were held Monday, Feb. 26. Our deepest sympathies to her husband, **Bob Dixon**.

Bob Leach continues to be a patient at University Hospital.

Wood Classroom Chairs for Sale!

Need some chairs?
You are in luck! We are clearing out some great chairs from Bethany Hall.

Grab them up this Sunday before they're gone:

\$5 per chair. You tote, you haul.

The remainder will be sold at the Garage Sale.

Pay for your chairs in the payment drop box in the church office.



Mid-America Men Ozarks Getaway & Retreat May 4-6 Shannondale, MO

Men of FCC, if you've been searching for an opportunity for spiritual growth, fellowship, mentoring, recreation, fun and— of course— great food, this is the event for you. You might be surprised at what awaits you: lifelong friendships, private time with God, fun activities, even time to just breathe the air and enjoy what our Lord has given us in nature. No special skills are needed! Transportation will be worked out after we get a head count. Please RSVP to the church office or to Larry Veatch at LV1942@gmail.com to secure your spot by April 1st. (\$20 deposit needed, please. \$75 total cost for the event)

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

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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 MARCH 4-MARCH 10

Sunday, March 4

- GARAGE SALE SETUP
- 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
- Garage Sale Drop-Off, 12:00-3:00pm, Yonker Hall
- JYF, 4:30-6:00pm, Yonker Hall

Monday, March 5

- GARAGE SALE SETUP
- Church Office Staff Meeting, 2:00-3:00pm, Keystone
- Coffman-Watson, 7:00pm, Betty Montgomery's House

Tuesday, March 6

- Tuesday Bible Study, 10:30am, Morris Parlor
- Property Dept. Mtg., 6:00-7:30pm, Keystone

Wednesday, March 7

- Wednesday Bible Study, 12:05pm, Bethany Hall
- World Outreach Mtg., 5:00pm, Keystone
- Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 5:30pm, Sanctuary
- Children's Ed. Dept. Mtg., 6:30pm, Keystone

Thursday, March 8

- NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
- DOC (Disciples On Campus), 4:30-6:00pm, Bethany Hall
- Book Study "Very Married", 7:00-8:00pm, Bethany Hall

Friday, March 9 and Saturday, March 10

- Garage Sale, Fri: 4-8:00pm, Sat: 8:00-11:00am

SERVING SCHEDULE SUNDAY, MARCH 4

Bus Driver: Carol Slusher
Office Receptionist: Pat Rybolt
Welcome Station: Debbie Garton and Trish Stagg
Flower Ministry Arranged by: Barbara Rothenberger
Delivered by: Jacki Davidson

Servers for 8:30 Worship Service

Worship Assts:
Donna & Will Houston and Richard Barnard
Elder: Donna Houston
Offering Counters: Doug Smith and Mary Moeller

Servers for 10:30 Worship Service

Communion Prep:
Tammy Arnett, Jadie Arnett (JR), and Jonathan La Hue (JR)
Liturgist: Frances Brown
Elders: C.K. & Paula Hoenes
Deacons: The Garton Team **Ushers:** The Mountjoy Team
Greeters:
Russ Palmer (*N. Door*) Lisa Zimmer (*S. Door*)
Janelle Patterson (*Atrium*) Laura Crane (*Portico*)
Banner Bearers: Lillian McCormack and Kira Hoenes
Candle Lighters: Izzy Arnett and Delaney Batterson
Children's Worship:
Kim Boger (*ldr.*) TBD (*hlpr.*)
Offering Counters: Cindy Smith and Deb Batterson
Warming Station Hosts: Sue Underwood and C.K. Hoenes
Bus Driver: Jeff Wheeland