



THE
December 14, 2018
Vol. 77, No. 18

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) VISITOR

Our mission: to know God and follow Jesus Christ

Christmas Eve
5-6:00pm Sanctuary opens for quiet meditation & communion
7:00pm A Service of Lessons & Carols
Communion & Candlelight

The Lord is Coming

REJOICE!
**The 3rd Sunday in
Advent, Dec. 16**



The Chancel Handbell Choir returns to ring in 10:30 worship and Nora Dietzel will bring music to the 8:30. Rev. Stagg's sermon "Rejoice the Lord is in your Midst" will be based upon the prophet Zephaniah 3:14-20. Communion Connection will take place in the morning. We will light the Advent wreath candle for JOY. Join us!

The 86th Christmas Pageant & Tasting Party This Sunday, Dec. 16 - 4:00 pm

The Annual Christmas Pageant in it's 86th year will be held this Sunday afternoon December 16 at **4:00pm**. Participants include 5th graders and parents as shepherds, pre-school angels, a senior archangel, and 3 very wise men of the church. Lindsey Chandler Ingebritson, husband Matt and little boy Beau will be the holy family.

A "white gifts" offering will be collected in support of the Central Missouri Food Pantry. All are encouraged to bring nonperishable canned/boxed food wrapped in white paper. Monetary donations will also be accepted. This tradition reminds us of the importance of the giving, and not the type of gift.

A huge **tasting party** in Yonker Fellowship Hall will follow the pageant. All are encouraged to bring a sharable finger food-cookie-dessert-appetizer of holiday deliciousness.



All participants should be on the 3rd floor of the Education building at 3:30pm for robing and costuming. Pre-school angels meet in the nursery at 3:30pm. Questions? Please contact Rev. Jimmy Spear.

Friday Night Classics
Dec. 21 7:00pm
3rd Floor Cinema
BARBARA STANWYCK
DENNIS MORGAN
SYDNEY GREENSTREET
Christmas in Connecticut

Christmas Caroling

All New! Independent, by Small Group

You are invited to form a small group and bring a little joy of Christmas to some of our older members through Christmas caroling. The small group format is new this year. When you have a group collected, contact Rev. Spear for times and locations where caroling would be a welcomed gift in the weeks prior to Christmas. We can provide song sheets too!



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www.firstchristian.org
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www.facebook.com/FirstChristianColumbiaMO

Wise Men, Angels, a Baby, Cookies Living Nativity 2018

There is nothing better for the anticipation of Christmas than a live nativity — made up of children and youth. Wise men (youth in full beards and flowing fur), shepherds (little boys with sticks and rope belts that are “sore afraid”), angels (little girls dancing in white and gold) and a young couple aptly about 14 years old at the center stage. Our kids put on another great night of wonder during the downtown Living Windows last Friday evening. We also had a chance to welcome many into Bethany Hall for hot drinks, homemade cookies, warmth and friendship. There was a great crowd all evening.

Thanks to the hospitality crew in Bethany Hall and the parents who helped clean up the Nativity set up. Special thanks to **Janelle Patterson** for the hospitality set up, lights and sound helper **Jeff Underwood**, costume and meal setup by **Amy LaHue** — all three dedicated the afternoon to the many details of setup for all three parts that made up a major all-church event.



Holiday Events



If you have signed up for the
Christmas Light Tour (Monday, Dec. 17)
**Meet at church at 6:00 pm*

Soup Luncheon with entertainment of stories
and songs from the Mother's Day Out children
Tuesday, December 18
11:45 a.m. in Yonker Hall

Soups and beverages provided. Please bring a snack or dessert to share. RSVP on the Sunday Pew Pad “STARS” or in the church office.

Warming Station BEGINS THIS WEEKEND at FCC!

FCC will again host guests from Room at the Inn (RATI) on Sunday mornings through March. Guests arrive around 6:45-7am and depart (by Church bus) around 9am for Wilkes Boulevard Methodist Church where guests will be served breakfast.

Warming Station hosts and bus drivers are still needed for Sundays in January, February, and on March 3. If you have questions about or can help with this important ministry, please call or text Sarah Storm @ 573/289-0072 or email marions@centurytel.net.



You Make the Difference

Thank you to the families who have already turned in commitment cards for the capital campaign. We appreciate your generosity!

Please remember our goal is to have **100%** participation of members and friends in this capital campaign.

Children are still encouraged to bring back their special campaign containers of money and change they have collected!

If you haven't submitted your pledge card, please know that there is still time. Every gift is important, no matter the size.

Extra pledge cards are available in the church office and in the Narthex. After completing your pledge card, you may mail it to the church office, place it in the Sunday offering or drop it by the church office. Let us continue praying for First Christian Church and this important campaign. Thank you!

Staff Christmas Fund



The Administrative Department provides an opportunity for church members and friends to contribute to a Staff Christmas Fund honoring our excellent church staff during this Christmas season for their combined efforts in helping make our church one in which we can all take great pride.

Checks should be made to First Christian Church with "Staff Christmas Fund" noted on them. Deadline for contributions is Friday, December 21. Please note the gift will be divided evenly among the staff members: ministers, office staff, music staff and custodian.

Debbie Taylor, Administrative Dept. Chairperson

Adult Class Sundays in Dec.

Advent Study for Adults: MESSIAH

The adult class will continue to study (Dec. 9-30), a work written by world-renowned Old Testament scholar Walter Brueggemann. The study takes a critical look at the four royal titles used in *Isaiah 9:2-7: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace*. We will be challenged to learn how the people understood those titles during Jesus' time and discuss how Jesus did or did not fulfill the titles. We will also reflect how Christians interpret Jesus as representing that title. Join us at 9:30am!

Report for Sunday, December 9, 2018

Attendance 209 (guests- 25) Total offerings: \$4665.25

News of People & Places



Congratulations to **Austin Dey** who was ordained into the Christian Ministry last Sunday at First Christian Church, Jefferson City. Austin attended FCC, Columbia for several years in childhood, was baptized among us in 1996, and was a recipient of First Christian Columbia's Brooker Memorial Ministry Scholarship.

Cole Galbraith (Senior at Hickman, and active CYFer) will represent Hickman High School as First Chair French horn in the All-District Band and Second Chair French horn in the All-State Band. Congrats! We are proud of you!



Carolyn Savoy is now at The Neighborhoods. **Wilkie Wilkerson** is back at Lenoir Woods. **Muriel Leach** is back at home at Lenoir Woods.

THANK YOU

Words are not enough to express my gratitude to all of the church members who supported my mom, Tommy Gay, in the last several months of her life and in her 11 years in Columbia. Brad & Jimmy did home and hospital visits with her and our family. It was a comfort to her and to me. Everyone has been so supportive and helpful! From the CWF ladies who brought food to me to feed my out of town guests, to everyone who setup, served and cleaned up the funeral luncheon. Thank you all so much! I feel truly blessed to be a part of this church family.

~Diana Provenzano

The **Special Christmas Offering** designated to support our Regional church ministry "**The Christian Church in Mid-America**" will be collected on December 16 & 23.

Birthdays

Dec. 16: Joe Reardon

Dec. 17: Julia Bower,
Laura Estes, Caden Snow

Dec. 18: Robert Martin,
Noah Shonka, Kaedon Wheatley

Dec. 19: Dana Flora

Dec. 22: Marilyn Schappert

Keep Calm
It's my
birthday
month



The Visitor
First Christian Church
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Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
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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
Dr. Laura Schweibacher, Interim Director of Choirs
lmayes66@yahoo.com

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

Return Service Requested

SERVING SCHEDULE SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16

Bus Driver: Eric Seaman **Office Receptionist:** Carol Slusher
Welcome Station: Pat Rybolt and Jeff Underwood
Flower Ministry Arranging/Delivery:
Poinsettia Sunday/Jerry & Mary Daugherty

Servers for 8:30 Worship Service

Worship Assistants:
Brice & Mary Moeller and Eli Gaffney
Elder: Susan Gray
Offering Counters: Mary Moeller and Doug Smith

Servers for 10:30 Worship Service

Communion Prep:
Liam Rose, Cindy Ruffolo, Deidre Wipke-Tevis
Greeters:
Pat Ritchie (N. Door) Paul Ritchie (S. Door)
Don Mosby (Atrium) TBD (Portico)

Banner Bearers: Ava Martin and Gabe Palmer
Candle Lighters: Kaedon Wheatley and Alex Johnson
Liturgist: Paige Freed
Elders: Genie Rogers and Jean Hall
Deacons: The Underwood Team **Ushers:** The Rose Team
Children's Worship:
Jessica Humble (Ldr.), TBD (Hlpr.)
Offering Counters: Cindy Smith and Jerry Miller

CHURCH CALENDAR DECEMBER 16-DECEMBER 22

Today, Sunday, December 16

-Warming Station for RATI, 6:45am, Yonker Hall
-Communion Connection
-Bell Choir Warm-Up, 8:30am, Bell Room
-Coffee Hour Fellowship, 9:20-10:20am
-Sunday School Classes, 9:30am
-86th Christmas Pageant, 4:00pm, Sanctuary

Monday, December 17

-STARS Christmas Light Tour. 6:00pm, meet at church
-Church Office Staff Meeting, 2:00pm, Keystone Room
-Drennan Singers Rehearsal, 5:30pm, Sanctuary
-Evangelism Department Meeting, 6:30pm, Keystone Room

Tuesday, December 18

-Tuesday Bible Study, 10:30am-12:00pm, Morris Parlor
-STARS Luncheon, 11:45am-1:15pm, Yonker Hall
-Acoustic Jammers, 6:30-8:30pm, Bethany

Wednesday, December 19

-Wednesday Bible Study, 12:05-12:55pm, Bethany Hall
-MDO Christmas Program, 12:05-12:55pm, Yonker Hall
-Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 5:30-6:30pm, 3rd Flr. Choir Room
-Chancel Bell Choir Rehearsal, 6:40-7:40, 3rd Flr. Bell Room

Thursday, December 20

-MDO Christmas Program, 12:30-2:00pm, Yonker Hall

Friday, December 21

-Friday Night Classics, *Christmas in Connecticut*, 7:00pm,
3rd Floor Cinema

Next Sunday, December 23

-Drennan Singers in BOTH Worship Services