



Our mission: to know God and follow Jesus Christ

That Easter Day with Joy was Bright

*That Easter Day with joy was bright, the sun shone
out with fairer light, when to their longing eyes restored,
the glad apostles saw their Lord.*

Truth. The first verse of the great Easter Hymn *That Easter Day...* (CH #229) sums up well the joy of Easter last Sunday. We estimate 395 people were present in the two worship services that resounded together the news "Christ is risen!" The smell of the lily, the brass with mighty organ and soulful piano plus the strong voice of all made the day feel glorious in many ways.

Easter was especially joy filled as we welcomed three young people into the church through the sacrament of baptism. Thomas Kaedon Wheatley, Paige Freed, and Lily McCormack were baptized in the 10:30 service and pictured here with Rev. Spear and Discipleship class mentor Elder Diana Provenzano. Not pictured are mentors Helen and Perry Stemmons.



Sunday, April 28 The 2nd Sunday of Easter

The Christ-Centered Community will be the subject of the sermon by Rev. Stagg this Sunday as we begin connection of text and sermon to the annual stewardship emphasis. Texts for the day include Psalm 150, Acts 5:12-16, 27-32.

Communion Connection will take place on Sunday, April 28. Elders and deacons will be commissioned to go out and share communion with our folks in homes and centers.

ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN FOR 2019-20



Apr. 28-May 19

WEEK 1: CHRIST-CENTERED COMMUNITY

WEEK 2: CHRIST-LIKE COMPASSION

WEEK 3: CHRIST-LIKE COURAGE

The Congregation will receive by mail an invitation to give, pledge card and information update and mission survey

WEEK 4: CELEBRATION OF CHRIST

Commitment Sunday - bring pledge cards to worship, mail them in, join in the commitment!

Five friends: Eva Bright, Elizabeth Mottaz, James & Debbie Taylor, and C.K. Hoenes, will give testimony in worship the four Sundays.

The annual stewardship campaign is led by the Stewardship and Finance Department each year to identify the monetary gifts and pledges supporting the annual church budget. A budget is formed in May and approved by the Administrative Board in June of each year. The church budget works on a fiscal year July to June basis.

The Stewardship & Finance Department includes: C.K. Hoenes (Chairperson) Mike Randerson, Colleen Nilges, Kim Boger, Dan Gieseke (Treasurer), Eric Arnett (Brd. Moderator)



To: The Women of First Christian Church
and Friends who would like to Honor them

Spring is here and at this time the Christian Women's Fellowship Board begins planning the 2019-2020 budget. We begin with what we call a 'Silent Bazaar.' *Silent because we are not asking anyone to make, buy, or sell anything-how easy is that! Just this letter asking for your monetary donations.*



There are two major fund raisers that help support our many worthwhile projects: the Election Day Luncheon in the Fall and the Silent Bazaar in the Spring. These make up the majority of our budget and we also receive some donations from CWF group offerings.

Who do we donate the money to?

It is divided, as equally as possible, between:

1) **Projects, Mission, & Ministry of First Christian:**

Youth Projects and Mission Trips, Vacation Bible School, Woodhaven, Disciples Mission Fund and the Shawl Ministry.

2) **Local Women's/Children's Charities:**

Coyote Hill, United Cerebral Palsy Hartland Day Center, May Lee Johnston Community Center, Nora Stewart Early Learning Center, True North, Youth Enrichment, Assistance League and Columbia Area Older Adults Ministry.

3) **CWF Activities & Events:**

Election Day Luncheon, Fall Women's Dinner, Christmas Women's Brunch, Spring Garden Tour and Luncheon, Speaker Honorariums, Study Materials, Yearbooks, Supplies, Postage and other miscellaneous as needed.

With some additional monies given in the past few years, we have also been able to support Room at the Inn, Welcome Home Veterans, and the Woodhaven Capital Campaign. Praise be to God!

Please give prayerful thought and consideration when giving your donation so we can join together in fulfilling the mission of our church and in honoring Christian Women's Fellowship!

Please make checks payable to **First Christian Church** and **note CWF in the memo** and if cash, place in an envelope marked CWF. Return to the church office or place in the offering plate by April 28th so we can complete the 2019-2020 budget. Thank you!

Blessings to all,

Susan Gray and Janelle Patterson
CWF Co-Presidents 2018-2019

News of People & Places



Prayers of Healing/Recovery...

This week we continue to pray for **Brad Beary** as he continues chemo treatments; **Carol Slusher** had surgery on Thursday, April 25; **Marilyn Biesemeyer** recently sustained a fall and hurt her shoulder.

Extending Gratitude...

Special thanks to the Coffman-Watson Women's group, led by Susan Gray and Anne Campbell, for providing brunch for the Choir and brass members between the Easter services.

Other News...

Our two clergy: **Rev. Brad Stagg** successfully defended his oral dissertation for the Doctor of Ministry and will graduate in late May. **Rev. Jimmy Spear** will start his sabbatical May 2. He will be back to work for one week in late May then return in July.

It is Scholarship Season — the **annual application for church scholarships** is now in motion. If you or your undergraduate church member student would like to apply, please email the church office for the application form or pick one up in the office. **Application deadline is Mon., May 13.**

Upcoming...

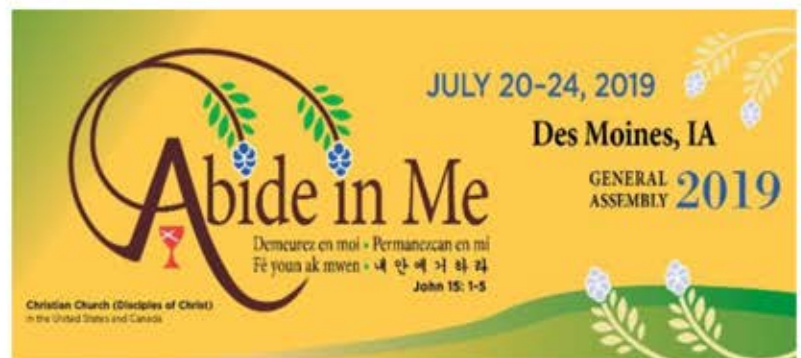
Recognition of High School Seniors & Sunday School teachers/leaders will take place on Sunday, May 19 in the 10:30am worship service.

One Summer Worship Service (9:30am) begins Sun., May 26.

Make plans now to eat **Pancakes in Yonker Hall** after ONE worship on Sunday, June 2. More details to come.

Vacation Bible School is planned for June 9-13, 5:30-8:00pm.

The **Mother's Day Out Pre-School** currently has openings for Fall 2019: Infants - 2 spots on Fridays; Toddlers - 3 spots (mixed), Preschool (3yrs) - 1 spot Tues/Thurs, Pre-K (4yrs) - 1 spot Tues/ Thurs. Church members and friends are welcome! (5% discount available.)



Represent FCC at the 2019 General Assembly

First Christian Church welcomes members to attend the national church convention. Would you like to be a voting representative of FCC this coming July? Now is the time to register. Talk with Brad or Jimmy for more information.

Sabbatical Takes Shape



As I prepare for some time away, I share with you the intentionality of our time apart. Sabbatical will be a time for rest and rejuvenation, continuing education, reflection on vocational clarity and wellbeing and much more. It is the hope that time spent on these areas of life will confirm again the value of congregational ministry and what it can look like as we enter year 13 together this fall.

I have a file box full of books and periodicals that have stacked up in recent months already packed. I hope they will be a guide as I return to teach and lead new topics current with our times, ministry, and mission needs.

There are things that a minister rarely gets the chance to do on weekends, so I plan to do some of them: spend time with my family at our place in Louisiana, MO, find car shows in far away places, attend other churches on Sundays to feed the soul and learn the ways of other congregations, plus getting out in time for much needed brunch with colleagues and friends. I will travel to Door County for quiet on Lake Michigan in June and boat the Mississippi River in August. The Festival of Homiletics (preaching) will be a week of May in Minneapolis and July's General Assembly will be a week in Des Moines.

There will also be time spent getting things at home in order in a way that can't be done in a usual summer schedule. I continue to give thanks for serving a congregation that holds reality of clergy sabbatical as an important part of our call. Thank you again for making this time of renewal possible.

~Rev. Jimmy Spear

Breakfast for Our Brethren

Every Saturday in May
Yonker Fellowship Hall

FCC serves Breakfast for Our Brethren every Saturday morning in May. We need your help either by serving breakfast or donating food. Please stop by the table in the narthex this Sunday, April 28, to sign up. Sign up sheets will also be in the church office now through May 24. We need YOU to make these breakfasts a success! Any questions, contact Elizabeth Mottaz.



Adult Class Book Study

April 28 — May 19, 9:30am

Bethany Hall / Keystone Rm

Sarah Read will be leading a book study for adults focusing on the New York Times Bestselling book, "What Is the Bible?" by Rob Bell. The class begins this Sunday, April 28, and will last for four weeks. Join us at 9:30am! Please note: due to plaster work taking place, the first two weeks will take place in Bethany Hall, then will move to the Keystone Room on the 2nd Floor for the remaining weeks. Thanks!

New York Times Bestseller

What Is the Bible?

How an Ancient Library of Poems, Letters, and Stories Can Transform the Way You Think and Feel About Everything

Rob Bell

New York Times Bestselling Author of Love Wins

All Are Invited to the Bright's!

To express their gratitude for the care shown to them after their house burned down last year, Ed & Eva Bright are inviting the whole church to lunch at their newly rebuilt home on **Sunday, May 5** following the 10:30 service. Please RSVP through the church office or by signing the pew pad on Sunday morning by Thursday, May 2. Their address is 1695 County Road 342 Fulton, MO 65251.

Final Youth Spring 2019

Apr. 28: Chi-Rho 4:30-6:00pm
CYF 6:00-7:30pm
(last mtgs of the school year)

Remember if you signed up for **church camp** turn your payments in to Jimmy/office ASAP.



At their recent lock-in, the CYF prepared the food that was served at Loaves and Fishes. They are some funny kitchen help!



← Lock-In Game: Hungry, Hungry, Hippo



April 29 - Sherry Dobbs, Kelli Embry, Jade Mooney, Susan Ramsey

May 1 - Jane Anne Hackett

May 2 - Doris Neidhardt (93!)

May 3 - Nathaniel Leon-Rudy

May 4 - Illa Hikcey, Aubrey Schomaker, Deidre Tevis, Drake Tevis



New Weekly Men's Bible Study

Six Saturdays in May & June at 7:00 a.m.

The FCC Brotherhood of Men is launching a weekly men's bible study on May 4 in Bethany Hall. The initial topic will be "Masculinity: Will the Real Jesus Stand Up?" Each session will conclude by 8:00 am. Coffee will be waiting.



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
 Travis McFarlane, Early Worship Service Musician
 Matthew Felts, Director of Choirs

Return Service Requested

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:

Laura Shirey, Interim Office Manager
 fcc@firstchristian.org
 Fred Mottaz, Business Manager
 fred@firstchristian.org
 Keith Picker, Custodian

SERVING SCHEDULE SUNDAY, APRIL 28

Bus Driver: TBD
Office Receptionist: Pat Rybolt
Welcome Station: Trish Stagg
Flower Arranging/Delivery: Eric Seaman
Servers for 8:30 Worship Service
Worship Assistants: Brice & Mary Moeller, Jerry Daugherty
Elder: Carol Hughey
Offering Counters: Sarah Storm and Mary Moeller
Servers for 10:30 Worship Service
Communion Prep: Sarah and Marion Storm, Jan Davis
Greeters: Perry Stemmons (N. Door) – Helen Stemmons (S. Door) Sue Wright (Atrium) – Pat Wright (Portico)
Banner Bearers: Kaedon Wheatley and Alex Johnson
Candle Lighters: Ann Volmert and Aubrey Schomaker
Liturgist: Kim Leon
Elders: Sarah Read and Brenda Mosby— Cindy Rose, Balcony
Deacons: The Hunsaker Team **Ushers:** The Scott Team
Childrens Worship: Eric Arnett (Ldr.) Stacy Silverwood (Hlpr.)
Offering Counters: Debbie Taylor and Jerry Miller

CHURCH CALENDAR APRIL 28 - MAY 4

Sunday, April 28
 Stewardship Campaign Kickoff
 Communion Connection
 -Coffee Hour Fellowship,
 9:20-10:20am, Yonker Hall
 -Christian Education Classes,
 9:30am
 -Lenoir Healthcare Worship,
 3:30pm
 -Student Ministry Groups:
 - Chi-Rho, 4:30-6:00pm,
 Bethany Hall
 - CYF, 6:00-7:30pm,
 Bethany Hall
 -DOC, 8:30pm, Bethany Hall

Monday, April 29
 -Church Office Staff Meeting,
 2:00-3:00pm, Keystone Rm
 -Elders Meeting/Dinner,
 6:00pm, Yonker Hall

Tuesday, April 30
 -Tuesday Bible Study,
 10:30am-Noon, Keystone

Wednesday, May 1
 -Wednesday Bible Study,
 12:05-12:55pm, Keystone
 -World Outreach Dept. Mtg,
 5:00-6:00pm, Keystone
 -Chancel Choir Rehearsal,
 5:30-6:30pm, Choir Rm

Thursday, May 2
 Rev. Spear's Sabbatical Begins

Friday, May 3
 -Church Dine-Out, 5:30pm,
 Bob Evans

Saturday, May 4
 -Breakfast for the Brethren,
 7:00-10:00am, Yonker Hall

Upcoming
 -Cabinet Mtg, Date/Time TBD

Report for April 21, 2019

Attendance: 396 (8:30 service– 111) Total offerings: \$16,817