



THE
September 20, 2019
Vol. 77, No. 50

THE VISITOR

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Our mission: to know God and follow Jesus Christ

Celebrating Mary Bancroft



Worship began last Sunday, September 15, with a fantastic organ prelude: "Love Divine, All Love's Excelling" by retiring organist, Mary Bancroft.

These scenes only begin to show the expression of our gratitude to our Organist and Coordinator of Music, as she retired after 38 years of musical service to the worshipping community of First Christian Church. A long-held standing ovation, words of gratitude and gifts from the congregation were all a part of the morning. Love divine, all love's excelling ...indeed.

(See Brad's article on p. 2 for more on this special day.)



Columbia Civil Rights Pilgrimage

Sunday, September 22, 3:00-6:00 p.m.
Starting at St. Luke UMC

You are invited to participate in a local Civil Rights pilgrimage! It will begin at St. Luke UMC (204 E Ash) with a hymn sing and devotion. It will proceed to Russell Chapel CME at 3:20 p.m., Second Missionary Baptist at 3:45 p.m., a visit from Annie Fisher at 4:15 p.m., St. Paul AME at 4:45 p.m. and Fifth Street Christian (DOC) at 5 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend! The pilgrimage conclude with eating dessert together at St. Luke. Please bring a dessert to share. Speak with Sarah Storm for more information.

Worship for September 22

The 15th Sunday after Pentecost
Rev. Jimmy Spear, preaching
Deuteronomy 30: 15-20; Luke 14:25-33

How much of this life are we willing to give up to be a Disciple of Jesus? This BIG question of faith is part of the teaching Jesus offers to disciples who need to know what it takes to be a disciple. Merely showing up isn't going to cut it. Join us as Rev. Spear explores the possibilities for people like us yearning to be the best disciple possible. Join us for Education (children, youth and adults) and Coffee fellowship in Yonker Hall is 9:20-10:20am.





Bit from Brad

What a joyful day we had at First Christian Church Sunday as we celebrated the 38 years of Mary Bancroft's music ministry here at FCC! We are so thankful Mary's husband Mike and their children, Anna and Allen were able to join Mary for this special day. The hymns sung were Mary's personal favorites; the choir sang a soaring anthem in honor of her and God's calling upon her life. Scott Schaefer shared a beautiful offertory and recessional as a gift to the Lord and Mary. Jimmy offered kind, heartfelt words about Mary's impact on the life of FCC and you the congregation presented Mary with a generous love offering and a polished rosewood plaque that stated:

First Christian Church
Hereby Recognizes the 38 Years of
Outstanding Faithfulness and Beautiful Music of
Mary Bancroft
 as
Organist and Music Coordinator
1981 – 2019

"Well done, good & faithful servant!" – Matthew 25:21

Following the service, choir members and Janelle Patterson hosted a delightful reception for Mary, Mike, Anna and Alan Bancroft. From white linens, real silver silverware, china, top-hat center pieces to an amazing bulletin board with carved red musical notes, pearl strands and pictures of Mary's 38 years as a staff member (compliments of Jimmy Spear). All that plus homemade punch, cookies, brownies and appetizers, the celebration truly honored the staff member with the longest tenure of any staff person of First Christian Church's history. Thank you, one and all who supported or contributed to making our celebration of such a beloved person as Mary Bancroft such a wonderful experience!

Mary, we thank you for being such a marvelous partner in ministry. On behalf of all FCC's past and present members, staff and clergy, it has truly been an honor to serve Christ alongside you. Thank you for sharing your passion for Christ and your gifts of music with this and all the congregations you have served over your lifetime! "God is good!"

Music Ministry

8:30 Service – As the 8:30 Service resumes, Travis MacFarlane invited three soloists from Stephens College to assist him with the music for worship. This past Sunday, we heard Shawnee Richberger; we will hear two others in the coming weeks. Rumor has it that Charlie and Betty Koelling were practically dancing in the pews. Come by this Sunday and see what Travis has cooked up!

Director of Music Ministry and Chancel Choir Search

The Administration Department (Personnel) has received many resumes and applications for the position. It has held one interview and scheduled several more with (continued -->)



Attention ALL Members

UNDER 65

We're missing YOUR survey!
Will you help us get a full FCC response?

The Open & Affirming Survey

The Congregational Survey regarding the church's exploration of becoming more open and affirming especially toward the LGBTQ community is now available for you to fill out. It will be available in the Narthex and church office Sunday's in September. It can also be found on the church website in the blog area: <http://firstchristian.org/2019/open-affirming-survey/>.

Questions are welcomed: contact co-chairs of the exploration team Bragg Stanley (JBStanley_2000@yahoo.com) or Linda Hutton (LHutton60@gmail.com). Thank you for taking the time to give us your input on this important matter!

-- The Open & Affirming Team

Breakfast for Our Brethren



Every Saturday in October
Yonker Fellowship Hall

FCC serves Breakfast for Our Brethren every Saturday morning in October. We will need your help either by serving breakfast or donating food. Keep an eye out for more details on how you can help in a future issue of the Visitor. YOUR help is crucial in making this a success!



Mark your calendar now!
Saturday, Oct. 26,
the First Christian Work Day at the
local Habitat for Humanity build.
Sign-ups and specifics coming soon!

other candidates in the next two weeks. The committee thinks it best to take its time to find just the right candidate as it recognizes the importance of this newly-reformatted position. Once the Director of Music and Chancel Choir is secured, the other two positions, Organist and Bell Choir Director, will commence with the new Director participating in the calling/selection process. Please pray for our personnel folks as they search for new music staff for God and our congregation!

Shalom, Dr. Brad

News of the People

Prayers of Sympathy...

To the family and friends of **Nadria Wright**, a **Columbia College freshman** who was tragically killed in an incident off-campus on the evening of Friday, September 13. The loss of Nadria will surely have a lasting impact on the lives of those who knew her, including CC students, faculty and staff members.



Other News of the People...

Haley Evers married **Adam Chastain** in the sanctuary on Saturday, September 14. Rev. Jimmy Spear officiated. Haley is the daughter of **Steve and Tracy Evers**. Brother **Derrick** played the guitar for the entrance of the bride. Haley is a nurse in Texas, but the couple will soon reside in Kansas City. Congratulations, Haley and Adam! (Photos to come in a future issue.)

The **Tuesday Bible Study** group was thrilled to begin meeting in **Morris Parlor** again this week. Morris also housed the **Administrative Board** meeting that same night, and the Board members found it most comfortable. **Mary Bancroft's** Retirement reception was the first event to utilize the new and improved **Yonker Hall** this past Sunday. We are so glad to be able to implement these rooms of fellowship again after having them under construction for so long. We are looking forward to utilizing these rooms for future events!

Sept. 23 - Cheryl Stevens	Sept. 25 - Dave Nichols
Sept. 24 - Ashley Chandler, Steve Lightner	Sept. 26 - Mimi McRoberts
	Sept. 27 - Becky Beary

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Children's Edu. Meeting

Thursday, September 26, 6:30 p.m.
Bethany Hall

FCC's Children's Education Department will be having its first meeting of the season next Thursday, Sep. 26. We will be talking about how VBS went this summer and our plans for next year. Discussions of Trunk and Treat or a similar activity, Advent and Easter for next year will also take place. We would love to have anyone interested in helping out or people with ideas attend this meeting. Contact Cindy Rose at 573-514-2211 or by email RoseCA@health.missouri.edu with any questions. We hope to see you there!

-- Cindy Rose, Children's Edu. Chair

The Karr Family's Wonderful News!



We have exciting news to share- after a full year of vigorous treatment, Beckett is officially in the final stage of his leukemia treatment! During this two-year phase, he will continue with some medication and monthly clinic visits but his health should be on the rise and he should hopefully get back to being a normal three-year-old. This last year has shown us more love than hate, more hope than fear and more good than bad and we couldn't have done it without our church family! Thank you for the dinners, the letters, the support and the hugs. We are blessed and proud to be a part of this great community. See you in the back left pews!

-Geoff, Lauren, Kennedy and Beckett Karr

Columbia College President Scott Dalrymple cordially invites you to attend the 19th annual

ALTHEA W. AND JOHN A. SCHIFFMAN

Lecture in Religious Studies

"Jesus, Adam Smith and Today's Capitalism"

presented by

Rev. Dr. Brad Stagg

Senior Minister of Columbia's First Christian Church

Tuesday, October 8, 2019

11:00 a.m. Lecture
Launer Auditorium

12:30 p.m. Luncheon
Lee Room, Dulany Hall

1001 Rogers Street • Columbia College Campus

RSVP to the Office of Development at (573) 875-7563 or by email to msbennett@ccis.edu.



STARS

...the 55+ Fellowship Group

October 24 – Join us for the annual **Fall Color Tour to Clinton, Mo.,** via the Truman Lake Area. Pretty trees, good lunch along the way PLUS good friends. Join us! Bring a friend!

Put "COLOR" on the Sunday pew pad or sign up in the office to reserve your spot!



"Clearly, the new organist was not going to work out."

Embodying The Call

1 Corinthians 12:26-27

Reconciliation Ministry
Special Offering
2019
September 29th
& October 6th

www.reconciliationministry.org



The Visitor
First Christian Church
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Non-Profit Org.
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Ministerial Staff:

Rev. Dr. Brad Stagg, Senior Minister
 brad@firstchristian.org
 Rev. Jimmy Spear, Associate Minister
 jimmy@firstchristian.org

Music Staff:

Travis McFarlane, Early Worship Service Musician

Mother's Day Out Pre-School:

Tracy Westhoff, Director
 tracywesthoff23@gmail.com

Columbia Area Older Adult Ministry:

Rev. Sally Robinson, Chaplain
 sallyarobinson16@gmail.com

Support Staff:

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

Return Service Requested

SERVING SCHEDULE SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22 **CHURCH CALENDAR SEPTEMBER 22 - SEPTEMBER 28**

Bus Driver: Russ Palmer
Office Receptionist: Steve McCormack
Welcome Station: Trish Stagg
Flower Arranging: Barb Rothenberger
Flower Delivery: Cherry Hinderberger
Servers for 8:30 Worship Service
Worship Assistants: Will and Donna Houston, Karen Poe
Elder: Pat Rybolt
Offering Counters: Jean Juba and Sarah Storm
Servers for 10:30 Worship Service
Communion Prep: Dan and Holly Gieseke, Janelle Patterson
Greeters: Will Houston (N. Door) – Donna Houston (S. Door)
 Bonnie Fay (Atrium) – Mary Ann Atteberry (Portico)
Banner Bearers: Cullen Rose and Alex Johnson
Candle Lighters: Sam and Abigail Pine
Liturgist: Kurt Schaefer
Elders: C.K. Hoenes and Tommy Tomlin - Paula Hoenes, Balcony
Deacons: The Hunsaker Team
Ushers: The Scott Team
Children's Worship: Eric Arnett (Ldr) TBD (Hlpr)
Offering Counters: Deb Batterson and Harlan Hackett

Sunday, September 22
 -Coffee Hour Fellowship, 9:20-10:20 a.m., Yonker Hall
 -Christian Education Classes, 9:30 a.m.
 -Student Ministry Groups (Bethany Hall):
 -Chi-Rho, 4:30-6:00 p.m. -CYF, 6:00-7:30 p.m.
Monday, September 23
 -Church Office Staff Meeting, 2:00-3:00 p.m., Keystone
Tuesday, September 24
 -Tuesday Bible Study, 10:30-11:30 a.m., Keystone
Wednesday, September 25
 STARS Overnight Trip - St. Joseph and Marceline, Mo.
 -Wednesday Bible Study, 12:00-12:55 p.m., Bethany Hall
 -Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 5:30-6:30 p.m.
 -DOC (Disciples on Campus), 7:00-9:00 p.m., Bethany Hall
Thursday, September 26
 -Chancel Bell Choir Rehearsal, 5:30-6:30 p.m.
 -Children's Edu. Dept. Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Bethany Hall

Report for September 15, 2019
Attendance: 163 (8:30 service - 34)
Total offerings: \$4,651

YOUTH GROUP!

Fall Calendar:
 Sept. 22: Chi-Rho, CYF
 Sept. 29: JYF, CYF
 Oct. 6: Chi-Rho, CYF
 Oct. 13: JYF, CYF

JYF (grades 3, 4, 5)
 Chi-Rho (grades 6, 7, 8)
 Alt. Sundays 4:30-6 p.m.
 CYF (grades 9-12)
 Every Sunday 6-7:30 p.m.