



**THE**  
January 24, 2020  
Vol. 77, No. 66

# First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) VISITOR

Our mission: to know God and follow Jesus Christ

## Groundhog Day Pancake Breakfast



*Church  
in  
Society*

A FUNDRAISER for :  
The Food Bank For Central &  
Northeast Missouri



Sponsored by Men's Ministry and Church in Society  
Donations Welcomed!

**Sunday, February 2 - 9:00-10:15am**

**Yonker Fellowship Hall menu: Pancakes, Sausage, Juice/Coffee**

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday After Epiphany

*Psalm 27:4-9 & Matthew 4:12-25*  
*Dr. Stagg, preaching*

Cold weather got you down? Come receive the warmth of God's love and mercy this Sunday with a congregation who genuinely cares about you. Sunday's sermon, "Repent, Follow and Fish" by Dr. Brad Stagg is based on Psalm 27:4-9 and Matthew 4:12-25. In the Gospel passage, Jesus ushers in a new empire called the Kingdom of Heaven that is light for people in darkness, a new community devoted to following Jesus and a joy to share with others! Join us for worship this Sunday!

**REMINDER!** Nomination Forms are due by **MONDAY, January 27th.** Turn yours in on Sunday in the Narthex or Office.

### New Organist Named

*Welcome, Dr. Rochelle Parker!*

The Administrative Department has called Dr. Rochelle Parker to be the next organist at First Christian Church. Rochelle is professionally a medical doctor, but on Sundays she loves to play the pipe organ. A long-time organist/pianist, Rochelle has served congregations in her native St. Louis, as well as places where she was in school or working — for Presbyterians and Methodists — in Iowa, California and Chicago.

In recent years, she has served as organist at Columbia's Calvary Episcopal Church. She is also associate organist at Missouri United Methodist Church, where she and husband Jerry Holloway have maintained their membership since a 2004 move to Columbia. They are the parents of two grown sons.

Dr. Parker is an assistant professor and hospitalist with the University of Missouri General Medicine School/Clinic. Rochelle is an active member of the local chapter of the American Guild of Organists. In her words, "I love to play organ, I love church music, I love accompanying choirs and trumpets and singers, AND I do pay attention during sermons!" She will begin her time with First Christian in the 10:30 service on Sunday, February 2. Welcome, Rochelle!



[www.firstchristian.org](http://www.firstchristian.org)  
E-mail: [fcc@firstchristian.org](mailto:fcc@firstchristian.org)  
[www.facebook.com/FirstChristianColumbiaMO](https://www.facebook.com/FirstChristianColumbiaMO)



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## Bit From Brad

After officiating two memorial services last week for Betty Sue Casteel and Cheryl Lightner, visiting Frances Brown in the hospital and talking with my mom who remains hospitalized in Houston, it causes one, even a 30-year veteran in ministry, to take pause and reflect about life. How do we live life well? What makes a life a *good* life? It isn't just the days of winter that grow shorter. So, too, do the days of life. This week's gospel passage reflects on the faithful life of discipleship as compared to the successful life of secularism. Having just been tempted by Satan to consider all the other kingdoms in the world -- with Rome being the biggest of them all -- Jesus resists the offer and instead invites us to join him and God's Kingdom.

Does the well-lived life look like Rome emperors' with power, prestige and pleasures? Or, is it filled with love, grace, mercy, joy, faithfulness, justice and service like that of Jesus?

As the New Year and decade is off and running, consider how you might live the life well-lived. Fill this New Year with love, laughter, family, faith, grace, forgiveness, hope, joy and peace. Learn to slow down and be fully present to your partner, kids, parents, grandkids, friends, co-workers, etc. When the world offers -- more, much and many as well as busyness, rushing and hurry, trade it for God's Kingdom of enough, sufficient and content as well as stillness, silence and peace. When you do, you will slow down enough to hear the still (*cont'd page 3*)

## RATI Service Opportunities

**WHAT:** Room at the Inn (RATI) whose mission is to provide those in need with a warm and safe place to sleep. Open from 7pm – 7am daily from December 8, 2019 – March 15, 2020.

**WHERE/WHEN:** Currently being hosted at Broadway Christian Church, 2601 W. Broadway (through February 1).

**Feb. 2 - Feb. 15** - Missouri United Methodist - 204 S. 9th St.

**Feb. 16 - Feb. 22** - First Presbyterian Church - 16 Hitt St

**Feb. 23 - March 7** - Unitarian Universalist – 2615 Shepard Blvd

**March 8 - March 15** - Campus Lutheran - 304 S College Ave

### HOW YOU CAN HELP:

- **Volunteer:** Go to [roomattheinncomo.org](http://roomattheinncomo.org) to see the available volunteer opportunities and sign up! Volunteer opportunities include five different shifts as well as transportation of laundry to/from University Hospital.
- **Donate supplies:** Needed supplies are listed at [roomattheinncomo.org](http://roomattheinncomo.org); 'perishable' items are especially needed.
- **Donate money:** Cash donations can be placed in Sunday offering trays or dropped off at the Church Office. Please note RATI on the cash envelope or memo portion of the check; make checks payable to FCC.

If you have any questions, need assistance with signing up for volunteer shifts or would like to leave supply donations at FCC for delivery to RATI, please call/text Sarah Storm at 573-289-0072 or email [marions@centurytel.net](mailto:marions@centurytel.net). Thank you!

## Healing Racial Divides - Book Study

February 9 - 3:00-5:00pm (Potluck to follow)

Broadway Christian Church



Can the Church help America emerge from its racist shadows empowered to heal racial divides? We Say, Yes!

Join us on Feb. 9, to hear from Dr. Terrell Carter and sign up for groups that will form to study his 2019 book, "Healing Racial Divides". Churches are encouraged to partner with other churches focusing on mix of race groups. Some people may choose to study the book individually. For a richer experience, consider joining a group. Studies should be complete by May 3, when we hold the ending celebration with Dr. Carter.

**Books are available for purchase (\$16). Questions and RSVP to Don Day:** [dday@centurytel.net](mailto:dday@centurytel.net) or 573-474-5539.

Sponsored by Race Forward - a Columbia church collective striving toward Racial Reconciliation.



## News of the People

### Prayers of Healing and Comfort...

**Frances Brown** continues to be a patient at Boone Hospital and is improving each day. Out of ICU, she has hopes of returning home this week.



### Thanks...

Thank you to those in the congregation who helped with the Bereavement Ministry last Saturday. The Lightner family was able to share important time with so many friends and family in Yonker Hall over a great spread of refreshments. The serving team and cookie bakers were outstanding. Thank you!

--Janelle Patterson

### Returning Home...

**Connie Ess** (daughter of Frances Brown) is now home from her time serving with the United Nations in Israel.



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

YOUTH GROUP!

## Winter/Spring Calendar

Jan. 26—JYF/CYF

February 2—Chi-Rho/CYF

Feb. 9—JYF/CYF

Feb. 14-15—Chi-Rho Retreat (Fri.-Sat)

Feb. 23—JYF/CYF

## Global Ministries - Mission Spotlight



Larry and Debbie Colvin

October 1 marks the first anniversary of Larry and Debbie Colvin serving as your Global Mission Co-Workers in Ghana. In partnership with the Evangelical Presbyterian (EP) Church, Ghana, Larry serves as a guest lecturer at the EP Seminary in Peki and Debbie serves at the Dzake Community Health Clinic and the Peki Government Hospital in Peki.

During this first year, Larry has been teaching courses in Old Testament and Church Theology to students seeking ordained ministry and to lay leaders. He finds making instruction culturally engaging a challenge that is, at the same time, frustrating and exciting. He and the students learn together. In the coming year, he hopes to introduce a course in World Religions.

Debbie has enjoyed learning methods of treatment and working with patients, which is quite different from her work in the US. She is learning where and how it may be appropriate to suggest other medical techniques, being sensitive to budget and equipment restraints. Debbie has begun offering blood pressure and blood sugar tests to students and faculty at the seminary. In the future, she may be developing healthcare seminars.

Thank you to all who have supported the Colvins' ministry with donations and prayers! We ask that you continue to be faithful with our Mission Co-Workers. The Region is planning a People to People Pilgrimage to Ghana in the Spring of 2021.

### How would you describe the mission of our partner Ghana?

For the Evangelical Church in Ghana, in addition to supporting local congregations, education is a major priority. The partner supports several primary and secondary schools as well as University College. Healthcare is another mission focus. It helps support the Adidome Hospital, as well as several clinics and mobile health units.

### Evangelical Presbyterian Church, Ghana

The Evangelical Presbyterian Church, Ghana is an established partner of Global Ministries, having been founded in the 1840s by the Breman Mission of Germany among the Ewe people of what was then considered German Togoland. After World War 1, Togoland was divided as a spoil of war between Britain and France. The Ewe people were politically divided between Anglophone Ghana and Francophone Togo, and the Church became divided, as well. The United Church Board for World Ministries began its involvement with the Evangelical Presbyterian Church of Ghana in 1946.

The EP Church, Ghana is one of the oldest self-governing churches in Africa, having adopted its own constitution in 1922. It has strong roots in the Evangelical and Reformed tradition and includes approximately 600,000 members and 512 congregations. The EP Church, Ghana is very committed to its spirituality and social action ministries. Global Ministries supports the Evangelical Presbyterian Church, Ghana in programs of church expansion, education and service.



## Columbia Diversity Breakfast

First Christian Church annually sponsors a table at the Columbia Values Diversity Celebration. The event held each year prior to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day is a major community event honoring Dr. King. FCC invites the year's graduating Seniors to attend and be exposed to the values of diversity in our community. Pictured at right: Rev. Sally Robinson, Maddie Marrero, Julia Bower, Dr. Stagg, Will Bower, Rev. Spear and Emma Hawkins. It is always a cold January morning for the 7:00am breakfast, but this group was up and ready to represent FCC well.



## Bit from Brad (cont'd from page 2)

small voice of God speak in the depth of your heart saying: you are enough and you have enough because you are mine and I am yours!

Jesus says, "The Kingdom of heaven has come upon you!" Know today, this very moment, that God is with you – forgiving, loving and restoring you to Him and God's children!

Shalom, *Dr. Brad*



- Jan. 26** - Glenda Clark, Sam Creasey, Jan Keithley, Kara Zimmer
- Jan. 28** - Jim Baumgartner
- Jan. 29** - **Anita Dresser (92!)**, Bryan Freed, Cole Galbraith, Cooper Mast
- Jan. 30** - Ronald Sheppard, Debbie Taylor
- Feb. 1** - Amy Marrero

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)  
**2020 NOMINATION FORM**

**ELDERS, DEACONS, and JUNIOR DEACONS**

The 2020 Nominating Committee solicits your suggestions for congregational members to fill the offices of Elder, Deacon, and Junior Deacon on the Service Boards, as well as your nominees for "Honorary" Elders or Deacons (if any). Please indicate your nominee/s below, and return this form to any member of the committee or to the Church Office by January 27, 2020. Your suggestions and your prayerful concern will be greatly appreciated. According to our Church BYLAWS, qualifications and duties include:

**ELDERS and DEACONS**

**Qualifications:** Faithfulness in worship and study, leadership and service, good stewardship in proportion to income, Christian character and moral and spiritual example, and a willingness to fulfill the duties of the office. An Elder shall be at least thirty years of age and shall have been a member of the congregation for at least two years. A Deacon shall be at least eighteen years of age and shall have been a member of the congregation for at least one year."

**Duties:** Both Elders and Deacons are to promote the work of the Church through service as a member of Functional Departments as needed; assist in evangelistic visitation; be an example in Christian character and faithfulness; and perform such other duties as shall promote the growth and welfare of the Church. In addition, Elders preside at the Lord's Table; provide for the spiritual oversight and development of individual members of the congregation; assist in the conduct of worship, the ordinance of baptism and in the serving of communion to the homebound. Deacons prepare and serve Communion and assist the Elders in the development and care of individual members of the congregation.

**JUNIOR DEACONS**

**Qualifications:** Same as for Deacons EXCEPT members must be in grades 9-12 as of July 1, 2020.

**Duties:** The duties will correspond with those of the Deacons.

**HONORARY ELDERS or DEACONS:** "A member of the congregation whose exemplary life and service, in this or other congregations, merits special recognition...."

**NAME OF NOMINEE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**OFFICE:** *Please check the position for which your nomination is being made:*

**(FOR THE SERVICE BOARD):** ELDER \_\_\_\_\_ DEACON \_\_\_\_\_ JR. DEACON \_\_\_\_\_

**(FOR HONORARY):** ELDER \_\_\_\_\_ DEACON \_\_\_\_\_

Why are you nominating this person? (*Attach a letter of support or use the back of this form*):

**OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE CHURCH AWARDS**

The Nominating Committee also requests nominations for Outstanding Service Awards.

**PERSON YOU WISH TO RECOGNIZE:** \_\_\_\_\_

Why are you recognizing this person? (*Attach a letter of support or use the back of this form*): \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return this form to any member of the Nominating Committee or to the Church Office by January 27, 2020.**



**The Visitor**  
**First Christian Church**  
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 Columbia, MO 65201  
 573-449-7265  
 fcc@firstchristian.org

Non-Profit Org.  
 U.S. POSTAGE  
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 Columbia, MO  
 Permit No. 75

**Ministerial Staff:**

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

**Music Staff:**

Michael Sauer, Director of Music Ministry, Chancel Choir and Bells  
 michael@firstchristian.org  
 Travis McFarlane, Early Worship Service Musician

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

**Return Service Requested**

**SERVING SCHEDULE SUNDAY, JANUARY 26**

**Bus Driver:** Dan Gieseke  
**Office Receptionist:** Carol Slusher  
**Welcome Station:** Trish Stagg  
**Flower Arranging/Delivery:** Eric Seaman  
**Warming Station**  
**Hosts:** Valerie Freed and Mike Randerson  
**Bus:** Bill Carney  
**Servers for 8:30 Worship Service**  
**Worship Assistants:** Carol Hughey and Steve Smith  
**Elder:** Eric Seaman  
**Offering Counters:** Mary Daugherty and Kim Reardon  
**Servers for 10:30 Worship Service**  
**Communion Prep:** Joe, Kim & Abigail Reardon  
**Greeters:** Doug Smith (N. Door) – Cindy Smith (S. Door)  
 Donna Houston (Atrium) – Will Houston (Portico)  
**Banner Bearers:** Noah Stagg and Dietrich Arnett  
**Candle Lighters:** Cullen Rose and Alex Johnson  
**Liturgist:** Jessica Humble  
**Elders:** Steve & Jessica Humble - Pamela Hoepfner, Balcony  
**Deacons:** The Hunsaker Team **Ushers:** The Scott Team  
**Children's Worship:** Cindy Rose (Ldr.) TBD (Hlpr.)  
**Offering Counters:** Janelle Patterson and Harlan Hackett

**CHURCH CALENDAR JANUARY 26 - FEBRUARY 1**

**Sunday, January 26**

-Warming Station, 6:00-9:00am, Higbee  
 -Coffee Hour Fellowship, 9:20-10:20am, Yonker Hall  
 -Lenoir Healthcare Worship, 3:30pm  
 -Student Ministry Groups:  
 -JYF, 4:30-6:00pm, Yonker Hall  
 -CYF, 6:00-7:30pm, Bethany Hall

**Monday, January 27**

-Staff Meeting, 2:00-3:00pm, Keystone  
 -Nominating Committee Meeting, 6:30pm, Keystone

**Tuesday, January 28**

-Tuesday Bible Study, 10:30-11:30am, Morris Parlor  
 -Worship Dept. Meeting, 6:30pm, Keystone

**Wednesday, January 29**

-Wednesday Bible Study, 12:00-12:55pm, Bethany Hall  
 -Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 5:30-6:30pm, Choir Room  
 -DOC (Disciples on Campus), 7:00-9:00pm, Bethany Hall

**Thursday, January 30**

-Chancel Bell Choir Rehearsal, 5:30pm, 3rd Flr Bell Room

**Report for January 19, 2020**

**Attendance: 120 (8:30 service - 29)**  
**Offerings: \$3,863**