



THE
February 28, 2020
Vol. 77, No. 71

VISITOR

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Our mission: to know God and follow Jesus Christ

Student Ministry Event

~ Spaghetti Supper

~ Fun & Games

youth vs. parents,
family vs. family

~ Hear plans for summer mission fundraising

~ For all JYF/Chi-Rho/CYF youth & parents - play & get to know other families your kids youth group with every week!

Sunday, March 1 ~ 6:00-7:30pm

Yonker Hall — RSVP to Jimmy Spear



Funding Student Mission Trips



The student Ministry Department announces their spring fundraising drive for all three Student Ministry Groups 2020/21 mission trips — Chi-Rho, CYF, and DOC.

Yonker Hall will feature a large bulletin board in March — telling the story of past annual mission trips and inviting church folk to invest in the 2020-21 trips. Supporters are invited to take an envelope, numbered 1 to 150 and donate the amount on cover. Youth will present stories in worship throughout the month reminding all of this vital mission ministry.

Thank you for considering your gifts to the FCC Student Groups as they commit to spending a week this year sharing Jesus' message of love and compassion.



Two Sunday Offerings Totaled: \$1,951

GOOD NEWS to SHARE

Worship for the season of Lent will be centered around the theme "Good News to Share!" Each Sunday will offer worshippers some Good News about Jesus that can be shared with others. The Good News will be proclaimed as:

**Jesus Obeys — Jesus Saves — Jesus Reconciles — Jesus Sees
Jesus Promises — Jesus Arrives — Jesus Rises**

It is our hope that as we gather in this holy season of Lent we will be inspired, convicted, and motivated to share those words of Good News to family and friends.

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7 & Romans 5:12-19

"Jesus Obeys" Rev. Dr. Brad Stagg, preaching

Every season of Lent begins with an examination of sin, humanity's broken relationship with God. This week's passages from Genesis and Romans consider humanity's disobedience to God as a cause of our sin. To rescue us from our sin, Paul celebrates that it is Jesus' obedience which delivers us! Dr. Stagg's sermon, "Jesus Obeys" explores this wondrous dynamic.

www.firstchristian.org

E-mail: fcc@firstchristian.org

www.facebook.com/FirstChristianColumbiaMO



101 N. 10th Street, Columbia, MO 65201

(573) 449-7265



Bit From Brad

FCC's Administrative Board met for its February meeting last Tuesday, Feb. 18. With a quorum present, it passed two business matters concerning staff health care benefits and a new policy concerning urban campers on church property.

New Staff Health Care Provider

The Admin Board voted unanimously to approve changing the church's employee health insurance benefits from Blue Cross Blue Shield Anthem Gold policy to the Blue Cross Blue Shield Chamber PPO 2 policy. After being informed that our April 1 renewal would increase 22%, Fred and I sought out other options. The Chamber PPO 2 provides the same coverage in the same network and will save FCC 12% from the CURRENT plan, while lowering copay and out-of-pocket expenses for employees. These lower copay and out-of-pocket expenses are similar expenses to what staff once had when our benefits were provided from the denomination. It is a win-win for staff and church! The Chamber policy requires FCC to join a local or state chamber of commerce. We are currently looking for the most affordable policy available. FCC currently pays approximately \$57,000 in health benefits; the new premium will approximate \$50,000, a savings of \$7,000 for next year.

Health and Safety regarding Urban Campers

The Board undertook a thoughtful conversation about faith, public health and safety matters concerning individuals who camp on our property and the health hazards they are creating. Urban campers repeatedly defecate and urinate on FCC's front porches and other public areas. We have made repeated efforts to work with Love INC and bring social workers and other agencies onsite to work with these individuals. We want to treat them as children of God. Unfortunately, the urban campers have chosen not to avail themselves of the help offered. They have also refused to move, stop camping and stop relieving themselves on our front porch. Also, some of them are storing their belongings in our bushes. Because of all these reasons, I took the following actions:

Issued a trespass against a particular individual (named in my Board report) with Columbia Police Department (CPD);

Asked CPD to remove this individual's belongings from our property, which they moved to the curbside and instructed him to remove by the next morning, which he did. CPD also notified this individual he could not return and that his belongings would be removed without notice.

When this individual returned several days later to set up camp, I instructed staff to toss his belongings into the dumpster after warning said individual that we would do so if he did not remove them by end of day. He did not remove them and so his belongings were disposed of in the dumpster.

(Continued ->)

Other campers immediately moved in and were instructed to vacate or their belongings would be tossed out, as well, by end of business day. Around 3:30pm, staff loaded 18 contractor-sized trash bags and filled the dumpster to overflowing levels with the stashed belongings.

Staff received instructions from me that, from now on, the building exterior is to be "walked" daily. Staff will immediately discard all stashed items -- using proper sanitary equipment so as to deter further camping, defecating and urinating on the porches and walkways.

I informed the Board this will remain FCC's policy unless the Board instructs otherwise, as I respect the Board's authority over the Senior Minister. After deep and reflective discussion considering public health & safety, the wellbeing of church members, MDO children & parents, staff and the urban campers themselves, as well as discerning Jesus' teachings on love and compassion, including love with appropriate boundaries, the Admin. Board moved and voted unanimously to uphold the above policy. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me or our Board Moderator, Eric Arnett, through the church office.

Sincerely, *Dr. Brad*

New Member/Visitor Q&A

Sunday, March 8, 9:35-10:20am

Bethany Hall

Are you looking for a church home and considering FCC? Or have you recently joined FCC but are still looking for ways to get involved? Come to our Visitor and New Member Question & Answer on Sunday, March 8, 9:35-10:20am in Bethany Hall! You can meet with Dr. Brad and other church leaders and ask any questions you might have regarding our church to better understand who we are and how to be further connected. **All are welcome!** Please RSVP "Q&A" through the Sunday Pew Pads or through the Office by email or phone. We hope you will join us!



- March 1** - Ben Creasy
- March 3** - Sally Estes, Sue Haynes
- March 4** - Sharon Ronchetto
- March 5** - John Hamilton, Brice Moeller, Khons Volmert
- March 6** - Andrew Janssen
- March 7** - Michael Taylor

THIS WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS





VAC "Christmas Project" Thank-You Notes

Each Christmas season, FCC adopts families for the VAC Holiday Program. This would not be possible without your support! Thank you for making Christmas special for 19 families this year! Below are just a few of the thank you notes we received from the families.

Thank you for the gifts! We are fortunate that you considered us during the holidays. It was such a great feeling to be able to open presents on Christmas morning! Thanks again for helping us to enjoy a great Christmas, and with bringing on the New Year. Have a great 2020!

Thank you all for being so generous and kind. My shoes fit very good as I was in desperate need of a size 14, also my clothes are so nice and well thought of. All the items are needed. Thanks! -- *Kenneth*

Thank you for all the stuff you sent me. -- *Dalton*

Family, My children and I are very pleased for your help. God bless you. -- *Maria*

Thank you so much. Words can't come together and be enough. You've made Christmas possible for me and my babies. You've shown us there are good people. Enjoy the holidays. -- *The Holloway Family*

Thank you so much for sponsoring our family. We truly appreciate it. It means so much that someone cares enough to share their blessing, blessing us. You are an angel. May this holiday season give to you what you have given to us - joy and happiness. Also, may baskets of blessings keep coming down from heaven though out the new year for you. Once again, thank you. -- *Alicia*



**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

Spring Calendar

Mar. 1—FAMILY NIGHT! dinner & fun, 6pm

March 8—JYF/CYF March 15—Chi-Rho/CYF

March 22 & March 29—No mtgs (Sprg Brk)

CYF—Spring Break Day of Serving TBA

April 5—Chi-Rho Lunch & Egg Hiding

JYF—Egg Hunt CYF—usual time

April 12—EASTER - NO MEETINGS

YOUTH GROUP!

News of the People

Prayers of Sympathy...



Sympathy is extended to **Anne Campbell** in the death of her husband **Jim Campbell**. Jim died on Thursday, February 20, at University Hospital from the effects of many years of anti-rejection medication related to his two kidney transplants. Not able to be with us in worship in recent years due to health concerns, Anne continues to be an active part of the Coffman-Watson women's group. The Campbells are long time members with Jim having been a deacon team leader for many years. Services are pending.

A Note of Gratitude...

Dear Congregation, I thank you so much for your prayers and the beautiful vase of chancel flowers I received this week following a recent surgery. I am recovering quickly and the surgery has already improved my health. As a new member of FCC I felt blessed and most appreciative of Brad's calls and the honor of delivered flowers from the Ministry of the Flowers. It was also a pleasure to meet and talk with Dan Backues as he delivered the large vase of mums, daisies and carnations.

God's Blessings to All, *Karen Hobson*

Join TeamFCC-2020

Saturday, April 25 - Service Location TBD

ForColumbia was founded in 2015 with a simple mission: to bring Christians together to share God's love by serving our community side-by-side. We do this by organizing volunteers annually from Christian churches throughout Columbia to serve individuals and non-profit organizations in a city-wide day of service.

Now in its sixth year, 71 Christian churches have participated at least once in this effort (eight congregations of which have partnered with the program annually since 2015). This year, ForColumbia hopes again to bring more than 2,000 volunteers from these churches, and to deepen relationships with individuals in our city as we serve in more than 100 locations.



In a time of division and polarization, how good it is for God's people to express a united love for others by serving neighbors in the spirit of Jesus.

One Saturday in April

Columbia church joined in service

Supplies and projects provided

Lunch provided

All skills/abilities needed

Sign-up will begin on Monday, March 9. For more info on our April 25 day of service, contact Rev. Jimmy Spear.



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

Non-Profit Org.
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 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, Bells
 michael@firstchristian.org
 Travis McFarlane, Early Worship Service Musician
 Dr. Rochelle Parker, Organist

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, MARCH 1

Bus Driver: Kim Leon
Office Receptionist: Steve McCormack
Welcome Station: Debbie Garton
Flower Arranging/Delivery: Colleen Nilges
Flower Delivery: Harlan Hackett
Servers for 8:30 Worship Service
Worship Assistants: Will & Donna Houston, Karen Poe
Elder: Carol Hughey
Offering Counters: Sarah Storm and Jean Juba
Servers for 10:30 Worship Service
Communion Prep: Kim Leon, Elizabeth Martin and Ian Gaffney
Greeters: Mary Tompson (N. Door) – Cliff Tompson (S. Door)
 Chuck Scott (Atrium) – Joyce Stanley (Portico)
Banner Bearers: Brady Marrero and Kenzie Von Talge
Candle Lighters: Ann Volmert and Aubrey Schomaker
Liturgist: Stacia Schaefer
Elders: Larry & Nora Dietzel - Kim Leon, Balcony
Deacons: The Potthast Team **Ushers:** The Wright Team
Children's Worship: Hayley Batterson (Ldr.) TBD (Hlpr.)
Offering Counters: Harlan Hackett and Jerry Miller

CHURCH CALENDAR MARCH 1 - MARCH 7

Sunday, March 1

- Warming Station, 6:00-9:00am, Higbee
- Christian Education Classes, 9:30am
- Elder Dialogue, 12:00-2:00pm, Morris Parlor
- Youth Family Night - Dinner & Games, 6:00pm, Yonker Hall

Monday, March 2

- Staff Meeting, 2:00-3:00pm, Keystone
- Coffman-Watson CWF, 7:00pm

Tuesday, March 3

- Tuesday Bible Study, 10:30-11:30am, Morris Parlor
- Elder Dialogue, 4:00-6:00pm, Morris Parlor

Wednesday, March 4

- 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, March 5

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

Friday, March 6

- Church Dine-Out, 5:30pm, Bob Evans

Have an article or photo that you'd like to be included in a future Visitor? Submissions can be sent to fcc@firstchristian.org. Please make the subject of the e-mail "Visitor Submission."

Report for February 23, 2020
Total Attendance: 179 (8:30 service - 36)
Offerings: \$6,097