



THE
 March 13, 2020
 Vol. 77, No. 73

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) VISITOR

Our mission: to know God and follow Jesus Christ

GOOD NEWS to SHARE

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Romans 5:1-11 & John 4:1-42

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

The 2020 Lenten sermon series, *"Share the Good News,"* finds us this week pondering Jesus' conversation with the Samaritan Woman at the Well. This week's sermon, "Jesus Reconciles," examines texts from Romans 5 and John 4. How do Jesus and this unnamed woman demonstrate an authentic, deep conversation about faith and God that crosses gender, ethnic and religious lines that transforms an entire community? What might we learn from this amazing holy conversation?

Hymns for the week include an appropriate Lenten hymn: *"There Is a Balm in Gilead."*

Due to health concerns surrounding COVID-19 for our most vulnerable population, the originally scheduled Communion Connection has been postponed until further notice. Please pray for our elderly and infirmed during this time!

FOR COLUMBIA
 2020
 SAT. APRIL 28

A DAY OF SERVING

Locally

-the needs in our Columbia-

Alongside

-FCC friends & other churches-

Two Ways to Sign Up:

EMAIL → jimmy@firstchristian.org

PEW PAD → "4como" in the activity box

Jimmy Spear will send you the e-link to register. Sign up is now.

NOTE this is our ONE time opportunity to go big on the local outreach scene (outside FCC's regular outreach opportunities)

Vacation Bible School
save the date → June 14-18





HALF WAY MARK Funding Student Missions Envelopes Available

With March 15 upon us, two things are becoming more clear: taxes need to be finished and, on the more rewarding end, our student mission trip fundraiser is halfway to completion. With a need to raise more than \$6000 each year to fully-fund summer and winter mission trips, we have had a great response. We also know there are more envelopes out there and more members of our congregation who would like to fill them.

If you have not turned in an envelope yet and would like to, stop in Yonker Hall and look at the display to gain a better understanding of the project. We still need you! You might notice in the picture above, the 72-96 and 119-139 envelopes are open for the picking. Don't be shy. Let us know on your envelope or check why you picked the number. We are mindful that our gifts often honor a time, place, address, year or number of importance. One church member this week picked her granddaughter's basketball jersey number. Another member honored their years of marriage, while another was confident her lucky number was ours too. Let's celebrate them together!

Will you join these folks in supporting the 2020-21 Student Ministry Mission Trips? Pick a number, donate in the confidence of the Spirit and in the hope of life-changing learning and serving on behalf of our church AND Jesus Christ.

We have heard in worship the testimony of long time mission trippers Maddie Marrero and Jimmy Spear. Kameron Freed will offer the invitation to Stewardship this Sunday.

COVID-19: How do I attend church in this time of crisis?

Basics: *Don't shake hands* (we suggest use creative greeting tactics—bump elbows, wave, tip hat, salute, curtsy, bow, peace sign it, etc — don't get close — leave room for Jesus!).

Don't touch your face (mouth/eyes/nose). *Use tissue when coughing* (elbow sneezes are out!).

Wash Hands. *We suggest singing the DOXOLOGY while washing your hands* (right amount of time needed for clean hands). *"Praise God from whom all blessings flow, praise God all creatures here below, praise God above the heavenly host, praise Creator, Son, and Holy Ghost."*

We are *disinfecting everything at church, using gloves and sanitary precautions in communion preparation.*



Bit From Brad

Scholarship Singers Pilot-Program

Michael Sauer, our Director of Music Ministry, proposed a pilot project that has been approved by the Choir, Church Officers and Stewardship & Finance (S&F) Department. This pilot project seeks to understand the impact of introducing Choral Scholar Section Leaders to FCC's Chancel Choir for the next 10 weeks. These scholar students from music programs at MU, Columbia College, Stephens College or other institutions of higher education will offer leadership, encouragement and guidance to the four vocal sections of our choir – soprano, alto, tenor and bass. Once selected by Michael Sauer, the student section leaders are required to attend weekly choir rehearsals and Sunday worship as part of the choir. Many churches use section leaders as a win-win solution for students and the choir; the student gains important professional singing experience and the choir gains additional beautiful voices and important leadership and guidance for those in each section.

The Chancel Choir enthusiastically supported Michael's trial effort when he reassured the choir members that he would not select individuals that did not "know" church. Michael promised me and the Choir he will not select "great voice talents with no faith," but rather strong choral voices who also have faith in Christ and come to worship as much as they come to sing. Maintaining the culture of the choir is very important to all of us! If the pilot project turns out to be a successful trial-run, then the Worship and S&F Depts. will propose building the additional cost into next year's annual operating budget.

In the meantime, we are grateful to the family of Chery Lightner and the family of Connie & Jerry Guy whose respective Memorial Funds are dedicated solely for music ministry and are generously funding this pilot program. Steve Lightner hopes this program will honor Chery's commitment and passion for the Choir. Patti Freeman and Kathy Barreto believe this is just the sort of ministry their parents would support seeing at FCC, especially since Kathy was a Choral Scholar Section Leader when she attended college. Thank you to the Lightner family and Guy family. May God continue to bless FCC's Music Ministry!

Blessings, *Dr. Brad*



**Feeling sick?
Stay home.**

Donate to Breakfast for Brethren

Donation bins located outside Church Office

Spring is right around the corner, and with that comes spring cleaning. While you are doing your spring cleaning, please keep in mind Church in Society and the outreach program of Breakfast for Brethren. We can use many items you might be purging from your closets or basement.

On the list would be: men's and women's blue jeans, work shoes, tennis shoes, boots, work shirts, light jackets, white t-shirts, towels (bath size, as well as hand-size and washcloths), socks, backpacks, sleeping bags and blankets. Please deposit your clean and gently-used items in the bins outside the church office marked "Church in Society" and know that your no-longer-needed-items will be very much appreciated by a person in need!



News and Notes...

Prayers of the People...

Marge Carter continue to rehabilitate; Roy Overacre is home with daily treatments.

Notes of Gratitude...

Dear Friends, my birthday week was filled with loving kindness, beginning with the beautiful chancel flowers delivered by Fred Mottaz. Thoughtful cards came from so many; the presence of my three nieces from upstate New York and Virginia made the week special.

Thank you, deeply, each one. -- Elizabeth Hensley

Thank you with all my heart for the wonderful visit and beautiful flowers Fred Mottaz brought to me from the church after Jim's passing. I also want to thank Susan Gray for going with me to the funeral home and being there with me to lend calmness and support.

These and many cards, calls, e-mails and the other kind gestures of support help me begin my healing journey. You are all special to me and so appreciated. -- Anne Campbell



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!

Spring Calendar

March 15—Chi-Rho/CYF

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

CYF—Spring Break Day of Serving TBA

April 5—Easter Egg Hunt!

Chi-Rho Lunch & Egg Hiding

JYF—Egg Hunt CYF—usual time

April 12—EASTER - NO MEETINGS

April 19—JYF/CYF

April 26—Chi-Rho/CYF

Summer Mission Fundraising is underway.

All students: continue to wear any Mission Trip shirts in worship the next 4 Sundays!

CYF MISSION DATES: Mini Trip: June 25-27

BIG Trip: August 5-9

Summer Camp 2020 Dates

All parents will receive an email from Jimmy Spear explaining how to do ONLINE registration. If you are not on the email list, please contact Jimmy for info. Our church always pays **half** the camp fee!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

March 16 - Jordan Barnes, Ed Bright, Wilson Hickey

March 18 - Kathy Richardson

March 19 - Cari Sapp

March 21 - Beckett Karr, Russ Palmer, Lexie Ruffolo,
Wolfgang Schaefer



Community Hymn Sing

Sunday, March 29

3:00pm

Fairview Community of Christ
1111 S. Fairview

Dessert Potluck to Follow

-sponsored by Race Forward-

Friday Night Classics!



3rd Floor Cinema | Friday, March 27 - 7:00pm

Fresh popcorn will be served and 50¢ soda available in Yonker Hall.



The Visitor
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Non-Profit Org.
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Ministerial Staff:

Rev. Dr. Brad Stagg, Senior Minister
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 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 15

Bus Driver: Carol Slusher
Office Receptionist: Janelle Patterson
Welcome Station: Bob Dixon
Flower Arranging/Delivery: Bud & Deb Batterson
Servers for 8:30 Worship Service
Worship Assistants: Jerry & Mary Daugherty
Elder: Steve Smith
Offering Counters: Doug Smith and Sarah Storm
Servers for 10:30 Worship Service
Communion Prep: Jack & Will Bower, Christy Von Talge
Greeters: Will Houston (N. Door) – Donna Houston (S. Door)
 Bonnie Fay (Atrium) – Jeff Wheeland (Portico)
Banner Bearers: Cullen Rose and Ale Johnson
Candle Lighters: Sam & Abigail Pine
Liturgist: Bragg Stanley
Elders: Eric Arnett and Hayley Batterson - Paula Hoenes, Balcony
Deacons: The Underwood Team **Ushers:** The Rose Team
Children's Worship: Holly Gieseke (Ldr.) TBD (Hlpr.)
Offering Counters: Deb Batterson and Sarah Storm

CHURCH CALENDAR MARCH 15 - MARCH 21

Sunday, March 15

- Communion Connection Sunday
- Warming Station, 6:00-9:00am, Higbee
- Christian Education Classes, 9:30am
- Student Ministry Groups:
 - Chi-Rho, 4:30-6:00pm, Yonker Hall
 - CYF, 6:00-7:30pm, Bethany Hall

Monday, March 16

- Staff Meeting, 2:00-3:00pm, Keystone

Tuesday, March 17

- Tuesday Bible Study, 10:30-11:30am, Morris Parlor
- Admin. Board Meeting, 6:30pm, Morris Parlor

Wednesday, March 18

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

Thursday, March 19

- Shawl Ministry, 9:30am, Millie Bolman's House
- Chancel Bell Choir Rehearsal, 5:30pm, 3rd Flr Bell Room

Report for March 8, 2020

Total Attendance: 105
(8:30 service - 28)
Offerings: \$2,960

March Meeting Reminders:

Admin. Board Meeting
 NEXT TUESDAY, March 17, 6:30pm
 Morris Parlor

Congregational Meeting
 Sunday, March 29, 9:30am & 11:45am
 Sanctuary