



Jenny Hallam with daughter, Katie

Welcome New Member!

It is a joy to welcome Jenny Hallam into our congregation as an associate member. A native of Columbia, she is the daughter of the late Hartley Banks and Nancy Banks. Jenny attended our church as a young person and was married here in 1988. She and her husband, Jeffery, and two teenage children, Katie and Chris, live in Northville, Michigan, where they are active members of the Presbyterian Church of Northville. She is a stay-at-home mom and community volunteer. We are glad to welcome Jenny as she re-establishes her ties with our congregation.

Sunday Services

Helping to celebrate our 175th anniversary, one of our own is coming home to preach on Sunday, April 15. The Rev. Paula Ritchie, daughter of Paul Ritchie, who was raised in our church and ordained here, has been the minister of the First Christian Church in Fayette the past ten years. She will be preaching from John 20:26-31, the story of doubting Thomas. The sermon title is "How Do You Know What To Believe?" Rev. Ritchie will be examining scripture, tradition, reason and experience as tangible, practical methods to discerning faithful living.

Special music for the day will include the Chancel Choir's anthem, "Because He Lives," by Gaither/Hayes.

Heifer

May is World Missions month during our 175th anniversary celebration. We will begin on Sunday, May 6, by highlighting Heifer International. The Children's Moment will reintroduce us to our friends at Heifer International and the great work they do for people around the world. The World Outreach committee will be working with the Anniversary committee as we raise \$5,000 this year to purchase an Ark. In recent years we have purchased 4 Arks. You will be hearing more about Heifer International and the great work they do to help people earn money from animals to put food on their table, send their children to school, purchase clothes for their families and more. The wonderful part of Heifer is our gift keeps on giving. Each person who receives an animal must give the first born to another family, who in turn gives their first born to another family. Watch the Visitor for more information on how you will be able to be involved with this wonderful gift project.

Weekly Report

April 8, 2007

Received \$10,121.82

Received to Date \$366,289.08

Attendance - 514

(includes early worship - 150)

College Care Packages

Can you believe that the end of the semester is upon us?!? College Care Packages are in the works and will be ready for delivery to our hard working college students next Sunday, April 22nd. This is a long held ministry of our church that extends our care to students during the rough part of the semester. We put together care packages and then folks from the church community deliver them around town with smiles and blessings from the church. If you have a few minutes to drop off a care package or two, we could really use your help! They will out before and after worship to pick up or if you are unable to worship on that day but are able to deliver, please call Amy Kay or Kelly in the church office. Thanks!



From Ken's Desk...

I have been fascinated lately by the increasing number of television shows (primarily on cable) which focus on issues of the history of religion and sacred writings. Some of these shows are excellent, others are marginally good, a few are pitiful and shallow. I was able to watch one of the excellent kind last night (History Channel *Banned from the Bible II*). The second of a 2-part series was worth the 2 hours one would spend watching it. Using contemporary archaeologists and Biblical scholars, it helps correct some mistaken church history that has grown up over the last couple of thousand years in the West. And it challenges our often naïve and simplistic concepts of the New Testament church. I think Alexander Campbell and Barton Stone would be pleased that people today are interested in knowing more about the roots of our faith and witness.

"Why," you may ask, "should I care about this ancient odd-ball stuff?" Good question! One of the most important reasons is that it helps us understand that there is not just one way to understand and practice our faith. Many approaches have been fruitful and many have not. Understanding this history is like taking a trip: you can have fun just wandering around without a map, but if you want to get anywhere you will need to see how others have made the journey. The rocks along the way can be either stumbling stones or stepping stones...it's a good idea to know which one is which!

One of the gifts that First Christian Church and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) can offer is the opportunity and encouragement to explore our own spiritual journey. Sunday School classes for adults, youth, and children are primary resources. On-going ministries such as Women's Ministries groups and Tuesday Bible Study are great opportunities. Youth Fellowships, College Back Room Fellowship, young adult events, and STARS (our newly-born older adults group) offer many excellent opportunities for growth and service. Special classes (like our Pastors Membership Class each year), lectureships, and the occasional short-term class provide venues for developing and strengthening the groundwork of faith.

Sure, you can just sit in the pew and let the time and opportunities go by (sometimes that may even be important). But whenever you are ready to grow in faith and commitment, the opportunities are there, whether it's the History Channel or our own community of faith. Wake up, sit up, and get growing!

Thank You!

I would like to thank everyone for their prayers during our loss. To Dr. Yonker for the time spent at the hospital and home with the family. Thanks also for the cards we received and especially the beautiful shawl (made by Martha Shrout Brown) from the Shawl Ministry. It's wonderful to have a church family who cares for you. ~Edward Bright Family

Thanks so much for the beautiful Easter lily delivered from the church and to the Parker-Scott Women's Christian Ministry for honoring me with it.
Doris Clark

To the Shawl Ministry of FCC:
Thank you for the beautiful shawl for our 70th wedding anniversary, March 21. We express great appreciation to Nannie Lou Mallett who delivered it and Millie Bolman who made it. We shall enjoy.
Thank you. ~Lois and George Ross

Coffman-Watson Circle

The Coffman-Watson Circle will end their year with a dinner at the Upper Crust on Elm Street Monday, May 7 at 6:00 p.m. The cost will be \$15.00 per person and each member is invited to bring their spouse or friend to this wonderful evening of fun and fellowship. Adam Guy, grandson of member Connie Guy, now owns the Upper Crust. All reservations need to be made to Sally Robinson 819-5043 by May 1.

See Him in the Magazine

A biographical sketch of our **O. Eugene Moore** is featured in the current April issue of "Mature Living" mid-Missouri magazine. As fine as the article is, it does not mention that Gene and Rena also served in other than local pastorates. He was also the Missouri Christian Churches' state Associate General Minister, the Virginia state General Minister, developer of our churches' Rickman Conference Center, and now "sort of" retired, is public relations volunteer for the global PET Personal Energy Transport project.

News of the congregation

Don Houston is at Boone Hospital recovering from surgery on Monday.

A big round of thanks goes to all these hard-working folks who helped us host the Lenten breakfast on Wednesday of Holy Week, April 4: **Joyce Stanley, Sarah Storm, Laura Estes, Lorene and Nelson Trickey, Edith Taylor, Christy VanTalge, Pat Rainey, Frances and Harsh Brown, Sarah Yonker, Jane Ann Hackett, Amy Kay Pavlovich, Roy Rogers, Sally Robinson, Mary Bancroft, Harlan Hackett, Ken Watson.** It was well done!

Thanks to the **Chancel Choir** and the **brass ensemble** for the wonderful Easter Sunday music.

Rob Martin plays at the Cherry Street Artisan April 14th at 7:00 p.m.

Bob Leach was recognized at a recent Heifer International meeting. He received a special pin for his 50 years of involvement with HPI.



Thanks to all the volunteers that helped with the newsletter last week: Mary Richardson, Betty Moon, Anna Cathryn Yost, Joyce Stanley, Dave Beem, and Linda Ridgeway. Fred Mottaz was seen stuffing too! Thanks to all!!!



Anna Read-April 15
Emily Scott-April 16
Debbie Scott-April 17
William Green-April 17
Joshua Humble-April 17
Betty Montgomery-April 18
Maxwell Creasy-April 19
Mindy Wolf-April 20
Elizabeth Flanders-April 21

175th Anniversary News - Genie Rogers

April is Ministerial Appreciation Month

Welcome Back Paula Ritchie

In observance of Ministerial Appreciation month, a "Timothy" of First Christian Church will deliver this week's sermon. We welcome Rev. Paula Ritchie to the pulpit on April 15. A native of Columbia and the daughter of Paul Ritchie, Paula was reared in this community and raised in our church. After receiving a B.S. in Education and a M.A. in Speech from the University of Missouri, she taught one year at Central High School in St. Joseph, Missouri before going to seminary. She graduated with a Masters of Divinity from Yale University Divinity School in 1983 and was ordained here that year.

Following a one-year internship with the Uniting Church of Australia, Paula served as Associate Minister at South Street Christian Church in Springfield from 1984-87, worked for Church Finance Council of the Christian Church in Indianapolis for seven years, and served on the development staff of the University of Chicago Divinity School. She completed a year of Clinical Pastoral Education and served as an interim minister at the Millersburg Christian Church. In September 1997 Paula accepted the call to become minister of First Christian Church in Fayette, a position which she continues to hold. She is currently working on a Doctor of Ministry degree at the St. Paul School of Theology in Kansas City.

On April 30, 2000 she was united in marriage to Tom Hackley of Fayette, a businessman and farmer.

Ken's Retirement Celebration

April 29 will be the final Sunday of Ken's 43 years of service in the ministry. To honor him and his years of serving Christ and the church, there will be a retirement reception following the 10:30 worship service. Buffet food will be available and a "promise not to disappoint program" will be held. Mickey Kirkham will deliver a tribute to Ken followed by a musical program composed, directed and acted in by Melissa and Michael Straw. Mark the date on your calendars and be there to honor Ken and Nancy and enjoy the fellowship with them on their last Sunday.

As part of this Retirement Celebration we want every one to be a part of:

Book of Letters

A book of letters is being assembled for Ken and Nancy to be presented to them at their retirement celebration. This will be a special token we can give them to remember each one of us. A letter of any size or shape is welcome. Time is getting short to assemble the book so please get your letter in quickly. All letters must be received by Friday, April 27. Send your letter or note to **Mimi McRoberts, 1001 Cherry Street, Ste. 201, Columbia, MO 65201-7931.**

Gift

A monetary gift will be collected as a gift to Ken and Nancy in appreciation of their 13 years with First Christian Church. To contribute, send your check to First Christian Church, attn. Fred Mottaz, 101 North 10th Street, Columbia, MO 65201. Be sure to write in the check memo line: WATSON RETIREMENT FUND.



Minute for History

The third Sunday of each month is designated for a "Minute for History" during the 175th year. In the 8:30 and 10:30 service there will be a brief history of the powerful ministerial leadership we have been privileged to have at First Christian Church. Presenters are: 8:30 service-Donna Houston and 10:30 service-Erin Bower.

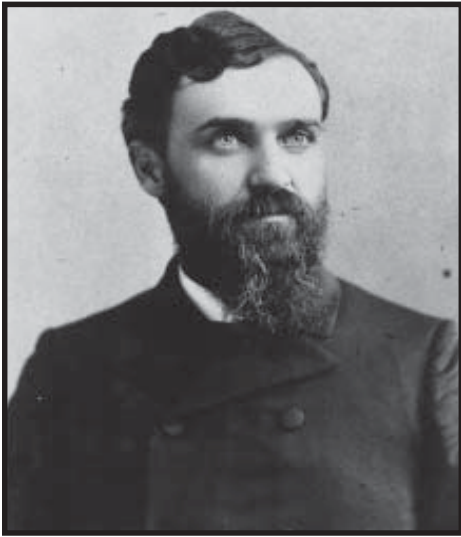
Quilt

Quilt blocks continue to be turned in. Each square is creative and beautiful which add up to ONE BEAUTIFUL QUILT! The final turn in date is **May 20th** so there is still plenty of time to get a quilt square and be part of the 175th Anniversary quilt. Soon enough blocks will be received that plans will begin for the final assembly and design of the quilt. The actual work of assembly will begin after the deadline date of May 20th.

Reminder: Each block needs to be 6 1/2 inches square, which will allow for a generous seam allowance to end up with a 6" square in the quilt. Do not trim or cut the material squares you have been given to another size.

If you have not yet signed up for a block or if you need a little help completing it, there is still time. Call Pat Rainey (**446-0419**) or Mary Tompson (**442-8849**) for help. We want everyone to be included in our anniversary quilt!

John W. Mountjoy 1844-1886



John W. Mountjoy has several unique items in his biography of particular interest in the history of First Christian Church. He is the only minister to serve two pastorates at the church (1867-1870 and 1882-1886) and he is the only minister who died while serving as the pastor of the church. J. K. Rogers commented in 1866 that the first generation of preachers of the Disciple movement was ending and the church needed a new generation of capable leaders. John Mountjoy was the first of this new generation in the church and the first minister to be paid from the Columbia Christian Church.

John Mountjoy was born in Anderson County, KY in 1844. In 1860 he entered the University of KY at Harrodsburg and graduated with highest honors. Following a lifelong desire to preach the gospel he came to mid Missouri in 1886 and preached a year at Mexico followed by Wright City after which he received the call to the Columbia Church in 1867. Since he had not yet been ordained, Ordination Services were held in Mexico, MO in 1867 with D.T. Wright of Chillicothe, Dr. Winthrop H. Hopson of Richmond Virginia, and (“Raccoon”) John Smith of KY officiating. The ceremony then consisted of fasting, prayer and laying on of hands. He conducted an 11:00 a.m. and 7:15 p.m. Sunday service plus a successful Sunday School, along with prayer meetings on Wednesday night. The congregation membership at the time was 275.

After three years in Columbia, he accepted a position as evangelist for Boone, Monroe, Audrain and Callaway counties. In 1871 he married Rebecca Shannon, the niece of James Shannon, former church minister and Pres. of the Univ. J.K. Rogers, then serving as minister of the Columbia church, performed the marriage. Mountjoy then assumed several pastorates around the state and held many “protracted meetings”* all over Missouri.

The description of Mountjoy is as follows: “He was small in structure, about five feet, eight inches tall, weighing about 140 pounds. He was well built, never robust, but did not appear frail. His hair was black, eyes dark blue and complexion dark. Although not strong, his voice was clear and soft. He had a pleasing winning face, which drew people to him. He appeared well educated, but preferred to only spend his time on the Bible and interpretive books. He loved to preach and was unselfish in his labors for his flock.”

In 1882, the Columbia congregation reissued the call to John W. Mountjoy who was serving the Paris Christian Church. His move to Columbia coincided with the death of J.K. Rogers, former minister of the Columbia church and Columbia College President. Mountjoy preached the funeral. In 1882 the congregation grew to 400. The church underwent major repairs during the year of 1885 and the congregation worshipped with the Presbyterians. Mountjoy once again went off to hold protracted meetings all over the state. In 1886 he died of pneumonia while engaged in a protracted meeting in Centralia. He was 41 years old, leaving a wife and two small daughters, and the only regular minister of the Columbia church to die while serving as pastor. He is buried in Columbia Cemetery.

Mountjoy served during transitional times in church history. The importance, length and content of “protracted meetings” was in debate. The temperance movement was quickly picking up steam and the issue of how to minister best to the ex black slaves was discussed. Sunday Schools had been independent of the church (Union Sunday Schools) and the move was to pull them back under denominational banners. The issues of the role of the ministers, elders and deacons in the church began to arise and the

pressure was to move toward having full time ministers. The role of mission work in the world became one of debate during this period and continued as a major conflict for generations. In the mid 20th century the Christian Church divided over the issue into the *Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)* and the *Christian Church* (known as Independent Christian Churches).

*defined in last week’s Visitor

Genie Rogers

Ethical Guidelines

As a result of the recent application process for our new Associate Minister, the Administrative Board recently approved the Ethical Guidelines for Congregational Conduct subject to the cabinet making changes specific to our congregation. This document is not intended to be a set of rules, or “law”, but instead to be used as a guide in how we treat one another, our church officers and other leaders, our ministers, and how we interact within this community, as members of the Disciples of Christ network and the church at large.

We have had a lively discussion and at this time we would like to welcome any and all written comments that you may have regarding this document. Once all comments have been submitted, a sub-committee will meet to discuss and create a “consensus document”. A meeting date will be determined once everyone who wishes has had a chance to contribute their thoughts. **PLEASE SUBMIT ALL WRITTEN COMMENTS BY FRIDAY, APRIL 20.** If you would like to review a copy of the Ethical Guidelines, you may pick up a copy at the church office. Thank you for the written comments that I have already received. I look forward to a healthy discussion in the future. All questions and/or written comments can be directed to Chris Creasy, by leaving them in the Vice Moderator mailbox at church, or mail them directly to me at 911 West Rollins Road, Columbia, MO 65203.



_JYF = (grades 3 - 5)
 Chi Rho = (grades 6-8)
 CYF = (grades 9-12)

www.firstchristian.org/youth

All three youth groups are invited to stay after worship this Sunday, April 15th to enjoy lunch and then pick up trash with our neighbors here in our neighborhood's association. Dan (Sally Kessell's dad) will be our Partner for the day and it would be great to have a couple other adults to help us out. Let Amy Kay know if you are interested and able in picking up trash with us. We will be back in the Fellowship Hall by our 2:00pm ending time.

CYF will meet for Mid-Week on the next even Wednesday, April 25th from 7:15-8:30pm. Each time we gather, we begin our time in the Fellowship Hall with some light snacks and then either move to Amy Kay's office, the Cinema or our CYF room on the third floor for our discussion. We always end in prayer by 8:30pm. Hope that you can come to Mid-Week this week and every even Wednesday of the year. ;)

Sunday, April 22, all youth are invited to Fred Mottaz's house to go fishing and enjoy the spring weather. We will leave from the church at 3:30 pm and will return by 7:30 pm. Fred will obviously Partner this event as will Mark and Pam Hunsaker. We could use one additional Partner to drive and hang with us at the farm. Let Amy Kay or Fred know if you are interested in helping out.



Graduates

We look forward to celebrating our High School Graduates on Sunday, May 20, at which time we will also rejoice with our College Graduates. If you are a college graduate or know of someone who is, please contact the church office so that we don't miss anyone. Thanks!

Easter Offering

Your generosity is again overwhelming. The Easter special offering donations through Sunday, April 8 are \$2,019.25. The Easter special offering helps drive mission and ministry throughout the world and allows Disciples to unite in a common witness that demonstrates our church's vision. In addition to this special offering your church's annual budget includes \$22,000 for Basic Mission Finance.

Church Softball League

The church softball team is about to start another season in the Columbia Parks & Recreation Co-ed Church Softball League. The games are played on Sunday evenings at the Rainbow softball complex in Cosmos Park. The game starting times run from 5:00pm to 9:00pm. The first game is on Sunday, April 15, 2007. Anyone interested in playing this year can contact Dan Tevis at (573) 445-4793 or via e-mail at DTevis@centurytel.net for more information.



Book Club

Our daytime meeting was a wonderful success with one exception: the time. The Ladies decided to move the discussion to 12:30 p.m. So, beginning with the April 25 meeting, feel free to bring your lunch, beverage and join us in discussing Marion Zimmer Bradley's *The Mists of Avalon*. It's the story of King Arthur but told from a woman's perspective. We're meeting in the Church Library. If you have questions, please call Linda Hutton at 442-5423 or email her at lhutton50@hotmail.com.



Step It Up 2007

Nationwide Day of Climate Change Action

Saturday, April 14th, 2:00 pm
 Courthouse Square, 8th and Ash in downtown Columbia

Missouri Methodist Church-Ribbon Cutting & Open House for new addition, Christian Life Center

Tuesday, April 17th
 Ribbon Cutting - 10:50 am and Open House - 11:00-2:00

Broadway Christian Church 19th Annual Habitat for Humanity Garage Sale

Saturday, April 28th, 8 am - 2 pm
 All proceeds given to Habitat for Humanity
 Call 474-5539 or 445-5312 for pick-up of donated items

"A Voice for Justice"

A public forum for denominational leaders to declare an ecumenical commitment to work together for economic justice, April 22-23. For more information contact: John Bennett at jhbennett65109@peoplepc.com

"Lift Every Voice Gospel Concert"

Columbia College Auditorium, June 2, 1:00 pm
 (Deadline for participants to sign up is April 30, contact Sonja Barnes at 573-442-4737)

The Visitor

First Christian Church

101 N. 10th Street
Columbia, MO 65201
573-449-7265



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Rev. Amy Kay Pavlovich, Associate Minister
amykayp@firstchristian.org

Minister Emeritus: Dr. Sam S. Langley

Campus Ministry Intern: Kelly Mueller

Music Staff:

Mary Bancroft, Coord. of Music & Organist
Melissa Straw, Choir Director
Norma Miller, Pianist

Mother's Day Out: Tracy Westhoff, Director

Support Staff:

Kay Beissenherz, Administrative Secretary
fcc@firstchristian.org

Jim Burt, Custodian

Fred Mottaz, Business Manager
fred@firstchristian.org

Sunday's Schedule-April 15, 2007

Van Driver: Marvellee Ridgeway *Telephone:* Joni Cupp

8:30 Early Worship, Sanctuary

Worship Asst: Larry and Millie Caringer

Elder for 8:30 Service: Will Houston

Communion Preparation:

David, Julie, Andrew, Hilary and Teddy Nichols

9:30 Church School

Church School Greeter: Mark Hunsaker Family

Nursery Volunteer: Cheryl Unterschutz

10:30 Worship in Sanctuary

Sermon: Dr. John J. Yonker *Liturgist:* Dane Pavlovich

10:30 Elders: Royanne and Marvin Tracy, Nancy Watson

Deacons: The Nichols Team

Greeters:

Deb Batterson and Molly Read, *North Door*

Steve and Tracy Evers, *South Door*

Ushers: The Scott Team

Banner Bearers: Emily Unterschutz and Courtney Backues

Candlelighters: Logan Garton and Sam Poole

Flower Ministry:

arranged: Joni Cupp and Sue Fink

delivered: Bob and Linda Hutton

Evangelism Calls: Harsh Brown

This Week (April 15 - 21)

- Sun. - Women's Ministry Board Mtg., after 10:30 service, Morris Parlor
- JYF (grades 3-5), Chi Rho (grades 6-8) and CYF (grades 9-12), after 10:30 worship until 2:00
- Mon. - Lecture Series- "The Science of Climate Change and the Current State of Global Warming," 7:00-8:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall
- Tue. - Bible Study, 10:30 a.m., Morris Parlor
- Lemmon Group, 11:45 a.m., Senior Center
- Wed. - Shawl Ministry Mtg, 10:00 a.m., Mary Tompson's
- Men's Lunch, 11:30 a.m., Senior Center
- Pastor's Class, 6:00 p.m.,
- CYF (grades 9-12), 7:15-8:30 p.m.
- Back Room (college group), 8:45-10:00 p.m.
- Fri. - Pastor's Class Retreat, leaving church-5:00 p.m.
- Columbia College Alumni Weekend Concert, 8:00 p.m., FCC Sanctuary
- Sat. - Columbia College Alumni Weekend Concert, 2:00 p.m., FCC Sanctuary