



Living Windows

This **Friday evening, December 7** from 6:00 – 8:00pm our church will take part in the downtown festival “Living Windows” by enacting the story of Christ’s birth. There are live animals; friends of all ages dress up in costumes; lighting takes us along the church on Tenth Street from north to south through the story, and a taped narrative with a musical background actually recites the story. The enactment takes about 20 minutes after which one and all are invited into the Narthex which is filled with goodies and warm drinks. Come and take part (around 5:45pm) or come and enjoy the happenings any time throughout the evening this very Friday night!



Staff Christmas Fund

The Administrative Department will again make available to the church membership a staff Christmas Fund to honor our excellent church staff during this Christmas season for their combined efforts in helping make our church one in which we can all take great pride. Checks should be made to First Christian Church with “Staff Christmas Fund” noted on them. Deadline for contributions is December 21.

Please note that the gift will be divided evenly among the staff members—ministers, office staff, music staff and custodian.



The 75th Annual Christmas Pageant



December 16, 7 pm

PAGEANT PREPARATION

Choristers and Rainbow Bells are in tune! One week in and the kids are singing and ringing very well. *While By The Sheep* has the 2-3 graders leaping for joy. *While Shepherds Watched...* has the 4-5 graders saying it is not “baaaaad.” The K-1 graders are getting the bell thing down as they take turns ringing *Angels We Have Heard On High*. And finally, the pre-school group is putting some flair to *Away in a Manger*.

We continue to practice on Sunday Mornings at 9:30 on the 3rd floor and welcome any children to participate.

One wise man has come forward. **We still need two more singing wise men.**

A musical trio and the Chancel Choir will offer special music. Cherry Hinderberger is coordinating the Tasting Party. Watch the *Visitor* next week for an explanation of “White Gifts” that we bring as offering during the Pageant.

Date Night

This Sunday evening from 5:30 – 7:30pm the Parlor will be filled with good holiday cheer over appetizers (please bring one and copies of the recipe) and options of games. Child care will be provided by our own staff with elementary school aged options on the third floor. Please RSVP to the office by the morning of Sunday the 9th so that we have enough care for the kids.

Second Sunday of Advent

“Come quickly, shalom, teach us how to prepare for a gift that compels us with justice to care. Our spirits are restless till sin and war cease, One candle is lit for the reign of God’s peace.”

The second verse of the hymn, “One Candle Is Lit” will help to set the mood for the light of the second Advent candle, and service of worship on the second Sunday in Advent. Scripture readings found in Isaiah 11:1-10, Matthew 3:1-12 and Romans 15:4-13 will set the stage for Dr. Yonker’s Advent sermon.

During the late service Elders and Deacons will be commissioned to leave the sanctuary to take communion to members of the congregation who are hospitalized, homebound or residents of nursing facilities.

At the 8:30 service Brenda Mosby will sing “Who Is This Child”. The 10:30 service will include: a piano/organ duet by Mary Bancroft and Jean Hall; a clarinet solo by Sally Estes; and a prelude by the Bell Choir.

Weekly Report

December 2, 2007

Received \$8,676.55

Received to Date \$206,688.11

Attendance - 317

(includes early worship - 68)

From the Frontier to the Future



First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)
Columbia, Missouri

1832 175th Anniversary 2007

Advent...A Time of Expecting

Last Sunday we hung the greens in the sanctuary. We sang many Advent songs and we lit the first candle on the wreath. The way in which we go about doing these things is something of a tradition at our church and we do it the same each time the first Sunday of the church year comes around, yet, each year it feels a bit different.

What makes the service feel different comes from within us, obviously. We ready ourselves for the birth of Jesus from different stages in our lives and so it makes sense that the feel would change from year to year. Some years might be extremely difficult, some might be full of joy; thankfully, the Christ candle gets lit no matter where we are at and hopefully some of the light from that candle enters our lives each year. We hope for such things. We might even expect such things with the birth of the one we call Christ.

Dane, Sebastian and I have entered this Advent season with a different approach as we share a kinship with the expectant family. I am four and a half months pregnant (due in May) and we are thankful that this pregnancy is going very well. The baby is healthy and the doctors are happy. We are thankful beyond words. Our plans are to continue living in our comfortable apartment on the campus of Stephens College and continue working after maternity leave.

No matter where we are entering the Advent season from this year, we can sing together "O Come, O Come Emmanuel". If we are lonely, angry, tired, peaceful, joyful or all of these things combined, God is with us (Emmanuel) – thanks be to God. Have a good week and perhaps we'll see you in worship this Sunday when we will journey on together. Another candle will be lit on the wreath and we will hear the word of God revealed further as we move along with Advent preparations as a community of believers. ~amy kay

December Graduates

The church would like to celebrate all of our graduates, but we need your help to know of your special event! Please let Amy Kay or the church office know soon if you are a soon-to-be Graduate.

Brummett Harrah Group

Brummett Harrah Group and spouses will celebrate the Christmas season together at the home of:

Harry and Serena White
December 12, 1:00 p.m.

Bring finger food and your appetite. Please bring a can of food per person for the food bank.

Thank You!

The colorful floral bouquet delivered to me by Deborah Batterson continues to be a cheerful reminder of the warmth of First Christian Church. Thank you, deeply.

~Elizabeth Hensley

A very special thank you to all of you in my church family for your prayers, cards, food, flowers, rides, visits and calls. I'm deeply appreciative of your love and support which has been shown in so many ways.

~Norma Miller

Thank you so much for your support at the time of Alice Keller's death. It was a joy to see so many of you at Mom's memorial service on the 25th of November. Your cards, prayers, phone calls, and food have been a great comfort to us. A special thanks to Mary Tompson and Lorene Trickey for their frequent visits with Alice over the past 2 years.

~Nancy Watson, Jim Keller, and family

Fair Trade Store

The last of our second shipment of goods will be arriving late this week and should be in the store this weekend. Items will include household gifts like Guatemalan bags, children's toys and musical instruments. Thanks again to all of those who are working the store and those who are buying fairly traded goods! ~amy kay

News of the congregation

We are saddened to learn of the death of **Edith Taylor** who died at the home of her daughter, **Alice Richardson**, in Weslaco, Texas on Friday morning, November 30 after suffering a heart attack a week before. Funeral services will be held at Trinity Baptist Church in McAllen, Texas on December 8, and a memorial service will be held at 10 a.m., Wednesday, December 12, in our sanctuary. Also surviving are her daughter, **Nancy**, of Weslaco, a son **Charlie**, of McAllen, Texas, and son **Steve** of Callaway County, Missouri, and their families. A native of Arkansas, Edith was a graduate of Phillips University. Her husband, **Ralph**, served as a minister of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) before his death. Edith moved to Columbia in 1978 and was an active member of the congregation and served in many capacities until her death, most recently as church librarian.


The memorial service for **Betty Mai** will be held at Lenoir Woods Epple Chapel on Saturday, December 8 at 2 p.m.

Congratulations to **Nancy Sandford** and **Tony Hulen** on the birth of their son, **Micah Eugene Sandford-Hulen** who was born November 25 at 1:26 a.m. at Boone Hospital. He was 6 lbs, 15 ozs, and 20.5 inches at birth. The family is at home together doing well.

Our thanks goes to **all the children, young people and adults of the congregation who participated in the Hanging of the Greens** service on December 2. It is always a great way to celebrate the beginning of the Advent season, and was again last Sunday.

We are always grateful for those talented members of the congregation who share their musical gifts with us in worship. Thanks to **Jean Hall** and **Susan Woodbury** for their lovely medley of Christmas music presented during the early service on December 2, and to **The Drennan Singers** for kicking off the Advent season with their music at the late service last Sunday.

 **Country Kitchen**
Church Eat-Out
Friday - Dec. 7
5:30 p.m.
Country Kitchen
Everyone Welcome!

 **Your Special Birthday!**
Bedonna Clark -
94 on Dec. 11

175th Anniversary News - Genie Rogers

December Theme: Celebrating the Past and Embracing the Future

This week begins the last month of the planned celebration of the 175th Anniversary Committee. We titled this month in such a way as to show respect and accomplishment for the many things FCC has accomplished in 175 years, yet recognizing the many more things yet to do. We eagerly embrace the future as an opportunity to continue in the service of Christ in our church, community and world. This 175th year has witnessed some profound changes in the ministerial staff of the Christian Church. We honor the contributions that have been made and we look forward eagerly to new ideas, new members, new projects and new ways to strengthen the church. As we have demonstrated so many times through our history a strength, resilience and determination to build a church of strong character that has the ability to minister to each other and the larger world beyond our own walls. We are blessed with a beautiful old church building and are the guardians of its safekeeping and maintenance. In the years before us, may we continue to make wise decisions in the use of our resources and the protection of our historic church, while expanding our horizons of reaching out to help others. We are all blessed to share this community of faith together.

175th Anniversary Time Capsule Project

The 175th Anniversary slogan created for our year-long celebration was "From the Frontier to the Future." In looking towards our future, the committee decided to create a time capsule to be opened in the Church's 200th year, 2032. This will be an exciting way for our members to see what First Christian Church was all about in 2007.

The time capsule will be dedicated at the end of the year. We are asking for contributions and suggestions from any individual members, groups, classes, etc. to be included in the collection.

If you are interested in putting together something or just have a suggestion, please contact Jessica Humble at 441-8021 or e mail at: humblejess@aol.com I am sure we can create something amazing for our members to discover in 2032!

KMIZ-TV Ads

Two promotional ads for the church have been filmed for use during Advent. They will be on KMIZ TV. The times they will run are during the morning and evening news. This was a goal of the 175th Anniversary Committee and the newly-formed Publicity Department.

Ornaments and FCC Logo Items

A table will continue to be set up in the Narthex before and after both services for sale of church logo items, especially our timeless commemorative gold church ornament. The cost per ornament is \$12.00 or 2 for \$20.00. They will be available during the week in the church office.

Tote bags with the church image, baseball hats with the church name embroidered on them in tan and gray are available in two different styles, note cards of the ink drawing of the church, postcards of the stained glass Christian College window, china commemorative plates and mugs are all available. These are great Christmas gifts and are being sold at our cost.

Special Stories

Mary Bancroft has reported a delay in printing the booklet of stories so you have another week to get your special story to her. It can be a funny recollection, an experience, a special event in your life that created a bond with the church or anything you want to write about. These stories will be collected and bound in a pamphlet to share with each other. Please turn stories in to the church office, or e-mail to Mary Bancroft at: mbancr01@juno.com



Remembering: Tribune 5-20-1966

Dr. and Mrs. Paul Ritchie and their four children, John, Paula, Tony and Patty of 609 Crestland Avenue were honored as the Christian Family of the Year, as members of First Christian Church. They will receive a family vacation week at the camp at Trenton supervised by the MO Association of Christian Churches. Dr. Ritchie is a member of the Church Board, now serving as Vice-Chair and is Chairman elect for the coming church year. He has taught Sunday School and was superintendent of the Junior High Department. Mrs. Ritchie is a member of Coffman-Watson Circle of CWF and member of the Hearthstone Sunday School class. All the children are active in the Sunday School program and choir.



(Photo from Columbia Daily Tribune-Friday, May, 20, 1966)

Thank You

Thank you to Chris Creasy for changing the office window display to a Christmas theme. It has been an addition to the appearance of the office to have the window cleaned and current with the season of the year.

Have you seen the board by the door to the library on the 2nd floor? Thanks, Mary!

175th Anniversary Quilt

IT'S COMPLETED!! Yes, after more than a year of planning and piecing, the 175th Anniversary Quilt project is completed. The 162 personalized quilt blocks that were so lovingly designed and created by our wonderful congregation have been collected, arranged, assembled and quilted. The finished quilt is ready for public viewing. The grand unveiling will occur at the Fellowship Dinner on December 5. Following the dinner the quilt will move to its permanent home in the Historical Room on the second floor of the Education Building. You are encouraged to come by and see it frequently along with the other exhibits. In its permanent residence it will be accompanied by a reference book which spells out some of its history and also includes an annotated index of all the contributors.

The quilt project concept was born in the meetings of the 175th Anniversary Planning Committee chaired by Genie Rogers. A quilt committee was formed consisting of Judy Cunningham, Mary Daugherty, Pat Rainey, Tommie Ross, Mona Stevenson, Sarah Yonker, and Mary Tompson to oversee the project. All church members were invited to submit a personalized quilt block measuring 6 x 6 inches. Patterns and instructions for different types of quilt blocks were drawn up and a variety of materials, including a piece of background fabric to present a unified appearance, were made available.

Members were particularly encouraged to be creative and imaginative, both in style and in technique. In all, members responded with 162 blocks, which were then assembled by the ladies of the committee into the final quilt. The wide variety of contributed blocks included pieced and appliquéd blocks as well as embroidery, cross stitch, photo transfer, and combinations of these techniques. Nearly all of the blocks are personalized with the name of the contributor and family or in memory of a loved one now departed. The focal point of the quilt, the large block in the center, is a quilted representation of the 175th year logo that had been designed by Cheryl Unterschultz in conjunction with the planning committee. This central block was created by Mona Stevenson, a quilt committee member and long-time church member. The congregation has long admired her artistic talents for the beautifully quilted Paraments that she created and which hang each week from the pulpit and the lectern of the chancel.

Many people contributed in important ways to the completion of this challenging project. We would especially like to acknowledge Deatra McGary at Bernina Sewing Center for her many contributions, particularly the embroidered lettering on the large logo block. Also, we are indebted to Patricia White, Maysville, Mo., whose efforts produced the beautiful quilting. Patricia is the sister of our own Mary Daugherty. The size, complexity, and range of materials in the quilt were such that the traditional hand quilting technique was unsuitable, so a skilled machine quilter was especially needed. Finally, the committee would like also to thank the many church members who contributed their own beautiful blocks and whose interest and encouragement were essential to the completion of this project.

We wish that when members look upon this quilt they will recognize it as a symbol of the love and high regard with which the church is held by its members.

~Mary Tompson



(State Historical Society of Missouri photo)

WHEN ALLEN'S ZERO HOUSE RESCUED THE CHURCH

For more than 50 years our church relied on the Zero House, an unpretentious, busy little grocery store directly across Tenth Street. It was even smaller when it was opened in the 1920s by Emerson and Annie Allen. Ever since, the family has belonged to First Christian Church. For recalling the role of the Zero House in our church history, we thank the nostalgic memories of some church folks and Dorothy Allen, wife of the late co-owner Tim Allen.

Sometimes the Zero House was a lifesaver when the ladies in the church kitchen ran short of some groceries for a dinner that was already underway.

Fourteen of the 15 Allen children plus grandchildren eventually worked at the Zero House. Sam Walton, founder of the Wal-Mart stores chain, often came in. He and Tim were schoolmates, Hickman High football teammates, and lifelong close friends. From the 1940s into the 1970s, when it closed, the Zero House was owned and operated mostly by the second generation Allen brothers Nimrod and Tim. A quiet yet interesting man, Nimrod also managed the MU ROTC stable of horses for some time and was widely respected for his swift racing pigeons. When Columbia was much smaller, people all over town could depend upon the Allens and Zero House being open even hours and days other grocery stores were closed. The church also had arrangements there and at a café for one-time help for hungry homeless transients.

From the 1930s to the 1950s, our church's large group of 30 to 80 college students, the Christian Student Congregation (CSC), shopped mostly at the handy Zero House for groceries to prepare their meals every Sunday evening.

Not infrequently some children on their way to Sunday School slipped across the street to the Zero House first to spend some of their offering money for candy, soda pop, or ice cream. Recently, Dorothy Allen discovered at home a can full of coins. She knew that in it for many years, her husband, Tim, had collected the children's spent offerings. True to his intent, she took it to the church office. Snacks were much cheaper to buy in those days, she explained, but it added up to \$25.67. Dorothy designated it to go to Heifer International Third-World Christian rural missions.

For helping, even rescuing, hundreds—maybe thousands—of church events over the many decades, we continue to remember and appreciate the Allen family and the Zero House. ~Bob Leach

(youth this week)

CYF (9th-12th grade)

Wednesday Nights at church
7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

One last EAT OUT! on Dec.
19th. Bring \$5.

Chi- Rho (6th-8th grade)

Sunday afternoons at
church
4:00 - 5:30 p.m.

JYF (3rd-5th grade)

Twice a month on Sundays
after Worship.

This week: December 9th
12:00- 1:30 p.m.
Fellowship Hall

Calling for more partners!

Youth groups are in need
of additional adult part-
ners. If you would like
to work with one of the
three youth groups, please
call or email Jimmy Spear
(jimmy@firstchristian.org)
and explore what great
opportunities there might
be in store.

The Shawl Ministry

The Shawl Group will be meeting Wednesday, 10:00 am, December 19, at the home of Nannie Lou Mallet, 1306 Vintage. Several new knitters and crocheters have joined the group in recent weeks and we would love to have you too. If you can share some time with us, please give Nannie Lou a call (874-9664) and let her know.

We are happy, too, that we have several non-resident members who support our program. Special thanks this week to Martha Shroul Brown who sent us a beautiful shawl from her home in Chicago. Special thanks, too, to Judy Hall who continues to be a very active and productive participant, even tho her work prevents her from attending meetings. That kind of dedication means so much to our program! What a joy it is to be a part of a group like this. ~Mary Tompson

The CAFÉ is coming...

Wednesday Evenings Starting In January

Great Hot Meals Served

Classes, choirs, and new opportunities for
you and your family to learn and grow
in spirit and faith.

First Christian Church
Wednesday Evenings

Christian Action Fellowship Education

Cyclone Sidr

In response to the catastrophic devastation of Cyclone Sidr, Bangladesh members of Action by Churches Together (ACT) have begun emergency support to more than 35,000 of the most vulnerable survivors, including widows, children, the elderly, disabled and landless.

Five ACT members - Christian Commission for Development Bangladesh (CCDB); Social Health and Education Development Board (SHED); Lutheran Health Care Bangladesh (LHCB); the Church of Bangladesh (CoB); and Christian Aid - are coordinating efforts to provide emergency food, medical support and temporary shelter. ACT has rushed an initial grant from its Rapid Response Fund and will be submitting an appeal to the ACT network in coming days to support additional relief efforts as well as long-term recovery work of our Bangladesh partners. Week of Compassion will respond on behalf of the Disciples. In the meantime, WOC is sending a grant immediately to CCDB, also a partner of Church World Service and the Global Ministries Southern Asia program.

The death toll from Cyclone Sidr has surpassed 3,000 and is expected to grow. Exact figures on the number of people left homeless is not yet known but is expected to be in the millions. At least 500,000 homes have been destroyed. Just months ago floods devastated northern Bangladesh. While the southern part of the country is prone to cyclones and floods, Sidr is the most destructive to hit the country in a decade.

This is one of the ways in which your Week of Compassion dollars help people around the world.

~World Outreach Committee

Happy Birthday



Harsh Brown-Dec. 10
Marjorie Carter-Dec. 10
Cheryl Unterschutz-Dec. 10
Beuna Lansford-Dec. 11
Cliff Tompson-Dec. 12
William Bower-Dec. 12
Jonathan Overacre-Dec. 13
Susan Woodbury-Dec. 14
Buddy Boger-Dec. 15
Jerry Daugherty-Dec. 15
J.A. Flanders-Dec. 15
Amanda Montgomery-Dec. 15
Darby Henry-Dec. 15



Heifer Ark

Take a unique approach to gift giving this holiday season with Heifer International. Tell friends and family peace and an end to hunger are on your wish list. In just a few minutes, you could be stocked with goats, chicks, pigs, and water buffaloes to help families around the world. With gifts to Heifer, there will be no worry about gifts that clutter, don't fit, long lines or parking - just the joy of knowing your gifts make a difference in the life of a family long after the holidays are over. Stop by the Heifer display in the narthex this Sunday and make your purchases. There are gift cards available to send your family and friends. Make your check payable to First Christian Church; in the memo section write Heifer Ark.

~World Outreach Committee

STARS (55 and older)



Mark your calendars for a
Soup Lunch and
Christmas Matinee

December 13, 2007
11:30 - 3:30

The movie is
"The Christmas Carol"
(Free Will offering)
Make reservations in the church
office (449-7265) by Dec. 11th.

The Visitor

First Christian Church

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



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

Ministerial Staff:

Dr. John J. Yonker, Senior Minister
jyonker@firstchristian.org

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

Rev. Jimmy Spear, Associate Minister
jimmy@firstchristian.org

Campus Ministry Intern: Kelly Mueller

Music Staff:

Mary Bancroft, Coord. of Music & Organist
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-Dec. 9, 2007

Van Driver: Carol Slusher *Telephone:* Nina Oliver

8:30 Early Worship, Sanctuary

Worship Asst: Bettie and Charles Koelling, Millie Caringer

Elder for 8:30 Service: Joyce Stanley

Communion Preparation:

George and Willie Harris, Roy Rogers

9:30 Church School

Church School Greeter: Dorothy Porter

Nursery Volunteer: TBA

10:30 Worship in Sanctuary

Sermon: Dr. John J. Yonker *Liturgist:* Drew Gieseke

10:30 Elders: Will and Donna Houston, Marvin Tracy

Deacons: The England Team

Greeters:

Joyce Stanley, *North Door*

Chuck Scott, *South Door*

Ushers: Burnam Team

Banner Bearers: Matt Hoepfner and Makali Hawkins

Candlelighters: Max Schaefer and Julia Bower

Flower Ministry:

Arranged: Linda and Russ Chandler

Delivered: Anne and Jim Campbell

Evangelism Calls: Jacki Davidson

This Week (Dec. 9 - 15)

Sun.- Adult Membership Class, 9:30 am, Green Room

- Homebound Communion

- JYF (grades 3-5), 12:00-1:30 pm

- Chi Rho (grades 6-8), 4:00-5:30 pm

- Date Night, 5:30-7:30 pm, Morris Parlor

Tue.- Bible Study, 10:00 am, Hackett's home

* note change in time and location this week

Wed.- Men's Lunch, 11:30 am, Senior Center

- Brummett Harrah Group, 1:00 pm, Harry &
Serena White's home

- Back Room (college group), 8:45-10:00 pm

Thur.- STARS Soup Lunch & Movie, 11:30-3:30, Parlor

