



THE
February 2, 2007
Vol. 65, No. 27

VISITOR

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Youth Sunday

This Sunday's worship services will both be led by our youth who have been planning throughout the month of January... when it wasn't snowing! The service will include special music, skits and a good message by our own young people. The main text for the day is taken from Matthew 25 and focuses on our response to those in need. Come. Encounter God this Sunday in worship through the leadership of our youth... and remember your non-perishables for the pantry if you would like to participate in the food drive.

As part of the 175th celebration, the Old Time Hymn Sing will begin at 8:25 for the early service and 10:25 for the late service. Come and sing your old favorites for 10 minutes before each service begins.



Annual All-Church Food Drive

Sunday, February 4th

Any non-perishable food items for the Central Missouri Food Pantry will be appreciated!

Food Drive This Sunday!

"Souper Bowl of Caring" on this Super Bowl Sunday

The annual all-church food drive is this very Sunday, February 4. We invite you to participate by bringing non-perishable food items to the church (either the Narthex or the Fellowship Hall) and we will deliver them on behalf of our congregation. We hope to help the shelves of the Central Missouri Food Pantry get filled back up for the people of Columbia in need. If you want to help, but don't want to deal with carrying in food, you are welcome to toss a dollar or two into our large soup kettles labeled for the "Souper Bowl" that will be in the Narthex. Thanks for your consideration! ~Youth

FCC Night with the Stars

The third annual First Christian Night will be held on Thursday, February 8th when the Stephens College Stars basketball team takes on the Central Bible College Lady Spartans. Tip off is at 6:00pm and admission is free to all First Christian friends. Come on out to Silverthorne Arena on Dorsey Street (south off of Broadway on Stephens' campus) and enjoy the game!

Search Committee Report

The Associate Minister Search Committee was approved at the November Administrative Board meeting and has begun meeting to evaluate responses to the congregational survey which was taken last fall. After an early January meeting was postponed due to bad weather, the committee met on January 20 and 27 to formulate a description of responsibilities for the new associate minister and complete a profile of congregational information which was given to the Area Minister early this week. Our congregational profile and position description will be distributed through the national Search and Call process of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) with responses from interested ministers expected by March 1, after which resumes will be screened and interviews with potential candidates will begin.

Members of Search Committee are: Sarah Read, Moderator, John Yonker, Senior Minister, Kim Rogers, Micki McGuire-Kirkham, Dan Gieseke, Cliff Tompson, Tommy Tomlin, Molly Read and Mitchell Hysten.

From the Frontier to the Future



First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)
Columbia, Missouri

1832 175th Anniversary 2007

From Ken's Desk...

Broken ain't so bad... Well, that's what I've been telling myself lately. After **TWO** falls within a week of each other and **TWO** broken bones, both on my dominant left arm, I'm re-learning some lessons about life.

The first and least surprising lesson is what a loving and caring bunch of people you are! I am getting a wonderful amount of sympathy and support, more than I deserve. I'm a sucker for sympathy! The only bad part is that I can only get it for the next few weeks until the wrist and arm are healed. Maybe I can break something else...

There is a second lesson, though: When things are broken is when we realize that we need each other. As much as I like sympathy, I find it really hard to accept that I can't do everything all by myself. I am not the totally independent and competent person I aspire to be. When everything is going well, I can live in that fantasy. But when you need help pulling up your pants and buttoning your shirt, you run smack into reality! We are created to be interdependent. Life only works well, during good times and bad, when we share it with others. Life, especially Christian life, is fundamentally about relationships – with one another and with God. We share our strengths and our weaknesses and become whole and healthy people, knit together by God's love and forgiveness.

So, my broken bones are being knit together and so is all my brokenness. And that's good news. Thanks be to God for caring friends and broken bones!



The Ladies' Book Club will meet on Monday, February 26 at 7pm to discuss Khaled Hosseini's novel, *The Kite Runner*. The book's website provides the following description of the book: "An epic tale of fathers and sons, of friendship and betrayal that takes us from the final days of Afghanistan's monarchy to the atrocities of the present." Please join us at Linda Hutton's home, 2252 Country Lane for February's Book Club selection. Questions: call 442-5423.

Reminder: Home Alone Ministry

If you need assistance in getting to the doctor's office, picking up medications, grocery shopping, or a number of other of life's little problems, please feel free to call **Carol Slusher, 874-4902 or 819-3984**, and she will find a volunteer close by you to help you out.

We're ready to serve anyway we can.

Viet Nam Mission on KOMU-TV

Well-known KOMU-TV newscaster Sarah Hill went to Viet Nam in late November to deliver 40 PETs to give mobility for people there who had lost use of their legs by landmines, polio, or other causes. On Mondays during February on the 6:00 pm newscasts, Sarah will share film that was made. Then on KOMU-TV on Thursday, March 8, at 6:30 pm, following the newscast, she will have a 30-minute documentary about this fascinating mission project, which originates here in Columbia.

PET is short for Personal Energy Transportation, a hand-pedalled vehicle somewhat similar to a three-wheeled motorscooter. People of our church have provided at least four. Our O. Eugene Moore is the communications volunteer.



KOMU-TV cameraman Steve Biami accompanied Sarah. PETs are made by Christian volunteer men and women at the PET Project, 1914 Heriford, just left of Paris Rd. one block north of Bus. Loop 70.

Weekly Report

January 28, 2007

Received \$8,050.15

Received to Date \$275,012.51

Attendance - 277

(includes early worship - 55)

News of the congregation

Mildred Todd was released from Boone Hospital on Monday after spending a few days there last weekend. **Bill Brothers** has returned home after spending several days in the hospital. **Jane Ann Hackett** was admitted to Boone Hospital on Sunday afternoon. **Meadow Woodbury** has returned to her San Diego, California home to continue recovering from surgery last week. **Marvin Tracy** is home recovering from surgery on Monday at Regional Hospital. **Lois Brown** is at Boone Hospital recovering from surgery.

We extend our sympathy to **David Read and his family** on the death of his mother, **Marian Read**, who died after a lengthy illness in a Lakewood, California hospital on Monday morning. Services will be held in Long Beach, California this week. With her husband, **Rev. Joe Read**, a Disciples of Christ minister, she served the Bixby Knolls Christian Church in Long Beach for 33 years. She was 81 years old.

Our sympathy is also extended to **Pat Rainey** and her family on the death of her brother, **Donald Sass**, who died Monday evening, January 29, at the Bluff's nursing home. He was 70 years old. Private funeral services will be held at a future time.



Church Eat-Out

Friday - Feb. 2
5:30 p.m.

Country Kitchen
Everyone Welcome!



Hailey Lentz-Feb. 5
Meadow Woodbury-Feb. 6
Jessica Vaughn-Feb. 6
Lorene Trickey-Feb. 7
Hailey Knouff-Feb. 7
Kimberly Foster-Feb. 8
Mildred Todd-Feb. 9
Dane Pavlovich-Feb. 9
Jennifer Alexander-Feb. 10
David Chrisman-Feb. 10
Steven Smith-Feb. 10
Steve Humble-Feb. 10
Kyle Pikop-Feb. 10

175th Anniversary News

Old Time Hymn Sing

As part of the 175th celebration, choir director, Melissa Straw; organist, Mary Bancroft; and pianist, Norma Miller, will conduct an “old time hymn sing” the first Sunday of each month. That means this Sunday! Submit any requests to the office or Melissa (e mail: strawsinger@earthlink.net). If the hymn is not in our hymnal, attempts will be made to find it, and if needed, words and music will be photocopied for distribution. This should be fun so come a few minutes early to church. The hymn sing each month will be 10 minutes and begin at 8:25 for the early service and 10:25 for the late service and last 10 minutes. Dig out your old favorites you remember from a long time ago. Our focus will be on hymns written in the 19th century.

Anniversary Quilt

The quilt committee will continue to be available after church to answer questions and give out quilt squares for the next two weeks. Committee members will be available after church to display samples, answer questions and provide guidance. Everyone is encouraged to be involved. Help is available for anyone wishing it. If specialized embroidery is desired on your square, contacts have been made with *Monograms by Deatra* at Bernina Sewing, 12 S. 2nd Street, phone 289-6800. Her e-mail is monogramsbydeatra@socket.net. Her charge will vary by what you wish to have added on to your square.

The reason for everyone to use the same material for the squares is because it will provide a consistency to the background material for the quilt, which will enhance the appearance when it is assembled. You, with your selected design will individualize each square. This is an opportunity to participate in making something unique and wonderful for our church. Plans are underway to have group quilting sessions at the church. This will be a great time to make new friends and participate in a great project.

Thank you to the generosity of Erin Bower for a box of assorted fabrics that she has donated to be used in the making of the blocks. You can look for just the right material for the design you have chosen. The material will be available on Sunday.

The chair of the quilt committee is Mary Tompson who would be happy to talk to you and answer any questions you might have at 442-8849.

Adult Sunday School Classes

The third installment of adult Sunday School classes taught by Ken Watson will be held in Morris Parlor on Sunday morning at 9:30. The first week covered how the frontier molded a new kind of religion and the people involved in the early years of formation. This past week chronicled the role and increasing influence of Barton Stone and Alexander Campbell in the Columbia area and the sharing of duties between the early ministers and the lay members of the congregation to make the church a functioning body. It was 1867 before we had a “settled and full time minister”, John W. Mountjoy, who was paid a salary at the Columbia Church. Join us for the last two weeks of this fascinating series on the history of our denomination as we learn more about ourselves.

Historical Room

The Historical Room (2nd floor) is open on Sundays and any other time you want a special tour. This is a wonderful spot where artifacts, old pictures, wall hangings and treasures of our church have been gathered. Several mannequins dressed in period costume will be on loan to us from Columbia College until the end of February. There will be periodic changes in pictures and information displayed, so if you know of items of interest that you could donate or lend to the church for a display period contact Chris Creasy, chair of the Historical Committee.

Mark your calendar

Sunday afternoon, February 11, 2007 at 3:00, Bob Priddy, news director for MissouriNet, author and regional historian, will be speaking as part of our 175th anniversary on *In the Footsteps of Alexander... the role of religion in the settling of Missouri*. A reception in Fellowship Hall will follow the lecture. Mr. Priddy was active in the Christian Student Congregation during his time at MU as a Journalism student. He has many friends at First Christian and we welcome him back.

This event will be advertised in both papers and is free and open to the public as part of the David Rogers Memorial Lecture Series.

The Establishment of Christian College (1851)

When the University of Missouri was dedicated in 1834, Elder Thomas M. Allen, a “Christian” or “Disciples of Christ” preacher and president of the University curators, had a vision to start a sister school. Two other founders, Reverend James Shannon, a Disciples of Christ minister and president of the University, and David Patterson Henderson, minister of the local Christian Church joined Allen and others in discussion that continued for years. All had been influenced by the teachings of Barton W. Stone and Alexander Campbell.

A public meeting held on November 23, 1849, to obtain community support marked the true beginning. Christmas Day 1850 was the final planning meeting. John A. Williams would be the first president for “a chartered institution under the control of a board of trustees composed solely of our brethren and friends.” Subscribers had pledged \$3,000 of the needed \$10,000. Williams and all the presidents through 1957 had strong ties with the Disciples of Christ church.

The Missouri General Assembly passed an act on January 18, 1851 to incorporate a female college in Columbia, to be named Christian Female College. Not having evolved from an academy or seminary, it opened as a college offering a four-year Baccalaureate degree. The college was to provide a thorough collegiate education rather than serving as a religious or finishing school. It started on a mortgage and a prayer and through the years would experience financial struggles but nothing has ever closed the college, not even the Civil War, which temporarily closed the University.

The first seven girls arrived April 7, 1851, for a three-month preliminary session held at the Christian Church meeting house. Twenty-nine acres at the end of “the 10th cross street in town,” later named Christian College Avenue, was purchased for \$5,500. The first regular session, with tuition of \$150, opened in September with 36 girls. (The university had an enrollment of 75.) Since the building was not finished, the college held classes in William Hitt’s two room storefront at the northwest corner of Hitt and Cherry Streets. Students boarded with local families.

The history of Christian Female College reads with names associated with the Disciples of Christ and that tradition continues today with our minister serving on the college’s Board of Trustees. Faculty member Caroline Neville Pearre founded the Christian Woman’s Board of Missions in 1875. Another notable faculty member was Mary Paxton Keeley, first woman graduate of the School of Journalism. The college borrowed \$2,000 from Blind Boone in 1889, as his mother “belonged to” the James Shannon family. Luella Wilcox St. Clair, upon the death of her husband in 1893, became one of the first woman college presidents and in 1929 was elected vice president of the International Convention of the Disciples of Christ. Among notable alumnae are Vinnie Ream, famous for her statue of Abraham Lincoln, singer Jane Froman, and 1966 Miss America Deborah Bryant.

Sunday, February 14, 1951, was the Recognition Day service (during the college’s Centennial celebration), which was held at our church to honor the trustees and friends who had helped to found and maintain the college. Minister-trustee C.E. Lemmon preached on “The Past Serves the Present.” The Board of Trustees president was Hartley G. Banks, great-nephew of the 3rd college president J.K. Rogers. Jane Froman, class of 1926, performed.

Significant changes include: 1913 became a two-year junior college awarding an A.A. degree; 1929 dropped “Female” from the name; and 1970 Christian College became Columbia College, a four-year co-ed school that restored the Baccalaureate degree. This change was not popular with many alumnae but proved to be a necessity to ensure the college’s future. Columbia College, a nonsectarian institution affiliated by covenant with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), is one of 21 colleges, universities, and theological institutions who receive funds through the Disciples Mission Fund.





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

www.firstchristian.org/youth



Summer Mission Trips

This Saturday morning, February 3, from 9:30 – 10:30am the youth who are helping with worship on Sunday morning are invited to come to the sanctuary for a run through of a few of the parts of worship. We need this extra time because two of our last three Sundays were snowed out! Sorry to get you up on a Saturday morning, but in the words of one of our college students, “What’s one day for God?” ;) Hope you can come!

All youth who are helping with worship are asked to be in the sanctuary on Sunday morning by 8:15am. (This time has changed from 8:00am to 8:15am because of our additional practice on Saturday.)

We will be enjoying yummie “breakfast pizzas” and juice directly after the first service and before Sunday School so that our tummies aren’t growling through the second service!

We will not be having our normal youth groups this Sunday because we will all need naps after such a full weekend of worship preparations and leadership. ;)

Partners Needed

We need Partners to put our breakfast pizzas together on Saturday morning while the youth are practicing in the sanctuary so we can simply bake them on Sunday morning. If you are bringing a young person to church for practice anyway, please consider staying and helping us out with this task. Sebastian isn’t the best helper in the kitchen yet and I really need some assistance this weekend. Call or email if you are willing and able to help (808-1980). Thanks!



River of Life Sunday School

This Sunday marks the first day of our five week rotation on Pentecost. Throughout the upcoming weeks, we will explore the story of the birthday of the church and what the Spirit’s presence continues to mean for us as Christians today. We hope that all kindergarten through fifth graders will come float down the river as we make stops in the Art Room, Drama Room, Children’s Library and perhaps other remote locations as well. We have fun as we learn our biblical stories and want to have more friends with us on the journey!

Final plans for our summer mission trips are in the works, but we want to give you a preview of when we might be doing what...

The college students will be journeying together from Sunday, May 13 – Sunday, May 20. The group has explored many different options for their learning and serving trip and will be finalizing their thoughts for the Campus Department this very week.

John is leading a group to the Yakama Christian Mission in White Swan, Washington from Saturday, May 26 – Saturday, June 2 to participate in a building project (ala Habitat). This is an all-church mission trip in which all are invited to participate. The cost of the journey is still being calculated and will be published within the month. Have you heard about the college students’ two trips to Yakama and their extended driving? Don’t fret – John and friends will be flying this summer! We’ve thoroughly enjoyed our trips to the Yakama Nation in the past and are sure that this will be a wonderful experience.



The Chi Rhoers will be journeying from Monday, June 18 – Thursday, June 21 for their mission trip this summer. We are asking permission to work with Habitat in Kansas and are looking forward to their response shortly. Kansas has many strong strengths that we will appreciate as a group... Amy Kay’s family and a large lake for recreation are at the top of the list!



First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) will again be hosting the CYFers on their mission trip to Gulfport, Mississippi from Sunday, July 8 – the following weekend as we continue our disaster relief efforts. It is inspiring to see change in the town each time we go down and we know our helping hands will again be appreciated. It is amazing to be a part of this type of mission work.

JYF’s trip has yet to be determined, but we will certainly pass on the information when we have established something!

The Visitor

First Christian Church

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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-Feb. 4, 2007

Van Driver: Tom Yonker *Telephone:* Dorothy Allen

8:30 Early Worship, Sanctuary

Worship Asst: Sue Fink, Barbara Rothenberger and Betty Moon

Elder for 8:30 Service: Harsh Brown

Communion Preparation:

Jeff and Susan Ripley, Kayla and Kyle Pikop

9:30 Church School

Church School Greeter: Gerry Coon

Nursery Volunteer: Hayley Batterson

10:30 Worship in Sanctuary

Sermon: Dr. John J. Yonker *Liturgist:* College/Youth

10:30 Elders: Carol Slusher, Debbie Batterson, Robert Swanson

Deacons: The Campbell Team

Greeters:

Kurt and Stacia Schaefer, *North Door*

Joyce Stanley, *South Door*

Ushers: The Pavlovich Team

Banner Bearers: Emily Unterschut and Courtney Backues

Candlelighters: Logan Garton and Sam Poole

Flower Ministry:

arranged: Paula and Kent Kurtz

delivered: Anne Campbell

Evangelism Calls: Anne Campbell

This Week (Feb. 4 - 10)

Sun. - Old Time Hymn Sing, 8:25-8:35 and 10:25-10:35 a.m.
(10 minutes before each service), Sanctuary
- Women's Ministries Board Mtg, after 10:30 Service,
Morris Parlor

Mon. - Coffman-Watson Group, 7:00 p.m., Jerry Vaught's

Tue. - Bible Study, 10:30 a.m., Morris Parlor

Wed. - Men's Lunch, 11:30 a.m., Senior Center
- World Outreach Committee, 4:00 p.m., Morris Parlor
- Administrative Board Mtg., 6:30 pm., Morris Parlor
- Back Room (college group), 8:45-10:00 p.m.

Thur. - FCC Night at Stephens College, 6:00 p.m.,
Silverthorne Arena

