



# THE VISITOR

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

February 23, 2007  
Vol. 65, No. 30

## Welcome New Members!

On February 4th we welcomed three new members. Two of them are **Christy and Shawn VonTalge** who live at 1800 N. Barnett School Road in Clark (ph. #256-0144). They come by way of transfer from the United Presbyterian Church in Greenville, Illinois.

The third new member is **Jason Rochholz** (pictured here). Jason is in the process of moving and we hope to have his address and phone number soon. Welcome all!



## Sunday Services

Can it be that Christmas and Epiphany are past, and the season of Lent is upon us? With the coming of Ash Wednesday on February 21, we will begin the journey of Lent which will lead us through the next six Sundays to Palm Sunday and Easter. February 25, the first Sunday in Lent, will present the story of Jesus' temptation found in Luke 4:1-13 and a reading of Psalm 91. The Chancel Choir will present their anthem, "On Eagles' Wings," by Joncas/Hayes.

## We are Counting on You to Make a Difference



**First Christian Church Blood Drive**  
**Sunday, March 4**  
**8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall**



### Weekly Report

February 18, 2007  
Received \$5,884.30  
Received to Date \$300,768.65  
Attendance - 201  
(includes early worship -51)

## Lunch and Learn

"To Move or Not to Move – Housing Choice for Seniors" is the topic for the first Lunch and Learn Program for church members 55 and older. Don Ginsburg and Nancy Thomas will present our program. We will have W.G. Grinders cater our meal. Cost will be \$6.00 per person. Come join us as we begin a new group in our church on Tuesday, February 27th at noon in the Fellowship Hall. Call the church office (449-7265) for reservations.

Membership Committee

## 2007 Nomination Forms

The church nominating committee solicits your suggestions for congregational members to fill the office of Elder, Deacon, Junior Deacon, Honorary Elder and Honorary Deacon. Please give your ideas on persons who should be recognized for outstanding service awards. Your suggestions and your prayerful concern will be greatly appreciated. Forms will be provided in the Narthex on Sunday and will also be available in the church office.

*From the Frontier to the Future*



**First Christian Church**

(Disciples of Christ)  
Columbia, Missouri

**1832 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 2007**

## Lenten Journey 2007

February 22 marks the beginning of Lent. Dating back to the early 4<sup>th</sup> century, Lent begins with Ash Wednesday and continues for the forty weekdays and six Sundays preceding Easter, and reminds us of the forty days which Jesus fasted in the wilderness at the beginning of his ministry.

In the early church this season became a special time of preparation and repentance for all Christians. One of the most ancient purposes of Lent is the preparation of candidates for baptism, and for those already baptized to renew their covenant with Christ made through baptism. Lent is also a time for Christians to meditate upon the meaning of the cross in Christian life and faith, and to reflect upon the sacrificial life and death of Christ. Finally, Lent offers us the opportunity to give special attention to developing spiritual discipline and deepening our relationship with God.

### Sundays of Lent

February 25

Psalm 91 and Luke 4:1-13  
Sermon - "Passing the Test"  
Anthem - "On Eagles' Wings"



March 4

Psalm 27, Luke 13:31-35, Philippians 3:17-4:1  
Sermon - "Standing Firm"  
Anthem - "Blessed Be the Name of the Lord"

March 11

Isaiah 55:1-9, Luke 13:1-9  
Sermon - "U-Turn Ahead"  
Special Music - Handbell Choir and Drennan Singers

March 18

Psalm 32, Luke 15:1-3; 11b-32  
Sermon - "The Scandal of Forgiveness"  
Anthem - "Medley of the Cross"

March 25

Isaiah 43:16-21, Philippians 3:4b-14  
Sermon - "Pressing On"  
Anthem - "Go Not Far From Me"

April 1 - Palm Sunday

John 12:12-16, Philippians 2:5-11  
Sermon - "Low Rider"  
Anthem - "Come, Jerusalem, Sing Hosanna"

### Lenten Breakfasts

Our congregation is invited to share in the Lenten breakfasts with members of other Columbia churches. Breakfasts begin at 7 a.m. and conclude by 8 to allow people to leave for work.

February 21 - First Baptist

February 28 - Columbia United Church of Christ

March 7 - First Presbyterian

March 14 - Sacred Heart Catholic

March 21 - Calvary Episcopal

March 28 - Missouri United Methodist

April 4 - First Christian

"As we embark upon discipleship we surrender ourselves to Christ in union with his death – we give over our lives to death. Thus it begins; the cross is not the terrible end to an otherwise godfearing and happy life, but it meets us at the beginning of our communion with Christ. When Christ calls a person, he bids that person come and die . . . To go one's way under the sign of the cross is not misery and desperation, but peace and refreshment for the soul, it is the highest joy." Dietrich Bonhoeffer

### Ecumenical Blessing of the Palms

On Palm Sunday we leave from the church at 10:25 a.m. with our palm branches and walk together to 9th and Broadway to share with the downtown churches in the Ecumenical Blessing of the Palms. Those people not making the walk downtown will share in a congregational hymn sing!

### Maundy Thursday

Remembering the Last Supper of Jesus with his disciples, we will gather in the sanctuary for a service of scripture, music and sharing the Lord's Supper.

### Easter Sunday - April 8

Memorial lilies will fill the sanctuary with the glory of Easter worship. Scripture readings, Isaiah 65:17-25 and Luke 24:1-12, and the sermon, "A Passion for the Possible." Great music by the Chancel Choir with brass accompaniment will celebrate the joy of Easter.

## News of the congregation

**Helen Ingold** is scheduled for surgery on Thursday at Boone Hospital Center and will probably be there for an overnight stay. We continue to keep **Meadow Woodbury** in our prayers as she continues her recovery from surgery at the end of January in San Diego, California.

Thanks to **Norma Miller** and **Mary Bancroft** for their nice piano/organ duets, and to the members of the **Chancel Choir** for their lovely anthem last Sunday.

Several people have asked about memorials for **Sarah Yonker's mother**. For those interested, contributions may be made in memory of **Dorothy Randle** to:

Brite Divinity School, Capital Campaign  
Texas Christian University, Box 298130  
Ft. Worth, Texas 76129

**Matthew T. Martz** is an elementary school principal at Skaith Elementary School in St. Joseph, Missouri. He has been a principal there for 6 years. On Thursday February 15, 2007 he became Principal of the year St. Joseph School District. He is the son of **Freda and Thomas Martz** of Columbia, Missouri and the brother and brother-in-law to **Mary and Robert Dewey** of Fulton, Missouri.

Our prayers are with **Raymond Sheppard**, father of **Ron Sheppard**, who is hospitalized in Cape Girardeau, Mo.



Thank you for the Prayer Shawl. It made me feel the closeness, support and comfort of love. You are a special group.

Pat Rainey

Your  
Special Birthdays!

Marceline Shamberger-  
94 on Mar. 2  
Harold Duncan-  
99 on Mar. 6





# 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary News

- Genie Rogers

## Sunday School on Church History

Sadly, this Sunday is the last of a six week DYNAMITE series on the history of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) denomination in general and the Columbia church in particular. On Sunday, February 18, discussion briefly centered on the ministry of Joseph H. Foy and then most of the hour was spent on Clarence Lemmon and the stature he brought to the denomination worldwide and to the Columbia Christian Church. He was a great orator, devoted to evangelism and passionate about mission work here and around the world. He represented the best of theological and social liberal thought among church leaders. He came at a time of insolvency in the church and slowly got the debt issues under control and paid off. He was the Editor of The World Call and Trustee of the Pension Fund. In 1958, he encouraged the church to purchase the land at the undeveloped end of Broadway to build a church, which is now Broadway Christian. Next week Ken will review the church in the 60's (time of turmoil), 70's and 80's. Join us for this last class and learn more about more recent years in our church history.

## Anniversary Quilt

Due to the interest displayed after Church the last few Sundays, the ladies will be in the Narthex before and after Church again this next Sunday with quilt squares and extra fabric. This will be the **last** time so please, everyone get signed up and get your square. On Saturday, March 3 at 10:00 the quilt committee will meet at Mary Tompson's house to help anyone having trouble with their design, to get started on their square or to learn how to do it. Help will be available and anyone is encouraged to attend. Depending on interest, several of these help sessions can be scheduled. Call **Mary at 442-8849** for directions to her house and let her know if she can expect you.

## Publicity

First Christian Church has been getting some awesome publicity recently. Be sure and check the Saturday, February 3 Columbia Daily Tribune and the Sunday, February 18 Columbia Missourian. Both were excellent articles and a terrific promotion for the church. If you missed these pictures and articles, they will be on the bulletin board across from the office.

An ad for the church will appear in *Inside Columbia* for the first six months of the year. If you do not receive this magazine, there will be a few each month for you to pick up in the church office. They are also available free at other locations in town that are advertisers in the magazine. Each of these ads will be different so we would like to hear what you like best for future publicity ad designs.

## Thank You

There are so many people to whom we owe many thanks to for helping out and doing their part for this anniversary celebration. We appreciate every one of you who has volunteered or have been asked and have so graciously agreed to help. Sometimes we have to ask people at the last minute to help out and are appreciative of the willingness everyone has shown to be part of the events.

Appreciation goes to Will Houston and Harlan Hackett who helped with the large crowd we had for the Memorial Lecture on February 11, 2007. They wore many hats acting as greeters handing out programs and getting people seating.

Thanks to Cliff Tompson for filling in for a sick Micki Kirkham on Sunday for the Minute for Mission.

## Vespers

Sunday, March 11 at 3:00 p.m., First Christian Church will be hosting the Jane Froman Singers in the sanctuary. They will be singing under the leadership of Nollie Moore. A reception will follow in Fellowship Hall.

## The Building of the Sanctuary, 1892

The church and sanctuary, on grounds already occupied by the church at the current location, was completed in 1894 thanks to church women and a black musician whose fame continues to grow today. The Ladies Aid Society (now the Christian Women's Ministries) spearheaded many of the early efforts for a new building.

Church members unanimously adopted the construction proposal of \$15,000 read by Dr. W.T. Lenoir at an early 1891 meeting, and in a short time raised \$5,000. The Ladies Aid Society offered an immediate \$3,000 to the cause and additional fundraisers were held. Legendary musician John Williams "Blind" Boone, who had been baptized in the old sanctuary, gave a performance for fund-raising in January 1891. In the early days, he traveled and prepared alone, hauling the piano on the back of a horse-drawn wagon. To raise money for a stained-glass window, the ladies of Christian College held oyster suppers. (See adjacent picture.)

By June of 1891, \$13,000 had been pledged and construction began. Chicago architect T.A. Bell, well known for designing churches around the country, designed the church. The first foundation stone was laid on October 21. While workers began tearing down the old building in mid-November, most services were held in the old Baptist church building just west of the courthouse. On April 7, 1892, the chief cornerstone was laid. The bell, large front doors, stained glass windows, chandeliers and large polished limestone balustrade bearing the inscription, "First Christian Church," were installed by Fall 1893. Despite the dreary rain, the auditorium was filled on November 26, 1893, to an overflowing crowd for the dedication. It was considered "an architectural gem.... a sermon in stone."

Arranged in a fan shape, curved seats faced the pulpit loft located in the northwest corner where an alcove exists today. Where today's chancel stands, a large meeting room with folding doors to the sanctuary provided additional space. Though the pipe organ arrived in November of 1896, the balcony was not built for approximately ten years. By January of 1894, membership totaled 523 with 471 resident members, and by year's end final work was completed in time to host the 15th annual state meeting of the Missouri Christian Churches.

Judy Cunningham

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## Tapes and CDs Available for Priddy Lecture

Several people have requested an audio recording of the David B. Rogers Memorial Lectureship presentation by Bob Priddy on Feb. 11, "In the Footsteps of Alexander... the role of religion in the settling of Missouri." We have made arrangements to provide the recording free of charge. It is available in either cassette tape or CD and is 50 minutes in length. If you would like a copy, please contact the church office (449-7265), ask for either Kay or Ken.



The "Good Shepherd" window at First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Columbia was given by the young women students at Christian College (now Columbia College) in 1892. It is one of several stained glass windows beautifying the building, which was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1991.

Photograph by Danna O'Neill



Jane Forman Singers

Performance on  
March 11  
3:00 pm, Sanctuary

with reception following in  
Fellowship Hall



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

[www.firstchristian.org/youth](http://www.firstchristian.org/youth)

## Just One More KOMU-TV PET Episode

KOMU-TV(8) PET episodes are receiving great response. On Channel 8 this coming Monday evening on the 6 o'clock news is the climactic final episode of "Sarah's Story." Newscaster Sarah Hill shows her dramatic mission taking 40 PET mobiles to Vietnam for civilian landmine victims who cannot walk.

While it is all real miraculous Christian good news, some TV watchers are taking it to heart. Two more PETs have just been provided through our church. The church then sends such PET funds to the Festival of Sharing office for church Festival credit, and the Festival forwards it to PET.

Sarah presents a dramatic half-hour PET documentary on KOMU-TV(8) on Thursday evening, March 8, at 6:30 right after the 6 o'clock news.

Be glad that you can vote soon on PET, which originates here in Columbia, to become an important new church mission ministry.

This Sunday, February 25, we will all be meeting at our regular times and will consider our mission trips, the garage sale and have discussion about how we might rearrange our meeting times through the spring. Hope you can all come!

Huge thanks to **Pam Hunsaker** who Partnered a week ago with lunch and to the other two families who called to offer to provide the meal. It was wonderful to receive your offers of hospitality. Could we try it again? ;) We would love to have lunch and supper this week. Looking ahead, after our discussions this week about scheduling, we will plan out the rest of the spring's Partnering opportunities. Thanks so much for your involvement with the youth!

## Happy Birthday!



Matt Foster-Feb. 25  
 Sarah Read-Feb. 25  
 Kim Rogers-Feb. 26  
 Larry Caringer-Feb. 27  
 Elizabeth Hensley-Feb. 27  
 Jack Creasy-Feb. 28

Eliana Snyder-Feb. 29  
 Will Dunkin-Mar. 1  
 Dee Earnest-Mar. 2  
 Sally Estes-Mar. 3  
 Sue Haynes-Mar. 3  
 Austin Orscheln-Mar. 3

## Faith and Education Collaborative's 7th Community Conference

"Seeking the Common Ground Among Different Faiths" is the theme of the Faith and Education Collaborative's seventh community conference on March 11, 2007. A panel composed of Rev. John Baker (First Baptist Church), Rev. Karen Walker McClure (CME Church), Dr. Shakir Hamoodi (Islamic Center), Father Thomas Saucier, O.P. (Newman Center) and Kerry Hollander (director, Hillel Foundation) will open the conference speaking on what they see as common ground among the different faiths in Columbia. Participants then will go to small groups where they will share their own ideas of common ground. Each group will be asked to plan and implement a cooperative interfaith community service project. We would like a group from our congregation to attend and you are invited!

The conference is from 1:30-5:30 p.m. at the First Baptist Church, 1112 E. Broadway and a reception will follow. The event is free as it has been funded by a grant from the Columbia Human Rights Commission. To attend call Otto Steinhaus at 442-6886 for registration forms (due by February 28) or from your faith community leader.

## Trash to Treasure!

Your unused, unwanted (but still in good condition) items are needed for the **Youth Garage Sale** — March 30 – April 1 (No Foolin'!) Kitchen items, knick-knacks, furniture, holiday decorations, tools, toys, books, clothing, camping gear, anything and everything! We want it all!



Garage Sale items may be brought to Fellowship Hall - March 24 – 28. Contact Joyce Stanley for further information: ph. 445-5058 [jbstanley@msn.com](mailto:jbstanley@msn.com)

## See the Dead Sea Scrolls!

Join the 55 Plus Group as we travel to Union Station in Kansas City to see the Dead Sea Scrolls exhibit. Save this date- Tuesday, March 27, for this wonderful outing. Watch the Visitor next week for more details.



In 2003, *The Kite Runner* was selected an American Library Association Notable Book. Join FCC Ladies' Book Club at 7pm on Monday, Feb 26 to discuss this novel of two little Afghan boys whose lives are changed forever with the arrival of the Taliban. We will meet at Linda Hutton's home, 2252 Country Lane. PLEASE NOTE: beginning in March, the Book Club is going to move meeting times to an afternoon meeting. Our March selection is the American classic, *My Antonia* by Willa Cather. Questions? Call Linda at 442-5423 or email at [lhutton50@hotmail.com](mailto:lhutton50@hotmail.com).

# 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

Dr. Kenneth R. Watson, Associate Minister  
kwatson@firstchristian.org

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-Feb. 25, 2007

*Van Driver:* Robert Seltsam    *Telephone:* TBA

### 8:30 Early Worship, Sanctuary

*Worship Asst:* Will and Donna Houston, Colleen Nilges

*Elder for 8:30 Service:* Frances Brown

*Communion Preparation:*

Daryl and Lynn Klotz, Drew Gieseke

### 9:30 Church School

*Church School Greeter:* Doris Neidhardt

*Nursery Volunteer:* Laura Estes

### 10:30 Worship in Sanctuary

*Sermon:* Dr. John J. Yonker    *Liturgist:* Dan Gieseke  
*10:30 Elders:* Charlie and Bettie Koelling, Cheryl Lightner

*Deacons:* The Stanley Team

*Greeters:*

Molly Read, *North Door*

Daryl and Lynn Klotz, *South Door*

*Ushers:* The Scott Team

*Banner Bearers:* Josh Ripley and Ryan Boger

*Candlelighters:* Jadie Arnett and Heather Hunsaker


*Flower Ministry:*

*arranged:* Carol Slusher

*delivered:* Sarah Yonker

*Evangelism Calls:* Gene and Micki Kirkham

## This Week (Feb. 25-Mar. 3)

- Sun. - JYF (grades 3-5), after 10:30 worship until 2:00 p.m.  
- Chi Rho (grades 6-8), 3:30-5:30 p.m.  
- CYF (grades 9-12), 5:00-7:00 p.m.
- Mon. - Nominating Committee Mtg., 7:00 p.m., Morris Parlor  
- Drennan Singers, 6:00 p.m., Sanctuary
- Tue. - Drennan Group, 9:00 a.m., Drennan Room  
- Bible Study, 10:30 a.m., Morris Parlor  
- Lunch and Learn Program, Noon, Fellowship Hall
- Wed. - Lenten Breakfast, 7:00-8:00 a.m.,  
 Columbia United Church of Christ  
(3201 I-70 Drive Northwest)  
- Administrative Dept. Mtg., 8:30 a.m., John's Office  
- Hannah Jones Group, 9:30 a.m., Lenoir 2nd Floor  
Apts.  
- Men's Lunch, 11:30 a.m., Senior Center  
- Brummett-Harrah Group, 1:30 p.m., Jane Ann Hackett's  
- Back Room (college group), 8:45-10:00 p.m.
- Fri. - Church Women United - World Day of Prayer, 9:30  
a.m., Gather; 10:45 a.m., Worship/Prayer  
Service; Noon - Lunch, St. Luke's United  
Methodist Church, 204 E. Ash