



Annual all-church food drive

Sunday, February 4th

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

In Worship on January 28

In keeping with Alexander Campbell's strong emphasis on the priesthood of all believers in the Christian Church, the Bible readings and Dr. Yonker's sermon on January 28 will focus on the importance of the laity in the life and work of the church. Scripture texts are found in 1 Corinthians 12:4-11 and Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-13.

Special music for the day will include the Chancel Choir anthem, "God is My Strong Salvation" at the 10:30 service.

History Continues

Our four week mini-course began last week with an introduction to the social and religious context of Christianity on the frontier. For the next three weeks, we will be concentrating on the history of First Christian Church since its founding in 1832. Dr. Watson is leading the class on Sunday mornings from 9:30-10:15 in the parlor on second floor. Come and join us on the journey.



Twenty-five braved the snow to attend the Annual Planning Retreat on January 21st.



Weekly Report
January 21, 2007
Received \$4,187.93
Received to Date \$266,907.36
Attendance - 145
(includes early worship - 40)

Thanks to Annual Planning Retreat Helpers

I wanted to thank everyone who took time out of their snowy Sunday to attend the annual planning retreat last week after church. We had 25 attendees!! The input on the topics of lay leadership and accountability was great and I hope we made a few steps toward making our church even better. In this 175th celebration year, we have a lot to be thankful for. At the top of my list is the teamwork that was exhibited by Sarah Read (for helping present and for being my "mentor" in general), Joyce Stanley and CK Hoenes (who organized, prepared & delivered our yummy lunch), Eric Arnett (who helped me gather supplies and get me organized), my husband, Jay (who is so supportive and takes over at home when I am knee-deep in work) and John and Amy Kay for their prayers, general guidance and input into the program agenda. I could not have done it without each of you!!

Chris Creasy



Heeerrreee's Johnny!

For those who braved the cold and ice and snow, last Sunday's worship service was a trip back in time to the mid-19th century and the early days of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). And what a wonderful trip it was. Several women captured the spirit of the day with their long dresses, beautiful shawls, hats and bonnets. And quite a few of the gentlemen appeared wearing jeans, shirts, vests, suspenders and ties which made them look like they had just stepped out of the past. There was even a gentleman with a tall top hat!

In keeping with the custom of the period, men sat on the right and women on the left side of the sanctuary. Hymns and spiritual songs were sung without aid of organ or piano. The offering was received in little wooden boxes; communion was served from an old plank table sitting on the floor of the sanctuary in front of an old pulpit placed in the center of the chancel which had been used in the 19th century in an old Christian Church located up near Sturgeon.

Brothers Barton Warren Stone and "Raccoon" John Smith (alias John Yonker and Ken Watson) read from the King James Version of the Bible and exhorted the congregation with words echoing the pleas of the early restoration movement calling for the unity of Christians.

What a fun day it was! And it could not have happened had so many been unwilling to make it so. Thanks to all who participated, and especially to those who helped lead the worship services: President of the Congregation for the day, David Read; Song Leader, Melissa Straw; Elders Mary Bancroft, Will Houston, Marilyn Schappert and Brenda Martin, Deacons (8:30) Tom and Carol Hughey and (10:30) Dave and Julie Nichols, Shane and Erin Bower, Pat and Sue Wright, Dan and Diedra Tevis, Mike Korman, Sue Underwood and Tom Yonker, and to Betty Koelling and Micki McQuire-Kirkham for reading the Minute for History.

What a great way it was to begin our 175th anniversary celebration. The only negative was that the weather kept members of the Columbia Shape Note Singers from being able to attend, but hopefully they will be free to share their love of singing old early American music with us sometime later this year. And we hope that you will be able to get out and join us for worship next Sunday as our celebration of the heritage and anticipation of the future of our congregation continues!



Thanks & a Tip of the Hat ...

A round of applause, a shout out, a pat on the back, and a big thank you goes to **Jay Creasy** and **Joyce Stanley** for all of their hard work in the atrium bathrooms. They both spent hours and hours stripping off the old wallpaper and floor wax, cleaning the sheetrock, mudding, patching, painting, and hanging lights and other amenities, etc. **Marc Fisher**, Columbia College Student, also worked on stripping the old wallpaper. Check out their terrific work!

Thank you!

You haven't really been snuggled until you've basked in the warmth and friendship of a prayer shawl. My thanks to Nannie Lou Mallett who made mine and to all the other ladies who take the time to knit for others who need a hug.

Bettie Koelling

Thank you so much for helping to make Jumpstart's Martin Luther King Jr. Exploring Diversity Fair a huge success. We could've never done it without your generosity and the use of your Fellowship Hall – for the 4th year in a row! You helped us provide Columbia's children the opportunity to learn about different cultures and have a great time. Thanks again.

Katie McMan

Jumpstart Volunteer Coord.

Thanks so much. Things went really well. The sets at FCC went very well and we had good numbers. The weather didn't cooperate but people came out anyway. Thanks again for the use of the church space. We are so grateful and appreciative. Thanks for the offer for next year.

Karen Ramey

Director of Operations

First Night Columbia

News of the congregation

Thanks to **Mark Hunsaker** and **Ryan Hunsaker** for coming to church early on Sunday morning and working hard to clean the snow and ice away from the building. It was greatly appreciated by all who braved the weather and made it to church.

Our prayers are with **Meadow Woodbury** as she undergoes surgery on Tuesday, January 23. She lives in San Diego, California and her father, **Bruce Woodbury** and her sister, **April Woodbury Jennings**, will be with her, while her mother **Susan** keeps the home fires burning.

Jim Carter has returned home to continue recuperation from surgery last week at Boone Hospital.

Bill Brothers continues to get stronger and hopes to return home soon from Boone Hospital. **Ralph Dobbs** is at home recuperating from a recent fall on the ice. **Sam Langley** is also recuperating from a fall.

June Jeffries, **Chris Creasy's** grandmother, is recovering from surgery last week at Boone Hospital.

Our sympathy is extended to **Darren and Bonnie Hellwege and family** on the death of Bonnie's mother, **Bernice MacKinnon**. She died Monday, Jan. 22, in St. Louis where she lived. She is survived, also, by 3 brothers and 1 sister who live in St. Louis.

Happy Birthday!



Jim Baumgartner-Jan. 28

Jim Ross-Jan. 28

Matthew Hickey-Jan. 29

Anita Dresser-Jan. 29

Annika Hylen-Jan. 29

Bryan Freed-Jan. 29

Marcus Floyd-Jan. 29

Amy Marrero-Feb. 1

Jake Speckhals-Feb. 1

Millie Bolman-Feb. 2

Abe Creasy-Feb. 3

175th Anniversary News

Anniversary Quilt

Material will be purchased this week and be available after church for the next few weeks for quilt squares for each family wishing to participate in the church 175th quilt. The squares provided for everyone will give a consistency to the background material for the quilt which will enhance the appearance when it is assembled. Each square is then individualized with your own or a suggested design. This is an opportunity to participate in making something unique and wonderful for our church. However, to make this a reality, we need to have people who are willing to participate. The ladies on the committee are willing to provide help and guidance. Quilting Fellowship hours will be scheduled at the church with help for anyone needing it. This project has a lot of flexibility as we are anxious for a lot of people to participate. There will also be information available where you can pay to have a quilt square made and personalized for you. There will be an announcement in church on Sunday followed up by the ladies being available in the Narthex to answer questions, display sample patches, give out information on quilters to hire and the times when group quilting sessions will be planned at the church. We need **you** to sign-up to participate!

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 the keynote speaker at our 150th anniversary celebration and is always a welcome guest and speaker at FCC.

Historical Room

We have a real treasure in our Historical Room (2nd floor). Make plans to spend some time there before or after our Sunday services. There is a lot to see and read. The 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.

Thank you

A hearty thanks to everyone who was involved in our frontier worship service. Barton Stone and Raccoon John Smith played their roles to perfection and President of the Church Board, Brother David Read kept them "all on schedule". Sister Melissa kept the singers on key in a stern, frontier fashion. I didn't know we had so many thespians! Many people put a lot of effort into making the day a fun one and our thanks go to each of you.

Adult Sunday School Classes

The second installment of 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. The Sunday School hour ended with the merging of the backers of Barton Stone and the followers of Alexander Campbell on January 1, 1832 at the Hill Street Christian Church making it the **first church organization founded solely in the United States**. Coffee and fellowship will be provided as the class moves on to the struggles and success of the early years of the denomination. Join us as we learn more about ourselves.

Growth and Building of a Church - 1838-1861

The little church that started in 1832 with 15 members had, by 1837, grown to 78. Now too large to hold services in private homes and after sharing borrowed facilities, a home of their own was badly needed. Accordingly a lot was purchased on North Seventh Street, immediately west of the courthouse and a rectangular building 40' x 60' was constructed in 1838. Though plain and functional, it was described as "the finest, most handsome church structure." It was a very active congregation with excellent leadership and frequent protracted meetings. Members took important roles in community affairs, particularly in promotion of higher education in Columbia, and many held leadership roles at all levels in the University.

Typically three or four pastors shared the pulpit on alternating Sundays and otherwise held services or protracted meetings elsewhere in the state. On several occasions the pulpit was filled by some of the great individuals in the Disciples' history, such as Barton Stone, Alexander Campbell and "Raccoon" John Smith. In 1845 the church hosted the State Convention, and Alexander Campbell addressed a crowd of over 4000 people at a site on the edge of town.

In the second half of the nineteenth century the nation experienced widespread tensions, and Missouri, a border state, was particularly stressed. These tensions were also felt in the church which, however, continued to grow. In 1851 the Columbia Female Academy (now Columbia College) was incorporated, and again church members were actively involved. Church growth soon necessitated a new home and thus property was acquired at the corner of Tenth and Walnut. A beautiful brick building with seating capacity of 500 was dedicated in January 1861. It was described at the time as "one of the finest and largest in central Missouri." Within three months of its dedication the first shots of the Civil War were fired at Fort Sumpter, S.C. and a new era began. ~ Cliff Tompson

175th Anniversary Kickoff



Pictures above are from the Frontier Worship Service on January 21, 2007

Visit the Historical Room Displays on the Second Floor





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

www.firstchristian.org/youth

Youthful friends, we desperately need to meet this Sunday, January 28th at each of our normal times – weather permitting. :) We can't help that the ice and snow have kept us apart for the last couple weeks, but now we need to gather together and make up for lost time. Hope you can make it – I think it will be a fun, fast and insightful time together!

Thank You

Huge thanks to **Judy Cunningham** for the yummie Back Room snacks that kicked off our semester together.



Come on back to Sunday School this week! We have one week left with Ruth on the River of Life and would love to have you in class!

Scrumptious!

After several requests for my enchilada recipe, someone suggested that I put it in the visitor, so here it is:

Chicken enchilada -serves 10

16-20 oz cooked shredded chicken
 12 oz sour cream
 2-3 cups shredded cheddar cheese
 1 jar salsa
 1 pkg. of dry Hidden Valley Ranch dressing
 chopped olives (optional)
 med. sized soft tortilla shells

Mix ranch dressing with sour cream. Add olives, 1/2 salsa and 1/2 cheese. Add chicken. Fill shells and roll. Place on oiled (Pam spray) cookie sheet and bake 20 minutes at 300 degrees. Pour rest of salsa and cheese over top and bake additional 5-10 min (until cheese melts). Enjoy! ~Brenda Martin

On-going Missions Keep Going On

It's true that we are no longer saving CAMPBELL'S labels, but we are saving the bar codes with the cute little Campbell kid beside it. And please note, there are other companies that are owned by Campbell (like Swanson, Pepperidge Farm, etc.) that have bar codes, lids, and specific parts to save. Please pick up a sheet in the elevator alcove that lists the items to be saved. If you cannot get to the church to get one, ask your women's group Service/Social Action chr. for one. Linda Ridgeway, CWF Social Action co-coordinator, took the labels and bar codes we had saved to our Disciple NBA Woodhaven before the Dec. 15 cut-off. There were 1,432 Campbell's labels and 127 bar codes. In addition, she took 57 Betty Crocker coupons. So keep those bar codes coming in so we can help Woodhaven buy another much-needed handicapped-accessible van.

Later, Linda delivered additional BETTY CROCKER coupons to the Columbia Public School Board of Education and a number of BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION to the Salvation Army. We did not get a count on the number. Thanks to Mary Richardson for sorting all the coupons and box tops for us. It was a great help.

And don't forget to save those BEST CHOICE brand bar codes for the Missouri Hunger Fund. Each bar code is worth 3 cents and helps to feed a hungry person. Unfortunately, the Best Choice saving can was empty when we checked to take the bar codes to the Festival of Sharing, but a few have come in since October. Surely we can have a good number by next October.

Bob Leach also delivered another 2 lbs.4 oz. of flip top TABS to the Ronald McDonald House before the end of 2006, bringing our total to 212 lbs, 6 oz. Since it takes 1,250 tabs to equal one pound, that's a powerful amount of tabs! There is another box full of tabs ready to be taken again, when the weather breaks, so bring yours in to be counted in the next delivery.

Also, Church World Service (CWS) will again accept our MEDICINE BOTTLES. (Remember: zapping prescription bottles 20 seconds in the microwave makes label removal easy!) The last collection we took to Joyce Holley, CWS Central Mo. and Kansas City area representative, was used to fill medicine kits for use in emergency situations, some overseas, but also those close to home, as in the Katrina and Rita hurricanes and recent floods in the Eastern states.

So let's keep our ongoing missions going on with enthusiasm and Christian love.



BOOK ORNER

When The Heart Waits, by best-selling author Sue Monk Kidd

This book is an inspiring, autobiographical account of personal pain, spiritual awakening, and divine grace. Blending her own experiences with an intimate grasp of spirituality, the author relates a passionate and moving tale of her spiritual crisis, when life seemed to have lost meaning her longing for a hasty escape from the pain yielded to a discipline of "active waiting."

The author says, "The familiar circles of my life left me with a suffocating feeling. Marriage, religion, things that used to matter no longer did. My life had curled up into the frightening mark of a question. Outwardly I appeared just fine; inside I was in turmoil. Like a butterfly emerging from a cocoon, was I being asked to enter a new passage in the spiritual life—a journey from false self to true self? Do I know all the words but none of the music of life?"

Travel with this author as she goes through the Passages of Separation, Transformation, and Emergence

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-Jan. 28, 2007

Van Driver: Chuck Scott *Car Driver:* Marvelle Ridgeway
Telephone: Carol Slusher

8:30 Early Worship, Sanctuary

Worship Asst: Charles and Bettie Koelling, Tom Hughey

Elder for 8:30 Service: Joyce Stanley

Communion Preparation:

Millard and Carol Thomas, Paula Slusher

9:30 Church School

Church School Greeter: Doris Neidhardt

Nursery Volunteer: Molly Read

10:30 Worship in Sanctuary

Sermon: Dr. John J. Yonker *Liturgist:* Molly Read

10:30 Elders: Frances and Harsh Brown, Steve Lightner

Deacons: The Stanley Team

Greeters:

Lorene and Nelson Trickey, *North Door*

Dan Gieseke, *South Door*

Ushers: The Scott Team

Banner Bearers: Sam Poole & Conner Stormer

Candlelighters: Matthew Hoepfner & Megan Potthast

Flower Ministry:

arranged: Judy Creasy

delivered: Paul & Vicki Rorvig

Evangelism Calls: Gene & Micki Kirkham

This Week (Jan. 28 - Feb. 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

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

Wed. - Men's Lunch, 11:30 a.m., Senior Center
- Back Room (college group), 8:45-10:00 p.m.

Fri. - Church Eat-Out, 5:30 p.m.,
Country Kitchen,
Everyone Welcome

JANUARY

