



Welcome New Members!



It is a joy to welcome Ramsey and Janae (Villalpando) Garcia as new members of the church! Ramsey transfers his membership from a church here in Columbia while Janae makes her confession of faith. We are looking forward to Janae's baptism in the upcoming weeks. Sadie, Kelsea and Sarah are their wonderful girls who have already enjoyed VBS and game nights at the church this summer. Their address is: 5414 Volunteer Dr., 65201 and ph. no. 314.210.9641. Welcome!

Mid-Month Movie

Friday, July 20th we will enjoy another movie together in our own cinema on the 3rd floor from 7:00 – 9:00pm. The college students will be choosing a documentary that they have seen and want us to watch as a whole church community for that evening. The documentary will be announced in next week's Visitor as the students meet this week to watch another show themselves and decide on our viewing pleasure for the 20th. Child care and popcorn are provided!

World Religions Tour in St. Louis

First Christian Church has contracted with Linda Koenig of Gateway Tours of St. Louis to visit the beautiful houses of worship of five of the world's religions in West County. Our stops will be: (1) Tour of the new Hindu Temple of St. Louis; (2) Visit the St. Louis Abbey/St. Anselm Church; (3) Buffet lunch at Assumption Greek Orthodox Church; (4) Tour Assumption Church; (5) Tour Temple Israel; (6) Visit the Daar ul Islam Mosque.

Our congregation has invited other Christian churches to join in the trip and we hope to have a good representation from all. What a great way to spend a day learning and meeting new friends or seeing old acquaintances. The tour is open to anyone wishing to attend. It is sponsored by the First Christian Church STARS.

Date of Trip: Friday, July 13, 2007. Bus leaves from Broadway Christian Church parking lot at 7:15 a.m. sharp and we will be back to the parking lot by 6 p.m.

Cost: \$50 per person (includes transportation, tour guide and lunch).

Deadline for reservations: Monday, July 9, 2007. This is critical since we are working with a tour guide. Call the church office 449-7265 to make reservations. Make checks payable to First Christian Church, c/o of Carol Slusher.

Sunday Services

On July 8 our worship service will give us the opportunity to hear again the story of Elijah discovering the presence of God while hiding in a cave. The text, found in 1 Kings 19:1-15, will serve as the basis for Dr. Yonker's sermon, "Finding God in Unlikely Places."

At the 10:30 service the Chancel Choir will present the anthem, "Joy in the Morning." Also at the 10:30 service, there will be a special dedication for Karmon and Paige Freed, son and daughter of Bryan and Valerie Freed.



Weekly Report
July 1, 2007
Received \$17,933.43
Received to Date \$17,933.43
Attendance - 302
(includes early worship - 63)



Heeerrreee's Johnny!

A couple of church staff items are front and center at this time and call for space in the pastoral column this week.

As you heard the announcement on Sunday morning, June 24, and read in last week's *VISITOR*, Melissa Straw has submitted her resignation and will end her service as our Chancel Choir and Handbell Choir Director at the conclusion of the July 15 worship service. She began her work with us in November 1993, and in these years we have not only come to greatly appreciate her musical gifts, but also her dedication to her work, seeing it truly as a ministry with and for the members of our congregation. She has not only led the Chancel Choir and Handbell Choir, she has been responsible for recruiting instrumentalists for many special worship services and willingly led congregational hymn singing on numerous occasions. And beyond that, many times she has cheerfully responded to the request from church families to sing for funeral and memorial services at the church, often taking time away from other responsibilities to do so. We have all appreciated her cheerful and cooperative spirit and will miss working with her.

Recognition of Melissa's music ministry will be made during the 10:30 worship service on July 15, and a reception honoring Melissa will be held following the worship service that day.

Contributions are being received in the church office for those wishing to make a financial gift to Melissa. Checks should be made out to "First Christian Church", noted for the "Melissa Straw Gift," dated no later than July 13.

The second item relating to the church staff is the status of our Associate Minister search. After reviewing a number of ministerial profiles in the spring, conducting phone interviews and one face-to-face interview, yet failing to find a candidate to recommend to the congregation, the Search Committee has received a second list of profiles from ministers, some of whom have specifically requested to be considered for our position. The Search Committee members have read through those profiles and narrowed the list down to those who seem particularly promising, and have begun to check references. In the next few weeks the process of interviewing candidates will begin, with the hope that the right person will soon

emerge, and visits with the church board and the congregation can be scheduled.

We believe the task of finding the right person is far too important to select just anyone to fill our position. As we continue our search, we ask for your prayers as we seek to find the right person for our church, believing the spirit of God will lead to find that person.

Book of FCC Stories

What can possibly be better than a good story, especially if it's about someplace, someone or something you know about? Here's your chance to tell a good story. As we celebrate our 175th year at First Christian Church, we'd love to hear your stories or remembrances about FCC. It doesn't need to be long, but can be about events, people, or the church building itself. We'll be compiling these stories to share with everyone, so bring them on.

This opportunity is open to all ages. It should be an interesting, fun way to remember and be remembered. Take your time thinking and writing, but try to turn your piece in on or before November 1 so we'll have time before the end of the year to put our booklet together. Typed copy would be nice, but handwritten will certainly be accepted. We're looking forward to "reading all about it!" Aren't you?

Committee for Collecting Good Stories
Mary Bancroft, Chair

Thank You!
THANK YOU!

A HUGE THANK YOU to all of those who helped paint Amy Kay's office a sunny yellow. The work is progressing nicely. The work crew, consisting of **Fred Mottaz, Steve Humble, J.D. Estes, Sara Klockow** and **Kerry Bramon** worked Saturday morning to give us a nice start. We still need help putting another coat on the white shelves. Call me (442-8882 home) if you have any spare time to help. Thanks so much!

~Jay Creasy

News of the congregation

Tom Carey was readmitted to Boone Hospital at the end of last week.

Our prayers are with **Duane Sublett, Linda Hutton's** father, as he continues to recuperate from surgery last week at St. Mary's Hospital in Jefferson City. He has been released from the hospital and is home now in Eldon, MO.

We extend our sympathy to **Kurt and Stacia Schaefer** and their family on the death of Kurt's father, **Dr. Glennon Schaefer**, who died on Thursday afternoon, June 28 at St. John's Hospital in St. Louis. Funeral services were held at Christ Prince of Peace Catholic Church in Manchester on Monday morning, July 2. Among the survivors include grandchildren, **Maximilian, Wolfgang, and Magdalena**, Kurt and Stacia's sons and daughter.

Fifteen Years Late

Fifteen years after the fact, we discover that Paul Rorvig wrote "The Significant Skirmish: The Battle of Boonville" in the Missouri [Historical] Review of January 1992. It's a fascinating 20-page account that affected Columbia. Paul is a professor at the University of Central Missouri at Warrensburg. He commutes weekly from their Columbia home.

~Bob Leach

Happy Birthday



Ruth Brandenburg - July 8
Barbara Rothenberger - July 8
Michael Wildman - July 8
J.D. Estes - July 8
David Weber - July 8
Dorothy Porter - July 9
Erin Bower - July 9
Judith Creasy - July 10
Shawn Von Talge - July 10
Teddy Nichols - July 11
Erin Boster - July 11
Bragg Stanley - July 13
Christopher Stormer - July 13
Eric Seaman - July 13
Richard Underwood - July 13
Anne Campbell - July 14
Evelyn Fox - July 14
Buddy Green - July 14



175th Anniversary News - Genie Rogers

July honors Local Mission Work

First Christian Church has had a dominant presence in charitable and “progressive” work since it’s founding. In the early days of pioneer self-reliance the first movement for community betterment was involved with the promotion of higher education. Columbia became a hotbed for scholarly promotion of ideas and the establishment of colleges and universities. Many of our first and second generation Christian Church leaders were deeply involved in those endeavors.

After the Civil War the women of the church began undertaking a great deal of overseas and local outreach providing the backbone of the charitable “good works” of the church. The women saw a need for fund raising and opened an ice cream parlor in downtown Columbia to raise money. In 1898, with urging from Rev. Winders, fund-raising within the church began for the funding of a hospital leading to the opening of Parker Hospital. In 1899, Columbia citizens organized a “Provident Association” to alleviate the “suffering of poor, worthy, distressed persons in Columbia and to furnish employment when possible.” The Board consisted of the pastor and three laymen from each church plus the mayor. They encouraged fund raising and determined the worthiness of the applicants for aid. These early attempts of church and community charity for the poor and helpless became more organized as the church and town grew. Projects were selected to fill needs in the community; money was raised for causes and set asides were placed in the church budget. Today, we consider one of the missions of the church is to help alleviate poverty, hunger and suffering at home and abroad.

We have committed a significant amount of money to local agencies that serve the poor and give direct aid to some of the most needy that come to the church office. A large percentage of our members do many hours of charity work and make donations out of their own pocket to help those in need. This month we will profile a few of the needs served through our church budget and ways in which people can volunteer.

Ragtime Music in the Sanctuary

We all have a treat to look forward to on Thursday, July 19 at 7:00 when Bob Ault will perform ragtime music in our sanctuary. This is one of our 175th anniversary events and promises to be an evening of upbeat fun.

The selection of a ragtime pianist for July, the month committed to Local Mission Work, honors Blind Boone. Boone was a famous performer of ragtime during the later part of the 19th century. He performed at a fundraiser on January 23, 1891 at the Haden Opera House with the proceeds going to the Christian Church building fund. This was the first fundraiser we are aware of that was held for the building of the new sanctuary where we worship today. The following Sunday, Blind Boone united with the Christian Church and was baptized in the afternoon by President Oldham (Christian College President) in our church baptistry in the presence of a number of friends. Blind Boone was known for doing many fundraisers for church repair and building funds in the area.

The performer, Bob Ault, plays many instruments in addition to the piano, is a ragtime composer himself, and has performed in many places including Carnegie Hall. He is also a historian who weaves stories of the ragtime era in with his music.

Following the performance there will be a reception to meet the performer in Fellowship Hall. This event is free and open to the public. Bring your friends and neighbors for an enjoyable evening.

Bob Ault and John Yonker will be interviewed on the David Lyle show on KFRU radio on Wednesday morning, July 11 at 8:40.

Picnic with Alexander Campbell

We are very fortunate to have as our guest on Sunday, August 5, 2007, Rev. John Bolen, Disciple minister and professor at Simpson College in Oskaloosa, Iowa. He has spent many years honing the skills of portraying Alexander Campbell in his appearance, dress and speech. He will deliver the sermon at

both services on August 5 and we will once again return to our 1832 roots. Anyone who wishes is encouraged to dress in period clothing. Once again, we will be using our old-fashioned offering boxes. We will try very hard to be “in period.” Later in the afternoon we will gather at the Reichmann Building at Stephens Lake Park. All Disciple area churches, Woodhaven staff and clients, and Lenoir Woods residents will be invited as our guests. FCC will provide fried chicken, paper plates, cups, plastic utensils and lemonade for everyone. We ask each family who is able to bring a covered dish.

Amy Kay will be in charge of games for all the kids. We hope some of the old-fashioned games will appeal to the kids, like potato sack races! Anyone who is able to help Amy Kay, please call her at the church office.

Our friend, Elder Campbell, will be present, in character, and will offer the blessing before supper. He will be around to discuss the challenges of church history of the day and the pull between the Campbellites and the followers of Barton Stone. We will utilize the air conditioning of 2007 and the updated kitchen in the new Reichmann building so it will not be a total step back into history! Bring the kids and your extended family for an old-fashioned picnic with other Columbia Disciple Churches.

October Homecoming

Sunday, October 14 is “Coming Home Sunday.” All former Associates, Senior Ministers and FCC Timothys have been contacted by mail to save the date. Rev. Dave Yonker will be the guest minister with a catered lunch to follow in Fellowship Hall. Reservations will be needed since the event will be catered. The meal will cost the church \$12.00 per person. Donation jars will be on each table. We encourage our members to attend and be the hosts to old friends who will be returning to spend the Sunday with us. Contact former friends and Sunday School members and invite them back! It will be fun to share old memories and renew friendships—maybe even make some new friends. Moray Loring Kiehl will be chair of the event. If you would like to help, please contact her.

Calling all Veterans

If you or a member of your family served in the armed forces, please turn your name in on the sheet provided in the *Visitor* or sign up in the church office. You can also send your information by e-mail to Genie Rogers at: gbr@socket.net. I would like soldiers from as far back as the Civil War, so if you know of any relatives who were involved with FCC in Columbia during the time they served, or were members before or after, please send me their names, regardless of era. We want a complete Honor Roll of Veterans who have been patriots for our country, to honor on Veterans Day, November 11. This includes National Guard Service, Reserves, Active Duty, ROTC, and combat. Include the name of the veteran, the branch of military service they/you were in, and the approximate dates/war they served. If you remember someone who is now deceased and no longer has family in the church, please send me their name as well. ~Genie Rogers

Calendar

—Wed. July 11: KFRU radio 8:40-John Yonker. and Bob Ault interviewed about Ragtime performance

—Sunday, July 15: Reception following church honoring Melissa Straw's retirement

—Thursday, July 19: at 7:00pm, Bob Ault, *"The Ragtime Storyteller"* in the sanctuary

—Sunday, July 22: Minute for History (Play/dialogue written by Parker Rossman); 1st and 2nd service

—Sunday, August 5: Old Time Hymn Sing for 10 min. prior to both services

—Sunday, August 5: Rev. John Bolen (Elder Alexander Campbell) guest minister-both services

—Sunday, August 5: at 4:00pm, All Disciple picnic sponsored by FCC at Reichmann Center at Stephens Lake Park. Kids' games begin at 4:00. Potluck supper begins at 5:00.

—Sunday, August 19: Minute for History-both services

More calendar events next week!

The Wardrobe

First Christian, like many churches had a church "Clothes Closet." Clothes were collected and stored in the old Christian Student Congregation office and distributed where needed. In the late 1960s many Columbia women noticed a need for a well-organized effort, which would provide cloth-

ing for those in need. These ladies rose to the occasion by establishing "The Wardrobe," a non-profit community-based thrift shop. Opening in January 1970, the first location of "The Wardrobe" was an old shoe shop at 223 North 9th Street. Volunteers from Christian Women's Fellowship (CWF) operated the store on selected days each month. Success was immediate and soon more space was needed. The shop moved across the street to 222 N. 9th Street in an old livery stable to expand their space. It remained in this location until September 1983 when the building was torn down and the shop closed for one year. "The Wardrobe" reopened in October 1984 in a new building at 715 Park Avenue, where it remains to this day. Due to city ownership of the land and a favorable lease accompanied by many generous donations and services from individuals, churches, and organizations in Columbia, "The Wardrobe" opened as a debt-free building.

In addition to being a resale clothing shop open to the public Wednesday through Saturday, "The Wardrobe" meets its mission by providing clothing and bedding free of charge to referral clients every Tuesday. "Referrals" are people referred to "The Wardrobe" by various local agencies, including the Voluntary Action Center, schools, doctors, and churches. At least 100 people are helped each week through the referral program. To protect their privacy, the only day referrals are accepted is on Tuesday.

Clothing donations generate income, which provides new school shoes for Boone County public school children each August before school opens and again during February, as funds permit. During August 2006, The Wardrobe provided 2,107 pairs of new shoes to children in referral families.

The original steering committee to establish the Wardrobe was dominated by First Christian Church volunteers: Evelyn Estes, Fern and Bud Smith, Lt. Col. LaVere and Frances Strom, Elizabeth Conner, Eloise Bates, and Tillie Berkley. This original committee devoted hundreds of hours to expand the services of "The Wardrobe" to provide clothing for the very poor and the working poor. Dedicated hard working volunteers representing many local churches continue to staff "The Wardrobe." New volunteers are always needed. The FCC College group now spends a Saturday each month volunteering at "The Wardrobe" plus many members of our congregation volunteer on a regular basis including Becky Bramon, Pat Rainey, Millie Caringer, Barb Rothenberger and Circle groups.

~Becky Bramon

The Use of Church Facilities by Outside Groups

The historic buildings of First Christian Church are used in many ways other than Sunday Morning Worship and activities of various church groups. The central location in downtown Columbia makes it an attractive location for organizations not owning a building. Many of these pay a set fee determined by the Property Department, while some non-profit organizations make appropriate contributions to cover necessary costs.

The Fellowship Hall is a popular venue for several dance groups, which meet there regularly. Ballroom dancers and traditional dancers enjoy the polished floor and the stage for their music providers. Irish dances, Latin and Square Dance groups have also been seen "tripping the light fantastic." The city-sponsored New Year's Eve "First Night" Celebration is a regular, as are Tae Kwon Do classes. Inter-Act Teen-to-Teen Theater, the North Central Neighborhood Association Annual meeting, The Columbia Talent Association, Boy Scout banquets, youth baseball practice, TRYPS Childrens Theater, and the Woodhaven annual dinner all have used this spacious area.

Four Alcoholic Anonymous groups as well as Al-Anon and Al-Ateen groups use the Higbee Youth Center presently. For several years during the 1960s a Medical and Dental Clinic (Medi-Group) for low-income people was held in Higbee several times a week. Dr. Fred Christman, Columbia dentist, and Dr. Helen Baker were two of those who served the drop-in clinic. Many of our church Circle ladies volunteered to keep the clinic staffed and open.

Other rooms in the Education Building and the Sanctuary have been used by a professional women's agriculture sorority, Partners in Education, Eagle Scouts, Parents of Columbia Public Schools, Interfaith Peace Alliance, Focus on Learning, Creative Writers, and for weddings and wedding anniversary celebrations.

In sharing our facilities with groups in the community we are fulfilling our mission to serve and be part of the community and neighborhood. How good it is that we can reach out to our city by making our attractive facilities available to groups which need a place to meet.

~Moray Loring Kiehl



www.firstchristian.org/youth



Wah-Hoo! What a wild, amazing week we had at our Avalanche Ranch Vacation Bible School held June 24 – 28. We had 57 kids attend throughout the week. We had a great time learning Bible stories, singing and dancing, playing games, making crafts & eating. Anyone in attendance could definitely feel the Spirit moving amongst us!

CYF will be leaving for our mission trip to Gulfport, Mississippi, on Sunday morning, July 8th, so we will not be having JYF or Chi Rho this Sunday. We will resume the following week. CYFers, please call me if you have any last minute questions about your trip! (mobile and emergency number = 808-1980)

As I'm sure you are aware, VBS is no small feat. It takes lots of volunteers to have a great week. Thank you to all of the individuals that made Avalanche Ranch VBS possible.

Angie Allen-Hylen
Eric & Tammy Arnett
Kim & Buddy Boger
Erin Bower
Harsh & Frances Brown
Linda Chandler
Chris Creasy
Laura Estes
Ramsey Garcia
Holly & Dan Gieseke
Nancy Grieme

Judy Hall
Paula Hoenes
Steve Humble
Pam Hunsaker
Mitch Hylen
Jessie Klockow
Sarah Klockow
Cathy Love
Elizabeth Mottaz
Fred Mottaz

Dane & Amy Kay Pavlovich
Debbie & Dave Potthast
Anna Read
Molly Read
Kim Rogers
Elizabeth Rottman
Sue Underwood
Cheryl Unterschutz
Christy Vontalge
Pat & Sue Wright
Tom Yonker
All the dessert bakers

Thank you so much for selecting me to receive the Whitaker-Ferguson Christian Church Memorial Scholarship. It is a great honor. As of right now, I am strongly pursuing a degree in radiology. Being awarded with this scholarship has increased my confidence and has shown me that what I have done and will do matters. Again, thank you sooooo much.
 ~Laura Fuemmeler

And a very special thank you to all the youth helpers. We are such a fortunate Church to have young people who want to help out in whatever way they can!



Lindsey Chandler
Drew Gieseke
Steve Gieseke
Josh Humble
Taylor Humble

Heather Hunsaker
Ryan Hunsaker
Aaron Moser
Kayla Moser
Stephanie Mottaz
Adriane Replogle

Thanks to everyone who made it possible! ~Jessica Humble

And thanks to **Jessica Humble** for once again Directing our summer fun at VBS!! She was an absolute gem for adult volunteers and the kids themselves. We are so thankful for Jessica – the way she uses her time at the church and shares her many talents with us all. Thanks for a great “wild ride,” Jessica!
 ~Amy Kay Pavlovich

VBS Pictures

Top Left: Jessica Humble teaching one of many bible stories;
 Bottom Left: Amy Kay with group singing; Bottom Right: The Green family



The Visitor

First Christian Church

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



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Ministerial Staff:

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

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

Minister Emeritus: Dr. Sam S. Langley

Summer Ministry Intern: Elizabeth Rottmann

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

Michaela Ragains, Receptionist

Sunday's Schedule-July 8, 2007

Van Driver: Carol Roder *Telephone:* TBA

8:30 Early Worship, Sanctuary

Worship Asst: Millie and Larry Caringer, Anne Campbell

Elder for 8:30 Service: Charlie Koelling

Communion Preparation:

Bob & Linda Hutton, Gene & Micki McGuire Kirkham

9:30 Church School

Church School Greeter: Dorothy Porter

Nursery Volunteer: TBA

10:30 Worship in Sanctuary

Sermon: Dr. John J. Yonker *Liturgist:* Brenda Martin

10:30 Elders: Shirley Park, Dan Backues, Barb Rothenberger

Deacons: The England Team

Greeters:

Moray Kiehl, *North Door*

Nannie Lou Mallett, *South Door*

Ushers: The Burnam Team

Candlelighters: TBA

Flower Ministry:

Arranged: Judy Creasy

Delivered: Pat and Sue Wright

Evangelism Calls: Jacki Davidson

This Week (July 8 - 14)



Sun. - CYF Mission Trip to Gulfport, MS begins
(July 8th-14th)

Wed. - Men's Lunch, 11:30 a.m., Senior Center
- World Outreach Meeting, 4:30 p.m., Morris Parlor

Fri. - World Religions Trip to St. Louis, 7:15 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
(leave from Broadway Christian Church)