



## Sunday Services

Perhaps the hardest stories to understand are the ones which we have heard so many times that we think we know them so well. That is the story before us on Sunday morning, the familiar story of the Good Samaritan found in Luke 10:25-37. What do you do when God interrupts your plans? That is the question addressed in Dr. Yonker's sermon for July 15, "God's Interruptions."

The 10:30 service will include the chancel choir anthem, "Goin' to the Holy City," directed by Melissa Straw who will also be one of the soloists along with Darren Hellwege. Matthew Straw will provide the offertory with a piano solo, "The Great Smokey Mountains," by Hirsch. Piano duets by Mary Bancroft and Jean Hall will also enhance the service.

We hope you will join us as we celebrate Melissa's ministry of music at First Christian Church, which will conclude this Sunday. A special recognition will take place during the 10:30 service and a reception will be held immediately following in the Fellowship Hall.

## Recognition of Melissa Straw

Join us this Sunday, July 15, to help honor Melissa Straw as she ends her service as our Chancel Choir and Handbell Choir Director. Recognition of Melissa's music ministry will be made during the 10:30 worship service and a reception honoring her will be held in the Fellowship Hall following the service on Sunday.

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

**Weekly Report**  
July 8, 2007  
Received \$37,263.82  
Received to Date \$55,201.15  
Attendance - 289  
(includes early worship - 50)



## Black Gold found at the Movies

The Mid-Month Movie will star coffee beans on **Friday, July 20th** at 7:00pm in our very own Cinema. The college students would like to share this recently made and award winning documentary with the whole church family as they enjoyed watching it during one of their "Random Movie Nights" this summer. Come and sip on some fairly traded coffee while munching on some popcorn as we view and then discuss **Black Gold**. Child Care is provided in our nursery and you can even begin purchasing your own "Just Coffee" in the church office if you so desire. Hope to see you on the 20th.



## Date Night!

Young couples, married or dating and with or without children, it's time for another Date Night! Mark your calendars for **Sunday, July 29th** at 6pm. We will be bowling at **Town and Country Lanes** located on North Providence. Childcare will again be provided for FREE at the church until 9pm. Drop your kids off between 5:30-5:45 and meet at the bowling alley by 6pm. We will be responsible for our own bowling fees and refreshments. Please **RSVP** to the church office at 449-7265 by Wednesday, July 25th. Hope to see you there for another great evening of fellowship!



## From the Land Beyond the Workroom...

Open my eyes that they may see the  
deepest needs of men and women;  
Move my hands that they may feed the  
hungry.  
Touch my heart that it may bring warmth  
to the despairing;  
Teach me the generosity that welcomes  
strangers;  
Let me share my possessions to clothe  
the naked;  
Give me the care that strengthens the  
sick;  
Make me share in the quest to set the  
prisoners free;  
In sharing our anxiety and our love,  
our poverty and our prosperity,  
we partake of your divine presence.  
Amen.  
~Canaan Banana, Zimbabwe from  
"On Frequent Journeys"

During tonight's Vespers, Drew shared the above prayer from a wonderful worship resource that we use often in the youth and college groups. What moving, challenging and awe-filled words the author brings to us!

What might happen if we are indeed open to the deepest needs of people around us? We might sand dry wall in a hot house in southern Mississippi...

What would happen if we would have our hands moved that we may feed those who are hungry? It might get a little messy if we actually offer food to the woman who approaches the church van in a quick shop parking lot. It could even give us the willies when she pulls us in to give us a hug and a kiss to say thank you.

Does sharing actually help us dwell with our God? Yes. It does. And somehow paying a fair price for coffee makes it taste better too.

Why or how does this happen in our high tech world of iPhones and wireless internet? I don't know exactly... but I do know that Charise read part of Psalm 108 tonight for worship and it begins, "My heart is steadfast, O God, my heart is steadfast; I will sing and make melody. Awake, my soul!" Our souls can be awakened when we experience a closeness with God that might just come from opened eyes and a motivation to live with and for the other in God's shared creation.

Breathe in the good air today and be awakened. Partake of God's divine presence and create a bit of heaven here on earth. I am reminded of how the world can actually be as I serve here in Gulfport with our youth. They remind me – may they remind all of us– through their spirit and energy to help wherever it is needed. ~Amy Kay Pavlovich  
\*view journal at [www.firstchristian.org](http://www.firstchristian.org)

A NOTE OF



Many thanks to my church family for the precious cards and letters you sent during my mother's recent illness and passing. A special thanks to Judy Hall for the lovely prayer shawl and to Lorene Trickey for the peaches and baked goods. Your thoughtfulness means so much.  
Cherry Hinderberger and family

A Special  
THANK YOU

Many thanks to my friends at First Christian for your kind expressions of sympathy upon the recent death of my sister. Your thoughtfulness is very much appreciated.

Betty Moon



HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY!

Tommie Ross-July 15  
Micki McGuire Kirkham-July 16  
Paul Rinehart-July 17  
Kim Boger-July 18  
Ellyn Brothers-July 18  
Judy Cunningham-July 18  
Tom Sisson-July 18  
David Ross-July 19  
Mike Perry-July 19  
Dave Beem-July 19  
Thomas Hughey-July 20  
Hailey Korman-July 21  
Bryant White-July 21

## News of the congregation

It was a joy to witness the service of blessing and dedication for **Kameron Glen** and **Paige Elizabeth**, children of **Bryan and Valerie Freed**, at the 10:30 service Sunday, July 8. They were accompanied in worship by grandparents, aunts and uncles and cousins.

Thanks to **Sally Robinson** for assisting in leading both worship services last Sunday in the absence of Amy Kay. An ordained minister of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Sally is Chaplain of Older Adult Ministries of the NE Area of the CC (DOC) of Mid-America.

It was a treat to welcome members of the brass quartet who accompanied the hymns and the Chancel Choir for the anthem at the late service on July 8. The quartet members are **Alan Nellis, Robert Pitts, Todd Yatsook** and **Nik Palo**.

Among the members of our congregation in our concern at this time is **Tom Carey** who continues as a patient at Boone Hospital. **Elsie Hughes** is recovering from surgery at Boone Hospital on Monday and **Tom Shrou** is recovering from outpatient surgery on Tuesday. **Sam Langley** was admitted to Boone Hospital on Sunday. **Will Houston** is recuperating from outpatient surgery last week.

**Dorothy Durnil** died at Boone Hospital on July 3 after a very brief illness. Funeral services were conducted by John Yonker on July 6 at Memorial Funeral Home. Her husband, **Ron**, also a member of our congregation, died on June 15. Our sympathy is extended to their two sons, **Gary** and **Terry Durnil**, and their families.

Our prayers are with **Pat Rybolt's sisters, Marybelle**, who is recovering from surgery on July 6 at the Cleveland Clinic, and **Gloria** who is in the intensive care unit at Hermann Memorial Hospital.

Your Special Birthday!



**Evelyn Fox-91** on July 14

# 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary News - Genie Rogers



## 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 175<sup>th</sup> 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 19<sup>th</sup> 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 baptistery 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.

## 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](mailto:gbr@socket.net). I would like soldiers from as far back as the Civil War, so if you have relatives from an earlier era involved in this church please send me their names. 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.

## 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.

## Your Story about First Christian Church

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 175<sup>th</sup> year at First Christian Church, we'd love to hear your stories or remembrances. 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 in booklet form.

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 please turn in your piece 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 hand written will certainly be accepted... We're looking forward to "reading all about it!!!" Aren't you?

Please turn stories in to the church office, place in the Sunday offering plate or e mail to Mary Bancroft at: [mbancr01@juno.com](mailto:mbancr01@juno.com)  
Committee for Collecting Good Stories  
Mary Bancroft, Chair

## October Homecoming

Sunday, October 14, is "Coming Home Sunday." All former Associates, Senior Ministers and FCC Timothy's 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. Reservations will be requested.

# Local Mission Work

## Interfaith Council of Columbia

The Interfaith Council of Columbia, formerly known as the Columbia Council of Churches was formed in the early 1950's. Rev. John McMillan, senior minister of First Presbyterian Church, helped form and preside over the organization with meetings held at the Presbyterian Church. R. A. Miller, of First Christian Church was the first treasurer.

The original purpose of the organization was to facilitate dialogue between the churches. The ecumenical movement was gaining strength in Columbia. Services were held for Reformation Day (later called Heritage Sunday), Thanksgiving, World Day of Prayer (now Unity Sunday), Fourth of July, and a sunrise service on Easter held at Stephens Lake. Soon after establishment, the Columbia Ministerial Alliance was formed and assumed the responsibilities of Heritage Sunday, Unity Sunday, and the Fourth of July. The Lenten Breakfasts were started by a group of men from Missouri United Methodist Church led by Ray McClure in 1976-77. The Interfaith Council assumed the sponsorship of the Lenten breakfasts in 1979 which continues to this day.

During the mid 1960's the Civil Rights movement took on strength and intensity. A Columbia Council of Religion and Race was formed, which included all the black churches. After the demise of this group, the Interfaith Council made an effort to welcome the black churches. The oldest integrated church-centered group is the Church Women United (formerly United Church Women), which organized in the 1940's. Church Women United is regularly represented at Interfaith Council meetings.

Rev. Glynn Burke (FCC Minister) and Rev. David Walthall (Interim minister at First Presbyterian) worked together to reorganize the Council of Churches and to expand its mission to include all religious and secular groups. This updated Interfaith Council included the Jewish Congregation, the Muslim Center, B'hai, and the Unitarians. A constitution was written and approved in 1976. Meetings were held monthly at First Baptist Church at 4:00 p.m. One annual potluck supper was held to get better acquainted.

As Columbia grew, so did the number of churches and social service agencies. The Interfaith Council began including outlying

churches such as Community Methodist, Broadway Christian, Unitarian, Our Lady of Lourdes, B'hai, and the Newman Center. Harold Breimyer was the President when the first interfaith budget was set up and a regular newsletter was published to keep churches informed of the existence of the Council and needs in the community.

In the 1980's the numbers of homeless people on the streets of Columbia increased. The churches had formed a FISH fund in the 1970's to help people who needed transportation, food, and limited medical services. In 1980 FISH was taken over by the Voluntary Action Center. This allowed the Interfaith Council to become a pass-through organization to get money from churches to help the poor, and the increasing numbers of transients in the community. As downtown churches were dealing with more indigents on the streets, these people were hanging around the churches during the day. Some unfortunate episodes of vandalism occurred and sanctuaries in the downtown area were forced into locking their doors when the church was not in use. It was determined that a Day Center was needed to give transient people a place to go. Six downtown churches (including FCC), the city of Columbia, Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry, and the Voluntary Action Center formed a Board in 1987 under the auspices of the Interfaith Council to secure a spot in a public housing unit on Park Avenue for people to go during the day hours to have a phone, a shower, and a respite from the heat or cold. After 4:00 p.m. the building becomes a soup kitchen for the homeless. A pledge of \$1,000 from each of the six downtown churches made the day center a reality.

In the late 1980's Interfaith Council also established the Interfaith Jail Ministry, which continues to get some funding through the Council, and the Interfaith Peace Alliance, which receives no funding, but makes monthly reports. Interfaith Council continues to sponsor the Christian Lenten breakfasts, a non-denominational Good Friday service, and a community Thanksgiving service.

Today, the Interfaith Council meets monthly at Wilkes Blvd. Methodist Church for lunch prepared by the women of the church. Reports are received from many social service groups about their needs in the community. The members of the Interfaith Council are primarily lay men and women who serve as

the conduit to the pastor or church they represent. Membership is open to all. The budget is small and quickly dispersed where there is the greatest need. Incoming funds are dependent upon the participation of area churches. FCC contributed \$500 this year to support the budget of the Interfaith Council and responds to emergency appeals from the Council.

## Interfaith Adult Day Center and Soup Kitchen

Interfaith Day Center and Loaves and Fishes Soup Kitchen are both sponsored through the Interfaith Council as a response to increasing numbers of homeless people on the streets of Columbia with no food to eat or place to go during the day. Many are mentally ill, alcoholics, or drug abusers and can not sustain employment.

The downtown churches, in particular, faced the issues of the homeless and panhandling every day. Through the leadership of Calvary Episcopal minister, Rev. James Fallis, a day center and a soup kitchen (Loaves and Fishes) were opened in a public housing unit in 1987. The operation of both of these services is primarily managed by Lana Jacobs, a member of the Catholic Workers Movement. Volunteers representing a diverse number of churches and faiths, donations, and the Interfaith Council are the means to keep the Day Center and the Soup Kitchen open daily. No public money is asked for or received.

The Day Center provides a respite from the outdoors in the hot and cold, fellowship, a phone, networking abilities, and a place to shower. It is open 8-4 during the week.

The Loaves and Fishes Soup Kitchen operates in the same housing unit between 5-6:15 p.m. A hot, nutritious meal is served seven days a week, targeting the homeless population. The average number served is between 30-50. No referrals or intake is necessary. People are served on a walk-in basis. The soup kitchen is staffed by volunteer workers and the food is donated. More than 37 faith communities help in the operation including Christians, Buddhists, Hindus, Muslims, and Jews.

This year FCC donated \$400 to the budget of the Interfaith Day Center and \$300 to the budget for the Soup Kitchen. Our church volunteers are always eager to help when needed in both efforts.

Genie Rogers



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

The youth groups will not be meeting this Sunday, July 15<sup>th</sup> because we will be celebrating Melissa Straw's ministry at our church during that time. Be sure to come to Melissa's reception and I'll see you on the 22<sup>nd</sup>! ;)

Partner thanks to **Buddy Boger** and **Jay Creasy** for helping manage our CYF work site from afar this week. They have answered questions when we have needed a bit of experienced skill through our projects. What's the next best thing to having these guys on our trip? Having their mobile phone numbers with us! Thanks!!

## College Notes...

We have moved our bowling get together to **Sunday July 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:30**. After the church softball game we will meet at Town and Country Lanes located on Providence. Stop on by for as long as your schedule allows. I hope to see you all there, and come prepared to show off your bowling skills. :)

## Calling all Children of the Church

This coming Sunday we will have part two of our "Fruit of the Spirit" lesson. Molly and I have been working hard to get things ready! We will be painting with fruit as well as making a book to help us remember all of the fruits of the spirit. There might even be some fruit tasting. :) Even if you weren't able to make it last Sunday, we would love to have you this Sunday. We hope to see all of you there!  
~Elizabeth

## VAC Fan Program

Voluntary Action Center is collecting new fans and donations to purchase fans in order to help low-income families of Boone County stay cool during the hot summer months. Fans are distributed on a priority basis, with preference given to the elderly, disabled, pregnant moms, and families with infants and small children. Fan contributions or donations to VAC's Summer Fan Program may be mailed or brought to the Voluntary Action Center at 800 N. Providence, Suite 200. This year VAC has once again partnered with KOMU and Lowe's on the KOMU Fan Club. Fans purchased and dropped off at Lowe's at 201 Conley Road will be given directly to VAC for distribution to those in need. For more information, contact VAC at 449-6959

## Missourian to feature Yonker - Rabbi Friends

There are plenty of jokes that start off with a priest and a rabbi. Read this Saturday (July 14) in the Weekend Missourian about the real-life friendship between our pastor, John Yonker and Rabbi Yossi Feintuch of Congregation Beth Shalom.  
~Bob Leach

# Disciples Volunteering

## Mission Trip Update

The CYFers made it to Gulfport, Mississippi Sunday evening and started work bright and early Monday morning. They are learning a lot while working and are having fun seeing some of the sights in and around Gulfport. Please check the journal page on the church website to see pictures, and learn more about their trip.

On the trip this year are Ryan Hunsaker, Lexi Ruffolo, Lindsey Chandler, Drew Gieseke, Alec Wright, Kelsey Schutjer, Charise Garrett, Sara Klockow, Dane and Amy Kay Pavlovich.

Columbia  
Faith  
and  
Education  
Blood Drive  
at  
First Baptist Church

July 15

12:30 – 6:00 p.m.

To reserve your giving time  
call Red Cross at 1-800-448-3545  
(1-800-GIVE-LIFE) or  
[www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org)



Free Cardinals T-shirt with new  
Busch Stadium on it.

Celebrating  
One Blood -  
One World!



## 175th Anniversary Fall Calendar

- Sunday, September 2:** Old Time Hymn Sing 10 minutes prior to each service
- Sunday, September 9:** John Yonker begins 4 week Sunday School mini course: *The Bible as Literature*
- Sunday, Oct. 7:** Old Time Hymn Sing for 10 minutes prior to both services
- Sunday, Oct. 14:** *Coming Home Sunday*-guest minister, Rev. Dave Yonker
- Saturday Oct. 20:** MU Homecoming Parade. FCC will have a float in the parade. All kids invited to be on the float.
- Sunday Nov. 11:** Honoring FCC Veterans

# 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

## Address Service Requested

### 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 15, 2007

*Van Driver:* TBA *Telephone:* TBA

### **8:30 Early Worship, Sanctuary**

*Worship Asst:* Tom and Carol Hughey, Cherry Hinderberger

*Elder for 8:30 Service:* Sally Robinson

*Communion Preparation:*

Jay and Chris Creasy, Judith Creasy

### **9:30 Church School**

*Church School Greeters:* Mark Hunsaker Family

*Nursery Volunteer:* TBA

### **10:30 Worship in Sanctuary**

*Sermon:* Dr. John J. Yonker *Liturgist:* Joyce Stanley

*10:30 Elders:* David and Sarah Read, Marvin Tracy

*Deacons:* The Nichols Team

*Greeters:*

Harsh and Frances Brown, *North Door*

Pat Rainey, *South Door*

*Ushers:* The Hunsaker Team

*Candlelighters:* TBA

*Flower Ministry:*

*Arranged:* Linda Ridgeway

*Delivered:* Joe and Kim Reardon

*Evangelism Calls:* Helen and Perry Stemmons

## This Week (July 15 - 21)

- Sun. - Reception for Melissa Straw, after 10:30 service  
- Church Softball Game, 8:00 p.m., Purple Field
- Tue. - 175th Anniversary Scholarship Committee Mtg.,  
4:00 p.m., John's Office
- Wed. - Prayer Shawl Ministry Mtg., 10:00 a.m., Mary  
Tompson's  
- Men's Lunch, 11:30 a.m., Senior Center  
- Membership Dept. Mtg., 7:00 p.m., Morris Parlor
- Thr. - Ragtime Performance by Bob Ault, 7:00 p.m.,  
Sanctuary (reception following in  
Fellowship Hall)
- 
- Fri. - Mid-Month Movie Night, 7:00 p.m., 3rd Floor Cinema  
(Showing the documentary, **Black Gold**)
- Sat. - Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) General  
Assembly begins-Fort Worth, TX (July 21-25)