



THE VISITOR

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

March 2, 2007
Vol. 65, No. 31

Red Cross Blood Drive This Sunday



Twice a year, our congregation sponsors a Red Cross Blood Drive. As Brianna Shepard, one of our members who works for Red Cross, said on Sunday, the need for blood goes on and on. Any of us may need it at any time. When you donate blood, it keeps the supply at a level that can meet regular and emergency needs. While it is a self-care issue, it is also a humanitarian issue – we need to care for one another. Our goal each drive is 25 units. We generally get close to or exceed that amount. However, last fall we had been hit by a lot of illness and many of our regular givers were unable to give. It would be great if we could make up for that shortfall by an extra large number this winter. The Red Cross staff arrives and sets up in Fellowship Hall to begin by 8:00. They stay until they are finished, usually leaving about 12:30. If at all possible, we encourage you to respond this Sunday.

Sunday Services

On March 4th Dr. Yonker's sermon, "Standing Firm," will be based on the scriptures Psalm 24, Luke 13:31-35 and Philippians 3:17-4:1.

At the 10:30 service the Chancel Choir's anthem will be "Blessed Be the Name of the Lord."

Join us for the Old Time Hymn Sing before each service at 8:25 and 10:25 this Sunday!

Garage Sale Supports Youth Mission Trips!



Clean your closets, look under the stairs, check out the basement storage areas! Don't want it? Don't need it? WE DO!! Your no longer-needed items will be sold at the Annual Youth Garage Sale – March 30 – April 1. All profits send our kids on the 2007 Mission Trips.

Contact Joyce Stanley for further information. 445-5058
jbstanley@msn.com

Weekly Report

February 18, 2007

Received \$6,497.00

Received to Date \$307,333.75

Attendance - 265

(includes early worship -50)

The Dead Sea Scrolls – Come Along and See

Union Station of Kansas City has an exhibit of some of the most significant religious documents ever discovered: the Dead Sea Scrolls. The exhibit includes fragments of these incredible ancient documents, including some never before seen in the U.S. as well as artifacts from the ancient community of Qumran, near where the scrolls were discovered.

Our church members have selected March 27, 2007 as the date to travel together to tour this exhibit and then have lunch for a great day outing.

- General Admission (if more than 15 attend) is \$15.95
- Anticipated lunch cost will be \$10.25 for soup, salad and drink; or \$13.75 which would include specialty Mediterranean pasta dishes at the Café in the Grand Hall of Union Station.
- Transportation cost will be announced when we know how many will be attending.

Please make your reservations by Friday, March 9, 2007. Call the church office 449-7265 or stop by and sign the roster for a fun day.



Church Eat-Out

Friday - Mar. 2

5:30 p.m.

Country Kitchen

Everyone Welcome!

From the Frontier to the Future



First
Christian
Church

(Disciples of Christ)
Columbia, Missouri

1832 175th Anniversary 2007

From Ken's Desk...

O.K. So it's about to start. I have managed to be pretty laid back about my impending retirement these last several months. But I think that is about over. This is becoming serious! I've contacted the Pension Fund to get the paperwork rolling; I've begun to find myself saying, "Well, this is the last time I'll be doing this!" That is often accompanied by either relief or despair. Reality is sometimes cruel!

However, I think the most difficult part of this is just learning to see myself in a new stage of life. I began preaching and serving churches over 42 years ago (where do you think all the grey hair comes from?). I can still see clearly my old friend and District Minister, the late Rex Thomas, sitting in the lounge of my dormitory and telling me that he thought it was time to begin serving. I told him I couldn't see myself preaching to people older than me and he assured me that no one feels adequate to the task. That's what faith and obedience are all about. I said, "Who will bury them?" He said, "You will." I said, "Who will marry them?" He said, "You will." I said, "I don't know how to do this stuff!" He said, "You will!" Who knew that the Hound of Heaven would look like Rex Thomas?

So, I sucked it up and managed to prove beyond the shadow of a doubt that I was inadequate to the task. How dear those early congregations were in their tolerance and love! But, little by little, I began to understand that this is where I belong, serving and sharing. It took years before I began to see myself in the role of Minister of the Gospel.

But, now, there is a new image that I have to develop: Retired Minister of the Gospel. I don't know what that means. It doesn't mean that I will quit preaching. It doesn't mean that I will abandon the Church which has nurtured me and infuriated me. It doesn't mean that my time and talent and treasure will be packed away with all the files, never to be used again. It doesn't mean I will care less about learning and growing. Hmmm, what does it mean? I fear that it may take a long time before I see myself clearly in this new stage of life. I guess that is exciting. I'm pretty sure that it is a little frightening. But new possibilities open up even as the old me shuffles off.

So, it's about to start. Watch this space for late breaking news...

New Shelves in the Library!

Next time you go into the church library on the second floor of the education building, take a look to the left and you will see a new book shelf. We needed the space for books in the library and Will and Donna Houston answered the call to see that it was done! They finished making the shelves and putting them in place last weekend. Thanks very much!



March 2, 2007

St. Luke's United Methodist Church

9:30 - Gather - Bible Study Groups
10:45 - Worship/Prayer Service
Noon - Shared Lunch (bring a few sandwiches, fruit, salad or dessert)

Secret Place

The Spring Quarter *Secret Place* Devotional Booklets are available to be picked up in the CWF alcove by the elevator. Non-subscribers may purchase a copy for \$1.25. Please pay in the church office.

~Mary Kay Mueller

Happy Birthday

Sharon Ronchetto-Mar. 4
Cathy Seltsam-Mar. 5
Harold Duncan-Mar. 6
Nancy Watson-Mar. 6
Andy Janssen-Mar. 6
Martha Cooper-Mar. 7
Kelly Tracy-Mar. 7
Michael Taylor-Mar. 7
David Keithley-Mar. 8
Raven Sheppard-Mar. 8
Andrea Smith-Mar. 8
Melissa Straw-Mar. 8
Valerie Freed-Mar. 8
Sara Estes-Mar. 10
Aidan Anderson-Mar. 10



News of the congregation

Our sympathy is extended to the **Carey Family** on the death of their wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, **Marge Carey**, who died at Boone Hospital on Friday afternoon, February 23. Funeral services were conducted by John Yonker at the church on Tuesday, February 27, with burial in the Memorial Park Cemetery. Along with her family, Marge was an active member of the church for many years and served as a deacon, elder, and was an organizing member of the Coffman-Watson CWF group. In addition to her husband, **Tom**, Marge is survived by her six children, **Michael, Ronald, Julie Hickey, Dennis, Jim, and Pam Duesenberg**, two daughters-in-law, **Chris Carey** and **Dian Carey**, two sons-in-law, **John Hickey** and **David Duesenberg**, two sisters, **Sylvia Dowdy** and **Bonnie Chism**, 14 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren, numerous nieces and nephews.

We extend sympathy to **Art Gaus** on the death of his wife, **Virginia Gaus** who died at her home on Friday evening, February 23. Funeral services were conducted by Ken Watson on Tuesday, February 27 at Memorial Funeral Home. A native of St. Louis, Virginia was a long-time member of our congregation who led a neighborhood prayer group for 29 years which included several members of First Christian Church. In addition to her husband, **Art**, Virginia is survived by her sons, **Arlan**, and his wife **Gloria**, and **Alvan**, and his wife, **Rebecca**, a daughter, **Sharon Gaus**, one brother and four grandchildren.

Helen Ingold is at home recovering from surgery last week at Boone Hospital. **Bill Tetley** is a patient at Boone Hospital, recovering from surgery on Sunday morning, February 25. **Ruth Brandenburg** was released from Boone Hospital last weekend. **Lois Brown** was admitted to Boone Hospital last week.

We also keep in our prayers **Raven Sheppard's father, Ron Sheppard**, and **Cherry Hinderberger's mother, Bonnie Ludwig**, both of whom are patients in the hospital in Cape Girardeau, Missouri.

Congratulations to **Larry Clark** who recently received the Distinguished Service Award from the College of Arts and Science at MU. Larry, Emeritus Dean of the College, was honored for his long and exemplary career.



175th Anniversary News

- Genie Rogers

175th Vesper Service

Sunday, March 11, at 3:00 p.m., First Christian Church will host the Jane Froman Singers in the sanctuary. They will be under the leadership of Nollie Moore. The title of the event is "*Simply American*" and will include folk songs, spirituals and anthems. The program will feature music on their new CD. The CD's will be available for sale in the Narthex after the presentation. A reception will follow in Fellowship Hall. This event is free and open to the public and will be advertised in the Tribune.

Old Time Hymn Sing

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

Anniversary Quilt

Quilt squares and information will continue to be available with a phone call to Mary Tompson: **442-8849**. 120 people have signed up already and picked up their squares. Twenty completed squares have already been turned in. This quilt is going to be FABULOUS! On **Saturday, March 3, at 10:00 a.m.** there will be a sewing and fellowship session at Mary Tompson's home. Please call and let her know if you will be there and get directions. There will be plenty of people present to help anyone in need of instruction to complete their square. More help sessions will be scheduled if the need exists. If there is a desire to have your name or a symbol embroidered on your quilt piece, Deatra is available at her business address of Bernina Sewing, 12 S. 2nd Street, phone 289-6800. Prices will vary, but range generally from \$8.00 to \$15.00.

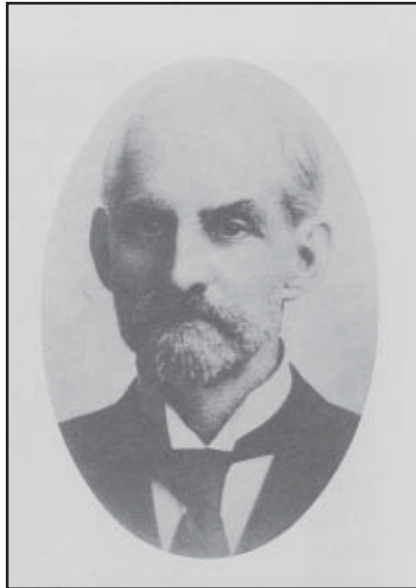
End of Special Sunday School Class

The special six-week class taught by Ken Watson on the history of the denomination and the Columbia church ended this Sunday. The last session explored the church in transition during the 60's, 70's and 80's. Special dates were noted such as adding pews to the balcony in 1961. I doubt if very many of us remember that folding chairs were used in the balcony prior to that date! In 1969 a major renovation included the building of the small chapel adjacent to the sanctuary with Memorial Funds. The role of the Associate Ministers changed dramatically during this period. They assumed more of the pastoral duties as the church responsibilities for the senior minister grew. In 1970 Children's Worship Hour began with 38 children and is still flourishing today. In 1980 we made the Children's Message part of each church service. In 1968 the by-laws were changed to allow women to serve as Elders. The first two selected were Vedah Harrah and Mary Omer. In 1983 women started serving on Communion teams. In 1981 an arsonist broke into the church Library burning all the books and doing major damage to that room. A fast Fire Department response kept the fire from spreading and insurance covered clean up and restorative costs.

Many thanks to Ken for leading us through 175 years of history of the origin and development of our denomination and church. The information was interesting and informative with plenty of wonderful stories making the history come alive for us.

Completion of the Sanctuary and the New Century

Reverend John Shouse was hired in 1892 assuming he was coming to a newly completed and paid for church building. Upon arrival, he found a partially begun church with quite a bit of money needed for completion of the project. This got him off to a poor start which led to a brief two year ministry. However, during that time the church building was completed and a dedication was held on November 26, 1893. A prominent theologian of the period, Reverend F. M. Rains delivered the speech of dedication to a packed house. The Christian Evangelist reported the Columbia Church as the most handsome of all Disciple Church buildings in Missouri opining “Even when the lovely town of Columbia shall deserve the name cosmopolitan, the architecture of the Christian Church will be one of its chief ornaments.”



John S. Shouse served as church pastor during construction of the present building. 1892-1894

Several significant items dominated the decade following the building of the new church.

Churches at the turn of the century did little in the celebration of Christmas and Easter. Alexander Campbell said, “every Sunday should be treated as if it were Easter and the celebration of the resurrection. No special day should be singled out, but all Sundays should be treated with the same joy of Christ’s birth and resurrection”. In 1899, the first Easter sunrise prayer meeting was held with special Easter music. A sermon celebrating the resurrection was not held until 1903 in the Columbia Christian Church, when special Easter music was used and the message of hope and resurrection was delivered from the pulpit. After this point, it became an annual part of the church calendar.

The use of an organ and music during church had been a divisive subject for a long time. Those who refused to use music evolved into The Church of Christ. In the 1880’s our church had introduced an organ for use in Sunday School. It

was sometimes used at a wedding or funeral, but had never been used at a church service. Reverend Foy asked for a vote on the use of instrumental music in church worship. Although there was still some minor opposition, not one person voted against it. For the first time in the history of the Columbia Church, the organ was used for evening services on September 14, 1890. Professor Pannell became the leader of the music department and conducted singing class on Wednesday evening. Largely due to the fund raisers done by the women of the church, a pipe organ was installed in the new sanctuary in December of 1896. It was dedicated in a service by St. Louis musician, Edward Vaile McIntyre. McIntyre proclaimed it to be the finest organ he had ever played on. A newspaper reporter commented “when under the touch of a St. Louis artist, its heavenly strains rolled grandly forth.....[providing] the proudest moment the ladies of the church have seen”.

There had been talk of establishing the Bible College in Columbia near the University Campus under the auspices of the Christian Church. The new pastor, Rev. Charles Winders worked hard at establishing the school and creating close ties between it and the church. These close ties and mutual benefits to each entity lasted for generations.

The Temperance Movement had started creating unrest by 1868 and the churches all became convinced their need to take a stand. In 1868 at a meeting of the Christian Churches, 500 people took and signed a pledge to be “dry”. All Protestant Ministers were expected to sign a pledge to be “dry” well into the 1900’s. In April 1896, the Columbia congregation voted unanimously to use only unfermented wine in their communion service. That summer, members of the church canned fifteen gallons of grape juice in the church basement for communion purposes for the following year.

On February 8, 1903, church officers burned bonds amounting to \$6,000.00 after paying of all debts incurred with the new building. Now debt free, the Congregation stood and sang “Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow”.

The church and its congregants, now standing at 723 forged ahead with the goal of doing God’s work through missions and benevolence and the keeping of God’s laws of morality. This would involve them periodically in the politics and fire of the temperance movement in the following decade.

Genie Rogers



After talking with our youth who have been coming to youth groups most consistently and parents of those who haven't, we have decided to try something new throughout the rest of the school year. We are excited about these changes and hope that you are as well!

First, JYF appreciates meeting directly after the late worship service and Chi Rho used to like it a few years ago. Why not make the two groups and their parents happy and both meet right after worship! We will eat lunch together and then split off into our own groups. Both groups will end at 2:00pm.

This change means that we will have to have Partner assistance with the groups themselves. This week we are thankful for those who have already volunteered and hope that more probably be alternating between the ner leadership in both age groupings. interested. I can have a "lesson plan" of through it together in advance so that it

CYF would like to try meeting on the even fourth) from 7:15-8:30pm. Our gathering from 7:15-7:30pm and we will then have This is obviously in the same pattern as well for our older youth in CYF. In addition at least once a month on the weekend for a part in a trash pick-up with those who live Wardrobe and perhaps the food pantry together. I am putting together the sched-weekends and will have it on the web and



will step up for the future weeks. I will groups each week so that we have Part-Please give me a call or email if you are sorts for each week and we can talk is fun for everyone involved.

Wednesdays of the month (second and will begin with a light snack and chat time our activity/lesson/discussion/study. the college group and we hope that it fits tion to our "Mid-Weeks", we will meet at service outing. For instance, we will take close to our church; we will go to the to begin our service learning times to-ule for the next couple months on the in the Visitor next week.

Again, we are excited about these changes and hope that you are as well! Our mission trips this summer are looking like they will be absolutely awesome and we want to have equally good youth group times before we get into our summer happenings. Please let me know if you have any questions!

Huge Partner thanks to **Pam Hunsaker** and the **entire Hunsaker family** for another outstanding lunch and to **Sarah Read** and the **Read family** for a super supper. Our time around the table was wonderful thanks to you all!

Ecumenical Education Series

First Christian Church, in cooperation with United Methodist, First Presbyterian Church and Broadway Christian churches, are collaborating in sponsoring programs of interest for members and friends of our respective congregations. Lecture/courses will vary in content from Shakespeare's plays to the history of the Middle East to the ethics of stem cell research to contemporary religions and other topics. Members of each congregation are invited, along with their friends, to attend any or all of these free programs. No registration or admission fee is required.

The first lecture series is presented by world-renowned Shakespearean scholar, Dr. Mack Jones, and is entitled "New Perspectives on the Plays of Shakespeare." The schedule for the four sessions follows:

March 6 – Shakespearean Ambiguity

A survey of the ways in which Shakespeare deals dramatically with the complexities of human experience.

March 13 – Shakespeare's Romantic Comedy

A look at the major Shakespearean comedies in order see the nature of romantic love's complexity and humor.

March 20 – Shakespeare's Public World

The way in which Shakespeare's plays deal with the major weaknesses and strengths of monarchal rule.

March 27 – Shakespeare's Tragic Vision

The problem of human responsibility and the basis for life's major decisions.

All four sessions will be held at First Presbyterian Church, 16 Hitt Street (corner of Hitt and Cherry), from 7:00-8:30 p.m., in the Social Hall.

You've Got to see Oprah to Believe It

Oprah's mission is God's mission. Don't be misled by the simple title "Building a Dream" on KMIZ-TV (ABC) this Saturday evening at 8 o'clock. Oprah Winfrey shares her five-year \$40 million quest to build an academy to educate and empower desperately disadvantaged girls in South Africa. Viewers meet the first recipients of Oprah's generosity—girls for Grades 7 and 8. Some of us who saw it Monday evening were entranced. TV Guide calls it "SPECIAL"!

Thanks to all the special volunteers who helped with the newsletter mailing last week: **Dave Beem, Kent Kurtz, Betty Moon and Anna Cathryn Yost.**

The Visitor

First Christian Church

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573-449-7265



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Rev. Amy Kay Pavlovich, Associate Minister
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Minister Emeritus: Dr. Sam S. Langley

Campus Ministry Intern: Kelly Mueller

Music Staff:

Mary Bancroft, Coord. of Music & Organist
Melissa Straw, Choir Director
Norma Miller, Pianist

Mother's Day Out: Tracy Westhoff, Director

Support Staff:

Kay Beissenherz, Administrative Secretary
fcc@firstchristian.org

Jim Burt, Custodian

Fred Mottaz, Business Manager
fred@firstchristian.org

Sunday's Schedule-March 4, 2007

Van Driver: Tom Yonker *Telephone:* Nancy Watson

8:30 Early Worship, Sanctuary

Worship Asst: Judy Hall, Cherry and Ed Hinderberger

Elder for 8:30 Service: Sally Robinson

Communion Preparation:

Dorothy Allen, Pat Rainey, Cindy Forbis

9:30 Church School

Church School Greeter: Gerry Coon

Nursery Volunteer: Paula Hoenes

10:30 Worship in Sanctuary

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

10:30 Elders: Joyce Stanley, Norma Miller, Julie Hickey

Deacons: The Campbell Team

Greeters:

Frank Boster, *North Door*

Erin and Shane Bower, *South Door*

Ushers: The Pavlovich Team

Banner Bearers: Open

Candlelighters: Makali Hawkins

Flower Ministry:

arranged: Charlie and Bettie Koelling

delivered: Harsh and Frances Brown

Evangelism Calls: Anne Campbell

This Week (Mar. 4-10)

- Sun. -Old Time Hymn Sing, before each service (8:25 and 10:25)
 - Blood Drive, 8:30-12:30, Fellowship Hall
 - JYF (grades 3-5), after 10:30 worship until 2:00 p.m.
 - Chi Rho (grades 6-8), after 10:30 worship-2:00 p.m.
- Mon. - Drennan Singers, 6:00 p.m., Sanctuary
 - Coffman-Watson Group, 7:00 p.m., Mary Kay Mueller's
- Tue. - Bible Study, 10:30 a.m., Morris Parlor
 - Property Mtg., 6:30 p.m., Morris Parlor
- Wed. - Lenten Breakfast, 7:00-8:00 a.m., First Presbyterian Church (16 Hitt Street)
 - Men's Lunch 11:30 a.m., Senior Center
 - Back Room, 8:45-10:00 p.m.
 - Cabinet mtg., 6:30 p.m., Morris Parlor
- Sat. - CWF Budget Committee, 9:30 a.m., Keystone Room

