



THE VISITOR

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

March 16, 2007
Vol. 65, No. 33

Visit and Communion

THANK YOU to the Elders and Deacons who are serving communion and enjoying a visit with the homebound on Sunday morning, March 18, during the 10:30 worship service. **ELDERS:** Jacki Davidson, Eldon Drennan, Dan Gieseke, Cherry Hinderberger, Brenda Martin, Fred Mottaz, Shirley Park, Barbara Rothenberger, Marsha and Tom Sisson, Nelson Trickey and Richard Vaught. **DEACONS:** Bob and Linda Hutton, Angie Hysten, Betty Moon, Doris Neidhardt, Gerald and Susan Ramsey, Carol Roder, David Ross, Eric Seaman, Brianna Shepard, Millard Thomas and Jeryl Vaught. **JR. DEACONS:** Drew Gieseke and Stephanie Mottaz. Thanks to Serena and Harry White for preparing the communion trays.



MID-MONTH MOVIE NIGHT

"THE MISSION"

**FRI., MAR. 16TH, 7:00 PM
CINEMA, 3RD FLOOR**

Spring Work Day

Spring Work Day is scheduled for March 31st from 8am-noon (work), lunch (provided) from noon-1pm, 1pm- 4pm (work). Everyone is welcome for as short or as long as you can make it. We will be painting, landscaping, and general repair. Contact Jay Creasy with any questions at 442-8882.

Ken Watson Sunday

You are invited to an all-church celebration following worship on **Sunday, April 29** to honor Ken Watson's 43-year ministry with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Ken has served First Christian Church for 13 of those 43 years. We will have food and a program celebrating Ken and Nancy's years of ministry with us. They will be eager to see and greet each of you before and after the program. Mark your calendars to be here for this special Sunday in our church life. More detailed information will follow.

We are assembling a book of letters from friends and members of the congregation to Ken and Nancy. Please share a memory or simply wish them well in their retirement. Please send those letters to Mimi McRoberts, 1001 Cherry Street, Ste. 201, Columbia, MO 65201-7931, or to the church office. They will be assembled in a book and presented at the reception to Ken and Nancy.

Donations are requested for a monetary gift for Ken and Nancy from the congregation in appreciation of their 13 years of ministry at First Christian Church. Send your confidential contribution to **WATSON RETIREMENT FUND**, First Christian Church, attn. Fred Mottaz, 101 N. 10th Street, Columbia, MO 65201

Silent Bazaar Reminder:

We hope the ladies of the church received their letter regarding the Silent Bazaar for 2006-07. This donation serves as an important part of the CWF budget for next year. Please send in your monetary gift to Royanne Tracy c/o CWF by April 10th. Contact Debbie Potthast at 443-0368 if you have questions. Thank you for your continued support!!

Sunday Services

"The Scandal of Forgiveness," is Dr. Yonker's sermon this Sunday. Scripture readings will include Psalm 32, and Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32.

The Chancel Choir will grace our worship service with the anthem, "Medley of the Cross" at the 10:30 service.



Weekly Report

March 4, 2007
Received \$7,285.67
Received to Date \$325,918.22
Attendance - 313
(includes early worship -50)

From the Frontier to the Future



**First
Christian
Church**

(Disciples of Christ)
Columbia, Missouri



From Ken's Bookshelves...

Sometimes I just can't get with modern jargon. For example, the word "paradigm" swept over the business and church world a few years ago, explaining to us that we all see the world through certain lenses or assumptions. Suddenly we were "paradigm-ing" everything in our lives. We used the word so much that it lost its real power as a word to shape our perceptions and expectations. Recently, there has been a new word, "discerning." You know, making tough decisions based on our understanding of the forces and attributes of the matter under discussion. It's not just deciding an issue, but deciding it wisely.

So, why am I fussing over the word "discerning"? It is because I am right now in the process of discerning. I'm trying to make wise decisions based on a raft-full of data. I'm sorting out my books for appropriate disposal. Many of you have been in my office and realize that I have an almost unhealthy love of books. Some might call it an obsession. Now, with retirement fast approaching (yippee!), I realize that I have to do something with these shelves of lovingly collected resources. Some I will keep because they are excellent resources for study. Nancy and I are still negotiating the appropriate number that can come home. Some I will dispose of because they are seriously outdated and belong in a museum rather than a library. It is the vast majority, perhaps 80%, of the remaining books that really have me flustered. Do I give them to a seminary or other educational organization? Do I annoy my friends by dumping a box of these unwanted children on someone's doorstep? Do I take them to a garage sale and just hope that they don't end up in a landfill somewhere? Aren't you glad you don't have the HUGE problems that I do?

As I was thinking of the discernment process, I realized that much of my life is lived in the mode of discernment. Some issues make the need for discernment quite obvious, like war and peace, hot-button social issues, and my own need for growth in my faith journey. But sometimes we just don't want to think and feel about an issue, personal or social. We just react based on old assumptions and deep seated values and attitudes that we would rather not examine too closely. That's when bad decisions are often made.

First Christian has been going through a discernment process for the last few years. We have held up every aspect of our congregation for examination through the Faithful Planning process. Our Cabinet has been going about discernment through intentional planning. The Associate Search committee realized early on that this task is almost completely reliant upon faithful discernment. At every step of the way, we have spent time in prayer, discussion, and listening for the Voice of God to us in our time. God and I will figure out my books, and God and you will move on down the road toward a faith-filled future.

Thank You!

The family of Marjorie Carey would like to thank our church family for their cards, prayers and kindness during a very difficult and sad time of losing our wife, mother and grandmother.

Thank you to those who were able to visit Mother during her stay at Lenoir and many thanks to Ken, John and Sarah for their support and presence at the end.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry provided comfort and blessings and was very much appreciated.

Tom Carey and family
Julie and John Hickey and family


Card Shower

Lula Mae Krull will celebrate her 90th birthday on March 20. If you would like to send a card, her address: 8550 N. Granby Ave. #107, Kansas City, MO 64154.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to George and Lois Ross who are celebrating their 70th wedding anniversary on March 21st. Also, George celebrates his 91st birthday on March 17th and Lois has a birthday on March 19th!

News of the congregation

We extend sympathy to **Gary Rybolt** on the death of his father, **Earl Rybolt**, who died on Tuesday, March 6 at the Moberly Regional Hospital. He was 89 years old. Private services were held by his family on March 11.

Two of our members are recovering from surgery: **Don Seltam** is at Boone Hospital and **Dave Beem** is at the VA Hospital.

Ruth Brandenburg has been released from the hospital and is back at The Terrace. **Margo Lubensky** was also released from the hospital last week.

Laura Hutton, daughter of **Bob and Linda Hutton**, was inducted into the Chi Delta Chapter of Phi Alpha, a national honor society for social work students. Qualifying students must have achieved a grade-point average of at least 3.75. Laura is pursuing a master's degree in social work at the University of Missouri-Columbia.

In his March 7, 2007 column in the Columbia Daily Tribune, Bill Clark listed **Kent Kurtz**, **Paul Ritchie** and **Norm Lawnick** as three of "a group of sports officials whose influence on high school and intercollegiate sports in Central Missouri continues today."

Summer Ministry Internship

We are now accepting applications for our summer internship position for a college student. If you would like more information about the paid position, please visit the college web site off of our main page (www.firstchristian.org) or call Amy Kay.

Happy Birthday

Amy Foster-Mar. 18
Katherine Richardson-Mar. 18
Jack Wells-Mar. 18
Lois Ross-Mar. 19
Cari Sapp-Mar. 19
Wolfgang Schaefer-Mar. 21
Carl Miles-Mar. 22
Mary Jane Rogers-Mar. 23
Jared Swope-Mar. 23
Mabel Glenn Smith-Mar. 23
Helen Stemmons-Mar. 24
Amy Bangs-Mar. 24





175th Anniversary News - Genie Rogers

Jane Froman Singers

On Sunday afternoon, March 11, 2007 the church hosted another delightful event to a large crowd in the sanctuary. The Jane Froman singers under the direction of Nollie Moore and Judith Shaw on the piano did a series of beautiful vocal arrangements in a program titled *Simply American*. It was hard to believe that such young kids (college students) could have such beautiful voices. Sunday marked the release and marketing of a compact disc of the music we heard to finance their trip this summer to China where they have been invited as one of three American choirs to perform at the Chinese National Choir Directors first annual meeting.

Dates for your Calendar

Dates are already beginning to be blocked out for summer plans and the fall. We want you to get this date on YOUR calendar. **Sunday October 14** is being planned as *Coming Home Sunday*. It is our hope that former members who have moved away, previous ministers and associates of the church and members of families who have grown up in the church but live elsewhere now will be able to plan some of their travel time around this date. We will have our own *Timothy*, Rev. David Yonker preaching that Sunday. A catered lunch will follow the church service with everyone invited. We want to make this a special day in the life of the church and memorable for all those who have at one time been active members of FCC.

Quilt

Quilt squares are beginning to be finished and turned in. They all look wonderful and have the personal and unique touch of each person who is submitting them. This quilt is going to be a treasure. It is not too late to pick up a square to represent your family from Mary Tompson, **442-8849**. There is help available for anyone who needs it and pictures and books to get ideas from. The more participants, the better this quilt gets!



Minute for History

This Sunday is the third Sunday of March which means it will be a "Minute for History Sunday". The subject of the "Minute" will be *Movers and Shakers in Higher Education* and was written by Ken Watson. At the 8:30 service it will be presented by Donna Houston and at the 10:30 service it will be presented by Darren Hellwege.

HIRAM COLLEGE; BETHANY COLLEGE; EUREKA COLLEGE

As the early settlers organized churches in the developing frontier, so, too, did they begin colleges. The three colleges listed below all fit into the mission statement of Eureka College: "Eureka College (Bethany, Hiram), a liberal arts institution, affiliated with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), exists to cultivate excellence in learning, service and leadership. The college fosters the mutual development of intellect and character so that the members of the student body may lead meaningful, productive lives and succeed in their professional and social roles." The sound educational process provided by these three schools produced two Presidents of the United States of America and countless other successful and multi-dimensional citizens.

Bethany, in the northern panhandle of West Virginia, organized in 1840; Hiram in northeast Ohio, in 1851; Eureka in central Illinois, in 1855. All continue today as excellent small Liberal Arts colleges. All have ties to the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), but are in no way governed by the denomination.

Bethany College

Bethany College was founded by Alexander Campbell, one of the founders of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Campbell's home is located in the town of Bethany, WV and may be seen on guided tours. The student body of 900 is offered a wide array of studies in more than 30 fields. Beauchamp "Champ" Clark, Democrat from Missouri and Speaker of the House of Representatives, graduated in the class of 1873. The Rev. William Ryan, founding minister of the Broadway Christian Church, and his wife, Narka, now residing in Baltimore, Maryland, are graduates of Bethany.

The school prides itself in being part of a rural setting and a residential campus. There are 1300 acres of nature reserve, 5 national historic sites, and an equestrian center adjacent to campus.

Hiram College

The village of Hiram in the rolling, wooded area of northeast Ohio, is lined with streets of historic homes and surrounds the college campus, which is the center of the town. Hiram's study plan is distinctive with each semester divided into a 12-week session for extended course work and a 3-week session devoted to seminar-type classes and intensive experiences on and off campus. Of the 900 students, 16% are minority or international students. Hiram College was one of those featured in the book "Small Colleges That Make a Difference in Students' Lives," by James A Garfield, 20th President of the United States, who was a successful student, Professor, and President of Hiram before becoming a General of the Army in the Civil War. Columbia connections include the late Mrs. O. Ivan (Lucille) Cole, Kate Loring, and Moray Loring Kiehl, all of whom are graduates.

Eureka College

Eureka College is proud of its heritage as the third college in the United States to accept men and women on an equal basis. Ronald

Reagan, 40th President of the United States, graduated from Eureka in 1932, starring on the college's football team.

Eureka, located in a suburban setting 140 miles from Chicago, is a residential campus. The unique campus facilities include the Ronald Reagan Museum, the Ronald Reagan Trail, and the Ronald Reagan Peace Garden. Two buildings are on the national historic ledger and there is a lilac arboretum labyrinth.

On January 31, 1991 a referendum was held on campus to determine the fate of the "Red Devil" as mascot of Eureka College. By a vote of 183 to 27 the student body voted to keep the Red Devil as mascot. The referendum stemmed from discussions that had been held earlier in the 1990-91 school year questioning whether or not it was appropriate for a church-related institution to have a devil as its mascot.

Local members of our church, Perry and Helen Ewing met as students at Eureka College.

Moray Loring Kiehl

It Costs a Lot More

What costs so much? Well, yes, to dig a well in drought-stricken, rain-thirsty and starving Kenya. When we adopted the Kenya water well goal in 2006, the Northeast Area, of which we are a part, sought to raise \$3,337, the average cost of a well. But we knew even then that many wells cost as much as \$5,000. So we were pleased that our area Christian Church women raised almost \$4,000 by December 2006.

BUT - when we learned about our Regional CWF mission goal for 2007, we learned that the cost of providing a well and training in Kenya now costs \$20,000 because of the devastating drought. Without water, crops won't grow - and the food crisis has reached catastrophic proportions. So our Kenya water well project has been extended through June 30, 2007. How much can we raise toward the goal?

Dead Sea Scrolls Trip

Good News! The deadline for the Dead Sea Scrolls trip has been extended to **Monday, March 19th**! Details of the trip are:

- Cost will be \$50 which includes transportation and admission (lunch will be on your own)
- Bus leaves from Broadway Christian Church at 8:15 a.m.
- Arrive back at 6:00 p.m.

You may call our church office (449-7265) to make reservations. Checks should be made payable to First Christian Church and received by March 19th.



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

www.firstchristian.org/youth

JYF and **Chi Rho** will continue meeting on Sundays from 11:45am – 2:00pm. Our attendance is up and we are happy campers with our revised times. As a reminder, we will always begin and end our time in the Fellowship Hall, but will move about the building and possibly outside during our time together. Please let me know if you need to pick up or drop off at a unique time and we'll make the necessary arrangements. We'll work with any schedule because we want the children and youth to be able to come for whatever time is possible!

Special Partner thanks to **Bryant White** for enjoying the weather with us outside last Sunday. It was a beautiful spring day for us to frolic in the courthouse amphitheater area.

CYF will continue meeting on the second and fourth Wednesdays (March 28th, April 11th, April 25th, etc.) through the end of the school year. We will begin our time in the Fellowship Hall at 7:15pm with some light munchies and will then generally move to our CYF room at 7:30pm. We will end in prayer by 8:30pm and will return to the Fellowship Hall for pick ups. Please also make plans to help with the set up and Garage Sale festivities the week of March 25th with the sale on the weekend of March 30th -April 1st. Also, we will join with the other youth for a community clean-up on April 15th after the late worship service. Hope you can fit CYF into your schedule soon! We would love to be with you!!

River of Life

The elementary students are learning more about Jesus during this time of Lent and the coming Eastertide. We are considering why such a claim is made that this man Jesus was the “Son of God” who saved/s. He was indeed extraordinary and we have a lot to be amazed by as we consider his words and deeds. If he was so totally awesome... what does that mean for us as people who follow him? Come to Sunday School, friend, and join in the conversation!

Spring Cleaning Time!

Yes, it's true! Spring is just around the corner! It's time to “cast off the old and put on the new.”

Please save all unwanted, unnecessary (but still useable) treasures for the Youth Garage Sale. All items may be brought to the Fellowship Hall March 24 – March 28. Support Youth Mission Trips through your garage sale donations and contributions.



Volunteers are NEEDED to set up, sell and clean up! Contact Joyce Stanley for further information. Ph.# 445-5058 or jbstanley@msn.com

Justice for All Concert

Come with friends and celebrate what God is doing through PET (Personal Energy Transport) on Monday, March 26, 2007 at Community United Methodist Church, 3301 W. Broadway in Columbia.

6:30 p.m.- Church opens for gathering, visiting, seeing displays, unveiling of PET #10,000. Bring your camera and have your picture taken with it.

7:00 p.m.- Concert with pictures and video of PET distributions, songs of hope and praise, Roger's PET song, celebration of our relationship with Hope Haven in Iowa. This will be followed by a reception with refreshments.

A freewill offering will be taken for Hope Haven International Ministries for their world-wide distribution of mobility. Hope Haven is the major distribution partner, and the main reason PET is in 60 countries. Justice for ALL is a trucking ministry that aids Hope Haven and PET.

Charting the Course Ministries
Presents
LEAVING CUTE. ENTERING COOL
A Seminar for Parents of 'Tweens
 (approximate ages 9-13)

Sunday, April 15, 2007
1:30-6:00 p.m.

Facilitated by: Judy Ann Mumford, Ph.D.
 Hosted by: Evangelical Free Church
 (600 Silvey Street, Columbia)
 Register by: April 10th
 Fee: Individual, \$15 or Dual (Married), \$25
 Contact: holly@chartingthecourse.net
 573-639-0549



Visited By Angels

Visited By Angels is a new novel from Guideposts. A young artist, looking for solace after losing her husband and young son in a tragic accident, flees to a cabin in the Cascade Mountains. Even there she is too distracted to pursue painting. Claire Andrews had always been sure God heard her prayers—that is, until after the accident. Now she struggles daily, alone in the snowy woods, with grief and her loss of faith. One day she discovers two mysterious sets of footprints in the snow, an adult's and a child's. Is it her imagination? Where did they come from and where are they going? Find out whether these tracks lead her to paint and hope—once again. ...ON THE BOOK CART

**BOOK
CORNER**

The Visitor

First Christian Church

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



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Columbia, MO
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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-March 18, 2007

Van Driver: Frank Boster *Telephone:* Carol Slusher
8:30 Early Worship, Sanctuary

Worship Asst: Larry and Millie Caringer, Mary Daugherty

Elder for 8:30 Service: Anne Campbell

Communion Preparation:

Betty Scavone, Roy and Joy Overacre

9:30 Church School

Church School Greeter: Mark Hunsaker Family

Nursery Volunteer: Pamela Hoepfner

10:30 Worship in Sanctuary

Sermon: Dr. John J. Yonker *Liturgist:* Erin Bower

10:30 Elders: Donna and Will Houston, Linda Ridgeway

Deacons: The Nichols Team

Greeters:

Donna and Will Houston, *North Door*

Marvellee Ridgeway, *South Door*

Ushers: The Hunsaker Team

Banner Bearers: Logan Garton and Devin Klotz

Candlelighters: Conner Stormer and Gavin Rose

Flower Ministry:

arranged: Erin Bower

delivered: Marvin and Royanne Tracy

Evangelism Calls: Harsh Brown

This Week (Mar. 18 - 24)

- Sun. - Homebound Communion Sunday
- JYF (grades 3-5) and Chi Rho (grades 6-8), after
10:30 worship until 2:00 p.m.
- Search Committee Mtg., 12:30 p.m., Keystone Rm.
- Tue. - Drennan Group, 9:00 a.m., Drennan Room
- Bible Study, 10:30 a.m., Morris Parlor
- Lemmon Group, 11:45 a.m., Senior Center
- Wed. - Lenten Breakfast, 7:00-8:00 a.m., Calvary Episcopal
Church (123 S. 9th Street)
- Shawl Ministry Mtg., 10:00 a.m., Mary Tompson's
- Men's Lunch, 11:30 a.m., Senior Center
- Administrative Board Mtg., 6:30 p.m., Morris Parlor
- Back Room (college group), 8:45-10:00 p.m.
- Thur. - Stewardship Dept. Mtg., 6:00 p.m. Keystone Room
- Fri. - Parker-Scott Group at
1:30 p.m., Lenoir
Community Center

