



## Heifer International Ark

The 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee along with the World Outreach Committee has given the congregation the ultimate challenge to raise \$5,000 for a Heifer International Ark this year. Since May is World Missions month we have begun our fundraising efforts now. Our Ark will be sent somewhere in the world where there is a need for families to have an animal to use to make a living. Watch future Visitors to learn more about the folks who receive Heifer International animals and the impact this gift makes on their lives. Mother's Day is this week, a perfect gift for your mother would be the purchase of a trio of rabbits or perhaps a flock of chicks or geese might be something she would enjoy. There will be a display set up in the narthex each Sunday for the month of May for you to make your purchase. Then once a month throughout the rest of the year the display will be in the narthex to remind you of what great opportunities you have to share with others. You may make a donation towards the purchase of an Ark anytime by making your check out to First Christian Church and in the memo line write Heifer Ark. Drop your check off at the church office or in the collection plate on Sunday. Stop by the display this Sunday to check out all the animals that will be purchased with our \$5,000.

## Ethical Guidelines

Please feel free to attend a meeting on Tuesday, June 12 at 4:30 p.m. in the Keystone room regarding the Ethical Guidelines that were recently discussed during a Board Meeting. We have received input from several congregational members and would like to review the comments that were received. Even if you did not submit or document your ideas earlier, but have thoughts on this topic, you are welcome to join us.

## Are you unplugged?

If not, then you need to see "The Matrix!" Our Mid-Month Movie for May will feature the great 1999 science-fiction film starring Keanu Reeves and Lawrence Fishburn. Rated R for sci-fi violence and brief language, this two hour film is filled with religious symbolism and will provide great discussion as we discover the presence of matrix, and learn how Neo and other characters seek to free themselves from its power. Can't you smell the corn popping? Come to cinema for the Mid-Month movie at 7 p.m. on Friday, May 18 to get unplugged.

## Sunday Services

Many years ago the tradition began of observing the second Sunday in May as "Mother's Day." On Sunday we will expand that to include a celebration of all the different kinds of families present. A men's chorus will present the special music at 10:30, "Rise Up, O Men of God." Dr. Yonker's sermon, "Holy Homes" will focus on the issue of making our homes sacred centers for faith development, based on scripture readings found in John 14:23-29 and Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5.

Bring a friend and come to church next Sunday!

### Weekly Report

May 6, 2007

Received \$12,870.00

Received to Date \$400,210.31

Attendance - 279

(includes early worship - 54)

## Pledge Report

The Stewardship campaign is off to a good start. 137 pledges have been received. There are 62 new or increased pledges from last year and 66 that pledged the same. The total amount pledged to date is \$303,031.



How can words possibly express the gratitude of Nancy and myself for the wonderful celebration of my retirement? There were wonderful friends, wonderful songs, wonderful words, wonderful things to eat and wonderful gifts! Our entire family appreciates so much the time and effort that went into planning and bringing about this event. We hope you enjoyed the day as much as we did. Your presence and kind well-wishes made it a remarkable day for us. We have had time to read through the many cards and letters and are humbled by your words. As we journey forward, we truly hold you in our hearts knowing there will be many exciting changes ahead for both you and us.

Ken, Nancy, Heather, and Erica Watson

The Watson's new e-mail address is: [kwatson123@gmail.com](mailto:kwatson123@gmail.com).

*We apologize for the delay of this thank you, caused by the church's e-mail being down.*

*From the Frontier to the Future*



**First  
 Christian  
 Church**

(Disciples of Christ)  
 Columbia, Missouri

**1832 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 2007**

## Minute for Stewardship

This year we are celebrating the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our church and we are learning of all the good things that have gone on before us. And, I can say unequivocally—Boy, are we good! But, good can be and is often the enemy of great because it is easy to get comfortable and rest on our laurels.

When Dr. Thompson was superintendent of Columbia Public Schools he would have an opening day session with the entire district faculty and we would hear how good we were—he would tell us how good our test scores were—how many millions of scholarship dollars our graduates had won, and he would recognize the accomplishments of the faculty announcing the awards they had received. By the end of it we were feeling pretty good about ourselves....And then he would end, “But, you can be better.”

There are things that our church is doing that are good and maybe even great, but like our excellent school system, we can do better. I think a part of stewardship is each of us asking, “How can I do a better job of making our church better? How can I use my time, financial resources and God-given talents to move our church toward greatness?”

The stewardship campaign is a time to prayerfully consider what you can do to contribute to the great works we strive for. And with your contributions of time, talents, and financial resources and with Guidance from God, we will be able to reflect in 25 years as we celebrate the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary, how much further along to greatness we have moved. Moving from good to great is a journey, not a destination. Bring your money, time, and talent and join us for the trip—it will be a wondrous journey.

There will not be a  
*Visitor* newsletter  
the week of  
Memorial Day

## Women's Retreat Open to Other Churches

In the spirit of community building among women, we have extended invitations to other Disciples churches in town (Rockbridge, Olivet, Oakland and Fifth Street) to join us at the Women's Ministries Retreat on June 23, 2007 at Dulany Hall, Columbia College from 9:00 to 3:30. As our speaker, Coletta Eichenberger will lead us through fun and creative activities to deepen our awareness of those around us and sharing our life experiences as we make the mind-body-heart-spirit connection. We hope that you will be there to learn something new about yourself! Why not bring a friend? The cost is \$5 and includes lunch. If you have any questions, call Mary Taylor at 573-687-2256 or you can e-mail Mary at marytaylor52@hotmail.com.

## Calling All Men!

We will continue our Mother's Day tradition of honoring all mothers in our congregation with a men's chorus. You do not have to be a regular member of the choir to enjoy singing with this wonderful, all-male chorus. Rehearsal will be this Sunday at 10 a.m. in the choir room. We will be singing “Rise Up, O Men of God!” I hope to see you there. For more information, call Melissa Straw at 446-7462 or you can e-mail her at strawsinger@yahoo.com.

Your  
Special Birthday!

 Marguerite  
Hoberecht - 104  
on May 15

*Happy Birthday*

 Laura England-May 14  
Linda Hutton-May 14  
Merle Winford-May 14  
Minnie Frances Kirby-May 15  
Vaughan Dietzel-May 15  
Cindy Ruffolo-May 17  
Patricia Fagan-May 17  
Jean Hall-May 18  
Jacob Alexander-May 19  
Kelsey Korman-May 19

## News of the congregation

Our sympathy is extended to the friends and family of **Evelyn Penn** who died Sunday afternoon, May 6, at Boone Hospital after a brief illness. She was born on a farm near Wellsville, Missouri, graduated from William Woods College and entered the teaching profession. She continued her education at the University of Missouri, majoring in history and library science, and in 1965 established the first elementary school library in Wellsville. She would have been 100 years old in September. Survivors include her brother, Walter Penn of Irving, Texas, a nephew and four nieces. A memorial service will be conducted by John Yonker and Sally Robinson at 10 a.m. on May 16 at the Epple Chapel at Lenoir Woods.

Among the members of our congregation in our concern at this time are **Meadow Woodbury**, daughter of **Bruce and Susan Woodbury**. Meadow will begin testing again to determine proper treatment for cancer. She lives in San Diego, California. **Don Houston** has been admitted to South Hampton Nursing Home to continue therapy in recovery from surgery a few weeks ago at Boone Hospital. It was good to see **George Harris** in church last Sunday; he is doing well after outpatient surgery last week at Regional Hospital.

Our sympathy is extended to **Joyce Stanley** and the members of her family on the death of her sister, **Rosemary Nothdurft Killam**, who died in Washinton D.C. this past week.

Thanks to **Linda Chandler** for her lovely solo presented at both early and late services last Sunday.

Congratulations to **Jerry Daugherty** whose company, Reinhardt Construction Company, received the Centralia Chamber of Commerce award for the “Business of the Year” at their recent annual banquet!

Congratulations to the college students who were recognized at the 10:30 service on Sunday. (See full article in this issue.)

Congratulations to **William Green** who graduates on May 11 from University of MO with a BS in Music Education.

**Charles and Betty Koelling** have kept in close touch with their son and daughter-in-law at Virginia Tech University in Blacksburg, where the recent massacre of students occurred. Pat is Director of the Engineering Graduate program there. **Pat and Priscilla** attended our church as youth.

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



## May is Mission and Outreach Month

The Disciples lagged somewhat behind other Protestant denominations in establishing programs and structure for mission work at home and abroad. Mrs. Caroline Pearre forged ahead in 1874 and through hard work and networking with other women, established the **Christian Woman's Board of Missions**. In their by-laws they stated they were "to cultivate a missionary spirit, disseminate missionary intelligence and secure systematic contributions for Missionary purposes." This organization was to be strictly under the control of women, due to the failure of the men to get anything established in the prior decade. Parallel Women's Councils developed to address different areas of work in the church. After World War II, the many missionary societies merged under the umbrella organization of **Christian Women's Fellowship**.

During May, the focus will be to profile some of the outreach efforts of First Christian Church in providing for the poor and needy, mostly outside our own community. In July the focus will turn to the involvement of FCC in local outreach work. Not only have we worked to provide aid to sustain the poorest of people in all parts of the world, but we have also supported efforts to provide the tools to people to enable them to support themselves.

The specific subjects that will be covered weekly in May are:

1<sup>st</sup> week: Heifer International

2<sup>nd</sup> week: Refugee Resettlement

3<sup>rd</sup> Week: Division of Homeland Ministries; Youth/Adult Mission Trips; Amateur Ham Radio

4<sup>th</sup> Week: Profiles of a few Prominent Women in the history of First Christian Church and their work in the mission field

## First Christian Quilt

More and more quilt squares are being turned in. They continue to be creative, unique and very personal to each family. The deadline to turn in the squares is Sunday, May 20. For any questions or last minute help, call: Pat Rainey (446-0419), Mary Tompson (442-8849) or Tommie Ross (442-0615) for assistance.

\*\*\* The Quilt Committee wants to say "Thank You" for all the beautiful blocks you have turned in. Each day we get excited all over again. However, we've received two blocks that are not signed, and we want to get your names on them. These are both 'pansy' appliqué blocks - one with purple and the other with red. If you think you recognize these blocks, give Mary Tompson (442-8849) a call. They will be beautiful in the quilt, but even more so if your names are added. We will be glad to add them if you will just let us know. Many thanks.....Mary Tompson, Quilt committee chair

## Help Build an ARK

Sunday, May 6, was the beginning of a fund raising drive to provide a 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary gift of an ARK of animals through Heifer International. A full ARK costs \$5,000.00. The ARK will be sent to villages where needy people will raise the animals to make money to feed their families and provide better opportunities for their future.

There will be a display in the Narthex to receive donations before or after church until the Ark is full of animals. For more information about Heifer, see this week's profile subject.



## Heifer International; A Success Story

Some auto bumper stickers get right to the point: “No Farmers—No Food.” With this spirit, a Heifer International mission success story begins. From an underfed, fatherless, and impoverished family without hope in the countryside of Uganda central Africa to a sparkling student at Connecticut College, USA, is the story of Beatrice Biira. She owes her success to the Christian rural and village missions of Heifer International. One good milk-producing goat received back home years ago began making the difference—health, income, hope, and aspirations.

First Christian Church’s association with Heifer and other missions are a rewarding part of our history. During the anniversary year, a project is to contribute one of the Heifer imaginative “Gift Arks,” consisting of 15 pairs, trios, and starter flocks of food-producing animals. In recent years, four arks have set sail from this church.

The Heifer International story began during the Spanish Civil War (1936-39). Dan West, an Indiana farmer, became a Church of the Brethren volunteer helping the frantic war refugees. He noted that even imported dry powdered milk was always in short supply to mix with water to feed starving babies. Always one to think, Dan concluded that what a child needed for a dependable food supply was “not a cup, but a cow.” Back home, this catchy phrase became his concept and theme. After World War II, it became the principle of Heifers For Relief, Heifer Project Inc., and now Heifer International.

In 1944, 18 pregnant heifers were shipped to Puerto Rico, for malnourished and impoverished rural families. Today, better quality and varieties of livestock and more rural life specialists are located around the world, closer to the areas Heifer needs them. The animals given have multiplied and diversified, with all the benefits and opportunities they provide.

At the heart of Heifer’s success story is “passing on the gift”. Every recipient agrees to pass on at least one next generation gift-in-kind animal to another destitute family. In many villages, passing of the gift is a community ceremony. Heifer recipients are also taught how to utilize the land best while still conserving it. A struggling couple in China who received some Heifer rabbits 20

years ago, now operate a large commercial rabbitry, and have already “passed on the gift” of 5,000 rabbits. Another benefit of the Heifer story is that subservient Third World women are sharing in making decisions for their families and villages. Cooperative community improvement projects have been undertaken, leading to the gender equity of women and families in their villages.

First Christian Church has always been an ardent supporter and partner with Heifer. In 1946, early interdenominational board meetings met at the church in Columbia and more meetings were held elsewhere. As a result, Heifer has become the personal mission of several generations of the Leach family. A church Elder and Sunday school teacher, Corl A. Leach, a dairy industry editor, was selected to represent our denomination on that first board. In 1950, he was sent to Japan and the Caribbean for extended study of how Heifer could help improve food production and rural well-being. Locally, his faculty advisors in the MU agriculture and veterinary schools included A. C. Ragsdale, Ted Joule, Herman Haag, and Mack M. Jones of this congregation, and others.

In 1948, Bob Leach, Corl’s son, became a “sea-going cowboy”, helping tend one of four shiploads totaling 1,000 superior American milk goats donated to war-ravaged Japan. He spent several days in Japan with the receiving agents, Disciples’ missionaries Kenneth Hendricks and Hallam Shorrock. After the Korean War, Bob’s brother, Kent Leach worked for the Korean Civil Assistance Command receiving and distributing livestock there. For several years beginning in 1978, Bob and Muriel’s daughter, Kirsten, served in the Missouri state office and organized Colorado for Heifer. Muriel, Bob’s wife and a former denominational staff missions education director, advocates it in Christian education everywhere for Sunday Schools, VBS’s, CWF’s, etc. and at Festival of Sharing exhibits. Son, Corl IV “Cory” has also served in various ways.

Other congregation members have Heifer experience. In 1955, Perry Ewing was an “airborne cowboy” flying with 110 sheep to Ecuador. Others include Amy Kay Pavlovich and her parents; Sally Robinson; Moray Kiehl’s late husband, MU College of Agriculture Dean Elmer Kiehl, in Africa; Jerry and Eileen Storm at the Arkansas ranch; and Patt Stansberry’s grandfather, Guy Patton, a “sea-going cowboy” to Poland. Livestock being collected were sometimes kept by Russell Shaw, C. E. Leach, and Gene Wetherell at their farms.

Heifer has been a resounding success story. In 2006, after 60 years in operation, Heifer was able to develop 726 self-sustaining projects in 57 countries and 29 states with 24 kinds of livestock, small stock, and also versatile plants. Visionary churches, people, schools, civic clubs, and businesses around our eight-state Midwest region, last year invested \$20,000,000 in Heifer’s mission. Our church regularly budgets funds through the World Outreach budget to support the Heifer mission. News of the work of Heifer is reported frequently in the *Visitor*. One of our CYF youth groups went to the Heifer Ranch in Arkansas for three days and experienced Third World life in the simulated Global Village. Visit the website at [www.heifer.org](http://www.heifer.org). The Heifer ranch, learning center, and lodge, are located near Perryville, AK and all welcome visitors.

Bob and Muriel Leach



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

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

JYF and Chi Rho will not be meeting this Sunday, May 13th, so that you may all be with the ladies in your life whom you love. We'll look forward to meeting again next week after the late worship service.

CYF will continue meeting on the even Wednesdays from 7:15 - 8:30pm. ;)

Partner thanks to **CK Hoenes** for hanging out with the youth last Sunday on behalf of World Outreach and the Heifer Ark project. The youth decided to try to raise \$100 for the Ark (!) and hope to do so by the end of May. Any of the youth who would like to participate are welcome to do so! ;)



Check out the journal from the College Mission Trip at [www.firstchristian.org](http://www.firstchristian.org)! (The group left on Friday and will be back this Saturday.)

## C.L. Class

The C.L. Class (Christian Leaders) has been active since in the 1940's. New leadership/teachers for the class are Bob Haynes and Shirley Park and we appreciate their willingness to serve. When they are not available others will help out. Please join us (any age adult) in Morris Parlor at 9:30 on Sunday mornings. Some members arrive by 9:15 for more visiting time and getting better acquainted. Fellowship and lively discussion are strong points of the class. The Bible Study is from the Uniform Lesson Series and each student has their own book for their guidance. During May, we are finishing the Unit "Living in God's New World" and during June, July and August, the study is "Committed to Doing Right." The current members look forward to welcoming others.

## Scholarships and Awards 2007

**Marvin Shamberger Education Scholarship** - This scholarship was established in 2001 to award a member of First Christian who is pursuing a college degree in the field of education, either in teaching or administration.

- **Elizabeth Rottmann – Junior at MU**

**The John Ridgeway Scholarship** –Members of First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) of Columbia, Missouri, are eligible for this scholarship. There are no restrictions on this scholarship and students who have received it are eligible to apply for the award again.

- **Jessica Klockow – Sophomore at MU**

**The Tommy L. Kubach Scholarship** –Members of First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) of Columbia, Missouri, who are planning to enter the field of social work or nursing are eligible for this scholarship that is awarded annually.

- **Laurel Creasy – Sophomore at Missouri State**

**The Vera M. Purdy and H. Glenn Purdy Scholarship** – This scholarship was established in 2004 for an active member of First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) of Columbia. The applicant needs to plan to pursue a career in the Social Services or in Education. He or she must have a grade point average of 2.5 or higher on a 4.0 grading scale.

- **Molly Read – Sophomore at MU**
- **Sara Klockow – Junior at Columbia College**
- **Michael Taylor – Sophomore at MU**

**Whitaker-Ferguson Scholarship** – An award of \$500 will be made to one student at Rockbridge and Hickman High Schools to be applied to tuition, fees and/or books for further education.

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for awarding me with the Ridgeway scholarship this year! The benevolence of the church never ceases to astound me. I am bubbling over with gratitude toward and appreciation of the administration and devoted congregation here at First Christian. Thank you again for your generosity!

Jessi Klockow, MU Student

## Broadway Christian Church Lecture Series

This lecture series is being held on Tuesdays at Broadway CC (2601 W. Broadway) from 7:00-8:30 p.m. Lectures are free and open to the public without reservations.

**May 22** – “Global Terrorism! Conflict Resolution?” – Dr. Paul Wallace, MU Professor Emeritus of Political Science. Terrorism is now global, based on religion, ethnicity, and ideological factors. Are there workable approaches to conflict resolution or is the military the only solution? Dr. Wallace has testified as an expert witness in terrorist cases in the U.S. and Canada and publishes regularly on the subject. He will ask the question “Can terrorism be defined?” then provide specific characteristics and an approach to non-violent resolution.

**May 29** – “Providing Vital Involvement in Our Own Aging” – Dr. Bob Dolliver, MU Professor Emeritus of psychology. Needless to say, we're all aging. Even so, we usually don't spend much time staying in touch with the process or with ourselves. In this presentation, Dr. Dolliver will provide some interesting and effective clues to actions we can all take in developing a personal philosophy of growing older. Dr. Dolliver believes in getting to know ourselves in more depth by reviewing our own lives. He suggests we shift our focus from doing to being, find people with whom we can explore and that we take time to define the kinds of interests and activities we really like and those we have always wanted to pursue but never thought we had the time.

## Book Club to Meet

Wednesday, May 23, the Book Club meets at Laura Estes' home, 201 W Parkway, to discuss May's selection *Enemy Women*. Laura's personal chef service "the farmer's daughter" will provide lunch at noon. Because the club is taking the summer off, we will also be selecting books for our next round of discussions. For this very special meeting, call or e-mail Linda Hutton with your reservation and/or book suggestions: 442-5423 or [lhutton50@hotmail.com](mailto:lhutton50@hotmail.com). Hope you can make it!



# The Visitor

## First Christian Church

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Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
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Columbia, MO  
Permit No. 75

### 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

## Sunday's Schedule-May 13, 2007

*Van Driver:* Robert Seltsam    *Telephone:* Nina Oliver

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

*Worship Asst:* Bob and Linda Hutton, Judy Hall

*Elder for 8:30 Service:* Don Mosby

*Communion Preparation:*

Laura England, Paula Slusher, David Heise

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

*Church School Greeter:* Dorothy Porter

*Nursery Volunteer:* Mary Tompson

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

*Sermon:* Dr. John J. Yonker    *Liturgist:* Sally Robinson

*10:30 Elders:* Cheryl and Steve Lightner, Cliff Tompson

*Deacons:* The England Team

*Greeters:*

Judy Cunningham, *North Door*

Elizabeth Mottaz, *South Door*

*Ushers:* The Burnam Team

*Banner Bearers:* Josh Ripley and Ryan Boger

*Candlelighters:* Jadie Arnett and Heather Hunsaker

*Flower Ministry:*

*arranged:* Chris and Candice Stormer

*delivered:* Moray Kiehl

*Evangelism Calls:* TBA

## This Week (May 13 - 19)



- Sun. - Mother's Day  
- **No** JYF or Chi Rho this Sunday  
- Faith and Education Collaborative, 2:30-5:30, Morris Parlor and 3rd Floor Classroom  
- Church Softball Game, 6:00 p.m., Purple Field
- Mon. - Drennan Singers, 6:15 p.m., Sanctuary
- Tue. - Bible Study, 10:30 a.m., Morris Parlor  
- Lemmon Group, 11:45 a.m., Senior Center
- Wed. - Men's Lunch, 11:30 a.m., Senior Center  
- Back Room (college group), 8:45-10:00 p.m.
- Fri. - Mid-Month Movie, 7:00 p.m., 3rd Floor Cinema, "The Matrix!"