



THE VISITOR

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

November 16, 2007
Vol. 66, No. 19

Our Fair Trade Store – Open Sunday!

During our long van ride back to Missouri from Mexico this summer, the College Mission Trippers discussed how we could continue to be of help to people south of the United States in meaningful ways. We can do a number of things... and that journey in the ol' church van was when the concept of opening our own Fair Trade Store was born.

By selling Fair Trade items, we can support farmers and artisans in their own lands. A fair price for their coffee beans, sugar cane, jewelry or whatever their good may be can allow them to have an income to sustain a family. In many of the areas we are supporting, sustenance simply means food and some education for their children. Family members do not need to leave their homes to find work so that their families can survive; they are paid a fair price for their goods in their homelands.

The World Outreach Department responded to the request of the college students to consider an endeavor with a store. The Property Department's leadership worked with John on a couple issues and this is the manifestation of all of our preliminary work:

We will have a six week trial store beginning this Sunday, November 18th. The store will have approximately \$2,000 of merchandise which will include coffee, jewelry, children's toys and some household products. There are a few items specific to Christmas. The store will be located in the Chapel during this trial period. (The Chapel is right off of Walnut Street on the south side of our big Sanctuary.)



The store will begin with the following hours:
Thursdays 3 - 8pm
Saturdays 10am - 3pm
Sundays 9am - 1pm



We need two volunteers working the store at all times. There are stairs leading up to the Chapel, so one would need to be able to navigate stairs easily in order to assist customers and check people out. If you are interested, we have two training sessions scheduled with child care provided here at the church. Thursday evening, November 15th, beginning at 7pm and not lasting past 8pm and Saturday morning, September 17th, beginning at 8:30am and not lasting past 9:30am. Volunteers must be trained to work at the store, but if neither of these times works for you, please let Amy Kay know and we can work out an alternative training time for you. As a huge benefit, volunteers get to shop in the store at the training sessions so that we can practice checking out!

This is an exciting time for our church's world outreach and for us as consumers. There is nothing better than Fair Trade – it is fun and reasonably priced to buy and it is great to support skilled people in other lands while doing it!



Sunday Services

On November 18 the morning worship celebrations will feature our newest associate minister, Rev. Jimmy Spear, preaching from our pulpit for the first time. Rev. Spear will preach on the appropriateness of the prophet Isaiah's word on "a new heaven and earth" for our time, as it is found in chapter 65 of Isaiah.

At the 8:30 service we have the opportunity to share in the blessing and dedication of seven month old Meenakshi Elizabeth Evans, the daughter of Darrin and Sarita and granddaughter of Tommy Gay and Dale Evans.

Hymns for the day will include: "We Gather Together," "For the Fruit of All Creation" and "Let All Things Now Living." The Chancel Bells will play the prelude, "Come, Ye Thankful People Come" and the offertory, "We Gather Together." The choir's anthem will be "Give Thanks."

Weekly Report

November 11, 2007

Received \$7,260.82

Received to Date \$186,012.27

Attendance - 246

(includes early worship - 50)

Reconciliation Offering
total = \$889.00

From the Frontier to the Future



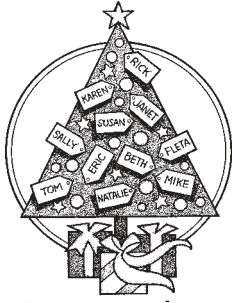
**First
Christian
Church**

(Disciples of Christ)
Columbia, Missouri

1832 175th Anniversary 2007

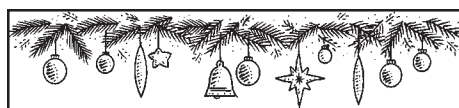
Shoppers with Big Hearts Needed

We still have 17 individuals on our Voluntary Action Center Christmas tree that need adopting. This Sunday will be the last one to select an ornament, then the gifts or donations are due back to the church by November 25. If you have any questions, please call Stacia Schaefer at 817-3201.



Holiday Shopping Day

Home Alone/STARS are planning a Seniors Day Out or Holiday Shopping Day on Wednesday, Dec. 5th from 10:00-2:00. Do you need help with holiday shopping or errands? Call the church (449-7265) or Carol Slusher (874-4902) by Dec. 1st. Friends are looking forward to making this a great day together.



STARS (55 and older)

Mark your calendars for a
**Soup Lunch and
Christmas Matinee**

**December 13, 2007
11:30 – 3:30**

The movie is
“The Christmas Carol”
(Free Will offering)
Make reservations in the church
office (449-7265)
by Dec. 11th.

Gene and Rena Moore are moving to St. Louis

Rena and I have been members of First Christian Church for 22 years, longer than we have been members of any church. It has been a wonderful 22 years. One of the highlights of my ministry is the privilege of doing a short interim as your minister, and to preach from the pulpit that Dr. Clarence Lemon made famous. John Yonker introduced me to the Jesus Seminar Scholars with the visit that Dr. Marcus Borg made to our church in 2001, that has turned my life around. Here I have had the opportunity to become a PET Volunteer, and this church has made it possible for Rena and me to create a Permanent Fund with the Christian Church Foundation that will make it possible for us to send at least one (and eventually more) PETs to some needy person, every year from now on.

We are making plans to move to St. Louis where we have family: a married son, two married grandsons and a 3 year old great-granddaughter, Haley Lou. We will live at Friendship Village, South County. It is located in the Southwest part of the Metro area, where 270 turns East and South of I-44. Our address will be 12505 Village Circle Drive, 463, St. Louis, MO 63127. Our phone number will be 314-270-7463. My e-mail will be emoore02@gmail.com. When you come to St. Louis, come and see us...we will entertain you in the library with a cup of hot chocolate or espresso coffee. Right now, our plans are to move Dec. 4 or Dec. 11.

I do have a special request to make of any or all of you...please share your email address with me, and help us stay in touch. You can e-mail it to me...or write it out and put it in the offering plate. It has been a blessing to be a part of this church family.

~Gene Moore



*Great-granddaughter, Haley Lou,
with her dad, Chris*

News of the congregation

Thanks to **Brenda Mosby** for her solo, “Blessed to be a Blessing” at the early service last Sunday. She was accompanied by **Mary Bancroft**.

Tony Hulen, native of Madison, MO and frequent visitor to our worship services has asked us to pray for his friends, **Glenna Sharp** and **Michael Brown** whose daughters, ages fifteen and seven, died in a fire at their Madison home last week.

Norma Miller and **D.K. Seltsam** were admitted to Boone Hospital last weekend. Our prayers and best wishes for a speedy recovery are with: **Willie Harris** who is at home recuperating from a recent fall; **Betsy Hoffman**'s mother, **Sally Blackwell** of Paris who is recovering from surgery last Monday at Boone Hospital, and **Diedra Lookingbill (Mrs. Brad)** whose mother, **Clara Bell**, is a patient at St. John's Hospital in Springfield.

Betty Moon has returned home to continue recovering from surgery last week at Boone Hospital. After spending some days at Boone, **Cathy Seltsam** has returned home, and **Anita Dresser** has taken up residence at Bluff Creek Terrace care center in southeast Columbia. **Moray Kiehl** has also returned home after spending a few days at Boone Hospital. **Betty Mai** has returned to Lenoir following several days of treatment at Boone Hospital.

We also keep in our prayers **Mike Randerson**'s father, **Randy Randerson**, who was admitted to Boone Hospital last week. He has recently moved to Columbia from Rock Island, Illinois.

Your Special Birthday!



Gene Moore-
91 on Nov. 20

Happy Birthday!

Jim Rogers-Nov. 18
Ed Hinderberger-Nov. 20
Laura Crane-Nov. 21
Jamie Estes-Nov. 21
John Bangs-Nov. 24
James French-Nov. 24
Sunok Suh-Nov. 24

175th Anniversary News - Genie Rogers

November Theme: Thanksgiving

Ornaments and FCC Logo Items

A table in the Narthex will be set up after both services for sale of the FCC gold ornaments, tote bags, hats, note cards and post cards. Every FCC family will want an ornament commemorating the unique beauty of our church. These were commissioned to be available during our 175th anniversary year. The cost is \$12.00 for one ornament or 2 for \$20.00. They will be available during the week in the church office.

A new black design/black handled tote bag with the church image is only \$5.00. It is a great size to be used as a book bag.

Baseball hats with the church name embroidered on them in tan and gray are available in two different styles. They are \$8.00 per cap.

Note cards tied in bundles of 5 of the ink drawing of the church are available for \$2.00 and bundles of 5 of the stained glass Christian College window postcards are available for \$1.00. These are great gifts as we approach the holiday season.

Book of Biographical sketches of FCC Ministers

The book written in 1982, *Partners with God*, which profiles our ministers back to 1832 has been updated by Dr. Ken Watson and reprinted. This is a wonderful and informative booklet which everyone will enjoy reading. The new edition brings our ministerial history current to the present day. It will be sold at our printing cost of \$5.00. The companion book of the biographical sketches of our associates will be available during Advent. This will be a nice two-part edition that will chronicle a great deal of our church history.

Quilt

There have been so many questions recently about the quilt and today there is an update! The quilting has been finished and it is now being bound. It will be ready for an unveiling at the Christmas (December 5) Fellowship Dinner. After everyone has had a chance that evening to view the quilt, it will be hung in the historical room for display. In the Visitor published the first week of December, Mary Tompson has written a detailed account about the making of the quilt and the many people who have been involved. What a treasure this will be for all of us.

Fellowship Dinner

Mark your calendars for Wednesday, December 6 for a special Christmas Fellowship Dinner. The program will be *The Missourians*, a group of acappella Christmas carolers who will be dressed in Dickens-style attire. The fee we will be paying them for their appearance is donated by the group to the Thomas Mills University of Missouri-Columbia Singers Endowment Fund, which provides funds to the University Singers. Many of us remember Tom Mills, a long time member of our church and long time church choir director. The vocal group makes only a limited number of appearances, so we feel fortunate to be able to welcome them to our church. Invite a friend to come to church with you that evening and bring your family. This is a night that will be enjoyable and will get everyone in the holiday spirit. As usual, the supper will be a carry-in, and we ask that those who can, bring a dish and some extra for those who are no longer able to prepare food.

After the program, the quilt will be unveiled for everyone to see before it is put in the historical room on permanent display later in the week.



Minute for History

On Sunday, November 18, 2007 the Minute for History will be included during both worship services. The historical moments presented monthly throughout the year have been written by Ken Watson (the dialogues written by Parker and Jean Rossman). This week is a poignant Thanksgiving story that has special meaning for our congregation. At the 8:30 service Donna Houston will deliver the message and at the 10:30 service Mary Daugherty will present the reading. The twelve months of Minute for History and character dialogues will be included in the year-end book that will be a reminder of our special 175th year.

Reminders

⇒ In keeping with the commitment to education by FCC, a 175th Anniversary Scholarship has been established and donations are being accepted. This is how we as a church can continue our celebration of the past and influence the future.

⇒ The Ark for Heifer International is still not completed. Think about giving a donation to Heifer as a Christmas gift this year. FCC is still at work building an ARK. The amount we ultimately need is \$5,000.00 to fully provide an ARK of animals to areas impoverished with little hope of a better future. We have received donations of \$2,667.30 to date.

First Christian Church Soybean Project (Back to the Frontier!)

First Christian Church of Columbia began a relationship with the Foods Resource Bank organization in April of 2005. The goal of the Foods Resource Bank (FRB) is to develop a grassroots agricultural community in the U.S., including individuals, churches and urban communities to find solutions to hunger issues.

FRB seeks to help alleviate hunger throughout the world by working to establish "food security" through sustainable activities. Food security is achieved "when all persons at all times have the physical and economic access to enough food to provide the nutrients they need for productive, active and healthy lives."

FRB accomplishes this mission by forming coalitions of caring individuals, developing, then carrying out plans to produce and provide new resources for the food security programs in the developing world. Resources are derived from the sale of donations of agricultural or food commodities through farmer/community growing projects, gifts of grain from individual farms and other church/community fundraising efforts. Donations and support are also received from individuals corporations, foundations and government agencies. This concept provides an effective mechanism and structure to provide vital resources to FRB's member organizations and their proven in-country partners, while educating the U.S. citizens on issues of world hunger.

Though many current and past members of Columbia's First Christian Church have farmed for a living, we have taken the role of the urban/suburban church on this project. The World Outreach department was introduced to this program by Fran Schnarre of Centraillia MO in April of 2005. Fran helped join us with the Sturgeon First Christian Church to begin a farmer/community growing project. On this project several members of the World Outreach department traveled to Sturgeon on a beautiful July evening to meet our partners, survey the field, and enjoy a country meal. For this particular joint venture, FCC made a financial donation of \$2,000 towards the expenses of growing 20 acres of soybeans. Marty Bowne of Sturgeon Christian Church organized the farming aspect of the project and was able to yield 1378 bushels of soybeans. The beans were sold and a check was presented to Foods Resource Bank in the amount of \$7,242.98 on behalf of both churches.

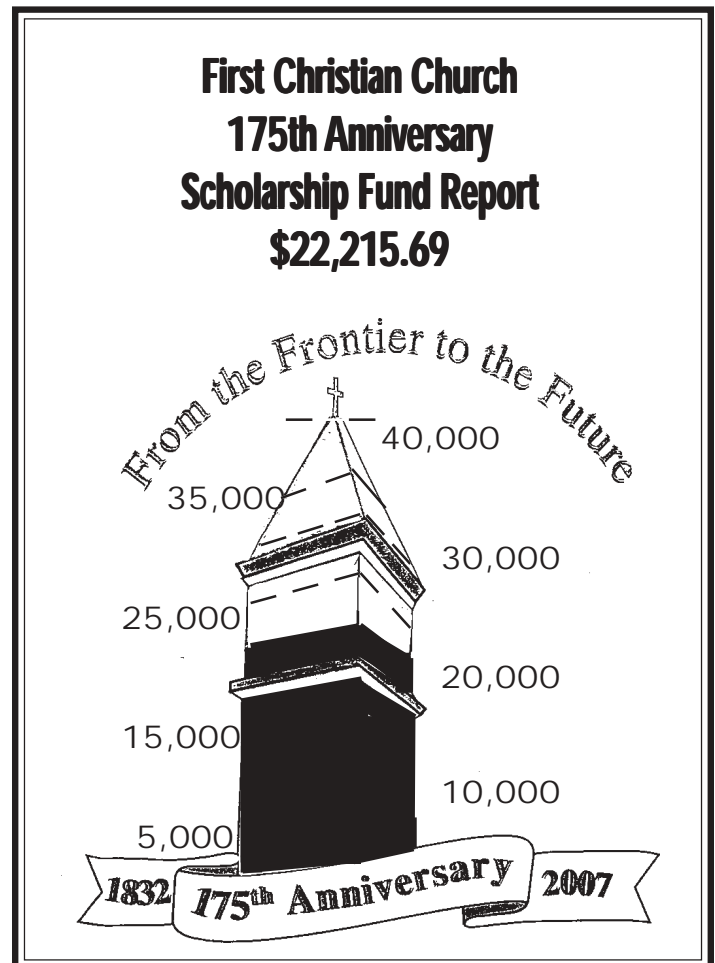
In May 2006, a new relationship was formed between First Christian Church in Columbia and Prairie Chapel United Methodist Church located in rural Callaway County. As the two groups broke bread together one evening in the basement of the small rural Church, the plans were made for a joint growing project on 20 acres donated by Methodist Church member, Forest Backer. This project would be different than the prior experience in that we would not only help with the financial expenses for growing 20 acres of soybeans, but we would also take an active roll in the entire process. Steve Van Dremmelen, a United Methodist member, took the lead on this project with the help of other United Methodist and FCC members. As the project began, the unity of the two groups was amazing. The soybean seeds piled high on a flatbed trailer served as the center piece as we circled, held hands, and blessed the seeds for prosperous growth. As all the equipment was donated, we planted the 20 acres on a classic antique John Deere tractor with a two row planter.

With a very dry summer, low nutrient field, and steep learning curve for many of the First Christian Church members, we were still able to yield nearly \$3,000 in soybeans from the project in 2006. In late October, both groups joined again in the country for a harvest celebration dinner. Stories were told and recanted from the great experience over the summer of working together to help world hunger. The money was presented to Foods Resource Bank on behalf of both churches and plans began for next year with the hopes of improved yield.

2007 brought a continued partnership with Prairie Chapel United Methodist Church and First Christian Church, as well as some help from Justin Kleffner, a specialist in soybean research. With Justin's help, soil samples were taken, nutrients were added and pre-emergent was sprayed on the 20 acres to begin our planting season. The borrowing of a new tractor and a four row planter made the process much easier this year, not to mention the row marker to help ensure straight rows. The field was full of plump beans and is now nearing harvest time with anticipation of a great yield.

The Foods Resource Bank project has proven to be a very rewarding and an educational tool for the World Outreach members of First Christian Church. With our knowledge and increased skill the hope is to see more FCC members involved in the next few years. This project has created a real bond among the people involved and has the ability to make a difference in the world food supply to the impoverished areas of the globe.

C. K. Hoenes



(youth this week)

The plan:

2 Parent & Youth Meetings

with Jimmy Spear

Sunday, November 18

1. **Junior Youth Fellowship**
Grades 3-5
After morning worship.
Fellowship Hall.
2. **CYF and Chi-Rho**
Grades 9-12 & 6-8
7:00 p.m.
Fellowship Hall

The news:

PARENT/YOUTH MEETINGS are planned for this Sunday, November 18. See above for a summary for times and places. It will be so important for youth and parents to attend these meetings as we transition the youth ministry of First Christian Church. We will cover: meeting times and places, adult partners, service projects, and fun outings. Jimmy Spear looks forward to meeting with each group to facilitate the direction the youth program will take in the months and years ahead.

Chi-Rhoers Lauren, Cari, Mamie, Sydney, Sally and adults Joni and Jimmy attended the NE Area Youth Rally and Assembly in Macon last weekend. It was a real adventure! Service projects, fun, late night games, and worship were all part of the experience for over 125 youth from around the NE Area. Thanks to Joni Cupp for partnering for this overnight away event.

Youth Groups will be on break over the Thanksgiving weekend. JYF, Chi-Rho and CYF will be back the week after Thanksgiving and more fully equipped with the support of the parent/youth meeting decisions.

I am always available to discuss the youth program at First Christian Church. Please feel free to call or email.

jimmyspear4@yahoo.com

303.1446 cell phone

~Jimmy Spear, Associate Minister

Guides Needed

Having had no response to our article last week, we thought we might just put out the plea one more time. ;) We need Guides on the River of Life (elementary Sunday school). A Guide is an adult who shows up weekly to be with a specific elementary class. A Guide does not prepare a lesson to teach; we have workshop teachers who actually teach the mornings' lessons. A Guide simply nurtures the children along. He or she knows the kids names and helps them engage in the lesson. We have dedicated, long term Guides, but they need partners so that if they need to be gone a Sunday, there is still a familiar adult to be with the class.

Admittedly, I promised our college students that I would find them Guide partners at the beginning of this academic year, but my Visitor articles were not enough to reach out to new friends. The students have been patient with me and us, but it is not fair to them that we expect them to come every single Sunday when some of them live close enough to go home on the weekends and feel that they can't because of their obligation to the Sunday school program. Please, please don't wait for me to call you; if you want to volunteer for this no-preparation and much-rewarding position, just give me a call. The kids are great; the rotation model is really super and all we need are a few more adults to make it work perfectly. Thanks for your consideration. ~Amy Kay

Ladies Book Club

The last meeting of this year's Ladies Book Club meets Nov 28 at noon. Bring your lunch/ beverage and reactions to this month's selection, *The Faith Club—A Muslim, A Christian, and a Jew: Three Women Search for Understanding* by R. Idiby, S. Oliver, and P. Warner. **The Faith Club** was started when Ranya Idiby, an American Muslim of Palestinian descent, recruited Suzanne Oliver, a Christian, and Priscilla Warner, a Jew, to write a children's book about their three religions. As the women's meetings began, it became clear that they had their own adult struggles with faith and religion, and they needed a safe haven where they could air their concerns, admit their ignorance, and explore their own faiths. Why not join us in our safe haven of Morris Parlor to air our concerns and explore our reactions to this timely book? Questions? Call/email Linda Hutton @442-5423 or lhutton50@hotmail.com.

The Visitor

First Christian Church

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



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Ministerial Staff:

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

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

Rev. Jimmy Spear, Associate Minister

Campus Ministry Intern: Kelly Mueller

Music Staff:

Mary Bancroft, Coord. of Music & Organist
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-Nov. 18, 2007

Van Driver: Bryan Garton *Telephone:* Debbie Potthast

8:30 Early Worship, Sanctuary

Worship Asst: Shirley Park and Tom Hughey

Elder for 8:30 Service: Sally Robinson

Communion Preparation:

Mark and Kellie Embry, Tom Yonker

9:30 Church School

Church School Greeter: Mark Hunsaker Family

Nursery Volunteer: TBA

10:30 Worship in Sanctuary

Sermon: Rev. Jimmy Spear *Liturgist:* Stacia Schaefer

10:30 Elders: Bettie and Charlie Koelling, Jerry Daugherty

Deacons: The Nichols Team

Greeters:

Pat Rainey, *North Door*

Harsh and Frances Brown, *South Door*

Ushers: Hunsaker Team

Banner Bearers: Megan Potthast and Julia Bower

Candlelighters: Matt Hoepfner and Jadie Arnett

Flower Ministry:

Arranged: Tom and Freda Martz

Delivered: Kim and Buddy Boger

Evangelism Calls: Helen and Perry Stemmons

This Week (Nov. 18 - 24)

- Sun. - Fair Trade Store Opens, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
- Youth Ministry Meeting for Parents & Youth (3rd-5th grades), after 10:30 worship, Fellowship Hall
- Youth Ministry Meeting for Parents & Youth (6th-12th grades), 7:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall
- Tue. - Bible Study, 10:30 a.m., Morris Parlor
- Interfaith Thanksgiving, 7:00-9:00 p.m., Beth Shalom Synagogue (500 W. Green Meadows Rd.)
- Wed. - Men's Lunch, 11:30 a.m., Senior Center
- Back Room (college group), 8:45-10:00 p.m.
- Thur. and Fri.- Thanksgiving Holiday (office closed)

