



Welcome Liz!

It is a joy to welcome Liz Allen-Restrepo into our congregation who united with us at the 10:30 service on April 6 by transfer of membership from the First Christian Church of Gainesville, Florida. With a grandmother and grandfather who were the organist and choir director of the First Christian Church of Ashtabula, Ohio, Liz is well acquainted with the Disciples of Christ and anxious to become involved in the life of our congregation. She has a background of work in public education, and her husband, Riccardo Restrepo, works at the university. Together they reside at 3612 Bethel, Columbia, 65203, phone 442-6433. Please help us welcome Liz into our church family!

Ladies' Book Club

On Wednesday, April 23 at 12:30 p.m. the Ladies' Book Club meets in Morris Parlor to discuss *Hardship and Hope...Missouri Women Writing about Their Lives, 1820-1920*. One of the editors, Carla Waal, graciously agreed to join us. Laura Estes, a Book Club member, will provide a light lunch. Please kindly respond to Linda Hutton at 442-5423 or lhutton50@hotmail.com by Monday, April 21, if you plan to attend and would like lunch.

Landscaping Day – April 19, 8:00 - 4:00

We need your help to keep our church looking good. There will be two shifts: 8:00-12:00 and 12:00 to 4:00 p.m. We'll be doing general clean up, mulching and planting. Please feel free to bring your own tools and lots of friends.

Lunch will be provided. For planning purposes, there is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board by the office to let us know how many people will be working and having lunch. If you can't sign the sheet, please call the church office as soon as possible. The more people that help, the more we get done. Thanks in advance. ~Property Department



Attention STARS

Make plans to join the group at Columbia College, Cougar Room in Dulany Hall for lunch together on April 22, 11:45 a.m. A special program will be given by Jessie Haden, Columbia Police Dept. on Personal Security. Anyone wanting to park in the church lot and ride to the college with a group is welcome. Also, anyone who needs a ride for the program can call Carol Slusher at 874-4902. Call the church office to let us know if you plan to attend. The meal runs no more than \$5 and the food in the college cafeteria is excellent. Please come and share the time together.

Sunday's Service - Stewardship Campaign Kick-Off Sunday

April 13 will kick off our annual spring stewardship campaign! Dr. Yonker will use the theme of the campaign, "I Have Called You Friends!" utilizing the words of Jesus recorded in John 15:12-17 and the description of the early Christian community found in Acts 2:42-47 as the basis of his sermon.

Music will include hymns, "Renew Your Church," "What a Friend We Have in Jesus," "Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore," and "Let us Tongues and Talents Employ." At the early service Pat Rybolt will provide special music, "Make Me a Blessing," by George Schuler, and the Chancel Choir will present their anthem, "Offertory" by John Ness Beck at the 10:30 service.

A special part of late worship will be a service of blessing and dedication for Kayla Christine Von Talge and Kenzie Christine Von Talge, daughters of Shawn and Christy Von Talge.

Weekly Report

April 6, 2008

Received \$10,067.50

Received to Date \$355,106.61

Attendance - 306

(includes early worship -65)

Child Abuse Awareness Month - April 2008

Statistic: There are nearly 3 million reports of child abuse made annually. The rate of child abuse is estimated to be 3 times greater than is reported.

Information: Where would I call?
Child Abuse & Neglect Hotline at the Division of Family Services. 800-392-3738

Heeerrreee's Johnny!

As I mentioned in my sermon on March 30, I have been in training for about three months to get ready to run in the St. Louis Half Marathon last Sunday morning. On the big day, after I had finished the race, I called Amy Kay to tell her I was still alive and still on my feet. Later that day as I checked the results on the marathon website, I discovered that I had reached one goal and missed another by a whisker: I bettered my old half marathon mark by more than 14 minutes, but missed another goal of best time by 12 seconds.

Reflecting on the race, I have been thinking about its similarity with the Christian life. The apostle Paul speaks about the Christian life as a race; his goal is to know Christ and the power of his resurrection. As he says in Philippians, with that goal ever before him, he forgets what lies behind, strains forward to what lies ahead, and presses on toward the goal. That is what all the runners did on Sunday morning! Just keeping that finishing line in my mind kept me going about the 11 mile mark when my legs hurt so much that I wanted to quit. How important it is to have those goals, no matter what we are trying to do with our lives. So, thinking about my next race, I feel good about Sunday's run, very good, but I know there is still work for me to do!

And it has occurred to me how important are the people who run with us in the race of faith. All winter long I have been getting up early and going to the KATY trail to meet friends for regular runs and going to the gym to meet my training partner. There were many mornings when I wanted to hit the snooze button and stay in bed, but I had made a commitment to myself and my training partner, so I dragged myself out of bed and kept at it.

How important those goals are and those people who run the race with us. Who struggle with us, who cheer us on when we do well, and who keep us going when we get tired.

Thinking about the race and the race of faith: Isn't that what the church is for? Finding partners in the race of faith? Giving each other a pat on the back? Picking each other up when we want to quit? The worst thing any of us can do is run alone! We need each other! See you on the race course Sunday morning?!

CAFÉ

ChristianActionFellowshipEducation

Wednesday Evenings

*Great Hot Meals Served
Classes, choirs, and new opportunities
for you and your family to learn and grow
in spirit and faith.*

5:30-6:15 – Dinner
\$5 adults
\$3 kids 12 & under
\$15 cap for a family
Under 5 free

6:20 - Devotion

6:30-7:30 - Adult Programming
Child Care Available

April 9 CAFÉ

Menu:

A take along picnic for the nature hike

- Your choice of 3 wraps:
 - Chicken Cordon Bleu Wrap
 - Caesar Chicken Wrap
 - Mediterranean Wrap (vegetarian)
- Chips
- Pasta Salad
- Lemon Squares and Chocolate Chip Cookies

- * **Nature Hike**, led by Bryant White
- * **Bible Study**
- * **CYF** (grades 9-12)

Call the church office (449-7265) for dinner reservations by noon on Tuesday.



Jimmy Spear-Apr. 14
Anna Read-Apr. 15
Jerry Carrington-Apr. 15
Kate Volmert-Apr. 15
Emily Scott-Apr. 16
Debbie Scott-Apr. 17
William Green-Apr. 17
Joshua Humble-Apr. 17
Betty Montgomery-Apr. 18
Maxwell Creasy-Apr. 19

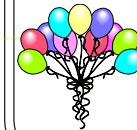
News of the congregation

Among the members and friends of our congregation in our concern at this time are: **George Ross** who is recuperating from surgery on Monday afternoon at Boone Hospital, and **Tom Hughey** who is recuperating from surgery on Wednesday at Regional Hospital.

We extend sympathy to **Cliff and Mary Tompson** on the death of Cliff's brother, **Carroll Tompson** of Winston Salem, North Carolina who died on Tuesday, April 1. Funeral services were held in that community last week.

A super big thanks to **Joyce Stanley**, Garage Sale Queen, for organizing the sale again this year!

Your Special Birthday!



Perry Ewing

-92 on Apr. 8

Smiley Herrin

-91 on Apr. 12

Thank You!

Six weeks ago I had both of my knees replaced. As I went to surgery I asked God to care for me. Prayers, calls, visits, cards, food, flowers and love came from so many from our congregation, I know God was working through you. With all your thoughtfulness and the wonderful care from my immediate family my prayer was answered. Thanks to all of you—I really appreciate everyone's kindness and deeds.
~Carol Slusher

Thank you for the beautiful bouquet of flowers delivered by Gerald and Susan Ramsey for our March birthdays and our 71st Wedding Anniversary celebrated on March 21st. All the cards and personal visits were greatly appreciated. We feel blessed to have each other and to be members of the First Christian Church.
~Lois and George Ross

To the Ministry of Flowers:

Thank you for the beautiful Easter lily and many thanks to Mary Daugherty who brought it. Both brightened my birthday.
~Carl Miles

(youth)

@ first christian

April 20

JYF (grades 3-5) 12:00-1:30

Chi-Rho (grades 6-8) 4:00-5:30

CYF - April 16

Meet at the CAFÉ for dinner at 5:30. CYF meets 6:30-8:00 on the 3rd floor.

Mission Trip: June 8-14
Greensburg, Kansas

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Church camp forms for all camps are still being accepted.

Potential church camp counselors: see Jimmy if you are interested.

The Global Reach of American Christianity

By Robert Wuthnow, Chair, Department of Sociology, Princeton University
Director, Center for the Study of Religion, Princeton University

Monday, April 14, 2008
7:00 p.m.

Stotler Lounge
Memorial Union

Free and open to the public.
The lecture will be followed by a reception and book-signing.
For more information: 573-882-4769

Co-sponsored by: Center on Religion and the Professions
Center for Arts and Humanities
MU Lectures Committee
Department of Sociology

Absolutely Amazing Garage Sale!!

A drum roll please! Our garage sale profits and donations are at a preliminary total of **\$4,916.74!** We can send our kids, youth and college students off on their mission trips – even with the high cost of gasoline!

The success of our garage sale is due entirely to ALL the members of FCC. Thank You to all the members who sorted through their treasures, boxed them up and brought them to the church – the Fellowship Hall and Stage were FULL!


Thanks especially to all the willing workers (and there are a lot!) who sorted, folded, marked, and kept their sense of humor throughout this enormous undertaking: Sarah Storm, Jessica Humble, Jordan Mills, Russ Chandler, Dan, Steve, Drew and Holly Gieseke, Steve McCormack, Bragg Stanley, Drew Nichols, Ryan, Heather, Mark and Pam Hunsaker, Tom Yonker, Dick and Sue Underwood, Moray Kiehl, Barb Rothenberger, Mary Kay Mueller, Rachael Fullington, Jack, Alexandra and Laura Estes, Colleen Nilges and her mother, Brenda Martin, Sarah Yonker, Vicki Rorvig, Sue Wright, Cherry Hinderberger, Erik White, Eric and Tammi Arnett, Chuck Scott, Sara and Susan Klokow, Holly Wheatley, Judith Wildman, Jay Creasy, Fred and Stephanie Mottaz, Dan Cullimore, Donna and Sally Kessell, Vicki Johnson, Brian Grieme-Verslues, Lindsey Chandler, Dane Pavlovich, Rick Wells, Andy Vickers, Janie Hellwege and friend Amanda, Ben and Jen Micek, Lexi Ruffolo, Alec Wright.

Additional thanks go out to Kay Beisenherz and Fred Mottaz who handled all the rushing in and out of the office and requests for help with calm and good humor! Thanks also to Jim Burt and Darren Hellwege who worked around “The Maze” we set up between the custodian’s closet and the rest of the church!

Huge thanks to Amy Kay and Jimmy who worked tirelessly through their days off to make this garage sale happen. Jimmy was a great apprentice to Amy Kay’s tutelage – I’m pretty sure he has never experienced anything quite like this in his past! However, he will have many opportunities to see FCC in action in the future!

John was allowed to look – but only to buy with Sarah’s permission! If you haven’t heard the story – it goes like this. A couple of garage sales ago, John found this really nice shirt (great color, perfect size), for a great price, which he proudly purchased and took home to show Sarah. Sarah gave him The Look and gently explained, “John, that IS your shirt. Remember? It’s one of the items we picked out to donate to the garage sale!” (Good taste! Poor memory!)

Thank You to Everyone! As a church we can accomplish all things!
Your grateful Garage Sale Queen, Joyce Stanley



Vacation Bible School
@ First Christian Church
July 6 - 10
Evenings

The Good Samaritan

The River of Life...
Christian Education for
Children K - 5th grade.
3rd Floor starting @
9:30 a.m.

Friends, transportation is available to you if you need a ride to a doctor’s appointment, or getting to the market for groceries. Feel free to call Carol Slusher at 874-4902 to make arrangements.

The Visitor

First Christian Church

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

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

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
jimmy@firstchristian.org

Campus Ministry Intern: Kelly Mueller

Music Staff:

Mary Bancroft, Coord. of Music & Organist
Norma Miller, Pianist
Cheryl Nichols, Choir Director

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-April 13, 2008

Van Driver: Carol Slusher *Telephone:* Laura Crane

8:30 Early Worship, Sanctuary

Worship Asst: Donna and Will Houston, Colleen Nilges

Elder for 8:30 Service: Anne Campbell

Communion Preparation:

Mary Kay Mueller, Paula Slusher, Kelly Mueller

9:30 Church School

Church School Greeter: Dorothy Porter

Nursery Volunteer: TBA

10:30 Worship in Sanctuary

Sermon: Dr. John J. Yonker *Liturgist:* Sara Klockow

10:30 Elders: Bettie and Charlie Koelling, Nelson Trickey

Deacons: The England Team

Greeters:

Pat Rainey, *North Door*

Sally Robinson, *South Door*

Ushers: The Burnam Team

Banner Bearers: Sam Creasy and Megan Potthast

Candlelighters: Sam Poole and Ben Creasy

Flower Ministry:

Arranged by: Gary and Cheryl Unterschutz

Delivered: Dan Tevis and Deidre Wipke-Tevis

Evangelism Calls: Jacki Davidson

This Week (April 13-19)

- Sun. - Stewardship Campaign Kick-off
- Mon. - Drennan Singers, 6:00 p.m., Sanctuary
- Tue. - Bible Study, 10:30 a.m., Morris Parlor
- Wed. - CWF Board Meeting, 11:00 a.m., Morris Parlor
- Men's Lunch, 11:30 a.m., Senior Center
- **CAFÉ:** Dinner, 5:30-6:15
Devotion, 6:20
6:30 p.m. -
* Nature Hike, led by Bryant White
* Bible Study
- CYF (grades 9-12), 6:30-8:00
- Back Room (college group), 8:45-10:00 p.m.
- Sat. - All-Church Landscaping
Day, 8:00-4:00

