



Sunday Services

This Sunday's lectionary text continues in Matthew with the story of the Canaanite Woman's Faith (15:21-28). It is a compelling story that we will work with during both worship services.

We also look forward to the return of our Chancel Choir at the late worship service! Their anthem will be "A Song of Thanks" by Carl J. Nygard, Jr. The early service will be blessed by a solo from Jerry Daugherty.

We have wonderful hymns to sing together this week, "Gather Us In", "Bring Many Names", "Seek Ye First", "All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly" and "Go, My Children". We hope you can come and raise your voice with us this week!

Calling Ye Music Makers of FCC

The FCC chancel choir would like to invite any members who have rang or sang, or those who would like to sing or ring at FCC to join us in a carry-in dinner at Steve and Cheryl Lightner's home. The Lightners have graciously offered their place for a pot-luck gathering on Sunday afternoon, August 17th at 4:30. Maps to their home on Rangeline road will be available in the church office.

You may be interested in joining one of the choirs or bell choir and have never grabbed the opportunity to get to know these great folks! We would love to have you . . . we welcome our faithful returning members but always open our arms to all who would like to join us in making music for our worship services. If you have joined us in the bell choir, women or men ensembles, or the chancel choir you are welcome and encouraged to gather with us at the Lightner's home for fellowship and food. Who knows . . . this gathering could even lead to some singing!!

STARS—Plans for Month of September

The trip to St. Louis (July 16, 2008) was enjoyed by a total of 21 travelers from Columbia First Christian Church and the Fayette Christian Church. We were honored to have Gene and Rena Moore, Mary Rogers Gordon and her daughter Elizabeth who live in St. Louis join us for the tours and/or meal. The tours of both churches were hosted beautifully by guides that made the experience special. Our group joined around one big table for lunch at the Majestic Restaurant. Much fellowship was shared as we traveled to and from St. Louis.

We have two events to put on your calendars for September. Hope you will join us for both.

- Our regular meeting for persons 55 and over will be held in **Morris Parlor at 11:30 a.m., Wednesday, September 17, 2008.** A special lunch will be prepared by Laura Estes. After we enjoy food and fellowship we'll move to the 3rd floor theater area to enjoy the movie PATCH starring Robin Williams. A sign up sheet is in the church office so we can help Laura know how much food to prepare. Cost \$6.00
- Wednesday, September 10, 2008 will be the afternoon we travel to Arrow Rock to the Lyceum to enjoy the play **On Golden Pond.** The show starts at 2 p.m. so we will be leaving the church at 12:30 p.m. returning by about 5:30 p.m. The sign up sheet is on the bulletin board across from the church office door. We need a final count for ticket ordering by **Sunday, August 24, 2008.** If we can get 10 or more we'll be eligible for a reduced rate on the tickets. The cost will be for the ticket and then a little toward transportation. Hope you'll join us—you're welcome to invite a friend.

If you have questions, please call Carol Slusher 874-4902.

Bell Choir Friends

We are so blessed and excited that Ed Rollins, music minister at First Baptist Church and Columbia Handbell ensemble director, has agreed to come and present a Bell Workshop for our FCC bell choir. Ed's schedule is unusually full, completely booked for other events or running marathons!



His one window of opportunity is Saturday morning, August 16th. We will begin, probably in the Fellowship Hall, at 9 a.m. and will be ending around 12:00 noon. Ed will cover basic bell ringing techniques, music ringing symbols and will be working with us on future worship bell performances. Any of our current bell choir members are highly encouraged to attend, but we also would welcome any person who has been interested in joining the bell choir, even on a part-time basis. This is an opportunity that we do not want to miss with our friend Ed, and we hope you can attend this special bell event! There will be a small coffee/continental breakfast available at 9 - - please email Cheryl Nichols at cnichols@stephens.edu or call the church office if you can attend!

Pre-school Parents, Save the Date!

All families with pre-school aged children are invited to a Pre-schoolers Family Picnic on **August 20th at 6:00 pm.** Our location is the Twin Lakes Shelter at Twin Lakes Park (off Chapel Hill Road). Please bring a potluck dish to share! We will have a time of both fellowship and brainstorming about options for the pre-school Sunday school hour. Please plan to join us--we would love to hear your thoughts!



Popcorn & Ponderings...

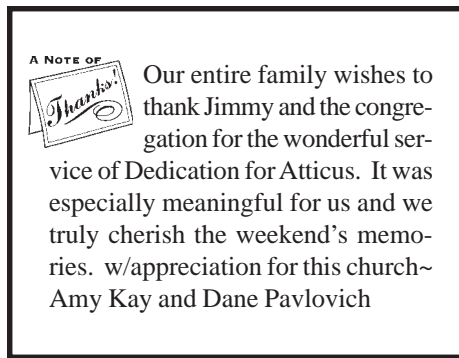
If you have an evening with a few hours to spare, consider renting a thought provoking documentary. There are films on a variety of subjects and filmed from a variety of perspectives. Many of the documentaries have web sites with good descriptions so that you can know what you are getting into before investing the watching time. Some of the bigger budget documentaries even have discussion leads or studies available on their site for free. These are wonderful resources even if watching the flick solo because they give starters for personal reflections on the issue at hand.

Our college group has watched documentaries in the summer months the past two years. These are some that we found to be of value, but obviously this is only a very short list. Let us know your favorite documentary for our future group viewing nights!

Born into Brothels: Calcutta's Red Light Kids is a 2004 American documentary film about the children of prostitutes in Sonagachi, Calcutta's red light district. The film is based on a photographer who went to Calcutta to photograph prostitutes and while there, she befriended their children and offered to teach the children photography. Many of the photos were used in the film as well as their classes and daily life in the red light district.

God Grew Tired of Us (2006) explores the indomitable spirit of three "Lost Boys" from the Sudan who were orphaned by a tumultuous civil war. Traveling barefoot across the sub-Saharan desert, the three boys were among the 25,000 "Lost Boys" (ages 3 to 13) who fled villages.

For the Bible Tells Me So (2007) - Through the experiences of five very normal, very Christian, very American families — including those of former House Majority Leader Richard Gephardt and Episcopal Bishop Gene Robinson — we discover how insightful people of faith handle the realization of having a gay child. Informed by such respected voices as Bishop Desmond Tutu, and one of our very own well spoken Disciples ministers, this movie offers healing, clarity and understanding to anyone caught in the crosshairs of scripture and sexual identity.
~amy kay



Ladies Book Club

Book Club will begin meeting on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at noon in Morris Parlor. September 10th we will discuss Columbia's One Read: The Whistling Season by Ivan Doig. We'd love to see you there!



Your Special Birthday!



Doris Clark
- 97 on Aug. 15

Iva Dell Thurman
-91 on Aug. 15

Robert Sisson
- 95 on Aug. 16

Alice Hartley
- 95 on Aug. 20

News of the congregation

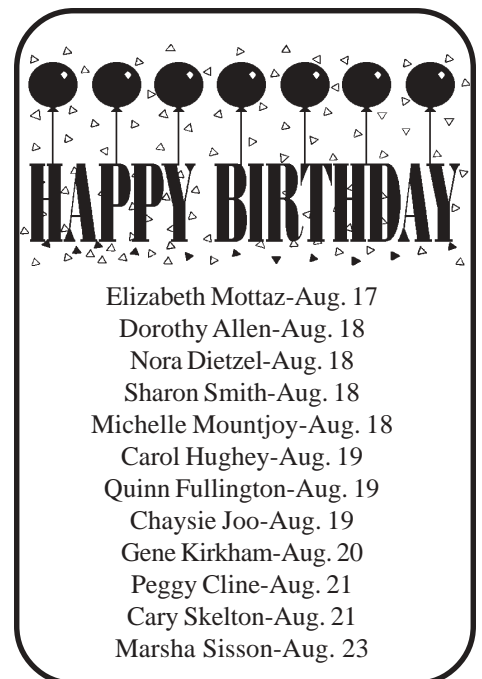
Special thanks to **David Heise** for leading our worship music at the 8:30am service on Sunday. David substitutes for **Norma Miller** on occasion and we are always thankful for his willingness to do so.

The 10:30am worship service was blessed with the singing of **Brenda Mosby** this week. The special anthem that tied into the baby dedication was perfect for the occasion and the offertory was lovely as well. Also, thanks to **Jay Creasy** and **Thomas Rose** for jumping in and reading parts in our "Reader's Theater" at the late service.

We extend our sympathy to the family of **Charles "Claude" Ritchie** who died Sunday, August 3 in Topeka, Kansas. His career included teaching and he was an Elementary School Principal in the Topeka Public Schools. Claude was the brother of **Paul Ritchie** of our congregation and the uncle of our friend **Rev. Paula Ritchie** of First Christian, Fayette.

Freda Martz is in Boone Hospital recovering from knee surgery this week. We think of Freda and her family as she begins the recovery process. **Ruth Brandenburg** was also admitted to Boone Hospital this week.

Avenues to assist those in the Republic of Georgia will be shared in next week's edition of *The Visitor*. There is an effort by our denomination forming as well as one from within Columbia organized by First Baptist.



(youth) @ first christian

The **CYF Sunday morning class** is exploring Exodus. Join us @ 9:30 a.m. Sundays in the CYF room.

CYF Lock In: Sunday Night August 17 after the Broadway's Back to School Bash. Calendar it!

ALL Parents: Jimmy needs your email addresses...
jimmy@firstchristian.org

Fall Kick-Off

Sunday, August 24 we will officially jump into our fall programming at the church! We will celebrate new beginnings in the worship services and Sunday School classes. Later on the 24th we are all invited to gather at Stephens Lake Park for a BBQ, chat time, games and who-knows-what-else. The festivities will begin at 5:30pm at the Happy Hollow Shelter. If you have handy lawn chairs, bring them along and come to the shelter for a good BBQ supper. Everything will be provided – just come and enjoy!



Wednesday, August 27th will be our first Café evening. We will continue each Wednesday evening throughout the school year. Menus are being discussed, decorations are in the works and good educational options are coming together. For instance, on the first Café evening of the 27th, we will have Bible Study, a presentation about the realities of human trafficking by Betsy Brammon and CYF for the high schoolers. The schedule will include dinner starting at 5:30pm, a time of centering at 6:15pm and the program options will be from 6:30 – 7:30pm.

As we continue with good summer time happenings, it is also exciting to look ahead to what is coming for us this fall. We hope you are ready to kick-off with us at the end of this month!

Millersburg Celebrates 150 Years

Millersburg Christian Church is celebrating 150 years of serving God and community. On Friday, August 22, there will be an open house beginning at 6:30 p.m., with a sing-along at 7:30. Then on Saturday, August 23, 4:00-5:00 p.m. there will be historical displays from 5:00-6:00 p.m. and an Old Time Dinner (call the church for reservations: 573-642-2939). At 7:00 p.m. that evening the program will be “Revival in Word, Song, and Spirit”. It will feature a portrayal of Evangelist Raccoon John Smith (Rev. Larry Brown) and special guest musicians. On Sunday, August 24, there will be a community-wide celebration worship at 9:30 a.m. with a reception and group photo following at 11:00 a.m. Check our church bulletin board for more details.

Building Update

Special thanks are extended to our Administrative Board's leaders, the Trustees and the Property Department for their extra work in the last week regarding the “old Strand building” that we own to the north of our church. As you know from previous Visitors, the building is now vacant as the Strand moved out to expand their business elsewhere. Because of this change, we are now in the midst of critical analysis of the potential use of that building. Being mindful of the need for income from the building and our own desires to use the space for the ministries of which we are involved, the church leaders have suggested steps to find out more information about the potential of the building. Those contacts are being made this week and you can expect more information to be passed along in next week's *Visitor*! No matter what happens with the building, these conversations are helpful as we thoughtfully and joyfully live into our call to follow the Christ. If you have questions or comments, please contact the church office at any time.

Columbia Faith and Education Collaborative Events

Columbia Faith and Education Collaborative will sponsor the following events:

- * The second annual Interfaith potluck picnic scheduled for Sunday afternoon, August 24 at the Gordon Shelter in Stephens Park from 4 to 8 pm. It will begin with fellowship activities and conversation and then dinner about 5:30 pm. The Gordon shelter is the first shelter at the Broadway entrance to the park.
- * A Listening Circle event on “Civil Dialogue in an Election Year” is scheduled for Sunday afternoon, September 21, in Whittier Hall at Missouri United Methodist Church, ninth and Elm from 2:30 to 5:00.



BOOK O R N E R

Generation Gap or Grand Canyon? A chasm between you and your teen? Face it—parent-teen relationships ARE HARD. But don't give up. Teens need their parents now more than ever. In Sticking With Your Teen you will find tips on spending time with, communicating effectively with and validating your teen as a special person. Forgiving your teen (possibly needing their forgiveness), never giving up on the relationship are clearly outlined in this book on the Book Cart.

Did you know Franklin Graham was once considered a “prodigal” by his parents, Billy and Ruth Graham? He now heads the Billy Graham and Samaritan's Purse organizations. Whether your child is a major prodigal or a minor problem, it's worth being a “Hanging In” mom or dad. Stick with your teen and (eventually?) perhaps your teen will stick with you.

The Visitor

First Christian Church

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and Molly Read

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
Fred Mottaz, Business Manager
fred@firstchristian.org
Keith Picker, Custodian

Sunday's Schedule-Aug. 17, 2008

Van Driver: Matt Batterson *Telephone:* Debbie Potthast

8:30 Early Worship, Sanctuary

Worship Asst: Tommy Gay Evans and Carolyn Skelton

Elder for 8:30 Service: Anne Campbell

Communion Preparation:

Pat Ritchie, Daren Hellwege and Janie Hellwege

9:30 Church School

Church School Greeter: Mark Hunsaker Family

10:30 Worship in Sanctuary

Sermon: Rev. Amy Kay Pavlovich *Liturgist:* TBA

10:30 Elders: Marsha and Tom Sisson, Bettie Koelling

Deacons: The Nichols Team

Greeters:

TBA, North Door

TBA, South Door

Ushers: The Hunsaker Team

Banner Bearers: TBA

Candlelighters: TBA

Flower Ministry:

Arranged by: Jay and Chris Creasy

Delivered: Sally Robinson and Anne Campbell

Evangelism Calls: Helen and Perry Stemmons

This Week (Aug. 17-23)

- Sun. - Choir Pot-Luck, 4:30 p.m., Steve and Cheryl Lightner's home
- CYF Lock-In, 8:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall
- Wed. - Prayer Shawl Ministry, 10:00 a.m., Mary Tompson's home
- Men's Lunch, 11:30 a.m., Senior Center
- Preschool Parent Party, 6:00 p.m., Twin Lakes Park
- Thr. - Church In Society, 6:30 p.m., Keystone Room



Last Blast of Summer