



Mid-Month Movie

Friday, February 15th, Parker and Jean Rossman will host our Mid-Month Movie in the Cinema. Movie popcorn and beverages will be provided as we enjoy this movie from 1988, *Stand and Deliver*, in which Jaime Escalante is a mathematics teacher in a school in a Hispanic neighborhood. The teacher is convinced that his students have potential and he adopts unconventional teaching methods to try and turn gang members and no-hopers into some of the country's top algebra and calculus students. Although almost 20 years old, this movie has contemporary themes and will be good for discussion. It is rated PG and child care will be provided.



Date Night—Fri., Feb. 15

Mark your calendars, friends! Our Date Night that was to have happened during one of our big ice storms has been rescheduled from 6:00 to 8:00 pm on the 15th in the Morris Parlor. We are all invited to bring an appetizer to share along with copies of the recipe and will enjoy games together. Our Child Care is ready for our large, spirited group of kids to have a fun evening at the church while we have our time of fellowship. As an added bonus, Kim Rogers has offered to bring supper for the kids. Hope you can come! Pizza, chips and veggies will be provided for the kids. Please RSVP to Kim Roger's email address: kimandhartley@centurytel.net so we can be sure to have enough food for the kiddos!

Sunday Services

Our second Sunday in the Lenten season will focus on Nicodemus' "encounter with the cross" from John 3:1-17. The gospel text will again be brought to us in a Reader's Theater style by Jesus, Nicodemus and a Narrator.

Special music at the 8:30 service this Sunday will include a solo by Jerry Daugherty, "It's In His Name". At the 10:30 service the Chancel Bells will present the prelude while the Chancel Choir will offer "God So Loved the World" as the anthem.



L.I.F.E. Group

The L.I.F.E. group will meet in the Keystone Room at 6:30 on Monday, February 18th. Pizza and childcare will be provided. For more info, call Valerie Freed at 474-1128.

PathFinder's Sunday School

One of the three adult Sunday School classes our church currently offers each Sunday morning from 9:30 – 10:20 am is called the "PathFinder's" class. The class meets in the Back Room, just behind the sanctuary. The class will be working with a Lenten bible study through Easter and invites anyone to come and join in. Amy Kay Pavlovich will be joining the group as a facilitator. This is a very friendly group and has the trademark of being flexible with their study and discussion. If you've been thinking of checking out a class, come and visit!

Youth Membership Class - Starts Feb. 17!

Membership class will run the next 4 weeks. The sessions will be held during the Sunday School hour, 9:30 - 10:15 am, in Dr. Yonker's office. Contact the church office (449-7265) with questions.

Ladies' Book Club



Don't forget next Wed, Feb. 27 at 12:30 in Morris Parlor, the FCC Ladies' Book Club meets to discuss *Devil in the White City*. You're welcome to bring your lunch. On March 26, we'll meet to discuss an absorbing time-travel tale, *Riding Shotgun* by Rita Mae Brown. It's similar to Mark Twain's *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court* and seems to conclude that those who do not know history are condemned to repeat it. Although pure escapism, the novel centers on forgiveness. Contact Linda Hutton @442-5423 or lhutton50@hotmail.com with questions.

~Linda Hutton

Are You Eligible?

Did you give to the church 175th anniversary mission emphasis, the Heifer International "World Ark"? If you did, you are eligible for a free year of "World Ark" magazine. Six colorful, pictorial issues of surprising real news you can't get anywhere else. Just call Fred Mottaz at the church (449-7265) or Bob Leach of our World Outreach ministries and a longtime state volunteer, (442-3682).

Weekly Report
February 10, 2008
Received \$9,554.26
Received to Date \$291,318.75
Attendance - 276
(includes early worship - 65)

A Pastoral Word...

It is a good thing that calendars come with holidays pre-written on them these days. How else could someone keep all of the celebrations and remembrances straight without a little prompting? This week, among other specialties, is Valentine's Day... there probably isn't any chance of missing this one for all the diamond commercials and radio spots for flowers. (The groans can be heard from far and wide.)

It might be a little easier to overlook our season in the church year because, to my knowledge, no one makes any commercials about the season of Lent – they skip right to Easter because there is money to be made off of chocolate bunnies. Many would rather completely avoid Lent, because it is a time when we are to have some self-reflection about our lives and how we live (or don't live rightly) into our call as Christians. This is not always a comfortable thing and many look forward to the end – 40 days after it has begun.

The forty day bit is important as it draws on our scriptural tradition. Our lectionary text last Sunday found Jesus in the desert for 40 days and nights where he was tempted by the devil. Have you actually ever counted the days in Lent though? From Ash Wednesday until Easter there are actually more than 40 days. This is because we can't forget the whole story of our encounter with the cross that ends with the cross empty as our Christ was raised from the dead. Sundays aren't counted toward the 40 days, because we get to have mini-Easter's all through the Lenten season on Sundays! We get to come together each and every Sunday in worship to celebrate the whole story of the Christian faith with mindful recognition of the season within which the Sundays are placed.

Pencil these celebrations in on your calendar, because they don't come pre-written. No chocolate hearts are required, just come celebrate with your community of believers the story of our faith this Sunday.

~amy kay



The Garage Sale is Coming! The Garage Sale is Coming!

Yes! Once again, it is that glorious time of year – Time for the Youth Garage Sale! Start sorting and sifting through all those treasures you've been saving – we want what you no longer need or use!

March 29 – April 2 (just 7 short weeks from now) we will be accepting your fabulous finds for the garage sale! Don't bring them early – don't bring them late! Even though you're anxious – you'll just have to wait!

Contact Joyce Stanley 445-5058 for further information.



BOOK O R N E R

A unique book has been given to the library by our friend Donald Houston. Your Child or Mine was written to answer questions about children with cerebral palsy. The author takes us into the homes of several children with this disease during the mid-1900s, whole families suffering from lack of knowledge and misinformation. Victims were usually institutionalized or kept at home, but as light was shed on it fear was dispelled by knowledge that with drugs, muscular re-education and above all loving care more than 75 percent can be greatly helped to become useful members of society.

Though written 60 years ago, this small book of great value gives disturbing, but heartening stories of stricken children and their hope for the future—surely with improvement in intervening years. Thank you, Donald, for sharing; we have put the treasured book on the Book Cart.

News of the congregation

In our prayers are the following people who have returned home after spending some days at Boone Hospital recently: **Ivis Silvey**, **Margot Lubensky**, and **Howard Baumgartner**. **Marian Lightner** has also returned home to continue recuperating from recent surgery at Boone Hospital.

We also remember **Joyce Sawyer's** grandson, **Luke Davidson**, three year-old son of **Alan and Cheryl Davidson** of St. Louis, who is undergoing testing in a St. Louis hospital this week.

We extend our sympathy to **Bob and Linda Hutton** and family on the death of Bob's father, **Lyndell Hutton**, of Moberly, Mo., who died on Monday, February 11. Lyndell was a long-time Elder of Central Christian Church in Moberly. Funeral services will be held on Thursday, February 14, 1:00 p.m., at Cater Funeral Home in Moberly.

Thanks to **Susan Woodbury** for her solo at the late service on February 3. We appreciate her sharing her gift of music with us.

Thanks to **Jean Hall** and **Mary Bancroft** for their piano and organ duets at the 10:30 service last Sunday morning.

The CYF thanks all who donated toward SouperBowl of Caring Pots. Over \$500 and 15 bags of canned goods were collected. These food funds will go to the local food pantry.

We received a letter from **Mike Crouch**, former Assoc. Minister, and his family. Check the bulletin board in the entry hallway to read their news.

You are invited to the



Reception
for

Harold Duncan

Sunday, March 2

1:00-3:00 p.m.

Lenoir Community Center

River of Life



**New Rotation
Starts Sunday
Education for K-5
3rd Floor, 9:30 am**

(youth)

@ first christian

Sunday, February 24

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

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

CYF every Wednesday night

Meet at the CAFÉ for dinner at 5:30. CYF meets 6:30-7:30

*CYF will eat dinner at the CAFÉ on Wednesday nights; they will then meet in the CYF room.



Patti Freeman-Feb. 17

Dan Tevis-Feb. 17

Kimberly Potthast-Feb. 17

Brian McCarty-Feb. 17

Jenny McCarty-Feb. 17

Mark Mills-Feb. 18

Sue Fink-Feb. 19

Thelma Brooker-Feb. 20

Polly Nichols-Winch-Feb. 20

Reesy Tetley-Feb. 20

Martha Niday-Feb. 20

Rina Joo-Feb. 21

Jim Campbell-Feb. 23

Jacki Davidson-Feb. 23

Brooke Storm-Feb. 23

Parents: "You now have options!"

Drop off your child for a great Christian Education experience and note that YOU have options:

- Attend the Pathfinders class. A group of younger adults led by class members on a book, topic, or scripture text. They meet in the room directly behind the sanctuary.
- Join a group of adults currently studying the book of Romans. They meet in the Keystone room on the second floor.
- Volunteer to teach our kids (K-5) in the workshop rotation of the River of Life program or ask Jimmy Spear about leading our dynamic High School group in their Sunday morning discussion.
- Or... take time to renew your own spirit. Take time off. Take a friend, go alone... but go to one of the great coffee places in downtown Columbia and get something good and warm to drink. Recently two parents were heard to say "We love to steal away for a Latte on Sunday morning. It is our only time together – just us!"

Kids: "You now have options!"

Drop off your parents for a great Christian Education experience and note that YOU have options when you come to The River of Life as we learn about Holy Week:

- Be a part of Bible Improv... where we become the characters of the Bible learning their stories, acting them out and sometimes even adding our own interpretation!
- Come check out the Green Room which will include static electricity experiments. A part of Holy Week? Come find out!
- Make stained glass angels in the Art Room.
- What is unleavened bread? We will make some in the kitchen and learn how it was a part of Jesus' story.
- Are your feet dirty? Foot washing was important to Jesus and his friends. Get ready to get your feet wet!
- And last but not least... *we have a lot of fun together learning about God!*

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

February 20 CAFÉ

Menu:

Oven BBQ Brisket
Cornbread
Fried Okra
Cherry Cobbler

* "Interfaith Dialog" led by
Sarah Read

* Bible Study with
Dr. John J. Yonker

* CYF (grades 9-12) with
Rev. Jimmy Spear

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

Ernie's to the rescue!

One Sunday morning not too long ago, the church did not have a symbolic loaf of bread for Holy Communion. Discovering that, Rev. Amy Kay Pavlovich dashed over to Ernie's and got a pancake substitute. Rev. Ken Watson was conducting the sacrament. Charlie and Bettie Koelling, the Elders, tell this. When Ken lifted the lid covering the "bread," all three were startled and amused, yet they proceeded unshaken with the ritual. Ernie's had saved the worship service! ~Bob Leach

The Visitor

First Christian Church

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

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Address Service Requested

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-Feb. 17, 2008

Van Driver: Carol Slusher *Telephone:* Cindy Rose

8:30 Early Worship, Sanctuary

Worship Asst: Steve and Sharon Smith, Millie Caringer

Elder for 8:30 Service: Bettie Koelling

Communion Preparation:

Dan and Deidre Wipke Tevis, Lexie Ruffalo

9:30 Church School

Church School Greeter: Mark Hunsaker Family

Nursery Volunteer: TBA

10:30 Worship in Sanctuary

Sermon: Rev. Amy Kay Pavlovich *Liturgist:* Rick Wells

10:30 Elders: Barb Rothenberger, Dan Backues, Sally Estes

Deacons: The Nichols Team

Greeters:

Colleen Nilges, *North Door*

Hartley and Kim Rogers, *South Door*

Ushers: The Hunsaker Team

Banner Bearers: Megan Potthast and Julia Bower

Candlelighters: Matt Hoepfner and Jadie Arnett

Flower Ministry:

Arranged by: Jennifer Alexander and Kelli Embry

Delivered: Bud and Debbie Batterson

Evangelism Calls: Helen and Perry Stemmons

This Week (Feb. 17-23)



- Sun. - Pastors' Church Membership Class, 9:30 a.m.,
John's office
- CWF Board Meeting, 11:30-1:30, Morris Parlor
- Mon. - LIFE Group, 6:30 p.m., Keystone
- Nominating Committee Mtg., 7:00 p.m., Morris Parlor
- Tue. - Bible Study, 10:30 a.m., Morris Parlor
- Stewardship Dept. Mtg., 5:30 p.m., Keystone Room
- Wed. - Lenten Breakfast, 7:00-8:00 a.m., First Baptist Church
(1112 E. Broadway)
- Administrative Dept. Mtg., 9:00 a.m., John's Office
- Shawl Ministry, 10:00 a.m., Mary Tompson's Home
- Men's Lunch, 11:30 a.m. Senior Center
CAFÉ: Dinner, 5:30-6:15
Devotion, 6:20
- Adult Programming, 6:30-7:30
* "Interfaith Dialog" led by Sarah Read
* Bible Study with John Yonker
- CYF (grades 9-12), 6:30-7:30 with Jimmy Spear
- Back Room (college group), 8:45-10:00 p.m.
- Thur. - Church in Society Mtg., 6:30 p.m., Morris Parlor
- Fri. - Parker Scott Group, 1:30 p.m., Lenoir Community Ctr.