



## CAFÉ

ChristianActionFellowshipEducation

First Christian Church  
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

### January 23 CAFÉ

*Menu:* Cranberry Chicken  
Rice Pilaf  
Mixed Vegetables

*Program:*

\* **A Service Project for all Ages** -  
"Backpacks of Love"  
Filling backpacks for children  
in foster care through the  
Festival of Sharing

\* **Bible Study** with Rev. John Yonker  
In depth study of Sunday  
texts

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

**We are on a mission to  
fight hunger and poverty.  
You can help.**

Our youth will hold soup pots at church doors on **Super Bowl Sunday, February 3, 2008**. They will join young people in churches across the country to collect money for those who are hungry and hurting. In 2007, over 14,000 groups participated in the Souper Bowl of Caring generating over \$8 million dollars.

None of the money is sent to the Souper Bowl of Caring headquarters. Organizers only ask that each participant report their collection so national totals can be determined and announced. Since the Souper Bowl of Caring began in 1990 more than \$41 million has gone to help people in need. Please support the youth of our church in this effort to "love our neighbors" by dropping your dollar in the soup pot on February 3rd.



### Mission Project at CAFÉ

Wednesday night, January 23<sup>rd</sup>, one of the programming possibilities will be an intergenerational mission project. "Backpacks of Love" is a project of the Festival of Sharing. Our project will be to fill backpacks with items collected by the Festival of Sharing. The backpacks are given to social service agencies to be used by children from 4-10 who have experienced crisis and are being placed in foster care.

All ages will be invited to participate in this mission project as a part of the Wednesday CAFÉ at FCC. Join us! ~Jimmy Spear

### Sunday Services

Our scripture lessons for Sunday, January 20, Psalm 40:10-11 and John 1:29-42, raise the issue of telling good news and sharing the story of God's grace, and will form the basis for Dr. Yonker's sermon, "Come and See!"

In addition to congregational singing, special music for the worship services will include a solo at 8:30 by Pat Rybolt, "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" and the Chancel Choir anthem, "Come Down, Lord" at 10:30. Additionally, the 10:30 service will be enhanced by the Chancel Bell Choir playing "Celebrate and Ring".

### Annual Planning Retreat

You are invited to attend the Annual Planning Retreat on Sunday, January 27, 2008 immediately following the second service in Morris Parlor. This annual "meeting of the minds" includes lunch, and will be over at 1:30 p.m. All church members are invited to attend, and all department heads and board members are especially encouraged to attend :) Childcare will be provided. The title of the retreat is "The Tie that Binds". This year we will be discussing and sharing ideas about networking and how we can nurture, support and care for each other. You may RSVP by signing up in the office, or calling the church at 449-7265 to have your name added to the list (please indicate childcare when you sign up). Hope to see you there!

~Chris Creasy

#### Weekly Report

January 13, 2008

Received \$8,539.61

Received to Date \$262,809.61

Attendance - 281

(includes early worship - 53)

## Heeerrreee's Johnny!

As I write these words on Tuesday morning, January 15, the anniversary of Martin Luther King, Jr's birth, the community is getting ready to celebrate the legacy of his life. Jimmy and I plan to attend the Columbia Values Diversity Celebration on Thursday morning at the Holiday Inn Expo Center which will be attended by hundreds of people from across the community, and undoubtedly include many of you. Other events during the coming days will remind us of Dr. King's dream of a land where people are judged, not by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character.

Celebrating Dr. King's life we may think of his leadership of the civil rights movement and perhaps remember him primarily as a social activist, out on the streets, organizing people for sit-ins at lunch counters, and leading masses of people marching for the right to vote. But he was first of all a Christian. He was a man deeply committed to knowing and serving Christ, always seeking to put Christian principles into action. From the pulpits and in public addresses he reminded the American people of the root of his work, that his whole life was grounded in his belief that the gospel calls all Christians to live out their faith.

In my library is a book of his sermons dating from 1963, The Strength to Love. In one of those sermons, "Transformed Nonconformist" he reminds us of the continuing call to root our lives in the gospel, and put our faith into action.

"Every true Christian is a citizen of two worlds, the world of time and the world of eternity. We are, paradoxically, in the world and yet not of the world."

"As Christians we must never surrender our supreme loyalty to any time-bound custom or earth-bound idea, for at the heart of our universe is a higher reality – God and his kingdom of love – to which we must be conformed."

As the Apostle Paul in the Roman letter called the early Christians to "be transformed by the renewal of their minds" so King reminds us we "... need to recapture the gospel glow of the early Christians who were nonconformists in the truest sense of the word and refused to shape their witness according to the mundane patterns of the world."

But only "... through an inner spiritual transformation do we gain the

strength to fight vigorously the evils of the world in a humble and loving spirit."

May his words challenge us as we continue to know more and more of Christ, and struggle to let our faith shape our attitudes, our words and our deeds, as we seek to make the kingdom of God a reality in our time and place.

## We Launch a Modern Ark

How did we go so right for Christian missions during our church anniversary year just completed? This past Sunday during the 10:30 worship service the world rural mission of Heifer International formally presented the congregation with a commendation plaque. It marks our completing a \$5,000 World Ark of many kinds of food-producing livestock. They are to be distributed to some malnourished and poor rural and village families. The presentation was made by Carol Oliver, Heifer's Missouri staff representative, who grew up on a Wellsville farm.

To open the brief ceremony, John Yonker and Sally Robinson led the Moment with Children on the chancel steps. Rev. Yonker asked, "What is an ark?" When quickly answered, a realistic model ark two-feet long was set on the chancel carpet so everyone could see it. Other questions and comments by him and Sally added painted wooden farm animals to the ark deck, roof, and portholes. They were crafted by Harlan Hackett. Sally introduced the irresistible Heifer catalog of gifts to give.

We commend Sally for directing the year-long mission project which was oversubscribed by more than 20%, totaling \$6,040.30.

Altogether, this is a significant fifth Ark we have launched. Carol Oliver told the congregation, "I think it is so very appropriate for a church to celebrate an anniversary by funding an Ark. What better way to express thanks to God for all the blessings the church has received over these many years than by sharing blessings with some of those who most need help?"

~Bob Leach



Kay Ahrens-Jan. 20  
Connie Guy-Jan. 20  
Harry White-Jan. 21  
John Crane-Jan. 21  
Susan Klockow-Jan. 21  
Teresa Foster-Jan. 23  
Matthew Hoepfner-Jan. 23  
Ella Rogers-Jan. 23

James Silvey-Jan. 24  
Marion Storm-Jan. 24  
Carroll St. John-Jan. 25  
Jan Keithley-Jan. 26  
Kara Zimmer-Jan. 26  
Samuel Creasy-Jan. 26  
Glenda Clark-Jan. 26

## News of the congregation

**Jean McCauley** has returned to The Bluffs after being released from University Hospital. **Louise Meyer** has returned home to recuperate from a surgical procedure last week at Barnes Hospital in St. Louis. **Frances Seltsam** is at Boone Hospital where she is recuperating from a recent fall at home. **Mayola Sappington** is recuperating from surgery following a recent fall and will be staying at the Lenoir Health Care Center for therapy.

We extend our sympathy to **Jeff and Jennifer Alexander** on the death of Jeff's grandmother, **Dorthea Shipp**, of Chillicothe, who died on Friday, January 11. Funeral services were held on Sunday, January 13 at Cater Funeral Home in Moberly, with a committal service on Monday morning. She was 90 years old.

**Rob Martin** will be playing piano at the Cherry Street Artisan on January 26. The time has been changed to 10:00 p.m., as he is the primary performer!

## Thanks Property Committee!

A huge thank you goes to the following industrious property committee workers who gave up their entire Saturday to stabilize the ceiling in the hallway at the end of the atrium, install a suspended ceiling, install a clean-out for the drain system, and do drywall work.

Thanks to **Eric Arnett, Buddy Boger, Jay Creasy, Mike Korman, Fred Mottaz and Ryan Hunsaker**. Special thanks to **Kerry Bramon** for his extra efforts in coordinating the work and supplying many of the tools needed to get the job done. Also, thanks to **Laura Estes** for lunch.

~Mark Hunsaker, Property Committee Chair

## (youth in january)

### Sunday, January 27

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

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

### Sunday, February 10

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.

## The 2008 Church Camp Dates are announced!

Mark your calendars now to attend summer camp. Jimmy will be counseling most likely at one of the Junior Camps. The church assists with the cost of camp and helps provide transportation. Please see Jimmy Spear if interested in attending. Adult & College aged Counselors are always welcome!

### Rickman Center Events      2008 Dates      Grade Finished

CYF Conference	June 9-14	9-12
Junior 1 Camp	June 17-21	4-5
Elementary Camp	June 30-July 2	2-3
Eighters Camp	July 6-12	8
Junior 2 Camp	July 15-19	4-5
M*A*D Camp	July 21-26	6-9
Chi Rho Camp	July 28-August 2	6-7

### Wilderness Trips      2008 Dates      Grade Finished

Chi Rho Current River Canoe Trip	TBA	6-8
Chi Rho Wilderness Backpack	TBA	6-8
Chi Rho Colorado Trek	TBA	6-8
CYF Current River Canoe Trip	TBA	9-12
CYF Wilderness Backpack	TBA	9-12



## Ladies' Book Club

First Christian's Ladies' Book Club meets the fourth Wednesday of most months. This month's selection is *At Home in Mitford* by Jan Karon. Please join us up in Morris Parlor at 12:30 p.m. next Wed., Jan. 23, to discuss this sweet little novel. Feel free to bring your own lunch/beverage and escape for just a little while! Questions? Call or email Linda Hutton at 442-5423 or [lhutton50@hotmail.com](mailto:lhutton50@hotmail.com). February's selection is the non-fiction book, *Devil in the White City* by Erik Larkson.

## Contributions - Six Months in Review

The members and friends of First Christian Church continue to be generous in sustaining the church and its mission. During the first six months of the church fiscal year (July 1, 2007 through December 31, 2007) the following support was received:

Church pledges and offerings	\$243,786
Rental income	\$ 41,807
Permanent fund income	\$ 40,833

The pledges, offerings, rent, and permanent fund income support the church's annual budget of over \$679,000.

In addition to the church's budget items the following unbudgeted contributions were also received during the past six months:

175 <sup>th</sup> Scholarship	\$34,739
Other scholarships & memorials	\$26,449
Disciples Christmas offering	\$ 1,005
Disciples Reconciliation offering	\$ 914
Disciples Thanksgiving offering	\$ 971
Disciples Missions offering	\$ 1,500
Central Missouri Food Bank	\$ 1,223
Crop Walk	\$ 142
Heifer International "Ark"	\$ 4,500
Voluntary Action Center Xmas	\$ 775

Once again I realize how blessed we are to have such a caring ministry at First

Christian. I want to thank John and Sarah for their visit at the hospital and John's extended time with my family during my recent surgery. I also want to thank Rich and Pamela Hoepfner for delivery of the beautiful flowers from the church. Thanks too for all of your thoughts and prayers. It's great to know that we have such a wonderful church family. I'm back on my feet and ready for action.



~Roy Overacre



## BOOK

## ORNER

The Journey, by Billy Graham, is subtitled "How to Live By Faith in an Uncertain World". As he shares his own stories, including some regrets, Billy gives us advice born of his wisdom and deep love for God.

What kind of a journey has your life been so far? Have you felt overwhelmed by circumstances, unmet goals, disappointment, heartache? Does the journey have to be this way, or can it be different? With God's help you can begin again and find joy in learning to walk with Him every day.

We all know this author, preacher, evangelist who has delivered the gospel message to more people face-to-face than anyone else in history and has ministered on every continent of the world. Join him once more in this one-of-a-kind road map, with all roads guiding you back to God.

~On the Book Cart

# 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-Jan. 20, 2008

*Van Driver:* Carol Slusher *Telephone:* Debbie Potthast

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

*Worship Asst:* Colleen Nilges, Tom and Carol Hughey

*Elder for 8:30 Service:* Mary Bancroft

*Communion Preparation:*

Pat and Sue Wright, Mike Korman

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

*Church School Greeter:* Mark Hunsaker Family

*Nursery Volunteer:* TBA

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

*Sermon:* Dr. John J. Yonker *Liturgist:* Debbie Taylor

*10:30 Elders:* Marilyn Schappert, Brenda Martin, Millie Bolman

*Deacons:* The Nichols Team

*Greeters:*

Pat Ritchie, *North Door*

Rich and Betty Montgomery, *South Door*

*Ushers:* Hunsaker Team

*Banner Bearers:* Kim Potthast and Sam Creasy

*Candlelighters:* Logan Garton and Gavin Rose

*Flower Ministry:*

*Arranged by:* Betty Moon and Mary Kay Mueller

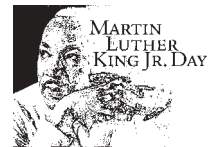
*Delivered:* Cherry and Ed Hinderberger

*Evangelism Calls:* Helen and Perry Stemmons

## This Week (Jan. 20-26)

Sun. - Youth Groups on break

Mon. - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day  
(office closed)



Tue. - Bible Study, 10:30 a.m., Morris Parlor

Wed. - Hannah Jones Group, 9:30 a.m., Lenoir 2nd Floor Apts.  
- Men's Lunch, 11:30 a.m., Senior Center  
- Ladies Book Club, 12:30 p.m., Morris Parlor  
- Brummett-Harrah Group, 1:30, Donna Houston's home  
- **CAFÉ:**

Dinner, 5:30-6:15

Devotion, 6:20

Adult programming, 6:30-7:30

- A Service Project for all ages,  
"Backpacks of Love"

- Bible Study

CYF, 6:30-7:30

- Back Room (college group), 8:45-10:00 p.m.

Fri. - Parker-Scott Group, 1:30, Lenoir Community Center