



Welcome Dana!

Responding to the invitation at the 10:30 service on May 11, Dana Kollar came forward to unite with our congregation by transfer of her membership from the National Avenue Christian Church in Springfield, Missouri. A native of rural northern Missouri, Dana is a graduate of Kirksville High School, Missouri State University and the University of Missouri Law School, and now practices with the Andereck, Evans, Milne, Widger and Johnson Law firm in Jefferson City. She was joined in worship by her grandmother and parents who came to share with her on her day of placing membership in our church. She resides at 5506 Irma Drive, Columbia, MO 65202, phone 356-0139. Welcome Dana!

Date Change for STARS Trip to Fulton

Due to the holiday and busy schedules in May, the STARS trip to Fulton is being re-scheduled to the month of June. The exact date in June will be in the Visitor soon.

No newsletter-Memorial Day week (May 26-30)

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

May 21 CAFÉ

Menu: Great Pizza from Italian Village

- * Bible Study
- * CYF (grades 9-12)

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



86.5% of last year's pledge cards have been received:

New	27
Increased	45
Same	76
Decreased	19
# Received	167

Total amount pledged to date is \$321,072. This represents 83.3% of last year's dollars pledged.

Sunday Services

On the second Sunday in Pentecost our worship services will include readings of the scripture found in Psalm 8 and Matthew 28:16-20, which will serve as the foundation of Dr. Yonker's sermon, "The Promise".

The Chancel Choir will present their anthem "In His Hands" by Loonis McClohon and arranged by John Coates at the 10:30 worship service this Sunday. Join us!



Jim Burt to Retire!

Our custodian at First Christian Church since 1989, Jim Burt, is planning to retire at the end of the work week on May 23. In order to recognize his service to the church these past 19 years, a reception will be held in the Fellowship Hall immediately following the 10:30 worship service on **Sunday, May 18**.

Contributions to a monetary gift which will be presented to Jim at the reception may be made by writing a check payable to First Christian Church. Please make a notation on the memo line of the check "Jim Burt Gift".

Weekly Report

May 11, 2008
Received \$9,238.88
Received to Date \$399,095.88
Attendance - 318
(includes early worship -51)

Heerrree's Johnny!

"I was born at night, but not last night!" With those words, one of my friends used to say he was no sucker for one of the tricks which other friends sometimes tried to pull on him. His phrase comes to mind as I sift through the junk mail that comes into my email inbox. "I was born at night, but not last night!" Can you believe some of the stuff that people send out, thinking they will con us into biting on their scamming schemes. Here's the latest one which landed in my inbox earlier today.

THIS IS FOR YOUR ATTENTION.

We wish to notify you again that you were listed as a beneficiary to the total sum of J10,600,000.00GBP (Ten Million Six Hundred Thousand British Pounds) in the codicil and last testament of the deceased. (Name now withheld since this is our second letter to you.) We contacted you because you bear the surname identity and therefore can present you as the beneficiary to the inheritance.

We therefore reckoned that you could receive this fund as you are qualified by your name identity. All the legal papers will be processed in your acceptance. In your acceptance of this deal, we request that you kindly forward to us your letter of acceptance, your current telephone and fax numbers and a forwarding address to enable us to file necessary documents at our high court probate division for the release of this sum of money.

Please get back to me ASAP so as to get this done immediately.

Now, you may be wondering what this is doing in the pastoral column which is normally devoted to issues directly effecting the life and ministry of the church. Here's the answer. At one of our recent STARS meetings a Columbia Police officer spoke to us about the problem of identity theft and alerted us to the various ways "bad guys" try to trick us into giving personal information. Referring to such email scams she said, "Don't ever reply to any of those messages. Those people don't know you and they don't care about you. All they want is your bank account or social security numbers and once they get them you're in big trouble."

So, today it's just a friendly, pastoral word to the wise, take care of yourself and delete all the junk you get in your inbox.

Turn Your Radio On

Be listening Monday-Friday at 7:35 a.m. to KPLA Radio (101.5 FM) and you'll hear a "Thought for the Day" from your pastor. For those of you who are KFRU (1400 AM) listeners you can catch this spot Monday, Tuesday and Thursday at 6:55 a.m.



Thank You

The flowers sent to my husband, George Ross, who is at the Bluffs were beautiful. Dr. Yonker's prayers and visits before and after George's surgery were very comforting. The blue shawl made by Judy Hall and given to me is something I have so enjoyed.

~Lois Ross

Your Special Birthday!



Marguerite
Hoberecht

-105 on May 15

Harold Rosebaum

-94 on May 20

Wishing
YOU a
HAPPY
BIRTHDAY

Jean Hall-May 18
Jacob Alexander-May 19
Kelsey Korman-May 19
Harold Rosebaum-May 20
Parker Rossman-May 20
Marvin Tracy-May 20
Jim Estes-May 21
Amy Lightner-May 21
Billie Silvey-May 21
Ryan Smith-May 21
Andrew Stormer-May 21
Jim Shaw-May 22
Ethan Bell-May 22

News of the congregation

Among the members of our congregation in our concern at this time are **C.K. Odor** who continues to receive care at the V.A. Hospital. **Dale Richardson** has returned home after spending a few days at Boone Hospital last week.

We are glad to report that **Connie Guy** has returned home from Rusk Rehabilitation Center to continue recuperating from her recent fall at church.

Our sympathy to **Becky Bramon** whose uncle, **Donald Quentin "DQ" Jones** died May 7th. He was the son of **Mack and Hannah Stahl Jones**. Survivors include his wife, Jackie, and sister, **Virginia Sinclair**, Becky's mother. Services were held May 10th at Fairview Christian Church in Gladstone, MO.

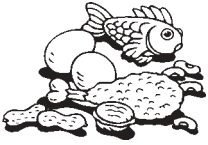
Thanks to **Pat Rybolt** for her solo at the early service and to **Linda Chandler** for her solo at the late service last Sunday. Thanks to the members of the **Men's Chorus** for their special music before the sermon and the choral benediction at the late service last Sunday. The Men's Chorus included: **Harlan Hackett, Mark Mills, David Read, Fred List, David Chrisman, Steve Lightner, Roy Rogers, Mark Hunsaker, Dan Gieseke, Jimmy Spear** and **John Yonker**.

Thanks also to **Parker Rossman, Tom Yonker, Kristine McFarland** and **Jackie Davidson** for assisting John and Jimmy in reading the Pentecost story in English, Greek, German, Portuguese and Spanish on Pentecost Sunday.

Finally, thanks to **Tommy Tomlin** who presented the Pentecost offering minute for mission at both worship services.



We recently received this picture from Mary Gordon who visited Rena and Gene Moore at their new home in Friendship Village of St. Louis. We miss them and are glad that they are doing well.



Loaves and Fishes

The Church In Society committee of FCC has accepted the opportunity to prepare and serve a meal to the homeless at Loaves and Fishes one evening a month. This will be an opportunity for various groups to take a month and provide this service from our church.

Serving entails preparing for 60 people. This would not be done in their kitchen, but prepared early and taken to the home and served. Serving time is from 5 p.m. until 6 to 6:30, depending on the influx. It would take about 30 additional minutes to clean up and pack up. We would provide paper plates, plasticwear and paper cups so we don't have to wash dishes.

The first time we would serve is **Monday, June 2, 2008**. Any individuals or groups that would like to share in this growing need in Columbia are welcome. Call the church office or Carol Slusher at 874-4902 and we'll get you or your group on a schedule.

FCC Christian College Scholarship

On Friday, April 4, 2008 at the Honors and Awards Convocation in Launer Auditorium of Columbia College, **William G. Ryan** was awarded the First Christian Church of Columbia, Christian College Scholarship. This scholarship was established in 2001, the year of the college's sesquicentennial celebration to commemorate the historic relationship between the church and the college. It is presented each year to a deserving member of a congregation of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).



Property Department

The work day to paint the Fellowship Hall, which was previously scheduled for May 30 & 31, has been rescheduled for **August 9th starting at 8:00 a.m.** Please add this date to your calendar!

Secret Place

The summer quarter "Secret Place" devotional booklets are available to be picked up in the CWF alcove by the elevator. Non-subscribers may purchase a copy for \$1.25. Please pay in the church office.

College Mission Trip – Washington, D.C.

The College Mission Trip will be from May 18-24 in Washington, D.C. The group will be hosted by National City Christian Church (DOC) and the group looks forward to much "learning and serving" while they are in the nation's capital. The group will be learning about urban ministries such as soup kitchens and after school programs. They will also get to tour National City Church and learn about their fair trade store.

As of Monday these are the students who plan on traveling as they have indicated to Amy Kay: Kelly Mueller, who has worked on this trip as our Campus Ministry Intern; Elizabeth Rottmann; Molly Read; Matt Loring; Tom Yonker; and Dane Pavlovich. Two additional students are still "Maybe's" which is fine because we are traveling via the church van and have room for more friends. Catalin Abaigu will be accompanying the group as an older participant. He is a friend of the Pavloviches and of the church through his position as a photojournalism Fullbright scholar at the University.

Visit with Heifer Exec Jo Luck

Four from our church were invited guests for a reception in Columbia this past Saturday for Jo Luck, the CEO of Heifer International. Earlier, she was the commencement speaker at Stephens College, which also conferred a doctorate degree upon her. The reception was arranged by the Little Rock Heifer world office. Attending from our church were Sally Robinson, incoming chair of our World Outreach Ministries; Muriel Leach, a 54-year Heifer volunteer; and Jimmy Spear, also a mission advocate. Bob Leach, a Heifer "sea-going cowboy" to Japan in 1948, who is currently disabled, was unable to attend. The Missouri Heifer office is headed by our friend Carol Oliver, who has presented two "World Ark" participant certificates to the church.

Tornado Relief Efforts Continue Across U.S.

Week of Compassion continues to monitor relief and recovery work from recent tornadoes in Virginia, Arkansas, Missouri and other states. Thus far, the impact on Disciples churches and members is small. WOC is supporting a CWS tornado appeal, which we anticipate being revised and expanded for the second time since February.



Thank you for your donation of \$1,140 to Older Adult Ministries. Your support is very thoughtful and helpful in fulfilling this ministry with the saints of the church.

As I visit with people at Lenoir Woods in Columbia I hear of their love for God and their church, of how they miss being in their own church for worship. They appreciate the worship services that Disciples of Christ ministers are providing to them at Lenoir. I am honored that I am one of those ministers who is bringing the church to them and you through Bible study, individual visits and worship. I am also exploring ways in meeting the needs of our older members in other retirement communities in Columbia.

I enjoy getting out into the churches that make up the Northeast Area of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) as we work together to help people as they age to find support in their communities to help them to stay at home longer. I also enjoy helping them to discover ways to be supportive to the caregivers as they help their loved ones make decisions to move to another home to be taken care of as they age.

In 2008 I am going to explore new programs and ministries with those who are beginning to retire as they find out how they can give back to their communities and serve God in new and exciting ways. This may be a mission trip to Kansas, Texas or Louisiana.

Thank you again for your support of Older Adult Ministries. I look forward to being in ministry with you in 2008.

~Sally Robinson

(youth) @ first christian

CYF - May21

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

The last **JYF** and **CHI-RHO** of the school year! Watch your mailbox this week to see what we are doing and where we are going!

The **CYF Mission Team** will travel this summer to **Greensburg KS** to participate in recovery and rebuilding efforts associated with the destruction of the entire town by a tornado in May of 2007. The Christian Church (DOC) has a mission station in Greensburg and will be hosting groups from all over the U.S. all summer long. This year our group will be at the mission station the first week of the summer season, June 8-14. The town of Greensburg will also be hosting groups from several other denominations this summer. It proves to be a great opportunity for our CYF to see many hands serving in a unique place. This year's CYF Mission Team includes **13 youth and 3 adults**. Next week's *Visitor* will provide names and more information.

VBS Volunteers, get ready!



It is time to get busy with Vacation Bible School planning and we have a BIG challenge. Volunteers are needed to lead the rotations. The materials are very easy to follow and I will help you with all the planning & details. The only things needed are a willing heart and a joyful attitude.

Leaders for the following positions are needed:

- Cinema Science Leader (Chadder Chipmunk Videos)
- Bible Blast Leader (Bible Stories)
- Wacky Works Crafts & Missions Leader
- Hyperspeed Games Leader
- Squeaky Beakers Preschool Leaders
- Lab Crew Leaders for Elementary & Preschool

Vacation Bible School is held in the evenings, Sun. - Thurs., July 6-10.

Please call Jessica Humble at 441-8021 if you want to be a part of VBS this year. It will be a powerful week discovering Jesus' miraculous power!

Abraham and Sarah

The River of Life...

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

Destruction and Death Massive In Myanmar

The death toll in Myanmar (Burma) from Cyclone Nargis is now estimated to be more than 22,000, with thousands more people still missing. Destruction from the powerful storm to homes, farmland, and infrastructure is simply "massive" and is being compared to the devastation in other southern Asia countries from the December '04 tsunami. Hundreds of thousands of people are homeless.

While Myanmar is one of the world's most isolated countries and is ruled by an authoritarian military dictatorship, the Myanmar Council of Churches does have an active relationship with Church World Service. Yesterday CWS issued an emergency appeal to its member communions to assist the Council with immediate relief operations and comprehensive needs assessment work. The appeal will soon be revised and expanded to include additional relief support and long term recovery assistance. Week of Compassion has sent an initial grant of \$6000 from the Response Fund to support the CWS appeal and will be providing additional funds as soon as the appeal is revised. WOC is also prepared to receive designated contributions for the cyclone and such gifts will be used in their entirety for relief and recovery in Myanmar. Contributions can be made online at www.weekofcompassion.org - please mark "Compassion Response Fund" - or send to WOC, attn: Elaine Cleveland, P.O. Box 1986, Indianapolis, IN 46206.



Church Softball Games

This week's games are: 7:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m., both at the Green Field. All the games are played at the Rainbow Softball Center on Sunday nights.

Contact Dan Tevis (445.4793) with questions or interest in playing.



The River of Life is on a journey with Abraham & Sarah. This last Sunday, the K-2 graders are literally *camping out* all over the church with leader Ken McCarty, while the 3-5 graders have joined leader Judy Cunningham at *The Oaks of Mamre Café*. Together they made some great flat cakes!

Pentecost Minute for Mission

This old world really needs to hear more about Jesus' love and his commandment to love one another. Wouldn't it be wonderful if everybody on this earth really did love everyone else?

It isn't easy to "get the word out." But one way is to build churches in areas that need churches, so they can work in those areas and spread Christ's gospel of love.

The Christian church (Disciples of Christ) in the U.S. and Canada is strongly committed to building new churches, both locally and abroad. While the churches abroad come under the auspices of mission work, establishing new churches in the United States and Canada is the primary function of the New Church Ministry in Indianapolis in conjunction with local regional leadership. Since 2001, the Disciples have established 530 new churches! That means that nearly 39,000 new Disciples are examples of Christ's love for the rest of the world to see. Thirty-nine thousand new Disciples to help spread the gospel to those who need to hear the message that Christ brought.

The other day I was driving past Broadway Christian Church and was surprised to see a sign that said they were 50 years old! Did you know that First Christian Church was a sponsor of Broadway? Also that Rock Bridge Christian Church was sponsored by First Christian? Many stalwart members of First Christian moved to those new churches to get them started. First Christian has been a strong proponent of building new churches.

Pentecost is the "birthday of the church." So it is highly appropriate that the special Pentecost offering will be used for establishing new churches in the United States and Canada. Half of the offering will go to the New Church Ministry in Indianapolis and the other half will go to the local region, the Region of Mid-America, with the express purpose of helping new churches get established.

So, please be generous with your Pentecost offering and help spread Christ's message by providing the dollars that can help bring new churches into being. Thank you.

~Tommy Tomlin

The Visitor

First Christian Church

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Columbia, MO 65201
573-449-7265

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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

Summer Ministry Interns: Elizabeth Rottmann
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

Jim Burt, Custodian

Fred Mottaz, Business Manager
fred@firstchristian.org

Sunday's Schedule-May 18, 2008

Van Driver: Frank Boster *Telephone:* Pat Ritchie

8:30 Early Worship, Sanctuary

Worship Asst: Tommy Gay Evans, Vickie and Paul Rorvig

Elder for 8:30 Service: Mary Bancroft

Communion Preparation:

Lisa Zimmer, Dane Pavlovich, Andrew, Jake & Teddy Nichols

9:30 Church School

Church School Greeter: Mark Hunsaker Family

Nursery Volunteer: TBA

10:30 Worship in Sanctuary

Sermon: Dr. John J. Yonker *Liturgist:* Pat Ritchie

10:30 Elders: Mary and Jerry Daugherty, Sharon Winner

Deacons: The Nichols Team

Greeters:

Kent and Paula Kurtz, *North Door*

Elizabeth Hensley, *South Door*

Ushers: The Hunsaker Team

Banner Bearers: Megan Potthast and Julia Bower

Candlelighters: Matt Hoepfner and Jadie Arnett

Flower Ministry:

Arranged by: Gene and Micki Kirkham

Delivered: Brenda Martin and Mary Jane Anderson

Evangelism Calls: Helen and Perry Stemmons

This Week (May 18-24)

- Sun. - Reception for Jim Burt, immediately following the 10:30 worship service, Fellowship Hall (See front page article for details)
- JYF (grades 3-5), 12:00-1:30 p.m.
- Chi-Rho (grades 6-8), 4:00-5:30 p.m.
- Church Softball Game, 7:00 p.m. & 8:00 p.m., Green Field, Rainbow Softball Center
- Tue. - CWF Board Meeting, 9:30 a.m., Morris Parlor
- Bible Study, 10:30 a.m., Morris Parlor
- Wed. - Shawl Ministry, 10:00 a.m., Tompson's home (209 W. Parkway)
- Men's Lunch, 11:30 a.m., Senior Center
- CAFÉ: Dinner, 5:30-6:15
Devotion, 6:20
* CYF (grades 9-12), 6:30-8:00
* Bible Study, 6:30

