



Sunday Services

With the beginning of Advent only three weeks away, the last two Sundays of the church year will find readings of scripture and sermons based on stories recorded in the 25th chapter of Matthew. On November 16 the parable of the talents, found in Matthew 25:14-30, will challenge us to consider what we are doing with our talents!

Special music for the morning will include a solo by Brenda Mosby, "I Worship You, Almighty God", at 8:30 and at 10:30 Norma Miller and Mary Bancroft will play piano/organ duets. The Chancel Choir's anthem will be "Offertory" by John Ness Beck.

STARS - (55+ men and women)

There's still time to submit your reservation for a wonderful lunch with the 60+ group of Broadway Christian Church. They have cordially invited us to a Thanksgiving luncheon at their church on Monday, November 24, at 12:30 p.m.

We need to RSVP to Darlene Miles at 445-5024 by November 18. If you need a ride or would like to make arrangements to attend as a group, please contact Carol Slusher at 874-4902. I'll be making any reservations to Darlene on the 18th and I'd be glad to include yours.

Also, be sure to mark your calendars for the STARS Christmas luncheon, December 17, 2008 in Morris Parlor. We will be entertained by the children from the Mother's Day Out Program.

Weekly Report

Nov. 9, 2008

Received \$7,907.69

Received to Date \$146,244.76

Attendance - 312

(includes early worship - 50)

Supporting our Rickman Center

The Rickman Center is a ministry of the Mid-America Region of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) located just south of Jefferson City. It is a place in the woods where children and adults alike experience God in different ways throughout the year and over the years. As a minister of a congregation who sends 40 youth and children to camp each summer, I am reminded often of this important place in our shared ministry at FCC. While Rickman is a part of the Region it receives a very, very, very, small percentage of the Regional Monies. (\$5,000 a year). Operating a full service church camp and retreat center takes much more money. I serve on the Rickman Commission which advises and supports the ministry of the Rickman Director and staff. Ken Watson was on this commission for many years. Throughout the year we are apprised of the continued financial need of an aging facility and the increasing cost of being a viable ministry.

There are two ways that members of congregations like ours are able to support over and above the usual church appropriation of funds. Thanks. ~Jimmy Spear

Two ways of support:

Friends of Rickman Dinner

An Elegant Winter Dinner by the fire in the main lodge dining room.

Friday, December 5, 2008

Menu: Cornish Game Hen/Stuffed Beef Roll
Hor d'oeuvres and hot cider begin at 6:00 p.m. Dinner is served at 6:30 p.m. Seasonal Entertainment will follow.

This dinner is an annual fundraising event. There is no charge for dinner, but following the meal guests will be given the opportunity to make a contribution toward the ministry of Rickman.

*Carpooling and/or car service provided from Columbia (Jimmy's Fleetwood).

Jimmy Spear is hosting a table and would welcome your reservation by November 24.

(and)

Grand for our Grandchildren

Creating a Legacy of Christian Camping. Give a grand (\$1000) to this special fund. Do so by your own gift; challenge friends at church to join you in making a grand. Your gift will help future generations of Disciples children have the kind of faith building experiences that can only happen at church camp.

Mid-Month Movie Night Friday Night, Nov. 21 3rd Floor Cinema at FCC



Lars and the Real Girl

(October 2007) PG-13

Lars Lindstrom is a loveable introvert whose emotional baggage has kept him from fully embracing life. After years of what is almost solitude, he invites Bianca, a friend he met on the internet, to visit him. He introduces Bianca to his brother Gus and his wife Karen and they are stunned. They don't know what to say to Lars or Bianca—because she is a life-size doll, not a real person and he is treating her as though she is alive. They consult the family doctor Dagmar who explains this is a delusion he's created—for what reason she doesn't yet know, but they should all go along with it. What follows is an emotional journey for Lars and the people around him. This journey of Lars and the Real Girl is set in a small community of which Lars and Bianca become a part. This comedy-drama says a lot about church, community, and what it means to accept and truly love others even in the most unique circumstances.

Delicious Popcorn: FREE!
Beverages available.

Hosted by Rev. Jimmy Spear

Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.
~Joshua 1:9

The text above appears in the book of Joshua, but it also comes to many of us in last summer's Vacation Bible School CD. The VBS publisher made a little ditty out of the text so that our kids (and their parents) could sing the scripture all year long. There are occasions when I wish that the CD never existed, but mostly I appreciate the handful of songs that have made their way into our family's subconscious. The scripture can often hit us in the right spot.

Perhaps you have felt "terrified" in the last week... or maybe just depressed. Perhaps you want to write off the next four or eight years and have been discouraged. (Insert here the voices of four young girls singing "the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go".) Wherever we are in the stream of emotions between ecstatic and terrified, we can come to our God with our song, with our prayer, with our lament. God is not a God who will come in with a wand and change everything to suit us, but being connected to our Creator and one another helps with the journey.

Need a song to sing? Need words of encouragement? Need friends to share joy with? Come to worship. Ask John for a copy of last Sunday's sermon. Visit with people from the church. Get a VBS CD from Jimmy. We are together as God's people in good times and in bad... and in the same times that some consider good and some consider bad. Thanks be to God who brings us together in unity and as people of hope. ~amy kay

Christmas Adoption of Families in Columbia

Come to the Narthex during the next two Sunday mornings to talk with Stacia Schaefer who is leading our efforts to help adopt Columbia's families in need through the holiday season. Stacia has concise, clear information about the ministry that was previously known as the "Angel Tree" project. If you aren't able to be in worship, please speak with Amy Kay at your convenience.



Election Day Luncheon Results

WOW!! That just about sums it up! We had 100 volunteers working before and on the day of the luncheon. And, this does not include those who gave donations and purchased or made pies. It was wonderful seeing everyone working together in serving others. Isn't that what we are about? We sold 498 tickets. After our bills were paid we made approximately \$2,100. This will benefit the outreach goals of Women's Ministries — FCC youth projects; local women's/children's charities; Disciples Mission Fund; Christian Ministry Scholarship; etc. Thanks for your willingness to make this a huge success. Looking forward to working with you next year! ~Laura Estes and Brenda Mosby

World Outreach Fair and Fair Trade Store

Thanks to everyone on the World Outreach Department and extra friends who helped facilitate our Fair last Sunday! We'll look forward to doing it again in a few years. Know that the Fair Trade Store continues to exist in Amy Kay's office. Come by any time to peruse!

Your Special Birthday!



Fred List
- 91 on Nov. 13
Gene Moore
- 92 on Nov. 20



Penelope Simon-Nov. 16
Janet Ward-Swope-Nov. 16
Sarah Loring-Nov. 16
Amy La Hue-Nov. 16
Rich Montgomery-Nov. 17
Chelsea Swope-Nov. 17
Jim Rogers-Nov. 18
Shawn Walsh-Nov. 18
Ed Hinderberger-Nov. 20
Laura Crane-Nov. 21
Jamie Estes-Nov. 21

News of the congregation

Thanks to **Linda Chandler** for her vocal solos presented at the 8:30 and 10:30 services last Sunday. She was accompanied by **Norma Miller**.

Congratulations to **Kurt Schaefer** who was elected last Tuesday to represent the people of Boone and Randolph Counties in the Missouri State Senate for the next four years. His term begins in January. He is among many members of our congregation who have accepted the call and challenge of public service through elected office through the years!

Several members of the church are in our concern at this time. **Jerry Guy** has returned home after being in the hospital for a surgical procedure last week. **Ken Bright, Ed Bright's** son, has been a patient at University Hospital and hopes to return home early this week. **Jack Kirtley** is recovering from surgery on Friday, November 7, at Boone Hospital. We also keep in our prayers **Linnie Jo Anderson, Ruth Ragsdale, and Jean Black** who were admitted to Boone Hospital in the past several days.

We are saddened to learn of the death of **Elizabeth Ubben**, 84 years old, who died on Friday, October 31, at the North Village Park Care Center in Moberly. A single person, Elizabeth was living on the streets of Columbia when she walked into the church on a winter morning in 1976. Members of the church arranged for her to receive food, and secured a place for her to live at the Koinonia House, and at Paquin Tower where she lived for more than ten years until she entered the nursing home last summer. First Christian Church continued to be her church home as long as she was able to attend. A memorial service was held in the church on Thursday, November 6.

Congratulations to **Janet Swope** who was the "Featured Teacher" in *The Columbia Daily Tribune* newspaper recently. A graduate of the University of Missouri, who has been teaching for 23 years and is currently a 4th grade teacher at Mill Creek Elementary School, Janet says teaching "is at my core."

Living Nativity
Friday, Dec. 5
6pm – 8pm



Pageant Practice

Carol practice for children pre-school-5th grade will be held on the following Sundays during the River of Life time which begins at 9:30 a.m. While we welcome kids the night of the pageant, practice would ensure the excitement and preparation needed for a really great pageant.

November 23, 30

December 7, 14

The 76th Annual Christmas Pageant will be held on **Dec. 14th at 7 p.m.**



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

Nov. 19 CAFÉ

Menu: French Market Vegetable Soup
Tomato Bisque
Cheesy Bread
Broccoli Salad
Cheesecake Bars

* **"Faith & Politics"** with Amy Kay

* **Bible Study** with John Yonker

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

Place your reservation by marking the pew registration pad "activity box" on Sunday morning or call the church office (449-7265) for dinner reservations by **noon on Tuesday.**

(youth)

@ first christian

Sun., Nov. 23 @ church

JYF (3rd-5th grade)

4:30-6:00 p.m.

CHI-RHO (6th-8th grade)

6:30-8:00 p.m.

CYF - Wednesday Nights 6:30-8 p.m.

CHI-RHO (6th-8th grade) and

CYF (9th-12th grade)

Fri. Nov. 14 – Sat. 15. Hosting the
Northeast Area Youth Rally

Attention! Bakers (and Buyers) of Pies, Cookies, Cakes!

The Salvation Army will be hosting its annual Thanksgiving Day Dinner at Lee's Chicken on Thursday, November 27, 2008. Local church members are being asked once again to contribute desserts for this event. As in the past, fruit (no cream) pies, cookies or cakes are needed.

You may bring these baked items to The Salvation Army office, 1108 West Ash on Wednesday, November 26 until 5:00 pm or take them directly to Lee's Chicken, 2316 Paris Rd., early on Thanksgiving morning. If you have any questions, call The Salvation Army office at 442-3229. Thanks so very much for your help.

Thanksgiving on the River!

The kids on The River of Life will complete this Sunday their five week experience of The Beatitudes. Thanks to **Amy LaHue, Holly Gieseke, Jessica Humble, Joyce Stanley** and **Judy Creasy** for leading.

The River kids will be learning around the themes of Thanksgiving on Nov. 23 & 30.

Advent/Christmas on the River will begin in December.

Teachers & Leaders will be needed!

What was that?

Teachers & Leaders will be needed!

Call Jimmy Spear for details!

Serving at Loaves and Fishes

Monday afternoon, Oct. 27th, five intrepid volunteers cooked and served homemade chicken pot pie, biscuits, fruit salad and cookies to over 70 people at Loaves & Fishes soup kitchen at 616 Park Avenue. First Christian Church serves at Loaves & Fishes the fourth Monday of every month. The volunteer sign up sheet is on the Youth Bulletin Board in Fellowship Hall.



Pictured here are: Ben Nelms, Beth Nelms, Joyce Stanley, Dave Polach and Katie Stanley.

The Visitor

First Christian Church

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

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Columbia, MO
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Return 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 Intern: Andy Vickers

Music Staff:

Mary Bancroft, Coord. of Music & Organist
maryebancroft@yahoo.com

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-Nov. 16, 2008

Van Driver: Frank Boster *Telephone:* Becky Bramon

8:30 Early Worship, Sanctuary

Worship Asst: Cherry Hinderberger, Jeri Sheppard, Carol Hughey

Elder for 8:30 Service: Tommy Gay Evans

Communion Preparation:

Mark and Kelli Embry, Tom Yonker

9:30 Church School

Church School Greeter: The Mark Hunsaker Family

10:30 Worship in Sanctuary

Sermon: Dr. John J. Yonker *Liturgist:* Erin Boster

10:30 Elders: Julie and John Hickey, Tommy Tomlin

Deacons: The Nichols Team

Greeters:

Charlie Koelling, *North Door*

Maury and Margie Ellis, *South Door*

Ushers: The Nichols Team

Banner Bearers: Sam Poole and Makali Hawkins

Candlelighters: Anna Poole and Emily Unterschut

Flower Ministry:

Arranged by: Judy Creasy, Jake, Teddy & Andrew Nichols

Delivered: Larry and Millie Caringer

Evangelism Calls: Helen and Perry Stemmons

This Week (16th - 22nd)

Mon.- Drennan Singers Rehearsal, 6:00 pm, Sanctuary

Tue.- CWF Board Mtg, 9:00 am, Keystone Room

- Bible Study, 10:30 am, Morris Parlor

- Master Planning Mtg., 6:00-8:00 pm, Keystone Rm.

Wed.- Hannah Jones Group, 9:30 am,

Lenoir 2nd floor apartments

- Men's Lunch, 11:30 am, Senior Center

- Brummett-Harrah Group, 1:00 pm, Houston's home

- CAFÉ, 5:30 pm Dinner, 6:20 Devotion,

6:30 Bible Study (Keystone Room) &

"Faith & Politics" (Morris Parlor)

- CYF (grades 9-12), 6:30-8:00 pm

- Back Room (college group), 8:45-10:00 pm

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

- Mid-Month Movie, 7:00 pm, 3rd Floor Cinema

(showing Lars and the Real Girl)

Sat.- Foods Resource Bank Harvest Celebration,

6:00 pm, Prairie Chapel United Methodist

