



Sunday Services

This Sunday's worship service will be centered on a portion of our lectionary texts (Ezekiel 33:7-11, Romans 13:8-14 and Matthew 18:15-20).

Harlan Hackett will sing "Take My Hand, Precious Lord" at the 8:30 worship service and during communion at the 10:30 worship service. Also, at the 10:30 service Matthew Hoepfner, pianist, will play "Minuet in F" by Leopold Mozart and "Autumn Is Here" by William Gillock during the offertory.

CL Class

At 9:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings, the CL Class meets for Bible Sunday in Morris Parlor on second floor. This coming quarter September thru November, we will be discussing "The New Testament Community". We invite YOU to join us for discussion, fellowship and laughter. This invitation is extended by the current members of the class: Gerry Coon, Bob Haynes (teacher), Charlie and Bettie Koelling, Doris Neidhardt, Tommie Ross, Lorene and Nelson Trickey.

Want to Help Fight Hunger?



Volunteers are needed in September and October to pick apples at Huffstutter's Orchard in New Franklin.

If you would like to help the Central Missouri Food Bank on Saturdays and Sundays in September and October this would be a great opportunity to fight hunger.

Additional information available. Call John Wampler at 573-474-1020 or email address johnw@centralmofoodbank.org.

See notice on our bulletin board across from office door.

Welcome New Members!



Mark Merkel united with our congregation by confession of faith and baptism at the 8:30 service last Sunday, August 31. A single person, he works at Gates Rubber Company and enjoys gardening and fishing in his spare time. He is the son of our own **Carol St. John**, and resides at 2309 Parks Edge Place, (65202), phone 573-814-0745.



It is also a pleasure to welcome **Derek and Elizabeth Updegraff** who united with our church at the 10:30 service on August 31. They moved to Columbia last year when he began graduate work in English at the university. Elizabeth is a professional ballet teacher. They are expecting their first child in February. They transferred their memberships from their home churches in California; Derek from the La Jolla Presbyterian Church, and Elizabeth from First Presbyterian Church in El Cajon. The live at 11 Manor Drive (65203) phone 573-234-8863.

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

Sept. 10 CAFÉ

Menu: Chili cook off! Winner will be featured in this year's Election Day Luncheon

* **Program:** BBQ Judging with Kansas City BBQ Society member Mike McMillen. Mike has organized contests around mid-Missouri for nine years and has gone as far as Wisconsin and Florida to taste test.

* **Bible Study** with John Yonker

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

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

Weekly Report

Aug. 31, 2008

Received \$6,823.00

Received to Date \$74,029.15

Attendance - 249

(includes early worship - 54)

Life Mapping via Psalm 139

Our children on the most recent Sunday morning experience of *The River of Life* explored Psalm 139. (The focus could be on verses 7-10, but note the words of the entire Psalm.) The children toured around to different places in the church and searched for God. They went to the 3rd floor, the Higbee Center, the chapel, the corner of 9th and Walnut, the sanctuary. Each of these was a different type of place. The highest place. The lowest place. The quietest place. The loudest place. The biggest place. Symbolic of the places in our lives, these places are ones we each could probably stand to flush out a bit for ourselves. For us, the list could be extended I am sure. The kids were then asked, "Of those places, where did you feel God's presence most? Of those places, where did you feel God's presence least? Could God have been in each place?"

I wonder if this would be a worthwhile spiritual exercise for us today. Read the Psalm, tour around your life... Take a piece of paper and map out your day, your routine, and your places of living. Add some color and dimension, be artistic for a moment or two. Then tour around on that map for a moment and ponder the places where God's presence was more profound or less evident. Ask yourself why. Are there answers? Would you like changes? Is it good already?

The Psalmist asks "Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence?" and finds the answer to be, after listing all the places of this life, — that God is there.

There, even there... God is.
May your map lead you to the same realization as the Psalmist and our Sunday morning kids.

Grace & Peace,
Jimmy Spear

Church Eat-Out

Friday - Sept. 5
5:30 p.m.
Bob Evans Restaurant
Everyone Welcome!



Thank you for the flowers and shawl that Lorene and Nelson delivered to me after my knee surgery. I'm getting along pretty good so far. I'll be home bound for about 6 more weeks.

~Freda Martz

Our thanks to Judy Cunningham for her visit and bringing the lovely flowers to the hospital last Sunday. Thanks to John for his visit and to all who called and offered prayers for Bill's recovery. Bless each of you.

~Bill and Mary A. Niedergerke

The staff and children of Nora Stewart Memorial Nursery School truly appreciate First Christian Church for letting us use your child care facility during our Phase I renovation. Our air-condition unit is installed and the children are very comfortable now. We look forward to working with you in the future. Thank you very much for making the transition smooth and helping us feel at home.

~Cheryl Howard, Executive Director

NOTE: Fall Lyceum Tickets for On Golden Pond and Mousetrap were all sold out when we tried to order. We'll have to try next season and get an earlier start on signups.

Thanks, Keystone Class!

Many thanks to the Keystone church school class for sponsoring the August meal for the Loaves and Fishes. The members of the class prepared and served a meal of sloppy joes, potato tots, green beans, peaches, with cookies or brownies for dessert. **Becky Bramon** did the grocery shopping. The food preparers were **Becky Bramon, Cherry Hinderberger, Carol Hughey, Pam Hunsaker, Colleen Nilges, and Jeri Sheppard. Becky and Kerry Bramon, Judy Hall, Pam Hunsaker, Fred Mottaz, and Colleen Nilges** served the meal.

News of the congregation

Darrell Seltsam has moved into Candlelight Lodge and is now at home in Room 125. **Martha Niday** spent a few days in Boone Hospital last week to recuperate from a fall at home, and has now moved to the Rusk Rehabilitation Center for therapy. **Jerry Vaught** also fell last week and was admitted to Boone Hospital on Monday, September 1 where she remains for testing. **Bill Niedergerke** has returned home after spending a few days in Boone Hospital last week. Our prayers continue to be with **Darren Hellwege's mother, Jane Hellwege**, who has been in Mercy Hospital in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

We extend our sympathy to **Julie Holliday** on the death of her 91 year old grandmother, **Julie Forcey**, who died on August 27 at Katy, Texas. Funeral services will be conducted at our church on Saturday morning, September 6 by her minister from Texas. Also our sympathy is extended to **Sarah Yonker** on the death of her aunt, **Gere Dean Honneycutt** who died on Sunday morning, August 31 in Richardson, Texas. John and Sarah are going to Texas for the service to be conducted on Sunday afternoon, September 7.

Thanks to **Kelli Embry** for her lovely solo presented at the early service last Sunday morning. She was accompanied by **Norma Miller**. Also we appreciated the wonderful anthem presented by the **Chancel Choir** at the late service last Sunday.

We wish **Randy and Joyce Sawyer** well as they leave our congregation and accept the call to Clark Christian Church (DOC). It was good to be with the Sawyers for awhile and we hope that they come back sometime down the road!

Happy Birthday

Larry Burnam-Sept. 7

Lana Poole-Sept. 7

Richard Martin-Sept. 7

Joseph McCormack-Sept. 8

Luanne Langley-Sept. 8

Jeff LaHue-Sept. 8

Becky Bramon-Sept. 8

Bonnie Fay-Sept. 9

Walker Embry-Sept. 10

Devin Klotz-Sept. 10

Kayla Pikop-Sept. 10

James Mark Rogers-Sept. 11

Tommy Gay Evans-Sept. 11

Debbie Batterson-Sept. 12

Aiden Fullington-Sept. 12

Katie Hallam-Sept. 12

Colleen Nilges-Sept. 13

Bryan Grieme-Verslues-Sept. 13

(youth)

@ first christian

The fall schedule finds our youth groups doing different things together...

CYF (9th-12th grade)

Wednesday Nights 6:30 -8:30
Come to CAFÉ for dinner at 5:30.
\$5 covers it!

Chi-Rho (6th-8th grade)

Sunday September 7th & 21st
6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

JYF (3rd-5th grade)

Sunday September 14th & 28th
4:30-6:00 p.m.

New **Kindergartners** are welcome to join The River of Life on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. on the 3rd floor. New **6th graders** are on the move on Sunday morning from the River to the middle school class. Sarah Read is the teacher.

Parent Meeting

For parents of all three youth groups.
Brief.
Fellowship Hall
After 10:30 Worship on Sun., Sept. 7th

Ladies Book Club

Next Wednesday FCC's Ladies Book Club meets for their discussion of Columbia's ONE READ, *The Whistling Season* by Ivan Doig. Here is a brief description of the book: "Narrator Paul Milliron looks back from the 1950s to his childhood education in a one-room schoolhouse on the Montana prairie. Paul's widowed father hires a housekeeper from Minneapolis who claims she "can't cook but doesn't bite" to care for him and his three boys. They get more than they bargained for..." Why not grab a sack lunch and join us in Morris Parlor at 12:00? If you have questions, contact Linda Hutton at 442-5423.

All Church Women's Fall Dinner – September 15!

ALL women of FCC (and women friends) are invited to gather in Fellowship Hall on Monday evening, September 15 at 6:00 for a FREE autumn inspired menu: Cornbread Muffins with apple butter, Apple Smoked Chicken on a bed of red onion marmalade, Harvest Salad, Calico Potatoes and Swedish Spice Cake.

Connie McClellan, mother of marine LCpl. John McClellan will speak about John's amazing recovery following his catastrophic injury in Iraq.

We are looking for kitchen help, hostesses, and clean up helpers. Call Laura (441-2386) if you are able to help.

Sign up sheets for dinner are in the church office or call 449-7265.

Civil Dialogue in an Election Year – A Listening Circle Conference

During an election year civility often goes down the drain when we talk to people who have opinions different from our own. Sometimes these "others" are our family members, friends, neighbors, colleagues or members of our faith groups. Civility often flies out the window when an otherwise friendly discussion turns to politics. Listening Circles can help us learn to listen to one another, appreciate and understand people with different points of view, help us express our own points of view clearly and concisely and come away without rancor.

The Faith and Education Collaborative is sponsoring a conference entitled "Civil Dialogue in an Election Year". The keynote speaker, Sarah Read, will be followed by small group listening circles which will include people from different faiths, backgrounds and political beliefs. This is your opportunity to learn skills to help promote civil political discussions.

The Conference is Sunday, September 21, from 2:30 until 5:00 p.m. at Missouri United Methodist Church, Whittler Hall (in the main building). The cost is \$5.00 per person. Advanced registration by September 12th is required for this event. Ask in the church office for registration forms.

COME JOIN THE STARS (men and women 55+) FOOD, FELLOWSHIP, & FILM - SEPT 17



We will gather **Wednesday, September 17, 2008** at **11:30** in Morris Parlor. After the meal we will enjoy the movie Patch Adams starring Robin Williams. This is a story of a medical student. It is a 4-star rated movie, highly recommended by our own John Yonker.

Laura Estes is preparing the meal consisting of Chicken Soup, bread and a special dessert that has some "jello"—just what the doctor orders!! Cost of meal is \$6 per person.

Bring a friend to enjoy the outing. If you'd like to attend and need a ride call Carol Slusher at 874-4902 or 819-3984 and we'll be happy to pick you up for the occasion. Sign up in the office by September 15, 2008.

College Notes...

Our Wednesday night group is back from 8:45-10:00pm each and every week! If you know of a student or are a student – come and check us out. We have weekly emails and a facebook group where we communicate more than here in the Visitor. If you aren't on our list, please let me know and I will be glad to add you!

Building Update

As you may know from past weeks' Visitor articles, the business that rented our building to the north of the church wanted more space and moved out. They negotiated a settlement and were actually out of the building on July 15. The church leaders (Board Officers and Trustees with valuable input from the Property Department) have been meeting to explore the options for the building. At this point, we are working with our own, very talented Dave Weber and are going to visit with the city's inspector to know if anything would be asked of us if we were to keep the building and use it ourselves. This meeting will probably be next week. We may not have more to share in next week's edition of the Visitor, but you will know all that there is to know as we have something to share with you! w/high hopes for our ministries – amy kay

The Visitor

First Christian Church

101 N. 10th Street
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573-449-7265

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Columbia, MO
Permit No. 75

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Rev. Jimmy Spear, Associate Minister
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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-Sept. 7, 2008

Van Driver: Carol Slusher *Telephone:* Cindy Rose

8:30 Early Worship, Sanctuary

Worship Asst: Sue Fink, Donna and Will Houston

Elder for 8:30 Service: Frances Brown

Communion Preparation:

Eric Arnett, David and Libby Weber

9:30 Church School

Church School Greeter: Gerry Coon

10:30 Worship in Sanctuary

Sermon: Rev. Amy Kay Pavlovich *Liturgist:* Angie Allen-Hylen

10:30 Elders: Don and Brenda Mosby, Joy Duren

Deacons: The Campbell Team

Greeters:

TBA, North Door

TBA, South Door

Ushers: The Pavlovich Team

Banner Bearers: TBA

Candlelighters: TBA

Flower Ministry:

Arranged by: Becky Bramon

Delivered: Ed Bright and Fred Mottaz

Evangelism Calls: Anne Campbell

This Week (Sept. 7-13)

- Sun. - Parent Meeting for all three youth groups, after 10:30
worship, Fellowship Hall
- Chi-Rho (grades 6-8), 6:30-8:00 p.m.
- Church Softball Game, 8:00 p.m., Red Field at
Rainbow Softball Center
- Tue. - Bible Study, 10:30 a.m., Morris Parlor
- Wed. - Men's Lunch, 11:30 a.m., Senior Center
- Ladies Book Club, 12:00-1:00 p.m., Morris Parlor
- CAFÉ, 5:30 p.m. Dinner: Chili Cook Off



6:20 Devotion

6:30 Program: BBQ Judging with Kansas City
BBQ Society member Mike McMillen

- CYF (grades 9-12), 6:30 p.m.

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