



THE

September 26, 2008

Vol. 67, No. 13

VISITOR

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Sunday Services

The Apostle Paul's letter to the Philippians contains his instructions to a congregation he founded and which had begun to experience some conflict between some of its members. His words in the 2nd chapter calling his friends to put aside their differences and put on the mind of Christ, will be the text for Dr. Yonker's sermon on Sunday, September 28; Philippians 2:1-13.

The Chancel Bells will provide special music this Sunday with the prelude "Celebrate and Ring" by Dobrinski. There will be piano/organ duets by Jean Hall and Mary Bancroft and the Chancel Choir will sing "Let There Be Peace on Earth" at the 10:30 service.



Blood Drive
October 5th
8:00 – noon
Fellowship Hall



Interfaith Hunger Awareness & Resources for local food ministries and world-wide aid
October 5th at 2:00pm
Beginning here at our church!
See Paula Hoenes or Amy Kay if you would like to help host, walk or donate



Sunday Night Ice-Cream Social

This Sunday, September 28th, from 6:00-7:30pm we will be delighted to host Rev. Johnny Wray who has been the director of Week of Compassion for the last sixteen years. Johnny is transitioning out of the Week of Compassion ministry, so this will be the last time we get to be with him. You won't want to miss his style and charisma this weekend. The Fellowship Hall will be abuzz with good stories, good friends and good food. Ice-cream, cake and a variety of desserts will abound for your enjoyment. Don't worry about bringing a thing – just come! Pre-school child care will be provided in our nursery.

Week of Compassion is the branch of the Disciple church that provides emergency and long-term assistance to people after natural and human catastrophes. It helps with refugees and empowers people to stand against and rise above oppressive circumstances. It is the organizing effort for our work groups here and afar... Week of Compassion is basically our church's quick response to injustice around the world throughout the year. It is a very good ministry... If you have any questions about this weekend's event, please get in touch with Amy Kay or Sally Robinson.

Weekly Report

Sept. 21, 2008

Received \$5,302.62

Received to Date \$93,287.82

Attendance - 267

(includes early worship - 70)

Faith and Politics: Liberty and Justice for All

We are pleased to be able to offer a CAFÉ Wednesday evening series about faith and politics throughout the coming weeks until the first week of November. Orientation to the class began this week, but if you would like to still join in, please let Amy Kay know. We have ten participants and there are two more openings that could be filled. Thanks!

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

Oct. 1 CAFÉ

Menu: BBQ Brisket
Alabama Baked Beans
Asian Slaw
Apple Cobbler

* **Program:** "Faith & Politics" with Amy Kay Pavlovich

* **Bible Study** with John Yonker

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

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

Middle-agers are bonus!

I recently reflected upon the demographics of our congregation. In this and recent *Visitors* I have noted that we have a significant number of active church members whose birthdays are numbering in the high 80s, 90s and even a few around 100. On a most recent Sunday morning I have noted a number of church members who are pregnant or who have recently birthed. What a demographic!

90 plus. Brand new to this world. In light of these folk, it seems that the middle-agers are bonus! Where else in this life does one get the chance to actively interact with those of such an opposite or even different age bracket? It is so crucial for very young people to see and know old people. It is so crucial for old people to see and know the very youngest of people.

And so from this mix we get a reminder, even if only on a Sunday morning, of the very breadth of God's people that call faith home. The history of yesterday and the future of tomorrow — where else might we have such an intersection? Around our own FCC we get perhaps a better glimpse than we do anywhere else. Of course the challenge of such a dynamic is keeping each generation actively interacting with the other, caring for the other, honoring the gifts and opinions of the other. In the life of the church it is perhaps easier than anywhere else — for as we gather and have our faith expand, develop, and be nurtured in the love and light of God, we can't but help have a renewed appreciation for the folk on the other end of life on the other end of the pew.

May our time together in worship, study, care-giving and receiving and even our play reflect this goodness of God and how much space we keep between us in the pew.

~ Jimmy Spear



A last glimpse of summer... Chi-Rho mission trippers on a sandbar in the middle of the great Mississippi!



Don't miss out on a wonderful opportunity to visit and tour one of Columbia's hidden treasures! On Oct.

8, the Ladies Book Club will meet at UMC's Museum of Art and Archaeology for a tour and book discussion. The tour begins at 11 a.m. with the discussion of *Three Cups of Tea* by Greg Mortenson to follow. You are welcome to bring a lunch & beverage. If you'd like to ride in the Church van, contact Linda Hutton @ 442-5423 or lhutton50@hotmail.com to reserve a spot.

Property Committee

Anyone who is planning to be at the property committee workday this Saturday at 8:00 a.m., please call Mark Hunsaker at 443-6117 (unless you've already done so). Thanks!



BOOK ORNER

In *The Year of Magical Thinking*, a book recently donated to the library, well-known author Joan Didion shares the intimate and detailed account of the sudden death in December 2003 of her husband, John Gregory Dunne, from a massive coronary event. At the same time their only child, daughter Quintana, was lying unconscious in a hospital nearby from pneumonia and septic shock. The book is her attempt to pull together thoughts, feelings and reactions about 9 months after the event.

A quote from *The Seattle Times* says the book is "told in some of the plainest yet most eloquent prose you'll ever encounter. Everyone who has ever lost anyone, or will lose anyone, would do well to read it". ~On the Book Cart

Your Special Birthday!

Rena Moore (12505 Village Circle Drive, #463, St. Louis, MO 63127) - 92 on Sept. 30th
Elsie Hughes - 100 on Oct. 2



News of the congregation

After spending a few days at University Hospital last week, **Ferd Roy Lightner** has been released and moved to the Health Care Center at Lenoir Woods. **D.K. Seltsam** has moved to the Columbia Manor Nursing Home after undergoing treatment at Boone Hospital last week. **Shirley Olcott** was admitted to Boone Hospital last weekend and hopes to return to the Bluffs in a few days. Our prayers are with **Brenda Mosby's mother, Helen Turner**, of Paris, Missouri who is ill at this time.

Congratulations to **Monique Sisson** who was united in marriage to **Paul Jacob** in a ceremony conducted by **John Yonker** last Saturday, September 21, at the Bunker Hill retreat center owned by the Missouri State Teachers Association located in rural Texas County, in southern Missouri. Members of her family present included her parents, **Tom and Marsha Sisson**, her grandfather, **Robert Sisson**, and brother, **Troy Sisson**, who provided musical accompaniment for the ceremony.

Celebration = **Betsy Bramon** has arrived in Phnom Pehn and has been taken into the care of Hagar International. She will be working to end human trafficking through a six month Fellowship with this internationally recognized, comprehensive program. If you would like to be on Betsy's emailing list, please contact Amy Kay.

The **CYF Youth Group** would like to thank the *great number of church members* who came out to the trip presentation last Wednesday night. Thanks for your continued support!



Birthdays This Week!

Ralph Dobbs-Sept. 29
Moray Kiehl-Sept. 29
Emmy Croll-Sept. 30
Azure Stevens-Sept. 30
Jake Nichols-Oct. 1
Caleb Spangler-Oct. 1
George Harris-Oct. 1
Aaron Brown-Oct. 1
Elsie Hughes-Oct. 2
Mary Richardson-Oct. 4
Laurel Creasy-Oct. 4
Jack Bower-Oct. 4

World Outreach Ministries 2008 - 2009

In the next few weeks we will be highlighting the Disciples of Christ Ministries that First Christian Church supports in our budget. More information is located in the Blue books of Outreach Ministries found in the church office and in the narthex.

The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is structured in a covenant relationship between local congregations, regions, and the general church. In the Mid-America Region, which is Missouri, the region is divided into four areas. FCC resides in the Northeast Area.

The **Unified Capital** portion is our commitment to meeting the capital needs of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) of Mid-America. The region encompasses all the Disciples of Christ congregations in Missouri, except those in Cass, Jackson and Clay counties near Kansas City, and includes congregations in Madison and St. Clair counties in Illinois, near St. Louis. The Mid-America Mission Center (regional office) is located in south Jefferson City off of Highway 54.

These monies support:

- The Rickman Center, our regional camp and conference center in Jefferson City
- Missouri School of Religion, Center for Rural Ministry
- Regional capital needs and new congregational establishment



Fran Schnarre (left) and Krystal Jacobs (right) are the staff of Missouri School of Religion

The **Northeast Area Ministries** is made of 92 congregations in the northeast quarter of the state of Missouri. The Area is divided into 5 Clusters so that ministers and congregations are able to visit and support one another without traveling great distances. The office is located on Nifong Boulevard in southeast Columbia. The Northeast Area is here to reach and serve the congregations so that the congregations will be able to reach and serve their communities. Our Area minister is the Rev. Dr. Kris Tenney-Brittan; Minister of Camp and Youth Ministries is Martha Jolly; Administrative Assistant is Leslie Robb.

The Northeast Area provides support for congregational programs and ministries through the Congregational Support Department by offering Road Shows in the Spring which are three workshops to educate lay people in areas of ministry such as Stewardship, Evangelism, and Disciples history. In the Fall Congregational Coaching events are held in each Cluster. Each November the Northeast Area Assembly is held with additional workshops for lay people, clergy and youth.

The Camp and Youth Ministries provides summer church camps at the Rickman Center along with float trips and backpacking trips

in southern Missouri. Youth retreats are held in the fall and winter. Also there are educational events held to train youth group leaders throughout the year.



Disciples Women's Ministries/CWF meet as an area twice a year in the fall and spring.

The Department of Ministry approves ministerial licenses for non-ordained ministers and keeps in touch with individuals in seminaries.



Pro-Reconciliation/Anti-Racism Department studies the systemic causes of racism in our country and provides programs to congregations to educate their members on how we as church can be a pro-reconciling church. The Rev. Dr. John Yonker and Rev. Sally Robinson serve on this department.

Older Adult Ministries is a ministry in the Northeast Area led by Rev. Sally Robinson. Currently this ministry provides emotional and spiritual support to Disciples of Christ residents and their families living at



Lenoir Woods, Columbia Manor Care Center, The Terrace, Bluff Creek Terrace and the Arbors in Columbia, MO. Rev. Robinson provides Bible Study, communion services, vespers and singing of hymns in these facilities once a week or once a month. She also visits one on one with many of the individuals. As this ministry expands lay people from local congregations with a passion for older adults will be trained to help with these services so that eventually every long-term care facility in Columbia will have more than one worship service a month.

This ministry also provides support to congregations making up the Northeast Area in developing and maintaining ministries within their communities with older adults. These programs are for people to better understand Alzheimer's Disease and other forms of dementia, the aging process, giving support to caregivers, helping people understand the different levels of care and living in retirement communities, finding local resources such as home health agencies, hospice, respite care, and so on.

This ministry also provides pastoral care and visits to Disciples of Christ members living outside of Columbia who are in Columbia hospitals and nursing homes at the request of their pastor.

Rev. Robinson leads workshops at the Northeast Area Assembly and the Elders' Institute each year as well as for congregations' elders and deacons, Sunday School classes, men's and women's groups. She also does pulpit supply for pastors on vacation.

For 2008 – 2009 we support the above ministries as follows:

Unified Capital	\$3,500
Northeast Area	\$7,800
Older Adult Ministries	\$5,000

Vacant Building Update

After many Visitor articles and meeting announcements, you probably know that the building on the north side of the church is vacant. The Strand hair salon moved out mid-summer and we have been exploring various options for the building. The executive committee of our church has been busy communicating through emails and meetings and will meet again this week. However, in the meantime, we are pleased to report to you that our meeting with the city officials went well last week. The building does not need any major renovations for us to be able to use it and have it open to the public. We can be thankful for Dave Weber's expertise throughout all of this information gathering. More news will come as soon as we have more to report! ~amy kay

College Ministries

The "Back Room" college group has been meeting from 8:45 – 10:00pm on Wednesdays this academic year since the end of August. We are thrilled to be meeting new students this year and reconnecting with students we have known from their youthful days or earlier college years.

The best way for us to get to know students is through your warm hospitality to them on Sunday mornings. As you do for folks of any age, when you see a new student in worship, please extend greetings. Connect me with the student if you are able to do so. Feeling included is so important for us all. Thanks for being "church" with students who want to be active in the life of the church and with students who want to come once every great while. This is a good place for us all.

Trip To St. Louis - November 25, 2008

A trip to St. Louis November 25, 2008 is planned to hear the Boys Choir of Vienna perform at the St. Louis Roman Catholic Cathedral at 2:30 p.m. Although this trip is being organized by the STARS, it is open to anyone who would like to attend. Colleges will be out probably that week for the Thanksgiving Holiday so perhaps more would be available to join the group. The main thing to be noted is that we must get the tickets ordered soon so we have to set the deadline for participation of Sunday, Sept. 28th (absolute deadline).

We will be leaving Columbia around 10 a.m. that morning, have lunch together on the way and should get back to Columbia around 7 p.m. The cost for the concert is \$30, then we will have some expense for transportation and of course, each will be on his own for the lunch. (If you need a ride to and from the church parking lot that can be arranged).

If you would like to attend, please contact the office at 449-7265 or Carol Slusher at 874-4902. This is a wonderful opportunity for a very special concert in a beautiful setting. Invite a friend and come join in the fellowship.

Loaves & Fishes Meal - Sept. 22, 2008

The Tuesday Morning Bible Study group organized the meal of ham, cheesy broccoli rice, carrots & corn, cantaloupe and green grapes, milk & iced tea, plus delicious homemade cookies. Sixty full plates were served plus about 18 additional big ham sandwiches to those in need of a meal Monday evening. Special thanks to the following who participated in the opportunity to serve those in need: Joy Duren, Will and Donna Houston, Chad and Leslie Jordan, Nina Oliver, David Pollach, Chuck Scott, John and Sarah Yonker, and Carol Slusher.

If any group would like to offer for the month of October it is available. That date would be the 27th. Contact Amy Kay, 449-7265, or Carol Slusher, 874-4902. The sign up sheet is down by the kitchen. It's a worthwhile opportunity to help those in need in our community.



(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, October 5th
6:30–8:00 p.m.

JYF (3rd-5th grade)

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

The River of Life

The Story of Jesus feeding 5,000



Cooking fish and biscuits in the church kitchen.

Making a dramatic setting come alive with sock puppets.

Creating a picnic and understanding the miracle.

Teach young kids, grow young disciples.

The River of Life.

A new rotation begins Oct. 19.

Church Administrative Board

The Church Administrative Board consists of the following:

Moderator	Chair of the Elders
Vice-Moderator	Co-Chairs of Deacons
Secretary	18 Elders
Treasurer	42 Deacons
Chair of the Trustees	4 Junior Deacons
The Functional Department Chairs	Immediate past Moderator (ex-officio for one year)

Elders and Deacons have not been described previously in these articles. Selection to the service board of Deacons or Elders is based on qualifications and commitment to the Church and its mission. Since this is a selection for service, as contrasted to administration, there is no set term of office, and this selection is expected to extend throughout one's period of continued service and commitment to the Church.

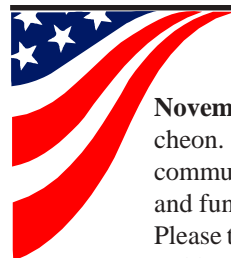
One of the primary responsibilities of Elders at First Christian Church is to preside at the Lord's Table. At First Christian, it is customary for two Elders to serve at the table on the chancel and one to serve at the table in the balcony. Co-Chairs for the Elders for 2008-2009 are Barbara Rothenberger and Mary Bancroft. Deacons serve at the Lord's Table and oversee the preparation of the Table. Co-Chairs for the Deacons for 2008-2009 are Gene and Micki Kirkham.

Qualifications for service as an Elder or Deacon include: faithfulness in worship and study, leadership and service, good stewardship in proportion to income, Christian character and moral and spiritual example, and a willingness to fulfill the duties of the office. An Elder must be at least thirty years of age and have been a member of the congregation for at least two years. A Deacon must be at least eighteen years of age and have been a member of the congregation for at least one year. (This does not apply to Junior Deacons.)

With the exception of Junior Deacons, all persons elected to the Administrative Board will have served or been elected Deacon of this Church for at least one year prior to their tenure on the Administrative Board. The duties of the Administrative Board are as follows:

1. Consider and establish Church policy;
2. Approve Church programs to be carried out through Functional Departments;
3. Approve Chairs for the Functional Departments;
4. Review reports and recommendations from the Functional Departments and Church Cabinet, and approve, disapprove or modify same;
5. Review proposed budget, modify if necessary and recommend to the congregation.

We hope you have found this series of articles informative. All departments and boards count on volunteers. We need you! If you are interested in serving as a volunteer and sharing your time and talents with your church, see any one of our pastors, the Moderator, Vice-Moderator or one of the Committee Chairs.



Election Day Luncheon

November 4th is the Women's Ministries eleventh annual Election Day Luncheon. It was started with the intent of making FCC more visible in the community, the opportunity of growing closer as friends by working together, and funding projects that benefit the outreach goals of Women's Ministries. Please take this opportunity to call Brenda Mosby at 442-7507 or Laura Estes at 441-2386 and volunteer your help with the luncheon. Both women and men are welcome and needed. We promise it will be an experience of which you will be glad you were a part! See us in the Narthex after Church. We will find a place for you!

The Visitor

First Christian Church

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

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U.S. POSTAGE
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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 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-Sept. 28, 2008

Van Driver: Carol Slusher *Telephone:* Carole Randerson

8:30 Early Worship, Sanctuary

Worship Asst: Carol Hughey, Cherry Hinderberger, Jeri Sheppard

Elder for 8:30 Service: Charlie Koelling

Communion Preparation:

Dan, Holly and Drew Gieseke

9:30 Church School

Church School Greeter: Doris Neidhardt

10:30 Worship in Sanctuary

Sermon: Dr. John Yonker *Liturgist:* College/Youth

10:30 Elders: Tom and Marsha Sisson, Millie Bolman

Deacons: The Stanley Team

Greeters:

TBA, North Door

TBA, South Door

Ushers: The Scott Team

Banner Bearers: TBA

Candlelighters: TBA

Flower Ministry:

Arranged by: Marion and Sarah Storm

Delivered: Brenda and Don Mosby

Evangelism Calls: Sara Klockow

This Week (Sept. 28 - Oct. 4)

- Sun. - JYF (grades 3-5), 4:30-6:00 p.m.
- Ice Cream Social, 6:00-7:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall
- Tue. - Bible Study, 10:30 a.m., Morris Parlor
- Wed. - Men's Lunch, 11:30 a.m., Senior Center
- CAFÉ, 5:30 p.m. Dinner
6:20 Devotion
6:30 Program
- CYF (grades 9-12), 6:30-8:00 p.m.
- Back Room (college group), 8:45-10:00 p.m.
- Thr. - World Outreach Dept., 5:00 p.m., Keystone Room
- Fri. - Church Eat-Out, 5:30 p.m., Bob Evans Restaurant
(Everyone Welcome)

