



## Sunday's Service

*And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. . . Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved, listen to him!"*

With this description, the gospel of Mark (Mark 9:2-10) tells the story of the transfiguration of Jesus on a mountain top somewhere in ancient Israel, and records the reaction of the disciples who witnessed the event. It raises the question of our experience of the holy in the events of our lives, and will provide the basis for Dr. Yonker's sermon, "Holding Onto the Holy".

Special music this Sunday will include the Chancel Choir singing "Great Is the Lord" by Michael W. Smith.

### Weekly Report

Feb. 15, 2009

Received this week \$5,818

Received to Date \$261,524

Needed to Date \$282,498

Attendance - 304

(includes early worship - 62)

## Lenten Journey

February 25 marks the beginning of Lent. Dating back to the early 4<sup>th</sup> century, Lent begins with Ash Wednesday and continues for the forty weekdays and six Sundays preceding Easter, April 12. Based upon Jesus' forty days of fasting and prayer in the wilderness at the beginning of his ministry, the early church used the Lenten season as a special time of reflection on the sacrificial life and death of Christ, the preparation of candidates for baptism, and the renewal of faith for baptized Christians. A schedule of our church's Lenten worship services and opportunities for spiritual renewal and development will be published in the next issue of the Visitor.



## LENT BEGINS

**6:45**, continental breakfast at **7:00**, followed by a brief time of worship and devotion before concluding by 8 a.m. (See page 3 for a full schedule of the Lenten Breakfasts).

### Ash Wednesday Service

In keeping with an ancient tradition, the season of Lent will begin with an Ash Wednesday service on **February 25**. Beginning at **6:30 p.m.**, the service will be held in the sanctuary and will include appropriate hymns, readings of scripture, a Chancel Choir anthem, and the imposition of ashes to mark the season of penitence, prayer and renewed devotion to Christ. All members and friends of the congregation are invited to attend.

## Road Trip to John Dominic Crossan

What could be better than going to an excellent, free lecture with church friends? Join us on **Thursday, March 5<sup>th</sup>** to drive to Culver-Stockton College in Canton, MO for the annual Robison Lecture. This year's speaker is the famous John Dominic Crossan and he will be focusing on "God and Empire".

Crossan is an Irish-American religious scholar known for co-founding the Jesus Seminar. You may be familiar with the Jesus Seminar from Marcus Borg who visited our church for a lecture series in 2001 or Stephen J. Patterson who lectured at Columbia College two years ago. Crossan is a major figure in the fields of biblical archaeology, anthropology, and New Testament.

We will leave from the church by 4:00pm for the 7:00pm lecture in Canton. We will take the church van if it is needed. **Please RSVP to the church office by Wednesday, March 4<sup>th</sup>.**

## Board Minutes

The minutes of the February 11th Administrative Board meeting are available in the church office for anyone who would like a copy.

There will be no *Visitor* newsletter published the week of March 1 - 7.

## Book Club

At the February Book Club meeting, the ladies supported Meals-on-Wheels by purchasing delicious box lunches provided by Jack's. Unfortunately the group was not as impressed with February's selection, *Eat, Pray, Love*. So, on March 11, we turn to a novel set in ancient Persia (Iran), Anita Amirrezvani's *The Blood of Flowers*. This debut novel received outstanding reviews. Please join us, noon in the Back Room on March 11. Questions? Contact Linda Hutton at 442-5423 or [hutton50@hotmail.com](mailto:hutton50@hotmail.com).

## Heerrree's Johnny!

Driving to work early this morning I turned on the radio to catch up with things happening in the world overnight, and the top stories were more of the same thing we have been hearing for weeks and weeks: the state of California is expected to lay off thousands of employees in the days to come; the major domestic auto makers predict they will need more help from the government to make it through the hard times ahead; the housing market continues to stagnate. As I slowed for a stop light I was tempted to reach over and hit the off button, or at least to change the station, to find something else to help me start the day.

How are you handling it? How are you making it through these difficult days? As I pondered the state of current affairs waiting for the light to change, the title to a little poem came to mind - "Keep a goin" When I got to church I fumbled through my file and found it near the bottom:

If you strike a thorn or rose, Keep a goin'  
If it hails, or if it snows, Keep a goin'.  
"Taint no use to sit an' whine, when the  
fish ain't on your line;  
Bait your hook an' keep a tryin' ..Keep a  
goin'.  
When the weather kills your crop, Keep a  
goin'  
When you tumble from the top, Keep a  
goin'.  
S'pose you're out of every dime, Bein' so  
ain't any crime;  
Tell the world you're feeling prime..Keep  
a goin'  
When it looks like all is up, Keep a goin'.  
Drain the sweetness from the cup', Keep  
a goin'.  
See the wild birds on the wing, Hear the  
bells that sweetly ring,  
When you feel like sighin' sing, Keep a  
goin'.

Frank L. Stanton

What helps you "keep a goin"? Just whistling a happy tune? Sheer determination? The hope that things have to get better soon? The reminder that things come in cycles, that the pendulum will start to swing back the other way soon, bringing brighter days and better times? Friends who are there with you through thick and thin, "in good times and in bad"? Is it faith that God is somehow involved, working for good in all these things? Is it something else? Whatever it is, don't lose sight of it, don't ever let go of it! Come and share it with us on Sunday morning!



## Music Event Coming!

Chancel Choir will prepare a special cantata for both services of Palm Sunday, April 5. Rehearsals in preparation for this Palm Sunday cantata will be Monday evenings, from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. Chancel Choir will continue to have brief rehearsals at 10:00 a.m. Sundays pre-worship services and immediately after the 10:30 service for anthems presented in worship through lent. Rehearsals will be held on the following **Monday evenings**, beginning at 5:30 p.m. and ending no later than 6:30 p.m.: Feb. 23, March 2, March 9, March 16, March 23, and finally, March 30.

Returning, new and "sometimes" choir members are encouraged to join the choir in our Monday rehearsals for this special musical event! Consider singing with the chancel choir even if you don't normally join us in the choir loft - - it will be a joy to have you!  
~Cheryl Nichols

## Drennan CWF

Drennan CWF will meet Tuesday, February 24 at 9:00 a.m. in the Drennan Room. Norma Miller will present the program and Lorene Trickey is hostess.



Now is my first experience of receiving Holy Communion at home. We have taken it to church folks in their homes and hospitals.

Now we know what it means to you others! Muriel stayed home so we could partake of the sacrament together for the first time since March 9. Our profound gratitude for this ministry of our church and brought and shared by Elders John and Julie Hickey. ~Bob & Muriel Leach

## News of the congregation

**Amy Kay** has returned home after spending the weekend in St. Louis for a meeting of the Council of Ministries in Higher Education of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). She is finishing her fourth year, and final year, as chairperson of the group.

**Barbara Rothenberger** is at home recovering from an outpatient surgical procedure last week at Boone Hospital. **Tom Martz** is recovering from a surgical procedure last week at University Hospital. **Ken Bright** continues as a patient at Boone Hospital. **Peggy Cline** has returned to the Lenoir Health Care Center after spending several days in the hospital the past two weeks. Also in our prayers at this time is **Vic Richard**, a friend of our church, who has been moved from University Hospital to M.D. Anderson Cancer Hospital in Houston, Texas for continued testing and treatment. He and his wife and daughter have been recent visitors to our worship services. **Coleman Rogers** is recuperating from minor surgery on Monday, February 16. We have been asked to include 11 year-old **Allie Huff** in our prayers. The daughter of some of the friends of our church, she is in need of a heart transplant.



**Disciple Men's  
Breakfast  
Sat., March 7  
8:30 am**

## Happy Birthday

Jim Campbell-Feb. 23  
Jacki Davidson-Feb. 23  
Brooke Storm-Feb. 23  
Scott Foster-Feb. 24  
Joy French-Feb. 24  
Matt Foster-Feb. 25  
Sarah Read-Feb. 25  
Kim Rogers-Feb. 26  
Larry Caringer-Feb. 27  
Elizabeth Hensley-Feb. 27  
Jack Creasy-Feb. 28  
Eliana Snyder-Feb. 29

# (youth) @ first christian

## CYF (9-12 grade)

Every Wednesday Night  
5:30 Dinner at CAFÉ  
6:30 – 8:00 p.m. Meet in CYF room.

Every Monday Night, 7:30 p.m.  
CYF Bible Study  
Downtown Panera Bread Co.

CYF Mission Trip #1: June 19-26

**Pastor's Class** will be offered in the weeks prior to Palm Sunday. If your child is of age and is interested in exploring this topic please call or see Rev. Spear. Contacts will be made in the coming weeks to those who likely fall into the age-readiness bracket.

**Vacation Bible School - June 14-18**

**Church Camp** dates for summer 2009 are available. See Jimmy or check them out on the web <http://www.nearea.org>

## February 22

**JYF** (grades 3-5) 4:30 – 6:00 p.m.  
**Chi-Rho** (grades 6-8) 6:30 – 8 p.m.

**JYF & CHI-RHO** will meet on the following Sundays:

**February 22 and March 8 & 22**  
**Parent Partners Needed**

## 2009 Lenten Breakfast Schedule

We are pleased to announce the schedule for our Lenten Breakfasts for 2009. We are thankful to every host church for their enthusiastic support as we celebrate our oneness in Christ. **Breakfast begins at 7:00 a.m. and ends at 8:00.**



<b>February 25</b>	<b>Ash Wednesday</b> First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), 101 North 10th Street
<b>March 4</b>	Calvary Episcopal Church, 123 South 9th Street
<b>March 11</b>	Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 1115 Locust Street
<b>March 18</b>	Missouri United Methodist Church, 209 South 9th Street
<b>March 25</b>	Community United Methodist Church, 3301 West Broadway
<b>April 1</b>	Second Baptist Church, 407 East Broadway
<b>April 8</b>	<b>Holy Week</b> First Presbyterian Church, 16 Hitt
<b>April 10</b>	<b>Good Friday Service, 12:00 p.m. Noon</b> Rock Bridge Christian Church (DOC), 301 West Green Meadows Road

A **donation of \$1.00** is expected from those attending to offset the cost of the light breakfast. Any surplus will be given to the Central Missouri Food Pantry. Each person is encouraged to bring non-perishable food for the Central Missouri Food Pantry.

# 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

## Feb. 25th CAFÉ

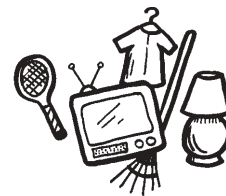
*Menu:* Lentil Soup  
Bread  
Vegetable Tray  
Angel Food Cake

\* **Ash Wednesday Service**

\* **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.**

## Trash to Treasure!



Your unused, unwanted (but still in good condition) items are needed for the Youth Garage Sale – March 27 – 29. Kitchen items, knick-knacks, furniture, holiday decorations, tools, toys, books, clothing, camping gear, anything and everything! We want it all!

Garage Sale items may be brought to Fellowship Hall - March 22 – 25. (If you need to make different arrangements please call the church office and ask for Rev. Jimmy Spear.)

Contact Joyce Stanley for further information. 445-5058 [jbstanley@msn.com](mailto:jbstanley@msn.com)

# 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

## 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-February 22, 2009

*Van Driver:* Carol Slusher *Telephone:* Cindy Rose

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

*Worship Asst:* Dave, Julie and Drew Nichols

*Elder for 8:30 Service:* Charles Koelling

*Communion Preparation:*

Mary Kay Mueller, Elizabeth Mottaz, Stephanie Mottaz

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

*Church School Greeter:* Doris Neidhardt

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

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

*10:30 Elders:* Barb Rothenberger, Marilyn Schappert,  
Cheryl Lightner

*Deacons:* The Stanley Team

*Greeters:*

Donna Houston, *North Door*

Jeff and Susan Ripley, *South Door*

*Ushers:* The Scott Team

*Banner Bearers:* Derrick Evers and Ryan Boger

*Candlelighters:* Jonathan LaHue and Josh Ripley

*Flower Ministry:*

*Arranged by:* David and Debbie Potthast

*Delivered:* Kim and Joe Reardon

## This Week (February 22-28)

- Sun. - Lenoir Worship, 3:30 p.m.  
- JYF (grades 3-5), 4:30-6:00 p.m.  
- CHI-RHO (grades 6-8), 6:30-8:00 p.m.
- Mon. - Nominating Committee Mtg., 7:00 p.m., Morris Parlor
- Tue. - Drennan Group, 9:00 a.m., Drennan Room  
- Bible Study, 10:30 a.m., Morris Parlor
- Wed. - Lenten Breakfast, 7:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall  
- Hannah Jones Group, 9:30 a.m., Lenoir 2nd Floor Apts.  
- Men's Lunch, 11:30 a.m., Senior Center  
- Brummett-Harrah Group, 1:30 p.m., Helen Stemmon's home  
- CAFÉ: 5:30 p.m. Dinner  
- Ash Wednesday Service, 6:30 p.m., Sanctuary  
- CYF (grades 9-12), 6:30-8:00 p.m.  
- Back Room (college group), 8:45-10:00 p.m.
- Thr. - Administrative Dept. Mtg., 9:00 a.m., John's office
- Fri. - Parker-Scott Group, 1:30 p.m., Lenoir Community Center