



Sunday Services

Do you remember your baptism? Were you baptized in a creek, or a pond? Were you baptized as an infant and remember going through confirmation classes to affirm the faith for yourself? The story of Jesus' baptism found in Mark 1:4-11 will provide us an opportunity on Sunday morning to consider again the meaning and power of baptism, and the text for Dr. Yonker's sermon.

The Chancel Choir's anthem at the 10:30 worship service will be "A Great New Day!" by Linda Spevacek.



Chancel Bells will resume rehearsals in the Bell Choir Room on Sunday, January 18th from 8:45-9:30 a.m.

Returning ringers and **New** ringers are welcome!

Book Club



The Ladies Book Club gathers at noon in the Church's Back Room next Wed., Jan. 14 to discuss *My Half of the Sky* by Jana McBurney-Lin. The publisher likens this book to "If Jane Austin were to write about women in modern China". Bring your lunch and come join us next Wednesday to see if the Ladies Book Club agrees with that comparison! Questions? call Linda Hutton at 442-5423 or email lhutton50@hotmail.com.

Koinonia

Each month our World Outreach Department highlights a few of the ministries that our church is involved with throughout the world. Here is a brief description of a unique ministry in Georgia:

Koinonia is an intentional Christian community founded by two couples, Clarence and Florence Jordan and Martin and Mabel England, in 1942 as a "demonstration plot for the Kingdom of God". For them, this meant a community of believers sharing life and following the example of the first Christian communities as described in the book of Acts, even amidst the poverty and racism of the rural South.

Clarence Jordan held an undergraduate degree in agriculture from the University of Georgia and wanted to use his knowledge of scientific farming "to seek to conserve the soil, God's holy earth" and to help the poor. Most of Koinonia's neighbors were black sharecroppers and tenant farmers. Jordan and England were ordained ministers and professors (Jordan held a doctorate in New Testament Greek) and part of their vision was to offer training to African American ministers living in the area. For the first few years or so of the Koinonia experiment, Jordan, in particular, was welcomed to preach and teach in local churches. Though the demands of farming in those early years did not allow time for formal training of others, he used these visits to both black and white churches to offer guidance. They envisioned an interracial community where blacks and whites could live and work together in a spirit of partnership.

Koinonia is the birthplace of many amazing ministries, among them is Habitat for Humanity. The farm continues to be a place of hospitality for many with varied passions for ministries. They still grow pecans and peanuts, and they try to live the "demonstration plot for the Kingdom of God".

~Ryan Hunsaker

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

Jan. 14th CAFÉ

Menu: Orange Glazed Chicken
Asian Salad
Egg Rolls
Pineapple Upside Down Cake

* **Program:** "Generation Next"
What generational characteristics exist among young adults today? A panel will lead this discussion which will include among other things how young adults communicate. It will be hosted by Amy Kay and will include a college student, college student life staff person, and instructor.

* **Bible Study** with Dr. 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**.

Heerrree's Johnny!

It's time for a name change! With the Administrative Board's decision authorizing the church to utilize the building located at 125 N. 10th Street for church purposes for a six month trial basis, it is time to stop calling it "The Strand". As many of you know, for many years that building was part of the Longbell Lumber Company which occupied much of the block to the north of our church property. When the church took ownership of the property in 1980, the parking lot was developed with the assistance of the city of Columbia, and the building was leased to the Canterbury Travel agency, a business that continued in that location for several years. Following their move to another location in the 1990's, the Strand Hair Salon began operation in that site and continued until moving to their new location in southwest Columbia last summer.

As we have formulated our plan to use the property for church purposes the issue of what to call it has arisen. Some of us have been calling it "the annex". Some of us have continued to call it "the Strand". And some of us have simply begun referring to it as "the 125 N. 10th Street" building. But that is unwieldy, so now seems to be the right time to give it a new name. And what shall that be? Here is my suggestion! I propose to name the building Bethany Hall.

In the time of Jesus, Bethany was a village about two miles east of Jerusalem, at the base of the southwestern slope of the Mount of Olives. It was the village of Jesus' friends, Mary, Martha, and Lazarus. According to the gospel stories it was the place where Jesus often received hospitality in the home of his three friends. Jesus and his disciples stayed in the vicinity of Bethany when attending temple ceremonies at Passover time. Bethany was the place where Jesus wept before calling Lazarus forth from the tomb to new life. One approach to Jerusalem from the east was through Bethany, and over the ridge of the Mount of Olives, which would have been the course followed by Jesus when he went to Jerusalem for his "triumphal entry" at what we celebrate as Palm Sunday. According to the gospel of Luke, Bethany was the site of Jesus' final "departure" from his friends following the resurrection.

In addition to its biblical significance, Bethany has meaning for us Disciples of Christ! This was the name which Alexander Campbell gave to the little village in Virginia (now West Virginia!) where he settled after

coming to this country, and which he used as the base of operations of his ministry. Bethany is also the name which he gave to the college which he founded in 1840, which continues to this day to provide excellent liberal arts education for women and men as one of the colleges and universities affiliated with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

A place of hospitality! A place where friends meet. A place where Jesus disciples gather to learn. Bethany Hall!



Thanks to the following who helped clean the Strand building and Fellowship Hall on Sat., Dec. 3: **Kerry Bramon; Jay, Chris and Jack Creasy; J.D., Laura, Alexandria and Jack Estes; Pam, Ryan and Heather Hunsaker, and John Yonker.**

~Mark Hunsaker



Thank you so much for the beautiful poinsettia and the nice visit and prayer from Dr. Yonker.

~Lois Ross

May I express much joy and happiness to Pat Rainey for the gift of the beautiful bright red poinsettia she sent me at Christmas! Also, to Carol Slusher who was the gracious lady who delivered the plant to my front door at Lenoir Woods. A bright and happy New Year wish to each of you!

~Iva Dell Thurman

Weekly Report

Jan. 4, 2008

Received this week \$13,803

Received to Date \$221,991

Needed to Date \$229,341

Attendance - 291

(includes early worship - 59)

News of the congregation

Congratulations to **Jack Estes**, five year-old son of **J.D. and Laura Estes** who is pictured with **Matt Brown**, a family friend, on the front page of the January 5 issue of St. Louis Post-Dispatch while skating at the brand new outdoor ice skating rink at New Town, in St. Charles County.

Brad Volmert has asked us to remember in our prayers his father, **Richard Volmert**, who had surgery in a St. Louis hospital on Wednesday, January 7.

Andrea Smith has returned home after spending a few days at Boone Hospital last week. **Jean Black** is at home recovering from surgery at Boone Hospital on Tuesday. **Joyce Stanley** is also recovering from surgery on Tuesday at Boone Hospital, and hopes to be home late in the week. **Ed Bright** is at home recovering from surgery on Monday afternoon.

Our prayers continue to be with **Glenn and Pat Rainey's** three year-old granddaughter, **Meg Schmidt**, of Ft. Worth, Texas who has been hospitalized recently.

John Wyss, former member of our congregation, died on Friday, January 2 at the Lenoir Health Care Center after a recent battle with cancer. John had served as a minister of several Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) congregations while also working in secular employment. A memorial service will be held on Thursday afternoon, January 8 at Broadway Christian Church. Our sympathy is extended to his wife, **Barbara**, who is a member of our Coffman Watson CWF group.

Laura Hutton, daughter of **Bob and Linda Hutton**, married **Frank Koch** on Dec 13 in the Columbia College chapel. **John Yonker** performed the ceremony.

Happy Birthday

Jennifer Colburn-Jan. 12

Darren Hellwege-Jan. 12

Jeff Alexander-Jan. 13

Louise Ward-Jan. 13

Nannie Lou Mallett-Jan. 14

Bradley Daugherty-Jan. 14

Susan Ballard-Jan. 15

Janet Mountjoy-Jan. 15

Gary Magruder-Jan. 15

Charles Brown-Jan. 15

Mason Stevens-Jan. 17

(youth) @ first christian

CYF (9-12 grade)

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

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

January 11 & 25
February 8 & 22

Sunday, January 11

JYF (grades 3-5) 4:30-6:00 pm

Chi-Rho (grades 6-8) 12:00-3:00 pm
Lunch out and Bowling (bring \$8), meet at church.

Congratulations to December Graduates!

Our collective, exuberant congrats are extended to the following:

- 🎓 **Jessica (Klockow) Hettie** with a BA in Spanish from the University of Missouri
- 🎓 **Andrew Thomas** with a BA in Business Management from Columbia College
- 🎓 **Tracy Evers** with an MBA from Columbia College
- 🎓 **Dane Pavlovich** with an MBA from Stephens College
- 🎓 **Dr. Amy Lightner** graduated from Logan University— College of Chiropractic

College Notes

We are fortunate to have some wonderful college students from our congregation who have attended worship services throughout the winter break. We are also fortunate to welcome back some students who make Columbia their home away from home during the academic year. It will be a great second semester for us all!

Our first official Back Room will be this Wednesday evening from 8:45 – 10:00pm. Please extend invitations to students as one and all are welcome! We begin in the Fellowship Hall. Thanks!

FCC Day with the Stars

You are invited to our annual FCC game with the Stephens College Stars this Saturday, January 10th at 2:00pm. Come and enjoy the first conference basketball game in Stephens College history. This inaugural game happens to be against our own Columbia College. The CC Cougars are ranked 18th in the nation right now... come out and support good NAIA basketball this weekend. Simply tell the ladies at the door of the game that you are with First Christian and you will have free admission. The Stars play at Silverthorne Arena on Dorsey Street just south of Broadway. Please call Amy Kay if you have any questions (808-1980).



Stars' Tia LaFavor is in the forefront of this picture, but look at the backdrop... our church's banner is proudly displayed throughout the basketball season. It is good to have a connection with head coach Dane Pavlovich!

Christian Women Fellowship (CWF) Donates to Charities

Thanks to profits generated by the Election Day Luncheon and to donations received from the CWF Silent Auction in the spring, CWF of First Christian Church donated \$250.00 to the Women's Shelter, \$250.00 to Coyote Hills and \$250.00 to Rainbow House. These funds were designated as Outreach Expenditures for Local women's/children's charities in the 2008 - 2009 CWF budget.

In the coming months, CWF anticipates making additional donations to: The Disciples Mission Fund, Woodhaven Learning Center, Christian Ministry Scholarships and FCC Youth Projects.

The bulletin board in the elevator alcove provides information about Christian Women's Ministries. Yearbooks (little purple books) are free to anyone who is interested in CWF or becoming involved in one of the CWF small groups.

Would you like to make a difference in someone's life?

Community Hospices of America is seeking compassionate, non-medical volunteers to serve the needs of terminally ill patients and their families in your community. Hospice volunteers provide companionship and friendly support through home visits. Volunteers give as much or as little time as they want. Training is provided.

If you are interested, or for more information, call Community Hospices of America at (660) 385-4400 or toll-free at 1-866-777-6608.

Special Offerings

In 2008, the members and friends of First Christian Church have displayed their generosity by supporting the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) special offerings:

Christmas	\$1,750.00
Easter	\$1,905.13
Pentecost	\$1,422.25
Reconciliation	\$1,125.40
Thanksgiving	\$1,235.00
Week of Compassion	<u>\$1,798.00</u>
Total	\$9,235.78

Misplaced Linens: Help! The kitchen is missing some dish towels, a long white table cloth and several red aprons. Would everyone please check their laundry rooms to see if any of these missing items are hiding in there? If they are found - you may return them in triumph or you may surreptitiously and anonymously slip them back into the kitchen. Thanks!

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-January 11, 2009

Van Driver: Frank Boster *Telephone:* Becky Bramon

8:30 Early Worship, Sanctuary

Worship Asst: Andy Janssen, Vickie and Paul Rorvig

Elder for 8:30 Service: Cherry Hinderberger

Communion Preparation:

Gerald and Susan Ramsey, Bud Batterson

9:30 Church School

Church School Greeter: Dorothy Porter

10:30 Worship in Sanctuary

Sermon: Dr. John J. Yonker *Liturgist:* Jacki Davidson

10:30 Elders: Joyce Stanley, Jackie Davidson, Joy Duren

Deacons: The Creasy Team

Greeters:

Laura Crane, *North Door*

Daryl and Lynn Klotz, *South Door*

Ushers: The Burnam Team

Banner Bearers: Derrick Evers and Ryan Boger

Candlelighters: Jack Creasy and Megan Potthast

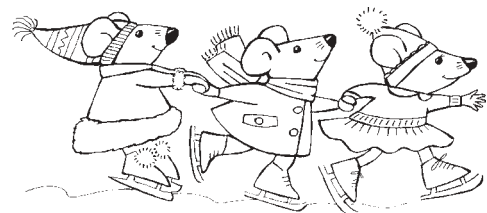
Flower Ministry:

Arranged by: Mark, Pam and Ryan Hunsaker

Delivered: Bob and Linda Hutton

This Week (Jan. 11 - 17)

- Sun. - JYF (grades 3-5), 4:30-6:00 p.m.
- CHI-RHO (grades 6-8), Noon-3:00 p.m. (Lunch & Bowling-meet at church, bring \$8)
- Tue. - Bible Study, 10:30 a.m., Morris Parlor
- Wed. - Men's Lunch, 11:30 a.m., Senior Center
- Ladies Book Club, 12:00, Back Room
- CAFÉ, 5:30 p.m. Dinner
6:20 Devotion
6:30 Program - "Generation Next"
6:30 Bible Study
- CYF (grades 9-12), 6:30-8:00 p.m.
- Back Room (college group), 8:45-10:00 p.m.



January