



## Sunday Services

May 3 marks the second Sunday of our Stewardship Campaign! With the theme, *All Things In Common*, we will focus on the commitment to caring which was found among the first followers of Jesus, reported in the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter of Acts, (2:44-45)

Other scripture texts to study in preparation for Dr. Yonker's sermon may be found in Isaiah 58:1-9, and 1 John 3:16-24.

At the 8:30 worship service this Sunday, the special music selection is "Broken and Spilled Out", sung by Pat Rybolt. At the 10:30 service the Chancel Bells play "In the Garden" for the prelude and the anthem is "God So Loved the World".

## College Care Packages

Our church is so privileged to be located downtown - in the middle of Columbia College, Stephens College and the University of Missouri. We do our best to connect with the students in many and varied ways. Our church's best wishes are extended to the students at finals time through our long-standing tradition of giving care packages. The packages are put together by our students and volunteers and then are delivered by church members.

On Sunday, May 3, we ask that you consider taking a package or two to students who live in your neighborhood. If you are willing, we ask that you take a package by a place of residence, attempt to give a personal greeting and a smile to the student. If the student is not at home, simply leave the package at the door. It will have a note attached from us. Full instructions will be available with the packages on the 3<sup>rd</sup> if you are interested.

If you have a child who is a student, please deliver a package to him/her on our behalf. If you would rather we deliver the package, please let Amy Kay or Andy know your wishes. Thanks for considering helping with this ministry of the church.



## Welcome New Members!

**Susan and Tom Gray** united with our congregation by confession of faith at the 8:30 service on Sunday, April 26 after visiting our worship services for several months. Residing in their home at 416 Lathrop Road, they are native Columbians, and the proud parents of two grown daughters, Genny Isabel (Jack) Watkins, and Courtney Lynn (Matt) Gaunt, and three grandchildren. Susan is the co-founder of Isabel's Country Mustard, and enjoying writing Christmas stories, gardening, reading and sports, having received an early indoctrination

into Mizzou sports from her father, Sparky Stalcup, one of the Mizzou men's basketball coaches. Tom retired from a career in business after serving as General Manager of KOMU-TV. He enjoys fishing and hunting. They will both be baptized at an 8:30 worship service in the near future.

## First Christian Scholarships and Awards

Our church has had a long and deeply held commitment to education from its beginnings in 1832. One of the specific ways in which that commitment has been expressed is through scholarships that are available each year to High School seniors and college students. The packets of information about this year's scholarship are available in the church office and online at [www.firstchristian.org](http://www.firstchristian.org). Please contact the office if you have any questions regarding this process. Thanks be to God for the faithful people who have designated significant funds for higher education!

## College Mission Trip

The informational packet is on our web site at [www.firstchristian.org/college](http://www.firstchristian.org/college) for all of those who are interested! We will be learning and serving at the Inman Christian Mission which is located in San Antonio, Texas during the week of May 17<sup>th</sup>. The Inman Center is a historic Disciples of Christ mission and we are looking forward to all of our opportunities to serve and be transformed through our serving.

## Loaves and Fishes

The fourth Monday of each month, members of First Christian Church purchase food, then prepare and serve supper at Loaves and Fishes. This meal is free to anyone who comes to the facility at the corner of Park and Seventh Streets. This week, volunteers included Carol Slusher, Bill and Donna Houston, Joyce and Bragg Stanley, Brenda Martin, Sue Underwood, and Dave Polach. Thanks to David and Tommy Gay Evans for their generous financial contribution to pay for this month's meal.

**Church Dine-Out**  
**Friday - May 1**  
5:30 p.m.  
Bob Evans Restaurant  
Everyone Welcome!

**Weekly Report**  
April 26, 2009  
Received this week \$8,076  
Received to Date \$339,885  
Needed to Date \$371,718  
Attendance - 309  
(includes early worship - 82)

## Stewardship Sunday 2009-2010

Last Sunday we heard about the sense of “community” shared by the earliest followers of our Lord Jesus. The scriptures tell us they were “together” and they had “all things in common”. I am sure that you, as I do, share this feeling of community within this church, this feeling of friendship, and goals that we share with each other. We just feel different when we are here on Sunday morning, or on Wednesday evening, or throughout the week, whenever and wherever we are “together”.

That is why we form small interest groups within the church community, like the book club, bible study groups, caring family programs, the shawl ministry, CAFÉ, STARS, CWF circles, the Back Room, CYF, choirs mission trips, softball teams, movie nights, garage sales and service projects like Loaves and Fishes, The Wardrobe, and on and on. Activities like these mean a great deal to many people and we are so glad that we have these opportunities to be “together” in Christian unity, in so many different ways.

Sunday was the first day of our 2009 Stewardship Campaign (kick-off Sunday), a vital component of the community life of our church. Preliminary budget planning has been progressing in our departments for several weeks now and in a few days you will be receiving a letter from the church containing a time-talent survey and an estimate of giving card that we ask you to prayerfully consider. Please fill these out as generously as you can and return them to the church office soon. To conserve funds this will be the only personal mailing of this campaign that you will receive, a one-time letter!

We all know that our church does not utilize intense, prolonged, pressurized campaigns. We do not employ outside fund raisers, and we are using our own internally generated stewardship materials, like you see in the morning bulletins. We are truly thankful for the mutual commitment we have in common with each other and for the extent to which we have always accepted our own personal responsibilities of stewardship. That is, of course, the reason that we conduct the type of stewardship campaign that we do. Yet, as we all know, this is a period of economic difficulty and so we emphasize the extra importance attached to the stewardship commitment of each one of us this year.

We are truly blest in this congregation to have church programs that are strong, well led, diverse and dedicated to the teachings and to the spirit of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Let us pray that each of us can do our best to sustain and strengthen our church “community” as we move forward “together” into the future.

~Cliff Tompson,  
Stewardship Department Chair

## STARS Trip to Jefferson City May 6th



Here are the plans for the STARS (50+ group) trip to Jefferson City, Missouri to tour the Capitol museum and meet with Senator Kurt Schaefer to have pictures and see the senate chambers.

We plan to leave the church parking lot at 8 a.m. sharp so that we can be sure to get the full tour of the capitol and senate chambers. After our tours we will have lunch at Madison’s Café. We will try to tour something else in the area and then for sure stop by Central Dairy Ice Cream Shop before returning to Columbia late afternoon.

Invite a guest and plan for a great day in our capitol city. Cost will be minimal—just a small amount for transportation and then what you want to spend for lunch and ice cream treat.

Sign up sheet is in the church office. If you have additional questions, please contact Carol Slusher, 874-4902 or 819-3904. We can accept reservations until May 4, 2009.

## Loaves on Memorial Day

How would you like a new Memorial Day activity? Our church’s May evening to serve Loaves and Fishes is the 25<sup>th</sup> which is Memorial Day. The preparation for supper has already begun, so if you are willing to finish the preparations and serve, it would be easier than other months and would help many hungry people. If you would like more information, please call Carol Slusher at 819-3984 or Amy Kay in the church office.

## News of the congregation

We say thanks to the **Drennan Singers** for their Introit, Anthem, Offertory and Choral Benediction which they presented at the 10:30 service last Sunday. We are always blessed by their musical gifts! Members of the Drennan Singers are: **Norma Miller**, Director, **Susan Woodbury**, **Micki McGuire-Kirkham**, **Nora Dietzel**, **Lorene Trickey**, **Debbie Batterson**, **Susan Ramsey**, **Jean Hall**, **Kelli Embry**, **Bette Scavone**, **Becky Baumgartner**, **Pat Rybolt**, **Cheryl Lightner**, **Lisa Snyder** and **Brenda Mosby**.

Thanks to **Jean Hall** and **Susan Woodbury** for their special music, “Down to the River to Pray,” which they presented at the 8:30 worship service last Sunday.

Special thanks to **Dane Pavlovich** for jumping in and teaching our Preschool Sunday School class this week when their teacher became ill. Thanks for *all* you do so graciously, Dane!

Thanks to **Will and Donna Houston** for their carpentry work in the kitchen. They added support to the counter top and enclosed the base of the ice machine. Looks great!

A service of remembrance and celebration was held for **Ruth Shannon** in the sanctuary of the church on Saturday morning, April 25. At 87 years of age, Ruth spent the last few years of her life living in the Kansas City area nearby her daughter, **Linda Rogers**. A native of St. Louis, Ruth moved with her family to Columbia as a young person, graduated from Hickman High School and attended the University of Missouri. She enjoyed working for many years as secretary to the principals of Lee and Shepard Boulevard Elementary Schools. She was an active member of an adult church school class and the Tuesday Bible Study class for many years. Survivors also include her son, **Rodney Shock** and his family, including three granddaughters.

## Bountiful Brunch on Sunday

Laura Estes, our inhouse professional chef, is offering Brunch on Sundays from 9 to 1 in Bethany Hall. Menu items include breakfast treats and luncheon delights. No reservations are required. Come enjoy tasty food and fabulous friends.

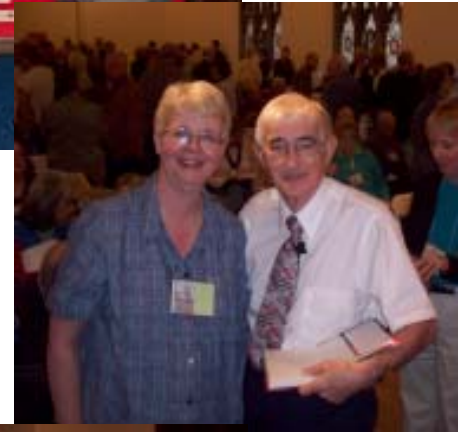
## Lectures at Eden Seminary

Joyce Stanley was invited by Rev. Amy Kay Pavlovich to attend two lectures "Jesus in the First and Twenty-First Centuries" at Eden Seminary in St. Louis presented by noted Jesus scholars John Dominic Crossan and Marcus Borg. Dr. Greenhaw, President of Eden Seminary gave the sermon at the opening of the Convocation. It was a special treat to share the day with a former member of our congregation Gene Moore who, with his wife Rena, now lives in St. Louis.

In 2001, Dr. Yonker invited Marcus Borg to be a guest lecturer at First Christian Church following a ten week study of the book, Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time.



Crossan and Borg chat before the opening lecture



John Dominic Crossan with our own Joyce Stanley!



Gene Moore and Rev. Amy Kay Pavlovich



Marcus Borg, President Greenhaw and Joyce relax after opening worship.

## Millie Bolman Celebrates 90th Birthday

Dozens of friends and family gathered on Sunday at Lenoir Community Center to celebrate Millie Bolman's 90th birthday! Pictured are Cliff Tompson, Millie Bolman, Genie Rogers and Mary Tompson.



## Book Club

Don't forget that at noon on Wednesday, May 13, the book club moves to Amy La Hue's for lunch and, no doubt, lively discussion. You are encouraged to bring some summer reads to share with other members in this our First Annual Book Swap of the Ladies' Book Club. Questions? Contact Linda Hutton at 442-5423 or lhutton50@hotmail.com.



## National Music Week

May 3-10, 2009 is National Music Week, sponsored by The National Federation of Music Clubs. The theme, "Music...Poetry of the Heart" encourages us to listen, hear, and understand the far-reaching effects of music in our lives. Music exerts a strong influence on our everyday lives and has become a powerful means to deepen our worship, express patriotic fervor, and add a joyous atmosphere to happy occasions. First Christian Church always welcomes the opportunity to join the nation in the appreciation of music in our lives.

# COMMUNITY

*“All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.” Acts 2:44-47*



As we begin our 2009 stewardship campaign, we celebrate the life we share together in the community of First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

Although some of us have been here only a few weeks, while others of us have been members of First Christian Church for many years, we are all privileged to share in the life of this congregation which had its beginnings in 1832. But more than that, we are privileged to share in a community of faith with fellow Christians which stretches across the face of the earth, and which traces its roots almost 2,000 years back to those first followers of Christ living in the land Israel.

The first followers of Christ had such a closely-knit fellowship that the writer of Acts of the Apostles says they “had all things in common”. We celebrate our community of love and faith! We do not live in isolation! We cannot live without one another!

As we share together in the life of First Christian Church, let us commit ourselves to supporting its ministry that it will continue to provide a community of love and support for all people in the years to come.

*Taken from the Sunday bulletin Stewardship insert on April 26, 2009*



## BOOK O R N E R

Two recent books by author Dr. Joseph Stowell, who was for 18 years president of Moody Bible Institute in Chicago, deal with the reality of Christian experience and growth. Radical Reliance, Living 24/7 with God at the Center deals with the possibility of living in intimacy with God rather than an “on call” basis. Not because it is a nice thing to do but because it is necessary for being fulfilled as He intends us to be, we come to the One who can satisfy, sustain, and secure us.

In the introduction, Stowell states that God is not content to leave us alone but with unceasing, unconditional love He is compelled to meet us at the intersection of every dream, desire, choice and thought, urging us to turn toward Him and actualize the finished work of His Son.

Another book by Joseph Stowell, The Upside of Down likens the problems of life to being caught on a roller-coaster ride that you weren’t standing in line for. He reminds us of important truths that will help us hold on with certainty and stay on board, even in the ups, downs, and wild curves of pain and suffering.

You can find these books on the Book Cart in the narthex on Sunday mornings.

## Sundays in Bethany Hall

Join us for coffee & fellowship every Sunday  
Fairly Traded Coffee – always free  
(Bethany Hall is the red brick building in the church parking lot)

### Brunch in Bethany Hall

May 3  
by Laura Estes  
9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.  
Hot breakfast & continental fare served.  
Brunch and soups served after worship.  
A variety of hot & cold beverages.  
Come in for the prices & menu options!  
Menu changes monthly.



### Fair Trade Store Open

Sunday Mornings



The **Pathfinder Class** meets in the BH on Sundays at 9:45 a.m.

## CWF Treasurers To Meet

CWF Treasurers’ meeting scheduled for April 29th has been rescheduled for May 6, 2009.

Group treasurers (either current year or next year’s treasurers) are urged to attend Wednesday, May 6 at 6:15 p.m., Keystone Room. Come have dinner at CAFÉ and then we will get a budget ready to present to the CWF Board meeting scheduled for May 19.



The next  
Administrative Board  
Meeting will be  
June 21 at 6:00 p.m.  
in Morris Parlor



Deidre Wipke-Tevis - May 4  
 Drake Tevis - May 4  
 Delaney Tevis - May 6  
 Nancy Kirtley - May 6  
 Sue Underwood - May 6  
 Maddox Colborn - May 6  
 Joe Davis - May 6  
 Ann Rogers - May 9  
 Lucinda McRoberts - May 9  
 Sebastian Pavlovich - May 9

# 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

## May 6th CAFÉ



*Menu:*  
 Stacked Burritos  
 Southwestern Salad  
 Mexican Sundaes

\* **Program:** "Columbia Jail Ministry and Our Prison Support" by Micki Havener

\* **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

**CYF (9-12 grade)**  
 Every Wednesday Night  
 5:30 Dinner at CAFÉ  
 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. Meet in CYF room

**CYF Bible Study** in Bethany Hall  
 Every Monday Night, 7:30 p.m.  
 Present study: The Gospel of Luke  
 CYF Mission Trip #1: June 19-26

**JYF & CHI-RHO**  
 will meet on the following Sundays:  
**May 3, 17** \*Parent Partners & snacks are needed.

**Sunday, May 3**  
 JYF (grades 3-5) 4:30 – 6:00 p.m.  
 \*\*Wear running/outdoor shoes!  
 Chi-Rho (grades 6-8) 6:30 – 8 p.m.

**Sunday Mornings on The River of Life:**  
 Zacchaeus May 3 - May 24.  
 Sunday School for all children grades K-5 begins on the 3rd floor at 9:30 a.m.

**Summertime ----- Calendar it!**

**Vacation Bible School**  
**June 14-18**  
**Disciple Kids Day Camp**  
**July 15 & Aug. 12**

**Summer Church Camp** sign up is underway. Early bird (\$ savings) deadline is April 30. **All forms to Jimmy in the church office !** **Adult Counselors are needed** at all camp age levels. See Jimmy Spear for details. Based on the number of kids we send to camp, we are asked to bring at least 5-6 counselors this year!

## Calling all volunteers!

The dates have been set! Vacation Bible School will be held from June 14 – 18 this year from 5:30 – 8:00 p.m. Planning is underway and we need your help. Volunteering for VBS is easy! Everything is supplied for you and requires little preparation. A joyful and willing attitude are all you need!

Here are some of the ways you can participate:

- Gator Games Leader
- Dockside Drive-In Leader (Chadder)
- Crawfish Crafts Helper
- Rockys Preschool Playhouse Leader
- Bayou Crew Leaders
- Greeters
- Kitchen Help
- Bakers
- Supply Donations



Please call Jessica Humble at 441-8021 for more information. It promises to be a GREAT time!



I wanted to thank you for all the gifts and flowers, for making me feel welcome and for the time spent coming to see me at the hospital. Thank you, Millie, for the shawl. I use it all the time. Best wishes to all. ~Ken Bright

Thanks for all the cards and visits I have received during my illness. I am now a resident of Lenoir Health Care Center. Thanks to the ministers who came to see me. The flowers were appreciated and enjoyed.  
 ~Peggy Cline

# 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

### 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

## Return Service Requested

### Serving Schedule - Sunday, May 3

*Van Driver:* Frank Boster  
*Office Receptionist:* Carole Harris Randerson  
*Church School Greeter:* Judy Hall  
*Flower Ministry:*  
*Arranged by -* Shirley Park and Jordan Mills  
*Delivered by -* Sara Klockow and Susan Klockow

#### **Servers for 8:30 Worship Service**

*Worship Assistants:* Will and Donna Houston  
*Elder:* Linda Ridgeway

#### **Servers for 10:30 Worship Service**

*Communion Preparation:* Jeff and Susan Ripley, Kim Williams  
*Liturgist:* Sally Robinson  
*Elders:* Jacki Davidson, Fred Mottaz, Shirley Park  
*Deacons:* The Campbell Team  
*Greeter North Door:* Jacki Davidson  
*Greeter South Door:* Daryl and Lynn Klotz  
*Ushers:* The Pavlovich Team  
*Banner Bearers:* Gavin Rose and Erich Unterschut  
*Candlelighters:* Josh Ripley and Emma Hawkins

### This Week (May 3 - 9)

- Sun. - Church Softball Game, 8:00 p.m., Orange Field at Rainbow Softball Center
- Tue. - Bible Study, 10:30 a.m., Morris Parlor  
- CYF Bible Study, 7:30 p.m., Bethany Hall
- Wed. - STARS (50 + Group), Trip to Jefferson City, 8:00 a.m.  
- Men's Lunch, 11:30 a.m., Senior Center  
- CAFÉ: 5:30 p.m., Dinner  
6:30, Program: "Columbia Jail Ministry and our Prison Support" by Micki Havener  
6:30, Bible Study  
- CYF (grades 9-12), 6:30-8:00 p.m.  
- CWF Treasurers meeting, 6:15, Keystone Room  
- Back Room (college group), 8:45-10:00 p.m.
- Thr. - World Outreach Mtg., 5:00 p.m., Keystone Room  
- Membership Mtg., 6:00 p.m., Bethany Hall

