



Sunday's Service
May 17
Commitment Sunday



On May 17 we will celebrate the gifts of God with the presentation of our commitments to Christ for the work of the church in the coming year! Dr. Yonker will present the sermon in celebration of the growth of the church based on the scripture found in Acts 2:44-47, and John 15:9-17.

"How Beautiful" by Twila Paris will be beautifully sung this coming Sunday by both Nora Dietzel, our soloist at the 8:30 worship service, and the Chancel Choir at the 10:30 service. Join us!

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

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.

Weekly Report

May 10, 2009

Received this week \$5,032
Received to Date \$356,055
Needed to Date \$379,155
Attendance - 301
(includes early worship - 55)



If you are a graduate of high school or anything beyond, please let the church office know by Memorial weekend so we can celebrate your accomplishments on Sunday, May 31 during the 10:30am worship service. Congrats!

College Mission Trip

Eight students along with Amy Kay and Dane will be traveling to the Yakama Nation in White Swan, Washington, this Saturday evening. Yakama is one of our historic Disciple Mission Centers and has wonderful ministers whom we know and love from our three previous trips. The trip is long via the church van (27 hours straight!), but we anticipate great learning and serving which will make it all worth while. Please keep the group in your prayers and check in to see our daily journal updates and a few pictures at www.firstchristian.org.

Scholarship Information

We are so fortunate to be a part of this church... for many reasons! One of which is the heritage of value placed on education. We have many scholarships and awards within this congregation and invite you to peruse the information to see if you are eligible to apply for any of them. Please visit our web site at www.firstchristian.org (navigate to "youth" for high school seniors and "college" for those out of high school) for information or contact the church office for a hard copy of the descriptions of awards and application. Contact Amy Kay if you have any questions at 808-1980. Thanks!

Register your kids!
Sign up to volunteer!

Get ready to get swampy at this year's Vacation Bible School - Crocodile Dock!

Do it all online! It is easy:

- Go to our church website, www.firstchristian.org
- Find "VBS Registration Link"
- Then sign up to attend and/or volunteer!



Vacation Bible School 09
June 14-18
5:30-8:00 p.m.

STARS 50+ Group Travels to Hermann June 3

The STARS next outing is scheduled for Wednesday, June 3, 2009 which will be a trip to Hermann.



This outing will require reservations turned in by May 28, 2009. We will go by van and cars to Hermann and tour the town and its outskirts. The cost will be about \$15 per person for transportation and then money for a meal. We would be back to Columbia by 5:30 p.m.

Heeerrree's Johnny!

"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)

Over the past four weeks we have heard these words read in worship services, and have been challenged through sermons, minutes for stewardship, hymns and prayers, to respond to the call of Christian stewardship by making commitments of our time, talents and financial resources to the church through our 2009 stewardship campaign, "All Things in Common".

Our theme was chosen deliberately this year! Recognizing the financial realities of the present world, and the difficulties which many of us face, we understand very well that in facing the economic uncertainties of the present world we do "have all things in common".

But our theme was chosen for another reason, to remind us how much we can accomplish for Christ by working together. Working individually there is little we can do, but in sharing our resources together, and in committing ourselves together to the ministry of the church, there is much we can do for the cause of Christ in this world.

We have received Estimates of Giving and in the next week will be given the opportunity to indicate how we will use our gifts in committing our time and talents to Christ for the coming year. We are asked to complete Estimate of Giving cards, to commit our financial resources to the church, for very practical reasons, so that we will have a good estimate of our income for the coming year, and be able to plan our church budget accordingly.

If you have not made your commitment to the church for the ministry of Christ in the coming year, then please do so this Sunday, COMMITMENT SUNDAY, May 17.

As we make our financial commitments, may we do so with glad and generous hearts, so that we, and generations to come, may grow in our ministry for Christ at First Christian Church.

Summer Ministry Internship

In recent years our church has benefited from a college student serving in the children, youth and campus arenas of ministry. The position spans a 10 week duration. If you or someone you know are interested in our Summer Ministry Internship position, please contact Amy Kay or Jimmy before May 22nd for the job description and application. Thanks!

Thank you!

The ladies of the Prayer Shawl Ministry would like to thank Dottie Golson for the beautiful skeins of yarn she donated to the program

My heartfelt thanks to John Yonker and the Prayer Shawl Ministry for the nice Prayer Shawl made by Mary Tompson and the Easter Card made by the children of FCC. It's so nice to be remembered. ~Frank Oliver



STARS Toured State Capitol, May 6

Fifteen friends journeyed to Jefferson City, Wednesday, May 6, 2009 and enjoyed a guided tour of the State Capitol conducted by John Cunning, who attends our church. Then we were escorted by Senator Kurt Schaefer through his office and into the Senate Chambers. We are grateful to Senator Schaefer for answering many of our questions.

We dined at Madison's restaurant for a delightful meal, then toured some of the grounds around the capitol building. Sabra Meyer's sculptures of Lewis and Clark are spectacular. She is a long time Columbian.

The day culminated with a delicious stop at Central Dairy Ice Cream Shop.

Thanks a million to our drivers John and Jimmy.

News of the congregation

Clarice Estes is recovering from surgery at Boone Hospital on Tuesday, May 12. **Dorothy Allen** has returned home to recuperate from surgery at Boone on May 12. **Martha Niday** was admitted to Boone Hospital on Sunday afternoon, May 10. She is hoping to return home by mid-week. **Sandra Powell** was admitted to University Hospital early in the week for testing. **Mike Randerson's father, Randy Randerson** has returned to The Bluffs Nursing Home after spending several days in the hospital recently. **Mike Mountjoy** is at home recovering from surgery last week at Boone Hospital. **Sarah Yonker** has also returned home to recuperate from surgery on Wednesday at Boone.

Our sympathy to **Gerald Ramsey** and family on the death of his brother, **Vernon Ramsey**, of St. Louis who passed away Monday, May 4th. A memorial service was held in that city at Union United Methodist Church on Saturday, May 9th.

Congratulations to **Diana Ballard** who was united in marriage to **Justin Jondle** in a ceremony performed by John Yonker on Saturday, May 2. She is the daughter of **Roger and Susan Ballard** of our congregation. The newly married couple will live in San Diego, CA.

Special thanks goes to **Will Houston** for repairing a chair from the choir loft. Also, to **Fred Mottaz, Betty Moon, Joyce Stanley** and **Dave Beem** for getting the newsletter out last week while Kay was out sick.



- May 17**-Cindy Ruffolo, Patricia Fagan
- May 18**-Jean Hall
- May 19**-Jacob Alexander, Kelsey Korman
- May 20**-Harold Rosebaum, Parker Rossman, Marvin Tracy
- May 21**-Jim Estes, Amy Lightner, Billie Silvey, Ryan Smith, Andrew Stormer
- May 22**-Jim Shaw, Ethan Bell, Ellie Colborn

(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

JYF & CHI-RHO will meet on Sunday,
May 17 - Holly Wheatley is JYF Parent Partner & snack provider.

Sunday, May 17

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
Register & volunteer online!
See the front page of Visitor.

Disciple Kids Day Camp
July 15 & Aug. 12

Chi-Rho Mission Trip: August 16-18

CYF Mission Trip: Tulsa, OK
June 19-26

When school is out, CYF will EAT OUT!
Wed. Nights, June 6 & 13

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 20th CAFÉ

Menu: BBQ Chicken
Roasted Potato Salad
Green Beans
Hummingbird Cake

* **Program: "A Christian Response to Hate"** by Dr. 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.**

President Appoints Disciples President

Our General Minister and President Sharon Watkins has been named to President Barack Obama's Advisory Council on Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships. "I am glad to be a part of such a diverse group that is seeking common ground where we can make a real difference in the lives of people", Rev. Watkins said. "It's good to see the government connecting with faith-based and community organizations to help meet people's needs."

You will recall that she was chosen to deliver the sermon for President Obama's Inaugural Prayer Service at the National Cathedral.



The Concert Handbells & Spirit Bells of Concordia University Irvine

will perform on
Tuesday, May 19, 7 pm
First Baptist Church
1112 E. Broadway
Columbia, MO

For Information: (573) 442-1149

Anti-Racism/Pro Reconciliation Training

Date: June 11-13, 2009

**Time: 6:00 p.m., Thursday to
2:00 p.m., Saturday**

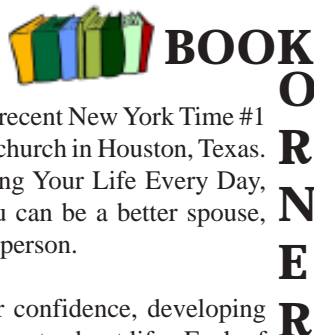
Location: Rickman Center, Jefferson City

**Cost: \$150 (lodging & meals) or
\$100 (meals only)**

Sessions include:

Defining Racism
Individual Racism
Institutional Racism
Cultural Racism
White Cultural Identity
Dismantling Racism - Next Steps

Call the church office (449-7265) for more information.



Thanks to Jay and Chris Creasy the library has a copy of the recent New York Time #1 Best Seller book by Joel Osteen, pastor of America's largest church in Houston, Texas. In **Become a Better You**, Osteen offers 7 Keys to Improving Your Life Every Day, inspiring you to live with more joy, hope and peace. You can be a better spouse, parent, boss, employee, leader, or friend—in short, a better person.

This book will guide you in such things as building your confidence, developing better relationships, finding peace within, and staying passionate about life. Each of the seven keys has its own section complete with a set of practical action points leading you in the process of uncovering your hidden resources.

~On the Book Cart

The Visitor

First Christian Church

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

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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

Serving Schedule - Sunday, May 17

Van Driver: Matt Batterson
Office Receptionist: Carol Slusher
Church School Greeter: Mark Hunsaker Family
Flower Ministry:
Arranged by - Laura and Tom Crane, Emmy Croll
Delivered by - Joy and Roy Overacre

Servers for 8:30 Worship Service

Worship Assistants: Andy and Louis Janssen
Elder: Mary Bancroft

Servers for 10:30 Worship Service

Communion Preparation: Lisa Zimmer, Mike Korman and
Dane Pavlovich
Liturgist: Amy LaHue
Elders: Mary and Jerry Daugherty, Sharon Winner
Deacons: The Nichols Team
Greeter North Door: Chuck Scott
Greeter South Door: Jeff and Lottie Creasy
Ushers: The Nichols Team
Banner Bearers: Jack Creasy and Jonathan LaHue
Candlelighters: Julia LaHue and Jadie Arnett

This Week (May 17-23)

- Sun. - Commitment Sunday
- JYF (grades 3-5), 4:30-6:00 p.m.
- Chi-Rho (grades 6-8), 6:30-8:00 p.m.
- Church Softball Game, 8:00 p.m., Purple Field at
Rainbow Softball Center
- Mon. - CYF Bible Study, 7:30 p.m., Bethany Hall
- Tue. - Bible Study, 10:30 a.m., Morris Parlor
- Wed. - Men's Lunch, 11:30 a.m., Senior Center
- Shawl Ministry Mtg, 10:00 a.m., Bethany Hall
- CAFÉ: 5:30 p.m., Dinner
6:30, Program: "A Christian Response to
Hate" by Dr. John Yonker
- CYF (grades 9-12), 6:30-8:00 p.m.

