



Worship this Sunday

Thanksgiving Sunday is upon us! Our thanksgiving and praise be heightened this day as we gather in early and late worship services around hymns and prayers of the season. Dr. Yonker will be preaching on texts from John 18 and Revelation 1.

Music will bring fullness to worship this week as soloists, handbells and choirs offer their talents. Nora Dietzel will provide the special music at the 8:30 worship service. Chancel Bells will begin the 10:30 worship service with the prelude "Come, Ye thankful People, Come" by Barbara Baltzer Kinyon. They will also provide the communion music, "Songs of Thanks and Praise" by Sharon Elena Rogers. The chancel choir will continue themes of thanksgiving with their anthem "Give Thanks" by Smith/Halquist. Mary Bancroft will be back on the bench of the mighty pipe organ and choir director, Cheryl Nichols will present offertory music.



Thanksgiving Offering

In November, congregations throughout the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) will be collecting a Thanksgiving Offering. The offering directly benefits our 14 colleges/universities and 7 seminaries, divinity houses, and theological foundations. **Ryan Hunsaker** is a freshman at Columbia College who through your giving to the Thanksgiving Offering this year you help support in his education. Several in our congregation have benefited from the generous giving of Disciples over the years. **Sharon Winner, Pam and Mark Hunsaker, Bob Hutton, Luanne Langley, Sara Klockow, Rev. Sally Robinson, Rev. David Yonker, Rev. Jimmy Spear, Dr. Tom Shrout, Dr. John Yonker, and Dr. Ken Watson**, are just a few who have graduated from Disciples colleges and seminaries.

On Sunday, November 22 we will be asking you to contribute to this special offering. If you are not able to attend worship service, please consider mailing your check to the church office (include on the memo line "Thanksgiving"). Your generosity for Disciples Mission Fund will support leader development through Disciples higher education institutions.

Columbia Interfaith Thanksgiving Celebration

Embracing our commonalities, dignifying our diversity in a welcoming Columbia community.

We Give Thanks
Sunday, November 22nd
3:00 p.m.
Stotler Lounge
MU Memorial Union
518 Hitt St.

Parking lots: in back of Memorial Union and North of Memorial Union, off University Avenue.

Organized by: The Columbia Interfaith Council (developing understanding and fellowship among faith communities and supporting Columbia human service agencies as a faith witness).

Hosted by: Hindu Temple and Community Center of Mid-Missouri in association with Cultural Association of India and The Chancellor's Diversity Initiative.

Monetary donations appreciated for Interfaith Day Center and local food pantries.

Elder Breakfast



CALLING ALL ELDERS:

Elder Breakfast
Saturday Nov. 21
8:00 AM
Fellowship Hall
RSVP to church office

Weekly Report

Nov. 15, 2009

Received this week \$5,364

Received to Date \$174,231

Needed to Date \$170,013

Attendance - 230

(includes early worship - 45)

College Care Packages

The end of the semester is quickly approaching and we will be delivering college care packages soon! Please send your current physical address to Amy Kay or Charise so that we can be sure to deliver your package properly. Also, if you would like to help deliver, we are planning to begin the fun on Sunday, November 29. Thanks a bunch!

The weather is a funny thing

We love to talk about the weather. We seem to run our lives around it and we definitely like to complain about it. I recall it pouring down rain throughout a MU football game a month or so ago. It was interesting how thousands of people were there...getting wet. Just last week we had unseasonably warm weather for the middle of November. People were outside doing everything and loving it!

This last Sunday morning I awoke to the sound of rain on the roof. It rained all morning. It was easily noted that the crowd in late worship was not big. The week before when the weather was AMAZING the crowd was huge! Did the rain really keep people away? Do they not have umbrellas, raincoats, or perhaps the gold ponchos they wore to the MU game? I have to wonder. Perhaps there was yard work to do on that rainy day or a bike ride on the trail. One would almost think that on amazing weather days folk would find other things to do... like come inside. Seek out activity when the weather suggests staying home.

It seems to me that when the weather is dark and gloomy and the chance of rain is 100% for entirety of the coming week it would do the spirit good to get a bit of a break. Perhaps taking a break amidst the cold and gloom would be to see some friends, have some dedicated Spirit time, and come inside would be a good thing? I wonder how our outlook and day to day living could shift to reflect a positive attitude, a hope, and even a confidence in what lay ahead in the week — having spent a little time on a rainy Sunday morning doing more than complaining about the weather.

The thankfulness we offer for the little things in life often includes the weather. When the big snow comes like they say it will this winter and the Sunday morning commute through ice and snow becomes dangerous, I hope we can say with confidence — “Boy, it sure was good to go to church in the rain!”

Join us this Sunday — rain or shine — to experience a start to the week that will allow the following days to shine a little brighter no matter what the weatherman says.

~Jimmy Spear

Boonslick Chordbusters

Mid-Missouri's Barbershop
Harmony Society

(together with the Columiba 5th
Grade Honors Choir)
present

Christmas Carols It's A Song Fest! (Scrooge might show up...)

Join us for a terrific way to get
the Christmas Spirit
7:30 p.m
Saturday, December 5th
Missouri Theater
203 South Ninth Street

Call for tickets: 875-0600

Your Special Birthday!



Gene Moore
- 93 on Nov. 20
Margaret Hamlin
- 91 on Nov. 27

Save your Altoid tins!

A little youth project is in the works and we need Altoid breath mint sized tins. So, save them and leave them in the office for Jimmy Spear. Thanks.

Nov. 21-Laura Crane,
Jamie Estes
Nov. 24-John Bangs,
James French
Nov. 25-Chanda
Hughey,
Micha Hulen
Nov. 27-Margaret
Hamlin, Bill
Niedergerke

News of the congregation

We are mindful to keep the following church friends in our prayers in the coming days.

Martha Collins continues to be a patient at Boone Hospital and will soon be headed to The Bluffs to recuperate before getting back home to The Terrace. **Larry Clark** sustained a fall last week and is kind of banged up. We offer prayers for the healing of bruises and scrapes and for brighter days ahead. Our thoughts this last week were with **John and Sarah Yonker** who have returned from Texas where they were assisting her father **Mark Randle** in a time of health needs and care facility transition. And we offer prayers for **Millie** a little 11 month old friend of the Sheppard family who is in the hospital with a brain injury.

As the seasons of Thanksgiving and Advent come upon us, let **us take time to recall our church friends** in nursing home care facilities. Perhaps we are overdue to check on them, offer them a visit, hear about their life, and tell them about ours. It is hard to match the goodness that is found in a visit with a friend who could use one! The church office has location information on these folk if you need it.

There is exciting news within the Arnett family... **Eric and Tammy Arnett** are the proud parents of **Dietrich William**, born Friday, Nov. 13th. Older sisters **Jadie** and **Isabella** were showing loving fresh pictures on Sunday morning of their new little brother.

Thanks to **Sally Estes** for her skills at the grand piano on Sunday in the 8:30 service. Thanks to the choir for the energy their anthems have brought to 10:30 worship the last two Sundays! Thanks to **Thomas and Cindy Rose** for providing donuts last Sunday.

It is application time! The **CYF group has 7 senior members** that are all in the throes of college applications, essays, final SAT/ACT tests and big decision making. As they are a little stressed out, may they know wisdom and discernment in these days.

FCC will be leading afternoon **worship at Lenoir Health Care Center** this coming Sunday, Nov. 22 at 3:30 p.m. Rev. Jimmy Spear will be leading and would welcome any church folk in support of the singing, praying and leading worship. Join us!

Congratulations to **George and Willie Harris** who celebrate their 57th wedding anniversary on Nov. 27th.

(youth) @ first christian

JYF (3-5th grade)
CHI-RHO (6-8th grade)
CYF (9-12th grade)

Sunday, Nov. 22
BRING A CAN!

Bring canned food for a scavenger hunt.
JYF: 4:30- 6:00 p.m.
Chi-Rho: 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

JYF and CHI-RHO in Winter 2009

These are the dates for the Dec. season:
December 6 & 20 (Christmas Caroling)
Both groups meet twice a month.

CYF – Wednesday Nights
6:30-8:00 p.m.

(Dinner served at 5:30 p.m. \$5)

CYF -- Bible Study on Tuesday Nights
6:30-7:30 p.m. in Bethany Hall
We are studying Daniel.

NOTE: No CYF next week (25th)
Have a good turkey weekend!



The 77th Annual Christmas Pageant

Sunday, December 13, 2009

7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Tasting Party to follow in Fellowship Hall

Pageant Practice for Children

Sundays, Nov. 22 & 29, Dec. 6 & 13

Carol Practice for children pre-school-5th grade will be held on the above Sundays during the River of Life time which begins at 9:30 a.m. All children are welcome to participate. While we welcome children the night of the pageant, practice would ensure the excitement and preparation needed for a great pageant.

Pre-School children meet at **9:30 a.m.** in the Nursery/Pre-School Room.

K-5 children meet in the Cinema at **9:30 a.m.** to divide into the following groups:

K-1 ring rainbow bells, ringing about Angels.

Grades 2-3 singing about Shepherds. Grades 4-5 singing about Mary and Joseph.

After carol practice an advent lesson for children will round out the time/hour.

Other Pageant Participants

The annual Christmas pageant carries with it many traditions. These include a senior girl as the Angel Gabriel, 5th grade boys and their fathers as the shepherds, three wise men as the 3 kings (who can sing and walk at the same time) and the baby born closest to late November as the baby Jesus. The Older Youth will collect a "white gift" offering and the Chancel Choir will offer anthems and congregational singing.

Now taking Applications: Three Wise Men needed.

A great outfit awaits along with the chance to sing a verse of We Three Kings!

See Jimmy Spear to apply.

The First Sunday of Advent: November 29

The annual Hanging of the Greens will be our worship focus in both services on this special day.



We want to say thank you to everyone. Your thoughts, prayers and the prayer shawl for the birth of Dietrich are truly appreciated. It is a blessing to belong to such a loving church family. We look forward to bringing Dietrich with us to worship in the near future.

~Eric, Tammy, Jadie, Isabella
& Dietrich Arnett

—
Thanks for the flowers, cards and visits
by the ministers. ~Peggy Cline

—
Thank you once again for your support of Woodhaven Annual Dinner. The event was a huge success and everyone had a great time. Thank you for all of your support to help fulfill the mission of Woodhaven which helps people with developmental disabilities.



Is that a Christmas Tree on his head?

-- VAC Tree News --

What does Wolf have on his head?? It is our empty Christmas Tree from our Angel Tree ministry! All the ornaments have been taken which means that all of the families that our church pledged to adopt through Columbia's Voluntary Action Center have been adopted by church members. This is a wonderful thing and it all happened very quickly! Thanks to all of those who are purchasing Christmas gifts for those in need in our community. If you would like some help with your family, a few folks have donated money to supplement this ministry. Contact the church office if you would like a financial partner for your family.

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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jyonker@firstchristian.org

Rev. Amy Kay Pavlovich, Associate Minister
amykayp@firstchristian.org

Rev. Jimmy Spear, Associate Minister
jimmy@firstchristian.org

Campus Ministry Intern: Charise Garrett

Music Staff:

Mary Bancroft, Coord. of Music & Organist
maryebancroft@yahoo.com

Cheryl Nichols, Choir Director
cnichols@stephens.edu

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, Nov. 22

Van Driver: Dan Gieseke
Office Receptionist: Laura Crane
Church School Greeter: Doris Neidhardt
Bethany Hall Greeter: Holly Wheatley

Flower Ministry:
Arranged by - Sue Fink
Delivered by - Bud Batterson, Haley Batterson

Servers for 8:30 Worship Service

Worship Assistants: Tom and Freda Martz, Mary Dewey
Elder: Sarah Yonker

Servers for 10:30 Worship Service

Communion Preparation: Betty Moon; Steve, Tracy and Haley Evers

Liturgist: Amy LaHue
Elders: David and Sarah Read, Jerry Daugherty

Deacons: The Stanley Team
Greeter North Door: Chris Creasy
Greeter South Door: Chuck Scott

Ushers: The Scott Team
Banner Bearers: Jadie Arnett and Jonathan LaHue
Candlelighters: Kim Potthast and Coleman Rogers

This Week (Nov. 22 - 28)

Sun. - Christmas Parade (Fair Trade entry),
3:00 p.m., downtown
- Lenoir Worship, 3:30 p.m.
- JYF (grades 3-5), 4:30-6:00 p.m.
- Chi-Rho (grades 6-8), 6:00-7:30 p.m.



Mon. - STARS (50+ group), Thanksgiving Luncheon, 12:00
noon, Broadway Christian Church
- Keystone Class, preparing for Loaves and Fishes

Tue. - Bible Study, 10:30 a.m., Morris Parlor
- CYF (grades 9-12), 6:30 p.m., Bible Study in
Bethany Hall

Wed. - Men's Lunch, 11:30 a.m., Senior Center
- No CAFÉ, Dave Ramsey group, CYF or College group
this week



Thr. & Fri.- Happy Thanksgiving!
(office closed)

Thanksgiving