



## Sunday Morning Worship: The First Sunday of Advent

In what has become one of the favorite worship services of the year, we will celebrate the beginning of Advent with the HANGING OF THE GREENS service on Sunday, November 29. At early and vices will be hung in the sanctuary and readings will interpret the symbolism and meaning of the service.



Advent brings the beautiful music of the Christmas season, and this year will be no different! The worship services will include the great hymns and special music. Linda Chandler will sing "Enter in the Wilderness" arranged by Lyndell Leatherman at the 8:30 service, and the Chancel Choir will offer the anthem "Come Down, Lord" by Stan Pethel at 10:30 a.m.

During Advent many people go to church looking to establish or reconnect with spiritual roots. If you have a neighbor or friend who doesn't have a church home, why not extend a friendly invitation to join us in celebration of God's love at First Christian Church!



## Women's Christmas Brunch

Sign up now (in the church office) by Dec. 3 to enjoy a delicious holiday brunch prepared by Laura Estes for ALL Women of FCC on Saturday, December 5, 9:00 - 10:00 am.



## Luncheon & Discussion about Bethany Hall

All church members are invited to a luncheon in Fellowship Hall, Sunday December 6 following the 10:30 service. Menu: Soup and Salad, cornbread and crackers, fruit and homemade desserts. A freewill offering will be taken to cover the cost of the lunch.

After sharing our lunch together we'll settle down for a discussion about future uses of Bethany Hall. Information about the history and use of Bethany Hall during the past year will be provided in an insert in next week's Visitor.

Childcare for pre-schoolers and elementary school age children will be provided. Please sign up for lunch in the church office or call in your reservation 449-7265.

## College Care Packages

This Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup> we will have all of our college care packages ready to be delivered. If you are willing to pick up a student's contact information and deliver for us, it would be wonderful! Everything will be in the Narthex for your consideration before and after both worship services. Also, if you have a child or grandchild who is a student, please pick up his/her package for us. Thanks so much! This is a wonderful, long term ministry of our church and we are pleased to get to continue it this semester for our students!

## Alternative Gifts

Our church's World Outreach Department and Church-In-Society Department are teaming up to offer us alternatives for gift purchasing this holiday season. Sunday mornings starting this very week there will be a table in the Narthex with gift certificates for these ministries that we support: The Shelter, Woodhaven, Heifer International and Fair Trade. You are welcome to come by the table, learn about these different ministries, and consider donating in honor of someone. Cards will be provided with information about each ministry so that you have something to give which tells about your gift. You may choose to give an actual Gift Certificate to our Fair Trade Store as well. If you have any questions, you are welcome to ask the outreach volunteer at the table or Amy Kay. Thanks for your consideration of alternative gifting!

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## ATTENTION ELDERS

Reminder of seminar  
 "How to work with Older Adults"  
 December 2nd @ 1:30-2:30 pm  
 Columbia Area Senior Center  
 or  
 December 10th @ 6:00-7:00 pm  
 Lenoir Woods

RSVP: 443-1111  
 Boone County Council on Aging

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### Weekly Report

Nov. 22, 2009

Received this week \$7,488

Received to Date \$181,719

Needed to Date \$179,642

Attendance - 307

(includes early worship - 64)

## Fair Trade Day

Wednesday, December 2 you are invited to come to the Bethany Hall for an extended shopping day in our Fair Trade Store! From 10:00am-8:00pm we will be staffed with wonderful volunteers who would be happy to see you and your friends. Pass on the word and come support farmers and artisans from all over the world by shopping Fair Trade.

## Heerrree's Johnny!

I want to call your attention to the article at the top center of the front page of this *VISITOR*, and encourage you to attend the forum for all church members on **Sunday, December 6**. Following lunch together we will discuss the future use of Bethany Hall, the building located immediately north of the Education Building, located at 125 N. 10<sup>th</sup> Street.

As you remember, earlier this year the Administrative Board approved a plan to use the building as more than a source of rental income, but as a meeting space and venue to serve the mission of the church. In these months many groups and individuals have used Bethany Hall on an occasional basis, and several groups have begun using it on a regular basis. For example, the Christian Youth Fellowship has begun holding Tuesday evening Bible studies there, the college group has moved out of "the Back Room" to Bethany Hall, and found it an attractive and safe place for their Wednesday night meetings. It has become a welcoming place for people to gather on Sunday mornings, for several months to have breakfast, and now for coffee and donuts. And it has become a great site for our Fair Trade Store.

After these several months the time has come for us to evaluate its use. What are the financial issues involved? What are other opportunities for using this building to minister to the community? What are the ways in which we can attract people and groups to the church through the use of this building?

Following this open forum, the ideas and opinions will be shared with the Administrative Board in a special meeting in January, at which time the Board will decide how it will be used in the future. Mark your calendar! Have lunch with us, and join us for this important discussion on December 6.

## Happy Birthday

Nov. 29-Maxwell Crane

Nov. 30-Christy Lowe

Dec. 1-Charlie Koelling

Dec. 3-Steve Green, David Read, Janie Beth Hellwege, Paula Hoenes

Dec. 4-Brenda Martin, Linda Ridgeway

Dec. 5-Mike Randerson, Erik White, Carole Harris



My sincere gratitude to John, Amy Kay, Jimmy and our church family for the calls, cards, flowers and prayers during Jim's illness. They were deeply appreciated. ~Marge Carter

What a delight it was to be back for the Nov. 8th service at First Christian Church. Thanks for the wonderful rendition of Happy Birthday on my 93rd birth date.

Columbia was our home for 61 years and First Christian Church and all the members our church family. Perry and I both missed all our friends. With Perry gone, I am relieved to be near our son Neil and his wife Marge here in St. Louis. May God Bless you all.~Helen Ewing

## 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

\$6 adults

\$3 kids 5-12 years

\$17 cap for a family

Under 5 free

6:20 - Devotion

6:30-7:30 - Adult Programming

Child Care Available

## Dec. 2nd CAFÉ

*Menu:* Turkey Frame Soup, Bread and Dessert

\* **Program Choices:**

- Financial Peace University, Cinema
- Bible Study, Keystone Class Room

\* **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**.

## News of the congregation

**Martha Collins** was released from Boone Hospital last week after spending several days there; she has moved to The Bluffs nursing home to continue regaining her strength and hopes to return to her home at The Terrace apartments. Our prayers are with **Bud Smith** on the recent death of his nephew, **Jim Pinet**. Funeral services were held at Memorial Baptist Church. **Emily Scott** was involved in an accident last Wednesday on I-70, and was treated in the hospital emergency room for several injuries, but she was not admitted. Our prayers are with her as she continues to recover.

Our love and sympathy are extended to **Marge Carter** on the death of her husband, **Jim**, who died at their home early Tuesday morning, November 17 following his recent battle with cancer. A native of Columbia, Jim had worked many years for Shelter Insurance Company, and along with Marge had been a member of our congregation since 1942. Jim and Marge celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on November 1. According to his wishes, no funeral services were held, but a luncheon was served for Marge and their family members after worship, followed by a visitation for church members and friends in the Morris Parlor last Sunday afternoon, November 22.

A nice article about **Ellie Miller** appeared in the Winter 2010 edition of the Mizzou Alumni Association News announcing her receipt of the 2009 G.O.L.D. (Graduates of the Last Decade) award for outstanding volunteer service from the Association. A BS BE '04 graduate of Mizzou, Ellie was active in many community organizations during her years at Mizzou, while being actively involved in our college group, and serving as our campus ministry intern. Living in Fayetteville, Arkansas, Ellie works for Procter & Gamble, and continues to be active in Mizzou alumni affairs.

Thanks to **Nora Dietzel** for her solo at the 8:30 service, and to those who presented special music at 10:30: the **Handbell Choir** for their Prelude and Communion music, the **Chancel Choir** for their anthem, **Cheryl Nichols**, Choir Director, and **Mary Bancroft**, Organist.

# (youth) @ first christian

JYF (3-5<sup>th</sup> grade)  
CHI-RHO (6-8<sup>th</sup> grade)  
CYF (9-12<sup>th</sup> grade)

## Sunday, Dec 6

JYF: 4:30- 6:00 p.m.

Chi-Rho: 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

(Chi-Rho Movie Outing--stay tuned!)

## 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.



## The 77th Annual Christmas Pageant

Sunday, December 13, 2009

**7:00 p.m.** in the Sanctuary

Tasting Party to follow in Fellowship Hall

## Pageant Practice for Children Sundays Nov. 29, Dec. 6 & 13

Carol Practice for children pre-school-5<sup>th</sup> 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 on the 3rd floor at **9:30 a.m.** to divide into the following groups: K-1 ringing bells. Grades 2-3 and 4-5 singing. After carol practice an advent lesson for children will round out the time/hour.

### **Now taking Applications: Two more Wise Men needed.**

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

See Jimmy Spear to apply.

## STARS



*S*eniors

*T*ogether

*A*ffirming our faith in God

*R*eaching out to others

*S*erving Christ

*The 55+ Fellowship Group of  
First Christian Church*

## Brunch & Decking the Halls!

Come join us for a morning of fun, fellowship and service **Wednesday, December 2, 2009** at **Lenoir Community Center**. Brunch (\$6.00 per person) will be served at **9 a.m.** at the Center, then we will join Colleen Nilges as she guides us on decorating the area for Christmas. There will be about 5 trees and several wreaths for decorating, so there will be plenty to do for lots of people. We will finish by 11:30 a.m.

Sign up deadline is Monday, November 30.  
If you need a ride, please contact Carol Slusher at 874-9402.



## Christmas Parade

Many Columbia Christmas Parade thanks are extended to **Tom Crane** who let us borrow his truck, **Mark Hunsaker** for driving the truck, **Molly Read** for making our signage and walking with our Fair Trade entry, and the **Pavloviches** for making it all work out well. We enjoyed the drumming of **Morgan** from Community United Methodist Church and his friend **Ish** as our entry's main attraction. Our church is one of Columbia's three 100% fair traders who all worked together for this fun event.

## Home Alone Ministry

If anyone needs a ride to the doctor, grocery shopping or errand running call Carol Slusher, 874-4902. She has a good group of willing drivers to provide this service.



## BOOK

It's that time again! To help us get in the mood the books on the Book Cart in the narthex are all Christmas oriented. Many especially for children will emphasize the real "reason for the season".

There are craft books, stories, novels, devotionals and inspirational books. One is the story of the Miracle in a Shoebox, the Samaritan Purse (Franklin Graham) project for thousands of gifts for the needy. Check them out today! You'll be glad you did!

If you have The Christmas Star by Marcus Pfister, would you please return it so others can enjoy it? It's been missing for a couple of years.

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# 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 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. 29

*Van Driver:* Frank Boster

*Office Receptionist:* Nina Oliver

*Church School Greeter:* Lorene and Nelson Trickey

*Bethany Hall Greeter:* Tom and Susan Gray

*Flower Ministry:*

*Arranged by -* Patti Freeman, Eric Seaman

*Delivered by -* Micki and Gene Kirkham

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

*Worship Assistants:* Larry and Millie Caringer

*Elder:* Joyce Stanley

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

*Communion Preparation:* Holly Wheatley and Brad Beary

*Liturgist:* Erin Bower

*Elders:* Cherry Hinderberger, Mary Bancroft, Sally Estes

*Deacons:* The Creasy Team

*Greeter North Door:* Judy Cunningham

*Greeter South Door:* Carol Slusher

*Ushers:* The Burnam Team

*Banner Bearers:* Derrick Evers and Emma Hawkins

*Candlelighters:* Kim Potthast and Coleman Rogers



## This Week (Nov. 29 - Dec. 5)

- Sun. - Christmas Pageant Practice, 9:30 am (see pg. 3)  
- Hanging of the Greens (first Sunday of Advent)  
- Terrace Apts. Vespers, 3:00 pm
- Tue. - Bible Study, 10:30 am, Morris Parlor  
- CYF (grades 9-12), 6:30 pm, Bible Study in Bethany Hall
- Wed. - Fair Trade Store Open, 10:00 am-8:00 pm, Bethany Hall  
- Men's Lunch, 11:30 am, Senior Center  
- CAFÉ: Dinner, 5:30 pm, Fellowship Hall  
    Dave Ramsey class, 6:00 pm, Cinema  
    Bible Study, 6:30 pm, Keystone Class Room  
- CYF, 6:30-8:00 pm  
- College Group, 8:45 pm, Bethany Hall
- Thr. - STARS group, 9:00 am, Lenoir Center (Brunch and  
    Christmas Decorating)
- Fri. - Living Nativity, 6:00-8:00 pm, FCC and downtown  
    Columbia  
- Fair Trade Store Open, 6:00-8:00 pm, Bethany Hall
- Sat. - Women's Christmas Brunch, 9:00 am, Fellowship Hall