



THE
January 1, 2010
Vol. 68, No. 27

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) VISITOR

In Worship - January 3

Two great passages of scripture will provide the readings for the first Sunday of the new year and the text for Dr. Yonker's sermon. John 1:1-18 opens the 4th Gospel with Jesus as the word of God made flesh, and Ephesians 1:4-13 is filled with language celebrating the gift of Christ.

Music this week will include piano duets by Jean Hall and Mary Bancroft. Among their selections will be *We Three Kings*, *People Look East*, *Change My Heart*, *O God* and *March of the Kings*.

Many Thanks!

Special thanks to **Joyce Stanley** and **Dane Pavlovich** for hosting our Christmas Fellowship Brunch on Sunday! It was a relaxing, lovely event for those of us who were able to get out in the snow. Also, thanks to **Jessica Humble**, **Bonnie Fay**, the **Pavloviches**, and **Joyce Stanley** for providing our goodies and fruit.

Much appreciation is extended to **Thomas Rose** who brought his snow shovels to church on Sunday morning and while his family worked in the church office, helped clear our sidewalks. Also, special thanks to **Keith Picker**, our custodian, for doing a great job all around last Sunday morning. There were a lot of extra responsibilities that Keith picked up and we are thankful for his willingness to do so and demeanor through it all.

The cold Columbia night was a good night for hot chili and cornbread. Serving this hot meal at Loaves and Fishes on Monday, Dec. 28 were members of the CYF: **Alec Wright**, **Drew & Jake Nichols**, **Lindsey Chandler**, **Brian & Jenny McCarty**, and **Jimmy Spear**. The guests said the cornbread was better than Jiffy. We didn't say a word! Thanks to our constant L & F helper, **Chuck Scott** for being present.

Thanks to all those who made the Christmas Pageant Children's music possible. **Brenda Mosby**, **Amy LaHue**, **Jennifer Alexander**, **Molly Read**, **Lisa Synder** and **Kim Rogers** - song leaders. Thanks to **Joyce Stanley** and **Holly Wheatley** for crafting with us in those weeks. **Brenda** and **Amy** - a big thanks for extra angel robe making at the last minute!

Children's Christian Education Meeting (Children's Sunday School--River of Life) Monday, January 4, 7:00 p.m., Bethany Hall

The Children's Education Committee and any interested parents/church members are invited to a meeting to review and renew for the winter and spring season. We will make some changes to the Sunday morning plan and get excited about some new possibilities. Come ready to take on a new opportunity this season!

Thank you!

It is with sincere gratitude that we say thanks to all the members and friends of the church for presenting us with such a generous Christmas gift. We thank God for the privilege of serving on the staff of First Christian Church and in sharing together in the work of this great church with you.

~The Church Staff



January 6th CAFÉ Programs

Epiphany Celebration – Fellowship Hall

Come and hear from international students who celebrate Christmas on Epiphany in their home countries. We will enjoy pictures and maybe even video from these celebrations and have a party of our own to conclude the evening. This is an event that is appropriate for all ages.

Bible Study with Marcus Borg!

Beginning Wednesday, January 6, John Yonker and Ken Watson will lead a Wednesday evening study of Marcus Borg's book, [The Heart of Christianity](#). This study will replace the regular Wednesday CAFÉ Bible Study and is open to everyone in the congregation.

An internationally recognized New Testament scholar, Dr. Borg has written several books on the study of the historical Jesus. Many of our members recall his visit to Columbia when he came to lecture at First Christian Church in 2001. This 12-week series will give us the opportunity to discuss the issues which lie at the heart of Christianity, including faith, the Bible, being born again, sin and salvation, and other topics many of us find difficult. There will even be times during the 12 weeks to see and hear from Marcus Borg (via DVD) on these topics.

Sessions will be held in the Keystone Classroom on Wednesday evenings, 6:30 - 8 p.m. on the following dates: January 6, 20, 27, February 3, 24, March 3, 10, 24, 31, April 7, 14 and 21.

Call the church office to register for the class. For more information contact John Yonker at the church office: 449-7265.

Merry Christmas

The season of Advent was a beautiful time around the church. From delivering College Care Packages to the Women's Brunch, the Living Nativity, the Pageant and Caroling to the late Christmas Eve worship service, we had meaningful and fun opportunities for friends of all ages. Thanks to you all for giving the season life and filling it with love. May we continue to do so with continued energy and spirit in the coming year!



News of the congregation

Vernice Walden, 88, died on Sunday, December 27 at the Ashland Nursing Home. A funeral service was held on Tuesday afternoon at Memorial Funeral Home. A member of our congregation since 1949, she was married to **Fred Walden** who preceded her in death. Survivors include a brother, **Robert Pauley**, a niece, **Linda Harpham** and husband, **Tom**, all of Columbia, and a nephew and his wife, **Dean and Rennie** of North Carolina. She was also preceded in death by a son, **Gary Walden** in 2005, a brother, an infant son, and sister.

Frank Oliver, age 89, died at Boone Hospital on Tuesday morning, December 29 after a brief illness. A native of Columbia and member of our congregation since 1958, Frank, the fourth of seven children of **Jacob and Mary Oliver**, graduated from Hickman High School in 1938, and was employed by the Columbia Daily Tribune, the Columbia Missourian, Stephens Publishing Company, AB Chance, American press and MFA before he retired in 1982. He served as deacon of our church, and on the board of Woodhaven Learning Center. He was preceded in death by his sister, **Mary Frances Kuhlman**, and his brothers, **Harold, Ed, Owen and Dick**. He is survived by his brother, **Jack Oliver**, and three generations of nieces and nephews. A funeral service will be held at 2:30 p.m., Sunday, January 3 in the church sanctuary.

Among the members and friends of our congregation in our concern at this time are: **Stan Stafford** who continues to receive care at Boone Hospital. After spending several days at University Hospital, **Muriel Leach** has been moved to the Lenoir Woods Health Care Center to continue regaining strength before returning to her home in the Lenoir Village. **Reesy Tetley** moved to the Lenoir Woods Health Care Center last week. **Linda Chandler** is getting along well at home following surgery last week at Boone Hospital. **Elaine Kent**, **Fred List's** daughter, has returned home after spending some days in the hospital recently. **Moray Kiehl's** brother, **Clayton Martin**, has also returned home to continue recovering from surgery early last week at University Hospital.

Weekly Report

Dec. 27, 2009

Received this week \$8,696
Received to Date \$238,585
Needed to Date \$227,441
Attendance - 161
(includes early worship - 30)

New Years Day Eat-Out

The first Friday eat-out group will meet at Bob Evans Restaurant at 5:30 p.m. on, yes, New Years Day! Anyone and everyone from the church is welcome to enjoy good food and good company. Dutch treat, of course. See you there!



BOOK ORNER

Do you need to be reminded that the God who spoke still speaks; the God who forgave still forgives; the God who came still comes? He comes into our world to do what we cannot. He comes to move the stones that we can't budge.

Try reading Max Lucado's He Still Moves Stones, written about a five-time divorcee, a despondent cripple, a sister at a funeral, a father in an emergency. These are not just Sunday school stories, romantic fables, somewhere-over-the-rainbow illusions. This book features true moments in which a real God meets real pain and answers the question, "Where is God when I hurt?" Find it on the Book Cart along with an assortment of helpful books from our church library. Thanks to whoever left this book for others to enjoy.

CWU (Church Women United) Annual Meeting

Church Women United will hold their annual meeting on Sunday, January 17, at 2:30 in the afternoon in Morris Parlor. First Christian Church CWF women are the hostesses for this event. [Please note this is a change of date from the one listed in the CWF year-book.]

Thank you so much to all the people who kept me in their thoughts and prayers during my recent surgery. I am home now and doing well. Special thanks to Dr. Yonker for his visits and to Millie Bolman for providing me a warm coverup.
~Pat Wright



Please join the Ladies' Book Club Wednesday, January 13, at noon in Bethany Hall as they discuss Chris

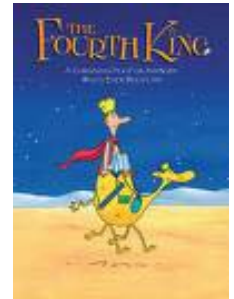
Bohjalian's Skeletons at the Feast. The setting is in the last few months of WWII and is a "bittersweet story of romance, war...inspired by a real diary." The St Louis Post Dispatch picked it the best book in 2008. In February, the Club chose The Shack by William Young. March's pick is the non-fiction The Girls from Ames by Jeffrey Zaslow. The Club meets the second Wednesday of each month at noon in Bethany Hall through May.

This Sunday, January 3 The River of Life

Grades K-5

A Special Christmas Movie

9:30 a.m.
in the Cinema



Happy Birthday

- Jan. 3-Zach Shaw, Debbie Potthast
- Jan. 4-Albert Browne, Paige Freed
- Jan. 5-Hiliary Nichols, Lindsey Chandler
- Jan. 6-Allison Ramsey
- Jan. 7-Bob Haynes
- Jan. 8-Brian Montgomery, Bryan Garton

CAFÉ

Christian Action Fellowship Education

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

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**.

Jan. 6th CAFÉ

Menu: Lentil Stew with Ham and Greens
Creamy Apple Pecan Salad
Cornbread
Cookies

* Program Choices:

- Epiphany Celebration – Fellowship Hall
Come and hear from international students who celebrate Christmas on Epiphany in their home countries.
- Bible Study with Marcus Borg, Keystone Class Room, led by John Yonker and Ken Watson

* **CYF** (grades 9-12) with Jimmy Spear

(youth) @ first christian

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

JYF and CHI-RHO: Sunday, Jan. 10

JYF: 4:30 - 6 pm

Chi-Rho: 6 - 7:30 pm

**Other dates: Jan. 24, Feb. 7 & 21
Chi-Rho (Area) Retreat March 12-13**

CYF in 2010

*Bible Study on Tuesday Nights
6:30-7:30 p.m. in Bethany Hall
Youth Group - Wednesday Nights
6:30-8:00 p.m.*

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

CYF attending the NEA/SEGA Retreat
January 15-16
Departing Fri. 4:30pm/Return Sat. 5pm
See Jimmy to sign up.

The Visitor

First Christian Church

101 N. 10th Street
Columbia, MO 65201
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Ministerial Staff:

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Rev. Amy Kay Pavlovich, Associate Minister
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Rev. Jimmy Spear, Associate Minister
jimmy@firstchristian.org

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Music Staff:

Mary Bancroft, Coord. of Music & Organist
maryebancroft@yahoo.com
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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, Jan. 3

Van Driver: Steve McCormack
Office Receptionist: Valerie Freed
Church School Greeter: Judy Hall
Bethany Hall Greeter: Sally Robinson
Flower Ministry:
Arranged by - Lisa and Michael Snyder
Delivered by - Bragg & Joyce Stanley

Servers for 8:30 Worship Service

Worship Assistants: Susan and Tom Gray, Mary Daugherty
Elder: Sarah Yonker

Servers for 10:30 Worship Service

Communion Preparation: Jane Ann Hackett and Susan Klockow
Liturgist: Nancy Watson
Elders: Fred Mottaz, Perry Stemmons, Sally Estes
Deacons: The Campbell Team
Greeter North Door: Sally Robinson
Greeter South Door: Pat and Sue Wright
Ushers: The Pavlovich Team
Banner Bearers: Ben Creasy and Elayna Mottaz
Candlelighters: Sam Creasy and Derrick Evers

This Week (Jan. 3 - 9)

- Tue. - Bible Study, 10:30 a.m., Morris Parlor
- CYF Bible Study (grades 9-12), 6:30 p.m.,
Bethany Hall
- Wed. - Men's Lunch, 11:30 a.m., Senior Center
- CAFÉ: Dinner, 5:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall
Programs, all starting at 6:30 p.m.
- Epiphany Celebration, Fellowship Hall
- Bible Study with Marcus Borg, Keystone
Class Room
- CYF, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

