



THE VISITOR

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

January 21, 2011
Vol. 69, No. 28

In Worship on January 23

Remember the classic hymn, *Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult*? Many people have a lot of interest in what God can do for them, but when it comes down to what they need to do for God it's a different story. In worship this Sunday we'll explore what it means to be called by God.

Hymns for the day will be: *Immortal Invisible, God Only Wise*; *Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore*; *Be Known to Us in Breaking Bread*; and *Blest Be the Tie*. The Chancel Choir will sing *Trust In Me* by Wisner and Dunbar and will be accompanied by Mary Bancroft, organ and David Read, guitar.



Around here we like to say, "You don't have to leave your mind behind when you enter our doors." First Christian Church has not only said that, but it has offered many opportunities for expanding one's thinking and deepening one's faith in an honest way.

Beginning January 26th as part of CAFÉ we will offer an excellent 12 week DVD study "Living the Questions." In this study participants will take a fresh look at Christianity and discover its significance for the 21st Century and one's personal faith. The overall theme is that of faith as a journey, not a destination.

The weekly sessions will expose those attending to the thinking of leading theologians, church leaders, sociologists and bible scholars. Opportunities will be given in a non-threatening environment to discuss what has been presented. Rev. Veatch will facilitate the sessions.

Don't let the 12 weeks scare you off. You can attend as many or as few sessions as you want. There is no textbook, but printed materials that enhance what is presented will be available in advance through the church office.

It will be helpful for room set-up if we know of your interest. You can do that when you make your reservations for CAFÉ.

"A showcase of art by members of our congregation - past, present, and future"



Open for Viewing: Sunday January 23 before and after worship

Closing Reception: Sat., January 29, 5-7 p.m.

Art Show Open for Viewing - Bethany Hall

The Artists Among Us show, a project of the FCC Arts Ministry, opened on Sunday, January 16 with over 25 works of art in a range of media and more than 40 viewers. Special thanks go

to our "installation artist" Jay Creasy who helped place the paintings, photographs, woodwork, collages, scrapbook and other work submitted, transforming Bethany Hall into a beautiful gallery. You can view the show before or after church on Sunday, January 23 or attend the closing reception on Sat., January 29th from 5 to 7 pm. Invite your friends and family to come with you as we celebrate the creative talents among us!



Epistle

Do you remember where you were the evening of April 4, 1968? I do . . . very clearly and painfully. Peggy and I were in the inner city of Indianapolis waiting to hear Robert Kennedy, who was running for President. As we made our way through the crowd, which was decidedly African-American, we met an old woman who looked at us with a glare that could kill.

After we waited like forever, Kennedy finally arrived. The crowd went wild. His posture as he approached the microphone should have been a tip-off but in the enthusiasm of the moment we missed it. "Friends," he said, "I have some bad news to tell you." Then he told us Martin Luther King, Jr. had been assassinated a couple of hours before. We heard several screams from the crowd. We understood the old woman's glare.

In 1968 many American cities experienced race riots. Whole neighborhoods were burned to the ground. Indianapolis was ready to explode, but it didn't because Kennedy shared his own pain surrounding an assassination. Then he recited a poem from Aeschylus which has stayed with me ever since. "Even in our sleep, pain which cannot forget falls drop by drop upon the heart until, in our own despair, against our will, comes wisdom through the awful grace of God."

As Kennedy turned to leave, so did we. With deliberate but not panicked steps we made our way to our car. Young men ran past us yelling, "There's gonna be a riot!" Because of Kennedy's words, Indianapolis was quiet that night.

King was a modern day prophet and like many prophets he was very controversial. I admit I was uncertain at times. In the years since our country has changed considerably because of this Baptist preacher who spoke a word from the Lord. Thanks be to God.

~Larry Veatch, Interim Senior Minister



CAFÉ

Christian Action Fellowship Education

Wednesday Evenings

Opportunities for the church family to share in fellowship, while learning and growing in spirit and faith.

5:30-6:15 - Dinner

\$7-adults, \$3-kids 5-12 years

\$18 cap for a family. Under 5 free

*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.

January 26th

Menu:

Teriyaki Chicken, Rice Pilaf, Sweet
Potato Mashers and Dessert

CAFÉ Programs (6:30 - 7:30 p.m.)

- "Living the Questions" - with Rev. Veatch (see article on front page)
- Children's Choir Fellowship & Activities
- Christian Youth Fellowship (grades 9-12) with Jimmy Spear

Garage Sale Date Set!!

April 1 - 3 are the dates for the annual Church Garage Sale! Start boxing up your unused/unwanted items! "Treasures" may be brought to the church the last week in March. If you absolutely, positively can't wait til March — call Rev. Jimmy 449-7265 or Joyce 445-5058 and we'll figure something out.

Weekly Report

Jan. 16, 2011

Received this week \$4,520

Received to Date \$252,742

Needed to Date \$248,827

Attendance - 258

(includes early worship - 30)

News of the congregation

Thanks to **Harlan Hackett** for his solo, *Let Thy Mantle Fall on Me*, at both services this last Sunday. We also appreciate the musical talents of the **Chancel Choir** for their anthem, *O Worship the Lord*.

If you know of someone who is in the hospital, please let us know so that they might be mentioned in this column.

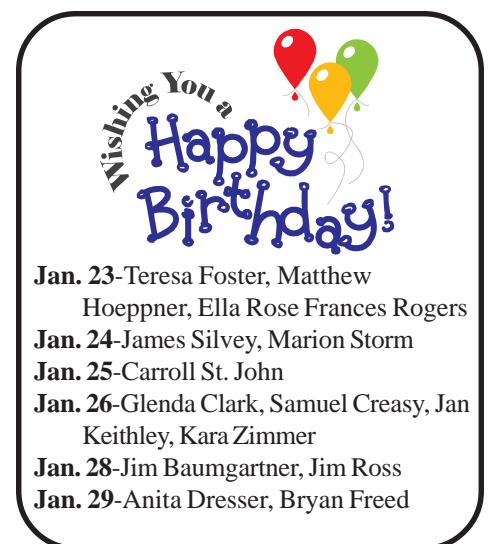
Drennan Group

Drennan Group will meet on Tuesday, January 25 at 1:15 p.m. in the Drennan Room. Liz Allen Restrepo will give the program and worship.

LIFE Group Meets

The LIFE group will be meeting on Monday, January 24th at 6:00 p.m. in Bethany Hall. It's going to be a great evening—three different kinds of chili and other foods served by various members. Everyone else is asked to bring their own beverage and their appetite! There will be a short presentation including a few tips on how we can all make time to be successful in the midst of busy lives, and of course a lively discussion to follow!

What is LIFE? LIFE is a Christian Women's Fellowship group whose name stands for "Living In Faith Everyday." They cover a vast age span, enjoy many different walks of life, but all have one thing in common—faith and that little thing called life. LIFE meets monthly for fun, fellowship and a discussion of a variety of topics that are essential to every busy woman. Join us!



- Jan. 23-Teresa Foster, Matthew Hoepfner, Ella Rose Frances Rogers
- Jan. 24-James Silvey, Marion Storm
- Jan. 25-Carroll St. John
- Jan. 26-Glenda Clark, Samuel Creasy, Jan Keithley, Kara Zimmer
- Jan. 28-Jim Baumgartner, Jim Ross
- Jan. 29-Anita Dresser, Bryan Freed



What a wonderful church! It just is not possible for me to convey my appreciation for all the love and best wishes that I have received in the last few days. I was very chagrined that by collapsing on stage I had cast a cloud on the wonderful festivities of the day, but I am happy to report that no long term problems were discovered and I am as good (??) as ever. Thanks to all of you, with all my heart.

~Cliff Tompson

Thanks to everyone for the concern and prayers. I'm grateful to the shawl ministry for my beautiful prayer shawl which brought comfort to me and provided extra warmth when I left the hospital. A special thank you to Jimmy and the gang for the visits and surprise caroling in the hospital. My mom especially appreciated a special treat of comfort that was sent along from Sarah Read and the offerings of assistance from Jen Micek and others.

~Azure Stevens



Ladies Book Club meets at noon in Bethany Hall, Wed., Feb. 9 to discuss *Olive Kitteridge* by Elizabeth Strout.

Chancel Bells

Chancel Bells will take a brief break for a few weeks and re-convene with rehearsals on Sunday, February 6. All are welcome to come join and ring 🎵

(youth) @ first christian

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

CYF on Wed. Jan. 26
6:00 - 8 p.m., 3rd floor
(dinner at CAFÉ at 5:30)

JYF & Chi-Rho on Sun., Jan. 23
JYF: 4:30-6 p.m.
Chi-Rho: 6-7:30 p.m.

Children's Choirs:
Every Wednesday at 6:15 p.m.



Heifer Gift

Our Heifer Gift Ark for John and Sarah Yonker is well on the way to the goal of \$5,000. We have received \$2,600 as of January 18. Help us reach the goal so we can purchase the Gift Ark and present John and Sarah a plaque to hang on their wall at home instead of a certificate. A flock of geese or a trio of rabbits will make a great birthday gift for your friend or family member. Valentine's Day is coming, give the gift that keeps on giving. Make your check out to First Christian Church and in the memo section write "Gift Ark". Check out Heifer's website at www.heifer.org to see how your gift will make a difference.

~World Outreach Department

Serving Schedule - Sunday, Jan. 23

Van Driver: Dan Gieseke

Office Receptionist: Nina Oliver

Church School Greeter: Gene Kirkham

Flower Ministry:

Arranged by - Rebekah Hart, Jennifer & Jacob Alexander

Delivered by - Jacki Davidson, Larry Burnam

Servers for 8:30 Worship Service

Worship Assistants: Tommy Gay Evans, Sharon and Steve Smith

Elder: Linda Ridgeway

Servers for 10:30 Worship Service

Communion Preparation: Bryant and Susan White, Erik White

Liturgist: Jacki Davidson

Elders: David Read, Judy Cunningham, Steve Lightner

Deacons: The Stanley Team

Greeter North Door: Amy LaHue

Greeter South Door: Susan and Jeff Ripley

Ushers: The Scott Team

Banner Bearers: Madeline Marrero and Emma Hawkins

Candlelighters: Coleman Rogers and Hunter Rogers

Children's Worship Leader: Kim Boger

Children's Worship Helper: Lana Poole

This Week (Jan. 23 - 29)

Sun. - Art Show, before and after worship, Bethany Hall
- Lenoir Heath Care Worship, 3:30 p.m.

Mon. - Pathfinders serving Loaves & Fishes
- LIFE Group, 6:00 p.m., Bethany Hall
- Nominating Committee, 7:00 p.m., Keystone Room

Tue. - Bible Study, 10:30 a.m., Morris Parlor
- Drennan Group, 1:15 p.m., Drennan Room

Wed. - Hannah Jones Group, 9:30 a.m., Lenoir 2nd Floor Apts.
- Men's Lunch, 11:30 a.m., Senior Center
- Brummett-Harrah Group, 1:30 p.m., Tommy Gay Evan's home
- CAFÉ, dinner - 5:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall program, 6:30-7:30 p.m., *Living the Questions*
- Children's Choir, 6:15-7:30 p.m.
- CYF (9th-12th grade), 6:30-8:00 p.m.
- College Group, 8:45 p.m., Bethany Hall



The Visitor

First Christian Church

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Dr. Larry Veatch, Interim Senior Minister

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

Music Staff:

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

Cheryl Nichols, Choir Director
cnichols@stephens.edu

Cynthia Williams, Early Service Pianist &
Children's Choir Director
cmusique@aol.com

Mother's Day Out: Tracy Westhoff, Director

Support Staff:

Kay Beissenherz, Administrative Assistant
fcc@firstchristian.org

Elizabeth Grissom, Part-time Admin. Asst.

Fred Mottaz, Business Manager
fred@firstchristian.org

Keith Picker, Custodian

Return Service Requested