



THE VISITOR

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

January 7, 2011
Vol. 69, No. 26

In Worship on January 9

One worship service at 10:30 a.m. will conclude Dr. John Yonker's ministry at First Christian Church. Using texts found in Philippians 3:10-14 and Hebrews 12:1-2, Dr. Yonker will deliver his farewell sermon, challenging the church to continue running the race of faith.

Special presentations will include the Honored Minister's pin by Dr. Tom Shroust and plaques by Steve Smith, Administrative Board Moderator.

Music for the morning will include the hymns: *Gather Us In; Come and Find the Quiet Center; Be Thou My Vision; Come, Share the Lord*. The Chancel Choir's anthem will be *In This Very Room* and Jerry Daugherty will sing *How Lovely Are Thy Dwellings*. A brass choir will make the music even more beautiful on this special day.

Church Dine-Out

Friday - Jan. 7

5:30 p.m.

Bob Evans Restaurant
Everyone Welcome!

Weekly Report

Dec. 26, 2010

Received this week \$5,954
Received to Date \$220,518
Needed to Date \$222,821
Attendance - 146

Weekly Report

Jan. 2, 2011

Received this week \$15,303
Received to Date \$235,821
Needed to Date \$233,017
Attendance - 288
(includes early worship - 46)

The Yonker Celebration



**A Distinguished Ministry
1992 - 2011**

**With our gratitude for years of faithful
leadership and care, Godspeed**

Join us as we honor John and Sarah

Sunday, January 9

**One Worship Service at 10:30
choirs, brass and a final word
Noon Luncheon at Columbia College**

Heerrree's Johnny!

It hardly seems possible that almost eighteen and a half years have passed since the Yonker Family sold their home in St. Charles and moved to Columbia to become members of First Christian Church. But the calendar tells the tale! Our sons were but school boys in those days and now they are grown men. Sarah and I were raising our family then, and now we are grandparents, looking forward to spending more time with our sons and grandson, traveling and some things we have always talked about doing. Where does the time go? Who knows, but it comes and goes so quickly!

In those first months since we were welcomed with open arms and received into the church family, we have been made to feel that we have always belonged here. And what a great gift that is! You threw a party to welcome us when we came; you invited Sarah and me to read the narrators scripts in the Christmas pageant, and several of you helped us move from a rental house on Green Meadows Road to our new home on Woods Edge, out in the southwest part of town when we could pull onto Nifong almost without looking for on-coming traffic. Through all the years you have given us your support; you have volunteered to do this or that, and gladly said yes so many times when I called to ask for help with some committee or project. You have been our friends and graciously accepted our friendship.

What can we say but thank you? Thank you for providing such a warm and welcoming church home. We have been highly honored to serve with you in this place, and richly blessed as you have shared your lives with us through the years. When he served as our Associate Minister, Ken Watson and I often talked about the church and said how fortunate we were having the privilege of serving at First Christian Church in Columbia. We have both known churches where people were always arguing with one another, or which are always fighting with their ministers. But we never found that here, and we thank God! That's why we stayed!

As Sarah and I begin our retirement, our affection for you, and appreciation of you, will not wane. We will hold you in our hearts as we think of you often, enjoy reading the *Visitor*, and look forward to hearing great things about you in the years to come. But before that happens, we look forward to seeing you on Sunday!



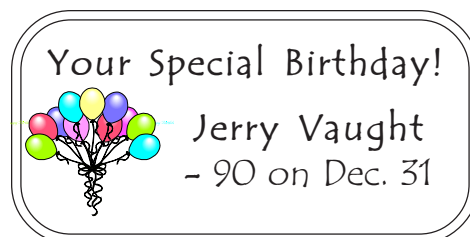
It takes about a dozen people to staff the day to day and ongoing ministry of First Christian Church. The group gathered for a Christmas lunch recently and was reminded how great it is to work and serve at FCC. Part of our thanksgiving also includes the most generous staff Christmas gift. Money collected, divided evenly among the staff was most appreciated by each of us. Many thanks, friends, for gifts.
~The FCC Staff



I want to thank you for the warm hearts and kindness that you all have brought to my family for the holidays. I can't say how much we all love the gifts you have shared with us and share in the warmth of your loving hearts and kindness. I hope love and joy and peace will be with you all throughout the holidays and the New Year. Thank you.
~Happy Holidays from the Hyde Family

I want to thank the ministry of flowers and Mary Daugherty for the most beautiful poinsettia delivered to me last Sunday. It is so great to be remembered, especially when you are 95.
~Dubby Muir

Dear Church Family,
We are writing to tell you how much we appreciate all that you have done for us after the loss of Brad's father. The plant was beautiful, but it was the prayers, phone calls and cards that helped the most. We are once again thankful to have the close and warm community that you are. While we are saddened by our loss, we take solace in the fact that Dad and Ken are together again.
~Brad Volmert Family



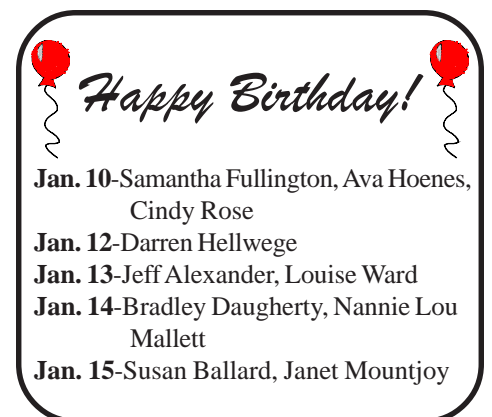
News of the congregation

Thanks to the following people whose musical offerings helped to brighten our worship services last Sunday: **Amy Lightner**, accompanied by **Cynthia Williams**, for her solos presented at both services, **Jean Hall** and **Mary Bancroft** for their piano duets and the **Chancel Choir** for their anthem at the late service. Thanks to **Hayley Batterson** for presenting the Children's Moment at the late service, and the **Rev. Sally Robinson** for helping to lead both worship services in the absence of **Jimmy Spear** who left Sunday morning to accompany the college students on their mission trip.

Rev. Jimmy Spear and seven college students left the church about 10 a.m. last Sunday morning to begin their journey to Nashville, Tennessee where they will spend the week working in some inner city mission activities. Making the trip with Jimmy are: **Lindsey Chandler**, **Jordan Mills**, **Molly Read**, **Jesse Barnes**, **Megan Brackenridge**, **Ryan Hunsaker** and **Jacob Walsch**. They will return home at the end of the week.

Our prayers are with **Tom Martz** who has been released from Rusk Rehabilitation Center and moved to South Hampton Nursing Home, and also with **Ed and Cherry Hinderberger** who have gone to Mexico where he is receiving treatment for cancer. Our sympathy is extended to **Peggy Veatch**, **Rev. Larry Veatch's** wife, on the recent death of her mother, Lucy Delany (90), of Eugene, Oregon.

Congratulations to **Bryan Hickey** and **Kenley Barnett** who were united in marriage in a ceremony conducted by **John Yonker** at First Christian Church on Friday evening, December 31. He is the son of **John and Julie Hickey**. Congratulations, also, to **Carrie Batterson**, wife of **Rick Batterson**, who received a B.A. in Sociology from Columbia College on December 18.



(youth)

@first christian

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

CYF on break through break:

Meeting again January 12

JYF & Chi-Rho on break through break:

meeting again on January 23.

JYF and Chi-Rho will have a movie gathering before the 23rd.

Watch your mail for news.

All children's choirs on break till

Wed, Jan. 19th

Welcome New Members!

Jeff and Vicki Johnson have for some time been infused in the life of FCC. They along with their children Olivia and Alex are active in music, education and fellowship. Jeff transfers his membership from another congregation in Columbia to join Vicki who has been a member for some time. Jeff is a pharmacy tech at Boone Hospital and Vicki is in the field of radiology. Welcome, Johnsons, "officially"!



Kirsten Leach grew up in the life and ministry of FCC. The daughter of Revs. Bob and Muriel Leach, she has always called Columbia and FCC home. Her life and teaching career have taken her all around the world prior to retiring to Niceville, FL. Welcome, when you are home in Columbia, Kirsten!

CAFÉ

Christian Action Fellowship Education

Wednesday Evenings

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

CAFÉ - January 12th

Dinner, 5:30 p.m.-Spaghetti & Meatballs, Caesar Salad, Unbelievable Garlic Bread and Cherry Cobbler

Program, 6:30 p.m. - Fellowship Event:
Bingo



The Ladies' Book Club resumes with Jeannette Walls' "true life novel" *Half Broke Horses*. We'll meet at noon in Bethany Hall next Wednesday, January 12. *Half Broke Horses* is the prequel to the *The Glass Castle*, a memoir the Club read in 2005. In February the Club will discuss *Olive Kitteridge* by Elizabeth Strout.

Watch next week's newsletter for Camp Dates - 2011 Outdoor & Summer Ministry

Leading the Children: A Ministry for All

As the new year and winter/spring are upon us, the schedule is open for folks to volunteer:

- Take a week, or two, in assisting (being the 2nd Adult) in Children's Worship.
- Take a month and teach elementary children the bible stories. The curriculum we use makes it easy!
- Who are the JYF? Perhaps the most energetic bunch of Christians at 10th and Walnut! Adult Partners are needed twice a month. Parents usually fill the part, but others are welcome too.
- Spend Wednesday evenings with the CYF – the high school youth group – as they adventure in service, spirit, and life together. A most dynamic group in need of solid adult partners. Jimmy leads, partners are needed.

Talk to Rev. Jimmy Spear about your interest!

VAC Thank You

Thank you so much to everyone who participated in the Voluntary Action Center Christmas Program this year. In 2010, nearly 4,000 people in our community received gifts and groceries through the program. First Christian adopted 60 of those people including several families with children, elderly adults, and disabled adults. Your thoughtfulness and spirit of giving is one reason this time of year is so special. Thanks again for your generosity!

Soup Supper Thanks

A BIG Thank You to the Evangelism committee and friends for hosting a soup supper Sunday, Jan 2, in Bethany Hall for Columbia College students who didn't go home for Christmas. Those wonderful individuals include: Pam Hunsaker, Lana Poole, Anna Poole, Carole Randerson, Sarah Storm, Colleen Nilges, Janet Mills, Bob Hutton and Linda Hutton. All who attended agreed it was great fun!



Thank you to Nancy Watson for her help with arranging/watering the sanctuary poinsettias this season.

~Mary Daugherty

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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Columbia, MO
Permit No. 75

Return Service Requested

Ministerial Staff:

Dr. John J. Yonker, Senior Minister
jyonker@firstchristian.org
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

Serving Schedule - Sunday, Jan. 9

Van Driver: Daryl Klotz
Office Receptionist: Holly Wheatley
Church School Greeter: Colleen Nilges
Flower Ministry:
Arranged by - Molly Read, Sally Kessell
Delivered by - Gerald and Susan Ramsey

* No Early Service today

Servers for 10:30 Worship Service

Communion Preparation: Gerald and Susan Ramsey, Derek and
Elizabeth Updegraff
Liturgist: Amy LaHue
Elders: Pam Hoepfner, Fred Mottaz, Rich Hoepfner
Deacons: The Creasy Team
Greeter North Door: Lorene Trickey
Greeter South Door: Barb Rothenberger
Ushers: The Burnam Team
Banner Bearers: Ava Hoenes and Derrick Evers
Candlelighters: Elayna Mottaz and Anna Poole

*No Children's Worship today

This Week (Jan. 9 - 15)

- Sun.** - One Worship Service, 10:30 a.m.
- Tue.** - No Bible Study this week
- Wed.** - Men's Lunch, 11:30 a.m., Senior Center
- CAFÉ, dinner - 5:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall
program, 6:30-7:30 p.m., Fellowship Event:
Bingo
- CYF (9th-12th grade), 6:30-8:00 p.m.
- Sat.** - Art Show Set Up in Bethany Hall
- CYF to Culver Stockton College for Weekend Retreat



January