

YOU'RE INVITED TO

# Celebration Sunday

HONORING

## Rev. Jimmy Spear

IN GRATITUDE OF HIS 14 YEARS  
OF OUTSTANDING MINISTRY  
AT FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH, COLUMBIA

Sunday, May 23rd | Following 9:30 Worship  
Yonker Fellowship Hall



## the VISITOR

May 21, 2021  
Vol. 78, No. 9

OUR MISSION  
**To know God and  
follow Jesus Christ.**

## Celebration Sunday Update

**THIS SUNDAY, May 23rd - 9:30 Worship & Reception to Follow**

Specific Requests:

- FUN DRESS CODE!** We hope that **everyone who has one, will wear a bow tie!**
- All letters will remain sealed** and be placed in a box which Brenda Mosby will present during 9:30 worship. Please try to get your sealed note to Jimmy into the church office before Sunday or to Brenda. For those of you who can't deliver your notes until Sunday's service has started, we will have a basket to collect any letters in the Fellowship Hall. Since these are expressions of gratitude to Jimmy and all he has done for us and the church, these notes will be very important to him.
- Volunteers are needed!** We need your help with various tasks such as set up/take down, decorating, etc. Please consider volunteering by visiting the online sign-up sheet found at: [www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0448a4af23aa8-jimmy](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0448a4af23aa8-jimmy). (Continued on Page 2)



## Happening Soon

**SATURDAY, MAY 22**

- Breakfast for Brethren, 7-9am, YFH

**PENTECOST SUNDAY, MAY 23**

- Celebration Sunday, Honors Rev. Spear
- On-Site Worship Service, 9:30am
- Reception for Rev. Spear, 10:45am

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 26**

- Midweek Connect, 10:30am, Zoom
- Bible Study, Noon, Zoom
- Choir Rehearsal, 5:30pm, Sanctuary

**THURSDAY, MAY 27**

- Bell Choir Rehearsal, 5:30pm, Sanctuary

**FRIDAY, MAY 28**

- CYF Leaves on 4-Day Mission Trip

**SATURDAY, MAY 29**

- Breakfast for Brethren, 7-9am, YFH

**SUNDAY, MAY 30**

- On-Site Worship Service, 9:30am

**MONDAY, MAY 31**

- Memorial Day - OFFICE CLOSED

## Pentecost Sunday

**MAY 23<sup>RD</sup>**

*"The Spirit's 3"*



**Micah 6:1-8**

**Rev. Jimmy Spear, preaching**

Hymn: *Come, Thou Fount of  
Every Blessing*

Chancel Choir Anthem: *Offertory*

## WORSHIP OPTIONS

**IN-PERSON AT CHURCH @ 9:30AM:**

On-site, in-person worship is held in the Sanctuary at 9:30am. See page 4 for new mask and social-distancing requirements.

**AT-HOME, ONLINE:** Watch the recording of the live service — available late on Sunday via email/YouTube channel/FCC Facebook. *"First Christian Church (Columbia, Missouri)"*

**LITURGY FOR WORSHIP AT-HOME:**

Provided in this newsletter.



A congregation related to  
The Christian Church  
(Disciples of Christ)  
[www.disciples.org](http://www.disciples.org)

# Celebration Information *(cont'd from pg. 1)*

## General Information:

1. A scrapbook of pictures, items, and remembrances from the 14 years here in Columbia is being assembled by Brenda Mosby that will bring back many memories of the people, activities, Mission trips, CYF, STARS etc. that Jimmy has been so involved in with each of us. Of course, one scrapbook will not do his 14 years of work and efforts justice, but it will give him good memories and let him know how much the people at FCC love him.
2. Holly Gieseke and Jessica Humble have worked hard to create a decorating bonanza for Fellowship Hall, as well as putting together a slide show of activities from the past 14 years.
3. Due to Covid, treats will be "to-go" but we will have a big cake, coffee and punch to enjoy together. Tables will be set up for those who want to sit, but everyone is going to want to talk to Jimmy. There will be a line!
4. There will be a guest book for all to sign, as well as your children. We want Jimmy to be able to recall all the people who were there to honor him.



This is a celebration for a very special minister and, more importantly, friend. Let's show up and let him know how much we are going to miss him and how appreciative we are of all he's done for our church. See you this Sunday!

— Genie Rogers, Celebration Committee Chair

## News of the People

### Healing...

Prayers for **Fred Mottaz** who had foot surgery on Wednesday, May 19. Fred will be homebound for at least two weeks.

### MDO Classroom Openings and Hiring...

Mothers Day Out Preschool has several openings in their Infant, Two's and Preschool classrooms. They would love to have some FCC church members' children in our MDO family.

They are also looking for a part-time teacher. It is a perfect job for a person with children in school or a retired teacher. Part-time Tuesdays and Thursday. Contact Tracy, MDO Director at 449-6964.

### Bible Study IN-PERSON resumes in June...

For those who have been joining the weekly Zoom Bible study for the past year, we will resume in-person gatherings on:

Tues., June 1, 10:30am, Morris Parlor

Wed., June 2, 12:00pm, Bethany Hall

### Gratitude...

Thanks to **Cliff and Megan Judy** for hosting the final CYF of the season. The group of 15 enjoyed homemade fajitas and a great space for their favorite games of *Four on a Couch*, *Empire* and *Catch Phrase*. A great time to be together on a rainy Sunday!



## High School Graduates

### Max Gregory

Son of Jason and Trish Gregory  
Heritage Academy

### Ava Hoenes

Daughter of C.K. and Paula Hoenes  
Hickman High School  
Attending University of Missouri S&T in Rolla, Missouri

### Abigail Reardon

Daughter of Joe and Kim Reardon  
Columbia Independent School  
Attending Davidson College in Davidson, North Carolina

### Mason Silverwood

Son of Ryan and Stacy Silverwood  
Silverwood (home school) Academy  
Attending William Woods University in Fulton, Missouri



left-right: Abigail Reardon, Mason Silverwood, Ava Hoenes, Rev. Spear

## College Graduates

### Julia Bower

Journalism - Emphasis on Convergence, MU School of Journalism;  
Continuing at MU to pursue a Masters in Strategic Comms.

### Eli Gaffney

Natural Resource Science and Management/Forestry, MU;  
Headed to Masters work in Forestry at Purdue University

### Makali Hawkins,

Health Science, MU  
Headed to the Doctor of Chiropractic program, Logan University

### Max Schaefer

Dual Degrees in Biology and Art, University of Alabama



**May 25** Vicki Johnson

**May 27** Bud Batterson

**May 28** Izzy Arnett,  
Peggy Veatch

**May 29** Abigail Reardon

# Home Worship for Sunday, May 23

*In the season of home-centeredness, we offer this at-home worship experience. (Different from the YouTube version.) Find a place — space to sit. Pick a view, be comfortable. Light a candle nearby. Gather a Bible, maybe a hymnal. Get your tablet/internet device/tape player/CD and prime a hymn or carol of the season for listening. Get communion—grape juice, wine, any beverage and cracker will do! Be in the spirit of the Holy!*

## WORD & PRAISE

### WELCOME GOD AND PRAYER.

Pentecost Day - We recall the mighty work of God giving the SPIRIT to the first disciples and all who would follow Jesus. We are ready for that Spirit here!

Almighty God, your Holy Spirit came to Jesus' disciples, hidden in an upper room in Jerusalem. A violent wind and tongues of fire were the symbols of a new thing happening in their lives. We are in the midst of new things here too. May your Holy Spirit burst into our lives today, encouraging and inspiring us to proclaim boldly the good news of Jesus Christ who offers healing and hope to all people. May your Holy Spirit help us speak justice, and love kindness. May your Spirit guide our steps as we strive to walk humbly with you. Amen.

**READ SCRIPTURE.** Acts 2:1-21

### Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

*Come, thou fount of every blessing,  
tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
streams of mercy never ceasing  
call for songs of loudest praise.  
Teach me some melodious measure  
sung by flaming tongues above.  
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,  
mount of thy redeeming love.*

*Here I raise to thee an altar;  
hither by thy help I've come;  
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,  
safely to arrive at home.*

*Jesus sought me when a stranger,  
wandering from the fold of God;  
he, to rescue me from danger,  
interposed his precious blood.*

*O to grace how great a debtor  
daily I'm constrained to be!  
Let thy goodness, like a fetter,  
bind my wandering heart to thee.  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,  
prone to leave the God I love;  
here's my heart, O take and seal it,  
seal it from thy courts above.*

By Robert Robinson (1912) Tune: NETTLETON  
Chalice Hymnal # 16

### MEDITATION. *Where the Spirit leads*

If it wasn't for the Spirit I would be stuck. I would be stuck in a job I didn't like, a town that wasn't fun, without true friends, alone in the world, and generally grumpy. Yes, because of the Spirit my journey of life and faith has been different. Where the Spirit of God leads has kept me from being stuck.

In the last year, I have been mindful of the Spirit's leading. In my prayers, I have left some things to God that I would have normally have not mentioned or taken care of myself. I learned some time ago when your life, vocation/job, community, relationships and future are all tied to the realm of God you have to leave some things to God. Deciding where to go and when is never easy. It was not easy before and has not been now. However, with God invited into the process, there is help. The Spirit seems to work around the edges, in the hearts and minds, and in the ways of the church. Leaving some things to God's Spirit is a holy practice, I believe. Perhaps that is why we often address the active part of God as the Holy Spirit.

It is interesting to look back upon life and notice the places that the Spirit was hard at work and went unnoticed. Perhaps when we are in tune with the work and breath of God in our lives, we just call it life or discipleship. It seems the Holy Spirit is okay with that, too.

The early disciples were faced with the life, vocation/job, community, relationships and future all tied to God. They looked to their past and realized that where God had placed them blessed who they had become. They looked to the future and with the Holy Spirit helping, set their course for tomorrow. Better their days were always because of the Spirit's lead into all the goodness of God. Amen.

*(-Jimmy Spear)*

## PRAYER & GREAT THANKSGIVING

**BE IN PRAYER.** Offer prayer to God in thanks, in confession. Express your needs, share the needs of others. Just say what is in your heart. Amen!

**GIVE AN OFFERING.** What is it that you can give today? To God, to another, to yourself. Either pause worship and go do it or make the commitment of giving that will happen today!

### COMMUNION. (Words of Institution & Lord's Prayer)

The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood." Speak and partake of the elements. Then pray, *Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.*

**BENEDICTION.** Go and know good news of God lived out in Jesus Christ. May the Spirit of God abide in your days and ways. Amen.



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Return Service Requested



## First Christian Church

*Our Mission: To know God  
And follow Jesus Christ*

### Ministerial Staff

Rev. Dr. Brad Stagg, Senior Minister  
[brad@firstchristian.org](mailto:brad@firstchristian.org)  
Rev. Jimmy Spear, Associate Minister  
[jimmy@firstchristian.org](mailto:jimmy@firstchristian.org)

### Music Staff

Michael Sauer, Director  
Dr. Rochelle Parker, Organist  
Travis McFarlane, Musician

### Mother's Day Out Pre-School

Tracy Westhoff, Director  
[tracy@firstchristian.org](mailto:tracy@firstchristian.org)

### Columbia Area Older Adult Ministry

Rev. Sally Robinson, Director  
Dr. Kim Leon, Assistant Director

### Support Staff

Laura Hunsaker, Office Manager  
[laura@firstchristian.org](mailto:laura@firstchristian.org)  
Fred Mottaz, Business Manager  
[fred@firstchristian.org](mailto:fred@firstchristian.org)

## Updated In-Person Worship Protocols

*Information for this Sunday - As of May 14th*

Here is the LATEST information on FCC's New Social Distancing Protocols approved by Officers and Senior Minister on May 10 in light of the city & county not extending the social distancing protocol mandates effective Wednesday, May 12 and the CDC announcement that masks are no longer needed for FULLY-vaccinated individuals. These protocols will remain in effect through June 6, at which time they will be reevaluated.

- Masks must be worn by ALL individuals who are not FULLY-Vaccinated (both shots, plus the 2-week waiting-period). FULLY-vaccinated individuals need not wear a mask.
- While the blue tape will be removed from pews, attendees are asked to **maintain 6'** social distance from children under 16.
- **9:30am** in the Sanctuary: Gathering music begins at 9:15. Please do not wait until 9:28 to arrive as all are entering via the same process of communion pick-up, offering drop, etc.
- Bibles & Hymnals have been returned to the pews.
- **Reservations will NO longer be required.**
- Nursery care is offered for children under 6 years.
- Remember: COVID-19 is still present in the world. By attending, you confirm that all attendees are/have: fever-free; not experiencing COVID symptoms (fever, shortness of breath, new loss of taste/smell, etc.); have not been asked by health authorities to quarantine in the last 10 days; not positive/awaiting results for COVID test.
- Sanitizer and masks are available.