



THE
November 6, 2020
Vol. 77, No. 103

THE VISITOR

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Our mission: to know God and follow Jesus Christ

Worship: 2 Ways

- Sunday, Nov. 8 -

Joshua 24:1-3, 14-25

"As for Me and My Household"

Message by Dr. Brad Stagg



WORSHIP WITH US IN TWO WAYS:

AT HOME, ONLINE: On our YouTube Channel
"First Christian Church (Columbia, Missouri)"

AT HOME LITURGY: provided on Pg. 5.

AT CHURCH: Canceled for November

Open & Affirming Exploration Team Hosts Zoom Panel

Thursday, Nov. 12, 7:00pm

Join us for a Zoom panel conversation with representatives from four congregations (local, MO, UCC & DOC) discussing the experience of going through the Open & Affirming process as a church. Discussion will include:

- How has there been benefit for their congregation?
- How has being Open & Affirming helped their church carry out its mission?

A time for question and answers will follow. Representatives from Broadway CC, Rock Bridge CC, Columbia UCC, and FCC in St. Joseph will be with us. Will you join us and participate in hearing and sharing in this vital conversation?

Zoom link here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81301881060>

If already on ZOOM use this meeting ID: 813 0188 1060.

Need the above Zoom invite in an email? Email Rev. Spear.



VAC Holiday Project

Sponsor individuals and families in need this Christmas

It's already November and Christmas is right around the corner! Each year, FCC adopts families who are in need to provide them with a special Christmas. This year, we have adopted 18 families for a total of 58 people and we need your help to make this possible! In year's past, we would set up a Christmas tree with ornaments with names of people to adopt. However, this

year, due to social distancing restrictions, the Mission Outreach Department has decided to go electronic. If you would like to help this important ministry, you can either select a person to adopt by using this link:

<https://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/20F0B4FACAB2BA1FE3-vacholiday>

(Additional information is provided on this website about adopting a person) or you can send in a financial donation to the church office (note VAC xmas). When adopting a person, the suggested amount for gift(s) is \$50-75 and an additional \$15 to go towards Christmas dinner. **Money and gifts need to be turned in by FRIDAY DECEMBER 11.** Drop-off day is Sun., Dec. 6, between 10:30am and 12:00pm in Yonker Hall or drop off at the church office between Dec. 7-11. Please help support this important mission! If you have questions, please contact Elizabeth Mottaz.



Project Summary

NOW: Go online to sign up for the family or individuals you will sponsor.

TURNING IN GIFTS/MONEY:

Special drop-off day is Dec. 6th, between 10:30am and 12:00pm in Yonker Hall. OR bring it by the church office the week of December 7-11.

Money and gifts need to be turned in by Friday, Dec. 11th.

www.firstchristian.org
Instagram: @firstchristian.como
www.facebook.com/FirstChristianColumbiaMO



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We Trick or Treated our Kids!

Trunk n Treat turned into Home Delivery

With the Trunk n Treat event being canceled, the Christian Education Department wanted to make sure our FCC kids still got the goodies we had planned. Pictured below are the fun items that were paired with candy and delivered to families' homes for Halloween.

Thank You to my committee members for helping to brainstorm ideas for our Reverse Trick or Treat & do deliveries! We had some extra help from CYF friends & others!

Committee Members:

Hayley Batterson, Jennifer Alexander, Jessica Humble, Megan Judy & Lauren Karr.

Other delivery friends: **Olivia Johnson, Kameron Freed, and Holly Gieseke**

Pictured at right are **Clara and Declan Judy** opening up their purple bags of goodies.

I hope the elementary kids enjoyed their fun treat bags! My family had fun putting them together!

-Christy VonTalge

Christian Education Dept.
Children & Youth Chair



News and Notes...

Prayers...

This week, we pray for the following friends:

Thelma Beem is home recovering from vascular stent surgery in her leg. **Dave Beem** is home in isolation having tested positive for COVID-19. **Billie Silvey** continues to rehabilitate at Boone Hospital. **Glenda Clark** is rehabilitating at The Neighborhoods recovering from her hospital stay for pneumonia.

Gratitude...

We would like to express our most sincere thanks for the cards, letters, phone calls and all other expressions of love and support as we try to overcome the sense of loss and sadness following the death of our daughter, **Beth Jorgensen**. It is hard to imagine how anyone could deal with something like this in the absence of friends like we have here at FCC. We value these friendships more deeply than we can describe.

-- Mary and Cliff Tompson

If there ever was a time that I got by with a little help from my church family, it was this month. Thirteen days of COVID sick. Your concerns, prayers, cards, emails, calls, and home-cooked food deliveries made getting better and this past week of recovery so much easier. I don't know how people live without a church family. We sometimes have to be hard-pressed in this life to see it and know that our investment of time and love into a community of faith comes back 10 fold when there is a need. Many thanks.

--Jimmy Spear

Wedding News...

Andrea Smith was married to **Justin Shrader** on Oct. 3, in Kansas City. Andrea is the daughter of **Steve and Sharon Smith**.

Sympathy...

Margaret "Sue" Kyd (96) died on Oct. 26. The family held a private graveside on Sunday, Nov. 1, at Columbia Cemetery.

Ferd Lighter (91) died on November 2 at Lenoir Woods. Ferd was a long time member of First Christian Church. He was a lifelong Columbia businessman and supporter of the Columbia Area Senior Center. Prayers of sympathy are extended to his family **Steve Lighter, Amy and Will Green**. A graveside service is being planned in rural Chillicothe, Mo.



Nov. 8 – **Mary Ann Niedergeke (97!)**

Nov. 11 – Genie Rogers, Audrey Shock

Nov. 12 – Dan Gieseke, Stephanie Mottaz-Vens

Nov. 13 – Dietrich Arnett

Nov. 14 – Dan Backues, Pat Wright



OUTREACH MINISTRIES

OCTOBER SUMMARY

October was a busy month for the Mission Outreach Dept.!

Each Saturday this month, a small group of us fed breakfast to people in need. This group was led by Colleen Nilges & Janelle Patterson. A huge thank you to Chuck Scott, Fred Mottaz and Debbie Potthast for making this ministry possible!

What were you doing on the Monday that it snowed in October? Well, a group of us served at Loaves and Fishes to make sure that people in need had a warm meal! This ministry would not have been possible without volunteers to prepare food and to serve the meal. Thank you to Janelle Patterson, Amy Marrero, Susan Ramsey, Susan Gray, Sarah & David Read, Amy LaHue, Mary Moeller, C.K. Hoenes, Jean Juba, Mike & Carole Randerson, and Chris Creasy.

It may have been Halloween, but I promise you there was no tricking involved when a small, but strong group of us volunteered for Habitat for Humanity. Some installed flooring, some painted and others did outdoor work on porches. Saturday was a beautiful day to make a difference! A huge thank you to Mike Randerson, Fred Mottaz, David Potthast, C.K. & Ava Hoenes, Brittany Bussey and Dan Backues for supporting this wonderful ministry!



We also collected coats, scarves, hats, gloves, blankets, and other warm items to be donated to various agencies for people in need. Thank you for your generosity! Debbie Potthast's vehicle was full (pictured to left). What an amazing outpouring of kindness!

If you are interested in getting involved in these or any of the other outreach ministries in the future, please contact Elizabeth Mottaz, Mission Outreach Department chairperson for more information.

First Christian Church General Fund Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual July through September 2020

Cash Basis

	Jul - Sep 20	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
OFFERINGS	100,095.00	121,610.00	-21,515.00	82.3%
PERMANENT FUND	53,963.05	53,663.05	300.00	100.6%
PROGRAMS	28,266.05	43,280.00	-15,013.95	65.3%
RENTAL	4,757.05	5,644.00	-886.95	84.3%
SOURCES - OTHER	133.86	532.75	-398.89	25.1%
TRANSFERRED MEMORIAL FUNDS	0.00	2,875.00	-2,875.00	0.0%
Total Income	<u>187,215.01</u>	<u>227,604.80</u>	<u>-40,389.79</u>	<u>82.3%</u>
Gross Profit	187,215.01	227,604.80	-40,389.79	82.3%
Expense				
ADMINISTRATIVE	107,830.54	110,436.36	-2,605.82	97.6%
ADULT EDUCATION	141.99	237.50	-95.51	59.8%
ADVENT	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
CHILDREN EDUCATION	1,110.21	1,262.50	-152.29	87.9%
COL. AREA OLDER ADULT MINISTRY	17,167.68	20,329.05	-3,161.37	84.4%
COMMUNICATION	2,803.76	4,304.90	-1,501.14	65.1%
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS	0.00	137.50	-137.50	0.0%
EVANGELISM	0.00	700.00	-700.00	0.0%
MEMBERSHIP	0.00	812.50	-812.50	0.0%
MOTHERS DAY OUT	6,662.97	15,336.06	-8,673.09	43.4%
OFFICE	4,240.64	4,229.75	10.89	100.3%
OUTREACH MINISTRIES	6,886.02	8,309.43	-1,423.41	82.9%
PROPERTY	27,233.93	35,037.50	-7,803.57	77.7%
SCHOLARSHIP	13,880.00	12,630.00	1,250.00	109.9%
SERVICE BOARD OF DEACONS/ELDE...	0.00	12.50	-12.50	0.0%
STEWARDSHIP	131.00	0.00	131.00	100.0%
STUDENT MINISTRY	424.54	4,400.00	-3,975.46	9.6%
WORSHIP	470.98	1,173.75	-702.77	40.1%
Total Expense	<u>188,984.26</u>	<u>219,349.30</u>	<u>-30,365.04</u>	<u>86.2%</u>
Net Ordinary Income	-1,769.25	8,255.50	-10,024.75	-21.4%
Other Income/Expense				
Other Expense				
44365 - Repair Fund Exp. Trf.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
Total Other Expense	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.0%</u>
Net Other Income	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
Net Income	<u><u>-1,769.25</u></u>	<u><u>8,255.50</u></u>	<u><u>-10,024.75</u></u>	<u><u>-21.4%</u></u>

Thanksgiving Offering

Give to Disciples Higher Education

Higher education has been an important focus for Disciples since the very beginning of the movement. Throughout our history, Disciples have founded institutions of higher learning to educate students and form leaders to make a difference in the world. The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is still committed to higher education.

In the midst of national and global challenges associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, our higher education institutions are facing unprecedented challenges and they need our support now, more than ever. Even as they work diligently to ensure safe and healthy learning environments, the financial realities faced by many of our schools are adding additional stress to students, faculty, and staff. Here in the Mid-America Region, we are blessed to have Columbia College, Cul-

ver-Stockton College, Drury University and William Woods University. Many members of First Christian Church have attended these places of higher education. ***This year's offering will take place over the weeks of November 15 and 22. You can send in a special offering to the church office noting "DMF higher edu."*** You can also give online at:

<https://disciplesmissionfund.org/special-offerings/thanksgiving/>

(Please choose "Thanksgiving Special Offering" on the Designation Dropdown List). Your gift to the Thanksgiving Offering helps support the education of thousands of students at our fifteen colleges and universities, as well as our seven seminaries and divinity houses. In addition, it helps continue the ongoing collaborative work of the church and higher education that is such a foundational part of the heritage of the

Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Your gift makes a difference in the lives of our students and it makes a difference in the world. Thank you for your generosity!



**Higher Education &
Leadership Ministries**
of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

*On the Sundays we are not together, 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-worship song for listening.
Get communion—any beverage and cracker will do! Be in the spirit of the Holy!*

HOME WORSHIP for NOVEMBER 8

WORD and PRAISE

WELCOME GOD & PRAYER.

Come, let us bow down to the Lord; let us kneel before the Lord our maker. In the ancient times, God had mercy on Israel and led them through the desert to a new land. This day the Lord is showering us with mercy, bringing us hope and peace. We long to feel the showers of hope and mercy on us.

Lord, guide our feet as we run this race of faith for you. Lord, open our hearts as we reach out to others in compassion. Amen.

God of Grace and God of Glory

*God of grace and God of glory, on thy people pour thy power;
crown thine ancient church's story;
bring its bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the facing of this hour, for the facing of this hour.*

*Lo! the hosts of evil round us scorn thy Christ, assail thy ways!
From the fears that long have bound us
free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the living of these days, for the living of these days.*

*Cure thy children's warring madness,
bend our pride to thy control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss thy righteous goal,
lest we miss thy righteous goal.*

*Set our feet on lofty places; fill our lives that we may be
strengthened with all Christ-like graces
pledges to set all captives free.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we fail our call from thee, lest we fail our call from thee.*

*Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore;
let the search for thy salvation be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
serving thee whom we adore, serving thee whom we adore.*

By Harry Emerson Fosdick (1930)

Tune: CWM RHONDDA Challice Hymnal # 464

READ SCRIPTURE. Joshua 24:1-3a,14-25

MEDITATION. *The choice is not hard...* When considering who our ancestors worshiped, it seems the answer is usually God — but times and life were different a few generations ago. Many of our older generations at church wonder if their kids or grandkids would say the same. Currently, people believe in God, but don't seem as readily available for time with God in the traditional ways. Our ancestors would relate church membership and time in the pew as the proof of who they followed and served. Generations later -- consideration of God includes private time, nature, and church only when it fits in the busy schedule of life.

In today's story, Joshua asks the Israelites who they plan on serving. Will it be other gods or the God of Israel — the one who delivered, protected, and provided for them in the past. Jobs, sports, hobbies, schedules, yard work and the lake sure don't seem like the gods Joshua was talking about, but are they? The people are emphatic in their answer, "We will serve the Lord our God." May we say the same.

(-js)

PRAYER and 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 forth with humble hearts, ready to serve your neighbor and a world in need. Lead us, O God. Amen.



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Ministerial Staff:

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 Rev. Jimmy Spear, Associate Minister
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Music Staff:

Michael Sauer, Director of Music Ministry, Chancel Choir, Bells
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 Travis McFarlane, Early Worship Service Musician
 Dr. Rochelle Parker, Organist

Mother's Day Out Pre-School:

Tracy Westhoff, Director
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Columbia Area Older Adult Ministry:

Rev. Sally Robinson, Chaplain
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Support Staff:

Laura Shirey, Office Manager
 laura@firstchristian.org
 Fred Mottaz, Business Manager
 fred@firstchristian.org

Return Service Requested

Church Calendar

FRIDAY, NOV. 6

- **FRIDAY NIGHT CLASSICS** "CITIZEN KANE", 7:00pm, 3rd Flr Cinema/Yonker

TUESDAY, NOV. 10

- **CABINET MTG.**, 6:30pm, Zoom

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 11

- ***MIDWEEK CONNECT**, 10:30am, Zoom
 - ***WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY**, 12pm, Zoom

THURSDAY, NOV. 12

- ***O&A VIRTUAL PANEL**, 7:00pm, Zoom

TUESDAY, NOV. 17

- **ADMIN. BOARD MTG.**, 6:30pm, Zoom

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 18

- ***MIDWEEK CONNECT**, 10:30am, Zoom
 - ***WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY**, 12pm, Zoom

THURSDAY, NOV. 19

- ***PARENTS' FOLLY**, 7:30pm, Zoom

*DENOTES A VIRTUAL GATHERING
 VIA ZOOM*

YOUTH GROUP IN NOVEMBER:

4:00-5:00pm: JYF & Chi-Rho ALTERNATING WEEKS

JYF (grds. 3,4,5) Nov. 8, 25
 CHI-RHO (grds. 6,7,8) Nov. 15

5:00-6:00pm: CYF (grades 9-12) EVERY WEEK

Location: Fellowship Hall

*Parents will receive emails with final word on this week.

DOC COLLEGE GROUP:

Tuesdays, 7:30pm (location in GroupME)



Friday Night Classics!

3rd Flr Cinema/Yonker
Friday, Nov. 6 - 7:00pm

Fresh popcorn served and 50¢ soda available in Yonker Hall.

RSVP required to ensure safe spacing—email or call the office to reserve a seat!



Sharing Continues

It was not only about backpacks this year. Through the generosity of FCC church folk, **\$895** was donated toward the backpack and other Festival of Sharing causes. These funds are so needed and are used right here in Missouri. Thanks to all who contributed.