



the VISITOR

December 3, 2021
Vol. 78, No. 30

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

Happening Soon

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5

- Hanging of the Greens, 8:30am
- Christian Edu. Classes, 9:30am
- Advent Sunday School, 9:30am
- Hanging of the Greens, 10:30am
- Blue Christmas Service, 3pm
- CYF VAC Christmas Shopping, 5pm

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7

- Bible Study, 10:30am, Morris Parlor
- Bell Choir Rehearsal, 5:30pm, 3rd Floor

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8

- Midweek Connect, 10:30am, Zoom
- Ladies Book Club, 11:30am, Bethany Hall
- Bible Study, 12:00pm, Morris Parlor
- Choir Rehearsal, 5:30pm, 3rd Floor

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10

- Friday Night Classic, 7pm, 3rd Floor Cinema

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12

- On-Site Worship, 8:30am
- Christian Edu. Classes, 9:30am
- Advent Sunday School, 9:30am
- On-Site Worship, 10:30am
- Christmas Pageant, 4pm, Sanctuary
- Tasting Party, 5pm, YFH



A congregation related to
**The Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)**
www.disciples.org

2nd Sunday of Advent

DECEMBER 5TH

Hanging of the Greens

The Light of Peace

2 WORSHIP OPTIONS

IN-PERSON AT CHURCH @

8:30/10:30AM:

In-person worship in the Sanctuary.

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

This Sunday Hanging of the Greens

Sunday, December 5th,
8:30 & 10:30 Services

A long tradition of the church is the annual "Hanging of the Greens" service held on a Sunday during Advent. This year, with the lighting of the Advent candles, singing of hymns and carols, hanging of the greens to adorn the Sanctuary, decorating and lighting of the Chrismon tree, we will continue the Advent season in worship.



Advent is Here!

Find upcoming events for Advent & Christmas throughout this copy of the Visitor!

Living Nativity

Friday, December 3rd, 6 - 8pm

An annual tradition on the night of Columbia's Living Windows Downtown District event, our church presents the story of Jesus' birth. Depicted on the East lawn and sidewalk of the church, our Living Nativity utilizes FCC's members, costumes and taped music with narration and special lighting.

There will be pizza for participants around 5/5:15pm! Contact Vicki Johnson if you have any questions.



Blue Christmas Service

Sunday, December 5th, 3pm



A contemplative service of hope and healing, the Blue Christmas service is for those who might feel at odds with or estranged from the general feeling of joy or happiness typically associated with this time of year. This may be those of us who suffered a personal loss: death of a loved one, divorce, illness or job loss. The Blue Christmas service seeks to offer comfort in the reminder we are not alone and our feelings are seen and honored. Healing music and opportunities to light candles will be shared this year as we gather in the sanctuary on Sunday, December 5th at 3pm.



Youth Groups

*Come join the fun!!
Advent Edition ~*

*JYF (grades 3, 4, 5) & Chi Rho (grades 6, 7, 8)
CYF (grades 9-12)*

Dec. 5 - VAC Project Shopping (CYF)

Dec. 19 (4 - 6pm) - Gingerbread Houses & Christmas
Sock Party (All)

*Join us for a future Youth Group meeting!
All are welcome!*

Dec. 3 Paula Hoenes
David Read

Dec. 4 Linda Ridgeway

Dec. 5 Carole Harris Randerson
Mike Randerson

Dec. 6 Debbie Garton
Alan Leach

Dec. 8 Alexandra Estes
Gabriel Palmer
Kenzie Von Talge



News of the People

Prayers of Health and Healing...

Doug Smith's sister is recovering from successful surgery this week in Kansas City.

Debbie Garton's father had a successful procedure in KC for an irregular heartbeat.

Prayers of Thanksgiving...

Carol & Tom Hughey have returned to worship after recovering from COVID! Thanks be to God.

Christmas Hymns CD

Coming soon!

Travis McFarlane will be offering a CD of Christmas Hymns for a suggested donation of \$10. All proceeds will go towards funding more musicians to play at the 8:30 services. Keep your eyes out in the next few weeks, you'll see them for sale in the Narthex very soon!

A Very Heifer Christmas!

A note from Sally Robinson

The Heifer Gift offers hope worldwide to families who are poor and hungry. Your generous gift goes right to work helping families. Each family who receives livestock will pass on one or more of the animal's offspring to other families who are in need in their community helping to make a better community. What animal or part of an animal will you purchase as a Christmas gift this year? For \$50, you may purchase a Hope Basket with chickens and rabbits. Rabbits are easy to care for and reproduce quickly, allowing their owners to sell the offspring for extra income once they've fulfilled Heifer's Passing on the Gift promise. Chickens lay eggs and provide manure for vegetable gardens. This gift of hope goes on and on, lasting much longer and helping more families than the usual gift basket ever could.

Your Outreach Ministry Department will have a display in the narthex on Sunday, December 5th & 12th for you to make your purchase. Make checks out to First Christian Church and in the memo write Heifer. Remember every gift will multiply for years to come. What a wonderful way to bring joy to the world!



Mid-America Men & Friends

Saturday, December 11th, 9am - 3pm

Mid-America Men & Friends are gathering on Saturday, December 11th at Bethany Hall for an all-day retreat in partnership with Illuman of the Ozarks. This gathering will be spiritually purposeful and well worth your time commitment to receive "something more" in your journey to be a whole Christian man. Want more information about how to RSVP and the schedule? Contact the church office at (573) 449-7265 or at fcc@firstchristian.org.

Staff Christmas Fund

The Administrative Dept. provides an opportunity for church members and friends to contribute to a *Staff Christmas Fund*. The fund recognizes our excellent church staff during the Christmas season for their combined efforts in helping make our church one in which we can all take great pride. Checks should be made to *First Christian Church* with "Staff Christmas Fund" noted. **The deadline for contributions is Sunday, December 19.** Your generosity will be divided evenly among the staff: ministers, office staff, music staff, and custodian. Thank you!

-- Genie Rogers, Administrative Dept. Chairperson

Mark Your Calendars!

Holiday Classic Movie

Friday, December 10th, 7pm

The Gieseke's are offering a showing of the classic *Miracle on 34th Street* on December 10th at 7pm. RSVP in the church office! Fresh popcorn will be served, drinks are BYOB. Merry Christmas!



89th Annual Christmas Pageant

Sunday, December 12th, 4:00pm

Join us on Sunday, December 12th at 4:00pm for our 89th Annual Christmas Pageant at First Christian Church. There will be a tasting party afterwards at 5pm in Yonker Fellowship Hall.



A "white gifts" offering will be collected at this year's Pageant. All are encouraged to bring nonperishable canned/boxed food wrapped in white paper to be donated locally.

STARS Christmas Lights Tour

Monday, December 13th, 6:30-8:30pm

This year's STARS Christmas Lights tour will be led by the amazing Janelle Patterson on Monday, December 13th. The two hour exploration of Christmas lights will include a stop at the Von Talge's house and neighborhood to see their beautiful displays, as well. Sign up in the office or by writing "LIGHTS" in your pew pad on Sunday.



Due on Monday,
Dec. 6th!

Order Your

Poinsettias



On Sundays, December 12 & 19, our sanctuary will be even more beautiful with poinsettias placed there in honor or in memory of loved ones. To order, complete the information below and return the slip, along with your contribution to the church office.

The poinsettias will be ordered by the church and placed in the sanctuary for you. They may be picked up after the 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service.

Please return this form to the church office by: December 6

(or e-mail your info to fcc@firstchristian.org and put your payment in the payment drop box in the office)

I (we) are giving # _____ total Poinsettia(s) at \$8.00 each.

In MEMORY of: _____

AND/OR

In HONOR of: _____

Please list the following name or family as donor: _____

Christmas Offering for Christian Church in Mid-America

December 12th & 19th

This year, the annual Christmas Offering will be collected on Sundays December 12th & 19th. All gifts toward this offering support the work of our regional ministry, The Christian Church of Mid-America. Our regional ministry works to: connect congregations to each other; foster faith development; gather Disciples in camps, conferences, and assemblies; nurture the development of a new generation of pastors; assist churches in calling new ministers; counsel and pray with those who are troubled of spirit; lead the Church to address racism; inspire leaders to experiment and create; and witness to the power of God to make things new.





Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Columbia, MO
Permit No. 75

101 N. 10th Street
Columbia, MO 65201
573-449-7265
email: fcc@firstchristian.org
web: firstchristian.org

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

Music Staff

Daniel Shafer, Director
Dr. Rochelle Parker, Organist
Travis McFarlane, Musician

Mother's Day Out Pre-School

Tracy Westhoff, Director
tracy@firstchristian.org

Columbia Area Older Adult Ministry

Rev. Sally Robinson, Director

Support Staff

Erin Perry, Office Manager
fcc@firstchristian.org
Fred Mottaz, Business Manager
fred@firstchristian.org

2021 Advent Calendar

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3RD

Living Nativity, 6 - 8pm

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5TH

Hanging of the Greens (both services)
Blue Christmas Service, 3pm

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12TH

Christmas Pageant, 4pm
Tasting Party, 5pm

Monday, December 13th

STARS Christmas Lights Tour, 6:30pm

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24TH

Meditation Service, 5pm
Candlelight Communion Service, 7pm

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25TH

Christmas Day

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26TH

One Service at 9:30am



Worship Serving Schedule

Sunday, December 5th, 2021

RIDESHARE DRIVER: Amy LaHue

OFFICE RECEPTIONIST: Carol Slusher

WELCOME STATION: Amy Marrero

FLOWER ARRANGING/DELIVERY: Eric Seaman

COMMUNION PREP: Kira Hoenes, Betsy Hofmann

GREETERS: Bette Scavone (N. DOOR), Jan Davis
(S. DOOR), Mary Ann Atteberry (ATRIUM),
Susan Klockow (PORTICO)

SOUND BOARD OPERATOR: Annie Stagg

BANNER BEARER: Faith Silverwood

CANDLE LIGHTER: Cole Freed

ELDERS: Carol Hughey (8:30)

Tori Pine, Kim Leon (10:30)

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP: Cindy Rose

OFFERING COUNTERS: Janelle Patterson, Cindy
& Doug Smith