

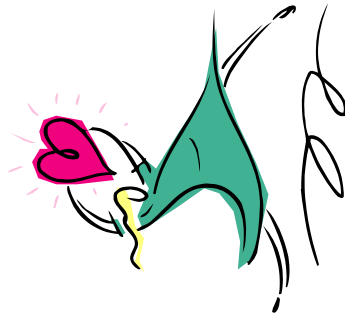
First Christian Church
 202 East 12th Avenue / Emporia, KS 66801
 (620) 342-1582 (Church Office)
 (620) 342-8585 (Fax)
 Web Page: www.fccemporia.org

Sunday School ~ 9:30 a.m.
Worship ~ 10:30 a.m.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

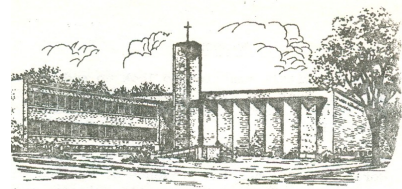


Monday thru Thursday ~ 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
 Closed Fridays



*Practice random
 acts of kindness
 and love this
 Valentine's Day!
 Jesus loves us ~
 let us love others!*

NON-PROFIT
 ORGANIZATION
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID
 PERMIT NO. 11
 EMPORIA, KS 66801



Christian Church News

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

February 8, 2010 / Volume 59 ~ No. 3

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!
YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THESE!

- February 13th ~ Pancake Feed
- February 14th ~ Congregational Sweetheart Dinner
- February 14th ~ Memorial Service for Aloha Preston
- February 17th ~ Ash Wednesday Service
- February 22nd ~ Newsletter Deadline
- February 24th ~ Lenten Series Begins
- March 6th & 7th ~ "Journey to Jerusalem"




INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- "Reflections" by Pastor Bob - Page 2
- Haiti Giving Report - Page 10
- Stewardship Report - Page 11



"The mission of First Christian Church is to inspire each other to reach out to the un-churched and to serve and share with our community by proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ."





Do you love the hymn "Sweet, Sweet Spirit?" I do. Sometimes I hum the melody, sometimes I whistle, sometimes I sing it out loud. The words touch me and the melody is so comforting...

*There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place,
And I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord.*

There are sweet expressions on each face,

And I know they feel the presence of the Lord.

Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove,

Stay right here with us, filling us with your love;

And for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise;

Without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived

When we shall leave this place.

I believe the Spirit of God is moving in this place we call Church. I can see it in your eyes, your energy, your good work.

I heard a story about a powerful and successful businessman who was interviewed one day and asked to tell why he and his company

was so successful. It wasn't one of those one minute interviews we hear so often today. It was an in-depth interview and as the businessman told his story he related the problems he had encountered. The interviewer was amazed and asked how in the world so many big and complex difficulties could be overcome. The executive said there were some problems that seem so high you can't climb over them...and, there are some troubles so wide, you can't seem to go around them...and some dilemmas so deep you can't seem to get under them.

What then, the interviewer asked. Well, then, the businessman replied, you just brace yourself, pick up your tools and wade in.

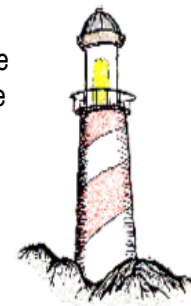
I think that is what we are doing right now. We have learned over the years that accomplishments rarely come on their own. It takes all of us working together with God's Holy Spirit, using the talents, creativity and energy God has given us and it is just amazing what we can and do accomplish. I said in my sermon yesterday, that this church is "AWESOME." And it really is.

Blessings,
Pastor Bob



BEACONS OF FAITH

Your generosity is overwhelming! In response to the tragedy in Haiti, you gave nearly \$3000; in response to the needs of the Food Pantry, you stacked food almost as high as the communion table! Now, in response to the annual STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN, twenty-four families and individuals have already given or estimated gifts exceeding \$51,000 for the coming church year! This includes six individuals or families who did not make an estimate last year, and also six individuals or families who indicate an increase in giving over last year's estimate.



The goodness of this community of believers continues to be a beacon of faith. Please join the twenty-four who have already given or estimated their giving for the coming church year. If you did not receive an estimate of giving card, call the church office (342-1582) or my home phone (342-6963), and we will get one to you. We anticipate receiving more estimates of giving between now and February 21, at which time we will celebrate with a consecration service. Thank you for your expressions of generosity!

~ Fred Miller for the Stewardship Ministry Team

JOB OPPORTUNITY

The United States Government is in the process of hiring people to help with taking the 2010 Census. If you are available and interested, contact Stephanie at 785-338-9660.



PRAYER REQUESTS**LOCALLY**

Nicholas Bacon, Marlene Bowman, Cheryl Dunning, Jason Hart, Nadine & Hopper Family, Ted Kline, Ramona Langley, Naomi Rose, Don White

.....
 ■ Please call the office
 ■ at 342-1582 if a
 ■ name needs to be
 ■ removed from the
 ■ prayer list. Thanks!
 ■

NATIONALLY AND GLOBALLY...

Pray for those defending our nation: missionaries; and victims of war, hunger, disease and natural disasters. Pray for those suffering and in need around the world! Also, pray for our city and county leaders.

PRAYER CHAIN

We care about you! If you or anyone you know would like to be added to our existing DWF prayer chain, please call Jeanice Miller at 343-9592 or Luella Hush at 342-2493.

SECRET PLACE DEVOTIONALS

The **NEW SPRING 2010** Secret Place devotionals are here!! There are still some past copies also available in the church office for \$1.00 donation each. ~ Christy

GIVING UPDATE

Again, our church responded in an astounding way to the plight of our brothers and sisters in Haiti. On January 17 and 24, 2010, we took a special offering for the victims of the earthquake in Haiti with the promise that what you gave would be matched by church funds. We are overwhelmed and humbled by your generosity. On January 17, 2010, you gave \$1,358.75. The church matched that figure and we gave \$2,717.50. Then, on January 24, 2010, you gave \$1,586.00. With a matching gift, we gave \$3,172.00. Together, for both Sundays, we have contributed a total of \$5,889.50 toward earthquake relief in Haiti. God's blessings be upon you!!

Relief for Victims of the**Earthquake in Haiti****ATTENDANCE RECORD**

January 31, 2010
 SS - 19 / Worship - 90
 February 7, 2010
 SS - 30 / Worship - 124



Attendance and Offering Report

GIVING RECORD

January 31, 2010
 Offering - \$3,290.00 / Capital - \$1,415.00
 February 7, 2010
 Offering - \$4,591.50 / Capital - \$1,197.50

JUST A REMINDER

Please remember that if you are unable to fulfill your turn as a greeter, nursery volunteer, worship leader, children's message giver, server, etc., **please find your own replacement and let the church office know.** Thanks!



Monday thru Thursday
 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. / Friday ~ Closed

PASTOR'S HOURS/CONTACT INFO

M-W-TH 9-11 a.m. & 2-4 p.m.
 Fridays & Saturdays are by appointment.
 620-342-1582 (Church)
 620-757-6298 (Cell)
 944 Whittier-Emporia
 E-Mail: bobcolerick@yahoo.com



BOY SCOUT PANCAKE FEED

FEBRUARY 13, 2010 ~ Troop 157 will be hosting a pancake feed from 7 a.m. to Noon here at First Christian Church. Mark your calendars now, plan to attend and bring a friend!

**CONGREGATIONAL SWEETHEART DINNER**

FEBRUARY 14, 2010 ~ Immediately following Morning Worship!

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR ALOHA PRESTON

FEBRUARY 14, 2010 ~ The service for Aloha Preston, long time member of our church who entered new life on December 9, 2009, will be on Sunday at 2:00 p.m. at the church.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

FEBRUARY 17, 2010 ~ You are invited and urged to attend our annual Ash Wednesday Service. There will be a light supper in Fellowship Hall starting at 6:00 p.m. followed by the Service in the Sanctuary. Don't miss this moving Service.

LENTEN SERIES

FEBRUARY 24, 2010 ~ Starting the 24th, our church will again sponsor a Lenten Study Series this Season of Lent. The study series will be based on the film "Cherishing God's Creation" and will explore how we are part of God's creation and emphasize our role in protecting God's precious work. The study series will be on Wednesdays, Feb. 24th, March 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th, beginning at 5:30 p.m. with a light supper in Fellowship Hall followed by the study. (**LENTEN DEVOTIONAL BOOKLETS** ~ Don't forget to pick up your copy of "The Power of the Cross" devotional booklet for Lent. Quantities are limited, so one copy per household, please.)

**IT'S COMING...IT'S COMING...**

MARCH 6/7, 2010 ~ Yes, "Journey to Jerusalem" is coming to our church. Mark your calendars now! "Journey to Jerusalem" will be our theme as we focus on the days and events in Jesus' life leading to Easter. With dramas, authentic settings and gripping presentations you will come to grasp more fully God's grace to all the world demonstrated in the life of Jesus. It promises to be a life-changing event—don't miss it! Why not invite someone to come with you?

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINES!**

We are now publishing two newsletters per month. The following Mondays are the **deadlines** for news you want in the upcoming newsletter:

February 22nd / May 10th & 24th
 March 8th & 22nd / June 7th & 21st
 April 12th & 26th / July 12th & 26th

NEWSLETTER ON LINE

If you would like to read the newsletter online, our Web Page is at www.fccemporia.org. Click on "News" and select the edition you'd like to read.

**THANK YOU!**

The staff of First Christian Church would like to thank everyone who donated money for our Christmas gifts. We so appreciated your generosity and are blessed to be working here with you. Thanks again for your kindness!

~ Staff of First Christian Church

A GREAT BIG 'SOUPER' THANKS!!

It was inspiring to see all the food YOU brought for our "Souper" Bowl Sunday. You truly outdid yourself! The food you brought will stock our Pantry and provide sustenance for those in need and less fortunate than we are. Also, thank you for all the cash contributions. **"...when did we see you hungry and feed you..."**

UPCOMING SERVING SCHEDULE



FEBRUARY 14, 2010

Candlelighter ~ Cindy Lexow
Children's Message ~ Barb Gimple
Diaconate ~ Tim & Janelle Norton, George Ford,
 Joan Shumate
Elder ~ Fred Miller
Greeters ~ (N) Glenn & Dorothy Boyce
 (S) LeRoy & Karen Garnett

Nursery ~ Tim Norton

Organist ~ Donna Breshears / Worship Leader ~ Vicky Allen

FEBRUARY 21, 2010

Candlelighter ~ Parker Simmons
Children's Message ~ Marlene Hanson
Diaconate ~ Richard Becker, Joe & Bonnie Denson, Marie Harding
Elder ~ John Lexow
Greeters ~ (N) Robert & Janet Wells / (S) Joyce Cress & Lola Farr
Nursery ~ John Lexow / Organist ~ Donna Breshears
Worship Leader ~ Jill McGrath

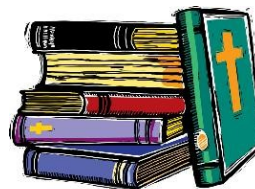
FEBRUARY 28, 2010

Candlelighter ~ Janelle Norton / Children's Message ~ Judy Moore
Diaconate ~ Carl & Rita Headrick, Nikki Simmons, Debbie Peck
Elder ~ Judy Moore
Greeters ~ (N) Larry & Glenna Gamblian
 (S) Marlene Hanson & Mary Morriss
Nursery ~ Betty Richardson / Organist ~ Donna Breshears
Worship Leader ~ Fred Miller

MARCH 7, 2010

Candlelighter ~ Brianna Becker / Children's Message ~ Tim Norton
Diaconate ~ Nancy LeClear, Guy & Janece Bacon, Jake Dalton
Elder ~ Marlene Hanson
Greeters ~ (N) Richard Becker & Robert Chatham
 (S) John & Cindy Lexow
Nursery ~ Judy Moore / Organist ~ Data Unavailable
Worship Leader ~ Robert Chatham

BIBLE READING / ANNIVERSARIES & BIRTHDAYS



The Bible
Read It!

February 14th
 Exodus 34:29-35
 Psalm 99
 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2
 Luke 9:28-43

February 21st
 Deuteronomy 26:1-11
 Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16
 Romans 10:8b-13
 Luke 4:1-13

February 28th
 Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18
 Psalm 27
 Philippians 3:17-4:1
 Luke 13:31-35

March 7th
 Isaiah 55:1-9
 Psalm 63:1-8
 I Corinthians 10:1-13
 Luke 13:1-9



FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

05 Jim & Judy Moore
 17 Fred & Jean Miller (1963)



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

10 Kat Dorcas
 10 Pauline Hall
 12 Marlene Bowman
 14 Rikki Sunderman
 15 Margie Coffman
 16 Royal Garnett
 16 Norma Leonard
 17 Doris Douglas
 17 Mindy Williams
 18 Viola Miller
 21 Barbara Wilhite
 23 Ina Goad
 23 Steve Pruitt
 25 Tyler McClellan
 25 Joshua Shumate
 28 Penny Boese
 28 Roycean Garnett



**CALENDAR PAGE
SEE WEBSITE FOR
CALENDAR EVENTS!**