

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.

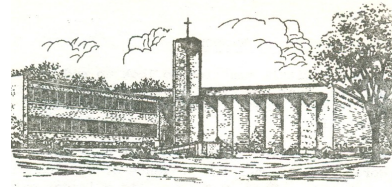
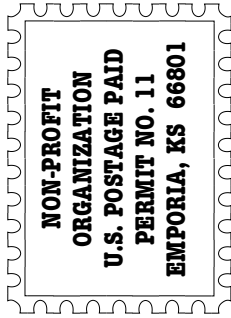
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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



*Praise the Lord!
Spring has finally sprung!!*



Christian Church News

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

March 22, 2010 / Volume 59 ~ No. 6

COMING EVENTS!

April 12th (Monday) ~ Newsletter Deadline

April 13th (Tuesday)
Fireproof Marriage Class Begins (Pg. 6)



April 25th (Sunday) ~ Men's Picnic (Pg. 3)



October 6th-8th
Kansas Disciples Women's Retreat (Pg. 15)



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Week of Compassion ~ Page 4
Marriage Class ~ Page 6
DMF Article ~ Page 7

"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."





I am so proud of this church for your compassionate and caring way of life. And because this is so important, I am making my article this issue a letter we received from the General Church.

Dear First Christian Church:

Greetings and blessings to you in the name of Jesus Christ! As I write this year's "Where Your Money Goes" letter I am mindful that 2009 was a challenging year. In 2009 we experienced one of the most difficult, global economic cycles since the Great Depression. We all know the news and the headlines. One headline you may not know is that as a result of these challenges, giving to Disciples Mission Fund decreased by more than 10%.

As part of this year's "Where Your Money Goes" letter, I am including a 4-year giving history for your congregation. I want to challenge and encourage you to look at your congregational trend and see how together we can increase your support of our common mission.

Our office staff is available to visit in person or over the phone with your decision makers, regarding your support of DMF.

When we have the opportunity to share the story, we are able to bring to life the mission and witness that is funded by DMF. To arrange a visit or receive additional information, please contact Gerri Lynn Reeves at:

(317) 713-2444 or
grees@ogmp.disciples.org.

I am also asking that if your congregation decreased your support of DMF in 2009 because of your own economic challenges that you look for opportunities to restore your giving to your previous levels.

2006 ~ \$15,749.74
2007 ~ \$15,407.21
2008 ~ \$13,779.81

In 2009, your church gave \$13,086.83 to DMF.

- Your region gave \$5,475.50
- General Ministries received \$6,290.72
- Colleges, Universities, and Seminaries received \$1,320.61

On the pages that follow (see page 7) you will find greater detail as to how these gifts were used in 2009.

Thank you for your continuing partnership. With you by our side, we can fulfill everything that God is calling us to do.

Blessings,
Todd Adams, Associate General Minister and Vice President

HELPING KANSAS CHRISTIAN HOME

Some ways to help residents at Kansas Christian Home include donations of the following items: Glue sticks, markers, crayons, electric razors, disposable razors, deodorant, and body powder, mouthwash, toothpaste and brushes for dentures, nail clippers, perfume or cologne, nail polish and remover and audio books.

KDW RETREAT REGISTRATION AVAILABLE

Hope you all have October 6-8 or October 8-10, 2010, marked on your calendars for the Kansas Disciples Women 2010 Retreat to be held at Disciples Center at Tawakoni. The theme for the retreat is "The Servant's Hands".

Joyce Ferguson from Nebraska will be the Keynote/Bible Study Leader and she is "looking forward to fellowship with Christian ladies who have sunflowers in their souls".

Joyce has asked each person who attends to bring a faith-based article of clothing, piece of jewelry, plaque, etc. that has personal significance for a time of sharing. Be thinking of what item or items you will want to bring to retreat.

Be watching for more information on this year's retreat and check out the registration form on the Regional Website.

NEW MEMBER

We welcome our newest member: **Marguerite Johnson** who transferred her membership from the North Lawrence Christian Church on March 14, 2010. Marguerite is the mother of Marie Harding and Associate Member, Sally Barnett. Marguerite resides at Holiday Resort. We are thrilled to greet Marguerite as we extend to her the right hand of Christian Fellowship.



BLESSED BE THE GIVERS

Once again the friends and faithful of Emporia First Christian Church have risen to the call! You have estimated giving during the 2010-2011 church year at \$140,878.00. This is an increase over the current year and will allow us to reach out a little more. You are a beacon of faith and goodness in this community. Thank you for your generosity and sacrifice!

~ Fred Miller for the Stewardship Ministry

PRAYER REQUESTS**LOCALLY**

Nicholas Bacon, Penny Boese, Marlene Bowman, Bill Denson, Cheryl Dunning, Jason Hart, Daniel Kimberlin (nephew of Jill McGrath), Ted Kline, Ramona Langley, Naomi Rose, Micky Spyres (Brother of Penny Boese), Rev. Leonard Wagner, Don White

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

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

**MANY THANKS!!**

Penny Boese has donated a beautiful concert Xylophone to the Church. Thank you, Penny, for your thoughtful donation. Plans are being made for the Xylophone to make its debut on Easter morning.

CONGRATULATIONS NAOMI!!

Long-time member, Naomi Rose was selected as the "Resident of the Month" at Holiday Resort in early March, 2010. Naomi has had some recent health issues and we are thrilled by her award. We are told she is using her wand and crown in her typically sweet and thoughtful manner.

**ATTENDANCE RECORD**

March 14, 2010 ~ SS - 27 / Worship - 96
 March 21, 2010 ~ SS - 57 / Worship - 66



Attendance and Offering Report

GIVING RECORD

March 14, 2010

Offering - \$3,535.50 / Capital - \$900.00

March 21, 2010

Offering - \$1,575.00 / Capital - \$305.00

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!



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS!

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

MEN'S PICNIC!

Sunday, April 25, 2010 / 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.
 Gage Park Shelter House (near horseshoe pits)
 Topeka, Kansas



Hamburgers, hot dogs, drinks, table service provided.
 Bring covered dish & lawn chair. Cost is \$7 per person. RSVP to:
 Dick Hall @ 913-651-1331 / Larry McDaniel @ 785-246-0374 /
 LeRoy Garnett @ 620-342-4885 / Richard Sack @ 913-682-1121



Week of Compassion

2010 Haiti Earthquake Relief

Since Haiti was struck by a massive 7.0 earthquake on January 12th, North American Disciples congregations have responded out of faith, hope, and a radical sense of generosity. Week of Compassion Haiti Giving as of March 16 was \$2,003,108.00.

As of March 15th, Week of Compassion has provided:

- \$55,000 to DOM for Haiti Relief
- \$115,067.84 to CWS for Haiti Relief
- \$100,000 to ACT Alliance for Haiti Relief
- \$5,000 to IMA World Health for medicine boxes for Haiti
- \$10,000 to Church Extension for U.S. Haitian congregations in the NE Region needing solidarity and support

YTD Provisions Total: \$285,067.85

THANK YOU for what you have done. THANK YOU for your courageous compassion. As work continues, we will keep you updated as the ways we respond continue to evolve in response to the situation on the ground. Week of Compassion is sharing resources and changing lives. Thank you for sharing your resources and helping to change lives.



NEWSLETTER DEADLINES!

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

April 12th & 26th / May 10th & 24th
June 7th & 21st / July 12th & 26th

NEWSLETTER ON LINE

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



MARCH 28, 2010

Candlelighter ~ Debbie Peck

Children's Message ~ Cameron Moore

Diaconate ~ Richard Becker, Joe & Bonnie Denson,
Marie Harding

Elder ~ LeRoy Garnett

Greeters ~ (N) Carl & Rita Headrick

(S) Leta Moore & Joan Shumate

Nursery ~ Nikki Simmons / Pianist ~ Sandy Heller

Worship Leader ~ Carl Richardson

APRIL 4, 2010

Candlelighter ~ Parker Simmons / Children's Message ~ Vicky Allen

Diaconate ~ Carl & Rita Headrick, Nikki Simmons, Debbie Peck

Elder ~ Cindy Lexow

Greeters ~ (N) Tim & Janelle Norton

(S) Wanda Davis & Betty Wright

Nursery ~ Rita Headrick / Pianist ~ Sandy Heller

Worship Leader ~ George Arnett

APRIL 11, 2010

Candlelighter ~ Cindy Lexow / Children's Message ~ Debbie Peck

Diaconate ~ Nancy LeClear, Guy & Janece Bacon, Jake Dalton

Elder ~ Jaylene Arnett

Greeters ~ (N) Glenn & Dorothy Boyce

(S) LeRoy & Karen Garnett

Nursery ~ Tim Norton / Pianist ~ Sandy Heller

Worship Leader ~ Robert Wells

APRIL 18, 2010

Candlelighter ~ Brianna Becker

Children's Message ~ LeRoy Garnett

Diaconate ~ Carl & Lana Richardson, George Arnett, Joyce Cress

Elder ~ Fred Miller

Greeters ~ (N) Robert & Janet Wells

(S) Joyce Cress & Lola Farr

Nursery ~ John Lexow / Pianist ~ Sandy Heller

Worship Leader ~ Nancy LeClear

bringing hope to a divided and fragmented world. For information, contact **Robert K. Welsh**, CCU President at (317) 713-2586 or RWelsh@ccu.disciples.org.

\$41.56 to the **International Disciple Women's Fellowship (IDWF)** for Women's Ministries; specifically in 5 mission areas that have been identified as priorities. Those areas are Leadership, Spiritual Growth, Justice & Service, Nurturing Community, and Stewardship. For information, contact the Office of Disciples Women, Disciples Home Missions at (888) 346-2631 or ODW's web address is www.discipleswomen.org.

\$660.94 to the **Treasury Services, the Office of Promotion, and the Office of Stewardship Ministries**. OGMP Treasury Services oversees the receipt and distribution of Disciples Mission Fund dollars. The Office of Promotion creates opportunities to interpret the work of Disciples Mission Fund dollars in the wider mission of the church. In 2010, OGMP will launch the Center for Faith and Giving, which will provide vital resources for stewardship education and spiritual development. For information contact **Todd Adams**, Associate General Minister and VP at (317) 713-2414. For information on the Center for Faith & Giving, contact Bruce Barkhauer at (317) 713-2404 or bbarkhauer@ogmp.disciples.org.

\$34.50 to related organization of the church:

- **National City Christian Church Foundation**, a Disciples presence in Washington, D.C. Stephen Gentle serves as Senior Pastor.
- **Christmount Christian Assembly**, a conference and retreat center in Black Mountain, NC. Michael P. Murphy is the Executive Director.
- **World Convention of the Churches of Christ**, a forum for the three communions related to the Stone-Campbell movement.

\$228.80 to the **Council of General Ministries**. These funds are used for general ministries projects that advance the church's mission and vision. For information, please contact the specific General Ministry regarding their use of the funds.

For more information, call or write your regional minister, the president of the respective general ministry or institution, or visit the Disciples Mission Fund website: www.disciplesmissionfund.org.

Thank you for your contributions in support of the Disciples worldwide network ~ sharing, caring and preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ.



March 28th
Luke 19:28-40
Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

April 4th
Acts 10:34-43
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
I Corinthians 15: 19-26
John 20:1-18

April 11
Acts 5:27-32
Psalm 118:14-29
Revelation 1:4-8
John 20:19-31

April 18
Acts 9:1-6
Psalm 30
Revelation 5:11-40
John 21:1-19



APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

- 02 Dean & Fran Grisell (1950)
04 Walter & Wilma Spencer (1992)
08 Jon & Laura Breshears (2000)
14 Robert & Luella Hush (1957)
15 Russell & Christy Jarvis (1995)
23 Neil & Virginia Kelley (1950)
26 Lucas & Brittany McWilliams

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 04 Dana Sunderman
05 Merle Baxter
07 Briana Becker
07 Jan Stevenson
08 Debbie Davis
08 Duane Robinson
08 Desstaini Russell
12 Dale Rohling
16 Betty Tholen
20 Diana Schaefer
21 Fred Kline
21 Tammie McDiffett
21 Mark Schaefer
22 Joyce Cress
22 Penny Fleming
24 LeRoy Garnett
24 Gale Kelley
24 Bill McClellan
24 Betty Richardson
25 Andy Kuhn
25 Mark Shumate
26 Orville Brooks
28 Opal Sager
29 Wilma Lindsey
30 Gail Coburn
30 Wanda Davis

FIREPROOF YOUR MARRIAGE!

Fireproof Your Marriage will challenge you to love better, to love first and to love for a lifetime! This six-week study is designed with an easy format that integrates key Scriptures, movie clips, devotionals and thought-provoking discussion questions to challenge couples to grow spiritually and relationally. In the movie Fireproof, Capt. Caleb Holt lives by the old firefighter's adage: Never leave your partner behind. Inside burning buildings, it's his natural instinct. In the cooling embers of his marriage, it's another story. Clips from the movie are portions of each week's study.



- Week 1: He Said/She Said ~ Appreciating the God-designed differences between men and women.
 Week 2: He First Loved Us ~ God's love for you and how it enables you to love others.
 Week 3: Love for a Lifetime ~ Marriage as a lifelong covenant
 Week 4: Breaking Free ~ Freeing yourself from temptations that can destroy a marriage.
 Week 5: Forgiveness ~ Offering and receiving forgiveness
 Week 6: A Better Way of Living ~ Unconditional Love

Tuesday evenings, 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

From April 13, 2010 thru May 18, 2010.

Registration required ~ \$20 fee per couple for materials

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

202 E. 12th Avenue ~ Emporia, KS 66801

LIBRARY NEWS

We have several Easter books on our book cart in the hallway. We have others in the library that will get you into the Easter spirit. Please stop by and check one out.

WEEK OF COMPASSION ON FACEBOOK

Join our Facebook community for more frequent updates on Week of Compassion. Already a fan? Suggest Week of Compassion to friends and "Like" or "Share" our updates. Engaging with others on our fan page increases our visibility and helps to grow the movement of Courageous Compassion. *Week of Compassion shares resources and is changing lives. **BECOME A FAN!***

\$276.04 to **OGMP Communication Ministries**, which serves the church by communicating information of the Office of the General Minister and President, General Assembly, and the General Board to the church. They work with media sources including TV, video productions, printed materials, Disciples News Service and www.disciples.org. For information, contact **Wanda Bryant-Wills**, OGMPCM Executive Director at (317) 713-2492 or wbwills@cm.disciples.org.

\$73.44 to **Church Extension (CE)** that partners with Disciples congregations, offering capital campaigns, transformational strategies, investment services, and capital funding. Your gifts support the mission of CE, planting, guiding, and coaching new Disciples congregations. For information about CE's services contact **James L. Powell**, CE President at (317) 713-2500 or JPowell@churchextension.org. CE's website is www.churchextension.org

\$180.53 to **Higher Education and Leadership Ministries** to nurture leaders for the church in partnership with colleges, universities, theological institutions, campus-general-regional ministries, and congregations. Your gifts helped college students, lay people and ministerial students. For information, contact **Dennis L. Landon**, at (314) 991-3000. Website is www.helmdisciples.org.

\$147.12 to **Council on Christian Unity**, which produces study and worship resources for congregations related to such programs as World Communion Sunday, as the CCU seeks to bring the Disciples strong witness to Christian unity to local, national, and international settings. For information contact **Robert K. Welsh**, CCU President at (317) 713-2586 or RWelsh@ccu.disciples.org CCU's web address is www.disciples.org/ccu/.

\$92.58 to the **Disciples Historical Society**, which gathers and preserves the history of Disciples and provides a place for research related to the Stone-Campbell movement. Additionally, DCHS is providing an online Sunday School lesson on Disciples History free on their website. For information, contact **Glenn Thomas Carson**, DCHS President, at (866) 834-7563. The historical society's website is www.discipleshistory.org.

\$76.89 to **Ecumenical Ministries** through the U.S. National Council of Churches, the Canadian Council of Churches and the World Council of Churches. Seeking to manifest God's gift of unity Jesus Christ through common witness, mission and service, we are
(Continued page 12...)

with more than 70 countries worldwide. Your gifts continue to provide a Critical Presence in the lives of people! For information, contact **David Vargas**, DOM President at (317) 713-2575, or dvargas@dom.disciples.org.

\$1,303.76 to the **Disciples Home Missions**. DHM provides programs and services for your congregation and others in evangelism, spiritual life, Christian education, and various ministries. Through DHM you build houses & churches destroyed by natural disasters, resettle refugees, and help congregations and their leadership engage in renewal and transformation. For information, contact **Ron Degges**, DHM President at (317) 713-2679 or rdegges@dhm.disciples.org

\$753.55 to the **Office of the General Minister and President**, which provides pastoral guidance for the denomination, coordinates ministry planning for the future of the denomination, oversees the work and planning for the General Assembly, and administers the decision-making process of the General Board. In 2008, OGMP assumed responsibility for Disciples Mission Fund, Treasury Services, and Stewardship Education. For information, contact **Sharon E. Watkins** at (317) 713-2402 or swatkins@ogmp.disciples.org

\$184.45 to **Ethnic Ministries**. National Convocation, North American Pacific Asian Disciples, and the Central Pastoral Office for Hispanic Ministries provide congregational support, nurture, and care that are vital to the future growth of the church. For information on the use of these funds contact **Tim James**, (National Convocation) at (317) 713-2407 or tjames@ogmp.disciples.org.

\$316.39 to the **Pension Fund** to provide ministerial relief grants and supplemental gifts to retired clergy who are living at or below the poverty level. Your gifts translate into medicine, housing, food, and other necessities for over 1,300 clergy. For information, contact **James P. Hamlett**, PF President, at (317) 713-2600 or jhamlett@pension.disciples.org. Find the Pension Fund on the web at www.pensionfund.org

\$306.10 to the **Disciples Benevolent Services** for social and health services care ministries. You are helping to support the operation of 6 care facilities and 5 chaplaincy care programs. For information, contact **Dennis Hagemann**, DBS President, at (314) 993-9000. Find them on the web at www.nbacares.org.

(Continued page 11...)

FUNDING MINISTRIES OF WHOLENESS IN A FRAGMENTED WORLD

Dear Disciples Mission Fund Supporters,

Thank you for your gifts through Disciples Mission Fund. In 2009 Disciples congregations contributed a total of **\$14,955,659** through **DISCIPLES MISSION FUND**.

Disciples Mission Fund is our common fund, supporting ministries of wholeness from your doorsteps to the ends of the earth!

We appreciate your **congregation** contributing a total of **\$13,086.83** through Disciples Mission Fund through regular giving, Special Offerings at Easter, Pentecost, Thanksgiving and Christmas; Christian Women's Fellowship/Disciples Women, youth groups, and church schools.

Here are some examples of the ministry your congregation's contributions supported in 2009:

\$5,475.50 to your region of the church, **Christian Church in Kansas**, for ministries such as nurture and care of congregations and pastors, help in securing pastoral leadership, youth camps and conferences, lay training events, new church development ministries, spiritual enrichment, Christian Women's Fellowship and Christian Men's Fellowship retreats, and other services to congregations. For more information about your region's outreach, contact your Regional Minister: **Paxton Jones**, 2914 SW MacVicar Avenue, Topeka, KS 66611.

\$1,320.61 to **14 Disciples-related colleges and universities and 7 seminaries and divinity houses** that offer quality Christian Education and ministerial training. Your gifts sponsor pastors pursuing a Master of Divinity. Your gifts provide for campus ministries that support young adults as they transition to college. For the names and addresses of the presidents, ask your pastor to show you the Disciples Year Book & Directory or find them online at www.helmdisciples.org.

\$1,614.07 to the **Division of Overseas Ministries (DOM) Global Ministries** for the support of more than 120 missionaries, which includes fully supported, long-term and short-term volunteers. DOM works with the United Church of Christ in a common mission

(Continued on page 10...)



CALENDAR PAGE
SEE WEBSITE FOR
CALENDAR EVENTS!