

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Newsletter

Volume 57 - No. 15 - August 25, 2008

REFLECTIONS

It seems like every day I learn something new about the many different ways people serve the Lord. I am often impressed by the varied and creative ways people humble themselves and continue the work of being a servant. I am so thankful that God has created us with eyes to really see, and ears to really hear and hearts to really care.

Long ago I heard about a quiet, unassuming man who went around various neighborhoods in the Kansas City area selling fruits and vegetables. He would stop at homes on his route and sell what he had to the lady of the house. One day, with a storm approaching, the fruit vendor in his hurry to keep from getting wet, dropped a little notebook on the ground. His customer saw the book fall and she picked it up and handed it to him. "This looks like it's important," she said. The vendor first said, "Oh, it's not important," but then he thought, and said, "Yes, it is important. It's very important. This is my book of reminders." The woman noted that she was surprised he needed reminders. He had followed his route for years and knew the likes and dislikes of all the households he served. "These are different reminders," he said. "Like here," showing her the book, he read, "'Ask about sick baby,' 'Speak to crippled man,' 'leave money for missionary in Africa.'" He told her these were his reminders of things to do at his church on Sunday. All week he would make himself reminders of things to do on Sunday, or other times, for other people. He said to the woman, "When I do the things on my list, it just kind of keeps my soul alive."

When we do large and small acts of service it keeps our souls alive because we become an extension of God's hands. Can there be any greater blessing than to allow ourselves to be used by God? We can do whatever we want, but when the Spirit of God grows within our hearts we just naturally want to do what we can to be a blessing to others. It really is true that "...the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. (Galatians 5:22-23 NIV.)

BLESSINGS, Pastor Bob

First Christian Church

202 East 12th Avenue / Emporia, KS 66801-5009

(620) 342-1582 (Church Office)

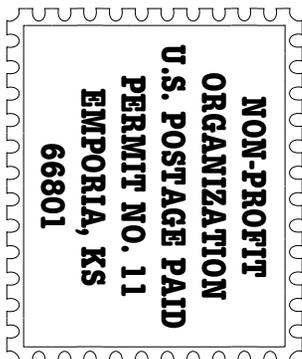
(620) 342-8585 (Fax)

Web Page: www.fccemporia.org

Sunday School ~ 9:30 a.m.

Worship ~ 10:30 a.m.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



PASTOR'S HOURS & CONTACT INFORMATION

M-W-TH 9-11 a.m. & 2-4 p.m.

Fridays & Saturdays are by appointment

620-342-1582 (Church) / 620-757-6298 (Cell)

1-877-941-2828 (Toll Free–Bob, KC)

944 Whittier-Emporia / E-Mail: bobcolerick@yahoo.com

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday thru Thursday ~ 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. / Friday - 8 a.m. to Noon

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION & DEADLINES

The First Christian Church Newsletter is published bi-monthly (except for one in December). PLEASE submit your items (in the church office or by e-mail to ttllpit@yahoo.com) to be published in the newsletter **NO LATER** than the following Monday's:

SEPTEMBER 8TH & SEPTEMBER 22ND

Thanks! ~ Christy

WALK AEROBICS

There is a new Walk Aerobics class being held at the Church on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 12:05 p.m. followed by a brown bag lunch. Join us!

DWF DAY GROUP

DWF Day Group will hold their meeting on Wednesday, September 10th at 1:30 p.m. If you need a ride, please contact someone in the group. ~ Sandy Heller

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

www.fcemporiam.org

MEETING

Fellowship & Membership will meet Tuesday, September 9th at 5:30 p.m. Bring your ideas!

DISCIPLE WORLD MAGAZINE

If you would like a subscription to Disciple World, contact Christy in the church office. A 1-year subscription is \$31.00. This magazine is also available in the library and keeps us informed of news, opinions, and missions on a national level.

SEPTEMBER MUSIC

During September & October, I will be playing the following hymns from our Chalice Hymnal for the offertories each Sunday.

September 5 ~ "Touch the Earth Lightly" (Pg. 693)

September 12 ~ "Down to Earth" (Pg. 168)

September 19 ~ "Wind Upon the Waters" (Pg. 247)

September 26 ~ "Sweet, Sweet Spirit" (Pg. 261)

October 3 ~ "Water, River, Spirit, Grace" (Pg. 366)

October 10 ~ "Spirit" (Pg. 249)

I hope you will enjoy them as much as I do. ~ Sandy Heller

FROM THE LIBRARY

"Glimpses of Heaven" by Trudy Harris, RN has been given as a Memorial book for Rosalie Stanley by Bob & Luella Hush. Through the eyes of a former hospice nurse you'll experience 44 true stories that present a reassuring picture of life's end. You will be reassured of the love and peace God longs for us to receive.

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!

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR PANTRY

We appreciate all your recent donations for our food pantry but the need is still great! We have had several people visit the pantry this last week, so we are in need of more donations. We would appreciate anything you can bring in to help those less fortunate.

~ Betty & Marjorie

2008 REGIONAL ASSEMBLY MEETING

October 17-18, 2008
Manhattan Clarion Hotel
“Blessed Be The Labyrinth That Binds”

A Labyrinth of opportunities awaits you at the Regional Assembly this year! Workshops, Book sales, displays of our shared ministries, and unique worship will be available to all who attend. Register today ~ **DON'T MISS IT!**

Registration forms and information available at www.kansasdisciples.org or for more information, see Pastor Bob.

NEWS ON LINE

Check out our Web Page at www.fccemporio.org. If you would be willing to read your copy on our website you could save the church some paper and postage! Let me know at 342-1582 or ttllpit@yahoo.com if I can take your name off my list for a mailed copy. Thanks!

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.

IN THE HOSPITAL?

If you are a “friend in the hospital” and would like a visit or to be on our prayer list, call the church office and let us know! Also, if you do **NOT** want your name published in our church newsletter, but would like to be remembered in prayer, let us know that too!

SPELLING BEE

Congratulations to Jean Miller for winning the Lyon County Spelling Bee, Senior Division. Good luck in Salina!

PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

The Pastoral Relations Committee (PRC) is a communication link between the church congregation and the Minister to effectively serve the Lord. If you have “praises” or “concerns” about your Minister, please feel free to contact one of following people on the committee:

LeRoy Garnett @ 342-4585
Dean Grisell @ 620-342-9341
Kathy Harris @ 342-5350
Bea Stine @ 620-412-2198
Robert Wells @ 620-342-7164

NEW NEWSLETTER FORMAT

This issue of the newsletter has a new layout. It is a work in progress. Please share your comments with any of the following people: Pastor Bob, Anita Imhoff, Communication Chair; Jean Miller, Ann McNeese or Cameron Moore, Newsletter Advisory Committee.

NEW FACILITATORS

Jean Miller & Sandy Heller are the new co-facilitators for DWF. Marie Harding will remain Treasurer and Carolyn Kuhn will continue to be the Study/Worship person.

ATTENDANCE PADS

Don't forget to sign the attendance pad on Sundays!

PRESCHOOL NEWS

We still have openings in the 4-year old class for Learning Center Preschool. Tell someone you know about our great school!

GREAT AMERICAN MARKET DOWNTOWN

Mark your calendars! Saturday, September 6, 2008
All sale items may be brought to the church or call Tim or Janelle Norton for pickup. No clothing for this sale please!

THANKS

Many thanks to Robert Chatham, John Duch, John David Harris and Judy Moore for working the Faith Fair held at ESU on August 22.

PLEASE PRAY FOR...

Locally...

Brandon Ayers, Bill Bowles, Will Calvert, Doris Douglas, Fern Garnett, Fran Grisell, Jason Hart, Loren Law (*brother-in-law of Mary Ann Law*), Elmaleda McMinn, June Meyer, Terry Ott, Freeda Paasch, Violet Pauler, Helen Price, Jim Resch (*friend of Sandy Heller*), Mary Schaefer, Elizabeth Wells, Don White

Nationally & 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 & those affected by the layoffs at Tyson Foods.

SHOP AT STAPLES?

You can still help the church by giving the good people at Staple's our phone number (620-342-1582) and your purchases will help us by giving us credit on the Rewards Program.

So while at Staple's give them our number! **THANKS!**

ATTENDANCE & GIVING

Attendance

August 17, 2008 ~ SS - 30 / Worship - 98

August 24, 2008 ~ SS - 36 / Worship - 99

Stewardship Report

August 17, 2008 ~ Offering - \$1,355.60 / Capital - \$155.00

August 24, 2008 ~ Offering - \$2,857.16 / Capital - \$620.00

ATTENTION LADIES

A workshop will be led by Brian Klemmer on Sunday, August 31, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. at the Cameron Community Building, 915 Ashland, Cameron, MO. Mr. Klemmer is an International consultant, speaker and best-selling author. He will be addressing empowerment in a win-win environment. Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$59 at the door.

You can register by phone: (816) 632-2237 or (800)-577-5447 or on-line: www.klemmer.com/workshop/results

MUSINGS FROM THE MODERATOR

“And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best....” ~ Philippians 1:9-10

By the time this newsletter is published, the first Cottage Meetings (for the New Beginnings process) will have been held. You will recognize the above scripture as part of your first Cottage Meeting discussion. Your participation in this process is so very, very important. These aren't just more “planning” meetings. Discussions in the Cottage Meetings will elicit from our members the direction we believe God is telling us to take. The possible outcomes for our church are many, but there will definitely be major changes based on whatever outcome our members discern.

If you haven't signed up for a meeting and would like to do so, please call Marie Harding to get scheduled for a group. If you are a part of a Cottage group, please fervently pray for knowledge and depth of insight as we go through this process.

You may recall that Janelle (Moderator-Elect) and I have a focus of monthly events for our church family throughout this year. We hope to become a more visible presence to the community and neighborhood with our monthly events, as well as provide some interaction for those members who aren't able to participate on Sunday mornings. The two events thus far have been VBS Carnival and the Calvary Echoes. Both of these were fantastic!! The “event” during September is the Cottage Meeting process. In October, we will have an old-fashioned Autumn/Halloween party for all ages!!

Whatever path our church takes in the months and years ahead, we are very blessed to have an abundance of willing, wise workers. I am especially excited about the ministry to college students which has been started by several of our members. Please take the time to welcome the college students worshipping with us. And, thank the members who are devoting time and talent to making the college Sunday school class become a reality!

As with any household, there are bills to pay. And, repairs. And, maintenance. Please give our Financial and Facilities leaders a special thank-you for all their hard work, and wise choices. (Larry Breshears, Fred Miller, Carl Richardson, Carl Headrick, John Harding, Pastor Bob to name a few!! See—I shouldn't start listing names, because there are so many who contribute in so many ways!)

Take a close look at the calendar of events. There are many activities coming up in the next few weeks. We hope you will be present at many of them; and, when you can't be present, your presence in prayer **ALWAYS** makes a difference!!

~ Cindy Lexow

ANNIVERSARIES & BIRTHDAYS

September Anniversaries

02 Glenn & Barbara Gimple
14 Chad & Laurie Kurzen
18 Marvin & Veta Reece (1946)

September Birthdays

01	Marlene Hanson	18	Nancy LeClear
01	Rita Headrick	18	Helen Price
06	Scott Thomas	19	Karen Monroe
07	Fred Miller	19	Madeline Watkins
08	Helen Kassens	21	Gwen Zimmerman
09	Jim Cress	23	Joe Denson
09	Steve Goad	23	Luella Hush
09	Janelle Norton	24	Glenn Boyce
09	Cheryl Smith	24	Karen Shumate
10	Vicky Allen	26	Jeanice Miller
10	Marvin Reece	27	Kiernan Breshears
11	Margaret Walliser	27	Justin Wilson
12	Harold Woods	28	Alberta Brinkman
13	Paula Milner	28	S'Kylan Russell
13	Rose Mundun	29	Bill Fosdick
15	Glenn Gimple	29	Ann McNeese
17	Blaze Witten	30	David Rohling

NEED A RIDE?

If you would like a ride to church on Sunday, please call the church office at 342-1582 by Noon on Friday.

LADIES! START YOUR OVENS!

The DWF will hold a bake sale in conjunction with the Great American Market on September 6th. Any church member is welcome to contribute baked items, whether or not they attend DWF. Preferred items are small packages of cookies, rolls, or whatever ~ something people could buy and eat as they shop. Whole pies, cakes, etc. are also welcome. Money raised by this bake sale will be used for DWF projects. Baked goods may be brought to the kitchenette (off the parlor) by Friday noon, September 5.

UPCOMING SERVERS

August 31, 2008

Candlelighters - Emily & Morgan Lauxman
Children's Message - Sandy Heller
Diaconate - Tim Norton, Larry Breshears, Joyce Cress,
Bonnie Denson, George Ford, Dean Grisell
Elder - John Lexow
Greeters - (N) Glenn & Dorothy Boyce
(S) Leta Moore & Joan Shumate
Nursery - Janelle Norton / Organist - Sandy Heller
Worship Leader - Dianna Lewis

September 7, 2008

Candlelighter - Debbie Peck
Children's Message - Marie Harding
Diaconate - Carl Headrick, Rita Headrick, Lola Farr,
Dianna Lewis, Hal Lewis, Ardie Lauxman
Elder - Robert Wells
Greeters - (N) Robert & Janet Wells
(S) Wanda Davis & Betty Wright
Nursery - Nikki Simmons / Organist - Sandy Heller
Worship Leader - Nancy LeClear

September 14, 2008

Candlelighter - Emily Lauxman
Children's Message - Cameron Moore
Diaconate - Karen Garnett, Alan Richardson, Betty Richardson,
George Arnett, Becky Lauxman, Larry Gamblian
Elder - Cindy Lexow
Greeters - (N) Larry & Glenna Gamblian
(S) LeRoy & Karen Garnett
Nursery - Rita Headrick / Organist - Sandy Heller
Worship Leader - Barb Gimple