

Christian Church News

May 4, 2009
Volume 58 ~ No. 9

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

MAY BIBLE READINGS

May 3-9
Acts 4:5-12
PS 23
1 JN 3:16-24
JN 10:11-18

May 10-16
Acts 8:26-40
PS 22:25-31
1 JN 4:7-21
JN 15:1-8

May 17-23
Acts 10:44-48
PS 98
1 JN 5:1-6
JN 15:9-17

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, May 9 ~ 2:00 p.m.
Joan Shumate's 80th Birthday
Reception in the Church Parlor

Sunday, May 10 ~ 10:30 a.m.
Graduation Recognition in Worship

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

First Christian Church Library
50th Anniversary ~ Pages 4-6

Dr. William J. Tabbernee, Phillips Theological
Seminary, resigns as President ~ Page 9

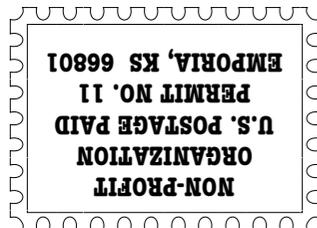
"The mission of First Christian Church is to inspire each other to reach out to the un-churched and to serve and share with our community by proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ."



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

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



We have been hearing a lot recently, and we will continue to hear much more, about the so-called "Swine Flu." The official name for this latest health concern is H1N1. As we endure this very serious illness, there are some comments I feel it is important to pass on to you to help us deal with this outbreak and to protect ourselves.

First, we must not panic. According to the latest news I've heard, this sickness is comparable to the regular flu and is just as contagious. Yet, it is important that we understand the difference between "panic" and "prudence." Prudence is called for and not panic. Remember that according to the CDC, every year more than 200,000 people in the United States are hospitalized with the flu, and about 36,000 people die. Statements, like the recent words of VP Joe Biden to stay away from airplanes and subways (that will be easy for us) only cause panic and, according to official government recommendations, are alarmist.

Second, please take "common sense" precautions. Wash your hands!—often. Use hand sanitizers! Cover your mouth when you cough and your nose when you sneeze! Wash your hands! If someone close to you coughs or sneezes, stay away from what comes out. Don't send a sick child to school, but do send them to the doctor.

And...Wash your hands!

Third, don't blame the pig. In fact, eat the pig! Fruits, salads and vegetables are better food choices (but you get the idea.) You cannot get the flu, H1N1 and others, from eating pork.

Fourth, try to be a help in this health crisis. As Christians, we are people who "love our neighbors as ourselves." If there is something you can do to help, do it! We can always pray for each others' well-being.

And fifth, be a non-anxious presence for others (an example) who worry and fear. Christians bring peace, not panic, to crisis situations.

It is OK to be frightened—Christians are not immune to fear. But fear must not rule our lives. The Bible is the best book to read anytime but especially in times like this. Even so, the words of Franklin D. Roosevelt, spoken in his first inaugural address, as the Depression was taking its toll and the cool breezes of a threatening new war were beginning to blow: "The Only Thing We Have to Fear Is Fear Itself."

Blessings, Pastor Bob

OFFICE HELP NEEDED

I will be out of the office on Friday, May 22nd and Tuesday, May 26th. The office is closed on Monday, May 25th for Memorial Day.

Pastor Bob will be out of the office also and we are asking for volunteers to answer the phone in our absence for the following times:

Friday, May 22 ~ 8 a.m. to Noon
 Tuesday, May 26 ~ 8 a.m. to Noon
 Tuesday, May 26 ~ Noon to 3 p.m.

If you are willing to serve any of these times, please contact me in the church office at 342-1582.

Thanks, Christy

KANSAS CHRISTIAN HOME NEEDS LIST

Linda Hill shared the following needs for residents of Kansas Christian Home at the March KDW Cabinet meeting. Maybe your group can help out:

glue sticks, electric razors, markers, disposable razors, crayons, deodorant and body powder, candy, mouthwash, gum, toothpaste and toothbrushes for dentures.

The Merry Menders Sewing Group could use: size 3 sew on snaps, fabric, gently used full-size sheets or larger, gently used bath-size towels, serger cone thread, and buttonhole thread (thicker than regular ~ white or cream colored).

HELP NEEDED FOR LEARNING CENTER PRESCHOOL SUMMER PLAYGROUND PROJECT

"Thank you, thank you!!" to all the parents and FCC members who helped us get our remodeling project started this year!

Over spring break, we were able to complete much of what we had planned to do in "Phase 1." Now, with the \$4,000 gift from the Emporia St. Patrick's Day Committee, we are ready to begin planning work for "Phase 2." We are hopeful that, with enough volunteer help, we will be able to get everything done over the summer months so the playground will be ready to go when school starts again in September.

These are the tasks we hope to accomplish:

- Add topsoil to east end of the playground
- Repair & install the second spring rocker
- Install a concrete trike path
- Refurbish an outdoor storage shed for trikes and other outdoor play equipment
- Relocate or install a new gate at the north east corner of the playground
- Purchase new riding toys
- Level uneven ground and reseed the playground grass where needed.

If you are willing & able to contribute to any of these tasks, call the church office and leave a message or e-mail Suzanne at s_swest@osprey.net. We will contact you when we are ready to begin work! If you have questions, share them so the playground committee can reply as soon as possible!

Thank you again so much! We couldn't do any of this without your help! ~ Suzanne West

PRAYER REQUESTS**LOCALLY**

Brandon Ayers, Bill Bowles, Jason Hart, Dr. Charles & Nadine Hopper, Troy Knight (Janelle Norton's father), Nadine Lexow, Reba Oliver, Elizabeth Wells, Don White

Our prayer/concerns/joy list continues to grow longer. Don't forget to call the office if a name can be removed. Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

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 and county leaders.

THANK YOU

Church Members ~ Guy and I want to thank all of you for welcoming us with open arms as we joined the church. God is working in this church and we saw it first hand. We saw from the first Sunday we attended that it is a very friendly church. Thank you for all your thoughtfulness.

~ Guy and Janece Bacon

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to McKenna LeClear for taking No. 2 in the State in Oratory competition.

Congratulations and thanks to all those who support and lead the monthly Worship Service at Presbyterian Manor. We have received a Certification of Appreciation from Presbyterian Manor for our good work.

COMING SOON

The 2009-2010 budget as approved by the congregation includes funds to publish the newsletter on a monthly basis. Revisions to the newsletter are in progress.

~ Newsletter Revision Committee



Monday thru Thursday
8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Friday
8 a.m. to Noon

PASTOR'S HOURS AND 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)

944 Whittier-Emporia

E-Mail: bobcolerick@yahoo.com

ATTENDANCE & GIVING*Attendance*

April 26, 2009

SS - 29 / Worship - 88

May 3, 2009

SS - 26 / Worship - 93

Stewardship Report

April 26, 2009

Offering - \$ 1,946.00

Capital - \$ 385.00

May 3, 2009

Offering - \$ 3,556.00

Capital - \$ 1,179.00

SECRET PLACE DEVOTIONALS

The new Summer 2009 edition of *The Secret Place* is now available for \$1.00 per copy. Also, we have some back editions if you are interested. Pick up your copy in the church office.

~ Christy

BIBLE STUDY

Remember Tuesday's
10:00 a.m. in the Parlor

Bible Study

"And Still We Rise"

Facilitator, Jean Miller

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.

**DISCIPLES WOMEN ANNOUNCE
2009-2010 SOCIAL ACTION
PROJECT**

Break the Chains of Human Trafficking. Human trafficking is the illegal trade of human beings for sexual exploitation or forced labor.

A million humans are trafficked across international borders every year, 20,000 into the United States, and the majority are women and children.

Disciples Women will financially support organizations that rescue victims and help them create a new life. They will also volunteer at local agencies.

This project will be underway through May 2010. Results will be celebrated at Quadrennial Assembly in June 2010 in Greensboro, North Carolina.

~ Kansas Messenger, Mar-Apr 2009

**FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
LIBRARY CELEBRATES
50 YEARS OF SERVICE**

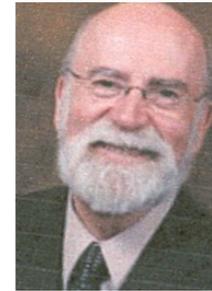
by Carol Rhoades, Reporter

Our church library is celebrating 50 years of service. With a meager beginning of \$25.00, the library was started by a donation from the Christian Women's Fellowship. It is now a 5,000 volume, catalogued library listed with the Library of Congress as number 990. Recognition needs to be given to the people who have dedicated their time and talent to make it the successful library that we enjoy today.

This is a story about one of the dedicated persons who has been instrumental in organizing and running the library for 38 years. Bernice Rider does not like to talk about herself but she loves to talk about the library. She deserves recognition for her work and dedication.

Bernice came to Emporia in 1932 to attend college. After one year, she met and married her husband Keith. She had planned on being a teacher. Having eight children, her plans changed to being a full time homemaker.

When the library was only 12 years old, Myrtle Towns, who had been the church librarian since 1960, asked

**PTS PRESIDENT TO RETURN
TO CLASSROOM**

Dr. William J. Tabbernee, President and Stephen J. England Distinguished Professor of the History of Christianity at Philips Theological Seminary (PTS), announced his intention to step down as president of PTS effective June 30.

Tabbernee tendered his resignation to the Board of Trustees in February. He stated that he has chosen to relinquish his administrative duties at the end of this fiscal year at a time when "the seminary is a thriving institution with great forward momentum." He reported that, despite the general economic downturn, PTS is in the best financial situation it has ever been. "Not having been historically an 'endowment-driven' institution is, in this economy, an asset. We are fortunate in having resources which will enable us to refrain from drawing on our endowments, if necessary, for at least five years," said Tabbernee.

Tabbernee will continue as professor of the History of Christianity. "I have been looking forward for a number of years now to devoting more time to my

academic responsibilities. I love teaching, and it will be fun to return to the classroom." The Trustees have established a search committee for a new president.

Tabbernee is an ordained minister with standing in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). In addition to teaching Church History, he has served as president of Philips Theological Seminary since 1991. He also co-directs an archaeological surface survey in Turkey. This joint PTS/University of Heidelberg project is exploring the sites of ancient settlements associated with the early Christian movement Montanism. He is active in ecumenical and interfaith activities, serving as a member of the World Council of Churches Commission on Faith and Order for more than 20 years. Currently he co-moderates the Disciples of Christ/Roman Catholic International Commission for Dialogue.

(Kansas Messenger Mar-Apr 2009)

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

I need any information for the next newsletter **NO LATER THAN MONDAY, MAY 18, 2009.** ~ Christy

GRADUATION RECOGNITION

Sunday, May 10th, graduates will be recognized in worship service. Please contact the church office at 342-1582 if you know a graduate to be honored. We want to honor our graduates.

NEWSLETTER ON LINE

Our Web Page is at www.fcemporio.org. Call the church office (342-1582) or e-mail ttllpit@yahoo.com if your name can be removed from the newsletter mailing list. Thanks!

PRESCHOOL NEWS

It really does not seem possible that we are down to our last three weeks of preschool for the year! Thank you, preschool families and First Christian Church members, for all your support and encouragement! We really could not do what we do without all of you! Thank you, again and may God bless you!

As we finish out this school year and begin looking forward to the next to come, here are a few dates/events to take note of:

- There is one last Family Eat Out Night this Thursday night at Gambino's Pizza! Over \$200 just from families eating out this year?! Thank you!
- We are taking applications for both classes for the fall. If anyone knows of a family in need of a great preschool experience, please encourage them to fill out an application and turn it into the church office as soon as possible! We will be putting names on a waiting list and filling preschool openings as they become available on a first come/first serve basis.
- Playground renovation is still in process, and will continue over the summer! (Please see page 11 for more details)
- The last days of preschool will be May 20 and May 21. Thank you, Mr. Hush, for your generosity in inviting the preschoolers to celebrate their last days of preschool with a train ride at Soden's Grove!

Bernice if she would like to help. Myrtle, a retired teacher, taught Bernice the Dewey Decimal system and other techniques for being a librarian. The staff and the library grew so that a larger space was needed. The children's section was moved to the second floor in 1989. A big renovation in 2002 of the former chapel made a wonderful spacious area for the library and allowed the children's section to be rejoined with the main library. It is especially fitting that the memorial funds for the late Keith Rider were used to purchase new table and chairs for the library.

Bernice Rider loves to read. She has read most of the fiction books that have been acquired in the library. She gives a report on new books at each Disciples Women's Fellowship meeting. She keeps the church newsletters and bulletins filed for reference. The historical albums are faithfully compiled yearly. Subscriptions of large print Guide Post, Christian History, Reminisce and Disciples World are kept current and always available.

Luella Hush joined the library staff in 1992 taking on the responsibilities of keeping the financial records. Bernice Rider and Luella Hush are two of the current guardian angels of the library. As the library changes, new talent has been coming forward to volunteer.

Jeanice Miller compiles the acquisition list and types the catalogue cards. Jan Jones has become another volunteer. They all are dedicating their time and talent for keeping the First Christian Church library a remarkable treasure. It should be noted on this 50th anniversary that Bernice requests a volunteer to fill her position.

Now is a good time to visit the library, take note of the wealth of material there and use it for study or research. This is an opportunity for every one with a love of learning to show their appreciation to the dedicated staff of the library and consider how they could help to keep the church library growing.



“Bernice Rider opens the library every Sunday morning.”



“Bernice Rider is always ready to help find resource material.”



*“Bernice Rider (seated)
Left to Right: Keith Rider,
Fern Fullen (back to camera),
Olive Hoch in the original library”*

May 10, 2009

Candlelighter ~ Allyson Lauxman

Children's Message ~ Cameron Moore

Diaconate ~ Tim Norton, Larry Breshears, Joyce Cress,
Bonnie Denson, George Ford, Dean Grisell

Elder - John Lexow

Greeters - (N) Richard Becker & Robert Chatham / (S) Wanda Davis & Betty Wright

Nursery - Richard Becker / Organist - Sandy Heller

Worship Leader - Fred Miller

May 17, 2009

Candlelighter ~ Tim Norton

Children's Message ~ Vicky Allen

Diaconate ~ Carl Headrick, Rita Headrick, Lola Farr,
Dianna Lewis, Hal Lewis

Elder - Robert Wells

Greeters - (N) Joe & Bonnie Denson / (S) LeRoy & Karen Garnett

Nursery - Marie Harding / Organist - Sandy Heller

Worship Leader - Dianna Lewis

May 24, 2009

Candlelighter ~ Emily & Morgan Lauxman

Children's Message ~ LeRoy Garnett

Diaconate ~ Karen Garnett, Alan Richardson, Betty Richardson, George Arnett,
Becky Lauxman, Larry Gamblian

Elder - Cindy Lexow

Greeters - (N) Carl & Rita Headrick / (S) George & Ruth Ford

Nursery - Betty Richardson / Organist - Sandy Heller

Worship Leader - Nancy LeClear

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!