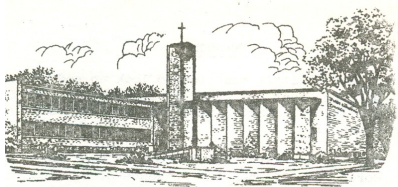


# Christian Church News



## First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

December 16, 2009 / Volume 58 ~ No. 18

### EVENTS TO REMEMBER!



### CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

Thursday, December 24th

6:00 p.m.

Candlelight Service at First Christian Church

11:00 p.m.

First United Methodist Church / 823 Merchant Street

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*"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."*



### First Christian Church

202 East 12th Avenue / Emporia, KS 66801

(620) 342-1582 (Church Office)

(620) 342-8585 (Fax)

Web Page: [www.fcemporia.org](http://www.fcemporia.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



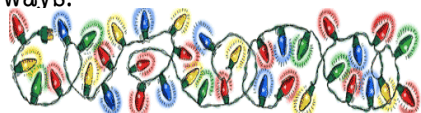
CHRIST  
THE SAVIOR  
IS BORN!



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EMPORIA, KS 66801



Christmas is a great time of year. I just love it, even though I find there is more to do than usual, and, as we've seen, the weather just makes doing it all more difficult. Christmas is something I would never want to skip. Christmas means so much to us in so many different ways.



One of the first ways we know Christmas is coming is when all the beautiful lights begin appearing. I think the lights in Emporia are more abundant and beautiful than ever. With finances stretched thin and worries about money to pay utilities and put food on the table and with many working two jobs, one would think Christmas lighting would decline. But it hasn't! And we are thankful and blessed as a result.

The lights mean something to us. The lights are more than a way to decorate our homes, and while many homes have lots of lights, they aren't an efficient way to provide illumination for shadowy driveways and dark front doors. Lights are a symbol... that true light for our

dark lives is coming into the world. The prophet Isaiah's words, even though they were written nearly 3000 years ago, have never been more relevant:

***The people walking in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
on those living in the land of  
the shadow of death  
a light has dawned.  
~ Isaiah 9:2 (NIV)***

Isn't it interesting how something so tiny, like a Christmas light can mean so much... hmmm... like a baby.

This year, let's see beyond the brightly outlined Santa's and sleighs, further than the glowing nativities and past the moving reindeer. Let's see the beginning of light in our own lives... light chasing away darkness... light brightening our path... light revealing eternal truth.

Blessings  
(and may you  
have a bright  
Christmas  
that lasts  
forever!)

Pastor Bob



### **PANTRY NEWS**

We appreciate everyone who has so faithfully donated food to the church pantry and with the holidays coming, we're sure to have more folks needing help. Please bring any non-perishables to the church and you can still make a cash donation to Christy in the office to purchase food to fill our shelves. Thanks for all you do and have a blessed Holiday Season as we remember Jesus, the reason for ALL seasons! ~ Dorothy Boyce

### **OFFICE HELP**

It's a new year (according to my anniversary date) and I just celebrated my 5th year of being your church secretary on November 8th. That means I have new vacation time and I'm going to spend some of it with family & friends for Christmas! That means that I will be out of the office the week of Christmas (Dec. 21-24). We could use help answering the phone in the church office any of those days especially Tuesday, December 22nd, Pastor Bob's day off. If you are able to cover the phone in the office any day from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., please call me at 342-1582. If you can't be in the office but would be willing to receive calls for the church on your cell or home phone from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. through call forwarding, please let me know that as well. Thanks, Christy



### **WOMEN'S PRAYER GROUP**

Ladies please join us @ *A.S.K.*



"Ask and it will be given to you, Seek and you will find, Knock and it will be opened to you." ~ Luke 11:9

An Emporia City-Wide Intercessory Women's Prayer Group  
When? October 10th / Where? Plumb Place, 224 East 6<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
When? 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m.

This is a multi-denominational group. **NO** child care provided.  
For more information call Joy Brooks @ 342-4124  
or Cheryl Griffin @ 343-1448

**PRAYER REQUESTS****LOCALLY**

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

**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**

There are some devotionals still available ~ current and past copies for \$1.00 each in the church office. ~ Christy

**THANKS**

I thank everyone for all the wonderful cards, prayers and calls. They were greatly appreciated. ~ Bob Hush

**MEMBER UPDATE**

Sally Johnson, daughter of Naomi Rose, recently shared an update regarding her mother. Naomi has had a series of small strokes that have limited her ability to swallow and speak understandably. She does have a whiteboard she uses to communicate. Sally said Naomi loves for people to stop by and say hi. Hand in Hand Hospice is now coming to Holiday Resort to help care for Naomi. According to Sally, they have been wonderful. Please keep Naomi and her family in your prayers.

Please Be Praying For...



Our prayer/concerns/joy list continues to grow. Please call the office if a name can be removed. Your cooperation is *g r e a t l y* appreciated.

**ATTENDANCE RECORD**

November 22, 2009  
SS - 35 / Worship - 100  
November 29, 2009  
SS - 33 / Worship - 103  
December 6, 2009  
SS - 28 / Worship - 100  
December 13, 2009  
SS - 32 / Worship - 102



Attendance and Offering Report

**GIVING RECORD**

November 22, 2009  
Offering - \$1,432.00 / Capital - \$209.00  
November 29, 2009  
Offering - \$2,567.56 / Capital - \$901.00  
December 6, 2009  
Offering - \$3,269.25 / Capital - \$1,574.25  
December 13, 2009  
Offering - \$1,729.25 / Capital - \$458.25

**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 a.m. to 1 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](mailto:bobcolerick@yahoo.com)



Pastor's  
Office Hours



## Week of Compassion

*“Hope, Healing,  
and a Hand”*

There are many things to celebrate this week! Although the snow is falling and the temperature is dropping, there is plenty to warm our hearts during this Advent Season.



**COURAGEOUS CHRISTMAS**  
 Courageous Gifts to  
 Week of Compassion...  
*...have helped support  
 continued recovery efforts  
 in New Orleans and  
 the Gulf South.*  
**GIVE TODAY**

*Everyone deserves a safe place to call home. From Mississippi to New Orleans to Galveston, TX, communities continue to recover from the damage done by Hurricanes Katrina, Ike, and Rita. For people of all ages, rebuilding means returning—to the homes their families have owned for generations, the neighborhoods they love, and the churches that have sustained them.*

Celebrate a  
**COURAGEOUS CHRISTMAS**  
 with a Gift of \$25 to  
 Week of Compassion

~ Submitted by Donna Breshears

### NEW HISTORIAN!

Carol Rhoades has taken on the responsibility of Church Historian replacing Imegene Marsh. She is requesting any materials or photos that you would like to have included in the church records to be turned into the church office. Please include date of event, names of people in the photos and your name and contact information. She would appreciate everyone’s input or suggestions to keep the history records accurate, interesting and up-to-date!

### CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

December 24th at 6:00 p.m. we will have our Christmas Eve Service at First Christian. At 11:00 p.m., there will be a Community-Wide Christmas Eve service held at First United Methodist Church, 823 Merchant Street. The service will include communion and music by a Community Choir. All are welcome to attend!



### JANUARY 31, 2010

Candlelighter ~ Parker Simmons

Children’s Message ~ Cindy Lexow

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

Elder ~ Cindy Lexow

Greeters ~ (N) Carl & Rita Headrick / (S) Leta Moore/Joan Shumate

Nursery ~ Nikki Simmons / Organist ~ Sandy Heller

Worship Leader ~ Marie Harding



### NEWSLETTER ON LINE

If you would like to read the newsletter online, our Web Page is at [www.fccemporio.org](http://www.fccemporio.org). Click on “News” and select the edition you’d like to read.

### NEWSLETTER DEADLINES!

Starting in January we will go back to publishing two newsletters per month. The following Mondays are the **deadlines** for news you want in the upcoming newsletter:

- |                                |   |                              |
|--------------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| <b>January 11th &amp; 25th</b> | / | <b>April 12th &amp; 26th</b> |
| <b>February 8th &amp; 22nd</b> | / | <b>May 10th &amp; 24th</b>   |
| <b>March 8th &amp; 22nd</b>    | / | <b>June 7th &amp; 21st</b>   |



Welcome  
 2010!

### **JANUARY 3, 2010**

Candlelighter ~ Debbie Peck

Children's Message ~ LeRoy Garnett

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

Elder ~ Marlene Hanson

Greeters ~ (N) Larry & Glenna Gamblian

(S) Marlene Hanson & Mary Morriss

Nursery ~ Betty Richardson

Organist ~ Donna Breshears

Worship Leader ~ Nancy LeClear



### **JANUARY 10, 2010**

Candlelighter ~ Parker Simmons

Children's Message ~ Nancy LeClear

Diaconate ~ Tim & Janelle Norton, George Ford, Joan Shumate

Elder ~ Hal Lewis

Greeters ~ (N) Carl & Lana Richardson / (S) John & Cindy Lexow

Nursery ~ Judy Moore / Organist - Donna Breshears

Worship Leader ~ Jean Miller

### **JANUARY 17, 2010**

Candlelighter ~ Judy Moore / Children's Message ~ Jaylene Arnett

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

Elder ~ Judy Moore

Greeters ~ (N) Richard Becker/Robert Chatham

(S) George & Ruth Ford

Nursery ~ Richard Becker / Organist ~ Donna Breshears

Worship Leader ~ Judy Moore

### **JANUARY 24, 2010**

Candlelighter ~ Brianna Becker

Children's Message ~ Donna Breshears

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

Elder ~ LeRoy Garnett

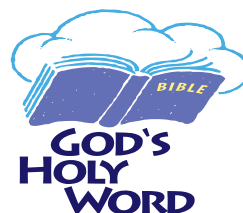
Greeters ~ (N) Joe & Bonnie Denson

(S) Alberta Brinkman & Norma Leonard

Nursery ~ Janelle Norton / Organist ~ Sandy Heller

Worship Leader ~ LeRoy Garnett

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### **January 3**

Jeremiah 31:7-14

Psalms 147:12-20

Ephesians 1:3-14

John 1:1-18

### **January 10**

Isaiah 43:1-7

Psalms 29

Acts 8:14-17

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

### **January 17**

Isaiah 62:1-5

Psalms 36:5-10

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

John 2:1-11

### **January 24**

Nehemiah 8:1-10

Psalms 19

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

Luke 4:14-21

### **January 31**

Jeremiah 1:4-10

Psalms 71:1-6

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Luke 4:21-30

### **JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES**

21 Forrest & Mildred Steeves

28 Larry & Glenna Gamblian

### **JANUARY BIRTHDAYS**

01 Ruth Ford

01 Bonnie Schaefer

02 Betty Bowman

02 Pat Mercer

05 Quentin Coffman

05 Betty Foster

05 Bessie McCartney

09 Travis Milner

09 Ted Williams

10 Erma Mae Jones

10 Nancy Mayer

11 Kindra Garnett

11 Leonard Werner

12 Allyson Lauxman

15 Colter Richardson

15 Treva Stuck

17 Glendon Iverson

18 John Lexow

21 Brenda Hall

22 Charles Wilhite

25 Jeanne Canaday

26 Marie Kelley (1921)

26 Curtis Rhoades

26 Tyler Tilton

28 Sadj Davis

29 Ed Mercer, Jr.

29 Stanley Smith

29 Joe Witten

30 Robert White

31 Tim Norton

31 Walter Spencer

31 Kerry Thornton



