



the VISITOR

November 7, 2025

Vol. 82, No. 14

OUR MISSION

To know God and
follow Jesus Christ.

Happening Soon

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9

- Worship, 8:30 & 10:30am
- Coffee Fellowship Hour, 9:30am, YFH
- K-5 Sunday School, 9:30am, 3rd Floor
- 6-12 Sunday School, 9:30am, Higbee
- Adult Sunday School, 9:30am, Cinema
- Chi-Rho, 4pm, YFH
- CYF, 5pm, YFH

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10

- Stewardship & Finance Meeting, 5:30pm, Morris Parlor

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11

- Bible Study, 10:30am, Morris Parlor
- Staff Meeting, 2pm, Morris Parlor
- Cabinet Meeting, 6:30pm, Morris Parlor

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12

- Midweek Connect, 10:30am, Zoom
- Ladies' Book Club, 11:30am, Morris Parlor
- Bible Study, 12pm, Morris Parlor
- Chancel Bell Choir, 5pm, 3rd Floor
- Chancel Choir, 5:45pm, 3rd Floor

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15

- Christmas Bazaar, 8am-2pm, YFH

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16

- Worship, 8:30 & 10:30am
- Coffee Fellowship Hour, 9:30am, YFH
- K-5 Sunday School, 9:30am, 3rd Floor
- 6-12 Sunday School, 9:30am, Higbee
- Adult Sunday School, 9:30am, Cinema
- CYF, 5pm, YFH



A congregation related to
The Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
www.disciples.org

22ND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

NOVEMBER 9TH

*"Standing Firm,
Holding Fast"*

2 THESSALONIANS 2:1-5, 13-17

REV. DR. BRAD STAGG, PREACHING

2 WORSHIP OPTIONS

IN-PERSON AT CHURCH @ 8:30 & 10:30 AM:

In-person worship in the Sanctuary.

-OR-

AT-HOME, ONLINE: Tune in to our
livestream on Sunday mornings on YouTube,
or watch the recording of the live service—
available on Monday via email/YouTube
channel/FCC Facebook page.

*"First Christian Church
(Columbia, Missouri)"*

Annual Christmas Bazaar

Annual Christmas Bazaar on Saturday, November 15 from 8:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

We are so excited that the Christmas Bazaar is almost here! This year's bazaar will be held on Saturday, November 15 from 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. in Yonker Fellowship Hall. All are invited to shop for handcrafted gifts, art, crafts, and holiday items. We are always looking for more volunteers to help us make this year's Bazaar possible! Contact **Brenda Mosby** (573-881-8385) any time if you're interested in volunteering for roles the day-of, or as we prepare for the Bazaar. We will need bread & cookie makers, servers, and more to make this year's Bazaar a success! You can also help us by spreading the word about this awesome event. Invite your friends and families, share flyers (these can be requested from the office!) or share the event online. Help support the church and these amazing vendors by showing up and giving this event an amazing turn out! We so look forward to working together and seeing the Columbia community at FCC!

First Christian Church
101 N. 10th - Downtown Columbia

*Christmas
Bazaar*



Saturday, November 15
8am - 2pm, Fellowship Hall

Arts & Crafts

from more than 25 vendors

Christmas Cookies & Sweets

Coffee & Sweet Breads

Served from 8am - 1pm



A Christian Women's Fellowship Project

Decorate the Church

Help Decorate the Church on Tuesday, November 25 at 5:30 p.m.

Can you believe that it's already time again to decorate the church for the Advent & Christmas season? The schedule for decorate is a little different this year—we'll be decorating the church on the TUESDAY prior to Thanksgiving. We'll gather at the church to set up at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 25. If you think you'll join us, please RSVP "Decorate" in the pew pads or by emailing the church office at fcc@firstchristian.org. Any and all help is appreciated! See you then!





News of the People & Places

Sympathy...

• **Gene Kirkham** passed away on Tuesday, October 28. Gene was 91 year old. Services for Gene were held on Sunday, November 2 at The Crossing. Prayers for **Micki McGuire** and the rest of Gene's family during this time of grief and transition.

Prayers of Health & Healing...

- **Rich Montgomery** was discharged from Columbia Post Acute and continues to recover at home!
- **Toph and Sam Endress** have both tested positive for COVID and are stuck sick at home. Prayers for a speedy recovery!
- **Nancy Watson** is recovering at home from surgery to remove a cancerous tumor. Prayers for the Watsons are appreciated as they anticipate the next treatment step for Nancy.

Thank You...

Thanks to all of you for your cards, calls, visits, and beautiful flower arrangements, and for communion brought to us by **Brenda Mosby**. It lifted our spirits! Helen is recovering well from a recent fall. Slow but well. We hope to be back to church before too long. FCC is a GREAT PLACE TO BE BE!

Love, **Helen and Perry Stemmons**

Hello, to all,

Ken and I so appreciate your continuing prayers as I recover from my recent cancer surgery. I am hoping that the lab reports will have good news when they come back in a week or two. I am able to get by on OTC pain meds. and making good progress. Your prayers and love are a wonderful support at this time. Blessings, **Ken and Nancy Watson**



Organ Renovation Updates

Levsen Organ Company returning November 10-14

Levsen Organ Company plans to return to Columbia on Monday, November 10 with our newly restored wind chests to reinstall them and begin the process of cleaning and reinstalling the organ pipes. This process may take several weeks, so we will be looking for a few volunteers with flexible schedules who may be able to assist Levsen with this project. We are looking for volunteers who can help lift our heavy wind chests on Tuesday, November 11 and Wednesday, November 12. We will also be looking for volunteers to assist on Thursday & Friday (13-14) of next week. If you're interested in watching or helping with this part of the renovation, please contact **Dan Gieseke** (dangieseke2@gmail.com) or **Toph Otake** (totake@firstchristian.org) for more information!



VAC Holiday Project

Adopt an Individual or Family for the VAC Holiday Project

It's already November and Advent will be here before we even know it! Each year, FCC sponsors families who are in need to provide them with a special Christmas. This year we have adopted 10 families for a total of 43 people and we need your help to make this possible! If you are able to help this important ministry you can either select a person to adopt by using this link (<https://tinyurl.com/VACHoliday2025>) or scanning the QR Code on the right. Additional information is provided on this website about adopting a person.



When you adopt a person or family, you can choose to shop for their gifts, or you can send in a financial donation to the church office and the CYF group will shop for you. When adopting a person, the suggested amount for gift(s) is \$75. You may also choose to give to the project without adopting a person, so the cost of adoption is not prohibitive. **Money and gifts need to be turned in by Wednesday, December 3.** Gifts may be dropped off in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, November 21 between 8:00-10:30 a.m. and 11:30 -12:00 p.m. or brought by the Church Office the week of November 22-December 3 (during regular church office hours). We are also in need of a few strong, able bodied people to help deliver the gifts on Wednesday, December 10. If you have questions, please contact **Elizabeth Mottaz**.



NOVEMBER

Birthdays

November 10 - Rick Batterson

November 11 - Genie Rogers

November 12 - Dan Gieseke, Tiger Li,
Stephanie Mottaz-Vens

November 13 - Dietrich Arnett

November 14 - Dan Backues, Pat Wright

November 15 - Ellie Mooney

November 16 - Amy LaHue

THANKSGIVING SPECIAL OFFERING



SUPPORTING
HIGHER EDUCATION

Bringing Students and Resources Together



Thanksgiving Special Offering

Thanksgiving Special Offering taken on November 16 & 23

Our annual **Thanksgiving Offering** will be taken this year on Sundays, November 16 & 23. The Thanksgiving Offering benefits the Colleges, Universities, Seminaries, and Divinity Houses affiliated with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Higher education has been an important focus for Disciples since the very beginning of the movement. Throughout our history, Disciples have founded institutions of higher learning to educate students and form leaders to make a difference in the world. The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is still committed to higher education. Your gift to the Thanksgiving Offering helps support the education of thousands of students at our fifteen colleges and universities as well as our seven seminaries and divinity houses.

Support for Disciples Mission Fund and gifts to the Thanksgiving Offering are a critical part of the ongoing collaborative work of church and higher education that is such a foundational part of the heritage of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Your generous gifts to this annual offering makes a difference in the lives of our students, and it makes a difference in the world.



Stewardship & Finance Meeting

Monday, November 10 @ 5:30 p.m.

Cabinet Meeting

Tuesday, November 11 @ 6:30 p.m.

Youth Group Schedule

Join this Sunday!



Chi-Rho & CYF • 4pm & 5pm • November 9

CYF • 5pm • November 16

Thanksgiving Potluck • 4-6pm • November 23

VAC Holiday Shopping • 4-6pm • November 30

Meeting in Yonker Fellowship Hall

Help Bridge the Gap of Hunger & Food Insecurity in CoMo

A few of our local strategic ministry partners and non-profits have issued community-wide requests for assistance as our community faces an unprecedented crisis of need for the women, children, food insecure, and financially vulnerable neighbors of Columbia and Mid-Missouri. As State and Federal assistance programs are placed on pause indefinitely, the Church's moral imperative to serve "the least of these" has never been greater. Regardless of one's political perspective of whether governmental agencies should or should not address the needs of the poor, Christ's mandate for the Church does not change and, thus, we as Disciples of Jesus Christ are called to shoulder this challenge with love, mercy, and urgency. SNAP and WIC provided access to healthy, nutritious food for our neighbors who are food insecure or financially vulnerable. Local nonprofits are being proactive in addressing anticipated increases in assistance requests and thus have asked for support through financial assistance and/or food donations for our Columbia neighbors.



MEALS ON
WHEELS



FIRST CHRISTIAN
CHURCH



VAC EMERGENCY
FUND

How You Can Help:

Monetary Donations: Donate to Voluntary Action Center's Emergency Fund, Meals on Wheels (as they provide up to 5,000 free meals to families), or to either through the Church Office.

Checks can be made out to First Christian Church with "VAC Emergency Fund" or "Meals on Wheels" on the memo line. Cash can be given with the same notation.

Donate Canned & Non-Perishable Goods: Food donations can be dropped off at VAC's Office (403A Vandiver Dr, next to the license office) **or in the collection bin outside of the Church Office.** Please donate the items listed below:

Baby Formula • Baby Food • Cereal • Boxed Meals • Pasta
Spaghetti Sauce • Peanut Butter • Other Non-Perishables



101 N. 10th Street
Columbia, MO 65201

573-449-7265

email: fcc@firstchristian.org

web: firstchristian.org



WEBSITE



GIVE

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Columbia, MO
Permit No. 75

Electronic Service Requested

First Christian Church

*Our Mission: To know God
And follow Jesus Christ.*

Ministerial Staff

Rev. Dr. Brad Stagg, Senior Minister
brad@firstchristian.org

Rev. Dr. Topher Endress, Associate Minister
topher@firstchristian.org

Music Staff

Topher Otake, Director of Music Ministry
totake@firstchristian.org

Dr. Rochelle Parker, Organist
Travis McFarlane, Early Service Musician

Mother's Day Out Pre-School

Hayley Batterson, Director
Sam Dunnings, Assistant Director

Columbia Older Adult Ministry

Rev. Sally Robinson, Director

Support Staff

Maria Clark, Weekend Custodian
Justin DeWick, Business Manager
businessmanager@firstchristian.org

Erin Perry, Office Manager
fcc@firstchristian.org

Worship Serving Schedule

Sunday, November 9, 2025

OFFICE RECEPTIONIST: Don Mosby

WELCOME STATION: Valerie Freed

FLOWER MINISTRY: Brenda & Don Mosby

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP: The Gieseke

EARLY SERVICE HELPERS: Kim & Joe Reardon

COMMUNION PREP: Eric & Dietrich Arnett

GREETERS: Chuck Scott (N. DOOR),
Carrie Batterson (S. DOOR), Jessica Humble
(ATRIUM), Steve Humble (PORTICO)

AV TEAM: Tiger Li

LITURGIST: Brenda Mosby

8:30 ELDER: Eric Seaman

10:30 ELDERS: Fred Mottaz, Vicki Johnson,
Ryan Hunsaker (Balcony)

DEACONS: The Judy Team

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP: Holly Gieseke

OFFERING COUNTERS:

Deb Batterson and Jerry Miller