



First Christian Church Disciples of Christ

*There's
a
place
for
you*

The GOOD NEWS - A newspaper for the First Christian Church Faith Community
1880 SW Gage Blvd., Topeka, Kansas 66604 785. 272.4290 www.fcctopeka.org

The week of June 14, 2010

Volume 25, No. 10

CONGREGATIONAL SURVEY AND LISTENING SESSIONS

The Search Committee wants to reiterate its appreciation to those who completed the Congregational Survey. There were 240 surveys completed, including quite a few submitted on-line. There were 42 general comments to the Committee. As a follow up to the survey, two listening sessions were scheduled. Forty-four persons attended these sessions.

At its meeting on Monday, June 7th, the Committee considered the comments and questions offered at the listening sessions. The Committee is most pleased by the insight and thoughtfulness reflected by the listening session discussions. These discussions impacted the Committee's general conclusions regarding the attributes and qualifications the congregation seeks in our next senior minister. Summarized, the Committee has concluded the congregation desires a new senior minister who:

- is an effective, dynamic preacher who proclaims the Word and articulates the faith;
- has a direct role in planning and leading worship;
- is an effective communicator and good listener;
- provides administrative leadership and accepts responsibility for program and staff evaluation;
- has a strong Disciples of Christ commitment; and
- has experience as a senior pastor.

The survey results and discussions at the listening sessions revealed other desirable attributes and qualifications of a senior minister, all of which will be considered by the Committee when evaluating candidates for the position of senior minister.

There were a number of questions presented at the listening sessions regarding the search and call process. This process will be explained in a subsequent article in the Good News. For now, please remember that the two primary elements of this process, for both the Committee and the congregation, are prayer and patience. ♦

Submitted by Bob Alderson

DISCIPLES' COUNCIL ON CHRISTIAN UNITY WILL CELEBRATE ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY AT TOPEKA FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH ON OCTOBER 24, 2010



**Do you know where the
Council on Christian Unity
was first begun?**

Dr. Peter Ainslie III, a pastor in Baltimore, MD, was moderator of the 1910 International Convention in Topeka, KS, where he gave a stirring address calling for the establishment of a "unity council" within the Disciples of Christ. A special session of the convention in the sanctuary of First Christian Church created a permanent organization to reclaim the Disciples' original purpose and plead for unity and union. Ainslie was elected president, a position he voluntarily filled. ♦

Submitted by Edith Bronson

SEARCH COMMITTEE MEETING

June 28, 2010

The Committee will complete the Congregational Profile and submit it on-line to the Regional Office.

If you have questions about the work of the Committee, please contact any of its members: Bob Alderson, Connie Brown, Randy Clayton, Noble Morrell, Marc Sonderegger, Mary Schmidt and Stephanie Switzky. As Moderator, Tom Laing is a non-voting member of the Committee.

REFLECTIONS

by Jim McCollough

According to the gospel of John, the first person to recognize Jesus as the resurrected Christ was Mary Magdalene. The first words Jesus spoke after the resurrection were “don’t hold on to me,” or “don’t cling to me.” Sometimes it is just hard to say good-bye. We want to hold on! One noted psychologist has made the interesting observation that 70% of his patients are people who are struggling either with saying “hello” or “good-bye.” I have been reading a book written for clergy in transition, either moving on from one setting to another parish or going in to retirement, and that statement from the psychologist really stuck with me. My last two sermons at First Christian Topeka will be “On Saying Hello” and “On Saying Good-Bye.” By the power of the Holy Spirit, I hope some things can be said that will be helpful to all of us in this transition time.

I look forward to seeing you next Sunday.



Jim’s sermon this Sunday:

On Saying Hello

Genesis 18:1-8



Search Committee for Senior Minister

Bob Alderson, Chair

Connie Brown	Mary Schmidt
Randy Clayton	Marc Sonderegger
Noble Morrell	Stephanie Switzky
Please keep these people in your prayers	

CHILD CARE NEWS

by Megan Specht, Program Director

*WE ARE HAVING A GOOD SUMMER!
HOPE YOU ARE, TOO!*



Do you love to read?

Do you like to discuss what you’ve read?

BOOK CLUB has a deal for you!

Book Club will have an initial meeting in the Church Library on June 24 at 6:00 pm. We will decide when and how often to meet, where to meet, what kind of books we’ll read, and how we’ll decide what to read.

Come get in on the ground floor!

If you have questions, please call Tina at 228-9276.

Church Board Members

The First Apartments

(Formerly First Christian Church Apartments)

Corporation Meeting

June 20, 2010

10:00 am

First Tile Section, Fellowship Hall

All members of the church board are also members of the apartment corporation, and are requested to be present at this corporate meeting. Individual notices were sent to all church board members.

If you cannot attend, please return your proxy form to the Apartment board secretary prior to the meeting.

God's Bounty Open June 20, Unity Hall

If you have vegetables from your garden or baked goods to share, please leave them on the cart outside the church office on Sunday morning. All funds raised through God's Bounty will be donated to the Legacy of John Ministry at Kansas Christian Home, Newton, KS.



Food Pantry

It's summer and the need for food is great, especially for children, now that school is out. If you can help, please put your donation in the Doorstep Cabinet in Fellowship Hall across from the kitchen.

Peanut butter	Macaroni & Cheese	Canned fruit
Jelly	Spaghetti pasta	Dry cereal
Canned milk	Spaghetti sauce	Canned pasta
Powdered milk	Canned tomatoes	Boxed pasta
Canned tuna	One box meals	Dried beans

Sunday Morning Study

Six Sunday morning study options for you to attend during July and August:

Disciples - Reclaiming Our Identity, Reforming Our Practice, by Michael Kinnamon and Jan Linn

Shirley Cook will lead this study of Kinnamon and Linn's exploration of the Disciples' historic commitment to covenant and claim that heritage as a tool for addressing current issues. Cost of book: \$17.

Jesus-Parables About Making Choices

Barb Runge will lead this discussion of James Moore's short-term study series organized around the general theme of making choices. Cost of book: \$11.

Through the Looking Glass

Where did we come from? How did we get here? In order to know where we want to go, we need to know where we've come from. Tina Owsley leads a short course on our church's history and vision for the future. Both beginning and experienced are invited to join this multi-generational discussion.

Sacred Spaces

Brett Martin will continue exploring our homes as sacred spaces, where each day we perform sacred acts for ourselves and others in the presence of God.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Health Concerns:

Loren Attebury, Pat Comfort, Jane Congelton, Isa Faust, Jeanne Freeborn, Linda Gentry; Leeann Gibson, Luella Hays, Esther Heidebrecht, Kay Hermann, Willa Jean Johnson; Cynthia Karr, Elvin Kimzey, Kristy Kitts, Charles Lawson, Beth Martin; Albertha Mayfield, Janice Milburn, Ben Neill, Cindy Ramage, Russell Shaw.

Cancer Patients:

Sharman Blasing, Steve Figuietas, Nina Owsley, Jamie Pursley, Pat Walters, Jesse Whiteside, Don Yocom.

Keep these people in your prayers:

Regional Staff, Christian Church in Kansas; Dr. Sharon Watkins, General Minister/President, Christian Church (Disciples); those serving in the military; Goshen United Church, Lucky Hill, Jamaica; Chaz Coates; those traveling; those seeking employment; leadership of First Christian Church, those we have called to be a part of our Search Committee.

Our sympathy and prayers are extended to Mary Lou and Ben Neill on the death of Mary Lou's sister Albertha Mayfield; and to Clara Bruner on the death of her son David.

Sunday Morning Study, continued

Bible Study

Connie Skinner will begin a new worship series called "In Tandem." Jesus calls us to live "in tandem" with God and one another. when we live "in tandem" we are energized and actively pursuing the Reign of God--we are not living randomly unconnected from one another and the world.

Marriage Built to Last

Tim Lister will lead a study of Marriage Built to Last, a six session video-driven Bible study featuring Pastor Chip Ingram, financial guru Dave Ramsey, Super Bowl MVP Kurt Warner and his wife Brenda. Whether you're newly married, remarried, or wanting to improve your relationship, this study provides Biblical insight and practical tools for living and loving intentionally.

Thank You!

I would like to thank everyone for the prayers and cards sent to us after the death of my sister Albertha Mayfield. Your kindness is very much appreciated.

Sincerely,
Mary Lou Neill

Temporary Address Change

Pat Lundry
Sherwood Apartments
2745 Villa West Drive, #2201
Topeka, KS 66614
785-806-8850 - cell phone
785-228-1754 - apartment phone

Welcome New Member

Lyle & Leah Babcock
2025 SE Massachusetts Ave., Unit A
Topeka, KS 66607
785-207-1124

Mark Your Calendars!

Jim's retirement dinner will be held on June 27, 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Sign up in the Narthex on Sunday morning, May 23. Please make your check out to FCC with a notation "for Jim's Retirement."

Elaine Bryan



Summer Time Spirit at Sunday School!!!!

Kids – 3 years old to 5th grade

Join Us Sunday mornings

10:10 to 11:00 am in the Children's Building

Our middle school and high school youth will be helping lead our five week session of Baobab Blast!

June 13 -- Week One: Trust

"Let the Lord lead you and trust him to help." Psalm 37:5

Bible Story: Abraham to Canaan (Genesis 12:1-9)

June 20 -- Week Two: Love

"Love never fails!" 1 Corinthians 13:8

Bible Story: Joseph and his Brothers (Genesis 37:41-45)

June 27 -- Week Three: Follow

"I will study your teachings and follow your footsteps."
Psalm 119:15

Bible Story: Jesus Calls the Disciples
(Luke 5: 1-11, 27-32; 6:12-16; 8:1-3)



July 4 – No Sunday School

Worship at 10:00 am / Fellowship time at 9:30 am

July 11 -- Week Four: Care

"Our Lord, you chose me to care for your people."
Jeremiah 17:16

Bible Story: The Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37)

July 18 -- Week Five: Share

"Share your faith with others." Philemon 1:6

Bible Story: Philip and the Ethiopian (Acts 8:26-40)



TOYS! TOYS! TOYS!

Who has toys? Who has toys they've outgrown?

Who has toys they don't play with?

Who has toys they don't need?

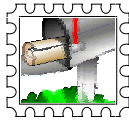
If you can say "Me!" bring these toys to church and put them in the box labeled, "Toys for Let's Help." You'll be glad you did.





VBS -Summer 2010
High Seas Adventure
July 25-29
Evening VBS

From: You



To: My Favorite Campers
Disciples Center at Tawakoni
8492 SW Tawakoni Road
Augusta, KS 67010

Mission Week

June 19-June 27

Director: Vern Failor

Counselor: Shannon Miller

Chi Rho 1

June 21-June 26

Director: Donna Schultz

Chaplain: Tim Lister

Counselors: Andrew Howard, Christina Barker, Amanda Snook, Caitlin Ferre'

Campers: Isaiah Ryan, Jonnie Failor, Bryanna Widener, Aiden Shaughnessy, Joe McMillan, Sierra Wilson, Mackenzi Woodbury, Blake Morrell, Cameron Hicks, Tyler Liggett, Lake Schultz-Pruner, Nick Young, McKenna Tauer, Hope Ferre', Tristan Campbell, Trace Campbell, Alex Bird, Nick Devader, Rachel Baumbach, Brie Derr

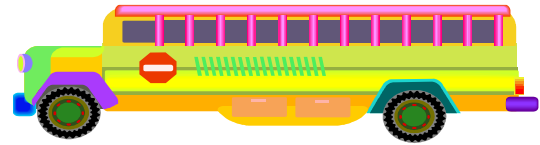
Primary 2

June 28-June 30

Counselors: Andrew Howard, Amanda Snook

Campers: Madison Widener, Rachel Meyer, Sam Jeter, Cheyla Myrick, Sydney Yost, Konar Hinman

Church camp drivers needed!



Volunteers are needed to drive children and youth to Church Camp this summer.

The dates that we need drivers include:

Chi Rho 1 Camp	June 21 and 26
Primary 2 Camp	June 28 and 30
Pre-High Camp	July 12 and 17
CYF Omega Camp	July 19 and 24
Pre-Primary Camp	July 17

Camp drivers meet and leave from the church at 10:00 a.m. to take kids down to camp and if you are picking kids up from camp you need to be at the Camp by 10:00 a.m. on the day they return home.

If you are interested in helping with this ministry to children and youth here at First Christian Church please contact Donna Schultz in the church office at 272-4290.



Church Camp Dates Summer 2010

BE A HERO - Living Like Jesus

Event	Date	Grade	Fee
CYF - Alpha	June 7-12	9-12	\$ 125
CYF - Omega	July 19-24	9-12	\$ 125
Pre-High	July 12-17	8 only	\$ 125
Chi Rho 1	June 21-26	6-7	\$ 125
Junior 1	June 1-5	4-5	\$ 115
Primary 2	June 28-30	2-3	\$ 85
Pre-Primary	July 17	K-1	\$ 25
Specialty Camps :			
KCYF Mission	June 20-26	8-12	\$ 200
Camp Friendship	July 21-24	10-College	\$ 60



Attendance This Year

June 6, 2010

Worship – 144/133 Total: 277
Church School - (no school)

June 13, 2010

Worship - 137/146 Total: 283
Church School - 157

Attendance Last Year

June 7, 2009

Worship - 126/138 Total: 264
Church School - 163

June 14, 2009

Worship - 145/132 Total: 277
Church School - 167

Coming Up at First Christian Church:

Wednesday, June 16

12:30 pm - DWF General Luncheon, FH
6:00 pm - Just Move It

Thursday, June 17

5:45 pm - Al-Anon
7:00 pm - Health Ministry

Saturday, June 19

Special Event:
7:00 pm - Organ concert by Joe Fitzgerald

Sunday, June 20

8:45 & 11:10 am - Worship
10:00 am - First Apartment Meeting, FH
10:10 am - Church School

Monday, June 21

8:00 am - Prayer Ministry
8:00 am - Maintenance Ministry
6:45 pm - Scouts

Wednesday, June 23

9:30 am - DWF Service, Chapel
6:00 pm - Just Move It, Builders Room

Thursday, June 24

5:45 pm - Al-Anon
6:00 pm - Book Club

Sunday, June 27

8:45 am & 11:10 am Worship
10:10 am - Sunday School
2:00 pm - Open House for Jim
6:00 pm - Farewell Dinner for Jim

Monday, June 28

8:00 am - Prayer Ministry
6:45 pm - Scouts

Got an item for the newsletter?

Send an e-mail or leave a note for Lisa Howard (fcctopeka@fcctopeka.org) the Friday BEFORE the newsletter is printed. Please include your name and/or the author's name of any articles.

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH STAFF:

Ministers All Members of the church
Senior Pastor James D. McCollough
Associate Pastors
Congregational Care & Adult Ministries.... Connie Skinner
Children/Youth..... Donna Schultz
Young Adult Ministry Brett Martin
Ministry Intern Tim Lister
Director of Music Programs David Lundry
Organist Joe Fitzgerald
Hand bell Director Debby Martin
Praise Team Monty Smith
Nursery Superintendent..... Becky Coffman
Custodians..... Phil Anderson, Mona Peña
Program Director FCCCCC Megan Specht
Parish Nurse Becky Stauffer
Office Admin. Assistant..... Lisa Howard



Church Office
Hours:
Monday - Friday
8:00 am - 3:00 pm
(closed 12-1 pm)

Submit your articles by the Friday before the publication date.
(Dates are subject to change.)

NEXT GOOD NEWS PUBLICATION DATES:
JUNE 28 JULY 12
JULY 26 AUG 16

First Christian Church Topeka is a congregation that:

welcomes all · nurtures faith in God · cares for others · celebrates belonging to the body of Christ.

First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
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Topeka KS 66604

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