



First Christian Church
Disciples of Christ

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Look for us on facebook!

Volume 46

JANUARY 2012



“All things New”

“Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing;”
Isaiah 43: 18-19a

Well it is a New Year! And unlike all other newsletters it is a difficult task to figure out how I will start this article. Thanks to a friend, I was reminded that with the New Year also comes the anxiety of, where to start. How do we begin this time of change and newness? What will our church accomplish this year? And how will God be seen in new and exciting ways? All of these questions crowd our brains as we enter this time of resolutions; memories of last year and anticipation of what is to come. 2011 seems to have flown by for me and my family. For the church 2011 brought with it new faces to staff, new ministry opportunities, new members, and changes that were both planned and unplanned. For me, the New Year is a time of beginnings and a time to look for God to do new things in our lives, and the life of the church.

As January begins I look forward moving one step closer to the completion of my Doctorate, and I am excited to be able to journey with 8 other church members to Nicaragua. And this is only January! Can you imagine what else God has in store for the church this year? Maybe God will break into our existence through a new face in the pew. I pray that we will always be reminded of God as we look into the faces of those around us. Maybe God will enter our world through a new ministry that works toward continuing our efforts of serving the “least of these.” Or maybe God will enter our lives through a sunrise that causes us to take note of the beauty that is set before us each and everyday.

2012 does not have to be identical to 2011; it has the potential of being so much more. And if we strive to look for the new and revitalizing presence of God in our lives and the life of the church, then we will likely see the New Year as something more than a ball drop in Time Square or failed resolutions.

Peace to you and yours this New Year!

Pastor Harmon

Pastor’s Schooling Update

From the afternoon of January 8th through January 14th I will be down at Phillips Theological Seminary in Tulsa, OK working on my Doctorate. If you need to contact me please email me, I will be checking email while I am away. I also encourage the congregation to contact the church office and the Elders if there is an emergency. If an emergency does arise such as a funeral or something that requires the attention of a Pastor; I have asked Rev. David Dubovich of Clinton Christian Church to be on call for me during my absence. Thank you for your understanding and support of me while I continue my education and personal growth.

A Word of Thanks!

I would like to thank this congregation for all of the Christmas well wishes toward me and my family. Your gifts, cards, conversation and goodies are greatly appreciated. You are an amazing church!

Our mission is to announce the Good News of God’s love for all, by letting the joy of our relationship with Jesus shine through our daily lives, seeking to make disciples for Jesus, baptizing in his name and teaching toward maturity in faith.

Sunday School
9:15 a.m.

Worship
8:00 a.m. &
10:30 a.m.





Sermons for January

January 1, 2012

Scripture: Matthew 2:1-12

Title: "Called to Gift"

January 8, 2012

Scripture: Mark 1:4-11

Title: "New Beginnings"

January 15, 2012

Scripture: Jeremiah 17:7-8

Title: "The Roots"

January 22, 2012

Title: "A Journey Through Parables"

January 29, 2012

Scripture: Philippians 1:12-18

Title: "Telling Our Story"

GOLDEN LEAVES

We will be meeting and having a potluck meal and our guest speaker is Darlene Buckstead,

Infection Control Nursing at Cass.

Thursday, January 12 @ 10:30am.

Martha Kimberlin
Franceline Parris

Frances May
Bob Raynes

Lorene Hocker
Jackie Dean

Don Smither
Edith Fournier



TACKLE

HUNGER

"Lord, as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us to be mindful of those without even a bowl of soup to eat."

January 17—February 6, 2012

Super Bowl Sunday-February 5, 2012

Did you know that during Super Bowl week 2010, youth across the nation raised over \$10 million for charities that help the hungry and the hurting through participating in Souper Bowl of Caring? Through this national movement, America's teens are transforming Super Bowl weekend into the nation's largest youth-led weekend of giving and serving.

I am involved in the Souper Bowl of Caring because it is a simple and meaningful way for youth to learn about the needs in their community and do something to help. They also learn that when we all work together, big things can happen.

I believe this movement is special and would like to invite you to get involved.

During the time around the Super Bowl, youth collect food or monetary donations. Each group donates their collection directly to the charity of their choice. The youth of First Christian Church of Harrisonville has chosen Harrisonville's Local Food Pantry. Our group name is "Hungry to Serve." Blessings, Brenda

Who will be our Super Bowl Champs?

Vote for your Super Bowl Team!



Place canned food items with dollars attached in your teams marked section. The team with the most canned food items and funds will be who First Christian Church is rooting for! **Will it be your team?** Collection starts on January 17, 2011. There will also be a soup pot for monetary donations.

CHANCEL CHOIR

Please join us!! Choir Practice:

Wednesday Evenings @ 7pm



MEMBERSHIP

I want to thank everyone for all your help and consideration this past year. Especially the members of the Membership Ministry, Delores, Nancy, Ruth and Mary R. Thanks to Ryan and Megan for doing the Living Nativity Drive Thru again this year. God Bless You All.



Iliene Smither, Membership Chair, 2011

DRIVE-THRU NATIVITY WRAP-UP

Thanks so much to everyone who helped with the drive-thru nativity!! Also, we saw lots of familiar faces driving through and donating food so thanks to them as well!! Specifically, thanks to Nate, Jamie, Drake, and Taylor Mathews for arranging the transportation of hay to and from the church and for building the manger scene. Also, thanks to everyone else who came, brought food, helped with costuming, attended the donation table, worked security, and dressed up to stand in the scenes: Darold and Dee Shelton, Holly Christiansen, Lee and Dena Cooper, Beverly and Cheryl Tinsley, Bob and Debbie Surber, Mary and Teri Riemenschneider, Adam, Tiffany, Michael and Jonathan Harmon, Lyle and Sherry Krohn, Butch and Delores Beeman, Steve and Janet Allbaugh, Joyce Hawley, Ruth Smith, and Rich Smither. If we forgot anybody we apologize!! This event continues to grow in success every year and this was our biggest year yet. We had 51 cars drive through and collected \$130 and approximately 200 pounds of food for the food pantry. This was definitely a huge success and we hope it continues to grow more each year. We truly could not make this happen without our wonderful church family. Thank you so much!!

– Ryan and Megan Davidson

Donations for Clinic in Chacraseca Nicaragua:

As nine of our church family travels to work in a clinic in Chacraseca, Nicaragua we ask that our church family be in prayer for the following people: Adam Harmon, Tiffany Harmon, Brenda Brown, Kerry Morgan, Casey Morgan, Shayne Smither, Sophia Smither, Richard Smither, and Jim Shelton.

Another way that you can help with our trip is to donate items that we will take to the clinic. Here is a list of items that we are collecting.



- | | | | |
|--------------|------------------|----------------------|---|
| Latex gloves | Pregnancy tests | Adult vitamins | Children's vitamins |
| IB Profin | Antibiotic cream | Hydrocortisone cream | Gauze, tongue depressors, bandages, etc |

We are also looking for used suitcases and duffle bags that the donations can be transported in; please contact Adam if you are interested in donating a suitcase or duffle bag.

Food Pantry

SUGGESTED FOODS

- | | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------------|---------------|--------|
| Canned vegetables | Pasta | Pudding | Cereal |
| Canned fruit | Dry Beans | Flour | Soup |
| Canned meats | Crackers | Powdered Milk | Rice |
| Macaroni & cheese | Cake mix | Vegetable oil | Sugar |
| Peanut butter | Baby food & related items | | |

First Christian Church



**Food Pantry Day
Friday, January 6**

Volunteers are needed Fridays (anytime) from noon to 7 p.m. If interested, please contact Lyle Krohn.



MICAH

Our next scheduled Outreach night is Monday, March 19. We will be leaving the church at 4:00pm, returning no later than 8:00pm. If you are interest in attending, make sure Brenda has your name. We have a limited number of spots opened.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING

On January 14 the youth went Christmas Caroling to our shut-ins. Thank you to Paul Raynes for playing the guitar and singing with us and to Milly Long for all her help.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

On December 28 we enjoyed an evening on The Plaza and a wonderful dining experience. Served family style at Buca de Beppo. We had fourteen youth present and two college aged young adults and 8 adults.

JANUARY THEME

In January we will be focusing on the theme, “Souper Bowl of Caring.” You can find out more information on this great mission project on page 2 of this newsletter.



You can help the youth and recycle your empty aluminum cans by bringing them to the church. A wooden box for the cans is located on the west side of the church. In order to prevent loose cans in our bin, please tie all of your bags shut, before placing them in the bin. Thank you!

SPIRITUAL MENTORS—Yes, Sign me up!

People who are intentional about participating in the spiritual formation and Christian education of our young people. What do young people need in their lives—the wisdom and thoughtfulness of more mature Christians. Being in ministry with youth is extremely rewarding. Youth are honest, up-front, and excited about their relationship with Christ.

- Share your faith, building relationship
- Hospitality
 - These people really care about me here.
 - They really want the best for me.
 - I’m not a number or an outsider here. I have a place.
 - They know me by name and greet me personally.
 - Acknowledge me on special occasions. (birthday, etc.)
 - I’m being invited to be with them, part of the Body of Christ.
- Be present at rites of passage for youth in the church
- Pray for our young people on a regular basis
- Offer pastoral care to youth in times of anxiety and challenge
- Show interest and be a support person to youth for mission trips, summer camps, retreats, Sunday School, Youth Group, etc
- Set an example for young people in the way they live, worship,

**BE A PART OF BUILDING A FIRM
FOUNDATION FOR OUR YOUTH.**

Questions, contact Brenda



**YOU COULD
HELP FEED OUR
YOUTH**

Thank you for your support! Please keep bringing in your receipts. It takes awhile to collect \$500.00 in receipts to receive \$75.00 in pizza. It takes the full \$75.00 to feed the youth group one meal. Thank you for helping us provide a good meal for these youth. The box for your receipts is located in the back of the church.

OUTREACH



KFC-Keep Funding Churches Bucket is January 1, 2012.

2011 “Outgoing” Co-Chairs, Bill Maxon and Joyce Hawley would like to thank our church family for their generosity thru out this past year; and , to our ministry group and to those special behind-the-scenes people.

Things we have shared in doing in 2011: KFC Bucket each month; 7 special offerings; Shrove Tuesday Pancake Fest; Food Pantry Friday’s’ work at Harvesters with our youth; Festival of Sharing-taking kits, money and flood buckets; Just 4 Me summer school project; Trips to Joplin with supplies and to work; Funnel Caking; working at Micah Ministries with our youth; providing some Christmas for our 9 adopted families; and the Monday Backpack program thru-out the school year. Awesome! Thank you!

We welcome and are excited to support our new chair for 2012, Jamie Jennings.

2012 Ministry group is comprised of

Bill and Mabel Maxon; Linnette Pugh; Ed Boston; Glenda Shelton; Mary Hocker; Joyce Hawley and our behind the scenes people.



I wanted to take this opportunity to thank all of our musicians for their amazing talents that they share with us throughout the year. A big thanks to Janet Allbaugh, Jo Irwin, and Sherry Krohn for playing beautiful music for our services and accompanying special music. Also, a huge thank you to the choir members who sing with us all year as well as those who joined us for the Christmas cantata and other performances. Your singing and playing was outstanding, and I am so proud of all of you! Our cantata

would not have been complete without our narrators: Adam and Michael Harmon, Jessica and Maddie Gipson, and Karl, Henry, and George Frees. Thanks a bunch for adding so much to our performance! You all did a great job! I look forward to more wonderful music for 2012, and I encourage anyone who wants to share their talents whether it be vocal or instrumental to let me know. We would love to hear what our congregation has to offer! Happy New Year!

-Megan Davidson

Thank You
I want to thank you for all the Christmas cards, goodies, gifts, Christmas bonus and other expressions of love during this Holiday season, that you so wonderfully showered on me and my family. We are truly blessed to be a part of this amazing church. Thank you for your blessings and to you, blessings for a Christ-filled new year.
Rev. Brenda Brown

Thank You!

To the choir for their beautiful music and talent; and to the people of the church for their love and concern for me. It truly was a beautiful Christmas.

*Love ya all,
Edith Fournier*





Disciples Women / C.W.F.

~The Christmas Women's Brunch was held December 10, 2011, hosted by the Deborah Group. Attendance was good with guests from several churches. Marge Gardner presented a wonderful program about British author A. A. Milne and his famous children's books, the Winnie the Pooh books and a boy named Christopher Robin, after his son. The characters in those books were inspired by his son's stuffed animals. Teri Riemenschneider provided a "musical experience". She distributed the church chimes, and attendees played Silent Night. Teri also played her ukulele and sang. Great food, warm fellowship, a wonderful story teller, and a musical experience the women won't soon forget provided a most enjoyable morning!

~Deborah Circle will meet January 16, 2012 at 1:30 p.m. at the church. All women are invited to join us for good fellowship, interesting study, and refreshments.

~Rachel Circle will resume meeting again for the year on January 10th in the Fellowship Hall at 7:00pm. A new program will be done by Sophia Smither and is entitled "Doers of the Word." Hope to see everyone there.

~A reminder to continue saving barcodes from Best Choice items plus barcodes from Campbell soup products. The CWF receives \$30 for each 1,000 Best Choice codes and this money goes to our outreach concerns. The Campbell soup codes are sent to Woodhaven Learning Center for their many programs. Thanks for all your help!



There will be a training session on February 19th and a luncheon following the 10:30am church service. Please plan to be there.

The training will be done by Pastor Harmon.



A new year is always a good time to reflect on how things went last year, and what you want to see for the upcoming year.

Some exciting steps have been taken in 2011; first, a capital project fund was initiated with 2% of general offerings (to start in 2012) earmarked for capital improvement projects. Second, policies have been put into place to start a permanent fund. This is a huge step in providing an avenue for anyone who wants to see our church grow and thrive well into the future. In the past, if a friend of First Christian Church left an undesignated bequest in their will for us, policies told us how to divide those monies up to be spent among good categories such as outreach, general fund, etc. Once the money was earmarked though it was gone. Now, undesignated gifts will be put into the permanent fund where we plan for it to grow year after year, with only a small percentage each year being taken out to spend on these good and worthwhile categories (such as general fund, outreach, capital projects, etc.) The parable of the talents (see Matthew 25:14-30; Luke 19:12-28) challenges us to be good stewards of the resources God sends our way, both as individuals and as a church. We believe the permanent fund will help us be good stewards of bequests entrusted to us.

In 2012, we hope to grow and expand on these two good projects started in 2011. In addition, we will be spending some time and effort helping you tell the stories of giving in our church--past, present, and future. Stay tuned and happy new year!

SERVING IN JANUARY

8:00am Worship

Elders: Dena Cooper

Deacons: Luke Cooper & Lee Cooper

10:30am Worship

Worship Leader: Jamie Mathews

Greeters: Don & Iliene Smither

Sound: Ryan Davidson

Acolyte: Youth

Elders: Jennifer Cook & Joyce Hawley

Deacons: +Elwin McKenzie, Megan Davidson, Georgia Cornell, Alsea Wood & Ryan Davidson*

+Denotes Deacon in charge *Denotes Balcony

Communion Prep:

Cheryl Tinsley -1/1/2012

Megan & Ryan Davidson 1/8-29/2012

Communion Calling:

1-Dena Cooper

8-Tony Livingston

15-Ellen Wray

22-Don Smither

29-Jennifer Cook



Children's Moments:

1- Joyce Hawley

8-tba

15-tba

22-tha

29-tha



JAN. BIRTHDAYS

2-Cheryl Smither

7-Holly Christensen

9-Kristi Adair

10-Walter Goodard

11-Susan Johnston

14-Bernie Vaughn

15-Jeannie Eddins

16-Robert Farr

17-Tine Thompson

18-Pat Wray

19-Mildred Fannan

21-LaVerne Shepherd

23-William Foss

24-Travis Hillmer

27-Wanda Roth

27-Ellis Webster

28-Adam Harmon

28-Walter Hocker

29-Cody Morse

29-Nick Morse

30-Madison Parker



JAN. ANNIVERSARIES

1-Denny & Debbie Long

5-Travis & Lisa Hillmer

6-Matt & Fawn Parson

28-Bob & Sue Kalwei



The Thrift Shop is in need of volunteers. They particularly are looking for cashiers and or persons to sort and hang clothes for sale.

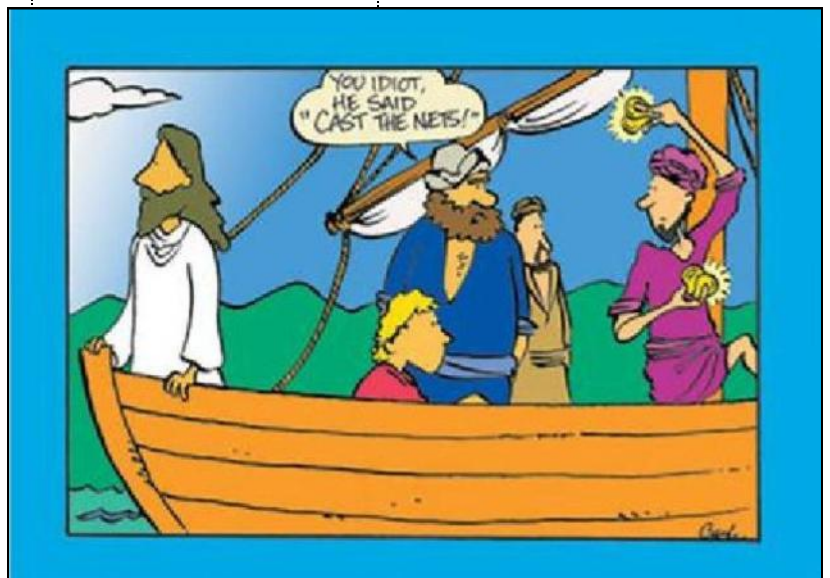
If you are able to donate a few hours to this ministry, please contact Kathy Schrock at the shop. 816-884-2279

Thank you, Mary Parker



Disciples Men/CME

Tuesday, January 10 @ 8:30am
Come join us for breakfast!!



January 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

1-	KFC Collection	16-	1:30pm Disciples Women/CWF Deborah Circle
3-	8:00am-12:00pm Quilters	17-	7:00pm Board Meeting
	6:30pm Ministry Chairs	18-	7:00pm Chancel Choir
	7:00pm Ministry Groups	19-	3:30pm Exercise
4-	6:00pm-8:00pm Youth Group		4:30pm TOPS
	7:00pm Chancel Choir	20-21	Elder's Institute
5-	3:30pm Exercise	21-29	Nicaragua Mission Trip
	4:30pm TOPS	22-	8:45am Elders Meeting
	6:00pm Nicaragua Orientation		SOUPER Bowl of Caring Kick Off
6-	FCC Food Pantry Day	24-	7:00pm Vision & Mission Meeting
8-	8:45am Elders Meeting	25-	7:00pm Chancel Choir
10-	8:30am Disciples Men/CMF	26-	3:30pm Exercise
	7:00pm Disciples Women/CWF Rachel Circle		4:30pm TOPS
11-	6:00pm-8:00pm Youth Group	29-	SOUPER Bowl of Caring
	7:00pm Chancel Choir		
12-	10:30am Golden Leaves		
	3:30pm Exercise		
	4:30pm TOPS		

FACTS AND FIGURES

Sunday, December 4

8:00am Worship	36
Sunday School	30
10:30 am Worship	69
General Fund	\$4,305.82
Christmas Offering	\$25.00
Memorial (Joe Hocker)	\$95.00

Sunday, December 11

8:00am Worship	33
Sunday School	36
10:30am Worship	98
General Fund	\$2,618.65
Christmas offering	\$20.00
Week of Compassion	\$50.00
Memorial (Joe Hocker)	\$30.00

Sunday, December 18

10:00am Worship	137
Sunday School	38
General Fund	\$2,842.39
Christmas Offering	\$264.00
Food Pantry	\$100.00

December 25

10:00am Worship	63
General Fund	\$930.05
Christmas Offering	\$75.00
Food Pantry	\$50.00
Hawley Camp Fund	\$50.00
Memorial (Joe Hocker)	\$25.00



Elevator Operator



**Church
Elevator**

We now have an elevator operator available, on Sundays. If you would like to volunteer to be an operator, contact Frank Long.



Newsletter
DEADLINE!

The deadline for the Church Newsletter is Sunday, January 29, 2011

Please turn all articles into the church office or email them to office@harrisonvillefcc.org or brenda@harrisonvillefcc.org



Secret Place WINTER edition is available.
Get your copy today!.



RECYCLE YOUR INKJET CARTRIDGES

Note: At this time we are not collecting cell phones.

November 30, 2011

General Fund: Balance in checking--\$3,235.36
Balance in Demand Plus--\$6,424.05
Memorial: Balance in Investment Savings--\$7,582.59
Endowment: Balance in Yoder savings--\$1,497.98
Balance in Mauck/Morse flex plus--\$19,723.50
Income (year to date)--\$141,016.61
Expenses (year to date)--\$155,336.33