



First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
Kearney, MO
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The Christian

November 2011

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Harvest Sale

Join us for our annual harvest sale on Saturday, November 12 at Kearney High School. Here is the schedule:

- Turkey dinner: 5 – 7pm
- Silent auction: 5 – 7 pm
- Cookie walk: 5 – 5:30 pm
- Children's activities: 5:30 – 6:30 pm
- Live auction: 7 pm
- Quilt raffle: 7 pm

Half of the proceeds benefit our local mission fund which helps those in need in the Kearney community.

Opportunities to volunteer are still available. Contact Amy Looper (816.918.2766) or the church office.

Operation Christmas Child

It's Operation Christmas Child Shoebox time! Here's how it works:

1. **Choose** one of the shoeboxes provided or use a regular shoebox.
2. **Follow** the packing instructions on the brochure (we have extras).
3. **Pray** for the child who will receive your box. The boxes are sent to countries and areas where physical and spiritual poverty exists.
4. **Return** your packed box to the church by November 14. It will then travel to a processing center where a Gospel booklet in the child's language, *The Greatest Gift of All*, is inserted. This booklet shares God's plan of salvation.

We will never know the number of lives we've touched, but God knows. Every box packed allows us to tell a hurting child about the matchless love of Christ. So pack and pray and send God's love to the tough corners of the world. If you have any questions, please call Jan Worley at 816.320.3520.



5 am, 10:45 am ☞ Sunday Study Groups: 9:30 am

Pastor's Notes

What to do with "burn out:"

* SLOW DOWN. Quit trying to do more than is humanly possible. Do all you can do, but remember that's all you can do.

* SLOW DOWN. Quit serving where you are not gifted – that drains us. Serve only where you are gifted – that inspires and energizes us.

* SLOW DOWN. Dare to set priorities and be faithful to them. None of us will live long enough to do everything we would like; so we had better put first things first.

* SLOW DOWN. Balance work with re-creation. Take time to rest and celebrate accomplishments.

* SLOW DOWN. Spend quality time with those you love the most (spouse, children, grandchildren, church, friends, others).

* SLOW DOWN. Because we were created to love God and enjoy God forever, spend quality personal time with God. If you do not already, begin having a daily "quiet time" (scripture and prayer). Helpful "devotional" booklets are available at Christian bookstores and from the church office.

* SLOW DOWN. Through weekly worship, re-connect with the God who loves you, forgives you, and has a wonderful plan for your life.

Your friend in Christ,
Doug

From Your Church Leadership:

At the October board meeting, your church leadership:

- Celebrated the accepted bid to complete repairs to the Prospect property

Full board meeting minutes are public and available upon request. Copies of the board report are also available each month. Please contact the church office if you would like these documents.

The Harvest Sale Quilt ...

...is on display in the sanctuary. It will be raffled off during the harvest sale. Raffle tickets are available. They are \$1.50 for one or \$6 for seven. Please contact Susan Mick (antttutu1@aol.com) with questions. Only single ticket purchases will be available on the evening of the harvest sale.

Ongoing Sunday Morning Study Groups

Mixed Nuts: Adult study group meeting in classroom A
The group continues to read Max Lucado's Fearless in November.

Young at Heart: Senior adult study group meeting in the classroom off the sanctuary
This group uses The Present Word, a series for adults.

A Chronological Study of the Bible:
Adult study group meeting in the pastor's office
This group is using The Chronological Study Bible, reading their way through the Bible. You're welcome to join them.

Youth Group: Kids in grades 6th–12th meet in the Barr Youth Center
This group continues studying stories from the Bible using the God Up Close curriculum.

Children: Preschool – 3rd grade: Classroom C
4th & 5th grades: Classroom B

In November the children will be hearing Bible stories and having fun together. Come see what's going on! Please note: These locations are where children begin the rotation each week, not where they finish.

Update from Global Ministries:

Action that Transforms by Anil and Teresa Henry

Be doers of the word, and not hearers only. James 1: 22

A small cart pulled by a cow left Nagpur in 1868 and travelled for five days carrying Rev. Oscar Lohr to Bishrampur, India. He was the first missionary in the region from the United States representing the United Church of Christ. In 1885 another cart left Jabalpur and travelled for three days through the tiger infested forests of what we call Kahna National Park to Bilsapur. In this were three ladies Miss Anna Boyd, Miss Kingsley and Mrs. Adams representing the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the US.

Missionary Anil Henry writes, I am in India today on behalf of the many missionaries who followed, and the congregations of these two mainline churches of America that were two of the six churches that joined in the unification of the Church of North India. I am filled with thanksgiving every day for their vision and hope. It is not only my seven years of service with the Church of North India on behalf of Global Ministries in Mungeli, but a second generation of mission work that continues after the legacy of my parents namely my mother Mrs. Nancy Henry who was sent out by the United Church of Christ 50 years ago as a young missionary nurse, and later married my father Dr. VK Henry.

In the small area of Mungeli, we try to show God's love through the running of a hospital (120 beds) and school (500 children). We ask for strength as we move toward the construction of a new school building, a cancer center, starting nursing education and working with the community to help them better understand that our faith has very little value if we do not have action along with it.

We pray with the Henrys, asking God to transform our lives with courage and cleanse us so that we may be better vessels of God's work.

Anil and Teresa Henry serve the Synodical Board of Health Services of the Church of North India. Both work as medical doctors and Anil as director of the Christian Hospital in Mungeli. They are supported in part by One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS).

Fundraiser for St. Jude

London Fishback is raising funds for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. She will have a booth at the *Fall Arts & Crafts Show* on Saturday, November 12 from 9 am – 4 pm at the Annunciation Community Center, 705 N Jefferson ST, Kearney. She will be selling bracelets she made. All proceeds will go to the hospital. If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer Fishback at 816.876.5037 or Renee at 816.628.4781. The Kearney Courier will feature an article on London's project in the November 4 edition.

Gospel Concerts:

The Browns



Sunday, November 20 at 2:30 pm

Jim & Melissa Brady



Monday, November 28 at 7 pm

*** The Bradys have graciously agreed to do this concert as a benefit for our church. Please come!*

Harvesters Trip

In November, the youth group plans to go to Harvesters to volunteer for a couple hours. Then, we realized some families might like to go! Or other folks, too! So here are the details:

- We're volunteering on Thursday, November 17th, 5-7 pm.
- We'll meet at 4:15 pm at the church to carpool there.
- Kids as young as 6 years old are invited to volunteer!
- If a kid is not in youth group yet, an adult needs to come volunteer with them.
- Wear closed toed shoes and dress warm enough to be in a warehouse.
- RSVP to Abigail:
rev.abigail.conley@gmail.com

Thanks to the Church Family

We would like to thank our church family for all the prayers while Grant was preparing for surgery. We were blessed to have such a great outcome (can continue normal activities with no repair of his heart needed). Thank you all so much for all the prayers during this time. We love you all!
~Tracy, Donna Garrett & Grant Tanking

Our church has the best cooks in the world! Thank you all for the wonderful food, visits and your prayers. My eye is doing just what it is supposed to do. Now I wait for the bubble to go away and the sight to come back. All is in God's hands. Thank you to Iletta for playing the piano for me and thank you to Doug for the visit.
~Virginia Roach

Thank you so much for the delicious meal you provided. It was all very yummy and enjoyed by our family. We truly appreciate your kindness.
~Todd, Betsy and Kemper Reynolds

I want to thank my church family for the prayers, phone calls and cards these past few days. I am aware that God is with me and I feel your prayers giving me strength. I look forward to singing again someday.
~Mary Lou Jurado

Thank you to everyone who helped with the Trunk or Treat Festival. Whether you donated items, volunteered your time or made chili it was much appreciated.
~The Membership Events & Education Committees

Relay for Life

The Relay for Life team is in need of purple and/or pink medium size gifts bags. They will be used during next year's Relay for Life which is June 8. Please contact Susan Mick (antttutu1@aol.com) with any questions.

Directory updates

Email update: Pat Holmstrom - plh@Acmegrafix.com

Phone number updates:

Noel & Char Scott's landline (816.781.1120) is now a fax line only. You can contact them via their cell phones:

- Noel: 816.506.6644
- Char: 816.868.0880

Jerry & Lucky Bloss have disconnected their landline. You can contact them via Jerry's cell phone (816.255.5212).

Address update: Les & Lana Wisely
110 Shaftsbury Street
Coburg, Victoria 3058
Australia

November Birthdays

11/01	Corey Jewell Devin Morton
11/02	Stacie Croskey Velva Ivy Dave Judy
11/03	Madison Leighr
11/04	Christina Davis
11/07	Patrick Romine
11/08	Toots Gallinger
11/09	Deanna Morton
11/10	Julie Cargill Cheryl
11/11	Epperson Niki Harris Gary Jonson Chastain Parks
11/13	Danny Miller
11/16	Paul Crawford Miranda Leighr
11/17	Jerre Gallinger
11/18	Blake Harris
11/20	Bettie Keller
11/22	Brad Jamison Jordan Spaeth
11/25	Ken Praiswater Laurie Wood
11/27	Jacey Looper
11/28	Nic Brent
11/30	Janelle Weber


Please let the church office know if your birthday is missing.

Praying with...

...those who grieve. Please hold the families of these people in your prayers:

- Betty Ann Downing
(sister of Judy Fishback & Janet Cates)

November 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
Sunday Service Times 8:15 am Worship 9:30 am Sunday Morning Study Groups 10:45 am Worship		9:30 am Quilting	7 am Men's Prayer Group (McDonald's)	7 pm <i>Living Fully, Dying Well</i> Small Group Study		9 am Holy Pumpkin Rollers
		7 pm <i>Religions of the World</i> Small Group Study	4 pm Children's Christmas program practice			
			7 pm Youth Group			
		7:15 pm Women's Small Group Study				
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
10:30 am <i>Religions of the World</i> Small Group Study @ The Rime Buddhist Center 2 pm Skating	4 pm Holy Pumpkin Rollers Board report deadline	9:30 am Quilting 7 pm <i>Religions of the World</i> Small Group Study 7:15 pm Women's Small Group Study	7 am Men's Prayer Group (McDonald's) 4 pm Children's Christmas program practice 7 pm Youth Group	7 pm <i>Living Fully, Dying Well</i> Small Group Study	6:30 pm Brownies	8 am Men's Breakfast 2 pm Fellowship hall reserved (Harris) 5 pm Harvest sale
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
<i>Thanksgiving Offering</i> 6:30 pm Board meeting	4 pm Holy Pumpkin Rollers	9:30 am Quilting 7:15 pm Women's Small Group Study	7 am Men's Prayer Group (McDonald's) 4 pm Children's Christmas program practice 7 pm Youth Group	5 pm Trip to Harvesters (see youth section for more info) 7 pm <i>Living Fully, Dying Well</i> Small Group Study		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
<i>Thanksgiving Offering</i> 2:30 pm Gospel concert: The Browns	4 pm Holy Pumpkin Rollers Newsletter deadline	9:30 am Quilting	7 am Men's Prayer Group (McDonald's) 4 pm Children's Christmas program practice	 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> Church office is closed. </div>	6:30 pm Brownies	
27	28	29	30			
<i>Advent Begins</i> 4 pm <i>Hanging of the Greens</i> service	7 pm Gospel concert: Jim & Melissa Brady (benefit for the church)	9:30 am Quilting	7 am Men's Prayer Group (McDonald's) 4 pm Children's Christmas program practice 7 pm Youth Group Committee night (see info at right)	Committee night (11/30/11) 5 pm 8:15 Worship committee meeting 6 pm Evangelism committee meeting 6:30 pm all other committee meetings		

Youth

Keep coming on Wednesday nights from 7-8 pm. Also, don't miss the info on the Harvesters trip and the Christmas party!

Celebrating Christmas

It's a little early to be thinking about Christmas, but mark your calendars for the Youth Christmas party on Saturday evening, December 17th! We're still working out details (like time), but it will be a progressive Christmas party, walking from house to house for some more food. We'll start and end at the church. More details in next month's newsletter. But mark your calendar!

Kids

Christmas program practice

4 pm on Wednesday, November 2 through December 7 and Saturday December 3 & 10 at 10 am.

Skating

We are going skating on Sunday, November 6 from 2 – 4 pm at Northland Rolladium Skate Center, 1020 Kent ST, Liberty. Cost is \$3 per skater (10 skaters needed to qualify for the discount). Skate rental & a small drink are included. We need 10 skaters to. Contact Shawna Rapstine if you plan on attending (816.320.3732).

Mark your calendar!

The Children's Christmas program, *The Best Place to Celebrate Christmas – A Musical Tour Around the World*, is Sunday, December 11 at 4 pm. Watch your bulletin and December's newsletter for more information.

Religions of the World Small Group Update

I have been greatly blessed and amazed sharing in the Handys' small group over the last few weeks. Because I wanted to celebrate that with the larger church, for the next couple of months, I have invited participants in that group to share a reflection of that time together in the space my writing usually occupies.
~Abigail

At the small group meeting at the Handy's home on Tuesday evening, we have been studying the major religions of the world (Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, and Buddhism). As a part of this group, we have been students of the material presented by Abigail, and we have had the privilege, at this point, to have attended both a Jewish and an Islamic service.

The study of both religions has been fascinating. Judaism is intriguing in its antiquity and its ethnicity. To be a Jew goes beyond just a religion. It is who they are on so many levels. On the surface the religion may seem restrictive and rule heavy, but those rules are an intrinsic part of a religion deeply devoted to God, custom, and culture.

Attending the Jewish prayer service was a hands-on experience allowing us to see and experience Judaism in practice. The use of the Hebrew language in the service gave further evidence of the Jewish emphasis on their history and heritage. Our group was warmly received and our questions were eagerly answered.

The Islamic experience was similar in many ways. Our contact person was eager to share with us the tenets of Islam. Her heart was full of her devotion to God and her absolute belief in God and the Koran. We again witnessed a prayer service-this time Islamic. And again, the level of devotion and personal discipline was remarkable. The religion of Islam is a way of life-lived daily in dress, prayer, and attitude.

This small group study offers us, as Christians, the opportunity to study these other religions, gaining knowledge and understanding about them. Power comes from knowledge. So often when we lack knowledge and understanding, misconceptions arise and can result in fear and negativism. This small group has been a powerful tool for dispelling misconceptions and promoting Christian love and understanding.



Pumpkin Roll Order Form

Let the Holy Pumpkin Rollers make your giving easy with a donation of \$10 or more per pumpkin roll.

We all have many people that we are thankful for (mail man, school teacher, bus driver, co-workers, neighbors, care giver, child care provider, veterinarian, mechanic, etc.). Let them know! Or maybe you need a dessert for a holiday dinner.

Whatever your need, let us help! Please use the form below to place your order for pumpkin rolls. Return the completed form to the church office.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Thanksgiving orders (pick up date 11/20)**

with nuts: _____

without nuts: _____

Christmas orders (pick up date 12/11)**

with nuts: _____

without nuts: _____

Thank you for supporting the Holy Pumpkin Rollers for Kearney First Christian Church. If you have any questions, please contact Tammy Ball (r1tlball@hotmail.com or 816.903.2255).

Amount donated: \$

**If you need a different pick up date, just let Tammy know.

A Final Word (for now) on Spiritual Gifts

Over the last months, we have shared a great deal about spiritual gifts. You have heard testimonies from several people in the congregation about their use of spiritual gifts. Here is one more, some food for thought as we look to next year and how to best live into God's call using the gifts we have been given.

I want to encourage everyone to participate in a spiritual gifts workshop if you haven't already done so. I've actually participated in two of them. The first one was at the old Church. Honestly, even though I was raised in Kearney Christian Church, I hadn't attended regularly and I was just beginning my spiritual journey. I wasn't even sure I had a spiritual gift, although I was told everyone has at least one. Knowing what my active gifts and my gifts in waiting were helped me decide where I could be the most effective in my Christian service.

My primary spiritual gift from the first workshop turned out to be DISCERNMENT. I had never thought about it, but as I did, I realized that I always knew I had this gift. In business, I always knew who would be good at a specific task and in family matters, I knew who to have talk to someone when there was a problem or disagreement. I was able to use my gift in several ways in service to our Church, but none was better than serving on the Nominating Committee and eventually chairing that committee several times.

One of my waiting gifts from the first workshop was Evangelism. I remembered being horrified at the thought of actually talking to someone about my relationship with Christ. I just wasn't equipped to help anyone else with their problems. I could barely handle my own. But a funny thing happened as I traveled further on my spiritual journey. In Sunday school, from sermons and through Bible study, I learned more about Christ's life and I learned how God wants us to strive to be like him in every way possible. Suddenly, it wasn't so scary when one of my non-Christian friends asked my advice about a problem they were having or even about my Christian belief. I also noticed that as I got more comfortable talking about Jesus with others (Evangelism?), the Holy Spirit put more folks in my life that had questions to ask. In the process, I grew closer to God than I had ever been and my life started to seem somehow fuller.

When I took the spiritual gifts workshop this year, I noticed some of my gifts had changed. Discernment wasn't even on the list of this year's gifts. Evangelism was still there and it was one of my gifts, but not my primary one. I practically fell over when I saw what my main gift was this time—WRITING. I would have never guessed it.

~Jack Barr

Your Church Staff

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816.628.5583

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816.628.5583

The church office is open Monday
through Friday, from 9 am to 2 pm.

Prayer Concerns

Jennifer Anton, Ellen Banks, Jean Bonwell, Helen Booth, Debbie Colvert, Betty Ann Downing family, Louise Eastep, Darren Epperson, Merrill & Pat Fairley, Robbie Gallinger, Helen Griffey, Alice Hall, Gerri Hall, Jim Hutchens, Lisa Irwin, Mary Lou Jurado, Nick King, Martha Marengo, Ava Martinez & family, Gary Martin, Allen Mattison, Richard May, Kate Pence, Iletta Pulley, Doug Rawdon, Tim Reardon, David Roach, Virginia Roach, Ellen Smith, Opal Wisely, unspoken requests, our troops (Josh Bettis, Chris Brown, Shawn Lind, Ben Neth, Doyle Riley & Brady Willis), Global Mission Partners, our country, our church programs, our world.

To:

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