

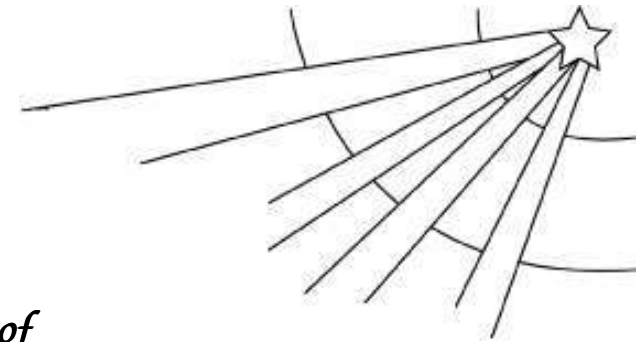


FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST NEWSLETTER

Volume 54 Number 22

December 15, 2010

Sunday School at 9:30 A.M.	700 Poyntz Avenue
Sunday Worship at 10:45 A.M.	Manhattan, Kansas 66502
Second Helping Dinner at 5:15 P.M.	telephone 785-537-7006
Thursday Evening Taizé at 7:00 P.M.	www.uccmanhattan.org



*From the staff of
First Congregational
United Church of Christ*

Celebrate the Season

At First Congregational United Church of Christ

Sunday, December 19 at 10:45 A.M.

Advent IV Service of Lessons and Carols

Music by the Chancel Choir: Choruses from the Christmas portion of G.F. Handel's *Messiah* and carols for the season.

Friday, December 24 at 8:00 P.M. -- Prelude at 7:45 P.M.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion

A service for all ages with stories, Christmas carols and hymns, music of the season by the choir and organ, and a candlelight celebration of Holy Communion.

Sunday, December 26 at 10:45 A.M.

Christmas I Service of Word and Music, R. Kent Cormack preaching; Carols and Hymns for all to sing.

Sunday, January 2 at 10:45 A.M.

Christmas/Epiphany Celebration Service of Word & Sacrament, R. Kent Cormack preaching

→ → → → Inside this Newsletter ← ← ← ←

Sharing & Caring.....3-4	End of Year Reminders..... 8
News & Events4-7	Volunteer Schedules..... 9-10
Christmas 6	Community News..... 11

Wishing you a blessed Christmas

*And peace and joy
in the New Year.*



Sharing and Caring

Prayers and Concerns

- Please call the church office for more information 537-7006.

Helping

- **Need a ride to church?** Contact one of our transportation volunteers: Jim & Carolyn Hodgson, Bill Pallett, Jeff Keller, or Mike & Martha Miller.
- **Home Communion Visits** The Deacons can bring communion to your home on the first Sunday of the month. Visits at other times can be arranged with the pastor.

E~MAIL PRAYER CHAIN

If you wish to be added to the First Congregational e-mail prayer chain, please contact office@uccmanhattan.org.



Thank You

- Thanks to Don Cannon and Mike & Martha Miller for decorating the sanctuary for Christmas. It looks beautiful!
- Thanks to Jim Fuller for planting the mums outside. They were gorgeous this year!
- On behalf of everyone at the Ecumenical Campus Ministry at Kansas State University, I wanted to thank the First Congregational Church for their recent contribution of \$425 to the ministry! As you know, we depend on gifts from our friends who believe in the importance of our work with students and our involvement in the life of the university. Your financial assistance is valued and will go a long way to support the ongoing work at ECM. We appreciate the ongoing support you give to this ministry! We're looking forward to partnering with you on the spring mission trip to Pine Ridge! — *David Jones*

*You are invited to a
Christmas Party Open House
from 4:00 to 9:00 P.M. on Sunday, December 19,
at the home of Kent Cormack & Bill Pugh*

We hope you can join us for a bit of Christmas cheer!



**CANDLELIGHT
CHRISTMAS EVE
SERVICE OF
WORD & SACRAMENT**

**8:00 P.M. FRIDAY
DECEMBER 24
PRELUDE MUSIC AT 7:45 P.M.**

Join as we sing hymns, carols, and anthems of Christmas, proclaim the Christmas Good News, celebrate Holy Communion and light candles in the darkened Sanctuary. Invite friends and family who are visiting! Child care will be available in the nursery.

The Christmas Fund

Proceeds from the Christmas Fund Offering are used to provide gifts to clergy and lay employees in all stages of their lives and ministries to and through the UCC. Gifts to the Christmas Fund go directly to those who serve or have served the church, in their moments of critical need. In 2009 The Christmas Fund received over \$1,500,000 from across the United Church of Christ, and nearly 1,600 families were assisted. Our goal is to be able to provide at least \$1,650,000 in assistance from the 2010 appeal.



Amidst the depressed economic climate which continues to drag on, your gifts are needed more than ever to help the growing number of retirees whose low income annuities make it difficult to meet increasing living costs. An envelope is enclosed in this newsletter for your gift. You can mail it to the church or place it in the offering at worship. All offerings received at the Christmas Eve service are directed to The Christmas Fund. The Board of Mission and Outreach thanks you for your support of The Christmas Fund.

Help Fill Christmas Sacks for Our Second Helping Guests



Every year we prepare a special Christmas sack for each of our guests and give it to them on the Sunday before Christmas. We include a regular lunch, but also some special food items, an ornament or a small candle, toiletries, socks or gloves or scarves, etc. This year we estimate that we will need 26 sacks for men and 13 for women (our attendance has been up recently).

We welcome contributions to these sacks, and there will be a Second Helping box in the office area. Please—no toiletries with fragrance. Last year, we used hotel-type toiletries, and the fragrance was so pervasive that it affected the flavor of the food items and some had to be thrown away. Our guests really look forward to these sacks. For some of them, this Christmas sack will be the only Christmas present they get. Helpful items would be:

- Shaving cream and disposable razors
- Toothpaste or bars of unscented soap
- Granola bars or Oranges
- Men's and women's socks, gloves and/or scarves
- Small ornaments (or even Christmas jewelry for the women)

Rainbow Table

The next Rainbow Table event will be a Baked Potato Bar Sunday, January 23 at 6:00 P.M. at the home of Kent Cormack and Bill Pugh.



Christian Education

Thank you to all those who participated, parents, teachers and children, in making this year's Christmas pageant a success.

Sunday School There will be no Sunday School Classes for children, youth or adults on December 26 or January 2.

Nursery Care Christmas Eve Nursery care will be available for infants and toddlers during the Christmas Eve service.

Youth Corner News

The Youth Group is collecting gift items for any age to donate to the Flint Hills Breadbasket Christmas Store. The Christmas Store is open to patrons of the Breadbasket who may not have been part of the adopt-a-family program or simply need a little extra help. Please bring your unwrapped gifts to the office or ask Tracey Weston for more information.



\$hop \$mart Grocery Certificates

It's the easy way to make a donation to the Church. Purchase your certificates after worship to use when you buy groceries. Buy the coupons at face value, spend them like cash, and the church receives a donation.

Certificates are now available for HyVee, Dillon's, and Ray's Apple Market.

**The Annual Meeting of the Congregation
will be January 30, 2011 following worship**

Stewardship 2011

Our Stewardship Goal: 60 Pledges \$150,000

As of December 15: 42 Pledges \$104,539

Have you returned your Commitment Card for 2011?

Annual Reports Please have your annual reports to the office as early as possible. If you are able to complete your report before the end of December, that is very helpful. **All reports should be in the office no later than January 7.** Thanks.

Financial Reminders

- For any who like to make pre-payment on 2011 pledges, please mark this clearly on your check so that we are able to credit it as you intend. Also, if completing your 2010 pledge with a 2011 check, please so note.
- In order to "close the books" and make a timely Annual Report, the final deposits for this year will include monies received by Sunday, December 26 or in the church office by noon on Friday December 31. Monies received after that time will be welcomed and included in the 2011 reports.

— *Joy Schell*, Financial Secretary

A note from the Treasurer

- The end of the year is fast approaching, and I need to close the financial records on December 31. If you have any receipts for budgeted or approved expenses, and you need to be reimbursed, PLEASE get me your receipts as soon as possible and no later than the 31st of December. You can either mail them to me or put them in my mail slot at the church. I'll reimburse you very quickly. Thanks for your help.

— *Judy Ahrens*, Treasurer

Worship & Church Volunteers

December 19, 2010

Flowers Poinsettias
Greeters The Keller Family
Scripture Reader Judy Willingham
Word for Children ... Martha Miller
Fellowship Hour Don Cannon
Snow Removal Jim Lewis (*through December 25*)

December 26, 2010

Flowers Poinsettias
Greeters Dale and Anne Stearns
Scripture Reader Atina Hanna
Word for Children ... Bridgett Moreland
Fellowship Hour Gretchen and Jim Lewis
Snow Removal Jeff Keller (*through January 1*)

January 2, 2011

Flowers Poinsettias
Greeters Joy Schell, *volunteer needed*
Scripture Reader *volunteer needed*
Word for Children ... *volunteer needed*
Fellowship Hour The Keller Family
Snow Removal Don Cannon (*through January 8*)

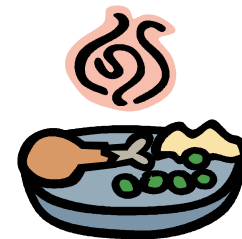
January 9, 2011

Flowers *volunteer needed*
Greeters Jim Mock, Tracey Weston
Scripture Reader *volunteer needed*
Word for Children ... *volunteer needed*
Fellowship Hour Judy Willingham
Snow Removal Brad Logan (*through January 15*)

To volunteer, contact the church office at 537-7006 or office@uccmanhattan.org.

The Second Helping

The Second Helping is a local mission of First Congregational UCC. It serves a hot meal every Sunday evening and provides sack breakfast and lunch items to each guest. To volunteer, contact the church office at 537-7006 or office@uccmanhattan.org.



December 19, 2010

Chief Cook Sue Zschoche
Volunteers Ann Gleason, Caren Knicklebine, Ann Smit, Kathy Bleam
Dessert *volunteer needed*

December 26, 2010

Chief Cook Ann Smit
Volunteers Victor Force, Jeremy Smith, Smit Family
Dessert Ann Smit

January 2, 2011

Chief Cook *volunteer needed*
Volunteers *volunteers needed*
Dessert *volunteer needed*

January 9, 2011

Chief Cook *volunteer needed*
Volunteers *volunteers needed*
Dessert *volunteer needed*

Community News

Foster Care/Adoption Classes

Children in our community are in need of loving and stable families. Are you interested in learning more about Foster Care or Adoption? Classes start on Tuesday, January 18th, and go through March 22nd. The classes are from 6-9 PM each week at the Assembly of God Church, 2310 Candlewood Dr., in Manhattan. The classes are free and there is no commitment to become a foster/adoptive parent once you have completed the class.

This is the start of a new year and a great time to help children in need in our community by giving them a loving home for a moment or for a lifetime. For more information or to sign up for these classes please contact Sarah Allen at (785) 539-3193 ext. 1700 or Elise Dunnigan at (785) 410-0433

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**700 Poyntz Avenue
Manhattan, KS 66502
(785) 537-7006**

uccmanhattan.org



NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U S POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 478
MANHATTAN, KS 66502

Return Service Requested

The Christmas Story in Negro Spirituals

Presented by

**Dr. LaVerne L. Baker,
Vocalist/Guitarist**

**Sunday, December 19, 2010
6:00 – 7:00 P.M.**

Accompanied by




**Mrs. Mary Caudle-Kid,
Vocalist/Pianist**

First United Methodist Church
612 Poyntz Avenue

Spring CASA Training

Spring training for CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) will begin with an orientation session on Monday, February 7th at 6 pm at First Lutheran Church located at 930 Poyntz Ave. Training will continue for seven weeks (2/15, 2/21, 2/28, 3/7, 3/14, 3/28, 4/4) from 6-9 PM.

Please contact Sunflower CASA at bridget@sunflowercasa.org, 537-6367, or visit <http://casa.manhattanks.org> for more information or to learn about our independent study training option. There is a child waiting for your voice!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
					31	1 New Year's Day	
2 Christmas II 9:30 Choir Rehearsal 10:45 Worship & Communion 12:00 Fellowship Hour 5:15 Second Helping	3 Office Closed	4	5 11:30 Lunch Bunch 7:00 Board Meetings	6 Epiphany 7:00 Taizé	7 9:00 Crisis Center Meeting 6:00 Storytime	8	
9 Baptism of Christ 8:30 Choir Rehearsal 9:30 Church School 10:45 Worship 12:00 Fellowship Hour 5:15 Second Helping	10 12:00 Newsletter Deadline 5:00 AAUW Dinner	11 7:00 Confirmation Class	12	13 5:30 Bible Study 7:00 Taizé	14 9:00 Crisis Center Meeting 6:00 Storytime	15 9:00 -12:00 Vitality Team Retreat	
16 2nd after Epiphany 8:30 Choir Rehearsal 9:30 Church School 10:45 Worship 12:00 Fellowship Hour 5:15 Second Helping	17 Martin Luther King Day Office Closed	18 10:00 N.C. Assn. Clergy 7:00 PFLAG 7:00 Confirmation	19 6:00 Vitality Team 7:00 Cabinet	20 5:30 Bible Study 7:00 Taizé	21 9:00 Crisis Center Meeting 6:00 Storytime	22	
23 3rd after Epiphany 8:30 Choir Rehearsal 9:30 Church School 10:45 Worship 12:00 Fellowship Hour 5:15 Second Helping	24 12:00 Newsletter Deadline	25 7:00 Confirmation Class	26	27 5:30 Bible Study 7:00 Taizé	28 9:00 Crisis Center Meeting 6:00 Storytime	29 	
30 4th after Epiphany 8:30 Choir Rehearsal 9:30 Church School 10:45 Worship 12:00 Fellowship Hour 12:15 Annual Meeting 5:15 Second Helping	31 	January 2011					

January

Dates to Remember

Birthdays

4	Betty Garzio	19	Jerry Reynard
7	Margery Bayer	20	Harold Hartley
7	Ben Clark	21	Doyle Barnes
7	Nick Clark	24	Shelia Stevens
9	William Knicklebine	27	Knox Karnowski
10	Kaia Peterson	31	Sharyl Reynard
17	Gretchen Lewis	31	Amanda Crangle

Anniversaries

1	Kyle & Kimberly Douglas-Mankin
6	Bridgett Moreland & Kaye Knipe
12	Rob & Krista Caffey
25	Dave & Ann Smit

January 1	New Year's Day
January 3	Office Closed
January 5	Lunch Bunch Board Meetings
January 10	Newsletter Deadline
January 15	Vitality Team Retreat
January 17	Martin Luther King Day– Office Closed
January 20	Vitality Team Meeting Cabinet Meeting
January 24	Newsletter Deadline
January 30	Annual Meeting