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Monthly Circuit Writer

Volume 2, Issue 9

Sept. 1, 2010

Worship Times & Sunday School Schedule:

Saturday

5:30 - Saturday
Worship in the Chapel

Sunday

8:15 - Worship Service

9:45 - Worship Service
(Contemporary)

9:45 - Sunday School - All
Ages

11:00 - Worship
Service

11:00 - Children's Church
(Family Life Center)

11:00 - Sunday School - All
Ages

Mike & Darla Pummill - Doing Great Outreach

Mike Pummill, with Darla's help, is now serving as the on-site director of the Community Services League's food pantry, located at the church next door. At CUMC's July food drop, Betty asked if anyone would consider taking on those duties. The previous director needed to leave the job and Betty was willing to help, but needed someone with computer experience. Mike asked Darla "if I thought he could do it and I said sure." Mike then told Betty he wanted to take the

job and they started the following Wednesday.

"We love it. We love being with other people and feel good about helping other people", said Darla. "It is hard when we don't have enough money to meet utility needs."

Mike shared that "in serving zip code 64055, we were expecting a lot more people. We don't think we're reaching all the people that need help. Our hours make it hard for people who work to get to

us. How can we go about reaching more people?"

Our church and community are lucky to have people like Mike and Darla, who are willing to volunteer their time and talents in this manner. Hats off to these two.



September Sermon Series

No Perfect People Allowed

Have you ever made a mistake? Do you mess things up sometimes, even when you have good intentions? Ever struggle with where you've been in life? You're not alone. The world is filled with imperfect people. In fact, not one person is perfect. God gets this. During the next 4 weeks we will look at a life of faith for imperfect people and hear what the message of the Gospel says to us about our place in the church and in the kingdom.

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| Sept. 12 | "Come As You Are" |
| Sept. 19 | "Questions Are Ok" |
| Sept. 26 | "Discovering hope" |
| Oct. 3 | "Nobody Stands Alone" |



A Note from Our Pastor



Pastor Chris Williams

Friends,

It's hard to believe, but the official end to summer is upon us. Labor Day weekend has long been seen as summer's last hurrah, mostly because at this time the kids are all back in school. I have heard many people say that the calendar needs to change so that the New Year begins with the school year because that is what most people follow anyway.

As the students begin their classes once again, it is always stressed how important setting good habits are. How you start the year can go a long way in determining how you finish the year. I believe that is a good word for us as well. With the summer vacations behind us and a changing season in front of us, let's re-commit ourselves to being a part of our church and to spending time with God in prayer and study.

September 12 this year is widely being recognized as "Back to Church" Sunday. We, too, will be kicking off our fall season on the 12th. I will begin a new sermon series entitled "No Perfect People Allowed." We will be dedicating our newly renovated sanctuary. Other things are in the planning. It is a great time to invite a friend, a neighbor, or a coworker.

In Christ,

Pastor Chris

PraiseFest 2



Christ UMC Praise Band

PraiseFest 2 was held in The Place on August 6th and saw 4 different youth-led praise teams from the Kansas City area (plus one from Ohio) lift up worship to God. This was a fantastic event that felt a little like a family reunion. Members of the Kearney church I worked at prior to coming here dropped by. Jena Trione, our former youth director, and her husband "Tree" came out to see everyone. There were even a couple of people from out at Seminary who took in the treat music. There were Junior High, Senior High, and college-aged members of our own band, including members of the Youth Praise Choir and a couple of special

guest rappers. All of the teams promoted a strong sense of church and community. Our students were amazing and well-behaved hosts, and our wonderful volunteers stuck out the four hour event. In many ways, I thought this was the way the global church should work - like a family.

Amazing things happen when we come together to praise the God we all share. That has been the motivation behind this event for the past two years. My prayer is that the youth of our church feel like they are part of a larger worshipping family and that they gain

strength and motivation through that. Next, they turned off the noise for a week, as they participated in a self-directed Media Fast, shutting off the distractions to focus on prayer and Bible Study, a couple of weeks before school begins again.

My thanks to all who helped make PraiseFest 2 a wonderful event. The youth of our church will continue that chorus, as we look forward to a new school year - sharing faith and strengthening our extended church family, encouraging the adoption of others.

-Ryan Langeland

Faith360 Open House - September 19 - 9:00-11:00 a.m.

HGTV has nothing compared to the changes that are happening here at this

church right behind the choir loft in the sanctuary. I would like to see HGTV

create what we have with nothing but \$100 and (Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2) very generous donations. Faith360 happily invites the entire congregation to come up and visit their classroom on September 19th to see the final product. Drop by and say “Hi”!

Most might see the room as just an awesome, creative addition to the

charm of Christ UMC, but the young adults that inhabit the room see it as so much more. This room has given us a chance to see how generous the congregation can be to this age group. We have been allowed to overcome great debates to meet our goal of extending hospitality to our age group who do not yet

attend this church. Now we have a place in the church that feels like it is “ours” so that we can continue to grow.

Thanks need to be said for many different people. Thank you to the congregation for helping us earn \$319 through donut sales. Thanks to the Board of Trustees for allowing us to

use our new room. Thanks to some of the Journeymen Class for helping clean out the room and thanks to members of the Seeker’s Class for encouraging us to “Go For It”! We are truly blessed with the congregation that we have.

Britney Short

Kids Zone Sunday School and Kids’ Church

Sunday School is back in session. We have a dedicated and skilled team of teachers in our Kids Zone. Through our Sunday School program, children are learning about God’s love and grace and experiencing Bible stories through active participation.

We offer two opportunities for children to learn about God’s word in an age-appropriate manner. Sunday School, located in the Kids Zone, begins at 9:45 a.m. and lasts one hour. Children in grades Pre-School through Pre-K are in Room G-12; Kindergarten through 1st are in Room G-19; 2nd through 3rd are in Room G-20 and 4th and

5th are in Room G-22. Kids’ Church is at 11:00 a.m. and lasts until church is over. Children may participate in either opportunity or both.

If your children want to stay for Kids’ Church after Sunday School, please sign them up and a staff member will take them to the appropriate location. Once the remodeling of our Sanctuary is finished, Kids’ Church will begin in the gym and end in Kids Zone. Kids’ Church involves learning through play, songs, stories and active participation in worship.

Children’s choirs practice before Sunday

School (9:15-9:45) for grades 1st through 5th and during the Sunday School for the younger children.

Sunday Evening Fun Starts Soon: Our first outing will be held on Sunday, September 26th at the GAGE Center in Blue Springs from 3:00-4:00 p.m. for students in grades Kindergarten through 5th. Parents need to stay with children in Kindergarten or 1st grades. Students in 2nd through 5th grades will return to church afterwards for choir practice and snack supper. They can be picked up at 5:30 p.m. Regular Sunday evening programming will begin in October.



Children’s Sunday School



Kids’ Church

Third Grade Bibles

One special tradition here at Christ Church is the presentation of Bibles to our third graders. This NRSV Children’s Bible is student-friendly and contains interesting graphics and special explanations of many passages.

Each Bible includes the child’s name in calligraphy. The presentations will take place at all three worship services so that students can receive their Bible during the church service their family normally attends.

The date for this year’s presentation is Sunday, September 26.

Please notify Kathy Vest at 461-1101 or kvest@icumc.org if you have a third grader who will be participating in this event.



**Christ United Methodist Church
Staff**

- *Rev. Chris Williams, Senior Pastor
- *Rev. Michael Costanzo, Evangelism Pastor
- *Rev. Dr. Glen Wiggs, Visitation Pastor
- *Lynn Arnold, Formational Ministries
- *Ryan Langeland, Youth Director
- *Janice Harkins, Assistant Youth Director
- *Kathy Vest, Children's Ministries
- *Helen Hatridge, Caring Connections Coordinator
- *Elaine Jackson, Organist & Youth Praise Choir Director
- *Mark Lee, Chancel Choir Director
- *Bonnie Wagner & Carla Kincaid, Children's Choirs
- *John Johnson, Media/Sound Coordinator
- *Amber Dennis, Administrative Secretary
- Cindy Petrie, Business Manager
- *Kathy Moxley & Laura Stagg, Christ Early Learning Center
& Preschool
- *Peggy Lindsay, Sign Language Interpreter

We're on the Web!

www.icumc.org



**Friday, Sept. 10, 2010
for the Oct. newsletter
10:00 a.m.**

**Christ United Methodist Church
14506 E. 39th St. S.
Independence, MO 64055**

Sept. 1, 2010

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