

**The**  
**Christian**  
**Visitor**

**First Christian Church**

(Disciples of Christ)  
301 North 7<sup>th</sup> Street  
P.O. Box 626  
Atchison, Kansas 66002-0626  
(913) 367-3036

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Website: [fccatchison.net](http://fccatchison.net)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/fccatchison](http://www.facebook.com/fccatchison)

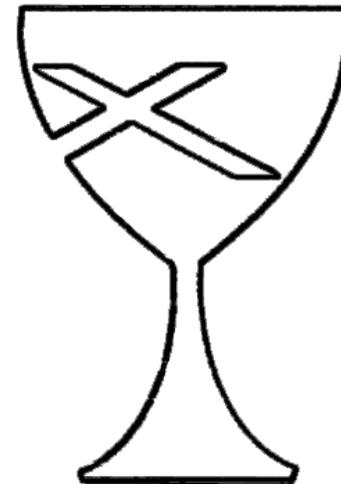
Office Hours: Mon-Fri, 8am – 4 pm

Rev. Jim Robinson, Intentional Interim Minister

(913) 370-8073 – home

(501) 514-5239 – cell

Email: [seniorpastorfccatch@gmail.com](mailto:seniorpastorfccatch@gmail.com)



[Published December 9, 2015]

*Sent With Love To: You!*



### The Wolf and the Lamb

A Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures: Isaiah 11:1-9 ~ This is one of my favorite passages of Scripture. The picture it paints leaves no question regarding God's wishes for God's children.

Human self-centeredness may be the greatest single deterrent to world peace. Beginning with Abram (Abraham), God's people always have been called to share God and God's love with all nations [God said to Abram, "*Through you all the nations of the world will be blessed*" (GENESIS 12:3)].

Moreover, Jesus of Nazareth taught that seeking the realm and reign of God and making it one's top priority was a sure path toward a fulfilled life (Matthew 6:33).

Instead, God-related activities too often have focused on accruing God's blessings, protection and affirmation *to ourselves*. God's people have no sustained history of reaching out and becoming a channel for God's grace for others.

The application of today's reading generally has gone something like this: God will send a special Messiah who will make all these wonderful things happen—*for us*.

After the Babylonian exile Israel's messianic hopes increased in intensity and took on apocalyptic qualities. Again, the hope was that Messiah would do everything *for them*.

Jesus came teaching that Messiah had come to empower God's people—that *they* could bring about all they had hoped to receive *from* Messiah. But he and his teachings were rejected by his generation. Many today who claim him as savior still miss his claim upon them as Lord, and reject the gift of empowerment he offered.

And now, many who have accepted Jesus as Messiah wait for his return, and their hope as they wait is essentially the same as Israel's hope in post-exilic times. Even after receiving the witness of Jesus' life and teaching, and the gift of the Holy Spirit as God's empowering agent, some still expect Jesus to return at some future date to do everything *for us*.

And so, while Isaiah's prophecy has yet to be fulfilled in our lives as it was in Jesus' life, the promise remains for us to claim: in the Power of God's Spirit we can bring about the day when:

*"The wolf shall live with the lamb,  
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,  
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,  
and a little child shall lead them."*

Together in the Walk,  
Pastor Jim

## Like our Facebook Pages!

Did you know the church has a Facebook page? We post pictures and updates from time to time. "Like" us and "check-in" when you're here to stay connected with your church family!

[www.facebook.com/fccatchison](http://www.facebook.com/fccatchison)

<https://www.facebook.com/AtchisonCountyFoodPantryatFirstChristianChurch>

## The Churches Website

Check it Out: [www.fccatchison.net](http://www.fccatchison.net)

## Christian Visitor Deadline

Deadline: Monday, December 21, 2015 - 4 p.m.

Published: Wednesday, December 23, 2015

This issue will include worship info. for December 27 and January 3, 2016 as well as the January, 2016 calendar, birthdays and anniversaries. The deadline for the next Christian Visitor is Monday, January 4, 2016 and will include worship information for January 10 and 17. Please have your items either typed or written out. It is difficult to take this information over the phone. You may also email your information to the church at [fccatch@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fccatch@sbcglobal.net).

### Please Notify The Church Office

- If anyone in your family goes into the hospital.
- When your group plans to have a meeting.
- When a member of your family leaves home for college or to establish a new residence.
- When you're planning to move out of town or locally.
- When your phone number changes.
- When a new baby arrives in your family.
- When you feel the church can assist you in any way.
- When a new family moves into your neighborhood.
- When someone needs to be placed on, OR **taken off** of the Prayer List.

# Remember In Prayers

Sharon Agee, Michael Blair, Alexine Blunt, Melinda Calhoon, Tracie Caudle, Larry Coder, Bryson Connell, Cindy Dooley, Diane Dooley, Bob Dunn, Raymond Elias, Jason Goodpasture, Alana Hale, Karla Harter, Phyllis Haynes, Hunter Idol, Bessie Jones, Beverly Kennedy, Drew & Andrea (Jacobson) Korschott Family, Charlie Kottman, Jeff Kuhnert, Virginia Lacy, Laney Ledbedder, Naesha Low, Mike McDermed, Lila Mercer, Bryan Meyer, Pat Montgomery, Steve Otte, Linda Roberts, Marvin Roberts, Sr., Jim Shipley, Juanita Shufflebarger, Mark Shufflebarger, Alice Smart, Amy Jo Smith, Becky Smith, Jim Smith, Doris Sutton, Diana Terry, Haley Thompson, Ken and Donna Watkins, Amy West, Debbie Young. [ IF WE CAN TAKE ANYONE OFF OF THIS PRAYER LIST, PLEASE NOTIFY ROSIE AT THE CHURCH OFFICE ]

# Military

Ryan Callahan, Joshua Lambert, Nicholas Cline, Mike Quick, Sean McCaffery, Anton Mak, Jesse McGlade, Nick Davison, Curtis Ellis, Ben Carlisle, Jerry Michaels, John Humbard, Robert Dickson, Justin Ruhlman, Quentin Rivers, Kevan Birkinsha, Carlos Betts-Coffey, Ryan Thomas

# Attendance

Nov. 22, 2015	9 a.m. – 75	10:45 a.m. – 62	SS - 46
Nov 29, 2015	9 a.m. – 54	10:45 a.m. – 73	SS - 38
Dec. 6, 2015	9 a.m. – 97	10:45 a.m. – 94	SS - 33

# Visitors Nov. 22, 29 & Dec. 6

Clayton Kibler, Cliff Leheew, Patricia Lombardo, Jan Merritt, Jeff Sisk, Ken & Charlotte Michel, Barb Stuchcomb, Mary Bridges, Lyla Schevett, Susan (Marlatt) Krug, Sam & Ana Beckett, Megan, Dorian & Dreten Byrd



# Atchison County Food Pantry @ FCC

The food pantry is open on Mondays from 1:00-3:00 p.m. Wednesdays from 4:30-6 p.m. and Fridays from 10:00-11:30 am and is located in the basement entrance off of Santa Fe Street.

Please call the church office, 367-3036 if you would like to help. The Food Pantry is an important ministry in our community. Please check out our page on Facebook & Like us - Atchison County Food Pantry at First Christian Church.

**Needs for December:** Soup, Crackers, Cornbread mix (Jiffy, etc.), Chili Beans, Chili Seasoning, Dish Soap

*Monetary donations are accepted too!*



# Schedule for Loaves and Fishes

Meals are served and deliveries made from First Christian Church (PLEASE NOTE WE WILL NO LONGER BE AT PROJECT CONCERN).

Signup sheets for volunteering are on the table in the annex. We need volunteers for kitchen helpers at 9 am and drivers and helpers to deliver meals to the homebound of Atchison at 10:15 am.



January 30, 2016

# MOVIE NIGHT

at First Christian Church

Sponsored by the Membership Ministry Team

Mark your calendars!!!

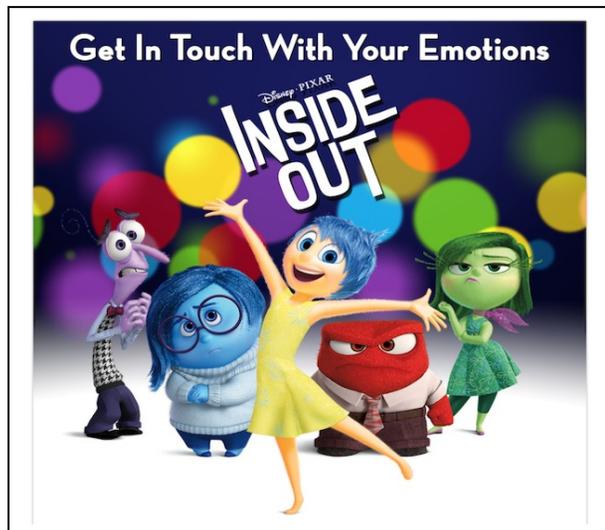
**Saturday, January 23, 2016**

**6 PM in the sanctuary**

## Inside Out

2015 · Fantasy/Comedy-drama · 1h 42m

Riley (Kaitlyn Dias) is a happy, hockey-loving 11-year-old Midwestern girl, but her world turns upside-down when she and her parents move to San Francisco. Riley's emotions -- led by Joy (Amy Poehler) -- try to guide her through this difficult, life-changing event. However, the stress of the move brings Sadness (Phyllis Smith) to the forefront. When Joy and Sadness are inadvertently swept into the far reaches of Riley's mind, the only emotions left in Headquarters are Anger, Fear and Disgust.



# CONGREGATIONAL MEETING RESULTS

**Sunday, November 22, 2015**

Approved Proposed 2016 Budget  
104 YES; 2 NO

**Sunday, December 6, 2015**

Board Members Elected to begin term for 2016

Trustee – Amy Knoch – will serve a 3-year term

Elders – Sharon Baldrige, Cindy Hoverson, Janie Smart, Phyllis Walton – all 4 will serve a 3-year term

Deacons – Jesse Greenly, Brian Oswald, Mason Oswald, Steve Tate, Tony Wilburn – all will serve a 3-year term.

Deaconess – Tohnya Aversman, Carole Baker, Kay Greenly, Tiny Kibler, Diana Moxley, Amy Oswald, Janet Pruett, Linda Stecher, Linda Tuley, Sally Webb Margie Wilburn, Peggy Wohlgemuth – all will serve a 3-year term; Mary Hoffman – will serve a 2-year term and then eligible for re-election at that time

## Notes of Thanks

Thank you so much for your gift of \$500.00 on November 17, 2015 to Atchison Elementary Backpack Buddies. Hunger is here and you are the solution.

Sincerely,  
Chad Higdon, Executive Director  
Second Harvest Community Food Bank

On behalf of the Boys and Girls Club of Atchison I would like to thank you for your generous gift of \$500.00. Your commitment to helping children in our community is sincerely appreciated.

Sincerely,  
Sheryl Swendson, Executive Director  
Boys and Girls Club, 1215 Ash Street, Atchison

**\*\*Note – Both of the above gifts were made possible through the Outreach McAdow and Ida Cure funds through our Outreach Ministry Team.**



## YOUTH CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

EVERYONE  
INVITED!

The 3rd-5th grade Sunday School Class will present the Christmas Program "Super Christmas" which will be held Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm in the sanctuary. Everyone is invited to attend. A cookie reception will be held afterwards in the annex hosted by the Christian Education Ministry Team

The 3rd, 4th, & 5th grade class will be presenting a Christmas Program this year based on Super Heroes, other age groups will be included.

Our last practice for the program will be held on Friday, December 11 from 5:30 – 6:30 pm in the sanctuary.

## Youth Group Meetings

Sunday, December 20<sup>th</sup> - 4 pm  
Caroling to homebound and Christmas Party back at the church in Wolf Hall



## Youth Sunday School Classes

*Classes meet @ 10 AM on Sundays in the Educational Building*  
Pre-K and K – Isabelle Beckett, Stacie Dougherty, Pam & Sean Rizza,  
Rochelle Schuetz, Ashley Stout  
1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Grades – Kylee Kottman, Heather Matthias  
3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Grades – Brooke Genail, Christy Isaacs, Christen Lacey  
Middle School – Ronda McDaniel, Debra & Mark Mikkelson  
High School – John Jacobson, Mick West

## Adult Sunday School Classes

Friendship Class – Sundays at 9:30 am in Choir Room – Our current study is: Living by Grace (a study of freedom in Christ) based on Galatians.

Logos Class – Sundays at 10 am in Chapel.

Do you know what gifts the Holy Spirit has given you?

Jack Albright is leading the study of Gifts of the Holy Spirit in the Logos Sunday School class. Join the class and discover and develop the gifts God has given you.

# POINSETTIAS

The Worship Ministry Team invites you to send a Poinsettia this Advent Season to help decorate our sanctuary in memory of a loved one or in honor of a special occasion. We ask that only RED poinsettias be sent. Please call Rosie at the church office and let her know who it will be in memory of or what special occasion it's for.

## Christian Sympathy Is Extended To . .

- ❖ The family of ALICE "PAULINE" SHUCK who passed away on Thursday, December 3, 2015 at the Holiday Resorts Nursing Home in Emporia, Kansas. Funeral services for Pauline were held on Monday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at the Becker-Dyer-Stanton Funeral Home.
- ❖ To BARB PIPER and FAMILY on the loss of her mother, ELEANOR J. NIEMANN who passed away on Thursday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> at Medicalodge of Atchison.
- ❖ DENISE and MIKE KELLY and FAMILY on the passing of her father, RALPH H. MORGAN ON December 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- ❖ LOIS and DAVID REID on the loss of Lois's father, ROBERT LEONARD.

**Our thoughts and prayers are with you all!**

## BOARD ORIENTATION and MEETING

Tuesday, January 12, 2016  
6:30 PM

All outgoing, current and newly elected board members are encouraged to attend. Following the Orientation the Elders, Deacons and Deaconesses will meet separately and elect their officers. Then at 7:30 the Board will meet and elect the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Secretary of the Board for 2016.



## Church Office

Will be closed on Friday, December 18<sup>th</sup> (Rosie on vacation), Thursday, December 24<sup>th</sup> and Friday, December 25<sup>th</sup>, Thursday, December 31<sup>st</sup> and Friday, January 1, 2016.

## CHRISTMAS EVE COMMUNION and CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

Thursday, December 24<sup>th</sup>  
8PM

Rev. Russ Cooper will lead the Christmas Eve service as Pastor Jim will be home for the Christmas season. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend this very beautiful and blessed service.

## Stars of Hope Tree

First Christian Church is again participating in the Annual Atchison Salvation Army Christmas Assistance for 2015. Our stars of hope tree is located in the annex and you may obtain a star/s with a gift item listed for the children and youth of the Atchison Community. Suggested gift items will be: baby dolls, cars/trucks, basketballs, footballs, soccer balls, fuzzy blankets, adult make-up (for teen girls), jewelry, perfume, cologne, watches, earbuds, \$5 Wal-Mart or McDonald gift cards. Gifts are due at the church by December 16<sup>th</sup>.



**9 a.m. People of Praise Service**

**10:00 a.m. Sunday School**

**10:45 a.m. Traditional Worship**



## Sunday, December 13, 2015

*Third Sunday of Advent*

**Scripture:** Luke 1:46-50; Matthew 2:16-18

**Sermon:** "A Burst of Pure Joy"

**9:00 Servers:** Barb Piper, Rhonda Shell, Carol Hink, Kevin Dykstra, Peggy and Gary Wohlgemuth, Mike and Alice Henning, Ron Tuley

**10:45 Elders:** Carolyn Rodina and Helen Birkinsha

**10:45 Servers:** Jeremy Ellis, Tammy Parrott, Mary Anna Dove, Sharon Sowers, Teri Kuhnert, Lucille Rawson

**10:45 Greeters:** Parking Lot...Dennis Stanton  
7<sup>th</sup> Street...Michelle Stanton

Santa Fe...Tony & Margie Wilburn

**10:45 Preparers:** Carolyn Campbell and Linda Stecher

**Acolyte & Helper:** Grace Caudle and Kelley Stillings

**Worship Leader:** Carole Baker

## • Sunday, December 20, 2015

*Fourth Sunday of Advent*

• **Scripture:** Luke 2:1-7

• **Sermon:** "Jesus in an '87 Chevy Pickup"

• **9:00 Servers:** Amy Knoch, Vicki Jones, Christen Lacey, Jackie

- Jasper, Mandi & Jason Wells, Kay & John Dolenz,
- Heidie Hennen, Heather Matthias

• **10:45 Elders:** Dennis Stanton and Sharon Bullock

- **10:45 Servers:** Buddy Baldrige, Michelle Stanton, Tracie Caudle, Kelley Stillings, Lavern Fitkin, Dixie Williams

• **10:45 Greeters:** Parking Lot...Teri Kuhnert

- 7<sup>th</sup> Street...Linda Stecher
- Santa Fe...Linda Vanderweide

• **10:45 Preparers:** Tracie Caudle and Michelle Stanton

• **Acolyte & Helper:** Adam Caudle and Tammy Parrott

• **Worship Leader:** Sharon Baldrige

## Congregational Survey Results Feedback

The *Ministry Selection Committee* thanks the many members of our Congregation that responded to the *FCC Congregational Survey*. We received 136 surveys back from the congregation which represents just over a 25% respond rate. We are appreciative that we received back a statistically valid sample size. Because we want to keep you informed we wanted to provide feedback to you regarding the responses we received. These responses will be very useful as we put together the *Congregational Profile* as well as helping us understand the type of senior pastor our congregation is looking for. Please contact any of us on the *Minister Selection Team* should you have questions. Again, thank you for your participation.

The questions that were provided are followed by the top responses for the number of results the question asked for. For example; if the question asked for the four statements you feel are most important, the top four responses are listed, etc.

Q1: Select the four statements that you feel are most important, with “1” being the item of highest importance to you, “2” being the next most important and so on:

- Bible based sermons
- Effectiveness as worship leader
- Effective use of scripture text in preaching
- Well organized sermon content

Q2: Select the five statements that you feel are most important, with “1” being the item of highest importance to you, “2” being next most important and so on:

- Ability to help people develop spiritual life
- Ability as a counselor
- Effectiveness in dealing with crisis
- Making pastoral calls to hospitals and emergency visitation
- Developing commitment to evangelism in other people

Q3: Select the four statements you feel are most important, with “1” being the item of highest importance to you, “2” being next most important and so on:

- Commitment to educational ministry
- Effective work with young people
- Effective work with children
- Ability to develop and teach adult program

Q4: Select the five statements you feel are most important, with “1” being the item of highest importance to you, “2” being next most important and so on:

- Effective administrator
- Ability to work in team relationships
- Effective recruitment of new members
- Ability to work with board and committees
- Skill in planning and leading programs

Q5: Select the three statements you feel are most important, with “1” being the item of highest importance to you, “2” being next most important and so on:

- Developing commitment to new programs and activities
- Encourages participation in community outreach (food pantry, Loaves & Fishes, Ministerial Alliance, etc)
- Promotes church activities (Fellowship, bible studies, Sunday school, etc)

Q6: Select the four statements you feel are most important, with “1” being the item of highest importance to you, “2” being next most important and so on:

- Personal integrity
- Leadership
- Effective role model
- Sensitivity to the feelings of others

Q7: Which one of these would you most like to see happen?

- The pastor and the congregation need to make some significant changes for this church to meet its potential

Q8: Which statement below most closely matches your feelings on the best pastoral leadership style for our church?

- The pastor and congregation should work as a team. They have different authorities and strengths but share leadership responsibilities for the church

Q9: What do you think is the most important thing a new minister could bring to our church?

- Leadership
- Stability
- Energy

Q10: What are potential areas of growth for this church?

- Youth
- Congregational growth
- Community outreach

Thank you again for taking the time to complete this survey. We appreciate all your help in helping find the right pastor for our congregation. We could not do it without you!

*Ministry Selection Team*

# Boxes of Blessing

*A Community Program Developed by B.C. Williams*

MGP, in cooperation with the local non-profit agencies listed below, will be distributing food boxes, each containing nearly 45 lbs. of non-perishable items, to families in need in the Atchison area this holiday season.



## Friday, December 11

1 p.m. to 3 p.m. & 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

## Saturday, December 12

8 a.m. to 11 a.m.



*Photo courtesy of the Globe*

Boxes can be picked up in the alley south of Atchison Wholesale at 100 South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street.

If persons are unable to travel to this location, please contact one of the agencies below and delivery can be arranged.

### Partners

Atchison County Food Pantry at First Christian Church • Salvation Army • Pantry of Hope • Catholic Charities



# Christmas Open House

The Robinsons invite you to a Christmas Open House at our home, 1621 Commercial Street, on Friday, December 18—come and go between 6:00 and 9:00 PM.



Enclosed with this Christian Visitor you will find an insert and offering envelope. The offering will be received on Sunday's, December 13 and 20.

## Christmas Offering

SUPPORTING THE MINISTRIES OF YOUR REGION

### The Invitation at Christmas is to BELIEVE AGAIN.

The Word from the church is to **Believe in a Deeper Hope** that moves beyond the "wrappings" of Christmas around us. We proclaim a Hope that brings Good News, Joy and Compassion for all of God's people.

### THIS DEEPER HOPE IS MADE REAL IN ALL OF OUR REGIONS AS WE:

- Assist congregations and leaders in claiming their unique mission and ministry, and provide resources and support.
- Call, commission and ordain new pastors, and support and equip all pastors for their ministries.
- Revitalize existing congregations and plan for new congregations.
- Connect Regional Disciples to give witness to ministries of justice, hope and compassion.
- Provide camps, conferences and retreats where children and youth find hope and Christ's love and a community of faith that embraces "everyone."
- Make visible the care for all of God's family through ministries of reconciliation and anti-racism.
- Call and equip passionate leaders for today's church.
- Provide pastoral care for clergy and congregations.



**"Good News for All"**

**- Matthew 12:21**

The Christmas Special Day offering supports all of these and many other ministries of your Region. Your generous gifts make a difference in our shared ministries in the Region.





# Holiday Photos with Santa

Benefiting the Humane Society of Atchison

All funds go toward the care of the homeless pets

Children, pets & family welcome!



I love dressing up  
for the Holidays



December 12th & 13th

Saturday 2:00 - 4:00

Sunday 2:00 - 5:00

Orscheln Farm and Home

605 Sth 10th Street