

# The Great Bend Christian



Vol. 43

December 2010

No. 12

## BILL'S BITS -

### Christmas: From Christmas Child to Christmas Man

There is something wonderful about a baby—so warm and lovable and cuddly. Perhaps that's why Christmas is so widely observed. It is natural to be intrigued by a cuddly Savior. But we need to remember that Jesus didn't remain in the diaper stage. It is appropriate to celebrate the arrival of the baby, but we also need to make space in our lives for the man. As Kenneth Wilson puts it, "...the incarnation is not the drama of a containable, cuddly Christ, but of a Christ at large in the world—a Christ who demands my faith, my life, my all." Jesus did not remain safely contained in a manger. He grew up to challenge the behavior and thinking of people and societies which try to act religious without loving their neighbors. He grew up to challenge you and me to revise our thinking in his direction. Because of that, he died. Thank God for the Christmas child. But it is the Christmas man who makes the big difference in our world—and our lives. Thank God.

What were some of the accomplishments of Christ who became a man? 1. Christ was the revelation of the invincible God. "In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God, and the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld his glory, glory as the only Son from the Father." (John 1: 1-18) 2. Christ as a human showed us our flaws but above all showed us what we can become. When Christ met people, they realized their shortcomings, but Christ by his life and teachings, helps us to grow toward Christlikeness. 3. Christ also reminds us of another great fact to be remembered at Christmas time; it is more blessed to give than receive. Christ had a unique view of life. He taught and showed us that fulfillment comes to those who threw themselves into a great cause. The greatest cause of all is the Kingdom of Heaven. There is nothing that can replace the Kingdom of God. Christ is eternal and will prevail. Would you rather have a temporary victory in a cause that one day will die or even have a temporary loss in a cause that will one day prevail? 4. Christ shows us what our relationships are to one another. Christ died for all people. We have then a relationship to one another as brothers and sisters. 5. Finally Christ brings us into a relationship with God. Those who confess Christ become children of God. - adapted

Merry Christmas! Bill

**First Christian Church**

**5230 Broadway, Great Bend, KS 67530**

**E-mail: [fcc@cck.kscoxmail.com](mailto:fcc@cck.kscoxmail.com)**

**620-793-6603**

The Great Bend Christian

(USPS 576-380)

Published Monthly

By First Christian Church

5230 Broadway

Great Bend, KS 67530

Postmaster Send Address changes to:

First Christian Church

5230 Broadway

Great Bend, KS 67530

Periodicals Postage Paid

At Great Bend, KS 67530

#### **Sunday Services**

8:15 am Early Worship

9:00 am Sunday School

10:20 am Morning Worship

#### **Sunday Activities**

#### **Wednesday Activities**

5:30 pm Family Fellowship Dinner

6:00 pm Pre K-2<sup>nd</sup>, JYF (Grades 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>)

7:00 pm Choir Practice

7:30 pm CYF & Chi-Rho (Grades 6-12)

#### **Opportunities for Service and Growth**

Adult and Children's Choirs

Vacation Bible School

Men's Groups

Sunday school for all ages

Regional Assembly

Bible Studies

Mission Projects and Trips

Special Services

Promise Keepers

Disciples' Men

Women's Groups

Kansas Disciple Women

Junior and Senior High Youth Group

Youth Ski Trip

Social Events

Educational seminars/workshops

#### **First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)**

5230 Broadway - Great Bend, Kansas 67530

-6603

620-793-3136 (Fax)

William Johnson.....Minister

Kelli Frazier .....Christian Ed Coordinator

Justin Frazier .....Youth Coordinator

Kathy Rose.....Secretary

Jerry Ford.....Music Director

Mary Hunter.....Bell Choir Director

Connie Weiser.....Organist

Arlon Johnson.....Custodian

Tammy Garrison.....Nursery Attendant

**Office Hours: M-F**

**8:00—12:00 1:00—3:00**

Rev. Bill Johnson, Minister

[bjohnson@cck.kscoxmail.com](mailto:bjohnson@cck.kscoxmail.com)

Kathy Rose, Church Secretary

[fcc@cck.kscoxmail.com](mailto:fcc@cck.kscoxmail.com)

Kelli Frazier, Christian Ed Coordinator

[kfrazier@1stcc.org](mailto:kfrazier@1stcc.org)

Justin Frazier, Youth Coordinator

[jfrazier@1stcc.org](mailto:jfrazier@1stcc.org)

Web Site

[www.firstchristiangb.org](http://www.firstchristiangb.org)

Please notify the church office if you would like to have yourself or your loved one included in our prayers. [fcc@cck.kscoxmail.com](mailto:fcc@cck.kscoxmail.com) or 793-6603.



...Leroy Smith and Family upon the loss of his brother, Donald Smith

...Jim Debes and Family upon the loss of Jim's step-mother, Dorothy Louise Haynes-Debes



Remember Those  
in the Military

**Shane Agosto, Army**, Melissa Hittle's former student - Afghanistan

**Susi Bargainear**, LaDonna Moore's niece - Fort Campbell, KY

**Bryce Batchman, Air Force**, Debbie & Richard Batchman's son - Schriever Air Force Base, Colorado Springs, CO

**Chris Batchman, Army Reserve Recruiter**, Debbie & Richard Batchman's son - Olathe, KS

**Lt. Col. Ken Bellinger, Army Chaplain**, Cliff Bellinger's son - Germany

**Jesse Freeman**, Jessica Marston's friend - Camp Pendleton, CA

**Steven McGee**, son of Mystie (Svatos) McGee - Afghanistan

**Josh Prewitt, Marines**, Roger & Laina Marshall's nephew - Afghanistan

**Steve Rice, Lt. Colonel, Air Force**, Melissa Hittle's former classmate - Afghanistan

**Jen Simmons**, Noffsinger's friend's daughter - Iraq



**Cherry Village Nursing Home**

Cliff Bellinger

Martha McKown

**Great Bend Health & Rehab**

Viola Schwein

**River Bend Assisted Living**

Ione Strohm

**Sterling House of Great Bend**

Darlene Biggs

Lela Wilson

**Woodhaven Care Center - Ellinwood**


Esther Burhenn

## November Attendance and Gifts

	07	14	21	28	AVG
<b>Sunday School</b>	87	50	63	24	56
<b>Early Service</b>	40	35	--	40	38
<b>Late Service</b>	143	123	211	117	149
<b>Children's Church</b>	15	9	4	10	10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>187</b>
<b>General Offering</b>	9,872.75	8,194.92	2,345.53	3,390.25	5,950.86
<b>Roof Fund</b>	3,070.00	3,710.00	222.50	350.00	1,838.13
<b>Special Offerings</b>	667.95	531.00	1,650.40	--	712.33
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13,610.70</b>	<b>12,435.92</b>	<b>4,218.43</b>	<b>3,740.25</b>	<b>8,501.32</b>

\* Special Offerings include Operation Christmas Child, Wed Night Family Dinner Donations, DMF Thanksgiving Offerings, Thanksgiving Baskets, Pumpkin Patch, Ski Trip Deposits, Thanksgiving Dinner Donations

**Board Meeting Dates: December 15**



**Disciples Men Fellowship**  
**December 4th at 8:00 am**



**COME ONE! COME ALL!**  
AN EVENING OF FUN AND GAMES  
**DECEMBER 5th**  
6:00 PM  
CHURCH PARLOR  
Bring your games!  
A good time will be had by all!



**Martha Group**  
Hostess:  
Program: Women's Christmas Luncheon  
December 7, 11:30 am, Classic Inn

**Lunch Bunch**  
December 15, 2010, 11:30 am  
The Highland

**Joy Group**  
Hostesses:  
Program: Women's Christmas Luncheon  
December 7, 11:30 am, Classic Inn

**New Day Group**  
Hostess:  
Program: Christmas Potluck  
December 27, 7:00 pm



Congratulations to Lew & Jan Embrey upon the birth of their new great-grandson, Nathaniel Micheal Lee Rodriguez. Nathaniel was born on November 4<sup>th</sup> weighing 6 lbs. 12 oz. in Schulenburg, Texas. Nathaniel's mom is Lew and Jan's grand-daughter, Megan.



**From All the Staff at  
First Christian Church**

# Thank You!

## TO A WONDERFUL CONGREGATION:

We would like to thank you for the inspiring cards of thank you and appreciation and as well as the many gift cards that Kelli and I have been blessed to receive over the past few weeks. Words cannot express the gratitude we have to serve a congregation whose love and support knows no bounds. Also, we would like to thank all those who offered their time, talents, and treasures to ensure that our Pumpkin Patch fundraiser and community outreach ministry was a success. With your help, we were able to minister to nearly 2,000 people, and raise funds for our children and youth ministries (VBS and Youth Mission Trip). Thank you, thank you, thank you!!!!

Justin and Kelli

**THANKS** again to Rev. Bill for coming to the hospital prior to my surgery and saying a prayer with me at 6 am. (He actually beat me to the hospital.). I also want to thank all of my concerned church family who wished me well and inquired about my procedure. Your kindness and love was very much appreciated. We are so blessed to be amongst such a strong fellowship! It turned out to be a very minor issue from what they originally thought which tells me I am amid some very powerful prayer warriors! Thanks again to all!

Love, Melissa Hittle

## THE FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

would like to thank you for your generous support at our fundraising breakfast. We served pancakes and all of the fixings to 90 people and donated \$483 to the Roof Fund. Thanks!

**A BIG THANK YOU** to everyone who participated in any way with Operation Christmas Child. Besides sending off 97 boxes, we also were able to send a check for \$362 to Samaritan's Purse to help with postage. Bless you all!

Connie Brockhausen

Plan now to join us for good food, fellowship, and fun!

EVERYONE IS INVITED TO



OPEN HOUSE  
at the  
PARSONAGE

December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010  
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm  
1936 McKinney Drive



Christmas Eve Service

First Christian Church  
December 24, 2010

7:00 PM



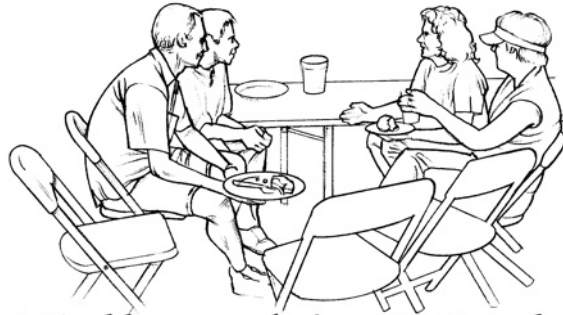
**CALLING ALL WOMEN!**

The All Women's Christmas Luncheon will be December 7th, 11:30 am, at the Classic Inn.



Bring in the New Year with family and friends here at the church. The good time will begin at 8:00 pm on Friday, December 31<sup>st</sup>.

Bring your games and goodies!



# Fellowship Meals

## 2010-2011 WEDNESDAY NIGHT FAMILY DINNERS

### GROUP I

Ruth Behrens (Contact Person)  
Louise Gunn  
Rebecca Burton  
Amy Karst  
Jennifer Keener  
Randy & Annette Goering  
Lew & Jan Embrey  
Anneliese Ward

### GROUP II

Donna Marston (Contact Person)  
Lois Johnson  
Nadine Maier  
Jennifer Cauley  
Ted & Susan Brown  
Glen & Dixie Hughes

### GROUP III

Roger & Leesa Butler (Contact Person)  
Dee Holman  
Lane & LaDonna Moore  
Bob & Patsy Hiss  
Clark & Donna Rusco  
Lori Reneau

### GROUP IV

Julie Ford (Contact Person)  
Bill & Janis Fairchild  
Betty Ferrell  
Melissa Hittle  
Debbie Batchman  
Nancy Baldwin  
Roger & Cal Marshall  
Randy & Jolyn Bartz

### GROUP V

Merlin & Nelva Grimes (Contact Person)  
Sue Wells  
Mattie Begg  
Marilyn Deason  
Dolores Westfall  
Bud & Vi Black  
Doris Berkley  
Carrol Jaco

---

December 1st - POT LUCK  
December 8th - Group I  
December 15th - Group II  
December 22nd - NO DINNER  
December 29th - NO DINNER

January 5th - POT LUCK  
January 12th - Group III  
January 19th - Group IV  
January 26th - Group V

February 2nd - POT LUCK  
February 9th - Group I  
February 16th - Group II  
February 23rd - Group III

March 2nd - POT LUCK  
March 9th - Group IV  
March 16th - Group V  
March 23rd - NO DINNER  
March 30th - Group I

April 6th - POT LUCK  
April 13th - Group II  
April 20th - Group III  
April 27th - Group IV

May 4th - POT LUCK  
May 11th - Group V

May 18th - Group