

# The Great Bend Christian



Vol. 43

May 2010

No. 5

## BILL'S BITS -

### MAY'S MUSINGS

May is like the grand opening for the summer with several big events for folks. Mother's Day kicks off the month. In honor of mothers who have faithfully served their loved ones down through the years, I share the following story with you.

The little girl was in a children's program at her church. She had rehearsed and memorized and practiced until she knew her part well. She was to begin the entire program so she walked out on the stage, turned to face the audience-and froze. Seeing all those people, with their eyes all focused on her, was more than she had bargained for. Her lines faded from her mind and she stood still-unable to speak or move. Her mother, sitting on the front row, became as frantic as the little girl. She gestured, and mouthed the words, but all to no avail. Finally in desperation, the mother whispered the opening phrase, "I am the light of the world." Instantly, the child's face relaxed, a smile appeared, and with renewed confidence she began: "My mother is the light of the world." That little girl accidentally illustrated a great truth. Only Jesus is the "light of the world," but mothers often act on his behalf. As someone else has so aptly put it, "because God can't be everywhere at once, he made mothers."

Graduation is another high point of our church calendar year. It is always exciting to see the accomplishments of kids at graduation time and as they move on into the world. Please let us know about our young people who are graduating from high school, college, or other places of learning. We wish them one and all best wishes in Christ's name.

Graduation reminds all Christians everywhere that we never arrive in the area of growth. Several years ago Nola Ochs, 95 years old, received a B.A. degree at Fort Hays State University from the Governor Kathleen Sebelius.. Later she appeared on Jay Leno. In a couple of weeks she will receive a Master's Degree at the age of 98. Now, here is an example of the admonition of continued growth. II Peter 3:18 has an age to all Christians, "But grow in grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."

Memorial Day comes at the last of May. To many, Memorial Day is opening day of summer. Memorial Day has great meaning for many people. It takes them back to a cataclysmic time in both world history and their own personal histories. It helps them remember those who served our country especially the ones who died.

Continued on page 3

**First Christian Church**

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

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#### **Sunday Services**

8:15 am Early Worship

9:00 am Sunday School

10:20 am Morning Worship

#### **Sunday Activities**

3:00 pm CYF (Senior High)

#### **Wednesday**

5:30-7:00 pm Family Fellowship Dinner

6:00 pm Pre-K - 2nd Grades

JYF (3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> Grades)

Chi-Rho (6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> Grades)

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

Adult and Children's Choirs

Promise Keepers

Vacation Bible School

Disciples' Men

Men's Groups

Women's Groups

Sunday school for all ages

Kansas Disciple Women

Regional Assembly

Junior and Senior High Youth Group

Bible Studies

Youth Ski Trip

Mission Projects and Trips

Social Events

Special Services

Educational seminars/workshops

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

5230 Broadway - Great Bend, Kansas 67530

620.793.6603 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

Mike Grauer.....Custodian

Tammy Garrison.....Nursery Attendant

**Office Hours: M-F**

Rev. Bill Johnson, Minister

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

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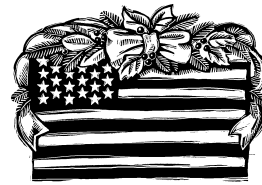
Web Site

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

PLEASE PRAY FOR:



.....Helen Morgan and Family upon the loss of her husband, Tom  
.....Jeri Harder upon the loss of her father  
.....Betty Ferrell upon the loss of her son-in-law, Henry Effertz  
.....Alana Blessing and Family upon the loss of Alana's step-father, Henry Effertz  
....Mickey and Danielle Hoskins upon the loss of Danielle's uncle, Wendell Turner  
.....the Family and Friends of Ashton Koelsch



**Remember Those  
in the Military**

**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 - Northern Italy  
**Steven DeWhitt**, Doris Berkley's grandson-in-law - Iraq  
**Jesse Freeman**, Jessica Marston's friend - Camp Pendleton, CA  
**Josh Gieger**, Army, Roger Marshall's fraternity brother's son - Iraq  
**Steven McGee**, Mystie (Svatos) McGee's son - Afghanistan  
**Jen Simmons**, Noffsinger's friend's daughter - Iraq  
**Marc Woodorth**, Donna Marston's cousin - Afthanistan



**Cherry Village Nursing Home**

Cliff Bellinger  
Martha McKown

**Great Bend Health & Rehab**

Viola Schwein

**Kansas Christian Home**

Louise McCullum

**River Bend Assisted Living**

Ione Strohm

**Sterling House of Great Bend**

Darlene Biggs  
Lela Wilson

**Woodhaven Care Center - Ellinwood**

Esther Burhenn

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.

## April Attendance and Gifts

	4	11	18	25	AVG
<b>Sunday School</b>	60	53	60	59	58
<b>Early Service</b>	80	43	43	41	52
<b>Late Service</b>	283	130	125	127	166
<b>Children's Church</b>	--	13	17	11	14
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>363</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>228</b>
<b>General Offering</b>	7,279.00	5,790.10	3,175.67	1,867.29	4,528.02
<b>Bldg. Offerings</b>	547.50	3,662.50	587.50	36,217.08	10,253.65
<b>Special Offerings</b>	740.93	8,411.00	2,142.06	3,553.09	3,711.77
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8,567.43</b>	<b>17,863.60</b>	<b>5,905.23</b>	<b>41,637.46</b>	<b>18,493.43</b>

\* Special Offerings include Wed Night Dinners, Wedding Fees, Memorials for Tom Morgan, Verna Varah, & Mickey Smith, Van Fund, DMF Easter Offering, Camp Registration Fees, Garage Sale, Becker Coupons, and Assistant to Needy

### Board Meeting – To Be Announced

## CALLING ALL MEN! Disciples Men Fellowship Saturday, May 1st 8:00 am

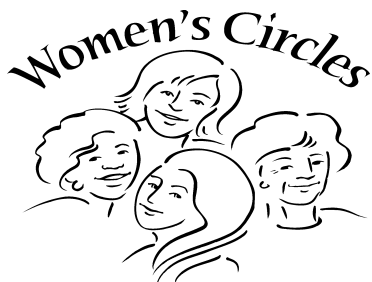
We will meet this month at FCC at 8:00 am. You are invited to attend for breakfast, a short devotional, and plenty of fellowship time. A sign-up sheet will be out in the Narthex. Come and join us for a morning of good 'ol fashioned "Man Time"!

Hostess: Virginia Cheeley

Program: Mary Hunter

May 24, 2010, 7:00 pm

Parlor



### Martha Group

Hostess: Louise Gunn

Program: Anneliese Ward

May 19, 2010, 1:30 pm

### Lunch Bunch

May 19, 2010, 11:30 am

The Highland

### Joy Group

Hostesses: Marie Rogers/Lois Johnson

Program: Alice Arnett

May 25, 2010, 12:00 pm

### New Day Group



**COME ONE! COME ALL!**  
AN EVENING OF FUN AND GAMES

May 2nd

6:00 PM

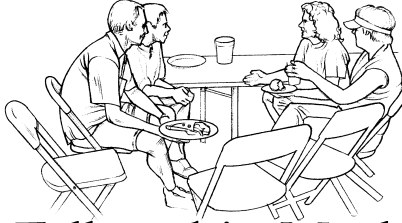
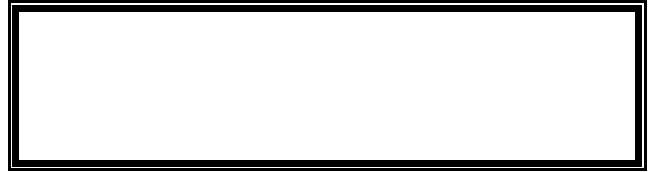
CHURCH PARLOR

Bring your games!

A good time will be had by all!



Please give a warm welcome to Michele Booze and Vickie Booze who transferred their membership to First Christian Church. We're glad to have you!



## Fellowship Meals

2009-2010 WEDNESDAY NIGHT FAMILY DINNER SCHEDULE

5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

### GROUP I

Ruth Behrens (Contact Person)  
Louise Gunn  
Rebecca Burton  
Rachelle Sheets  
Jennifer Keener  
Randy & Annette Goering

### GROUP II

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

### GROUP III

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

### GROUP IV

Julie Ford (Contact Person)  
Bill & Janis Fairchild  
Vivian Chalfant  
Betty Ferrell  
Melissa Hittle  
Debbie Batchman  
Nancy Baldwin

### GROUP V

Vi Black (Contact Person)  
Sue Wells  
Mattie Begg  
Marilyn Deason  
Dolores Westfall  
Nelva Grimes

**May 5<sup>th</sup> - POT LUCK**

**May 12<sup>th</sup> - Group III**

**May 19<sup>th</sup> - Group IV**

Hiss. Cindy and Mason are having a baby boy!



Ladies,  
Please join us in the church parlor on  
May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 2:00 pm for a baby shower  
honoring Cindy Bates, fiancé of Mason



All of the ladies of the church are invited to a Bridal Shower in honor of Lacey Moore on May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 2:00 pm in the church parlor. Lacey and her fiance', Hunter, are registered at Custom Floor, Dillard's, Target, and Macy's.



The Congregation is invited to a reception in honor of our graduates on May 16th, at 9:45 am in the Narthex. Please join us for cake and punch!



Todd and Kelsey Scheuerman are the proud parents of a baby boy, Tyler Alexander. Tyler was born on April 4<sup>th</sup>, weighing 7 lbs. and was 19 inches long. Proud grandparents are Cliff and Lynne Scheuerman. Proud great-grandparents are Bud and Vi Black.

Word has been received that former Pastor Jerry Ridling's wife, Reta, passed away on April 8<sup>th</sup>. Jerry was the pastor at First Christian Church from 1974-1979. Cards and condolences may be sent to:

Jerry Ridling  
1223 Eleanor Dr. SW  
DeCatur, AL 35601-5409

**Bill's Bits continued from page 1:**

When Hitler began interfering with the churches and humiliating the Jews, a man names Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a loyal German himself, began to resist and protest. Being a minister, he refused to take part in the state churches which bowed to the Nazi's demands. Some other ministers faced this tragic situation with quite a different logic. They argued that they might lose the opportunity to preach altogether if they followed Bonhoeffer's example. Bonhoeffer countered the opinions of his colleagues with this statement: "One act of obedience is better than a hundred sermons." There are certainly times when we need to demonstrate our faith by our words. But there are many other times when only an act of obedience will suffice. Memorial Day helps us remember those kinds of persons. They witnessed with their lives. - adapted

Love in Christ, Bill

**THANK YOU!**  
THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

Thank you for all that sent cards, calls, and remembrances for my birthday. It is so special to have such a wonderful and caring church family. You hall helped to make my birthday so great!  
Love, Lois

Dear Church Family:

Thank you for all the concerns, prayers, calls, cards, concerns for the family, and visits by Rev. Johnson, during Brenda's surgery and Don's illness and surgery. They were deeply appreciated and we count it a blessing to have all of you as our church family.

Don & Brenda Jones & Family

Thanks to Rev. Bill and friends for visiting me during my short stay at CKMC. It is always nice to be home.

In Christian Love, Dorothy

Kopke

Dear Church Ladies:

Thank you so much for your cards and notes and food during this time of recuperating from my fall on the ice. Seems like it has been a long haul thru the healing process but so thankful for your prayers and telephone calls to cheer me up along the way. I plan to be back in church and women's groups very soon. Thanks also for all who have covered my responsibilities during this particular time.

I love you all! Morna

Jordan

Prayer Shawl Ministry (Connie Brockhausen):

Thank you so much for the shawl. It has really come in handy for keeping my legs warm after my knee surgery.

Thank you again! Hazel Scheuerman

Lois & Kitchen Staff:

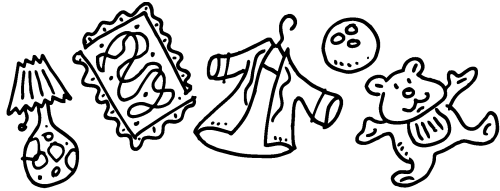
Thank you very much for the luncheon for all of our family and friends. It was greatly appreciated and very good! Maybe you can use this for kitchen and luncheon supplies. Thanks again and God bless all of you!

Family & Friends of Thomas (Earl) Morgan -  
Helen Morgan

Dear First Christian Church Women's Group:

We would like to thank you for your donation of quilts, bedding and misc., items to the Family Crisis Center, Inc. Your donation directly supports the victims of domestic violence and sexual assault we serve. We are grateful to be part of a community dedicated to the welfare of others. Our agency will continue to hold you in our deepest thoughts for your generosity and support. What a wonderful gift to know we are not alone. Together we can end sexual and domestic violence in our communities.

Respectfully, Laura Patzner, Executive  
Director



## CHURCH GARAGE SALE

was

## A HUGE SUCCESS!

A total of \$5,029.67 was brought in from the garage sale. Two-thirds (\$3,319.58) went to the building fund and one-third (\$1,710.09) went to the Christian Education. A big **THANK YOU** to those who helped in any way with the garage sale.

A **VERY SPECIAL THANKS** to Jennifer Cauley and Patsy Hiss for all of their time and dedication in organizing and getting everything ready for the day of the sale.



## THE GIDEONS INTERNATIONAL of KANSAS

Dear Pastor Johnson:

It was a great blessing to be a part of your worship service on the 18<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for allowing me to give a report on what God is doing around the world through the Gideon ministry. The warm and gracious reception on the part of First Christian Church was genuinely felt and appreciated.

Your congregation's love for the Word is obvious. The offering that was given in the amount of \$458.32 is evidence of what we consider to be a partnership between the church and the Gideons International in providing God's Word to a lost world. These funds will be used in their entirety to provide Scriptures in the traffic lanes of life. Certainly we can pray for searching hearts to be touched-and for souls to be saved-by way of these Scriptures.

Thank you again for the gracious hospitality of First Christian Church and your prayerful support of the Gideon work. We pray that you continue to enjoy God's abundant blessings for yourself, your family, and your ministry in the days ahead.

Sincerely Yours in Christ, Rod Nickel



THANK YOU  
FROM  
THE BARTON COUNTY  
EMERGENCY AID COUNCIL

One Sunday morning in April, an apartment building here in Great Bend caught fire, leaving all those who lived there with only the clothes they were wearing. The Barton County Emergency Aid Council suggested that each family or family member donate \$1.00 for this cause to be distributed to those affected by the fire. First Christian Church had a total of \$892.00 in donations. **THANK YOU for your generosity!**



**HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!**  
**MAY 9TH, 2010**