The Great Bend Christian

Vol. 44 January 2011 No. 01

BILL'S BITS –

THE STARTING LINE FOR THE NEW YEAR

"…straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal" (Philippians 3: 13, 14)

New Years is a time of year that I always long to impart a word to folks that would be life changing. Maybe it would be how to do away with old habits and start new ones as a part of New Year's Resolutions. Perhaps it would be an all consuming life principle. My humble offering would be for this year based on the well known figure of movies, Walt Disney. Someone once asked Walt Disney for the secret of his success. This was his reply: "It was hard work, imagination, belief in myself, and incredible struggle. As a boy, Walt Disney was a dreamer. He had many desires, and he loved to draw. Many of his boyhood hours were spent in dreaming and fantasizing. He saw romance in everything. Then he would try to put into pictures or cartoons the things he had seen in his mind. He wanted to be a cartoonist. One day, he submitted some of his cartoons to an editor of a Kansas City newspaper. The editor rejected them with these words: "I advise you to give up trying to be a cartoonist, because it is easy to see from these drawings that you have no talent in that direction." Although this was a bitter blow, Walt Disney did not walk out on his dream of being a cartoonist. He had a tremendous faith in his ability. He submitted his sketches to many other newspapers and studios-one after another-always to be rejected. But he did not give up. Finally, he found a job drawing publicity material for churches, probably at a mere pittance of a salary. But it was a beginning, and it gave him a chance to prove his ability to the world. Now that he was an artist, he had to have a studio. He had no money, but after searching a long time, he found an old, mice-invested garage that was for rent at a very low price. Here Walt Disney dreamed his dreams and spun his fancies. During these early years of his career in his "studio", he became well acquainted with one certain mouse that showed up several times every day just as though he was checking up on the young artist's progress. Disney became very fond of this little rodent and many times shared his lunch with it. As time went on, the mouse became quite tame and approachable, probably not to the point of being willing to be picked up and petted, but at least it was willing to come close to the master of the studio without being frightened. Walt Disney spent hours sitting at his desk and drawing board, watching this mouse; he studied its every movement and response to whatever he did. Thirty years later, Walt Disney was a famous man in the world of entertainment, and the character next to him in his fame was Mickey, the mouse. As a matter of fact, he became the most famous mouse in the whole world, and he probably will remain so for many years to come. Of course, we can assume that Mickey was born in a garage "studio", and Mr. Disney never forgot that he was born in his mind and dreams while he was working in his "studio". You see, both of them had come into their tomorrows out of dark nights. On one occasion, Mr. Disney said that the secret of success "is to trust God and to exercise your God-given imagination. It is to dream and to be willing to struggle." That's good and sound advice for anyone, anytime! – adapted See you Sunday! Bill

First Christian Church **5230 Broadway, Great Bend, KS 67530** **620-793-6603**
E-mail: fcc@cck.kscoxmail.com

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-2nd , JYF (Grades 3rd-5th)
7:00 pm Choir Practice
7:30 pm CYF & Chi-Rho (Grades 6-12)

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

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 Event

Rev. Bill Johnson, Minister
bjohnson@cck.kscoxmail.com
Kathy Rose, Church Secretary
fcc@cck.kscoxmail.com
Kelli Frazier, Christian Ed Coordinator
kfrazier@1stcc.org
Justin Frazier, Youth Coordinator
jfrazier@1stcc.org
Web Site
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 or 793-6603.

….Mark & Jennifer Colglazier & Family on the death of Mark's father, Eric Rulon Colglazier
….Rob & Jenifer VanSkike & Family on the death of Rob's father, Bill VanSkike, who was the past 4-H agent, and on the death of Jenifer's grandfather, William E. George, of Erie, Kansas
….Mrs. John Simmons upon the loss of her mother, Barbara McCoy in LaHarpe, Illinois
….John & Marta Edmonds upon the loss of John's brother-in-law, Tom Bartos, in a wreck in Chicago, IL
….the Family and Friends of Delores Piper

Shane Agosto, Army, Melissa Hittle's former student - Afghanistan
Susi Bargainear, LaDonna Moore's niece – Korea
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
Malcolm Deason, Army, Nelson Deason's son, Marilyn Deason's grandson - Hawaii
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

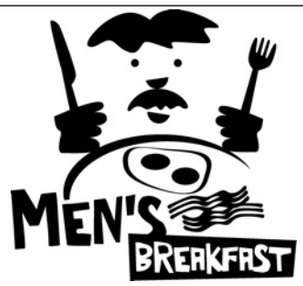
Cherry Village Nursing Home
Cliff Bellinger
Martha McKown
Great Bend Health & Rehab
Viola Schwein
River Bend Assisted Living
Ione Strohm
Sterling House of Great Bend
Darlene Biggs
Lela Wilson
Woodhaven Care Center – Ellinwood
Esther Burhenn

December Attendance and Gifts

	05	12	19	26	AVG
Sunday School	61	50	40	12	41
Early Service	42	32	39	24	34
Late Service	132	125	149	98	126
Children's Church	8	13	15	5	10
TOTAL	**182**	**170**	**203**	**127**	**171**
General Offering	7,077.80	5,554.15	4,505.45	2,831.90	4,992.32
Roof Fund	945.00	1,387.50	362.50	322.50	754.38
Special Offerings	432.66	155.00	3,076.90	0.00	916.14
TOTAL	**8,455.46**	**7,096.65**	**7,944.85**	**3,154.40**	**6,662.84**

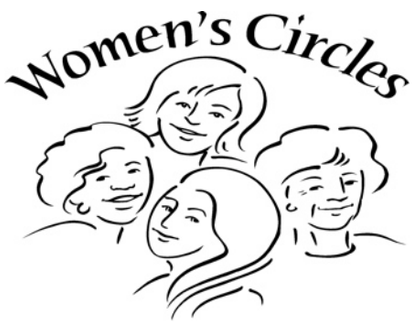
* Special Offerings include Ski Trip Deposits, Wed Night Dinner Donations, Christmas Baskets, DMF Christmas Offerings, Outreach, Little Caesars Pizza Fund Raiser

Board Meeting Dates: To Be Announced



Disciples Men Fellowship

January 8th at 8:00 am



Martha Group
Hostess: Ione Strohm
Program: Anneliese Ward
January 19, 2011, 1:30 pm

Lunch Bunch
January 19, 2011, 11:30 am
The Highland

Joy Group
Hostesses: Vi Black/Dolores Westfall
Program: Kelli/Justin Frazier
January 25, 2011

New Day Group
Hostess: Donna Marston
Program: Stacy McReynolds
January 24, 2011, 7:00 pm

COME ONE! COME ALL!
AN EVENING OF FUN AND GAMES
JANUARY 2ND
6:00 PM
CHURCH PARLOR
Bring your games!
A good time will be had by all!

Thanks so much for the box of goodies that I received at college. Everything was greatly appreciated. It was just what I needed at just the right time! Thanks again! Larissa Richards

To My First Christian Church Family:
Thank you for remembering me at Christmas with the Gift Certificates. Working for you has always been an honor and a privilege for me. I will continue to do my very best for you in the coming years! Thanks again for everything! Kathy Rose

Thank you for the care package! I really appreciate it. So far it has come in handy. I would also like to say thank you for all the prayers! The doctor said that my eye is responding to the shots!! This news made my Christmas even more amazing. I hope your Christmas is just as wonderful!
Thanks again! Shantel Fairchild

The ladies of the church are invited to a bridal shower in honor of Amy Briggs, fiance' of Jacob Williamson. Please join us in the parlor on Sunday, January 9th, at 2:00 pm. Amy and Jacob are registered at Target and Bed, Bath, & Beyond.

Spiritual nourishment

Someone, feeling spiritually unfed, wrote a letter to a newspaper, saying that after some 30 years of attending church, he couldn't remember one sermon. The letter writer said he'd probably wasted his time, and preachers were wasting theirs, as well.

A few days later, someone else wrote a rebuttal. This writer said he'd been married for 30 years but couldn't recall the entire menu of any one of the thousands of meals his wife had fixed, Yet he knew those meals were nourishing and gave him strength to do his work. He also said that without eating those meals, his body would have been long dead. Without going to worship, he added, he'd be spiritually dead, too.

Brand new

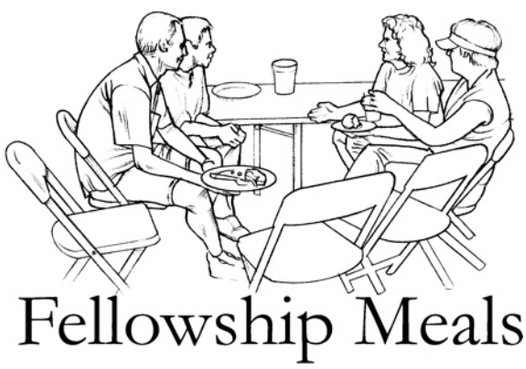
I am the new year. I am an unspoiled page in your book of time.

I am your next chance at the art of living. I am your opportunity to practice what you have learned about life during the last 12 months.

All you sought and didn't find is hidden in me, waiting for you to search it but with more determination. All the good you tried for and didn't achieve is mine to grant when you have fewer conflicting desires.

All you dreamed but didn't dare to do, all you hoped but did not will, all the faith you claimed but did not have — these slumber lightly, waiting to be awakened by the touch of a strong purpose.

I am your opportunity to renew your allegiance to him who said, "See, I am making all things new" (Revelation 21:5, NRSV).
—Author unknown



2011 WEDNESDAY NIGHT FAMILY DINNER SCHEDULE

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 23th – 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 I

FROM ALL THE STAFF AT FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH