

The Great Bend Christian



Vol. 44

March 2011

No. 03

BILL'S BITS -

THE OLD VIOLIN

A minister visited a lovely old couple on a farm years ago. During the visit an old violin hanging on the wall caught his eye. He asked his aging host if he played the violin. The fellow replied, "No, I haven't touched it for years. My fingers are too stiff; besides, the violin is cracked and badly out of tune. There are a lot of people whose lives are like the old violin-people who have capacity but are not using it, people with unreleased music in their souls. Some think, "I'm too old" and others think, "I have nothing to offer." That old violin hanging on the wall was useless, other than looks, no music from it. In his younger days, the old gentleman would take the violin and play all the tunes familiar to him. But as the years passed, his hands became calloused and his fingers grew stiff and he began to lose the ability to play. Life is like that. Youthful ambition drove us day and night. Then we began to neglect the use of our talents and they began to leave us. Maybe we prided ourselves on a good memory until we began to advance in years. Perhaps we can help to retain it by developing ways to keep our memory. The old violin was useless due to damage. It probably fell down a few times over the years. For some reason he owner failed to fix the damage. Sometimes there is damage in our lives. Bad habits have crept in to our lives and we failed to do something about it. The habits may be loss of a relationship with God, bitterness or apathy about things that need our attention. From time to time we know people who had wonderful talents and abilities yet failed to develop them. Bright students of promise flop out because they fail to apply themselves to studies. The old violin was useless because it was out of tune. What of the lives of men who are out of tune? The Christian faith puts a man's life in tune with his noblest self, with those about him, with his Master. Good architecture means harmonious lines. Good art includes harmony of colors. Good music involves harmonious sounds. Good religion means a life of interior and exterior harmony. When we are out of tune with ourselves, life is a cacophony rather than a symphony. When we are out of tune with other people, life is a battlefield. When we are out of tune with God, life loses its zest, its loveliness, its beauty, its purpose. A story is told of a lonely shepherd far away from other men on the plains of Montana. He had a small radio and an old violin to keep him company. The violin slipped out of tune and the shepherd could not trust his own ear to put it in tune again. He wrote the National Broadcasting Company and asked one of the musicians to "sound A" on the radio for him. Because of the unusual request, a company official wrote him that on a certain date a musician would "sound A". The shepherd in Montana thus tuned his violin to a note in New York. There is a far-away musician who can restore the music in our souls if we but invite Him. His name is God. - adapted

See you Sunday! Bill

First Christian Church

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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)

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

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Web Site

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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.



...Ted & Susan Brown & Family upon the loss of Susan's mother, Virginia Shawver
 ...Terry & Kim Wiens upon the loss of Terry's mother



- 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 - Japan
- Joe Johns, Army Reserves, Kathy Foster's nephew-in-law
- 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



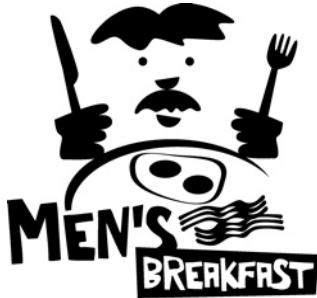
- Cherry Village Nursing Home
Martha McKown
- Great Bend Health & Rehab
Viola Schwein
- River Bend Assisted Living
Ione Strohm
- Sterling House of Great Bend
Darlene Biggs
Lela Wilson
- Woodhaven Care Center - Ellinwood
Esther Burhenn

February Attendance and Gifts

	06	13	20	27	AVG
Sunday School	38	58	66	N/A	N/A
Early Service	38	45	31	N/A	N/A
Late Service	130	128	115	N/A	N/A
Children's Church	5	13	12	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	173	186	158	N/A	N/A
General Offering	7,479.89	4,472.71	4,682.47	N/A	N/A
Roof Fund	862.50	1,292.50	731.00	N/A	N/A
Special Offerings	25.00	5,439.25	417.88	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	8,367.39	11,204.46	5,831.35	N/A	N/A

* Special Offerings include Youth 5th Quarter, Ski Trip Deposits, Nursery Shower, Fellowship Breakfast/Canoe, Wedding Deposit, Garage Sale, Wednesday Night Dinner, DMF Offering, Outreach

Board Meeting Dates: To Be Announced



**Disciples Men Fellowship
Saturday, March 5th
9:00 am**

6:00 PM
CHURCH PARLOR
Bring your games!
A good time will be had by all!



Congratulations to Louise Gunn upon the birth of her great-grandson, Calvin Louis Ebert. Calvin was born on February 17, 2011, weighing 6 lbs and was 20 ½ inches long. Calvin's excited parents are Jessica & Shawn Ebert. Proud grandparents are Galen & Margaret Baldwin.



Martha Group

Hostess: Louise Gunn
Program: Earlene Arnold
March 16, 2011, 1:30 pm

Lunch Bunch

Postponed due to Lenten Luncheon
The Highland

Joy Group

Hostesses:
Program:

Cancelled due to pictorial set up in the parlor for pictures for the new church directory

New Day Group

Hostess: Louise Gunn
Program: Jamee Dannebohm
March 28, 2011, 7:00 pm



COME ONE! COME ALL!
AN EVENING OF FUN AND GAMES
March 6th



...Morna Jordan's new address is: Auburn Creek, 2910 Beaver Creek Room #1, Cape Girardeau, MO 63701.



To All of the Ladies of FCC,

Thank you so much for the gifts and for the love you all showed by hosting a wedding shower for Jacob and I. What a blessing it was for us! We really appreciate all that was done!

Love, Jacob & Amy Williamson

Dear Members of First Christian Church,

The Association of Barton County Emergency Aid want to give you a sincere thank you for your part in donations.

We could not be able to have the opportunity to help the many folks needing a helping hand were it not for the donations we receive from our Christian Community.

Although we know this is a difficult economy, we appreciate all you do. Thank you once again.

In Christian Fellowship,
Barton County Emergency Aid Association

Dear Church Members,

On behalf of our entire family, thank you for providing a wonderful meal at the time of remembering my dad, Clifford Bellinger. We truly appreciate the use of your facility. Thank you for all the help and compassion during a difficult time.

God's Blessings, Claudia Wyatt

We wanted you to know we value your trust and confidence in our business. We appreciate your loyalty.

We are honored to have customers like you as we strive to excel in our industry.

We truly enjoy working with you and we look forward to serving you in the future!!

We hope you are loving your Canon ImageRunner 3035!

The Staff at OPI

To Our Church Family:

Thanks for supporting us at our breakfast! We served 100 people and took in \$406. We will be sending this to Camp Tawakoni to purchase a canoe. Thank you for your generosity! Mark your calendars for our next "famous pancake breakfast". We will serve a Mother's Day breakfast on May 8th with proceeds going to the VBS fund. See you there!

Fellowship Sunday School Class

Dear Sunday School Class,

On behalf of the Eric Colglazier family, I thank you for the lovely plant and basket you sent to honor Eric.

Beth Colglazier, Mark & Jenny Colglazier, Shara & Gale Boman, and families

To Our Church Family,

Irwin & I want to thank everyone for their many prayers, cards, calls, food, gifts and words of encouragement. It is such a wonderful blessing to be members of such a loving, caring church.

God bless each and every one of you!

Love, Irwin & Dorothy Alefs

Church Photo Directory



COMING SOON - A NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY!

Pictures for the new FCC Directory will be taken March 10th, 11th, 12th, 21st & 22nd. By having pictures taken in March, a 20% discount will be given. It has been several years since we did the last one and we have quite a few new members and people attending our church. EVERYONE is welcome to have their picture taken and we hope that everyone will. There

will be no charge for the pictures going into the directory, but you will be able to purchase pictures for yourself. Please make sure the church office has your correct address and phone number. Also, if you

have a family member currently serving in the military, bring a picture and we will have it added to our special "Page of Honor". For any questions, please contact Julie Ford at (620) 285-3662. Thank you!



SPRING FORWARD

Be sure to set your clocks ahead one hour before going to bed on Saturday, March 12th. Daylight savings time begins early in the morning on Sunday, March 13th.



Fellowship Meals

2011 WEDNESDAY NIGHT FAMILY DINNER SCHEDULE

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 IV

April 20th - Group III

April 27th - Group II

May 4th - POT LUCK

May 11th - Group V

May 18th - Group I