

The Great Bend Christian



Vol. 42

January 2009

No. 1

BILL'S BITS -

Psalm 90:12 - "So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom."

Remember, always, time and eternity are gifts of God and our lives are gifts of God. Life is to be lived as a service to God. God has created us for the purpose of God regardless of the work we do in life.

Macaulay learned German on a sea voyage. **Dr. Abercrombie** wrote many valuable books with a lead-pencil while visiting his patients. **Dr. Good** translated Lucretius while riding in his carriage in the streets of London. **Rev. Mr. Hale** wrote his contemplations while traveling on a circuit. **Professor Burney** learned French and Italian while traveling on horseback from one music pupil to another. **Madame de Genlis** composed several of her charming volumes while waiting for the princess to whom she gave music lessons. One of the great chancellors of France wrote a book in the successive intervals of waiting for dinner. **Mr. Fulton** invented the steamboat and **Morse** the telegraph, with fragments of time. **Sir William Hamilton** read ten thousand books, and made marginal notes upon them. **Hugh Miller** wrote a library of science. **St. Paul** in about thirty years preached the gospel and planted churches over the whole civilized world. **Francis Xavier** during his lifetime baptized a hundred thousand converts. **John Wesley** in the course of his life preached more than forty thousand sermons, and traveled three hundred thousand miles, or nearly fifteen times the circumference of the globe. **Wm. Gray**, the Boston merchant, who owned at one time sixty large ships, stated that for fifty years he arose at dawn.

Perhaps no man made better use of his time than **Benjamin Franklin**. By the wise use of it he plucked the lightning from the clouds and the scepter from the hands of George the Third. When he stood before English lords in council, the object of abuse and ridicule; when he stood in the midst of the glittering court of France, the object of praise and admiration; when he stood in the American Congress, with his calm good sense directing its counsel; and when he tried experiments with his kite and his key-he was redeeming the time and applying his heart unto wisdom.

For many years **Hale** studied at the rate of sixteen hours a day. He became a great lawyer, a philosopher and mathematician. **Spurgeon** placed a high value upon time. I have in my library between thirty and forty volumes from his pen.

Bill's Bits continued on page 3

First Christian Church

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Sunday Services

8:15 am Early Worship

9:00 am Sunday School

10:20 am Morning Worship

Sunday Activities

6:00-8:00 pm Grades 7-12 Youth Group

Wednesday

5:30-7:00 pm Family Fellowship Supper

6:00-6:30 pm K-6th Program

6:30-7:15 pm Adult Bible Study

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.....Youth Coordinator

Kathy Rose.....Secretary

Jerry Ford.....Music Director

Mary Hunter.....Bell Choir Director

Connie Weiser.....Organist

DeWayne and Brenda Wagner.....Custodians

Tammy Jordine.....Nursery Attendant

Rev. Bill Johnson, Minister

bjohnson@cck.kscoxmail.com

Kathy Rose, Church Secretary

fcc@cck.kscoxmail.com

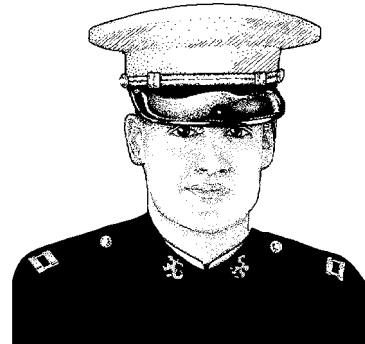
Web Site

www.firstchristiangb.org

Please be
Praying for...



...to Katie Hoff and family upon the loss of her father, Jim Chaffee
...to Charlie Moyers upon the loss of his mother, Shirley Moyers
...to the family and friends of Lillian Papay
...to Dolores Westfall and family upon the loss of her sister, Roberta Deckert
...to John DeWeese and family upon the loss of his Step-father, Thomas Gayle Gates



**PRAY FOR OUR
U.S. MILITARY**

Mike & Susi Bargainear, relatives of LaDonna Moore - Ft. Campbell, KY
Lt. Col. Ken Bellinger, Army Chaplain, Cliff Bellinger's son - Iraq
Josh Gieger, Army, Roger Marshall's fraternity brother's son - Iraq
Chris Scheuerman, Cliff & Lynne Scheuerman's son, Bud & Vi Black's grandson-Al Fujairah, United Arab Emirates
Delbert Wells, nephew of Hap Donecker - Iraq



Great Bend Health & Rehab

Viola Schwein

River Bend Assisted Living

Marge Keller

John Roy Evans

Kansas Christian Home

Louise McCullum

Cherry Village Nursing Home

Mildred Lang

Martha McKown

Sterling House of Great Bend

John Richardson

Lela Wilson

Woodhaven Care Center - Ellinwood

Mildred Boepple

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 793-660



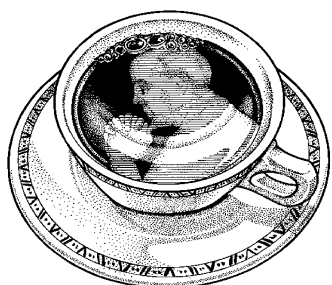
We welcome Joyce Bray as our newest member by transferring her membership.

December Attendance and Gifts

	7	14	21	28	AVG
Sunday School	71	66	55	26	55
Early Service	42	21	50	29	36
Late Service	132	205	144	144	156
Children's Church	5	N/A	4	5	5
TOTAL	179	226	198	178	195
General Offering	3,213.25	5,925.60	3,794.50	3,192.50	4,031.46
Bldg. Offerings	6,245.50	4,790.00	9,620.00	8,677.50	7,333.25
Special Offerings	262.20	120.00	316.75	--	174.74
TOTAL	9,720.95	10,835.60	13,731.25	11,870.00	11,539.45

* Special Offerings include Wednesday Night Dinners, Building use, Children's Cookbooks, Christmas Baskets and DMF Christmas Offering

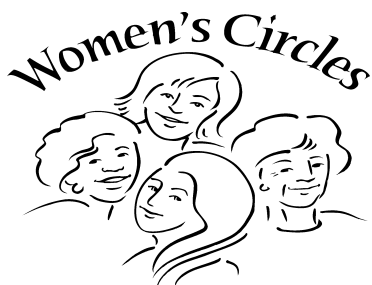
Cabinet Meeting – January 7 - 8 pm
Elders/Deacons Meeting – January 14 – 8 pm
Board Meeting – January 21 – 8 pm



MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST

FCC Men's Breakfast Club!

1st Saturday of each month
at the Highland Hotel
8:00 am



Martha Group

Hostess: Louise Gunn

Program: Morna Jordan

January 21, 2009, 1:30 pm

Lunch Bunch

January 21, 2009 - 11:30 am

The Highland

Joy Group

Hostesses: Vivian Chalfant/Vi Black

Program: Morna Jordan
January 27, 2009, 12:00 pm (Noon)

New Day Group
Hostess: Lois Johnson
Program: Morna Jordan
January 26, 2009, 7:00 pm
Friendship Classroom

YOU ARE INVITED!

The **FRIENDSHIP CLASS** would like to invite adults of **ALL AGES** to join us each Sunday morning at 9 AM for Bible Study.

NEW SERIES BEGINS
January 4, 2009

**"Some Things Are Too Good
NOT to be True"**

James W. Moore says that God wants good things for his children, but that, tragically, our society has become strangely suspicious of the "good". We are quick to say,
"It's too good to be true."
Well, some things are too good **NOT** to be true!
These things are the most authentic qualities of life, qualities exemplified in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus.
Come along as we discover.....

**"Some Things Are Too Good
NOT to be True"**



**Medical
{MISSIONS}**

Dani McCaulley, who is attending KU Medical School, is going on a medical mission trip to Belize over her spring break. They are looking for certain items as well as monetary donations. Some of the items needed for Adults, Children, and Infants are: Acetaminophen, Ibuprofen, Aspirin, Naproxen; Vitamins; Antacids; Topical Creams like Hydrocortisone, Anti-Lice, Vaginal, Athletes Foot; Allergy Medicine; Old bed sheets/ blankets; Sandwich size Ziploc bags; Toothbrushes; Toothpaste; Floss; Children's toys (small/light) like stuffed animals, rubber balls, pencils, etc. Please give any donations to Rachel or Russ McCaulley.

Thank you!



Congratulations to Rob and Kelly Bowman upon the birth of their granddaughter, Khloe. Khloe Danielle Bowman was born to Kristan on November 21, 2008, weighing 6 lbs 14oz. and was 18 inches long.

Rob and Jenifer VanSike are proud to announce the birth of their grandson, Gavin John. Gavin's parents are John and Amanda. Gavin was born on November 24, 2008, weighing 6½ lbs.

Derry and Dru Dougan would like to announce the birth of their granddaughter, Madison Grace. Madison was born on December 10, 2008, weighing 7lbs. 13 oz. Her parents are Mr. & Mrs. Pete Zanella from Dallas, Texas.

Bill's Bits continued:

These few examples of men who have coined minutes into hours and hours into days serve to show what can be done in a brief space of time. They were industrious from morning till night. They were faithful to their highest convictions and to the best thought which God gave to them. In this manner they changed time into life, and made every moment bring forth fruit.

As God's people, we are part of God's body known as the church.

The New Year has opportunities for serving God and renewed dedication for serving God especially with the addition of the new staff for Christian Education and Youth.

What are some possibilities for the coming year?

- 1) Be in Sunday School and encourage children to attend. Help the Fraziers;
 - 2) Increase your attendance at church by a Sunday or two;
 - 3) Pray for the church, the minister, staff, and all leaders;
 - 4) Write a note of thanks to leaders;
 - 5) Invite and/or bring someone to church with you;
 - 6) Join a small group;
 - 7) Sing in the choir;
 - 8) Visit the nursing homes;
 - 9) Extend forgiveness where needed;
 - 10) Practice a greater degree of understanding;
 - 11) Consider another's view point;
 - 12) Encourage the kids;
 - 13) Sign up for Bible studies;
 - 14) Read your Bible;
 - 15) Remember the good things about your life;
 - 16) Remember the good things about the church;
 - 17) Look to the interests of others;
 - 18) Keep up the good work in greeting visitors around you in all gatherings.
- adapted

Wishing you a Blessed New Year!
Bill



Dear Friends in Christ,

Lois and I thank you for the kind and thoughtful gift for minister's week. We are very grateful for all your kindness the year around. Best wishes for the Christmas season. Thanks again!

Yours in Christ,
The Bill Johnson's

Thank you to all you donated for the Thanksgiving Baskets. I also want to thank Jessica, Peter and Courtney for helping with the grocery shopping and delivery.

Julie Ford

Dear FCC Staff,

What a lovely facility you shared with us last night (December 2nd) at the American Eagle Club Dinner. We really appreciated the set up, kitchen and great parking.

Thank you so much for all your help and training in lights, etc.

Krista Smith,
Coordinator
American Eagle Club

Thank you to the carolers that came to my home. It was such a joy to hear the music and know that my church family is always there for me. Thanks also for the Gift card. You made my day!

Dolores Westfall



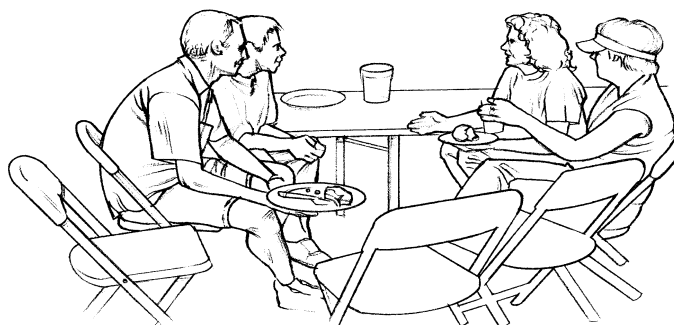
CONGRATULATIONS to Derry and Dru Dougan's son Aaron upon his graduation from Baker University with a bachelor's degree in nursing.

Welcome



A GREAT BIG WELCOME to Justin and Kelli Frazier from Grand Prairie,

Texas. Kelli has agreed to be the First Christian Church Director of Christian Education and Youth. Her husband Justin will be helping her.



Fellowship Meals

WEDNESDAY NIGHT FAMILY DINNER SCHEDULE

December 31st - NO FAMILY DINNER

January 7th - POT LUCK

January 14th - Group II - Donna Marston, Lois Johnson, Ted/Susan Brown, Glen/Dixie Hughes, Morna Jordan

January 21st - Group III - Mickey/Danielle Hoskins, Rebecca Burton, Mary Drake, Ruth Behrens, Jennifer Cauley, Louise Gunn

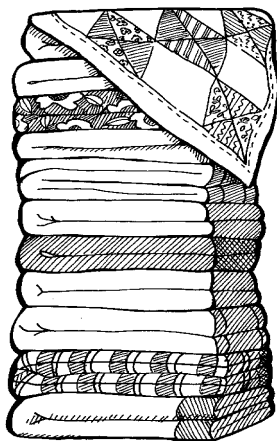
January 28th - Group IV - Roger/Leesa Butler, Lane/LaDonna Moore, Bob/Patsy Hiss, Dee Holman

February 4th - POT LUCK

February 11th - Group V - Julie Ford, Bill/Janis Fairchild, Vivian Chalfant, Betty Ferrell

February 18th - Group VI - Sue Wells, Mattie Begg, Marilyn Deason, Dolores Westfall, Carrol Jaco, Vi Black, Nelva Grimes

February 25th - Group I - Russ/Rachel McCaulley, Randy/Annette Goering, Clark/Donna Rusco, Brad/Karen Searle, John/Vicki Sheets



The "Comfort Ladies" who have been meeting on Wednesday afternoons for over 10 years, have again supplied comforts for the foster children of this area. Fourteen colorful quilts of

various sizes along with a woven throw were delivered to the local SRS on Wednesday, December 17th.

Anyone is welcome to assist with this program. Many have helped through the years by donating quilt blocks, material, mattress pads, cash, blankets, etc.

There are several comforts ready to be given away now. If a known family or person needs an extra quilt, please leave the name and address with Kathy (793-6603) at the church office and it will make its way to them.