

### 7th & 8th to go bowling

Seventh & Eighth grade youth will leave at 1:30 p.m. this Sunday to go bowling in Moberly. Youth should call the church office 682-3215 or e-mail Tyler tgramke90@hotmail.com to let him know they are interested in going.

### Chi Rho Retreat—March 16 & 17

The Northeast Area is holding a retreat for 6th, 7th & 8th grade youth at Broadway Christian Church in Columbia beginning at 6:30 p.m. Friday and ending at 2:00 p.m. Saturday. Youth need to turn in their registrations by Sunday, March 4th. Contact the church office 682-3215 or Tyler 682-4515 if you need more information

### Children thru 6th Grade Bowling Trip has been rescheduled

The children's bowling trip that was cancelled due to bad weather has been rescheduled for Sunday, March 11. This is for children up through 6th grade. Children 3rd grade and younger must be accompanied by an adult. We will leave the church promptly at 1:30 and go to Mexico Lanes. Cost is \$5.50 for two games (shoes included). Children may bring money for snacks if they want. We should return to the church around 4:00 p.m.

# The Christian Contact

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### Scholarship applications are available in the church office.

If you are interested in applying for a Charles W. Green or Ellis Scholarship for the 2007-2008 school year please pick up an application in the church office. Applications must be returned by April 10. If you received a scholarship for the current school year, you need to fill out an update in order to be eligible for a scholarship for the 2007-08 school year.

The Ellis Scholarship is a \$1,000 award for college freshmen only. The Charles W. Green Scholarship is renewable every year for four years but amounts will vary each year depending on funds available and number of applicants. The application is the same for both scholarships. As a freshman a student may receive one or the other, but not both of the scholarships.

### Daylight Savings Time has changed

This year Daylight Savings Time will begin on Sunday, March 11.



### When have you spent a half-hour alone in conversation with God?

You will have the opportunity to do just that at our annual twenty four-hour Chain of Prayer. Each year Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) congregations are joined together in unbroken prayer from the early hours of January 1 until the beginning of Easter morning. When our congregation keeps its Prayer Vigil, it becomes an essential link in this vast Chain of Prayer.

A sign up sheet for the Chain of Prayer will be located in the back of the sanctuary this Sunday. The 24-hour period from Friday, Mar. 23, 6 p.m. through Saturday, Mar. 24, 6 p.m. has been divided into 48 half-hour time periods. While many people will sign up to pray for one half-hour, please feel free to sign up for 2 consecutive half-hours if you would like to do so.

People are also needed to sign up for two-hour time periods to serve as a host/hostess. By having a host here at all times, no one is alone in the building while they are praying. The host will also be responsible for filling in if someone is not able to be here for their time.

The Chapel (room next to the office) will be set up as a prayer room. Whoever is praying will spend their allotted time in the prayer room and will leave whenever the next person knocks on the door to let them know that time is up. Over the many, many years that we have held a Chain of Prayer here at FCC, testimony from almost every participant is that it is a wonderful experience and that the half-hour goes by very quickly.

## Greetings from the Pastor

There is a story from the Middle Ages about a young woman who was expelled from heaven. As she left, she was told that if she would bring back a gift that is highly valued by God, she would be welcomed back. She brought back drops of blood from a dying patriot. She brought back some coins that a destitute widow had given to the poor. She brought back a remnant of a Bible that had been used for years by an eminent preacher. She brought back some dust from the shoes of a missionary laboring in a remote wasteland. She brought back many similar things but was turned back repeatedly.

One day she saw a small boy playing by a fountain. A man rode up on horseback and dismounted to take a drink. The man saw the child and suddenly remembered his boyhood innocence. Then, looking in the fountain and seeing the reflection of his hardened countenance, he realized what he had done with his life. Upon realizing how he had strayed, tears of repentance welled up in his eyes and began to trickle down his cheeks. The young woman took one of these tears back to heaven and was received with joy and love.

This story lifts up an important and persistent Biblical theme that is consistent with the theme of the Lenten season: God values the contrite heart. The contrite heart is one that realizes its own brokenness before God and repents of that brokenness. *The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise (Ps. 51:17).* Much as the young woman in the story was welcomed back into heaven, so does God through Christ welcome back the penitent with joy and love.

Just as we cannot appreciate the warmth without experience of the cold, nor the light without experience of the dark, we must pass through the darkness of Lent to know the glory of Easter.



## From the Children's Ministry Coordinator

Can you name the seven dwarfs? Do you know which MASH actor actually served in the army in the Korean War? Do you know the number of "Blessed Beatitudes"? If so, you should have joined the group at Trivia Night. We had a great group, good food, lots of prizes, and from the amount of laughter, everyone had a good time. It was a fun evening and benefited a very good cause, our Workcampers. Thanks to everyone who contributed in any way.

For a \$10 donation everyone had a fun evening spent with friends, soup, drinks & snacks, and a chance to win some great prizes donated by our local businesses. The 72 people who gave a small amount of their time and money for an evening of fun have made it easier for the Workcampers to make a difference in the people's lives they touch at Workcamp.

Sometimes the little things we do can really make a difference. Recently, the children of our church had a fun evening, making Valentines, decorating cookies and delivering them to our church family in the nursing homes. It took about 2 hours, to make and deliver them. I have been amazed at the positive feedback I received from this event. I truly believe we touched the hearts of these people. They have shown so much appreciation and the whole evening only took about 2 hours.

We forget sometimes how much difference we can make through the little things we do for others. Whether it is just to call or stop to say hello, or maybe just give someone a big smile when you see them at the store. The warm smiles of our children certainly warmed the hearts of our elderly church members. Let us all try to remember to do something for others, no matter how small, especially as we enter this time of Lent. Make sure others know just how awesome it is to be a Christian and share our Christian love for others.

God Bless! See you on Sunday!



## Joys and Concerns

*MYRT RITCHIE* is a patient at Boone Hospital. She had bypass surgery on Monday.

*KATHY BERCK* is at home after a long stay in the hospital and at Lenoir.

## Prayer list

The prayer list will be printed monthly or as often as space permits. Any additions to the list will be printed when they are made known to us.

*GAYLE MANSFIELD* has been on our prayer list for many months. She died Tuesday, Feb. 27 following a long battle with cancer.

## Cabinet, Functional Committees and Board to meet Monday

The Pastor's Cabinet will meet at 6:15 p.m. in the Balcony Meeting Rm. Monday, March 5th. The Functional Committee meetings will begin at 7 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall and the Board will meet following the committee meetings.

## Pastor's classes begin this Sunday

Pastor's classes for 4th- 8th grade begin this Sunday, March 4th. Youth will meet in Fellowship Hall at 5 p.m.

Adults and high school youth will meet on Sunday morning 9:30 a.m. in the Balcony Meeting Room.

If you are interested in attending the class and were not able to attend one of the information meetings please call Joe and let him know.

## Pray for our military personnel

Matt Cottrill	Allan Hamel	Shane Bartee
Ryan Ball	Matt Younger	Devin Pool
Jeremy Mitchell	Aaron Dawson	Clint Collins
Josh Monroe	Trenton Hancock	Ray Finlay
Jason Davidson	Ron Davidson	Jeremy Wrinkle
Marcus Younger	Zachary Hightower	
Shane & Amanda Fierge		
Brian & Lindsey Moore	Ward	

**In Iraq:** Justin Thurston, Kyle Gamm, Brandon Lane, Caleb Bohlmeier  
**Overseas Duty:** Jacob Collins

## Serving Sunday

### 8:15 a.m. Worship Service

ELDER: Joe Vance  
DIACONATE: Kaiser, Cox, Powells, Newsted  
WORSHIP LEADER: Bill Tuggle  
A/V OPERATOR: Lori Wray

### 10:40 a.m. Worship Service

ELDERS: C. Fritch & B. Overfelt  
DIACONATE: Ladwig, Coureton, Green, Williams, Davidson, Wheelers  
WORSHIP LEADER: Vickie Collins  
GREETERS: Torreysons and Boswell  
SCRIPTURE: Psalm 27:1-11; Luke 13:22-24, 30-35  
SERMON: "The Shelter of God"  
COMM. PREP: Forsee, Kaiser, Gramke  
A/V OPERATORS: Katy Hestir & Jeremy Breedlove  
ELDERS ON CALL: Joe Vance & Mary Buck

### Attendance last Sunday

Sunday School:	107
8:15 Worship:	98
10:40 Worship:	92

### Financial report

Giving last Sunday	\$ 2,507.56
Other inc.	40.00
Receipts to date	\$ 142,242.46
Disbursements	\$ 139,139.51

## CHURCH ACTIVITIES NEXT WEEK

Sunday, March 4 Usual Sunday morning services

9:00 a.m. Cherub Choir practice  
9:30 a.m. Pastor's Class for H.S. & adults (Balcony)  
1:30 p.m. 7th & 8th Grade Bowling Trip  
4:00 p.m. Junior Choir Practice  
5:00 p.m. 4th - 8th Pastor's Class (F.H.)  
6:00 p.m. 7th & 8th Youth Meeting  
8:00 p.m. High School Youth Meeting

Monday, March 5

6:15 p.m. Pastor's Cabinet Mtg. (Balcony Rm.217)  
7:00 p.m. Functional Committee Mtgs. (F.H.)  
8:05 p.m. Official Board Mtg.

Wednesday, March 7

7:00 p.m. Choir Practice  
7:30 p.m. Cantata Practice

Sunday, March 11

Usual Sunday morning services  
9:00 a.m. Cherub Choir practice  
9:30 a.m. Pastor's Class for H.S. & adults (Balcony)  
1:30 p.m. Children thru 6th grade bowling  
4:00 p.m. Junior Choir Practice  
5:00 p.m. Pastor's Class  
6:00 p.m. 7th & 8th Youth Meeting  
8:00 p.m. High School Youth Meeting