

Non-Profit Org.

U. S. POSTAGE

**PAID**

**LAWRENCE, KANSAS**

**PERMIT 192**



**STUFFED?**

Have you ever felt stuffed? Like after a Thanksgiving Dinner? Or maybe opening that closet that houses all the stuff you don't know what to do with? Let's face it, we know a lot about being stuffed!

This Advent season, what if we adopted a new metaphor of "stuffed"? Instead of self-indulgence, overflowing stockings and debt-inducing spending, we realigned our lives with the simplicity of a young family without stuff who welcomes the Christ-Child into our world?

It is always surprising how fast a year flies by. On January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011 we all imagined and hoped for what this year would entail. And now we stand once again on the cusp of another year with all our imagination and hopes reengaged. Perhaps this December, the best way to finish out the year is not by planning for a new year, but finishing the current year well!

It is amazing what you can do with 31 days. In just 31 days, you can begin to mend broken relationships by asking for forgiveness and asking to restart a relationship. In 31 days, you can decide that your finances need an overhaul and begin to stop spending, save and become generous. In this month, you could decide that this Christmas season will not overwhelm and swamp you and instead you will take on the pillar meanings of Advent- hope, peace, joy and love. Each week, you could learn how to experience and live by these four words.

You see, though 11 months have passed, we still have a month to go. As we gather in worship to celebrate the birth of Jesus once more, we will be challenged to let go of stuffing our lives so full that there isn't much space for God, those we love and the opportunity to be in wonder during this wondrous season.

So, what will you do with the last 31 days of 2011? I hope you will pray and ask God to help you make the most of these days so 2012 begins with your life already changing!

Have a Merry Christmas and enjoy the celebration of Jesus this year!

Pastor David Rivers

**FIRST SUNDAYS BRUNCH**



Join us December 4

10 am

Fellowship Hall

**Advent Worship Services**

9 am Traditional Service

11 am Contemporary Service

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Services**

5 pm

7 pm

**Christmas Day**

10 am One combined Worship

**December FCC Events**

December 1	Women's Bible Study GriefShare Chancel Choir Rehearsal CWF Board Meeting
December 4 December 6	Senior High Youth Group Worship Team Practice Lydia Ladies
December 7	Ruth CWF Middle Youth Group Elders Meeting
December 8	Women's Bible Study JOY (Just Older Youth) Chancel Choir Rehearsal
December 11	<b>FCC serves LINK</b> Senior High Youth Group
December 13 December 14	Worship Team Practice Giving Tree Christmas Program
December 15	Middle & Senior High Youth Groups <b>Open Food Pantry</b> Women's Bible Study Chancel Choir Rehearsal
December 16	Youth Ministry Team New Women's Fellowship
December 18 December 19 December 20	Senior High Youth Group Trustees Meeting Worship Team Practice Leadership Board Meeting
December 21 December 22	Warm Hearts Women's Bible Study CWF Board Meeting
December 24	Chancel Choir Rehearsal <b>Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service</b> 5 pm and 7 pm
December 25	<b>Christmas Day Worship Service</b> 10 am only
December 26	<b>Office Closed</b>
December 27	Office Hours—9 am-12 pm
December 28	Office Hours—9 am-12 pm
December 29	Office Hours—9 am-12 pm
December 30	Office Hours—9 am-12 pm
December 31	<b>New Years Eve</b>
January 1	<b>New Years Day</b>
January 2	<b>Office Closed</b>
January 3	Office Hours—9 am-4 pm

## Glenn Prescott

Servants take on many persona's. Some out the outspoken, upfront kinds of people; others are those that serve and hope no one notices. This month, we celebrate one of our quiet servants who continues to ensure that our worship is heard, the videos are uploaded to the web, our finances are in order, our building is ready for the long haul, our 2<sup>nd</sup> service has a good bass beat, and countless other acts of service!

Glenn Prescott, our rockin' bassist in the worship team, has been living as a quiet servant for many years. The more that we find out about Glenn, the more we are amazed. He spends countless hours a week serving God and our church through various ministries while being very busy leading on of the Engineering Depart-

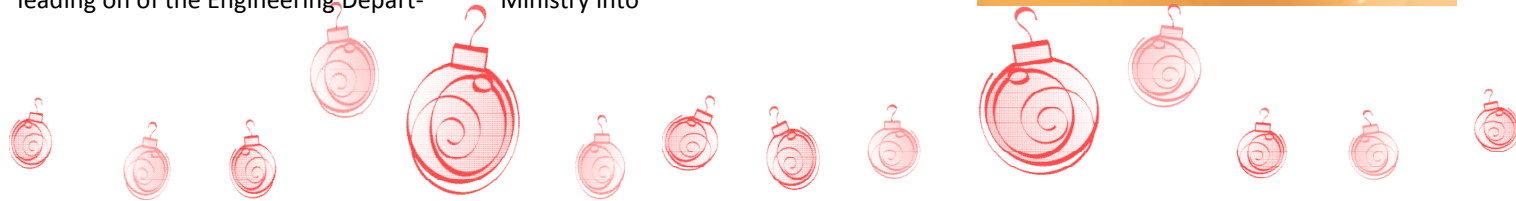
ments at KU!

In 2012, Glenn will be putting to the side a few of the hats he has been wearing in order to pick up a new hat- Moderator. Glenn will be our new Moderator for the 2012-2013 years. He will bring his experience leading people from his position at KU as well as his passion for seeing God glorified and lives changed through the ministries of FCC.

In the coming months, we will hear from Glenn about our church and discerning God's call to us. We are all excited to have him take a position that has been done so well by Lori Myrick. As he is the first to say, no one can replace Lori. She has done remarkable ministry and helped lead the church through some tough years. Yet we are pleased that Lori will be partnering with Jane Phelps to help lead our Care Ministry into

the future!

The next time you see Glenn, please thank him for the ministry he has done in these



## God & His Gifts



We all have gifts and talents, but sometimes we aren't sure how to use them to the glorify God. I mean what does golfing for Jesus look like? How can someone who is gifted in the area of business, finances or administration use their gifts to the glory of God? What about athletic ability, wisdom, dance, art and writing? All of these can be gifts from God but we often struggle with figuring out what it means to glorify him with the abilities, talents and gifts that he has given us.

In 1 Corinthians 12 Paul talks about Spiritual gifts and their purpose, that God's gifts are given to all believers for the benefit of the body of Christ. He uses the image of the Church as a body and that we all have different abilities, talents and gifts to use, but when we don't the body suffers for it. Imagine trying to get through life as a huge eyeball, how would you speak, hear or taste? Together we form the body of Christ, we all need each other, God designed us to be a blessing to one another and to the world, but we will never reach our full potential until we all get involved.

This past month a group of adults & teenagers used their gifts of music, drama and the arts to glorify God through the Musical Hi Tops. They sang, danced, memorized lines, spent countless hours blocking scenes and practicing so that they could use their gifts to glorify God and benefit his body. Don't discount the gifts you have been given just because you haven't seen them used in church before, they were given to you for a reason and the body of Christ needs them.

So what are your gifts and how can you use them to benefit the body of Christ and bring glory to God? Each of us has an important role to play in Christ's body, we need you!

**Pastor Tiffany Lemons**

## MINISTERING TO OUR CHILDREN

It is hard to imagine that the Christmas season is just around the corner! We are in full swing planning the new face of Children's Ministry! Here is a peek of what we are working on.

**The ARK**, 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders, will experience a workshop rotation model. The Workshop Rotation Model is a way for children to experience the major stories of the Bible over and over again. We will teach bible stories and concepts through kid-friendly multimedia workshops: *Noah's Ark*, *Monkey 'n Around*, *The Galley* & *Animal Theatre*. Children are able to explore these stories in a variety of hands-on activities, making it an exciting place to come back—week after week.

**Noah's Park** is a simple interactive and creative program designed specifically for 3 year olds (potty trained) through Kindergarten. They will explore the fundamentals of our faith through Bible stories, crafts, and games. Noah's Park is a safe and loving place where kids can be kids. When the weather is nice, they will enjoy some fun on the new playground! They'll play, laugh, and be silly while learning about God's love for them and others.

Our nursery ministry is also expanding. We will have two nurseries: **Hatchlings** (birth to walking) & **Lil' Monkeys** (walkers – 3 yrs.). We are recreating our nursery space with age appropriate toys and activities. Your child will enjoy playtime, story time and a snack time throughout the morning in a safe and loving environment.

I am looking forward to getting to know you and your children. Thank you again for calling this church home and empowering your children to grow in their faith!



## 2012 MINISTRY SLATE OF PERSONNEL

*As per the constitution of First Christian Church, the Annual Congregational Meeting was held on Sunday, November 13<sup>th</sup> During the meeting members approved the following 2012 Slate of Ministry Personnel. Please take time to welcome these new leaders.*

### Elders

Derk Landes—2012-2014  
Hyacinth Self—2012-2014  
Steve Myrick—2012-2014  
Lisa Rundell—2012-2014  
Greg Swart—2012-2014  
Donna Carlson—2012-2014  
Larry McElwain—2012-2013  
Leonard Ortiz—2012-2013  
Jim Congrove—2012-2013  
Shawn Henderson—2012-2013

### Trustees

Jim Self—2012-2014  
Dale Willey—2012-2014  
David Segura—2012-2014  
Marylee Southard—2012-2014  
Kalene Sanders—2012-2014

### Moderator

Glenn Prescott—2012-2014

### Worship Chair

Mikayla Swart—2012-2014

### Welcoming/Connecting

Jim and Audrey Schilling—2012-2014  
Wes and Carol Ryan—2012-2014

### Care Ministry

Jane Phelps—2012-2014  
Lori Myrick—2012-2014

### Outreach

Debbie Dame—2012-2014  
Judy Pinegar—2012-2014

### Fun/Fellowship

Michele van Foeken-2012-2014

