



BILL'S BITS -

YOUR LIFE IS WHAT YOU MAKE IT, WITH GOD'S HELP

One sunny afternoon, two men, both interested in golf, were strolling through a garden, enjoying the afternoon as they chatted together. Eventually they wandered into an old shed in one corner of the garden—a storage house for tools, furniture, and a lot of other things that had outgrown their usefulness.

Looking around this array of junk and castoffs, one of the men spied something of interest on a shelf and inquired: "What's that on the shelf, pal?"

"Just an old golf club," replied his host. He reached up and took the rusty old putter from the shelf and handed it to his friend, who began gripping the handle and getting the feel of the club as he swung it a few times over his head.

"You know?" he said. "I like the feel of this. Mind if I keep it? From the looks of it, you have no further interest in it, judging from all the rust that has gathered on it.

"Take it," said his friend. "I threw it up there several years ago, and haven't thought of it since. That club brought me so much trouble and misfortune that I named it 'Calamity Jane'. One day I was way off on my putting and that club kept bringing me bad luck. When I got home, I just put it out of my sight, up on the shelf. There it's been for two or three years, forgotten and un-mourned. It's no good. If you want it, take it but don't blame me if you lose games trying to putt with that old iron."

Not long after that conversation, one of the most famous putts in the history of golfing was made with that putter. It happened on the eighteenth green of St. Andrews when with it, its new owner, Bobby Jones, won the Open Championship of Great Britain. He then followed that victory by winning the U.S. National Open Championship the same year. He was the first player ever to win both championships in the same year. This Bobby Jones did with a castoff and rusty old putter, 'Calamity Jane'.

What made the difference? The old putter was being played in the hands of a master golfer. Whose hands are holding and guiding your life? God wants to do something great with your life, but you must be surrendered to His hand.

As the new year approaches one of the questions we can ask ourselves is, "What is God's will for my life in the year of 2012?" Seeking, finding, and doing that will and can transform our lives. - adapted Bill

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

Wednesday Activities

5:30 pm Family Fellowship Dinner

6:00 pm Pre K-2nd, JYF (Grades 3rd-5th)

6:15 pm Bell Choir Practice

6:30 pm IMPACT (Grades 6th-12th)

7:00 pm Chancel Choir Practice

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.....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

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Web Site

www.firstchristiangb.org



REMEMBER THOSE IN THE MILITARY

Susi Bargainear, LaDonna Moore's niece - Korea

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 - Afghanistan

Steven DeWitt, Doris Berkley's grandon-in-law - Ft. Lewis, Washington

Jesse Freeman, Jessica Marston's friend - Japan

Ron George, Debbie Berkley's friend - Africa

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

Dustin Meredith, LaDonna Moore's nephew - Iraq

Josh Prewitt, **Marines**, Roger & Laina Marshall's nephew - Afghanistan

Adam Schwartz, **Army**, Mayette Keith's grandson - Fort Stewart, GA



Remember
in
Prayer

Thank You

Dear Friends,

Thank you for all of the calls, prayers, and concerns while Don was in the hospital and when he was recovering at home. Thank you to Rev. Bill for his many visits and for being there when we needed support and prayers the most. Don continues to recover so prayers are still appreciated. Thank you again for your concerns.

Don & Brenda Jones & Family

Dearest Bill and my wonderful Christian Friends:

Bill, thank you for visiting me in Wichita. I truly appreciated seeing you and your thoughtfulness and your prayers.

To all my wonderful Christian friends, - thank you for your cards and most of all your prayers. The journey was long although I did not feel alone. I knew my God was right there beside me and I felt His presence every step of the way. Without Him, I could not have gone down this road.

I am home and doing very good! I am praying for healing of my malignancy but most of all that I can accept God's will for my life.

I urge each and every one of you - if you have not accepted God as your Savior and Friend, I urge you to do this today. Any road is much easier to travel if He is beside you holding your hand.

Judy Piland

We Sincerely thank everyone who sent cards, flowers, food, and for your prayers. Thanks to Bill and Lois for their being with us at the passing of our son. It was a blessing to our family. We are thankful to be a part of a loving, and caring church family.

Fred and Dorothy Behrens

Dear Friends in Christ:

Lois and I wish to say thank you to the church family for the gift certificate. We are so grateful for the gift and it will certainly be handy. Thank you also for all the remembrances this Christmas and down through the years.

We hope this Christmas was a wonderful time for all of you and that you will have a Happy New Year!

Bill and Lois Johnson

December Attendance and Gifts

	4	11	18	25	AVG
Sunday School	51	68	64	--	61
Early Service	34	33	--	--	34
Late Service	115	144	188	110	140
Children's Church	14	16	10	--	13
TOTAL	163	193	198	110	166
General Offering	5,308.19	11,458.97	4,779.37	8,784.50	7,582.75
Roof Fund	37.50	37.50	0.00	0.00	18.75
Special Offerings	377.56	50.00	5,099.50	635.00	1,540.52
TOTAL	5,723.23	11,546.47	9,878.87	9,419.50	9,142.02

* Special Offerings include Sanctuary TV Fund, Wed Night Dinner Donations, Wedding Deposits, DMF Christmas Offering, Phone System Fund, Parsonage Special Projects Fund, and Ross Behrens Memorials


General Fund:

Year-to-Date Needs	324,321.46	331,129.16	337,936.86	344,744.56	-----
Year-to-Date Giving	260,042.36	265,350.55	276,809.52	281,588.89	-----

Board Meeting Date: TBA

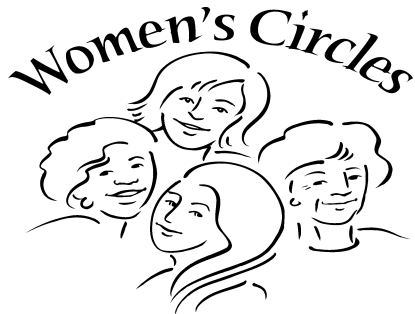


Disciples Men Fellowship
Perkins Restaurant
January 7, 2012
8:30 am

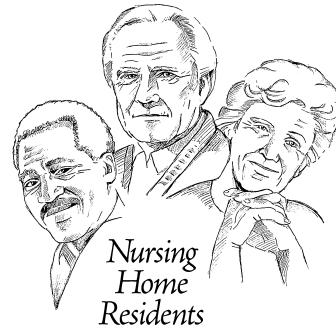


CONGRATULATIONS to Mary Drake and Robert and Alviata Cates upon the birth of their new grand-daughter. Hadley Remington Cates was born on November 4, 2011, weighing 7 lbs. 15 oz. Her parents are Trevor and Megan Cates of Claflin. Sisters Sierra and Emma welcomed Hadley home.

IT'S A BOY! Congratulations to Mark and Jenny Colglazier upon the birth of their son, Isaac Jackson. Isaac was born on Monday, December 12th, at 7:43 am. Isaac weighed 8 lbs. 9.5 oz. and was 21 inches long. Grandpa Dan and Grandma Mary Hunter are walking on air!

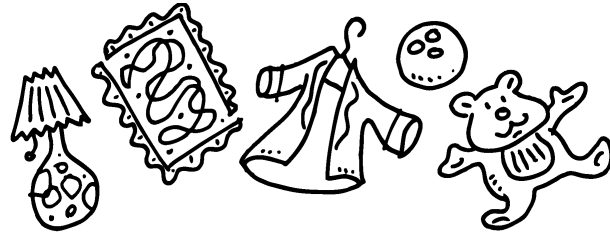


- Martha Group**
 Hostess: Louise Gunn
 Program: Anneliese Ward
 January 11, 2012, 1:30 pm
- Lunch Bunch**
 January 18, 2012, 11:30 am
- Joy Group**
 Hostesses: Dixie Hughes/Lois Johnson
 Program: Dixie Hughes/Lois Johnson
 New Year's Resolutions "Stay Strong"
 January 24, 2012, 12:00 pm
- New Day Group**
 Hostess: Rebecca Burton
 Program: Stacy McReynolds
 January 23, 2012, 7:00 pm



- Cherry Village Nursing Home**
 Martha McKown
- Great Bend Health & Rehab**
 Darlene Biggs
 Viola Schwein
- River Bend Assisted Living**
 Lola Donecker
 Ione Strohm

COMING SOON!!



C H U R C H
GARAGE SALE

February 11, 2012

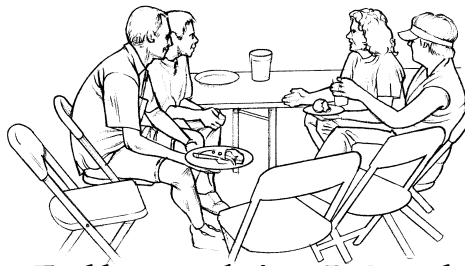
Start cleaning out your cupboards and closets! You may start bringing your items to the church on January 29, 2012



...the Behrens Family: Fred and Dorothy, Robert and Ruth, Jason and Jennifer and family, upon the loss of Ross Behrens

...Alice Arnett and Family upon the loss of her son-in-law

...Nadine Maier and Family upon the loss of Paul Maier



Fellowship Meals

2011-2012 WEDNESDAY NIGHT FAMILY DINNERS

January 4th- POT LUCK
January 11th - Group III
January 18th - Group IV
January 25th - Group I
February 1st - CANCELLED (garage sale set up)
February 8th- CANCELLED (garage sale set up)
February 15th - Group III
February 22nd - Group IV
February 29th - Group I

March 7th - POT LUCK
March 14th - Group V
March 21st - NO DINNER (Spring Break)
March 28th - Group II
April 4th - POT LUCK
April 11th - Group III
April 18th - Group IV
April 25th - Group I
May 2nd - POT LUCK
May 9th - Group II
May 16th - Group III