



The Link

January 15, 2012

“We proclaim Jesus Christ and promote communities of joy, hope, love and peace. We will become a world-wide church dedicated to the pursuit of peace, reconciliation and healing of the spirit.”

Power to Become Children of God

You and I have been launched into a new year. How will we navigate the obstacles, the disappointments, the trials we are sure to face this year, without getting lost? The answer is found in John’s Gospel:

“In the beginning was The Word, and The Word was with God, and The Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through Him, and without Him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in Him was life, and the life with the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it ... The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in The World, and The world came into being through Him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received Him, who believed in His name, He gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of The will of the flesh or of The will of man, but of God.” (NRSV)

“Power to become children of God.” Here is the key to having a great new year — it is to recognize what it means to be children of God. All people, everywhere are God’s children. No one is excluded.

During 2012, my hope is that each member and friend of Central Missouri Mission Center will recognize they are a child of God. Through this recognition, I pray each one will move forward faithfully doing the work of Christ in The world, inviting people to Christ, helping to end suffering and pursuing peace on earth.

Claude M. Rains, Jr., President, Central Missouri Mission Center

UPCOMING EVENTS:

TODAY—Mission Center Council Meeting, Central Missouri Mission Center Office, 3 p.m.

January 16—Central Missouri Mission Center will be closed due to Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday.

January 29 — Pastors Meeting, Warrensburg Church, 3 PM. Please make sure your congregation has a representative in attendance.

February 6-10, 2012—MEADS Courses, 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m., The Temple. Contact Michelle Booth at 816-833-1000, ext. 1459 or mbooth@CofChrist.org. for more information or to register. Visit www.CofChrist.org/MEADS to learn more about the MEADS 12-course certificate program and future classes.

February 11, 2012—Joyful Noise Workshop, This all-day Saturday **free** event will begin at 8:30 a.m. and conclude with an informal community sing-a-long at 7:30 p.m. This workshop will familiarize you with theological content, musical styles, worship planning techniques, and topical indexes for the 2013 Community of Christ hymnal. To register, contact Pam Robison at 816-833-1000, ext. 2324 or probison@CofChrist.org.

February 11 — Marshall Chicken Dinner, 5-7pm. Come and enjoy the good food prepared by the Marshall congregation. Carry-out meals are available. All are welcome!

February 12 — Rock 'n Road Show, Kingsville, 3-5 pm (please note time change) for Middle School and High School youth. Bring your friends!

Family Camp — June 22-26, 2012 — Lake Doniphan! Start making plans to attend; registration will begin February 13th. Ray and Karin Peter will provide our guest ministry, and Diane Allison will be the camp director. Please let Diane know how you want to serve!

The Peacekeepers, Community of Christ's Ministry to the Military, is requesting names and addresses of church members currently serving on active duty with the military to send them a free newsletter every other month and a free "Herald". Mail names and addresses to Peacekeepers, 1228 S Scott Ave., Independence, MO 64052 or e-mail armr77@sbcglobal.net. For more information on The Peacekeepers, visit www.cofchristpeacekeepers.org.

Please consider sharing your gifts and talents at Community of Christ Historic Sites. We are scheduling now for the spring months and have a significant need for help in Kirtland, Ohio and Nauvoo, Illinois. Serve one to three months or longer. Contact Lachlan Mackay at 217-453-2246 or LMackay@CofChrist.org.

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