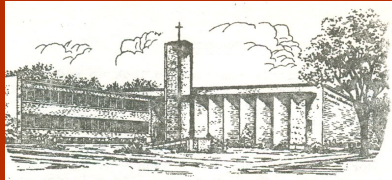




NOVEMBER 2017

November 20, 2017



# First Christian Church News

## (Disciples of Christ) Emporia, KS

VOLUME 66 NO. 21

NOVEMBER 20, 2017

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

Advent Celebration  
Decorate w/Poinsettias  
WAW/TPA Poem for Teachers

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Serving Schedule	2
Food Pantry	2
Prayer List	2
Attendance & Giving	2
Birthdays and Anniversaries	3
Mark the Date	3
Bible Study	3
Lectionary	4
WAW/TPA	4
Decorate with Poinsettias	4
Advent Event	4
Who Me?	5
Star Polisher	5
Church Contact	6
Calendar	6
Spotlight on Disciples	6

### Reflections

We all have our Thanksgiving stories from our childhoods—stories that warm our hearts this time of year. Our minds are full of memories of fall weather, pies in the oven, piles of leaves, parades, football games, board games and puzzles, and a delicious turkey dinner with the family gathered around to enjoy.

Here we are again, enjoying the traditions of the season, our families and friends, and good food. While we still do so much the same, the seasons of life have changed us. Families have changed and grown. While loved ones have passed on, children and grandchildren bring fresh wonder and vigor to the stories of our lives. Technology has affected us, too, with its ever more isolating activities, yet the kids still love to romp in the leaves and the spicy aroma of those favorite holiday recipes still fill the house with love.

#### A THANKSGIVING PRAYER

For forests tall and oceans deep  
For canyons wide and mountains steep  
For sunset skies of pink and gold  
For every sunrise we behold

For soldiers fighting for our peace  
For days to come when wars may cease  
For hope, so burdens won't enslave us  
For thy forgiveness which will save us

For Winter's snow and springtime's thaw  
For Summer's warmth and Autumn's awe  
For roofs that keep the rain away  
For walls that hold it all at bay

For feast, and those with whom we share it  
For loving hands that did prepare it  
For all that makes this life worth living  
We take this time on this Thanksgiving

For work that puts food on the table  
For health and rest to keep us able  
For friends and family around us  
For years to come, may they surround us

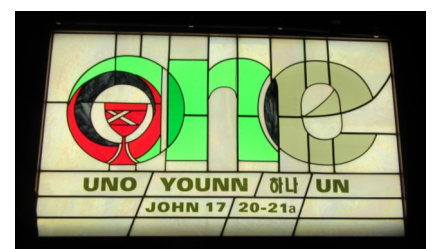
To bow our heads and bend a knee  
And pause to look around and see  
For all that was, is, and shall be  
We have none to thank, Oh Lord, but thee.

--by Eddie Mallonen

We have so much to be thankful for as God continues to provide us with memories and new experiences to once again enjoy this season of hearth and home. May God give us all an extra ounce of blessing to renew our hearts in faith, spirit, and love.

Happy Thanksgiving,

*Pastor Lorraine*



# Upcoming Serving Schedule

## November 26, 2017

- Candlelighter** ~ Jack Dalton
- Children's Message** ~ Joy Frevert
- Diaconate** ~ Larry Gamblian\*, Joy Wonser  
Cameron Moore, Carol Rhoades
- Elder** ~ George Arnett
- Greeters** ~ (N) LeRoy & Karen Garnett  
~ (S) Judy Moore
- Nursery** ~ Nikki Simmons & Mikinzi Simmons
- Worship Leader** ~ Judy Moore
- Children's Church** ~ Cindy & John Lexow

## December 3, 2017 HOG Service

- Candlelighter** ~ Juliana Martinez
- Children's Message** ~ Marlene Hanson
- Diaconate** ~ Nikki Simmons\*, Elizabeth Brown  
Joe & Bonnie Denson
- Elder** ~ Judy Moore
- Greeters** ~ (S) Jean Miller  
~ (N) Richard Becker & Robert Chatham
- Nursery** ~ Jennifer Dalton & Marilyn Dalton
- Worship Leader** ~ LeRoy Garnett
- Children's Church** ~ Hanging of the Greens

## December 10, 2017 Sunday School Program

- Candlelighter** ~ Jaiden Kurzen
- Children's Message** ~ Judy Moore
- Diaconate** ~ Richard Becker\*, Briana Becker  
Laurie Kurzen, Linda Maulsby
- Elder** ~ Jaylene Arnett
- Greeters** ~ (N) Guy & Janece Bacon  
~ (S) Christine Kellum
- Nursery** ~ Kohlby Ketchum & Elizabeth Brown
- Worship Leader** ~ Marlene Hanson
- Children's Church** ~ Faith Coleman

## December 17, 2017

- Candlelighter** ~ Jayden Johnson
- Children's Message** ~ Cindy Lexow
- Diaconate** ~ Carl\* and Lana Richardson  
Jim and Melissa Tilton
- Elder** ~ LeRoy Garnett
- Greeters** ~ (N) Dick & Debbie Hubert  
~ (S) Joan Shumate
- Nursery** ~ Richard Becker & Briana Becker
- Worship Leader** ~ Anita Imhoff
- Children's Church** ~ Joy Frevert

So far in November we have helped **46 families** consisting of **119 people** with **47 bags** of food plus **1 dozen eggs and fresh pears**. Of these 46 families, **17 were new** to us or the first time they have come to us to receive food. Many have been sent from the Salvation Army and others heard of us by word of mouth from friends in the same apartment complex.



**Voices of the people you have helped this month**—*"I didn't know there was anyplace for meals. Thank you for all the information, especially the Thanksgiving Dinner and the Christmas assistance."*

Don Allen, Lonnie Atchison (*cancer*); Tom Bell; Chandler Bolen (*health issues*); Denise Calvert (*broken leg*); Joyce Cress (*cancer & recovery*); Diane (*sister of Joyce Cress, breast cancer*); Amy Hossfeld, Luella Hush, Bonnie Iverson (*health issues*); Jim Johnson (*Jean Miller's nephew*); Brad Jones (*son of Jan Jones, heart problems*); Wes Jones (*health issues*); Gale Kelley (*hospice*); Joyce Kellison (*health issues*); Carolyn Kuhn (*health issues*); Steve (*broken neck*) & Ramona Langley (*brother-in-law and sister of Betty Richardson*); Gary Logan, (*brother-in-law of Janece Bacon*); Pam Scheve (*daughter Jan Weeks, health issues*); Becky Shannon (*daughter of Sharon Shannon, health issues*); Jim Siebert (*son of Janice Miller, back pain*); and Elizabeth Wells (*cancer & recovery*),  
Eric MacGregor (*Military*)



We are going to be using various translations of the Bible in our Worship Service so we all become more aware of the differences available but still delivering the same message.



# Attendance and Giving Record

## ATTENDANCE & GIVING RECORD

November 12, 2017 SS 17 / Worship 95  
November 19, 2017 SS 21 / Worship 61

## GIVING RECORD

Nov. 12, 2017 ~ Offering \$1,541.24 / Building \$96.00  
Nov. 19, 2017 ~ Offering \$1,477.00 / Building \$42.00

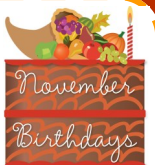


**December Anniversaries**

- 10 Jody & Penny Fleming (1995)
- 15 Bob & Torchy Duncan

**November Birthdays**

- 21 Shirley Pearson
- 23 Marie Harding
- 23 Laurie Kurzen
- 24 Carolyn Kuhn
- 25 Dana Witten
- 28 Richard Headrick
- 30 David Harding
- 30 William Hopkins



**December Birthdays**

- 01 Cameron Moore
- 02 Reece Johnson
- 02 Chad Kurzen
- 05 Kate Smith
- 08 Rachael LeClear
- 10 Richard Kellison
- 12 Mike LeClear
- 14 Duane Monroe
- 15 Kristi Smith
- 15 Traci Smith
- 15 Debbie Hubert
- 17 Justin Richardson
- 18 Cindy Lexow
- 20 Sheila Steinkuhler
- 24 Lougene Marsh
- 25 Barbara Gimple
- 30 Traeger Garnett



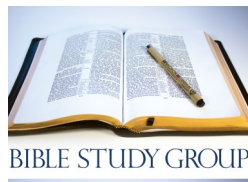
**Mark these Dates**

- Friday's 3-6 pm—Clothes Closet & Household Hut open
- Saturday's from 9—Noon—Clothes Closet and Household Hut
- Thursday & Friday, Nov. 23 24—Office Closed-Thanksgiving
- Sunday, Nov. 26—2:00 p.m. Presbyterian Manor Service
- Tuesday, Nov. 28—NO BIBLE STUDY TONIGHT due to the Christmas Parade.
- Tuesday, Nov. 28—Emporia Christmas Parade 7:00 pm Theme "Night of Lights"
- Tuesday, Nov. 28—7:00 pm Elders meet
- Wednesday, Nov. 29—9:00 am Decorate Church for Christmas
- Sunday, Dec. 3—Hanging of the Greens Service at Worship, Food Collection Sunday—Soup & PB plus Popcorn Sunday
- Sunday, December 3—4:00 pm Lyon Co. Ministerial Alliance Christmas Vespers Celebration at St. Mark's Lutheran Church
- Sunday, Dec. 3—5:00 pm-7:00 pm Advent Workshop (songs, Advent Chains, Chrismons etc.)
- Tuesday, Dec. 5—7:30 p.m. Bible Study in the Library
- Wednesday, Dec. 6—NO DWF Night Group this month.
- Thur. Dec. 7—5:30 pm Youth Choir
- Saturday, Dec. 9—11:00 am Headrick/Simmons Daycare Christmas Party
- Sunday, Dec. 10—Sunday School Program
- Wednesday, Dec. 13—DWF Day Group Christmas Lunch
- Friday, Dec. 15—CWU Friendship Coffee at Braum's W. 6th Ave

**Thought to Ponder**

Difficult roads often lead to beautiful destinations.

**Bible Study**



Interested in a bible study? There is a six week study going on, using Max Lucado's book *The Gospel of Mark*. It began Nov. 7, 2017 and goes through December 12. It starts at 7:30 pm in the Library. **No meeting Tue. 11/28/17 due to Christmas Parade downtown.** The study is being led by John Lexow and a nursery will be available for young children. Come join us and check it out.





**Lectionary Schedule**  
**October 29 – November 19, 2017**

**November 26, 2017**

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24  
Psalm 100  
Ephesians 1:15-23  
Matthew 25:31-46

**December 10, 2017**

Isaiah 40:1-11  
Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13  
2 Peter 3:8-15a  
Mark 1:1-8

**December 24, 2017**

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16  
Luke 1:46b-55 or  
    Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26  
Romans 16:25-27  
Luke 1:26-38

**December 3, 2017**

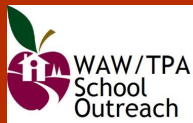
Isaiah 64:1-9  
Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19  
1 Corinthians 1:3-9  
Mark 13:24-37

**December 17, 2017**

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11  
Psalm 126 or Luke 1:46b-55  
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24  
John 1:6-8, 19-28

**December 31, 2017**

Isaiah 61:10-62:3  
Psalm 148  
Galatians 4:4-7  
Luke 2:22-40



We are collecting the following for William Allen White/Turning Point Academy (our adopted school): Facial tissue (Kleenex), Hand Sanitizer, Sanitizing Wipes (Lysol), Dry erase Markers and erasers. Plus—they would like volunteers to have lunch with children and to read to children—be a buddy. So, if you have 30 minutes a week and could do this, please contact Tabitha at WAW school at 341-2294.



**Advent Celebration**

Plan to be part of the Advent Celebration coming December 3 from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm. The Celebration includes many Advent Activities everyone can enjoy. There will be Singing Advent Songs; Baking Advent Cookies; Making Advent Countdown Chains and Creating Christmas Decorations. The Christian Education Team is sponsoring this event.



**Decorate the Church with Poinsettia's**

Help decorate our sanctuary for the holidays with poinsettias. Orders will be taken through Monday, November 27, 2017 and the cost is \$6.00. If you would like to honor someone or remember a loved one, purchasing a poinsettia is the perfect way to remember them while adding to the festive decoration of the church.



### Who Me, An Elder?

Information for this article came from *Your Calling as an Elder* by Gary Straub, p. 9-10.

Two books that are very helpful on the subject of Elder Qualification are: *The Ministry of Elders* (Edwin Linberg and Rod Parrott) and *Disciples Eldership* (Peter Morgan). Both books give practical help to the matter of qualification. Questions revolving around "how literally" to take the apostolic teachings often bring up even larger questions. "Don't just take these biblical standards literally; take them seriously! Ponder them long and hard. Question the original meanings. Study the context and history. Dig out the grammar. Spare no expense to gain the best understanding you can possess. Be satisfied that you are what Paul calls "a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly explaining the word of truth" (2 Tim. 2:15). When you complete your exhaustive studies, the toughest task will still be to apply the interpretive wisdom: How does this revealed truth fit the life and leadership of the potential elder who is before us as a candidate?"

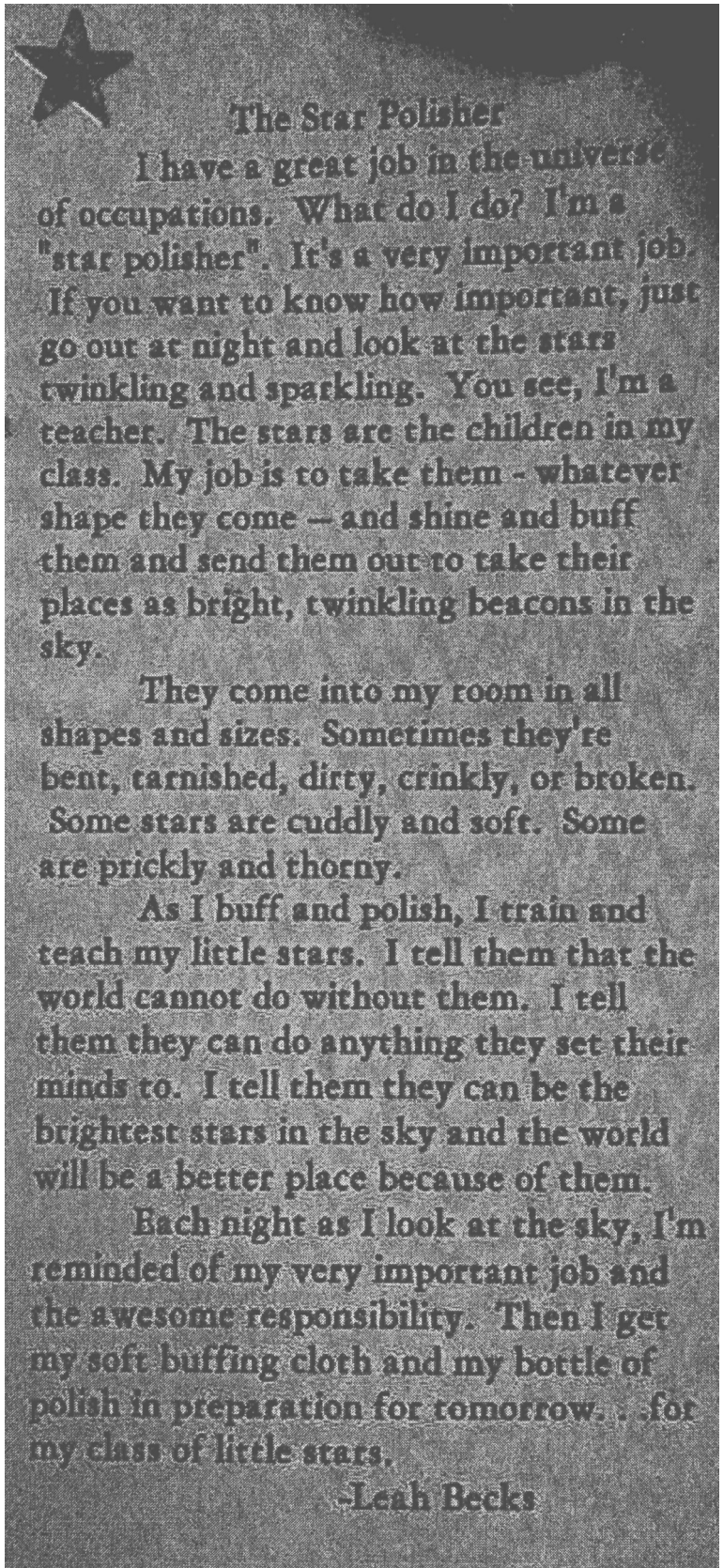
### Who Me, A Deacon?

Information for this article came from *Your Calling as a Deacon* by Gary Straub and James Trader II, pp. 21-22.

The qualifications for Deacon in 1 Timothy 3:8-13 can be overwhelming. It's a dream list, really. "No individual person will ever be able to fulfill perfectly all the qualifications listed there. What is important is that we strive to be the best at each of these qualifications. To understand the gifts we do have, and to use them in the best ways possible." Through the years, many of the qualifications listed have been used to exclude individuals from the diaconate, ranging from being married only once, to excluding women. Take a look at the qualifications and see where you fit in. What qualities do you already possess? What are others to strive for? What needs to be forgiven by the grace of God?

### WAW/TPA

This poem is dedicated to our adopted school, William Allen White/Turning Point Academy teachers as they perform this important task daily and help shape the next generation.



**First Christian Church**  
**Lorraine W. Bailey,**  
**Transitional Minister**



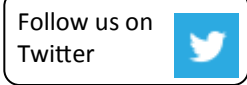
*“The mission of First Christian Church is to inspire each other to reach out to the un-churched and to serve and share with our community by proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ.”*

202 East 12th Avenue  
 620-342-1582 Church Office  
 620-342-8585 Prayer Line

**Sunday School at 9:30 a.m.**  
**Worship at 10:30 a.m.**

Web Page [www.fcemporio.org](http://www.fcemporio.org)  
 Email Office [fcocoffices@yahoo.com](mailto:fcocoffices@yahoo.com)  
 Email Pastor Lorraine Bailey at  
[pastorlorraine@gmail.com](mailto:pastorlorraine@gmail.com)

**Office Hours**  
**8 a.m. until Noon, Monday through Friday.**  
**Pastor Lorraine—9:00 am to Noon, Tuesday through Friday. Afternoons by appointment.**



**Next Newsletter Deadline**  
**Dec. 4 & 18, 2017**



# November 2017 - December 2017

November 2017							December 2017						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4						1	2
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30			24	25	26	27	28	29	30
							31						

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Nov 19</b>	9:30am 10:30am Sunday School 10:30am 11:50am Worship Service 2:00pm 4:00pm Baby Shower for Briana B.	Newsletter Deadline TIME SHEETS DUE! 7:30am 10:00am FREE Coffee & Muffins ESU Students 7:00pm 9:00pm Boy Scouts	11:00am 1:30pm ESU School Nursing Thanksgiving Lunch (FH) 6:00pm 7:00pm Choir Practice 6:15pm 7:45pm Sertoma Meeting 7:30pm 8:30pm Bible Study-Gospel of Mark (Library)	NO USD 253	- T-GIVING - OFFICE CLOSED NO USD 253	NO USD 253 T-GIVING - OFFICE CLOSED! 3:00pm 6:00pm Clothes Closet & Household Hut (Basement)	9:00am 12:00pm Clothes Closet & Household Hut (Basement) 10:00am 11:00am V. Crouch Funeral @ RBB
<b>26</b>	9:30am 10:30am Sunday School 10:30am 11:50am Worship Service 2:00pm 3:00pm Presbyterian Manor Service	7:30am 10:00am FREE Coffee & Muffins ESU Students 7:00pm 9:00pm Boy Scouts	6:00pm 7:00pm Choir Practice 7:00pm 8:00pm Christmas Parade "Night of Lights" (Commercial St. Emporia) 7:00pm 8:00pm Elders Meet	9:00am 9:30am Decorate Church for Christmas 5:30pm 6:30pm Facilities Meeting	7:30am 10:00am Free Coffee & Muffins for ESU Students 6:30pm 7:30pm Christian Ed.	3:00pm 6:00pm Clothes Closet & Household Hut (Basement)	9:00am 12:00pm Clothes Closet & Household Hut (Basement)
<b>3</b>	Food Collection-Soup & PB POPCORN SUNDAY 9:30am 10:30am Sunday School 10:30am 11:50am Worship Service-HOG 4:00pm 5:00pm Vespers-St. Mark's 5:00pm 7:00pm Advent Activity	Newsletter Deadline TIME SHEETS DUE! 8:00am 11:00am FREE Coffee & Muffins ESU Students (Parlor) 7:00pm 9:00pm Boy Scouts	8:00am 11:00am FREE Coffee & Muffins ESU Students (Parlor) 6:00pm 7:00pm Choir Practice 7:30pm 8:30pm Bible Study-Gospel of Mark (Library)	10:15am 11:15am Lyon Co. Ministerial Alliance Meeting--Pot Luck (St. Andrews Episcopal Church)	5:30pm 6:30pm Youth Choir	3:00pm 6:00pm Clothes Closet & Household Hut (Basement) 7:00pm 9:00pm Set up for Headrick/Simmons Christmas Party (FH)	9:00am 12:00pm Clothes Closet & Household Hut (Basement) 11:00am 1:00pm Headrick/Simmons Daycare Christmas Party (FH)
<b>10</b>	9:30am 10:30am Sunday School Program 10:30am 11:50am Worship Service	8:00am 11:00am FREE Coffee & Muffins ESU Students (Parlor) 7:00pm 9:00pm Boy Scouts	8:00am 11:00am Free Coffee & Muffins for ESU Students (Parlor) 1:00pm 2:00pm Evangelism Ministry 6:00pm 7:00pm Choir Practice 6:30pm 7:30pm Chi Rho Mission Club (Chi Rho Room) 7:30pm 8:30pm Bible Study-Gospel of Mark (Librar	12:00pm 1:00pm DWF Day Group-Christmas Lunch 6:15pm 7:30pm Stewardship Committee	6:00pm 7:30pm Girl Scouts (FH)	8:30am 9:30am CWU Friendship Coffee (Braum's W 6th Ave.) 3:00pm 6:00pm Clothes Closet & Household Hut (Basement)	ESU Graduation 10 am & 2 pm 9:00am 12:00pm Clothes Closet & Household Hut (Basement) 3:00pm 6:00pm Hines Graduation Party (FH)

## Spotlight on Disciples

## The Christian System

Information for this article came from Journey in Faith by Lester G. McAllister and William E. Tucker, pp. 155-156.

Even though Alexander Campbell never referred to himself as a theologian, he certainly was one. He aspired to be “the finest scholar in the Kingdom,” and made known his understanding of Christianity through his journals and in his debates. In 1835, he published a synthesis of this thought entitled, *A Connected View of the Principles by which the Living Oracles May Be Intelligibly and Certainly Interpreted*. It was retitled *The Christian System*. It provided a comprehensive statement on biblical doctrine which served as a textbook for generations of Disciples preachers.

He firmly believed that he avoided the trap of “human opinion” in interpreting the biblical witness. He wrote, “While, then, we would, if we could . . . proclaim all that we believe, and all that we know, to the ends of the earth, we take the Bible, the whole Bible, and nothing but the Bible, as the foundation of all Christian union and communion. Those who do not like this, will please show us a more excellent way.”

Campbell was deeply criticized that he had written a creed for Disciples. He countered: “We speak for ourselves only; and while we are always willing to give a declaration of our faith and knowledge of the Christian system, we firmly protest against dogmatically propounding our own views, or those of any fallible mortal, as a condition or foundation of church union and co-operation.” Unlike a creed that would be used as a test for accepting or rejecting persons to Christian fellowship, *The Christian System* could be accepted or rejected without affecting one’s status in the church.