

FIRST CHRISTIAN TIMES

First Christian Church (Disciples Of Christ)

Monday, November 10, 2008



The purpose of this church shall be as revealed in the New Testament: to win people to faith in Jesus Christ and commit them actively to the church; to help them grow in the grace and knowledge of Christ that increasingly they may know and do His will and to work for the unity of all Christians.

Sunday Schedule:

Early Worship	8:15 AM
Sunday School	10:00 AM
Traditional Worship	11:00 AM
Youth Fellowship	5:00 PM

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Office Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 9:00 am-2:00 pm

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Terri Lester, Secretary

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A NOTE FROM PASTOR LAURA

What a blessed day we had yesterday! There was energy and hope in the air. Our Consecration service was well attended and we had guests and family join us for a WONDERFUL Thanksgiving luncheon. It was a time of joy and encouragement and many folks left with their ten dozen cookies to bake for Holiday Friends.

I remember as a child it seemed that once you started thinking about Christmas, it took forever to arrive. Now, as an adult, the holiday season almost seems to go by so fast that it blurs before my very eyes. This is a busy time of year and we have many upcoming activities here in the church: helping with Holiday Friends, Nativity Program, Advent Festival - to name a few.

I pray for you that as these days seem to accelerate as they go by, that you will find a moment here and there for quiet and calm. Sit on your porch and watch a sunrise or sunset. Go to a park and have a snack or read a book while sitting under a tree. Cover up in a soft blanket and spend some alone time with God. Find something to do that blesses you, feeds you, and gives you some energy back - as we spend it so easily these days. Then you will be equipped to jump back in to the swirl of activities with a renewed focus on where the love of God is present and you can see the business as blessing too.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Laura



The Thanksgiving Offering supports DOP Disciples Colleges, Universities, Seminaries, and Divinity Houses. This offering will be received at most congregations on November 10 and 23.

For two centuries, Disciples colleges and universities have trained Disciples leaders to think clearly and rationally and to minister to the world around them. While those first instructors and students might not recognize modern campuses, those classis values live on in the 21st Century.

Disciples undergraduate institutions serve nearly 27,000 students in a wide variety of settings - from a rural college town with several hundred students to a metropolitan setting with almost 9,000 students. Despite those differences, these schools all share a commitment to the church, emphasize spiritual faith and values, and cherish a commitment to a liberal-arts education.

Your gift to the Thanksgiving Special Offering supports the training of our church's emerging leaders - an investment in our church's future.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

November 2, 2008 -	Early	7
	Traditional	77
November 9, 2008 -	Early	9
	Traditional	106

Offering 10/26/08

Gen. Fund	1,777.00
Build. Fund	302.00
CLOTH Fund	52.00
Special Offering (Pew Seats)	1,257.00
"0" Birthdays	625.00

Offering 11/02/08

Gen. Fund	1,892.00
Build. Fund	692.00

Offering 11/09/08

Gen. Fund	4,012.00
Build. Fund	412.00
Memorial Bldg. Fund	
Jerry Yowell	250.00
Velma Findley	25.00
CLOTH Fund	51.00
Thanksgiving Dinner Offering	50.00

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2008

9:30 AM	Ladies Bible Study (Foyer)
7:00 PM	Choir Practice

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2008

7:00 PM	Disciples Women Meeting (FLC)
7:00 PM	Disciples Men Meeting (C)

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2008

8:15 AM	Chapel Service (C)
9:00 AM	Prayer Group (E)
10:00 AM	Sunday School
11:00 AM	Worship (S)
4:00 PM	Youth Bowling at Citiview Lanes
6:30 PM	Wellness Ministry Meeting (FLC)

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2008

9:30 AM	Ladies Bible Study (Foyer)
7:00 PM	Choir Practice (S)

FRIDAY-SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21-23, 2008

CYF Fall Retreat

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2008

8:15 AM	Chapel Service (C)
9:00 AM	Prayer Group Meeting (E)
10:00 AM	Sunday School
11:00 AM	Worship (S)
	No Youth Fellowship

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2008

9:00 AM	Newsletter Published
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(E) Education (C) Chapel
(S) Sanctuary (FLC) Family Life Center

Visitors and Guests



Marlene Baysinger; Bob Lee; & Austin & Gina Kirscht in the early service.

Iris Wilson; Julie Lucido; Harue Yokeley; Marjorie Armstrong; Greta Eller; Bernie & Mary DeSessa; Sarah & Brea DeSessa; Carl & Betty Ludtke; Robert & Virginia Popiel; Carl Burris; Michelle LaLonde; Leslie LaLonde; Imogene Cottman; Jeanie Ingram; Heather Skelton; & our other regular visitors in the Traditional Service.

We were happy that they worshipped with us and trust that they found inspiration, fellowship and love.

HARVEST HOUSE UPDATE



For the month of November FCC Burleson gave \$100.00 and 25 pounds of food to Harvest House.

COOKIE PARTY!

On Sunday, December 7th, we will need to have all sugar cookies baked and returned and we will gather at 4:00 pm to begin assembling the cookie decorating kits in the Family Life Center. Our youth will participate in this activity and we encourage adults in our congregation to come and help make the work go faster. There will be lots to do, snacks provided and we might have some guests from the community come and help us.

Plan to come and join in the fun!

PRAY PRAY PRAY



If you need help, ask God;
If you don't, thank God.



The Power of Prayer

CONCERNS:

Randy Gunn, the Gunn's son, is recovering from a car accident.

Four boys from Godley High School were in a car accident. Prayers for the families & fellow students.

Bill Ratliff, a friend of the Johnson's, has deteriorating health.

Jerry & Sandra Hay are traveling - Prayers for safe travel.

Pastor Laura's grandfather is now in a nursing home.

JOYS:

Beau Wheeler, Betty Wheeler's new grandson, is home from the hospital and doing well.

Brad King, Brett King's brother, is home.

Ryan Odiorne's father is home from the hospital and recovering.

Women's Retreat

Goldie Rubis is 101!

T.J. Bransom, a friend of the Johnson's, is improving.

Elsie Reeves, Sandra Hay's aunt, is doing well in her new surroundings.

Juanell Miller, Gina Kirscht's aunt, is moving to rehab.

We welcome to our church family Magunn Carroll who joined on Sunday, November 9, 2008.

We also welcome Sue Newcomb, Valerie Stuart's roommate, who joined on Sunday, November 9, 2008.

Welcome to both of these sisters in Christ.

Continued Prayers for

Dick Nash, Steve McGee, Darlene Pettis, Our country's leaders and world leaders

Our own military people:

Staff Sgt. Ky B. Gregory, Lt Col Steve Storch, Wesley Hayley, Brenda Wiegert, Staff Sgt. Matthew Land, Jennifer Ross, Specialist Andrew McGee, Fireman James McGee



CHRISTMAS PROJECT



The Disciples Women are sponsoring a church-wide Christmas project. We will be collecting sweatshirts and sweatpants for the Women's Advocacy group through the Burleson Police Department. When women have been victims of crime, sometimes they have to leave their clothing as evidence and these donations will help provide some comfort.

We are asking everyone to purchase a top and bottom in your own size so we will be able to provide a variety of sizes.

If men want to participate, please purchase a top and bottom in a man's size as they are needed also.

YOUTH CORNER

All Youth Grades 6-12



On Sunday, November 16th, we will go bowling at Citiview Lanes. We will meet at the church and leave at 4:00 pm and return around 6:30 pm. Each youth and/or guest needs to bring \$5 for the cost of bowling and any additional money they may want for snacks, etc.





DISCIPLES WOMEN MEETING

The next Disciples women meeting will be this Thursday, November 13 at 7:00 pm in the Family Life Center.

Jane Ann McGowen and LaVerne McGowen will be our hostesses for the evening. They send a special invitation to Disciples Men to join us for a BBQ supper.

The study and worship will be lead by Onita Holton and Vicki Rubis.

Items on the agenda include a slate of officers for 2009 to be presented by the nominating committee.

Remember to bring your offering, a sweat suit for the women's advocacy center, and cancelled stamps for St. Francis Village (trimmed with 1/4 inch remaining around stamp).

If you need a nursery for the evening, please call Diane Chilton at (817) 426-6194 by Wednesday so arrangements can be made.

LOOKING AHEAD: Disciples Women Christmas Party - Thursday, December 11, 6:30 pm at Lolly Ellis' home.

NOTES FROM THE WORLD OF RELIGION

A writer to the Fort Worth Star-Telegram says that he expects within two weeks that the Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth, much of the leadership and some of its members will leave the Episcopal Church in the United States and affiliate with the Anglican Church of the Southern Cone of America, based in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

The writer says nothing will change. The Bishop will still head the diocese and members will still be Episcopalians. It's just that the diocese will no longer be under the directions of the U.S. church.

Many Episcopalians have been angered by various actions of the U.S. church, especially the naming of a gay bishop and the ordination of gay priests.



A psychology researcher at the University of Bristol says many people believe in the paranormal, people who otherwise are normal people with Christian beliefs. One Catholic, a medical doctor at a Kaiser Permanente clinic in California, believes he is the reincarnation of our second president, John Adams. The researcher at Bristol, Bruce Hood, says we reflect our belief in the paranormal in television programs like "Medium", "Ghost Whisperer", "Lost", and "Eleventh Hour".

Hood says many people really believe they were abducted by aliens. A study by Harvard graduate Susan Clancy of "Abductees" says they otherwise are perfectly normal.

Hood says that when he gives a speech, he often holds up a good cardigan sweater and asks who would wear it. Most hands go up. But when he says it was once worn by a murderer, most of the hands go down. Shows superstition.

Another scientist says that neuroscientists assert that the mind has no existence independent of the brain. But most of us think of our essence as mental and of our mind as being independent of the body. In believing that, existence after death is really quite natural.

