

FIRST CHRISTIAN TIMES

First Christian Church (Disciples Of Christ)

Monday, March 10, 2014



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:

Chapel Worship	8:00 AM
Sunday School	10:00 AM
Worship	11:00 AM

Website: www.fccburleson.org

Telephone:	Fax:
817-295-4123	817-295-0750

Office Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 6:30 am-4:30 pm

Closed Fridays

Learning Center Hours: Monday-Friday-6:30 am-5:30 pm

Mike Kearns, Interim Pastor

E-Mail: pastor@fccburleson.org **Cell Phone:** 214-364-6453

Terri Lester, Secretary

E-Mail: terri@fccburleson.org

Angie Stanton, Learning Center Director

E-Mail: angie@fccburleson.org

PASTOR MIKE'S MOMENT

A New Lease On Life

"A voice cries out: 'In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God'" -- Isaiah 40:3.

At the onset of Jesus' ministry, John announced his coming in fulfillment of Isaiah 40. This is the cry of Lent: Prepare the way of the Lord! Make room for him in your thoughts and activities and affections.

An appropriate response to this announcement is to take stock of our lives, to reconsider how we are living our lives in light of God's presence and power made available to us in Jesus. And that is what Lent is for, to reflect on our lives as they are and as they could be.

Giving up a habit or a food or a pleasure is not distinctly Christian. People give up things all the time in the name of self-help, or worse, vanity and vengeance. The point of Lent is to reorient life God-ward. This reorientation has to do with desert and wilderness.

A "wilderness experience" in our language usually means one has been gone for a while and now returns with new insight or perspective, "a new lease on life". Although our own "wilderness experience" can manifest itself in countless ways, it is a time and place where we are stripped of our usual comforts, removed from the safety of familiarity, and we are forced to see ourselves and the world from a different vantage point.

When we enter the "wilderness" during Lent, we want to shake up our lives significantly enough that when we reach for our usual comforts and grasp a fistful of air, we are forced to cling to Christ. We want to see just how upside down our world really is as our "important things" prove to be perishable goods, as the light shines on our "righteousness" and exposes the layers of "self" beneath the surface, and as our "busy" lives are shown to simply lack wisdom.

The desire is a new lease on life-a view into the vast world of God-a deep breath and long look above the tree line of self-absorption. So in Lent we focus on getting away from the life of flesh and into the life to the Spirit, denying our ways and embracing God's.

The point of giving things up is not to be reminded of how much we miss them, but rather to be awakened to how much we miss God and long for his life-giving Spirit. This means, of course, that Lent is not only about giving up things. It is also about adding things, God-things.

The practice of giving something up for Lent is a way of entering into the wilderness with Jesus. Don't worry about whether or not your sacrifice is a good one. Just make your aim to know Christ more fully, and trust Him to lead you. Seek to replace that thing with devotion to Christ-His Word and His Mission. God may lead you to give up more and take up more as you go. That's good. Deny yourself, take up your cross and follow Jesus.

Blessings and Peace,
Pastor Mike

Offering	02/23/14
Gen. Fund	875.00
Build. Fund	477.00
Week of Compassion	70.00
CLOTH Fund	20.00

Offering	03/02/14
Gen. Fund	2,241.75
Build. Fund	1,032.00

Offering	03/09/14
Gen. Fund	3,217.00
Build. Fund	682.00
COTH Fund	20.00

Average Weekly Offering Needed: \$3,250.00



WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

March 2, 2014	
Chapel Service	5
Traditional	41

March 9, 2014	
Chapel Service	5
Traditional	74



Visitors and Guests

Marlene Baysinger and Bob Lee in the Chapel Service.

Jim, Tracy & Seth Sargent; Micaela & Emily Cronenberg; Kathryn Weems; Daniel Weems; Jean Crawford; Kristen Prather; Greta Eller; Hilda Rushing; Whitney Slate; Isaiah Coble; Jada & Chandon Rogers; Iris Wilson and 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.



**IN MARCH WE DONATED
51 POUNDS OF FOOD
AND \$135.00 TO HARVEST HOUSE!**

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 2014

9:30 AM Ladies Bible Study (MR)
6:00 PM Cabinet Meeting (E)
7:00 PM Choir Practice (S)

THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 2014

7:00 PM Disciples Men Meeting (C)

SUNDAY, MARCH 16, 2014

8:00 AM Chapel Service (C)
9:00 AM Prayer Group (MR)
10:00 AM Sunday School
11:00 AM Worship (S)
4:00 PM Line Dance Class (FLC)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, 2014

9:30 PM Ladies Bible Study (MR)
6:00 PM Board Meeting (FLC)
7:00 PM Choir Practice (S)

SUNDAY, MARCH 23, 2014

8:00 AM Chapel Service (C)
9:00 AM Prayer Group (E)
10:00 AM Sunday School
11:00 AM Worship (S)
4:00 PM Line Dance Class (FLC)

MONDAY, MARCH 24, 2014

9:00 AM Newsletter Published

(E) Education (C) Chapel
(S) Sanctuary (FLC) Family Life Center



Dear Church Family,



Thank you all for making my birthday surprise party such a special time. I cannot express how wonderful the day was and the joy I find in my church!

Diana McGee

The Power of Prayer



CONCERNS:

Mary Jo Coates, Dorothy Nash's sister from Plainview, has been diagnosed with breast cancer, and it has already metastasized to the liver. They are beginning treatment.

Billy Enochs is back from MD Anderson. He will be starting treatments.

Penny Enochs has chronic issues.

John Higginbotham received an injection to relieve his back pain.

Winnie Rasco is in Kindred Hospital recuperating from double pneumonia.

Robyn Lively, the Gunn's granddaughter, has strep and mono.

Prayers for the families of the passengers and crew of Malaysia Airlines Flight MH370.

Megan Whisenhunt, Bethany Bonds' friend, passed away. Prayers for her family and friends.

JOYS:

Cyndy Garrett was able to come to the Chapel service!

Bryson Bonds won the 6th Grade Science Fair! Way to go Bryson!

We welcome Jim, Tracy & Seth Sargent and Micaela & Emily Cronenberg to our church family. They came forward on March 9, 2014, to transfer their membership to FCC.

Continued Prayers for:

Dick Nash, Jennifer Spradlin, Juanita Stewart, Doyle DePratter, Brooke Hester (Carol Findley's cousin), Christal McGee, Bobbie Cockerham, Jean Rubis, Roseann Wright, Ruby Carlton, Burt Bond, John Higginbotham, Diane Chilton, Flora Roe, Cyndy Garrett, Greg Wright, Billy Enochs, Mindy Luck, Dick Nash, Carole Wright, Our country's leaders and world leaders

Our own military people:

GySgt Ky B. Gregory and his troops in Afghanistan, Lt Col Steve Storch, 1st Class Petty Officer James McGee, Landon Wheeler

Dear Church Family,

Thank you all for your cards, prayers and support during my recent hospitalization and recovery. I am so blessed to have a church family as caring as you. I love you all!

Cyndy Garrett



LINE DANCING CLASS
SUNDAYS AT 4:00 PM
FAMILY LIFE CENTER
Families are welcome too!



LEARNING CENTER NEWS

We are enrolling current student for the 2014-2015 school year. It looks like most of our current students will be returning! We will open enrollment up to the community on Monday, March 24, 2014.



DISCIPLES WOMEN MEETING

Tuesday, March 11, 11:30 am

*Meet at the Family Life Center parking area
at 11:20 am to carpool to Margie Lile's home.*

720 Lisa, Burleson - 817-229-1803

Ladies, please note we are meeting on a Tuesday.

*Also, because Dorothy Nash has a conflict,
we will be meeting at Margie Lile's house instead.*

*If you need a ride to the church, contact
Marion Higginbotham on her cell phone so
arrangements can be made. (817-454-0736)*



**SATURDAY, MARCH 15
9:00-11:00 AM**

Come join us as we continue renovations on
the room across from the Chapel. We will be
doing more painting so please wear
appropriate clothing!

Thanks for your help!!



As part of my vision for the Evangelism Ministry, I
have updated the church website. If you have not
visited the website recently, I invite you to go take a
look. It can be found at www.fccburleson.org. I
would welcome all ideas to make the site more
appealing.

One of the things I want to do is add another tab
where I can post pictures of past events. This is a
website, however, and as such, it can be viewed by
anyone with internet access and a computer,
phone, or tablet, etc. As such, I need you to either
contact me at 817-929-3402, or the church office at
817-295-4123, if you do not want your picture posted
on the website.

Thank you,
Steve McGee