

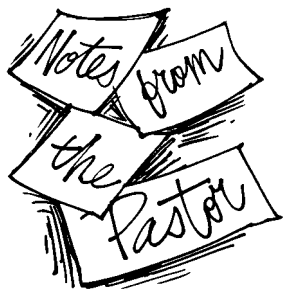
# Disciples Good News



Volume 11, #10

First Christian Church, (Disciples of Christ)  
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October 2011



Roda and I have returned from my home town in Topeka, Kansas, where we went so I could celebrate my 60<sup>th</sup> high school reunion. As we gathered together and shared stories and

reminisced, I thought about change. It was easy to think about change in that setting and “change” thinking was also encouraged by the beautiful fall weather.

That is the weather where I think change is the best and appreciated for the fact that it is . . . change. Changing from hot to cool. A wonderful freshness seems to be in the air, and it affects the attitudes of people. They seem to be happier, more vibrant and friendlier. It is unusual for most of us to embrace change, but at least that change is welcome.

I have talked to you many times about the need for change, and the idea if a change is to happen - “It is up to me.” Paul tells us in Romans 12:2, “Do not be conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God...what is good and acceptable and perfect.”

I can’t tell you how many times I have suggested changing something within our church, the way we do things, changing the physical appearances of our surroundings or our worship place, or a wide number of other changes to be met with, (by some) “We can’t do that because...”

The church in 2011 is facing a real need to embrace change to be relevant to the needs of the current members as well as open to new ways of expressing our love for God to those whose needs require something different. Maybe we even need to experience the refreshing change that seems so evident in the fall. Harvey Cox, professor of Divinity at Harvard Divinity School and author of *The Future of Faith*, told Disciples

at our recent General Assembly that after more than 1,500 years of oppressive control, theology is returning to the early faith ... a time of openness, diversity, and the ethics of Jesus rather than doctrine about him.”

I believe for this church to continue to grow and share the word of God in this community, we must be open to change and to accept the call from Jesus to welcome the stranger, to love our neighbor and to seek out those who need to hear His voice.

Blessings,



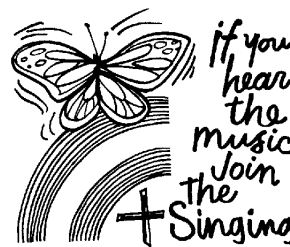
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## PRAYER CONCERNS



Don Buehre

Lois Christensen  
Louanna Ekema on the loss of Clarence  
Charles Fellenstein, recovering from surgery  
Sue Hackler  
Sue Henning  
Darlene Hinton  
Sgt. Elita Jackson  
Gene McKinley  
Minden, Nebraska church damaged by fire  
Al Morris  
Jan & Gene Percival  
Jessie Taylor  
Phyl Thackery  
Glenn & Pattie Trapp  
Phyllis Whitaker  
Alternative Worship Service  
First Christian Church, McAllen





***THANKS TO DR. PHYL***

Many thanks to Dr. Phyllis Thackery for filling the pulpit for Max on Sunday, Oct. 18, while he was on a short vacation. Her service is greatly appreciated, and, we hear, greatly accepted.



***WOMEN'S MINISTRY NEWS***

Dorothy Gates will need help with the October Rummage Sale. Since it's mainly about Christmas and the fall holidays, she is asking all peoples to rummage - pun intended - through their closets for any holiday items which can be sold and get them turned in. If they are in storage and won't be used, trees, yard ornaments - those are all likely candidates.

A chart will be posted and she asks for people to sign up for various working times.



***HOLIDAY ITEM RUMMAGE SALE***

On the weekend of October 28 and 29 the church is having a "Holiday Season Rummage Sale." The purpose of the sale is to offer items you or your friends are willing to sell that are seasonal in nature. The idea came about at the end of the February rummage sale. There were a number of Christmas items left over at that sale so it was suggested that we hold a sale in October to sell those, and other items people had available.



The concept of the sale was expanded to include fall seasonal and Thanksgiving items. Halloween materials

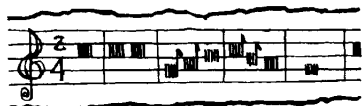
are also included. Other rummage sale items will be accepted for sale as well; however NO CLOTHING items are included in the sale.

Dorothy Gates is chairing this event for the church. It is one of the five major fund-raising events planned for the year. Each event has a goal of raising \$2,000. Please do whatever you can to help reach this goal on this event. This is NOT replacing the Spring Rummage Sale.

***DISCIPLES IDENTITY STATEMENT***

The "Identity Statement" of the Disciples of Christ has been developed as "A movement for Wholeness in a Fragmented World. We welcome all to the Lord's Table as God has welcomed us." The first of four "Principles of Identity were listed in the September newsletter. The following are the second set of four principles:

1. We structure our community around the biblical idea of covenant, emphasizing not obedience to human authority but accountability to one another because of our shared obedience to Christ.
2. We participate in God's mission for the world, working with partners to heal the brokenness of creation and bring justice and peace to the whole human family.
3. We hear a special calling to make visible the unity of all Christians, proclaiming that in our diversity we belong to one another because we commonly belong to Christ.
4. We witness to the Gospel of God's saving love for the world in Jesus Christ, while continuing to struggle with how God's love may be known to others in different ways.



## CHOIR PRACTICE

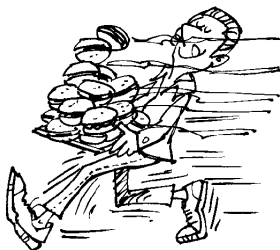
### WELCOME BACK CHOIR

Helen Baumeister has returned to lead her flock as the choir began practice again on Tuesday, September, 27. The first Sunday for the choir to be present will be on October 2. The choir is an excellent choice to enable members to contribute to the appreciation of worship by all people.

You do not have to be a professional or (as in the case of the pastor) a good singer. The joy of participation is sufficient. By joining the choir you will be adding to "The Joyful Noise." Please consider joining us for practice at 7:00 pm on Tuesdays.

### MUJERES UNIDAS

Labor Day was a great day of joy for many at the Church. The Mujeres Unidas organization (Women United) was invited to a picnic lunch at the church. Jared Leadbetter and Don Bueher served as cooks for hamburgers. Other typical picnic fixins were included as was ice cream.



The clients of Unidas Mujeres are women who have been battered and abused in relationships, either married or not. The women and their children are provided safe shelter, programs for development of personal growth and self esteem, and skills to help them find good employment.

At the picnic one of the young boys celebrated his 9<sup>th</sup> birthday. He was given an individual cake with a "Happy Birthday" and one #9 candle burning. He was asked to make a wish before blowing out the candle. In his wish he said: "As for myself, I have no wish. I wish only for my mother to live in a safe place and to not

die." That was quite an inspirational moment for the nearly 20 members who attended this event.

Many who were present believe that this should be an annual event hosted by the church. Some even believe, in line with the Pastor's continuing request for church outreach activities, that Mujeres Unidas would be a worthy group for the church to provide assistance in a variety of ways.

Well . . . If it is to be????



### GREET AND EAT

September 21 found 12 of us at our *Greet and Eat* spot - Olive Garden on north 10<sup>th</sup>. Mishka chose this evening to be a bit cantankerous so it was a bit loud at the table. But otherwise, it appeared a good time was had by all.

The food was good as was totally expected. Without a doubt, Olive Garden could be revisited.

For October, Red Lobster on north 10<sup>th</sup> is the spot to be - October 19 at 5:00 p.m. See you there.

For any further questions, contact Pat Shupe for arrangements.

### BOARD MEETING ON THE 9<sup>TH</sup>

Patty Barrett has called a meeting of the Board to follow worship on the 9<sup>th</sup> of October. That meeting is in lieu of the September 18<sup>th</sup> meeting which was cancelled.



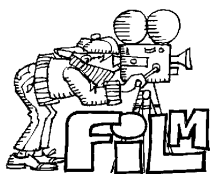
### TRIBE OF DAN

The Ministry of Creative Embellishment

What surprises does the Tribe have in store for October? Well, there's World Communion Sunday on October 2<sup>nd</sup>. Think of that - all the Christian people of

the world having communion this Sunday, thinking of each other having communion. What a wonderful thought.

To share communion with the world. Come and see how The Tribe will do it.



## ***1<sup>st</sup> WEDNESDAY MOVIE NIGHT***

**The Social Network  
Oct. 5**

*The Social Network* is a 2010 drama film about the founding of the social networking website, *Facebook*, and the resulting lawsuits. The film was directed by David Fincher and features a cast including Jesse Eisenberg, Andrew Garfield, Justin Timberlake, Armie Hammer, Max Minghella, Brenda Song, Rashida Jones, Joseph Mazzello, and Rooney Mara.



Aaron Sorkin's screenplay adapts Ben Mezrich's 2009 book *The Accidental Billionaires*. Sorkin makes a cameo appearance as an unimpressed advertiser. Neither founder Mark Zuckerberg nor any other member of Facebook was involved with the project, although Eduardo Saverin was a consultant for Mezrich.

Snacks served. Fun starts at 6:15, movie at 6:30.

## ***THIS MONTH'S HUMOR***

After being married for 60 years, I took a careful look at my wife one day and said, ... "Sixty years ago we had a cheap house, a junk car, slept on a sofa bed and watched a 10-inch black and white TV, but I got to sleep every night with a hot 18-year-old girl.

Now ... I have a \$500,000 home, a \$35,000 car, a nice big bed and a large screen TV, and I'm sleeping with a 79-year-old woman. It seems to me that you're not holding up your side of things.

My wife is a very reasonable woman. She told me to go out and find a hot 18-year-old girl and she would make sure that I would once again be living in a cheap house, driving a junk car, sleeping on a sofa bed and watching a 10-inch black and white TV.

Aren't older women great? They really know how to solve an old guy's problems.

## ***TAKE OWNERSHIP OF YOUR CHURCH***

Early in our relationship Max insisted we find a church where we would belong. Since we were both ex-Catholics at the time, I wasn't sure where to start. So we interviewed a few pastors. One made us want to run for the hills. Where we chose to go at the time was an ELCA Lutheran church with a wonderful pastor by the name of Ray Flachmeier.

As I had not really attended church since I was in high school, I had no idea what "belonging" to a church meant. Ray was the best teacher we could have had.

For Max and me, when we commit - we commit! When anything was going on in that church, we were there.

We learned to "belong" to a church, that to "own" our church, we had to *participate* in that church. Ray gave classes on tithing and I finally learned what that meant, that it was up to us to support the church, not some ill gotten notion I had in my head from previous church encounters.



## ***LINGER-LONGER SUNDAY***

Our monthly Linger - Longer Sunday is October 2 following worship. Hosts are Rachel Pena and Jennifer DaFoe.

Please take the opportunity to stay a while...to "Linger-Longer" and have fellowship with new people as well as old friends. Enjoy the refreshments as well.

Join in the camaraderie and the goodies. Pop in after church for fabulous fellowshiping!

We learned fellowship was a magic word and when we “fellowshipped” with our fellow congregants, we made friends and supported each other through thick and thin.

When things had to be done - work days, pot lucks, fundraisers - everybody pitched in because that was what “belonging” to a church meant.

My heart will always hold a special place for Ascension Lutheran. Not only did it change my husband from Archie Bunker to the Max you know today, it changed my whole attitude about church and what “belonging” really means.

As with all things, showing up for the first time to help can be scary, but after that it’s all up hill.

Take ownership of your church. Be part of the happenings. Eat at the potlucks - it takes time and effort to put one on and when people don’t show up to eat the good food people cook, well, it’s sad.

Jesus fed the 5,000 with a loaf of bread - or, as Max has suggested - was it just the sharing between new friends?

There are many events coming up in the next few months and without your help they won’t happen. Take ownership, belong - simply show up. Everyone will be glad to see you.



## EVENTS

- 10/2 Linger Longer - Jennifer DaFoe & Rachel Pena
  - 10/5 Movie Night-6:30 p.m. - The Social Network
  - 10/6 Women’s Meeting - 4:00 p.m.
  - 10/9 Board Meeting for September
  - 10/19 Greet & Eat - 5:00 p.m. - Red Lobster on North 10<sup>th</sup>
  - 10/28-29 Holiday Rummage Sale
  - 10/31 All Saints Day
- 



## OCTOBER CELEBRATIONS

### ☺ Birthdays ☺

10/5 Helen Baumeister

10/20 Greg Futrelle

10/22 Johnnie Collum

10/24 Blaine Hendrick

### ♥Anniversaries♥

10/6/1984 Max & Roda Grubb

10/22/1986 Pat & Norm Shupe

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**FCC Christian Church  
(Disciples of Christ)  
1400 N. 10<sup>th</sup> St.  
McAllen, TX 78504  
(956) 687-8519**

**Ministers..... The Congregation  
Pastor. .... Max G. Grubb  
Board Chair. .... Patty Barrett  
Admin. Assistant. .... Jennifer DaFoe  
Organist. .... Rexanne Pederson  
Choir Director. .... Helen Baumeister  
Adult Sunday School. .... 8:45 a.m.  
Morning Worship. .... 10:00 a.m.  
Choir Practice. .... Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.  
Spanish Speaking Church:3:00 p.m.**