

# Disciples Good News



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First Christian Church, (Disciples of Christ), McAllen

June 2015

*McAllen's Voice of  
Positive Christianity!*

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As I looked at the calendar while getting ready to write this newsletter, as well as to prepare an up-coming sermon, I noticed a rather large number of major celebrations in a rather short period of time on the calendar. I noticed that there were 6 religious or secular celebrations within a 7 week period of time. (For our Canadian friends we could make that 7 celebrations within the same period of time if we include Victoria Day on the 18<sup>th</sup> of May.) These celebrations begin with Mother's Day on May 10 and ending on June 21 with Father's Day. Sandwiched in between are Pentecost Sunday (the birthday of the church through the gift of the Holy Spirit), Memorial Day, Trinity Sunday, and Juneteenth Sunday.

It struck me that we do have a lot to celebrate in a rather short period of time . . . but . . . we always do. We have a lot to celebrate each day of the year. All of us live one day at a time, and each day we get up we can be grateful for one more day to appreciate the life God has given to us. I think we can make that even more important in light of recent news about the decline of the influence of Christianity. It has been noted that young people are being heavily influenced by the Islamic faith as well as by atheism. Many of those in the population over 55 are simply not being involved in what they consider "organized religion."

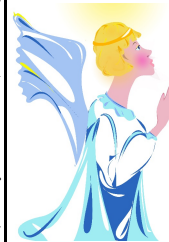
How does this tie into gratitude and to you and me? I think in a number of ways. We can be grateful that we have much to celebrate each day of our lives, and that gratitude includes being thankful for all that God has given to us. In addition, we have a responsibility as Christians (followers of Christ) to do his work. If it is true, and it certainly seems to be, that fewer people are being influenced into a Christian community, we need to be carrying out the commandment of Jesus to "go out and tell the world." I have often said, "If it is to be, it is up to me."

Some churches, I have been told, have "Friends and Family" days at church three or four times per year. The purpose is to give their members a reason to bring someone to church. That does seem to work, but . . . I am not sure we need a reason to bring people to church that is any greater than the commandment of Jesus to do so. One way to show your gratitude for this day, and every day, is to invite someone to come to church with you . . . and then . . . they can share in your gratitude.

## Blessings

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### PRAYER CONCERNS



Robert Allen  
Helen Baumeister  
Don & Pat Buehre  
Steve DeLeon & family



Ray Forsythe & family  
Max Grubb  
John, Dolly & Linda Jackson  
Jared Leadbetter  
Bobbie Lovitt  
Alice McKenzie  
Baldemar Perez family  
Lorene Stebbins  
Glenn Trapp  
Roger & Eileen Veum & family  
Winter Texans headed home.  
First Christian Church, McAllen



**ANOTHER NEW MEMBER**

Dr. Linda Jackson made May 10, Mother’s Day, an even more happy day in our worship at FCC as she joined our fellowship by Affirmation of Faith. Linda has been at worship with us for several months and was accompanied by her parents, John and Dolly. The parents are no longer able to attend because of their health conditions. Linda is a college professor. She lives in McAllen, and her telephone number is (956) 655-6416.

It is always gratifying to have those who worship decide to join our fellowship. In addition to making a statement about their beliefs in God and Jesus Christ, they make a statement that this is the place where they can effectively worship.



### NEW MINISTRIES

At the May 17<sup>th</sup> Board of Director meeting Pastor Max discussed the desirability of the church establishing outreach ministries. During the past two plus years, these ministries have taken a “back seat” to other matters relating to the church as we prepared to sell our previous facilities and move toward construction of the new church. However, the Pastor reminded the members, the reason we exist as a church is to carry God’s word, and we do that best by reaching out in ministry.

The Board was asked, and the congregation is also asked, to consider ways by which FCC McAllen can develop ministries that are doable and meaningful. Some suggestions given at the meeting were:

- 1) Promote monthly evening programs for the community, i.e; How to recognize dementia and what to do about it; caring for the individual and also for the care-giver; elder abuse.
- 2) Re-establish our Seniors program, “Managing Reality - Answers for Seniors” to have monthly meetings with valuable topics for seniors;
- 3) Hold nutrition classes;
- 4) Establish English as second language classes;
- 5) Work closely with Mujeres Unidas to support women and their children who have lived through being physically abused.

Your suggestions are solicited about ministries that can be valuable to the community and can be accomplished

by our congregation. More importantly, however, will be our members’ commitment to the success of our ministries.



### PAPERS FOR PAWS



One of the ministries adopted by the Board at the meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup> is a ministry to animals. That is “Papers for Paws.” The local shelter always is in need of newspapers to be used in play areas and cages for the kittens and the puppies. The church will act as a collection center for your used newspapers and will then send them to the shelter. It is an easy to do ministry that offers a service for God’s creatures.



### NOTES ABOUT LIFE:

The following quotes are from a book: “Living a Life of Purpose,” by Sheree Parris Nudd.

- 1) The secret of success does not work, unless you do. John A. Hamilton, Jr.
- 2) Each failure serves as a rung in the ladder of success. Edward A. Gloegler
- 3) To keep a lamp burning we have to keep putting oil in it. Mother Teresa
- 4) Success is getting up just one more time than you fall down. Anonymous
- 5) If you think you’re too small to have an impact, try going to bed with a mosquito. Anita Roddick

### ADDITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICES

The Board of Directors discussed the possibilities of establishing one or two additional worship services to serve more people. One worship would be an alternative style of service whereas the other would be a worship using Spanish language. The Board asked Pastor Max to



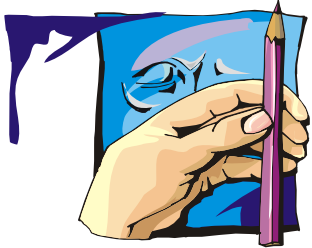
explore these opportunities with an individual who has been serving in another Disciple location and might consider working as a “supply pastor” until the service(s) become established and able to financially help support that individual as an associate pastor to work with Max.

6/26 Anita Mabry

6/30 Nedra Kinerk

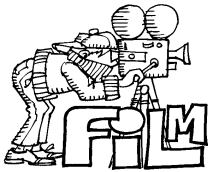
♥ Anniversaries ♥

6/4 Jerry & Tonii Leadbetter



**TRIBE OF DAN**  
*The Ministry of Creative Embellishment*

If you're interested in becoming a member, please contact Tonii Leadbetter or Roda Grubb.



**MOVIE MATINEE**

There will be no Movie Matinee this month.

Check out the Thoughts for the Week. Click on Home and you'll find it listed right there.  
[www.FCCDOCMcAllen.com](http://www.FCCDOCMcAllen.com)



**GREET AND EAT**

June's Greet and Eaters found Max and Roda at south Luby's, having a quiet dinner.

June is a busy month and there will be no Greet and Eaters this month.



**JUNE CELEBRATIONS**

☺ Birthdays ☺

6/5 Doris Holdcroft  
Kitty Thomas

6/6 Ed Barrett  
Glenn Trapp

6/9 Sharon Allen

6/12 Alvino Santos

6/17 Mishka Rhodes



**EVENTS**

6/21 Father's Day

6/28 Board Meeting

NOTE: No Movie Matinee or Greet & Eat this month.

**Christian Church(Disciples of Christ)**

**3133 W. Alberta Rd.**

**Edinburg, TX 78539**

(956) 687-8519

Ministers..... The Congregation  
Pastor..... Max G. Grubb  
Board Chair..... For the last month - Dorothy Gates  
Organist..... Rexanne Pederson  
Choir Director..... Helen Baumeister  
Children's Sunday School Teacher..... Oskar Lam  
Adult Sunday School..... 8:45 a.m.  
Children Sunday School..... 9:00 a.m.  
Morning Worship..... 10:00 a.m.  
Choir Practice..... Off for awhile