

Disciples Good News



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First Christian Church, (Disciples of Christ), McAllen
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March 2015

*McAllen's Voice of
Positive Christianity!*

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It's hard to believe that we are now into the third month of the new year and that means departure time for many of our Winter Texans. It is hard to see you go, you mean so much to us as you share worship and your lives with us. The church has a more vibrant feeling when you are with us, so please have a safe and healthy summer time and return to us for your winter stay. We will certainly miss you and rejoice in your return.

You have been with us to help us through the beginnings of some exciting times. You have seen some of our new growth with younger families, and the beginning of new childrens' classes. Most of you participated in having pictures taken for the church directory, and we do appreciate your participation. Many of you celebrated with us as we dedicated our land as we get ready to begin construction for our new church.

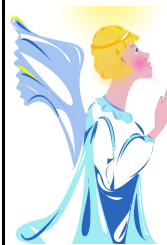
On a personal note, I want to thank all of you who supported me with your love and prayers during my recent surgery and continuing recovery. We will be connected with many of you through our new "prayer chain ministry." Some of you still have time to be involved in some other exciting activities. And for all of you, we hope you had a grand and glorious time in the Valley and that our worships provided a grand and glorious experience as well

As we have gathered together these past few months, I have often thought about the impact we all have on one another, a simple gesture of friendship, kindness, togetherness; a thought expressed in a way we had not considered; an attitude that reflected true Christian values. We are not always aware of how our presence and actions impact others. In a recent sermon I told the story of how we think too small. The example was about a man named Ezra Kimball who showed an interest in a young clerk at a shoe store, and talked to him about his faith. The young man was Dwight L. Moody who became one of the great Christian evangelists of his day.

That was not all . . . Dwight Moody impacted a pastor named Frederick B. Meyer, who later said some words which transformed the life of Mordecai Hamm who became an evangelist and therein he made the gospel available to a young man who became one of the greatest Christian evangelists of all time . . . Billy Graham.

We never know when one of our actions, thoughts, words, or deeds will become the touchstone of helping someone else come to a greater fulfillment of life. By following God's leadership and loving and serving one another, we can all play a part in God's great plan for creation. And that's not thinking too small!!!

Blessings



PRAYER CONCERNS



Robert Allen
Don & Pat Buehre
Steve DeLeon & family
Ray & Ellie Forsythe

Max Grubb
John, Dolly & Linda Jackson
Knell Family
Jared Leadbetter
Jerry Leadbetter
Bobbie Levitt
Alice McKenzie
Baldemar Perez family
Lorene Stebbins
Glenn Trapp
Roger Veum & family
First Christian Church, McAllen

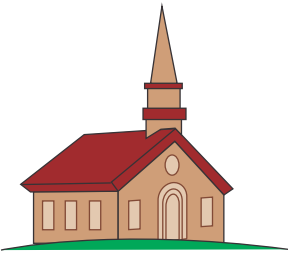
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Our church has been invited to participate in a "feel good" and worthy ministry outreaching to children who want to connect with their fathers who are in prison. The opportunity is through the "Forgiven Ministry" which

works to “meet the spiritual, physical, and emotional needs of the children of inmates, the inmates themselves, ex-inmates and their families resulting in healing the hurts, redirecting lives, and restoring these individuals into the community as productive and commendable citizens.”

The activity will consist of a full day on Saturday, March 28, as you will help take the children to the prison and be involved with activities that help the children re-connect with their dads. Part of our calling as Christians is to visit the prisons, and in this case, we not only accomplish that mission, but even more, we are ministering to the needs of children.

Our church will be joined by other church groups on this day to carry out the outreach. Bev Drane will serve as our coordinator.



NEW BUILDING NEWS

LAND DEDICATION SERVICE

Following worship on Sunday, February 8, many attended the Land Dedication ceremony. Excitement was felt as we walked on our new land for the first time. Excitement was felt as Pastor Max spoke the words of gratitude to our loving God. Excitement was felt as the sign, erected by Veronica Abrigo, Chris Pederson and Mishka Rhodes, was unveiled and there, for all to see, were the words . . . Future Home. . .

For a visual of the ceremony, go to our website, www.fccdocmcallen.org and click on Pictures. There you’ll see Land Dedication. Click on that and you’ll see a continuous slide show.

Our new address will be 1201 East Fern Avenue, McAllen, Texas, 78501.

NEW BUILDING PROGRESS

The building committee had meetings with the architects for the project on the last two Fridays in February with

very pleasing results. Office layout diagrams were submitted and approved. 3D diagrams were provided which enabled the committee members to “see” what the offices and kitchen would look like. Renderings of the building and color selection were approved.

Plans are nearing completion and being made ready to submit to the City of McAllen for approval. Hopefully, this puts us on track for a later March or early April construction start.

The following is a list of items for which donations in memory of, or in honor of, may be made:

- Trees: (Over and above other landscape cost) \$5,000 (\$350 per tree)
- Sanctuary sound system: \$5,000, Includes assisted hearing devices.
- Sanctuary audio visual system: \$5,000
- Sanctuary LED Sign: \$16,800
- Choir Risers: (\$3,000)
- Exterior Building Siding: \$35,000

Appropriate plaques and sign markers will be installed as permanent appreciation of the gifts are bestowed.

GROUND BREAKING CEREMONY

On March 25th, at 9:00 a.m., the McAllen Chamber of Commerce will perform a ground breaking ceremony on our new land, preparatory to the start of the building. Another exciting time in the church.

The church would like to provide refreshments for this event. If you are so moved, please bring cookies or brownies on Sunday the 22nd for the event. Thank you for participating in this historic event for the church.

Your presence will make a difference also. If you are able to attend at that hour, please consider being there. It’s a simple way to support your church.

DISCIPLES 101 CLASS

The class is still scheduled to begin on Saturday, March 21, at 9:30 a.m. The class is open to all who would like

to learn about who we are and what we believe as Disciples. It is required for any who wish to participate as worship leaders in the new alternative style worship services being considered, or in the Hispanic language service being planned.

Knowing about our history as a church and how our theology developed can add a great deal of understanding to the way the scriptures are interpreted in our worship services.

GIVING OF YOUR TIME

Pastor Max talked of giving of our Time and Talents as part of our tithes, with even simple things having long range affects. So, in the Spirit of the Sermon, here is a list of possible ideas where you can put your time to use in the name of the church:



- Bring cookies
- Set up the cookies
- Make the coffee
- Clean up the cookies
- Take charge of the video for Sunday School
- Volunteer to be a Deacon
- Volunteer to be an Elder
- Join the Tribe of Dan
- Join the Choir
- Volunteer to prepare the newsletter for mailing
- Join those and fill the empty water jugs with Watermill, or the like, water.
- Volunteer to hide Easter Eggs
- Bring Easter Eggs stuffed with surprise
- Bring surprises to stuff the Easter Eggs with

A myriad of ways to serve the Lord. Join in. These things have to be done. Why *not* you?

LIVING A LIFE OF PURPOSE

The following excerpts come from a book “Living a Life of Purpose” written by Sheree Parris Nudd. These are statements about the purpose of life written by a variety of persons, and most of them can speak directly to us about our purpose.

“I walked for miles at night along the beach, composing bad blank verse and searching endlessly for someone wonderful who would step out of the darkness and change my life. It never crossed my mind that that person could be me.” Ana Quindlen

“Nobody really cares if you’re miserable, so you might as well be happy.” Cynthia Nelms

“Every great oak tree was once a nut that stood its ground.” Anonymous

TRIBE OF DAN

The Ministry of Creative Embellishment

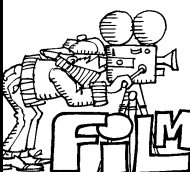


Due to the restrictions on space, the Tribe is keeping it small this year. Keep your eyes on the altar for the symbolism you will find there.

We’re always looking for new members.

MOVIE MATINEE

Big Hero 6



With all the heart and humor audiences expect from Walt Disney Animation Studios, "Big Hero 6" is an action-packed comedy-adventure about robotics prodigy Hiro Hamada, who learns to harness his genius-thanks to his brilliant brother Tadashi and their like-minded friends: adrenaline junkie Go Go Tamago, neatnik Wasabi, chemistry whiz Honey Lemon and fanboy Fred. When a devastating turn of events catapults them into the midst of a dangerous plot unfolding in the streets of San Fransokyo, Hiro turns to his closest companion-a robot named Baymax-and transforms the group into a band of high-tech heroes determined to solve the mystery. (C) Disney



Movie Matinee will be on Thursday, the 19th, at 2:30.

Popcorn and refreshments, as always will be served.

Check it out for the Weekly Sermon!

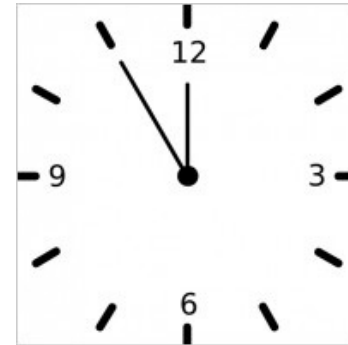
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GREET AND EAT

February found the Greet and Eaters at the North 10th very busy Chick-fil-a. We scrambled for a table and got front seat view of a very busy fast food joint. Nevertheless, fun was had, especially Mishka, and we all enjoyed our time together. Good to have Gene and Glenn back with us.

Wednesday, the 18th of March, at 5:00 o'clock, we will gather at Bjs over by the Convention Center. See you there!



CHANGE YOUR CLOCKS!!!!!!!

Sunday, March 8th, 2 a.m.



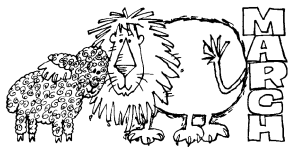
MARCH CELEBRATIONS

☺ Birthdays ☺

- 3/12 Victoria Leadbetter
- 3/13 Jerry Leadbetter
- 3/21 Shirley Garrett
- 3/28 Joyce Barnett

♥ Anniversaries ♥

None for March



EVENTS

- 3/9-13 McAllen ISD Spring Break
- 3/15 - Board Meeting
- 3/17 - St. Patrick's Day
- 3/18 - Greet & Eat – BJs - 5:00 p.m., Convention Center
- 3/19 - Movie Matinee - Big Hero 6
- 3/25 - McAllen Chamber of Commerce Ground Breaking Celebration
- 3/29 - Palm Sunday

Sundays - Cookie Capers & Coffee after church, bring cookies to keep supply going.

**FCC Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)**

3133 W. Alberta Rd.
Edinburg, TX 78539
(956) 687-8519

Ministers..... The Congregation
Pastor. Max G. Grubb
Board Chair. Dorothy Gates
Organist. Rexanne Pederson
Choir Director. Helen Baumeister
Children's Sunday School Teacher. Gilbert Martinez
Adult Sunday School. 8:45 a.m.
Children Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
Morning Worship..... 10:00 a.m.
Choir Practice..... Off for March