

Disciples Good News



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May 2015

*McAllen's Voice of
Positive Christianity!*

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These last few years I have been increasingly aware of how hopes and dreams can fluctuate to the point that one minute (day or other period of time) it feels like everything is really working for the best, and the next period of time it seems like everything is coming to a halt or nothing is really going to work out. That's life, we will always have our ups and downs. It is certainly important to remember that all hopes and dreams do not become reality, but that is not a reason to quit hoping and dreaming. It is not a shame to have dreams that don't come true. The real shame is failing to have dreams. Without dreams, some of our most significant medical or economic advances would never have come into being.

We have certainly experienced roller coaster happenings during the period of selling our former building, moving into temporary quarters and trying to get our new building completed. I am sure we will have more before we finally are relocated.

We had hoped to begin Spanish language services as well as alternative type worship experiences. We still have hopes for these activities and will continue to work for their realities. But . . . for now anyway . . . those hopes have been put on the shelf. When we find people who have the capacity to participate as leaders and who have received adequate training we can begin to offer these services

It is important to all of us as we go through this experience of living to keep a positive and hopeful attitude that no matter what, God is with us, and is aware of our needs and our hopes. As an old saying goes: "He has not brought us this far to let us down now." That thought reminds me of an illustration I used in a recent sermon to illustrate how our life can flow as children of God:

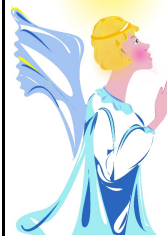
"I am more than happy, I am joyful, I am more than healthy, I am whole. I am more than alive, I am radiant,

I am more than successful, I am free. I am more than caring, I am loving, I am more than tranquil, I am peaceful. I am more than interested, I am involved. I am more than adequate, I am triumphant. I am more than fortunate, I am prosperous. I am more than human, I am a child of God.

Who could hope for any more than to be a Child of God?

Blessings

PRAYER CONCERNS



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

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

CONSTRUCTION PLANS AUTHORIZED



At a meeting with the building committee and the architect on April 14, some major steps were taken to proceed with construction of the new church building.

The first step was to conclude that negotiation with only

one contractor was not in the best interest of the church. The original decision was to select a contractor who had among the very best reputations over a long period of time as a builder of quality projects. However cost estimates did not agree with the original hopes of the committee.

In order to provide all contractors an opportunity to bid on our project it is necessary to complete all of the construction plans and specifications so that all concerned will be providing costs based upon the type of construction and the specific materials which will be required. The Architect and the Committee still believe the final construction price for the new building will be in line with our original building cost forecast.

MAY POT LUCK

Plan on staying after worship on Sunday, May 10, to honor Dorothy Gates who is moving to Houston. Dorothy has been a long term, faithful member and servant of this church. Her absence will be quite profound as she has been a stalwart with the Christian Women’s groups, the food pantry, chair of the outreach committee, chair of the Board of Directors, active in about every worship service, special or regular, active in most all of our special ministries, and major leader or participant in all of our rummage sales, and major coordinator in our move into temporary quarters from our former church facility. The church needs to show our gratitude for such wonderful and loyal service, as well as pray for a good life to continue for someone who has exemplified God’s love to everyone here.

Remember there is no oven or stove so crockpots, etc. are the ticket of the day.

You are encouraged to stay and join in the event even if you do not bring a dish for the pot-luck. We always have more than enough. Your presence is more important than a food dish. This is not an exclusive “food club.” All who worship here are encouraged to attend our pot-luck events, particularly this special one honoring a very special person.

Childrens’ Sunday School Teacher Wanted!

DIRECTORY BEING PUBLISHED

All necessary materials have been forward to Lifetouch Publishing for completing our directory. We are excited about the quality of work that has been completed so far. The pictures of those who participated seem to be of very high quality. We are anticipating delivery early in May.

MORE NEW MEMBERS

On Sunday, April 12, 2015, we were blessed with the addition of two new members of the congregation. They are Tony and Connie Kalena. Their Valley area address is 3911 Pelican Way, Mission, Texas. E-mail is: mission2@earthlink.net.

Tony and Connie joined our congregation by “transfer of membership” meaning they have been members of the Christian Church before transferring membership to FCC in McAllen. Please continue to make the Kalenas feel even more apart of the congregation.

PLEASE HELP

This is a personal appeal from your pastor. . . PLEASE HELP ME DO WHAT I AM SUPPOSED TO DO! A major function of a pastor is to provide pastoral care. Among other things that means the pastor should provide care to those who are sick. He, or she, can not provide that care if they are unaware of your circumstances.

When you are sick or in need of any pastoral care, please notify either the pastor or your elder of your situation. We want to serve because . . . we care!

NEW CHURCH BUS

NOT AN EASY TASK

You might think purchasing a bus for the church would be a rather easy thing to accomplish. Simply contact someone who sells vehicles and start the process. Problem is that there are not such



resources here in the Valley. Having to deal with dealers in Houston, Dallas, or as far away as Illinois complicates the task because it requires either buying a vehicle sight un-seen or lengthy travel to evaluate the bus for sale.

If you are not successful on the first attempt, several other long-distance trips might be in order. Therefore, it takes a good amount of research and time to narrow down the prospects. Once a bus has been selected, and purchased there still is the logistical problem of going to the source and returning to the Valley.

After the bus has been purchased and brought to the Valley and is ready for use, the church must still resolve the question of "Who is going to drive the bus?" The task team has some ideas but would more than welcome any suggestions? Our ears and minds are open!

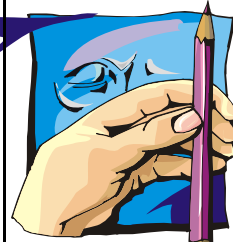
Thanks to ChristArt.com for the bus clipart.

I've learned that I do not have to be perfect all the time for my family to love me. . . Age 18

I've learned that the person with big dreams is more powerful than one with all the facts. . . Age 51

I've learned that people are about as happy as they decide to be. . . Age 79

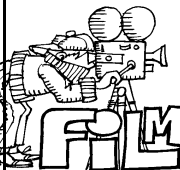
TRIBE OF DAN
The Ministry of Creative Embellishment



The Tribe admits finding it hard to enhance our temporary space. No matter. Keep your eyes open. Who knows what might pop up?

MOVIE MATINEE

The Identical
May 13, 2:30 p.m.



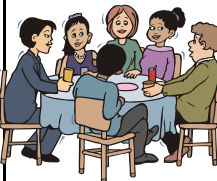
Twin brothers are unknowingly separated at birth; one of them becomes an iconic rock 'n' roll star, while the other struggles to balance his love for music and pleasing his father.

Movie Matinee will be on Thursday, the 13th, at 2:30. Popcorn and refreshments, as always will be served.

Check out the Thoughts for the Week. Click on Home and you'll find it listed right there.

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GREET AND EAT



April's Greet and Eaters feasted away at Cracker Barrel. They'd run out of pot pie but we were able to find goodies to eat anyway. Savored our time with Dorothy Gates.

DISCIPLES 101 CLASSES SUSPENDED



The Saturday morning Disciples classes have been temporarily postponed. Pastor Max is working on some other potential ways by which those who worship with us can be

made aware of the value of being "Disciples of Christ." A large number of churches of all denominations are experiencing reduced attendance at worship, which also means a decline in Christian ministries in the community.

Disciple churches seem to experience a decline when a pastor is replaced and the new pastor is not committed to being a Disciple and the congregation is not strong in the understanding of why it is important to continue to be a Disciple congregation. As we build our new facilities it is also important we build and strengthen ourselves as a Disciple congregation. Your suggestions on how to achieve these objectives are welcome.

LIVE AND LEARN

The following excerpts are from a booklet by the title of: "Live and Learn and Pass It On" by H. Jackson, Brown, Jr:

May will find the Greet and Eaters dining a la buffet at Luby's



MAY CELEBRATIONS

☺ Birthdays ☺

5/1 Mark Menzio

5/20 Chris Pederson

5/30 Alexa Vasquez

♥ Anniversaries ♥

None for May



EVENTS

- 5/5 Cinco de Mayo
- 5/7 National Day of Prayer
- 5/10 Farewell Pot Luck for Dorothy Gates
- Mother's Day
- 5/13 Movie Matinee - The Identical - 2:30 p.m.
- 5/14 Greet & Eat, Luby's at Jackson & 83, 5:00 p.m.
- 5/16 Armed Forces Day
- 5/17 Board Meeting
- 5/25 Memorial Day

Sundays - Since Roda is temporarily doing the Children's Sunday School, we need somebody to step up and take over Cookie Capers & Coffee after church. Thank you!



Happy
Cinco de Mayo!





Christian Church(Disciples of Christ)

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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..... ??????????????
 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