

Disciples Good News

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3133 W. ALBERTA RD., EDINBURG, TX 78539

February 2015



First Christian Church, (Disciples of Christ), McAllen

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*McAllen's Voice of
Positive Christianity!*



February is the month in which we celebrate Valentine's Day. It is, you might say, a month in which we celebrate love. Most often it is a time for us to give candy, flowers, cards, or other gifts to the one we love, or sometimes, a few others. Maybe it should be a time in which we practice the love that God calls us to have.

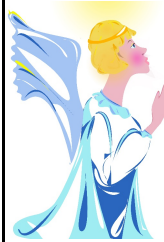
At a second grade Valentine's Day party a young girl had been designated to be the "postman" to deliver cards to the students which had been given by other students in the class. She called the names which had been written on the cards and she noticed that some of the students were very popular and they received a number of cards. Other students received fewer cards and one student had not received any cards. You can imagine that student's disappointment and feeling of rejection as name after name was being called to receive a card and yet her name was not being called.

Finally, the "postman" was able to call this young student's name and she noticed how it made the student's face light up and a smile came across her face as she opened her card and felt like she had someone who cared. The "postman" recognized her own mother's hand writing on the card and realized that it was her mother who had given the card.

She discovered that her mother had obtained a class roster and sent a card to every child in the room and had signed them "your secret admirer." She did so in order to assure that everyone experience the feeling that someone cared enough to give them a card. The little postman learned from her mother what her mother had learned from God: that God's love reaches even the unlovable, and everybody is invited.

February might, therefore, be a very good month for us to reach out, not only to our loved ones, but others we may know who can benefit from a sign of our Christian love . . . after all . . . Jesus said, "Love one another."

Blessings



PRAYER CONCERNS



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

Max Grubb
Jared Leadbetter
Jerry Leadbetter
Knell Family
Alice McKenzie
Glenn Trapp
First Christian Church, McAllen

LOOSE CHANGE ADDS UP

Many have found that an easy way of providing additional support for the church is to put loose change into one of our "Helping Hands" coin boxes. At the end of the day, or any convenient time, simply put your loose change in the box. When the box is full, bring it to the church. On average the boxes hold about \$50 in change. If each person who worships at FCC has only one box a year, the income of the church is increased by about \$3,000. It is an easy way to help out. The boxes are in the narthex (lobby) of the church.

LOSING MARTY KNELL

Marty Knell passed away peacefully and unexpectedly on January 28, 2015. It was only two months after losing his beloved Penny. Marty kept working on getting his affairs in order after Penny left and in the last few days prior to his passing had stated, "All was in order."

Telling how he had seen Penny vividly in his dreams makes one wonder. As Max would say, "You could just bet Penny was waiting at the Kissing Pole to

welcome Marty home.”



NEW BUILDING NEWS
LAND DEDICATION SERVICE

Following worship on Sunday, February 8, all are encouraged to attend a special dedication service for the land at our new church facility. It will be a very short dedication service, but one which will take us one step closer to the reality of building our new church, and thanking God for all He has given to our church over these 100 years.

Our new address is 1201 East Fern Avenue, McAllen, Texas. The location is easy to find. From our church at Alberta and McColl go to McColl, turn right, South, and go the Fern. Turn left, East, on Fern. On the North side of the road between McColl and Jackson you will see a Crossroads Baptist Church on the west corner of a plot of land. Our Church will be located on east end of that plot of land.

In addition to having our dedication service, we will install a “Future Home” sign to allow passers-by to know what is going to happen, and who will be building on that plot. When construction begins, (sometime around mid to late March) we will have a ground breaking ceremony with our members, our architect, contractor, and chamber of commerce.

Having both ceremonies will give us maximum promotion to help us attract visitors. Please join us at these important events.

BOARD APPROVES LED SIGN

At the meeting of the Board of Directors on January 18, the purchase of an LED color, lighted message sign for installation at the new church was approved. The Building Task Team had already recommended approval of purchase from the Golden Rule sign company in the amount of \$16,800. The original budget amount included in the total budget for the new building was \$20,000.

When installed, the church can change any

messages in an instant. We believe we can be more visible to the community through our messages. Recent national statistics indicate that nearly 68% of all first time visitors to a church claim that the electronic sign was one of the major motivators to attend a particular church. The building committee believed that, as a church, we should utilize as many techniques that we can to attract visitors.

NEW BUILDING DONATIONS

We are continuing to receive donations for the new building. They can be given either as cash donations or three year pledges. Donations may be given “in honor of” or “in memory of.” They may be designated for certain phases of the building or items within the building. In addition to those specific memorials listed below that are available, items may be added to the list at a later date like stained glass window, new refrigerator, etc.

Items still not funded:

- Sanctuary sound system: \$5,000, Includes assisted hearing devices
- Sanctuary audio visual system: \$5,000
- Sanctuary chairs: \$7,000, \$70 per chair
- Outdoor LED Sign: \$16,800
- Choir Risers - Portable altar/stage: \$5,000
- Exterior Building Siding: \$35,000

The following items have been funded:

- Landscape: \$10,000, estate of Patty Barrett and \$5,000 donation in honor - person and donor not listed at this time
- Church Steeple: \$2,500, Kinerk family in honor of Robert and Cheryl Kinerk
- Portable Baptistry: \$3,000, From Gene Percival in memory of his wife, Jan, and daughter
- LED Sign Donation: \$400
- Cash Donations for Building: \$400
- Total donations and pledges to date: \$16,300

DISCIPLES 101 CLASS

Beginning on Saturday, March 8, 2015, at 9:30 a.m., Pastor Max will teach a series of classes about Disciples of Christ history and beliefs. The classes will include information about how and why the Disciples came into being, the legacies for today from our original founders, our foundational beliefs and practices of baptism, communion, membership and theology of Jesus Christ.

A new, additional, alternative style worship is being considered and those who are interested in forming that particular worship will be required to attend these classes; however, they will be of interest to many more people. The classes will benefit all who worship with us at First Christian in McAllen to help them better appreciate our church.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

There is still time to sign-up for a photo in the Church Directory. Notice we are not calling it a Membership Directory because we are inviting ALL who worship with us at First Christian Church. We are doing this for a variety of reasons; i.e. 1) Everyone who worships with us is significant to the church, 2) this is our centennial year and we hope to have as complete a record of our worshipers as possible, 3) economic reasons about the directory (the number of pages of editorial in the directory is directly determined by the number of people being photographed, and the number of free directories the church receives is determined by the number of photos taken, and 4) a number of you for several years have asked for a pictorial directory in order for you to identify those who are in worship.

The actual photo time should not take over 10 minutes. Please donate that amount of time to making this a successful effort for our 100th birthday.

CHURCH TRANSPORTATION

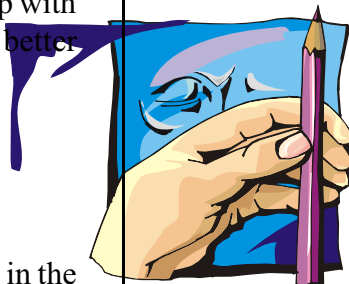
At a prior meeting of the Board of Directors the purchase of a Church Bus was approved. The amount of money approved was up



to \$30,000. Chris Pederson made the motion to purchase the bus, and, as a result, he has been serving as the one who is making initial investigations about types of transportation to consider, pricing and availability. He is seeking other members of the congregation to work with him in his efforts.

The purpose of purchasing transportation is to provide the church with the possibility of transporting people to and from church, to and from various church outings and activities, to develop youth activities, and perhaps even to bring new visitors to worship. It is another way in which, as a church, we can serve God's people.

Thanks to ChristArt.com for the bus clipart.



TRIBE OF DAN The Ministry of Creative Embellishment

The Tribe is regrouping for one of our busy seasons of the year, seeing how we can turn our temporary space into a meaning Ash Wednesday, Lenten and Easter Season.

We'll meet at 2:00, Saturday, January 31st, if anyone wishes to join us.

With all the kiddos we now have, an Easter Egg Hunt *has* to be in the works. We'll be gathering plastic eggs again as I believe our others are in the long term storage and the Good Lord only know where in there they are. So, if you see a bag of plastic eggs, bring it on in!

Thanks so much.

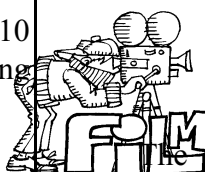
MOVIE MATINEE

Heaven is for Real



The monthly "Movie Night" is being changed to a "Matinee Movie."

Those who have been regular in their attendance for the movies have suggested that it would be easier for them to attend during day-time hours and not have to drive at night. All who have been attending on a regular basis do not work and, therefore, daytime activities are more attractive to them.



The first Matinee Movie will be on Thursday, February 12, 2015, at 2:30 p.m. The movie to be seen will be "Heaven is for Real." A small-town father must find the courage and conviction to share his son's extraordinary, life-changing experience with the world. This is a very interesting movie which should be able to provoke a lively discussion. Popcorn and refreshments, as always will be served.

We're Up!!!! Go take a look!
www.FCCDOCMcAllen.com



GREET AND EAT

January found the Greet and Eaters at IHop. No, it wasn't breakfast time. We simply decided to have a little breakfast for dinner or whatever else we wanted. As usual we had fun just being together.

Thursday, the 19th of February, at 5:00 o'clock will find Greet and Eaters at Chick-fil-A. Yep, decided to go fast food. The cows will be happy that night. See you there!



● **COOKIE CAPERS** ●

If you think about it, bring in cookies for after church *Cookie Capers*.

Any kind will do. Bake 'em, buy 'em. What you see is what you'll get and it will all be good! Never met a

bad cookie.



LIVE AND LEARN

The following tidbits come from a book "Live and Learn and Pass It On" written by H. Jackson Brown, Jr. It is a book with a compilation of statements from people from ages 5 thru 95 who share good stuff:

- I've learned that if someone says something

unkind about me, I must live so that no one will believe it. (Age 39)

- I've learned that every great achievement was once considered impossible. (Age 47)
- I've learned that it doesn't cost anything to be nice. (Age 66)
- I've learned that even when I have pains, I don't have to be a pain. (Age 82)
- I've learned that no matter how thin you slice it, there are always two sides. (Age 58)



FEBRUARY CELEBRATIONS

☺ **Birthdays** ☺

- 2/2 Lorene Stebbins
- 2/5 Gordon Terwilliger

♥ **Anniversaries** ♥

None for February

February *EVENTS*

- 2/8 Church Land Dedication - after church
- 2/14 Valentine's Day
- 2/15 Board Meeting
- 2/19 Greet & Eat -Chick-fil-A, N. 10th- 5:00 p.m.

Sundays - Cookie Capers & Coffee after church, please bring cookies to keep supply going. Choir taking February off.



**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
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 February**