

# Disciples Good News



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

**McAllen's Voice of  
Positive  
Christianity!**

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When thinking about writing this newsletter I was thinking about using a Large and Loud Headline like **"WE DID IT!"** That, of course, would refer to the actual completion of the sale of our former building on Nyssa

in McAllen. I decided against that, however, because it would seem to be bragging on ourselves when in actually WE did not do it. If you believe as I do, you would probably think God had something to do with it, so if by, WE, God is included, then that is an OK statement.

At any rate, the final payment from the Universal Church was received on time and with full interest. It is interesting to note that ALL payments from the Universal Church were received either before or on the date on which the payments were due. Everything was completed exactly as promised, and we wish and pray for the best outcome for the Universal Church and the many people they serve.

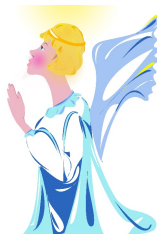
In the meantime, we are moving ahead with construction of our new facilities. As we do that, we are also going to move ahead with plans for new worship services, and new ministries. You will be learning more about these activities in the weeks ahead. For now, we can pause and give thanks to God who has blessed this church and its members for 100 years. Without God's blessings we would not be the vital growing body of Christ that we are today, and we know that . . . **The best is yet to come!**

Blessings,

## PRAYER CONCERNS



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



John & Cathie Grubb, Eric  
John, Dolly & Linda Jackson  
Jared Leadbetter  
Alice McKenzie  
John Morton & Family at the loss of Pat Morton

Baldemar Perez family  
Lorene Stebbins  
Norm Shupe  
Glenn Trapp  
Roger & Eileen Veum & family  
First Christian Church, McAllen



## NEW BUILDING NEWS

At last! Concrete for the foundation is set to be poured during the first week in September.

## Donations/Memorials for New Church

As we get closer to actually building our new facilities we should focus on gift giving and memorial possibilities presented by the new building. The following are some of the suggested giving/memorial opportunities. They can be given as cash donations or three year pledges.

Sanctuary audio/visual system - \$10,000

Sanctuary Chairs \$7,000 (\$70 per chair)

Outdoor LED Sign \$18,000

Landscape Trees (Over and above other landscape costs for which \$9,500 has been contributed or pledge \$6,000 or \$400 per tree)

Kitchen equipment \$4,000

Pulpit \$750

General Building Fund - Donations/memorials can be given in any amount.

Gifts/pledges have already been received for:

Portable Baptistry-\$3,000-from Gene Percival in Memory of Janice Percival and Kathleen Tarter

Church Steeple-\$2,500-from the Kinerk family in memory of Robert and Cheryl Kinerk

## BOARD MEETING

Our regular scheduled board meeting on Sunday, September 20, following worship will be anything but a "regular" meeting. Yes, we will have the usual committee

reports, etc. but Pastor Max plans to lay out a very exciting and aggressive plan to keep with the theme "SOAR!" He will explain his plans to the board to add as many as four new worship services within the next year which will result in having a total of five separate services instead of one. He will outline his suggestions for developing as many as 35 new ministries within the next year.

Even Max admits this is an extremely ambitious program but he insists on believing the scripture, "We Can Do ALL Things Through Christ Who Strengthens Us." Philippians 4:13

Every one is invited to attend the board meeting, and you are encouraged to attend this one in particular to see how he thinks we can do it all.



### **SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE WITH GOD**

One of those four extra services has already been initiated. That is "Sunday Morning Coffee with God"

at 8:45 Sunday morning. This service was started in order to attract some of those 70,000 people in the McAllen area who do not express an affiliation with any church, but proclaim a believe in God or some type of spirituality. It is also partially a result of Max's attendance at AA meetings for nearly 34 years. He has often said there are many people in his groups who have deep spiritual beliefs in God, but have not had any relationship with church's for many years.

The vast majority of those two groups of people assert that they are looking for ways to enhance their spiritual beliefs and to expand them into daily living. The service combines elements of traditional religion with scripture reading, short message from the pastor, meditational readings and discussion from the participants.

The service concludes with a unique form of communion. As the service is conducted with people sitting together around a table, perhaps like Jesus and the Disciples at the last supper, a meal and cup are served in a little different setting that would be so in traditional services.

Another feature of the service is the absence of passing a collection plate. We do have a "God Box" so that participants, or anyone from the church, can put an envelope in the box at any time they choose. The box can also be used as a location for prayer requests, and

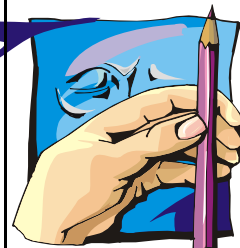
suggestions.

# Soaring!

We know that the best is yet to come. We are GOING TO **SOAR!!** Soaring was the theme for the recent General Assembly of the Disciples of Christ in Columbus, Ohio. The meaning of the theme was that our Church believes now is the time to Soar. We, as many other faith traditions, have been through a period of decline in attendance at worship as well as a decline in actual membership. However, that is beginning to change.

In recent years, the Disciples added a significant number of new church starts throughout the country and over 60,000 new members to the church rolls. Nearly 500 of our churches have become "Churches In Transformation" which means they have begun a transformation in the way they minister to their communities, and the way they attract new people to worship. We plan to become a Church In Transformation in the year 2015 which will take us along the successful path that others have been experiencing. Yes WE ARE GOING TO SOAR! (Look for signs to remind you of this at different locations throughout the Church.)

One of the signs of our SOARING will be seen in some of the ways we outreach to the community to attract new people to worship and do ministry. We may become a "Stained - Glass" type of ministry. Like stained glass, we will come in many different shapes, sizes, color hues, etc. but we will all fit together in one great beautiful picture. By doing so, we will have far greater appeal to the "Millennial's" and the Nones. (Those having no religious affiliation.)



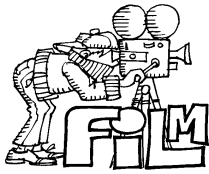
### **TRIBE OF DAN The Ministry of Creative Embellishment**

The Tribe is on the hunt for things that Soar. If you have anything you think we can use to be part of our "Things that Soar!" please bring it in.

We might be in a small location but we can sure practice

Soaring!!!! Thank you.

**MOVIE MATINEE**



**The Lego Movie**  
**September 2, 2:00**  
**p.m.**  
**Wednesday**



"The LEGO (R) Movie" is the first-ever, full-length theatrical LEGO (R) adventure. The original 3D computer animated story follows Emmet (Chris Pratt) an ordinary, rules-following, perfectly average LEGO minifigure who is mistakenly identified as the most extraordinary person and the key to saving the world. He is drafted into a fellowship of strangers on an epic quest to stop an evil tyrant, a journey for which Emmet is hopelessly and hilariously under prepared. (c) Warner Bros.

[www.FCCDOCMcAllen.com](http://www.FCCDOCMcAllen.com)

Follow the growth in pictures on our website.



**GREET AND EAT**

Wednesday, August 19, 5:00 p.m.  
 Fuddruckers saw our shrinking group gobbling down yummy food and enjoying some great fellowship.

Wednesday, September 16<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. will find the Greet and Eaters at Chili's on Nolana. Come join us and prove we really are going to Soar!

**SEPTEMBER CELEBRATIONS**

☺ Birthdays ☺

9/6 - Don Buhre

9/8 - Tonii Leadbetter

9/11 - Maryellen Neal

9/14 - Jared Leadbetter

Tomasita Camarill

9/22 - Jacob Guerra

9/28 - Jack Trammell

Phyllis Whittaker

9/30 - Alice McKenzie

♥ Anniversaries ♥



9/5/2009 Don & Pat Buehre  
 9/7/1968 Chris & Rexanne Pederson

**EVENTS**



- 9/2 **Movie Matinee - The Lego Movie**
- 9/2 **6:00 p.m. Building Committee Mtg.**  
*All welcome to attend to help pick colors, etc.*
- 9/16 **Greet & Eat - 5:00 p.m., Chili's**
- 9/20 **Board Meeting**

**THINK ABOUT IT!!!**



☆ *Be a Dreamer . . .*

*Dreams are what get you started. Discipline is what keeps you going.*

☆  
*We must teach our children to dream with open eyes.*

☆  
*Forever be a dreamer! When your memories outnumber your dreams, the end is near.*



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

***3133 W. Alberta Rd.***

***Edinburg, TX 78539***

***(956) 687-8519***

***Ministers. .... The Congregation***

***Pastor..... Max G. Grubb***

***Board Chair..... Phyllis Whittaker***

***Organist..... Rexanne Pederson***

***Choir Director..... Helen Baumeister***

***Children's Sunday School Teacher. .... Oskar Lam***

***Sunday Morning Coffee with God..... 8:45 a.m.***

***Children Sunday School ..... 9:00 a.m.***

***Sunday Morning Worship. .... 10:00 a.m.***

***Choir Practice..... Off for awhile***