

The Dome



First Christian Church Fort Worth, Texas

Volume 12, Issue 26, June 30, 2009



BREAD MINISTRY AGAIN?



Several people in our congregation have said they would like to see the Bread Ministry started up again. This is the program the Evangelism Department had where volunteers from different neighborhoods on Sunday afternoon or during the week, took a small loaf of bread to new visitors at their homes for “front porch visits”. Included with the bread was a note that said “Thank you for meeting with us under the dome at First Christian Church and for breaking bread with us in worship this week. We were delighted to have you and hope to share communion with you again.”

To begin this program again we need many volunteers, both to deliver the bread (or small plants if we decide to do that instead of bread), to have the bread or plant ready, to pick up the black books in the sanctuary sometime during the morning worship service, and to get the names and addresses of the visitors.

The Evangelism Department would be delighted to start this program again if we have enough volunteers to help. If you are interested in any aspect of this effort, please call or email Wini Klein, 817-475-7513 or wini@winiklein.com. We will meet to plan the details and assignments when we have an interested group signed up. Let's do this now!

Wini Klein
Evangelism Chair

Our Noon Music program will be on the second Friday, July 10 this month, and will feature violinist, Dr. Tiara Roberts. She began playing professionally at age 10. She has played with symphonies and ensembles; and over the years has played with Karen Carpenter, Chet Atkins, Phyllis Diller, Jascha Heifetz and other notable musicians. Dr. Roberts plays classical, contemporary, pop, folk, rock, spiritual, Celtic, jazz, blues, country, original and others.



More Joy

- Barbara Batts is the new President of Disciple Women, and Shari Harris is the new Vice President. They were installed on June 7 by Susan Warren.
- As part of the ministry of Caring Team #10, we rejoice in the attention and care provided to Alberta and Jim Atchison by Marilyn Lansford and Mary and Bob Wilcox.
- A big “thank you” to Ronda and Adrian Park for mowing the yard of Susan Smith while she has been out of town.

FW 1st provides a nursery downstairs near the Taylor Street entrance for infants through pre-school-age children.

Deadline for newsletter articles is **Monday** by noon.
Please submit articles by e-mail, if possible, or in writing.

CALENDAR REGULAR EVENTS

Sunday *Sunday School*
Worship
Youth Groups
Prayer Shawl Ministry
Monday *Bell Choir*
Tuesday *House Church at the Bihms*
Wed *Evening Prayer*
Chancel Choir

July 3 *HOLIDAY-OFFICE CLOSED!*
July 10 *Noon Music*
July 11 *Property Work Day*
July 12 *Recer Baby Shower*
July 19 *Board Meeting*
July 26 *Birthday Lunch*
July 29-
Aug 1 *General Assembly*

WELCOME NEW VISITORS
Barry Standifer
Patricia Pounders
Claudia McCarty
David Kell Mason

June 28, 2009
Sunday School 39
Worship 132
Offering 2655
The love of God extended through our members:
Priceless.

Tom's Turn—Approaching Independence Day

As a people we celebrate Independence Day this weekend. As a faith community we remember the words of the psalmist: [from Ps. 67]

*Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide the nations upon earth.*

And again, [adapted from Ps. 82]

*Rise up, O God, judge the earth;
for all the nations belong to you!
God sits in the council of divinity, demanding,
"How long will you judge unjustly and show partiality to the wicked?
Give justice to the weak and the orphan;
maintain the right of the lowly and the destitute.
Rescue the weak and the needy. Deliver them."*

We Disciples are an intensely American expression of Christianity, born on the frontier during the early days of this marvelous human experiment we call American democracy. Our calling by God—to love God and our neighbors, to preach and live the way of Christ, to do justice and love kindness and walk humbly with God, to be ambassadors of reconciliation—this calling, would be ours regardless of the nation into which we were born. Yet we were placed here and not somewhere else.

We are deeply and greatly blessed to have been placed here by this gracious God we know through Christ. The blessing, though, is neither to be squandered in trivial pursuit and unholy living nor in smug assurance and maintenance of our advantage. The blessing is to be used for the betterment of all.

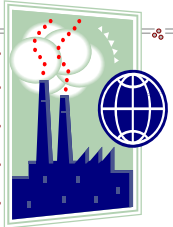
So we do well to celebrate the blessings that are ours because of our living here. As we do so, we remember that scripture speaks of God as the ruler of all and of the people of God as aliens whatever their homeland. Therefore, we do not only celebrate this week. We also resolve to work to mold this land, our land, that it might more and more closely resemble the Reign of God.

I'll see you and your guests next Sunday. To prepare please read Exod.1.7-20. OK, you get brownie points if you've ever (before next Sunday) heard a sermon on Shiphrah and Puah, the Hebrew midwives during the Egyptian pogrom.

Peace,
Tom

p.s.—How are you doing with the attendance contest? Several have perfect attendance through our first three Sundays in June. But there's still a chance for you to win. **Who is that prospective member you will bring?** Remember, you must sign the attendance register AND put your contact information in order to be counted. Oh, and *if you have been or will be a counselor at summer camp* the judges (that's me, myself and I – oh, and Marjorie Murphy) are very likely to add extra brownie points to your record. But what brownie points will mean is as yet unclear. Here's how you win.

1. Be the person with the best Sunday worship attendance for the Sundays in June, July and August (Sign the attendance register and put your contact info. each week in order to be sure you're counted.) and,
Bring to worship at least one real prospective member to worship



Enviro Info ...

Our Cell Phone Recycling Program

The cell phones we collected to recycle have been mailed--some to Cell Phones for Soldiers. Others went to "1 Million Cell Phones"--to fund microfinance loans to the poor.

According to them, "**1 million cell phones recycled = 350 trillion gallons of our water saved PLUS 100 thousand lives changed with MICROFINANCE**--"Each phone holds no less than 8 toxic elements--lead, cadmium, mercury, nickel, arsenic included--and can pollute up to 35,000 gallons of drinking water. Each year phones are retired enormous amounts--500 million a year, 10 million each month..."With microfinance, borrowers can create a sustainable income for themselves so that, over time, they can self-sufficiently provide for themselves. We're teaching people how to fish, so to speak..."

Thank You, First Christian Church Green Team!

THANK YOU

Dear Tom & Congregation:

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your checks in the amount of \$500.00 and \$500.00 (Clergy Care Fund) given in support of the ministries of the Trinity-Brazos Area. Today I finished consultations with two congregations which have questions regarding church transformation, mission outreach, and the downsizing of their boards and functional committees. In another congregation the consultation was to help them find a way to develop creative leadership to help the congregation make a smooth transition when its pastor leaves in sixty days. The support you provide to the TBA enables this kind of ministry to congregations to take place. We are grateful to you for your gift. Kindly express our gratitude to your members.

Sincerely,

Kenneth E. Hall

Trinity-Brazos Area Minister

THE CON-DUKE-TOR

First Christian Church had their three choirs participate in the TBA Music Fest this last Sunday. Wow! It was a true time to "Praise God". Jan Shelton encouraged her choir members to reprise three selections from their presentation "Journey of Praise". The Burnside Handbell Choir chose to present "Spirit Wind" and "A Joyful Psalm". The Chancel Choir enjoyed their old time favorites. Charles Duke is the one Music Man that provided the support for all of his choirs to join the celebration. I appreciate his leadership and guidance. Also a Thank you for surprising me with my son, Charles Mason, singing a solo, too.

Keep the Heavenly Bells Ringing
Mary Mason

THANK YOU

Dear Rev. Plumbley and Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Pentecost has blown through the church and Ordinary Time is upon us. School is out, and the temperature is already sliding toward the 100 mark. Summer is here – that time when “the livin is easy” and we think things are slowing a bit, at least for a while. Yet the pace is still quick for Tarrant Area Community of Churches.

Your generous gift of \$100.00 in April and \$400.00 in June, which we received in April and June allows us to keep up the pace as we partner together with you in vital ministries. With your support. We are able to:

- Continue establishing **congregational Go Centers** to offer access, support, encouragement, mentoring, and connection to at-risk students and their families. To date we have established a Go Center at Diamond Hill United Methodist Church, New Rising Star Baptist Church in Forest Hill, and are partnering with Westminster Presbyterian Church to set up a Go Center in their congregation in west fort Worth.
- Continue building a interfaith network of congregations that will work together as a faith community and with existing service providers to **address homelessness** in Tarrant County in increasingly effective and on-the-ground ways. We are currently building a network of movers who can help qualified shelter residents move into permanent supportive housing and move furniture and household goods from donor sites into storage.
- Continue building a network of congregations around Tarrant County that are prepared together to **effectively respond to disasters**--we are developing a seasonal calendar for preparedness focus.
- Continue bringing the faith community and the broader community together for **worship, dialogue, and study**.
Melinda Veatch, Executive Director
Tarrant Area Community of Churches

First Christian Church
612 Throckmorton
Fort Worth, TX 76102

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**Serving for
MORNING WORSHIP
July 5, 2009**

Senior Minister, Tom Plumbley
Old Testament: Exodus 1:7-20
The Psalm: Psalm 48
The Epistle: II Corinthians
12:2-10
The Gospel: Mark 6:1-13
Sermon Focus: Christian leader-
ship #3 - citizenship
Elder Loaf: Barb Oakes
Elder Cup: Bill Oakes
Deacons: Luis Esparza (1L), Vanessa
Esparza (2L), John Bullin (3L),
Helen Scribner (4L), Jeff Wildman
(1R), Carol Lennox (2R), Karren At-
kinson (3R) Jesse Burns (4R)
Communion Prep: Sue Armstrong
Communion Clean-Up: Lori Nelson



**Sunday Schedule
July 5, 2009**

Elders Meet for Prayer 9:00 am
Sunday School 9:30 am
Worship 10:50 am
Youth Groups 12:30 pm
Prayer Shawl Ministry 4:00 pm

CHURCH STAFF

Tom Plumbley, Senior Minister
Dr. Ted Klein, Associate Minister
Christy Suggs, Youth Director

Charles E. Duke,
Senior Minister of Music

Jan Shelton, Minister of Music
for Children and Youth

Mary Mason, Director,
Burnside Handbell Choir

Peggy Grogan, Secretary
Janet Mengis, Bookkeeper
George Clemons, Custodian

Church Office -- 817/336-7185
Church Fax -- 817/332-2979

E-mail: ftwfirst@sbcglobal.net

Web Site: fccftw.org



PRIME TIMER ACTIVITY

Last week we saw "America the Beautiful" at the Granbury Opera. It was "Top Notch" entertainment. Photos of our outing are posted on the Prime Timer board. Plans are now being made to see "West Side Story" at the ARTISAN theater in Hurst. Let Wayne and Emma know if you are interested, (817) 244-3260.



**RANGERS'
DOUBLE
HEADER**

SEPT. 1 – FREE!
Tom has 24 tickets
to the Rangers'
double header on
September 1.

First come, first served.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

July 5, 2009

SUPER SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL SERIES

Sunday, July 5 – Rev. Tom Plumbley - Historical background of The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and setting out of which the “Declaration and Address” emerged.

Sunday, July 12 – Dr. Ted Klein - Review of “Declaration and Address”.

Sunday, July 19 – Dr. Newell Williams – The document’s impact on American Christianity.

Sunday, July 26 – Wrap up of study with a look forward to the Great Communion gathering on October 4.

Children and Youth

Preschool, meet in classroom at 9:30, class 9:30-10:00, choir 10:00-10:30

Teacher takes children to class-Marsha Stallard

K - 5th Grades, meet in Disciple Road Temple 9:30

Shepherd (Carey Roberts) takes children to class Disciple Road, Rotation model Sunday School Parents pick up children at 10:30

Junior High - Chi Rho, meet on 2nd floor,

Chi Rho Room,
Ronda Park, teacher

Senior High - CYF, meet on 2nd floor, Youth Lounge
Ruth Cooper, teacher



TBA MUSIC FEST



| | |
|--|---------------------|
| Alberta Atchison | Ashley Crews |
| Daniel Choate & Children | The Gonzales family |
| Leona Guyton | Mary Louise Long |
| Parnell Family | Rhonda Smith |
| George Stephens | Maidee Todd |
| Cherilyn Tracy & Family | Mary Wilcox |
| The unemployed within our congregation | |

NEW CONCERNS

Mary Ann Davis; Rebekah Thompson;
Stanley Shepelwich;
Our nation and its leaders.

| | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| Robert Barrow | Alvin Barton | Sue Beaver |
| Chris Bernovich | Debbie Bernovich | |
| Deborah Besadesky | Esther & Mary Bihm | |
| Bev Brown Family | Raymond Bullock | |
| Alma Creswell | Selma Cunningham | |
| Deena Heide-Diesslin | Mickey Diesslin | |
| Mark Grogan, Jr. | Vickie Hale | David Holder |
| Parker Hoover | Michael & Andrea Ivey | |
| Crystal Kemp | Dorothy Jones | Jim Jones |
| Melodi Jones & family | Mary Sue McIlvain | |
| Christopher Omar | Dean Ragland | Jason Russell |
| Chris & Tia Smith | Lennie Steele | Grant Story |
| Beverly Trautschold | Marilyn Van Hoozer | |
| Boyd Ware | Brittany Wood | Marie Wood |

Efforts of stewardship committee
to be successful in the eyes of the Lord.
FW1st, for God’s will to be done and not our own
Names will remain on our printed prayer list for two weeks
unless we receive an updated request.



BABY SHOWER

For: Charles and Laura Recer

When: Sunday, July 12, 2009

2-4 pm

Where: Home of Barbara Batts

5532 James Drive

Fort Worth, TX 76114

817/738-5937

Hosted by: Prayer Shawl Ministry

Registered

at: Babies R Us.