



FIRST CHRISTIAN

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A Disciples of Christ Community
Centrally Located, Centered on Christ

From the Bear's Den

In the Gospel of Matthew, the Great Commission says in the words of Jesus, to go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. It also says to obey what has been taught. Jesus's general message was to preach about loving God and loving one another. In the Great Commission, we hear the language that says do not allow any barriers to come between us in our loving God and loving one another. I really like that teaching.

It is amazing to me how the work of the church crosses so many barriers and borders. The message of Jesus has spread throughout our world. Can you imagine, what we teach on Sundays and live out through the week can have an effect on others who are clear across the world from us? Well it is true. We have been blessed recently with an opportunity to be associated with the Disciples Amateur Radio Fellowship as we have been printing and mailing their newsletter as an act of mission and outreach. Through this relationship we have learned about their mission work in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. You can read about it here, <http://www.darfucan.org/congo.html>. Also through this work we have been in conversation with Global Ministries of the Christian Church Disciples of Christ. In this conversation, we have learned of the great work of Disciples in the Congo and the yearning of building new relationships between the Districts of the Disciples of Christ in the Congo and the local Areas and Regions of the Christian Church, (Disciples of Christ).

In visiting with David Owen, our regional representative of Global Ministries, on one of his recent visits, the invitation came to First Christian Church to be active in building these relationships here in the Hi Plains Area. Global Ministries are going to the Congo on a two week trip in September of 2010. FCC has been invited to be represented on this trip. Of course my response was a much appreciative "YES" we would participate, but now the realization is what must we do as we journey together in this adventure.

It is an honor to be invited to go and learn all I can about the Congo and the work of the Disciples in that part of the world, but it comes with a great responsibility to bring home information and work to build relationships with our area and a district in the Congo. Several others from the Hi Plains Area will also be on the trip. I believe God is placing us in the middle of an ongoing blessing. What exciting times for First Christian Church and the Hi Plains Area!

We are raising funds for the trip and for the work of the Disciples in the Congo. The total cost of the trip for one person is \$5000.00. The miles from Amarillo to the Democratic Republic of the Congo are 7885 miles. We would love to raise a dollar for every mile of the trip. This would cover the trip cost and it would also raise significant funds to help DARF and many other ministries that are ongoing in the Congo.

YOU can make a difference in carrying out the Great Commission across many barriers and borders, with your purchase of one mile or several miles, you will be helping to build the relationships of love Jesus taught about. God's love will be represented and received. This is a big challenge for us, let us trust in God and the Holy Spirit as we join together in partnership to carry out the Great Commission that our Lord and Savior challenged us with. See Ya Sunday and BRING A FRIEND!!!!

Dedicated to you through Christ,

Barry



Outreach Update

Shoe Drive - The shoes from FCC are on their way to Souls4Soles! Filling **41** boxes on **2 pallets**, our total of **762** pair and **13** single shoes is a testament to all of you who were willing to dig in and clean out your closets! Don't you wish you could hear the stories of these shoes and their destinations? There will be many, many happy people worldwide who will be thrilled to receive our shoes (many almost brand new). Thank you all.

Food Bank - Saturday, May 15 saw 30 FCC workers (ages 4 to 80) packaging canned goods at our High Plains Food Bank. We readied 12,570 lbs. of everything from soups to canned coconut cream, veggies to cranberries. This quantity can make up to 8380 meals. **Mark your calendars to help us out again on July 17.** What a great team we have!

Blankets - Our total for Church World Service blankets stands at \$1090. This will provide 218 blankets to those in disaster relief situations. Thank you for your generosity. CWS has been helping in Haiti and Tennessee and areas wherever needs arise.

Pentecost - Our totals for Pentecost will be in the next newsletter. This money helps to grow new churches and train leaders for those new congregations.

Call Janice Snyder - 354-2243 if you like to help out with this ministry.

June In-Gathering

BASEBALL CAPS & SUNSCREEN are needed this month for the Homeless in Amarillo, during the hot summer months. We take these items to the Guyon Saunders Resource Center (Formerly Tyler Resource Center) and they give to those in need. Thank you for helping with the In-gathering each month. You may leave these items in the Office area, or in the Narthex on Sunday.

Byrdie Hogendorn, Service, CWF

Sanctuary Flowers

The Sanctuary flowers for May 30, 2010 were given by Jerry Steen. They were dedicated to his church family for all the blessings and prayers during his time of recovery.

The Sanctuary flowers for June 6, 2010 are given by Charles & Joanne Simmons in loving memory of Charles' parents, George & Maurine Simmons.

The Sanctuary flowers for June 13, 2010 are given by Joan Morris in memory of her dad, Roy Morris.

The Sanctuary flowers for June 20, 2010 are given by Dr. John Bridwell in remembrance of loved ones.

The Sedilia flowers for June 20, 2010 are given by Celeste Rodriguez and Cynthia Weir in honor of their dad, Jack Shelton and in memory of their mother, Billie Shelton.

The Sanctuary flowers for June 27 are given by Jim and Faye Terrell in memory of Kevin and Shannon Terrell Titus.

We Extend Christian Sympathy To

Dreka & Charles Roark on the May 12, 2010 death of their great grandson, Trenton Viney.

Tonya Johnson & Toya Johnson on the May 21, 2010 death of their grandmother, Ruby Sellars.

Troy Weems and family on the May 23, 2010 death of Betty Weems.

LIFE Campaign

The faithful members of First Christian Church continue to contribute to the future of FCC. A generous gift from the estate of Carol and Chuck Denney just pushed the total of gifts received to over \$230,000!

Carol and Chuck Denney will always be fondly remembered by those at FCC, Amarillo. They will also be remembered for loving their church. At the time they drew their wills they left a bequest to The First Christian Church Second Century Fund.

(The Second Century Capital Campaign Fund was chaired by Charles Woodburn in the mid 1990's and one of the prioritized projects was to carpet the Sanctuary. Although many projects were completed through the Second Century Campaign Fund, the carpet project was not completed at that time because the campaign did not reach its campaign goal.)

Since the Denney's intent was to support a building fund, or capital campaign fund; the bequest received by First Christian Church has been directed to the LIFE (Looking Into the FuturE) Campaign.

It is exciting to see the LIFE dollars at work. The latest project of completion is the roof on Snodgrass Hall. Even members of the community are commenting on how beautiful the new roof is, and what a great job was done in selecting materials to complement the roof on the Sanctuary and other church structures. (Thanks Property Ministry Team!)

LIFE committee members (David Cargill, chair, and Kyle Tollefson, Nedra McGee, Carl Benson, Brandon Farris, David Hales, Ralph Maxfield, Tom Reyman and Nancy Waitt) will be meeting over the summer to plan the remaining projects which are updates in worship areas including new Sanctuary carpet!

CFW Covered Dish Dinner & Installation of Officers

Sunday, June 13, 6:30 p.m. in the Atrium. The program will be by our **newest high school graduates, Madison Jackson and Joel Oliver** who will be singing & playing for us.

Summer Softball League

Men and mixed leagues, contact Joseph McGee at 463-3466 or 676-4955 or email him at j.mcgee@tcu.edu.

Congratulations To

Moselle Ford on the April 26, 2010 birth of a granddaughter, Elle Elizabeth Abercrombie. Elle's parents are Becca & Rob Abercrombie and her big brother is Ford.

Tell Patricia "Way to Go"!

Kevin Lee Dailey, son of Patricia Gomez, has been named "Officer of the Year" in Ft. Worth, Texas where he has been serving on the FWPD for four years.

Gifts

Memorial Fund

in memory of Lewis Hales, father of David Hales

*Carol and John Blakley

Sanctuary Sound Fund

in memory of Melvin Kennedy

*Mary Lou McGregor

LIFE Campaign

in memory of Homer Long

in memory of Melvin Kennedy

*Betty and Francis Nossaman

Note of Thanks

Dear FCC,

After being away from home for close to three months I'm blessed and happy to be slowly recovering from a fall and hip surgery.

Thank you to my church family for visits, communion, prayers, cards and notes. A special "thank you" for the pretty prayer shawl.

With Christian love,
Bernice Arnold
Doshier

First Christian Church

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June Calendar

- Thursday, 3 ~ Roller Skating Day , \$5 per person, pizza & ice cream after, 2 to 5:30 pm
- Monday, 7 ~ Movie Night at church, all ages of kids, 3 different movies for different ages
- Wednesday, 9 ~ Cookout at Austin Park, all church, 6 to 8 pm
- Saturday, 12, ~ Chili Cook Off at church, all church, 9 am to 3 pm
- Sunday, 13 ~ 18 CYF Conference, grades 9-12
- Sunday, 20, ~ Father's Day!
- Monday 21 ~ Friday 25, Vacation Bible School 6 to 8:45 pm
- Saturday, 26 ~ Splash Water Park Day, \$5 per person, all church, noon to whenever!
- Monday, 28 ~ Palo Duro Park Day, grades 6 thru 12, 10 am to 4 pm
- Wednesday, 30 ~ Lunch at church and Children's Mission Work Day, 11 am to 2 pm