



THE MESSENGER

Memorial Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)

1001 Andrews Highway Midland, TX 79701

March 3, 2010

Volume 56, Issue 8

Our Vision

*To make Christ known,
follow the Word of God,
serve others,
and win new disciples.*

Staff

Rev. Terry Rothermich, Pastor
Ms. Regina Erwin, Director of Education and Family Ministries
Mrs. Margaret Parsley, Admin/Financial Secretary
Mr. Randy Stevens, Organist & Music Director
Mr. Salvador Ramirez, Custodian
Mrs. Jackie Forsyth, Board Chair

Sunday School Classes

Toddlers & Twos Room 4
Ages 3-4 Room 7
K-Grade 3 Room 7
JYF (Grades 4-5) ... Room 7
Fellowship Class Room 9
Discipleship Class.. Room 101

Scheduled Leaders for March 7, 2010

Elders
Offering Frank Detrixhe
Communion & Worship..... Jerry Lee Jones

Deacons
Coordinator Rebecca Bell
Wahnetta Detrixhe; Marisa & Tim Hutchison; Freda Kinsey; Delnor Poss; Wayne Warren

Greeter Marilyn Craig

PowerPoint Rebecca Bell

Psalm Psalm 63:1-4

Scripture Jeremiah 29:11

Message
"What Do We Expect?"

Many Thanks...

... to **Lyn Brown and Company** for handling the lite dinner for the "Lent 'N' Things" event Wednesday evening, Feb. 24. Well done!

... to **Disciples Women** for helping lead the church in the February mission project for babies and their families in need of supplies. Also, many thanks to all who participated by donating money or items.

...to MCC members who helped host visitors and coordinate the Reception for the Houston Opera-to-Go performance Feb 13. The Houston Opera people and the Midland Opera Theatre people were very pleased with the arrangements, the venue, and the hospitality offered them and guests.

...to the following individuals who provided the Continental Breakfast on Sunday morning, Feb 28 for all to enjoy before *The Easter Experience* Elective Bible Study: **Elwana Collins, Carolyn Dixon, Jane Green, and Ruth Kenney.**

...to MCC staff and church members who "held down the Fort" while Regina and Terry were in Fort Worth for Ministers Week, sponsored by TCU and Brite Divinity School.



HOLY WEEK

Lunch & Worship Schedule

Mar 29 .. Midland Lutheran Church
Mar 30 .. Memorial Christian Church
Mar 31 .. Trinity Presbyterian Church

11:45 a.m.—12:45 p.m.

Donation of \$5.00 requested
Lunch, fellowship, special music,
and closing worship

"The Easter Experience" Session 4

This Sunday our Lenten study session is titled "Your Life Has a Plan." The focus is on *expectations*: what we expect for our future; what we expect from God; what we do not expect for our future, nor from God. Plus, how do we know the *plan*, and then what do we do if it differs a bit, or a lot, from what we would like? All are encouraged to attend.

This "experience" study is designed to heighten our awareness of the Season of Lent as we approach Holy Week.

Office Angels
for March 10

Elwana Collins,
Wahnetta Detrixhe,
Betty Odom, &
Martha Poss



Board Meeting

Monday • March 15 • 7:00 p.m. • Fellowship Hall

T-Dreams

Hello! Given the nature of the liturgical season in which we now find ourselves, and "The Easter Experience" study we are sharing, my thoughts move onto the road of my human-ness and falterings and moments of pain and/or suffering. I ask myself so much now, "How do I deal with all these things and how do I invite (or neglect to invite) the Lord into the process?"

So, whether I am in my car or in my house or at the church, I notice things through the lens of Lent. It would not surprise you, then, that I noticed something this past weekend that struck me curiously. It was a sign on a building that read "Advanced Pain Center." Why it just did not read "Pain Center" I do not know. Perhaps I should phone them and inquire as to the history of the business' name. (Or perhaps not!)

I have been thinking about that name ever since. Why "advanced"? How "advanced"? The business name could be taken several ways. For example, does one go there to "advance one's pain" (increase it or move it along)? Or does one go there to get pain treated only when the pain becomes really unbearable and unmanageable? Is a person who has only minor, but constant, pain accepted there, or not? And how about this...how is "advanced" pain measured...I mean what criteria is a person given in order to know when one can phone there for an appointment? Or... surely this place does not, itself, "increase pain" (aka, advance pain)! Or how about this...does one go there for only physical pain...or also for emotional pain or relational pain or spiritual pain, and such?

I am guessing that since there is this "Advanced Pain Center" there could be someplace else named "Moderate Pain Center," and for those with just a dull pain a place named "Low Pain Center." But I'm just guessing, because I have not driven past such pain centers.

Where am I going with this? Well, there are presumptions in the business name "Advanced Pain Center": (1) pain exists, and (2) it can be advanced (read #2 as you will!). I cannot help but draw a relationship to our faith. To whatever degree, on occasion, one notices personal or familial or relational or spiritual pain and suffering, we know to which Center we should go for help and healing. We do not need to get into a car or truck or SUV and drive there. All we need to do is fall on our knees right where we are and take it to the Lord.

I dream of the times when we bring ourselves to reflecting on the message for us in our pain and suffering (in our "moments of fire"), Who it is that can only and ultimately heal us, and what, then, lays on the other side of that "fire"? And you?

Blessings, Terry

P.S. If you attended this past Sunday's "Easter Experience" session, a question for you: "Who were you in that story? Where did you see yourself?"

Please pray for...

- Apex 2000
- Shirley Ashley (friend of Lyn Brown)
- Billy Atchison (acquaintance of the Hendersons)
- Fran Atha (sister of Pat Spaw)
- Richard Barr (friend of the Groves)
- Grayson Braziel
- Kimber Brown
- Juanice & Ed Buie
- Rita Cox (friend of Marisa Hutchison)
- Mary Crosby (cousin of Freda Kinsey & Lyn Brown))
- Pat Jo Dennis (friend of the Staileys)
- Cindy Edwards
- Roger Elliott
- Don Finkenbinder (friend of Martha & Delnor Poss)
- Mary Agnes Garcia (sister-in-law of Trinie Muegge)
- Jim Hamilton (cousin of Randy Stevens)
- Linda Hughes (daughter of Altha Odom)
- Zo Landrum (mother of Michael Landrum)
- Peg Spring Nickerson (friend of Jackie Hendricks)
- Mary Beth Reddell (daughter of Patricia & Joe Hopkins)
- Nick Roman (friend of Jarvis Salmon)
- Doug Smith (brother of Tamara Schulz)
- James Stark (friend of the Staileys)
- Teen Challenge



Rev. Tony L. Salisbury, Central Area Minister, www.central-area.org

Rev. Dani Cartwright, Southwest Regional Minister, www.ccsww.org

Rev. Sharon Watkins, General Minister & President of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), www.disciples.org

Please have articles for the newsletter into the office on Friday afternoon before you wish the article to appear the following Wednesday.

Memorial's Memorable Person

My name is Ruth Kenney. I feel so honored to be selected as MCC's Memorable Person for the next two weeks. Thank you so much!

I have been a member of MCC since the Fall of 1971. I must give Carolyn Dixon credit for inviting me to MCC. Little did I know then that we would bond and become best friends. Thank you, Carolyn.

I enjoy reading, watching my favorite TV programs, working crossword puzzles, and e-mailing and facebooking with my family and friends. Also, watching my grandchildren participate in their sports brings me great joy. MCC has a very friendly congregation. The members support each other in bad times as well as good times. My best friends are members. My favorite food is "soul food." I don't just mean manna from Heaven, but good Southern dishes... fried chicken, black-eyed peas, fried okra, grits, turnip greens... you get the picture! My favorite Bible verse is one I learned as a little girl, John 3:16, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." My favorite snack includes anything chocolate—which is my downfall.

Thank You

Loyd & I thank all the members of MCC for your prayers and cards during my recent fall. It is comforting to know so many people care. May our prayers for each other continue to help with personal problems.

Dorothy Sanders

Council on Christian Unity Celebrates Centennial

Congratulations to the Disciples Council on Christian Unity on its 100th anniversary this year. The council (COCU) is the ecumenical office of our denomination. The theme for the 2010 year-long celebration is "A Century of Witness, A Journey of Wholeness."

Please Turn Off Lights!

Please be vigilant in turning off lights and adjusting thermostats when you leave a space.

My favorite place to visit is my hometown of Little Rock, Arkansas. I am an only child but still have lots of family there. I have Indian blood flowing through my veins. There was Cherokee on my mother's family tree. My favorite saying is: "I'd rather be an Indian (follower) than a chief (leader)." A successful church needs both. I have been a widow since 1985. I have 2 sons and a daughter. They have given me 8 grandchildren, 4 boys and 4 girls. I have served as a deacon for several terms and as an office angel, getting the newsletter ready to mail. Also, I have served the Discipleship Sunday school class as vice-president and president a few times. I feel very at home in MCC's kitchen. I have been a kitchen helper for many years, helping with funerals and special events. Guess that has been my calling.

MCC means so much to me. We support each other through bad times as well as good times. Worshipping the Lord at MCC is such a joy, and I am truly thankful for my church and my congregation.

Food Pantry Report For February

In the month of February Food Pantry clients were given fresh lettuce, eggs, and oranges. The usual offerings of canned and dry goods were also distributed.

During four Wednesdays, your pantry served 191 families consisting of 848 people. Several distribution days were hampered by bad weather. Last Tuesday the truck from the West Texas Food Bank did not run and we ran out of frozen meats about half-way through Wednesday's time.

We continue to rejoice in the on going support of the loyal congregation here at Memorial—like this month's Souper Bowl of Caring, the peanut butter brought to the church, and the items contributed at the Wednesday Lent-N-Things dinner for the Easter baskets for clients. Remember to bring items for these baskets during the Sundays in March.

We would also like to thank First Christian Church of Midland and Church on the Journey for their continued support of the Food Pantry.

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Weekly Calendar of Events

Sunday, Mar 7: 3rd Sunday in Lent

- 8:45 a.m. Active Elders in the Parlor
- 9:15 a.m. Continental Breakfast
- 9:30 a.m. Bible Study "The Easter Experience"
- 9:40 a.m. Church School ☺
- 10:50 a.m. Worship ☺

Tuesday Mar 9:

- 6:45 p.m. Disciples Women's Meeting

Wednesday, Mar 10:

- 1:00 p.m. Food Pantry
- 6:00 p.m. "Just Say Know" @ FCC
- 7:30 p.m. Choir rehearsal

Saturday, Mar 13:

- 8:30 a.m. Disciples Men's Breakfast

Sunday, Mar 14: 4th Sunday in Lent

- 9:15 a.m. Continental Breakfast
- 9:30 a.m. Bible Study "The Easter Experience"
- 9:40 a.m. Church School ☺
- 10:50 a.m. Worship ☺

☺ Child Care for 4 years and younger.

Scheduled Leaders for Children's Church

Date	Leader
Mar 7.....	Lisa Craven
Mar 14.....	Pat Jones & Peggy Jones

**Disciples
Women**




**Tuesday • March 9
6:45 p.m. • Fellowship Hall**

Hostesses are
Brenda Warren
and Martha Poss.
Our continuing study for
the year is
"Bad Women of the Bible."


Lectionary for Mar 7

- Isaiah 55:1-9
- Psalms 63:1-8
- 1 Corinthians 10:1-13
- Luke 13:1-9



Peanut Butter Sunday
March 7





Breakfast—8:30 a.m.
March 13, 2010