



# THE MESSENGER

April 21, 2010

Volume 56, Issue 14

## Our Vision

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

Memorial Christian Church  
(Disciples of Christ)

1001 Andrews Highway Midland, TX 79701

### 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  
Roundtable..... Room 102

### Scheduled Leaders for April 25, 2010

**Elders**  
Offering ..... Betty Whitmire  
Communion & Worship..... Jackie Hendricks

**Deacons**  
Coordinator .....Beth Crawford  
Sharon Boyd; Lyn Brown; Colton, David, Jared, & Terry Perry

**Greeter** .....Jared Perry

**PowerPoint** .....Gregg Groves

**Psalm** ..... Psalm 31:21-24

**Scripture** ..... N/A

**Message**  
Teen Challenge

### Did You Know...

If you think "megachurch" attenders are smarter, more active, and better looking than people in your pews, you may be right. A survey of churches representing the 1,300 US congregations with more than 2,000 in attendance each week indicates these very large churches attract a different sort of person.

- Average age of those who attend:  
Megachurches ..... 40  
All churches ..... 53
- Single adult % of total attendance:  
Megachurches .....47%  
All churches .....29%
- College degree or higher:  
Megachurches .....51%  
All churches .....41%
- Attenders who are increasingly involved:  
Megachurches .....44%  
All churches .....35%

(*Leadership Journal*, Winter 2010 issue)

### MCC Vespers & Prayer Service

Thursday, May 6  
Lite Dinner—6:15 p.m.  
(*Fellowship Hall*)  
Worship—7:00 p.m. (*Sanctuary*)

All are invited to this distinctive worship experience offering quiet music, personal prayer time, corporate prayers, moments of contemplation, spiritual readings, and lit can-

### Report of Food Pantry in March 2010

During five Wednesdays in March, the pantry served 270 families or 1,218 people, making an average of 244 people each week. In addition to the dry commodities and canned goods, clients were given fresh potatoes, frozen meats, and frozen fruit throughout the month. We are especially pleased with the donations of baskets and Easter gifts of candy and toys made by the congregation during the month. These items were combined to make 83 Easter baskets for our clients. We want to thank **Sharon Boyd, Lisa Craven, Wahnetta Detrixhe, Regina Erwin, Jackie Hendricks, Marisa Hutchison, Freda Kinsey, Kathy & Mike Landrum, Betty Odom, Martha Poss, H.A. Tuck, Betty Whitmire**, and **Pat Wornell** for creating the beautiful baskets on March 28.

Total food cost was \$1,146.16 from the West Texas Food Bank. Free books were again made available to both children and adults.

dles. It is a time to reflect on the importance of prayer, our own vulnerabilities, and our connectedness to God the Creator, God the Redeemer, and God the Sustainer. (May 6 is also the National Day of Prayer, created in 1952 by a joint resolution of Congress.)

Office Angels  
for April 28  
Betty Whitmire,  
Virgie Lewis,  
& Marian Mussett



# T-Dreams

Hello! My message this past Sunday morning was on a portion of John 21...a post-resurrection appearance of Jesus to His disciples. They are in a boat out on a lake, attempting to catch some fish. Jesus appears on the shore, having made a fire and put fish on it to cook breakfast for them. They have caught nothing, so He tells them to cast out on the other side. The net fills. They recognize Jesus as the Risen Christ and head into shore. Though fish are already on the grill (so-to-speak), Jesus invites the disciples to bring some of the fish *they* caught to add to the fish He has prepared. In other words, they are invited by the Risen Lord to "bring what they have to the game."

The morning focus was on the contrast between the worldly phrase "reducing your carbon footprint" in the world and what I suggested Jesus wants us to do, which is to **"increase our faith footprint,"** not "reduce" it.

Let me add another thought. If there is a question out there that reads, "How can you *increase* your carbon footprint?" the answer might be with things like driving a large SUV or Hummer, or leaving the lights burning in your house or apartment, or holding the refrigerator door open for 10 minutes every hour, or running the air conditioning with the windows open.

If there is a question out there that reads, "How can you *increase* your *faith* footprint," I suspect Jesus answered that in John 21—by bringing what you have to the game...tending to His lambs.

Another comparison, if I may. There is a published book titled "Our Ecological Footprint—Reducing Human Impact on the Earth." I wonder if anyone has written a book titled "Our Faith Footprint—Increasing Faith Impact on the Earth"?

Lots of people are telling us to "reduce our carbon footprint" in the world by cutting back on things...doing less, wanting less, being less. And lots of people are also telling us (believers & the Church) to "reduce *our* faith footprint" in the world (i.e., no prayer here, no groups there, no preaching here, and no witnessing there...just stay inside our church walls and don't bother society).

It seems to me Jesus *wants* us to increase our faith footprint...just as He did while He was alive and on the earth. He told His disciples to bring what they had to the game...and that message is good for us, too. I dream of the times when we do just that. And you?

*Blessings, Terry*

P.S. Remember, the only way a person or a church can leave footprints is if that person or church is going somewhere!

## ***Please pray for...***

- Apex 2000
- Shirley Ashley (friend of Lyn Brown)
- Billy Atchison (acquaintance of the Hendersons)
- Richard Barr (friend of the Groves)
- Grayson Braziel
- Jane Petree-Bright (friend of Marisa Hutchison)
- Kimber Brown
- Juanice & Ed Buie
- Rita Cox (friend of Marisa Hutchison)
- Mary Cross (cousin of Freda Kinsey & Lyn Brown)
- Pat Jo Dennis (friend of the Staileys)
- Emily Edwards
- Roger Elliott
- Jim Hamilton (cousin of Randy Stevens)
- Fran Hendrix (sister of Pat Spaw)
- Dewayne Hendrix (nephew of Pat Spaw)
- Linda Hughes (daughter of Altha Odom)
- Zo Landrum (mother of Michael Landrum)
- The Morgan Family (friends of Regina)
- 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
- the Van Houtens
- June Waters (mother of Paula Brooks)

**Rev. Tony L. Salisbury**, Central Area Minister, [www.central-area.org](http://www.central-area.org)

**Rev. Dani Cartwright**, Southwest Regional Minister, [www.ccsw.org](http://www.ccsw.org)

**Rev. Sharon Watkins**, General Minister & President of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), [www.disciples.org](http://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.**

## *Regina's Raves*

Well... camp forms have been mailed. Remember, the deadline to get your registration form into the office is May 4. If you need more forms call the office and let us know.

We were so blessed to have the Santa Fe Opera here this last Wednesday. It was a truly beautiful performance. The first part of the performance was a short opera entitled "Words and Music." The basic premise—that the wordsmith thought words were the most essential parts of an opera while the musician thought music was. Both gradually figure out that words and music are equally essential. It reminded me of how belief and action are essential parts of faith and that both are requested of us. Some believe one is more important than the other. I believe that they both inform each other and lead us to a deeper faith in God. We can take the stance that belief is more important but did not Jesus say "Feed my sheep." Action could be more essential, but then what guides your actions? I believe as the two characters in the opera found out, that both are essential and strengthen our faith equally.

Keep watch for some exciting summer activities for youth and all ages!

*Regina*

### **Last Week—Still Time! Disciples Women Teen Challenge**

Disciples Women have been collecting paper goods for Teen Challenge the past month and a half. These will be presented to them when Teen Challenge visits MCC April 25 to lead us in worship.

### **Thank You!**

Thanks to all of you who sent such lovely birthday cards and good wishes. I enjoy being part of your fellowship and was happy to see so many of you at the party.

*Mae Pearl Ernst*

## **Bill Gaither 2010 Homecoming Tour**

Lubbock, Texas

**Saturday, May 1, 6:00 p.m.**

United Spirit Arena, Texas Tech  
(19th Street @ Indiana)

Tickets \$30 & \$40 plus taxes & fees  
1-888-770-1876 or at arena before show starts.

4 + hours of southern gospel  
and old standards of the Church.

### **CIA**



Thanks to everyone who came out on our rainy Christmas In Action Saturday! Disciples Men hosted a great breakfast, but we couldn't get an early start due to the rain. A small group of workers returned in the early afternoon, and we were able to finish the project by 6 p.m.

A special thanks to Disciples Women for being prepared for lunch—we just wish we could have been working so we could earn and enjoy the meal!

Thanks also to the entire congregation for your continued prayers and support of Christmas In Action—see you next year!

### **Central Area Assembly Saturday, May 1**

Registration... 9:30 a.m.

Assembly ..... 10:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

Place..... Brook Hollow C.C., Abilene

Theme..... Fostering Spiritual Disciplines Within Congregations

If any MCC member would like to go with us, please phone the church office ASAP (694-5321). Your registration fee will be paid by us. We will travel in the church van.



Memorial Christian Church  
1001 Andrews Highway  
Midland, Texas 79701

Phone: 432-694-5321  
Fax: 432-694-7571  
E-mail: secretary@mccmidland.org  
Web: www.mccmidland.org

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## RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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## Weekly Calendar of Events

### Sunday, April 25: Teen Challenge

9:40 a.m. Church School ☺  
10:50 a.m. Worship ☺

### Tuesday, April 27:

8:00 a.m. Food Pantry Truck

### Wednesday, April 28:

1:00 p.m. Food Pantry  
6:00 p.m. Worship Ministry Meeting  
7:30 p.m. Choir rehearsal

### Sunday, May 2:

9:00 a.m. Active Elders Get-Together  
9:40 a.m. Church School ☺  
10:50 a.m. Worship ☺  
3:00 p.m. Education Ministry Meeting

© Child Care for 4 years and younger.

## Travel Schedule (out of the office)

Regina—Apr 19-23, San Antonio,  
Bethany Fellowship Retreat  
Terry—Apr 22-27, NW Arkansas,  
daughter's wedding

### Scheduled Leaders for Children's Church

Date	Leader
April 25.....	Terry Perry
May 2 .....	Steve Gandy
May 9 .....	open
May 16 .....	Jane Green/Marisa Hutchison

### Lectionary for April 25

Acts 9:36-43  
Psalm 23  
Revelation 7:9-17  
John 10:22-30