

(Disciples of Christ)

FIRST FACTS FEBRUARY 2011

Pastoral Ponderings...

VERY IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT!! DEACONS MEETING

There will be a deacons meeting on February 27, 2011.

ALL DEACONS ARE ENCOURAGED to attend this
very special meeting. Our Area Minister

The Reverend Dr. Larry Ross will be in the pulpit for
the Sunday morning service. We will have a covered
dish luncheon following worship followed by a
presentation to the deacons from our Area Minister,
all are welcome & encouraged to attend.

Pastor Gary Gibbs

Suzanne Exley , Chairperson of Deacons

As your Pastor I wanted to share this with you....

God's Heart Was the First to Break

*Written by: Sharon Watkins, General Minister & President of the Christian Church
Disciples of Christ*

God's heart was the first to break – when one young man decided to pull the trigger and when his victims began to fall. Now a nation is in shock and grief. We are reminded again how fleeting is life and how enduring the patterns of human nature, both for good and for harm. A US Representative known for her openness, kindness, and care; a child at the very budding of her incredible promise; a deacon and pillar of his local congregation putting his own body between his wife and the shooter . . . In all 20 persons dead or wounded by one very broken young man. In times like these people of faith turn to God who made us, who loves us still, and we ask, "Why?"

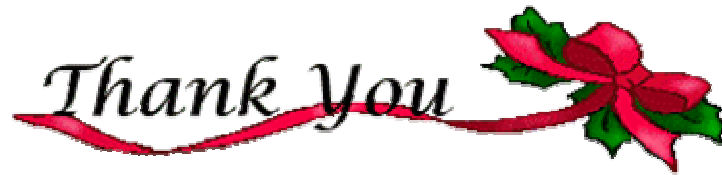
It's still too early to have a clear picture of why. Perhaps it has to do with the general tenor of political discourse where, as Jim Wallis said to me, "We find it too easy to say 'I'm right and you're evil.'" Perhaps there was a particular bent reason in the mind of this young man that pushed him to this specific timing and target. Some will certainly argue that the fault lies with him alone. Others will look more to the societal context that may have given rise to this awful event. There is surely some truth to both perspectives.

In the meantime, as we wait for more information, as we struggle to understand, we pray:

- prayers of praise to God who intends that life would be good and who walks closely with us when it is not;
- prayers of confession of our own tendency to vilify our enemies and to fear those we do not understand;
- prayers of petition for healing for those wounded in the attack, for the families and friends of those who have died, for the family of the man who shot them – and for him;
- prayers for our leaders – spiritual and political – that they will have clear minds and pure hearts, leading the way in cleansing our national political dialogue of hatred, disrespect, and personal attack.

And we act – as Body of Christ and individually members of it – remembering that each time we rise from the Lord's Table we have been reconstituted and recommissioned as Body of Christ for the world. As Body of Christ we attempt to hear one another in respect, and to work with one another to solve the problems that vex us – to be a movement for wholeness. As Body of Christ we seek to reveal the Reign of God at hand, working for justice, peace and care for all our neighbors. As Body of Christ we look upon each one of those neighbors, those with whom we agree and those with whom we disagree, and see on each face the image of God. In this heartbreaking time, let us act in keeping with that image also revealed in us. In God's image, let us be a movement for wholeness and healing and hope.





From the family of Jean Moore,

It is a blessing to have such a caring church family. Thank you for the many cards and gifts to her memorial fund. And, thanks for so many of you that attended. We were not expecting many to be able to be there with such short notice and on a weekday. Thanks to Pastor Gary for meeting with us and helping us to have a celebration service exactly as we requested. A special thanks to Carolyn Herring. The service could not have been done on such short notice nor gone so smoothly without her. She was willing to step in as needed and play the music we requested. Also, because of Patty, the church was clean and ready to go. Also, because of your care and concern, we had a meal to share before and after the service. It was a great time of being together for my family and remembering our mother.

Chowning, Sam, Howard, Ted.....grandchildren and great grandchildren.

From the files of Pastor Gary...

No time??? If you think you don't think have enough time for church activities, or that your church asks too much of your time, consider this: in an average life of 70 years, a person will spend:



24 years sleeping

14 years going to school

8 years in amusements

6 years eating

5 years in transportation

4 years in talking

3 years reading

3 years being sick and convalescing

And if you spend 2 1/2 hours **EVERY SUNDAY** in Sunday School and worship; and if you spend another hour **EVERY WEEK** of your life in some church activities, you will have invested only **10 MONTHS** of your life in church. Your church is here to be a spiritual base for your lives. Here you will receive comfort and challenge. Here you will be affirmed and loved. Here you will be sent out to serve. Can anyone really say "**I have no time for church**".



Bob Balch, Margaret Chaddick, Donna Cook, Bob & Joy Dickerson, Billy Ray & Bookie Edwards, Jessie Huerta & family, Ned Ireland, Jordan Kerr, The Lachausse family, Abby Lemp, Amanda Maupin, Hazel Nance, Andrew Blaine Russell, Sandy Russell, SuZann & Al Stone, James Tillett & family

Margret Chaddick is currently at Life Care Center of Plano the mailing address is ...

3800 West Park Blvd-Plano TX 75075

Join us as we wish her a speedy recovery .

SERVING IN THE MILITARY

Isaac Abeyta, John Bull, Josh Bolden, Caleb Botsford, Josh Bowers, Wesley Brown, Josh Clay, Gage Colson, John Gondol, Luke Goplin, Brandon Harris, Thomas Herrea, Walter Hill, Teresa Vaught Hurley, Landon Jones, Daniel Kelly, Captian Holly Killman, Matthew Love, Kevin Martin, Zack McClellan, Cory Neil, Orlando Orozco, Daniel Purdom, Jarod Rock, John Owens Scarborough, Kevin Paul Smiley, Jacob Smith,

Thank you to all our church family and friends for the well wishes & cards, and to those that joined us to celebrate our 65th wedding anniversary.

Floyd & Jean Young



**WORSHIP SERVING SCHEDULE
FEBRUARY, 2011**

GREETERS	The Shook Family
WORSHIP LEADER	Renae Heilman
SERVING ELDERS	Carolyn Herring Zack Herring
HOME CENTERED ELDERS/DEACONS	Patricia Ireland Ann Crook
COMMUNION SERVERS	Randy & Donna Stieben Jim & Suzanne Exley
COMMUNION PREPARATION	Suzanne Exley
COFFEE FELLOWSHIP	Rachel Smith Suzanne Exley

*Attendance & Giving's for the month of:
January 2011*

Loving is not just looking
at each other, it's looking
in the same direction.

~Antoine de Saint-
Exupéry, *Wind, Sand,
and Stars*, 1939

Sunday School	Worship	Needed Weekly
attendance:	attendance:	average \$2409.00 :
January 2: 28	74	\$2,694.00
January 9: 28	54	\$2,728.10
January 16: 32	75	\$1,512.00
January 23: 29	76	
January 30:		

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WEEKLY EVENTS

Sunday 9:45 Sunday School
10:30 Coffee Fellowship
10:50 Worship
6:00 Pastors Bible Study

Monday 8:15 Walking Group

Tuesday 9:00 Walking group
9:30 Angelic Threads

Wednesday 8:15 Walking group
6:00 p.m. WNWW
6:30 CYF
7:00 p.m. Choir

Thursday 8:15 Walking group

Friday Church Office Closed
8:15 Walking group

Saturday

Events : February 2011

February 7: Board Meeting 7:30 p.m.

February 11: Chi-Rho Kids leave for Athens

February 13: Education meeting following worship

February 13: Valentine Pot Luck Luncheon

following worship

February 19: Young Adult gathering 6-9 p.m.

February 20: Newsletter deadline

February 21: Committee & Elders meetings @ 6 & 7

February 27: Area Minister, The Reverend Dr. Larry

***Ross will be joining us for worship, lunch
and Presentation***