



(Disciples of Christ)

FIRST FACTS OCTOBER 2010

Pastoral Ponderings...

There is an old story of a little boy walking down a busy sidewalk, clutching a stack of papers. Weaving through the crowd, coming toward him is a well dressed man in a hurry. He checks his watch as he walks rapidly. Without meaning to he crashes into the young boy, spilling the papers over the sidewalk. For a moment it looks as if the man will continue on, leaving the boy to pick up the papers alone. But instead he stops, kneels down, and begins to help gather up the papers. There on the sidewalk at the eye level with each other. As the grown man helps the young boy remarks, "Gee mister, are you Jesus?"

We might reflect on how simple kindness echoes the image of Jesus. We might meditate on how servanthood from a position of power reflects the Savior. We might commend the simple justice of helping to correct a mistake made by the adult. Behind all those worthy questions lies the lingering question evoked by the boy's remark. Who is Jesus? It is a question that echoes out of the Galilean hills as Jesus himself asks the disciples, "Who do you say that I am?" (Mark 8:29) Indeed, it reverberates down the ages to land squarely at our feet in faith this day.

As we move into the fall season, we need to once again ask the same question that Jesus asked his disciples "Who do you say that I am?" May we always ask ourselves Who is this Jesus and how can I be a better disciple?

In Christian Love,

Pastor Gary

EDUCATION NEWS

We have been off to a great start on Wednesday nights this year. A huge blessing is that we have new helpers in the kitchen. Ona Ballard, Laura Cooper, Georgeanne Kennedy, and Rachel Smith have been preparing and serving our meals and helping clean up afterwards. Bob Kennedy has been helping us out as well. If you see them please tell them thank you for their service. Dorothy Loftice is teaching the 3-5 year old class. Suzanne Exley is teaching K-2nd, Cassie Shook and Nancy Boatman are teaching the 3rd-5th grade, and Jess Tillett and Renae Heilman are teaching the Jr High (Chi Rho) group. Chowning Hayes and Casey Heilman are still heading up the high school group that meets at Chowning's house. We may be starting up a fundraiser to benefit all age groups soon.

Look out for more information coming your way!



Once again, thank you for supporting the youth fundraiser semiannual bake potato dinner. We have been on a mission trip every summer since 2000 and have had good attendance at camp the last 4 years as well. None of this could have been accomplished without your support....not only financially, but with prayers and by letting our young people know how much you care. The Fall is a busy time, fall rally, youth day @ TCU and Youth Sunday. The high school youth group is made up of juniors and seniors this year and have very busy schedules with work and school functions, etc. Still, they remain committed to their youth group and are there every Wednesday night. Casey and I, as well as the youth, appreciate your continued prayers.....for the decisions they are making concerning their future, for the time we are together on Wednesday night, and where God would lead us this summer for mission trip.

Trunk or Treat-Mike's Kids-Christmas Parade

These are some of the events our church will be participating in during the upcoming months.



First, Trunk or Treat will be held on Halloween night in conjunction with the downtown merchants. We are asking our members to fill the parking lot— open your car trunk or pickup bed and hand out treats to the little ones. Games are also being planned for the youngsters. Also on that night we will be hosting a chili/soup/stew supper in the Mottley building. This will be free and open to the public. So get out the black iron pot and conjure up your favorite recipe. We will need several pots and servers. Time to be announced at a later date.

Second, Mike's Kids— The church will begin taking donations of new or slightly used toys and clothes for children on November 15th. This is an event our church participates in annually. Banana boxes will be placed in the Mottley Building on that day. Get in the toy chest and closet and donate for those less fortunate. This is a very good program.



Third, The youth will participate in the annual Christmas parade, the first weekend of December. A float is being planned at this time. We will be seeking volunteers to help with this.

All of the above projects are being sponsored by your Education Outreach & Evangelism committees. We will be needing lots of help so don't hesitate to volunteer and ask where you can be of assistance. It really is amazing what can be accomplished if we work together for the LORD!

J.D., Ron, & Renae

The women of our church met on a Saturday morning for brunch to discuss new ways to help our church family when there is a need. We are setting up 2 groups for those who can help with dinners and those who can provide food for meals as needed.



Women of the Church

When there is a need Pastor Gary will contact...Charlesene, Carolyn, Lori or Chowning.....and we will call the family to see how we can help. There is also a need for those who would be willing to help with calls when we are getting a meal together. Please pray for us as women of the church, and be a part of the group in any way you can serve. We want to keep up with our members not only when there is a loss, but when there is illness, hospital, or other needs. Please let us know if you have any questions, but most importantly, let us pray for each other.

The 2010 Regional Assembly will be held in Midland/Odessa on October 21-24. Speakers for the weekend include: Suzanne Stabile – a lay counselor and ministers' spouse, Paul Nixon, and Rev. Jose Morales, Transitional Regional Minister for Central Rocky Mountain Region, will be preaching on Thursday evening. Ken Medema, a blind composer and musician, will serve as liturgist with music for the event from Friday – Sunday morning. Highlights include workshops on the topics of Basics for Congregational Life, Who are We as Disciples, Spiritual Formation and Crossing Boundaries; an event for Youth Ministers; mission work in the Midland and Odessa communities; worship together on Sunday morning with Paul Nixon, preaching, author of *I Refuse to Lead a Dying Church* and *Finding Jesus on the Metro*.

Assembly begins with worship Thursday evening at First Christian Church, Odessa and concludes with worship on Sunday morning at the Midland Convention Center across the street from the Hilton hotel.

For more information visit ccsw.org

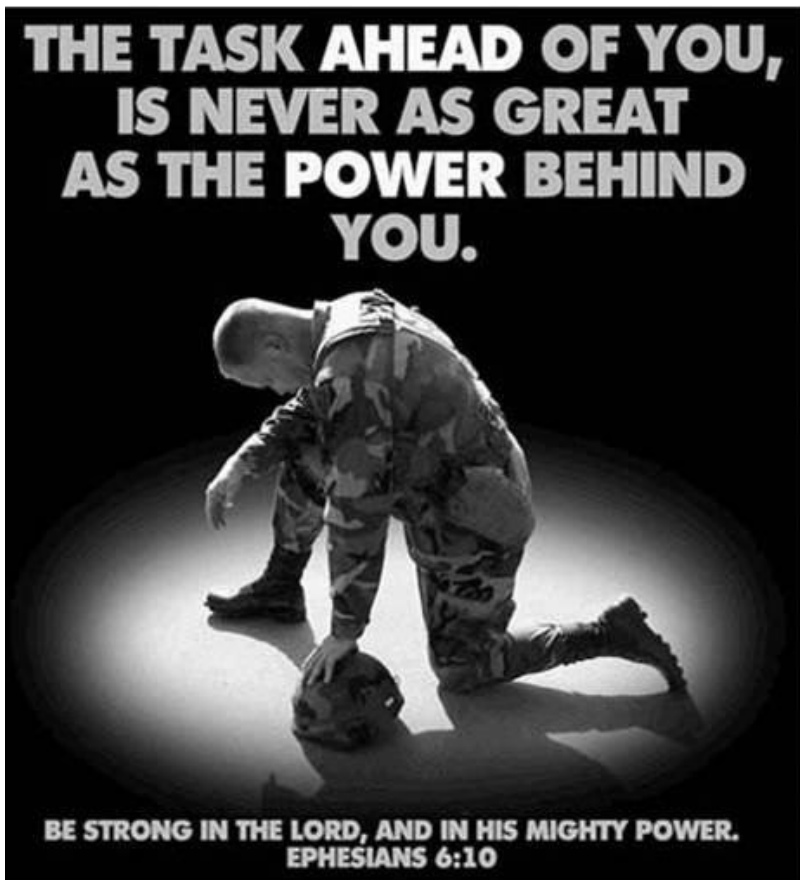




Andrea Asbury, Rusty Atkins, Diane Beck, J.W. Coffey, Liberty Edwards, Robert Edwards, Elaine Elliott, Glyn Gibbs, Chelsea Gorman, Wanda Hix, Jessie Huerta, Uldine Hynds, Phyllis Kelly, Phyllis Lewis, Amanda Maupin, Anne Watts

A WARM WELCOME TO VISITORS

Rachel Moya, Audrey Burts, Marcus Perryman, Larry Miranda, Mackenzie McFarland, Cathy Stroud, Sommerlan Todd, Jordan Wolfe



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, Kevin Martin, Zack McClellan, Cory Neil, Orlando Orozco, Daniel Purdom, Jarod Rock, John Owens Scarborough, Kevin Paul Smiley, Jacob Smith,

Daniel Smith, Will Stone, Clayton & Ryan Tillett, Cody Yates

OCTOBER 2010 WORSHIP SERVICE LEADERS

Worship Leader	Sandi Heilman
Greeters	Patricia Ireland, Carol Crowl
Elders serving at the Table	Ron Reed, Volunteers
Home Centered Elder	Volunteers
Communion Servers	Cole & Cassie Shook, Ora Maye Botsford Nancy Boatman
Communion Preparation	Mary Margaret Hall, Suzanne Exley
Coffee Fellowship	Suzanne Exley, Carolyn Herring, Theresa Griffen, Donna Stieben
Chapel Deacon	Allie McTee, Ann Crook, Pat Ireland Dorothy Loftice, Gary Ballard

Attendance & Giving's for the month of: September 2010

Bittersweet October.
The mellow, messy,
leaf-kicking, perfect pause
between the opposing
miseries of summer and
winter.

~Carol Bishop Hipps

Sunday School attendance:	Worship attendance:	Needed Weekly average \$2409.00 :
September 5: 35	90	\$2,971.35
September 12: 35	93	\$2,971.35
September 19:	75	\$2,463.50
September 26: 27	84	\$2,411.26

Notes of Gratitude...

Gary,

Thank you for all your prayers & support. We are so blessed to know you and I know a lot of people who feel that way. Chelsea is home and doing well. Please feel free to come by & see her.

This gift to the church has been on my heart for sometime. Hope it will help on some way.

God bless you & I will be praying for your wife & hope the surgery will be successful.

Jennifer Gorman

Dear Friends,

With the loss of Bo this summer, we continue to make changes with our family. He was the person that looked after mom in the evenings and held everything together. In order for mom to be in a nurturing caring environment where she would be safe, we have moved her to Settlers Ridge Care Center, Celina, TX. She is now in the Memory Care Unit in room 106.

We appreciate the wonderful food. The fried chicken was excellent! Thank you so much for your thoughtfulness.

Blessings,

Lanette Dyer &

Gwen Barnett



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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
7:30 p.m. Choir

Thursday 8:15 Walking group

Friday Church Office Closed
8:15 Walking group

Saturday

Events : October 2010

FYI- October is Ministerial Appreciation Month

October 3: World Communion Day/Reconciliation Special Offering
October 4: Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.
October 10: EDU meeting following worship
October 11: Columbus Day
October 16: Young Adult gathering 6-9 p.m.
October 18: Committees 6 p.m./Elders 7 p.m. meet
October 20: Newsletter Deadline
October 24: Heritage Sunday 165 years for FCCVA
October 27: OPALS luncheon 11:30 a.m.
October 31: Trunk or Treat-Soup & Chili Supper



Don't Miss