

The Messenger



January 18, 2017

MOMENT'S REFLECTION

"The whole assembly kept silence, and listened to Barnabas and Paul as they told of all the signs and wonders that God had done through them among the Gentiles." -Acts 15:12

I wish I could have met him, picked his brain a little. Leon Megginson was 88 years old when he passed away February 2010 at his home in Mobile, Alabama. He was a decorated WWII Air Force veteran who served as a pilot with the Eighth Air Force in England.



Following the war, Leon enrolled in Mississippi College where he received his bachelor's degree in 1947. He then entered Louisiana State University's graduate program in Business Administration, received his MBA in 1949, and earned his Ph.D. in Management in 1953.

Megginson went on to become a full professor of Social Sciences at LSU, publishing some 100 articles and winning numerous awards for teaching and research, while also authoring or co-authoring over 40 editions of 18 textbooks. I'm most intrigued by a

comment he made at a 1963 Southwestern Social Science Association. Reflecting on how to survive in a changing culture, Megginson said:

"Change is the basic law of nature. But the changes wrought by the passage of time affects individuals and institutions in different ways . . . It's not the most intellectual of the species that survives; it is not the strongest that survives . . . It's the one that is able best to adapt and adjust to the changing environment in which it finds itself."

Megginson was reflecting on Charles Darwin's theory of species survival, but he was using that theory to talk about the need for American business to remain flexible in changing times. To be successful a business needed to cultivate the art of adaptability. Rigidity in the face of change, he warned, would lead to business failure and steady decline.

I ponder the wisdom of Megginson's insight as I meditate on that scene in the Book of Acts. Our Church forbearers were trying to deal with a changing Church culture. When Jesus said, "Go into all the world and make disciples" they mistakenly thought he meant: "Go into the all the world and make disciples . . . of good Jews like us." To their surprise, they began to learn that the Church's continued vitality depended on its capacity to adapt to a new reality that Gentiles, not only Jews, had a place in the Church, too.

Here at the beginning of a new year; here on the eve of a presidential inauguration; here, especially, in a world social context that doesn't feel anything like the kind of church-friendly culture I grew up in small town America back in the 1960's, I recall Megginson's profound insight and pray to God that I'll learn faithful ways to be the kind of pastor who can gracefully adapt to change. **-Dan**



North Texas Area of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Southwest

2017 NTA Leader and Learner Event

Featuring Dr. Marcia McFee

Saturday, Jan 28th—Registration Begins at 8:30am

Creekwood Christian Church, 2660 Forest Vista Dr., Flower Mound, TX 75028

"Passion. Love for learning. Love for vital, artful worship. Love for God's people. My number one purpose is to support (you) in such a way that you have more ease, more joy and more time for creativity and depth in everything you do" says Dr. Marcia McFee of the Worship Design Studio, and keynoter for this year's **NTA Leader and Learner Event**. A recognized authority on worship in today's world, Marcia will keynote the event and lead three workshops on worship. There will also be a dozen other, related workshops, with the event beginning with registration at 8:30am and ending at 3pm. The cost of \$20 includes lunch. Child care is available by reservation.

Workshop titles include:

- *Think like a Filmmaker: Sensory-Rich Worship Design
- *O Lord, Is It Sunday Already?
- *The Politics of Change
- *From Silo to Sanctuary: Bringing Kids Back to Worship
- *Communicating 'You Are Not Alone': Learning to Listen and Let People Know They Are Loved
- *Church Safety and Security
- *The Children's Sermon
- *A Ministry of Wellness
- *Twenty Minutes on Sunday Morning**
- *Liturgy and Social Justice
- *Elders, the Diaconate, and Church Leaders
- *Church and Social Media
- *Self-Care and Spirituality for Church Leaders
- *Mindfulness: A Spiritual Exercise

For workshop descriptions and/or to pre-register, go to the NTA website: www.ntacsw.org. Registration is due Monday, January 23, but you can also late-register at the door.

Our own Dr. Dan Jones will be leading the "Twenty Minutes on Sunday Morning" Workshop.

Save the
DATE™



ALL CHURCH FAMILY MISSION TRIP
July 26-29, 2017 (Wednesday thru Saturday)

- o We will be going to Fort Worth, TX and staying at Ridglea Christian Church to work with Connect FW. We arrive Wednesday evening, work Thursday, Friday, Saturday and return home Saturday evening.
- o All ages are welcome to attend. All children/youth under 18 years must have an adult or adult sponsor attend with them.
- o Costs will be about \$150/person. Scholarships available. Don't let money be a reason for not participating!
- o Connect FW "empowers people to put faith into action in ways that are relational, sustainable and dignity-giving through justice and service". We will be working to connect with, serve and learn more about children experiencing poverty in Fort Worth. Time will be spent serving, learning from experts (both experts in the field and people who are deeply invested in the lives of these kids and the neighborhood), praying, and dreaming about how we can continue to live out faith in action after this trip.
- o Talk to Rev. Casey if you are interested in attending or helping out.

Fusion: a merging of spirituality into real everyday life

The basic purpose of Fusion is to provide space and time to consistently connect with one another and God. Its goal is to help "fuse" (meld, unite, weave) our faith and spirituality into all aspects of our lives. This Fall, Fusion has developed into a small group ministry. We currently have two small groups that meet once a month. One group meets on Friday evenings and the other meets Saturday evenings.

Fusion small groups are gathering in February. Talk to Rev. Casey if you want more information about joining a group.

Jesus was in a small group.



life change happens in small groups

FCCG YOUTH NEWS

Contact the Church Office to sign up for the Youth Newsletter and keep informed about FCCG Youth Activities

Sunday Evening Youth Group: 5-7pm at the church

Youth Mission Trip Fundraiser Coming Up: Contact Renee Godwin

JYF Lock-In, Feb 3-4, at the church

Arrive at 6:30pm (Fellowship Hall) on Friday, Feb 3rd

Bring appropriate PJs, Sleeping Bag, and \$5

Pick-Up is 8am Saturday morning, Feb 4th

Reminder: Sign up for Mid-Winter Retreats

JYF / Chi Rho *TOGETHER*

February 19th—First Christian Rowlett; 5-6:30pm

March 18th—North Texas Food Bank; 1-3:30pm

April 9th—First Christian Lewisville; 5-6:30pm



Photos from Sunday, January 15th Youth Group

PRAYER REQUESTS

Circle of Fellowship

Martha Ferrell
Bill Fowler
Marilyn Fowler

Cup of Life

Pat Spradley

Fishers of Families

Quentin Scruggs
Rachel Scruggs

God's Messengers

Nina Wood

Hands of Faith

Brenda Crosthwaite
Mike Whalin

Shepherds

Billie Donaghey

The Grapevine

Joyce Witt Boyd
Tricia Chapin
Dylan Godwin

DISCIPLES MEN's 70th Tri-Area Men's Retreat

Disciples Crossing in Athens, TX

May 19-May 21, 2017

Scripture and Theme: John 15:1-17 "Connections for a Cause"

Keynote Speakers:

Rev. Dr. Larry Ross, North Texas Area Minister

Rev. Jordan Byrd, Pastor, First Christian Church, Palestine, TX

Registration forms in the church office.



**DISCIPLES
MEN**

CHANCEL CHOIR



**Rehearsals are held on
Wednesdays at 7pm.**

**Contact Stan McGill for
more information.**

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HANDBELL CHOIR

**Rehearsals are held on
Wednesdays at 6pm.**

**Contact Virginia McBee
for more information.**

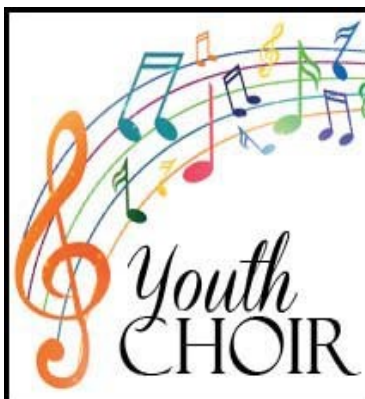


CHILDREN'S CHOIR

(4 yrs-3rd grade)

Rehearsals on Sunday
evenings, 5:30pm-6:30pm.

Contact Tammy Holcomb.



YOUTH CHOIR

(3rd grade and up)

Rehearsals on Sunday
evenings, 4:00-5:00pm.

Contact

Judy Grasham.

Volunteers Needed for 4th Monday



We are in need of additional volunteers if our church is going to continue our ministry to the community in which we live! We deliver meals to homebound individuals every Monday. Each volunteer only delivers one day a month with a time commitment of approximately 2 hours. **We currently need volunteers (one or two people) to deliver the fourth Monday of each month.** Our route is easy to learn (maps are provided) and training will be provided the first time you deliver (one of our experienced volunteers will go with you). Coolers containing the meals for each route are delivered to First Presbyterian Church, located around the corner from our church, by 10:15am each day. Routes

consist of one cooler filled with hot meals and one cooler containing cold items. After delivery of our route the empty coolers are returned to First Presbyterian for pickup.

Delivering meals through the **Meals on Wheels** program is one of the outreach ministries in which our church is involved. This is a program set up to provide a hot, nutritious midday meal to those individuals unable to prepare a meal for themselves. The people who receive this benefit are appreciative of the care and time given to them. For some, this is the only source of food they eat daily. We would like to continue our support of this worthwhile program by providing volunteers to cover a route each Monday.

I can guarantee you'll receive more than you give from this wonderful ministry to our community! Please contact Elaine Roeger at 972.926.1074 to volunteer or with any questions.

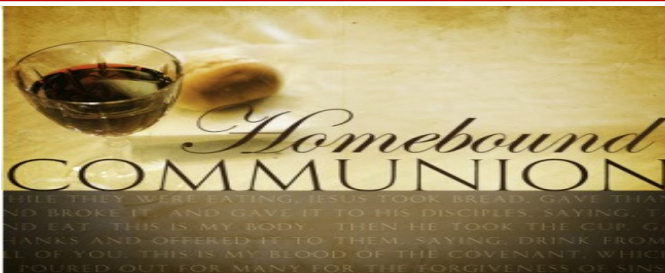
TOGETHER WE CAN DRIVE AWAY HUNGER!!

Good Sams of Garland Needs Volunteers— Call 972.276.2263

If you would like to volunteer, you can call the office and choose the day/time that is best for your schedule and also choose what you will be assisting with at Good Sams. **Pam Swendig** is the manager, if you would like to talk to her, or others at Good Sams can help coordinate your volunteer efforts. Good Samaritan appreciates all that FCC Garland does for them and those in need within our community.



[submitted by Brenda Crosthwaite]



HOMEBOUND COMMUNION

Served on the first Sunday of each month by an Elder. If you would like to be served, please contact the Church Office.

Buy A Brick

Contact Kathleen Yant; kyant1@aol.com; 972.496.0534 or
Eva McKannan; patevamck@verizon.net; 972.414.1737





Families & Professionals MARRIAGE RETREAT

program dates have been changed; final dates to be announced soon

Marriage is hard y'all! But it can also be fun, exciting, romantic (gasp!) and a wonderful blessing from God. Join us for a weekend retreat to renew your spirits and your relationship!

Cost: \$115/per couple

Includes 1 night lodging at The Texas Star (thetexasstar.com) and 3 meals. (Does not include Friday night dinner, Saturday breakfast or lunch Sunday afternoon). Scholarships available.

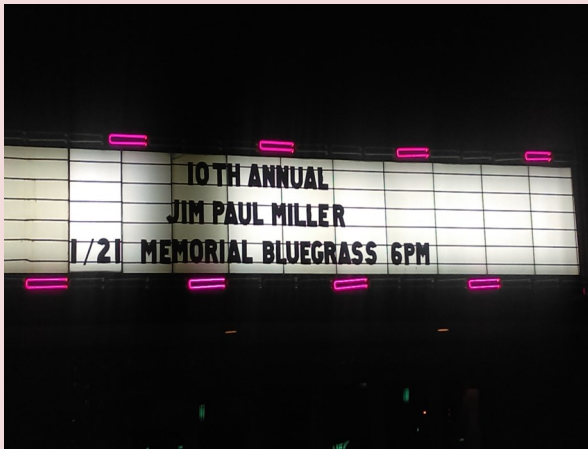
Schedule:

Friday night we will meet for dinner at a local location TBD

Arrive at The Texas Star in Weatherford ready to go by 9:30am Saturday

Depart for home about 12:00pm on Sunday

Hotel lodging is limited to 12 couples; bunk houses are available for late sign-ups (Not kidding!)



The annual **JIM PAUL MILLER BLUE GRASS MEMORIAL** is this Saturday, January 21st, 6-10pm at the **Plaza Theater** on the square in Garland. Our very own **Julianna Houston** will be playing a couple of songs at the Memorial. Come out for an enjoyable night to support **JuJu and the Miller family**.

Tickets are \$5 at the door. Proceeds go towards a scholarship for a deserving person to attend Blue Grass Camp.

DWM SPUD LUNCH

Sunday, Jan 29th at 11:30am
(in Fellowship Hall)

\$7—Adults

\$4—Kids

Includes: Potato, Drink, and Dessert!




**KEEP
CALM
AND
CLEAN THE
KITCHEN**

**To All Users of
the FCCG
Kitchen—**

The kitchen was professionally cleaned on Wednesday January 18th, and we ask everyone's cooperation in *keeping it clean. Thanks.*

COMING NEXT MONTH!

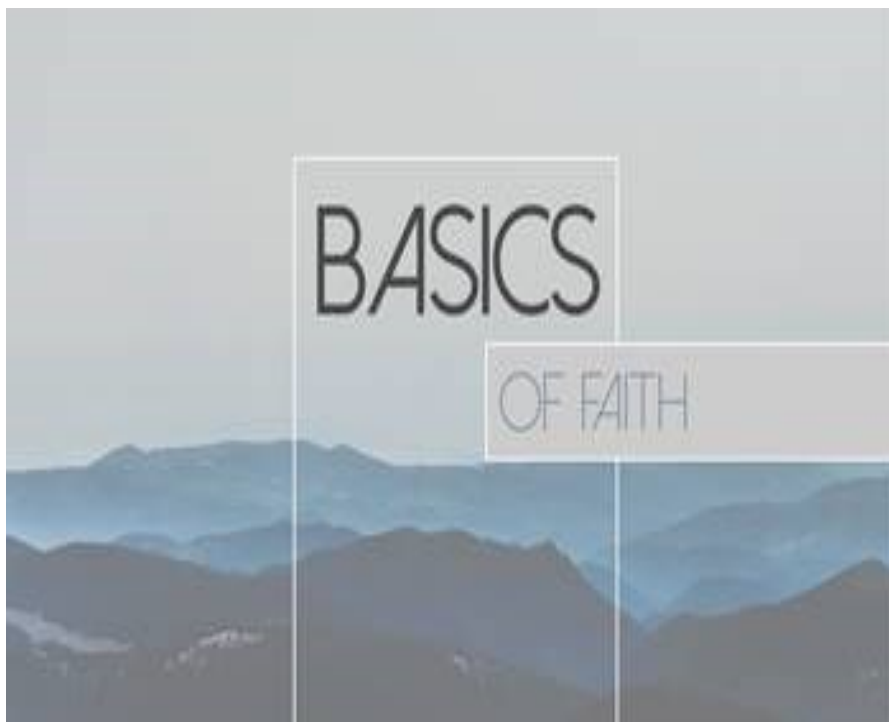
Special Edition Sunday School Hour
Learning Event

February 19th, February 26th,
and March 5th

Meeting in Sanctuary. Members of all
classes are invited to attend.



WHAT ARE MY...
Spiritual Gifts?



Christian Learner Class Offering

(aka, Pastor's Class)

**Pre-Registration Required by
Sunday,
March 5th.**

For all children and youth who want to
study the Basics of Christian Faith;
especially for those who are
considering baptism.

The class requires a minimum of 3
students.

Pending this year's student need,
class will meet March 26 and April 2.



Mothers of Preschoolers

Mothers of Preschoolers

Meets at FCCG (usually) on the second
and fourth Sundays—from 5-7pm at the
church. Next meeting is Sunday, Jan
22nd.

Contact Rev. Casey Tanguay for more
information.

**First Christian Church Garland
115 S. Glenbrook
Garland, TX 75040**



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(Disciples of Christ)**