

# The Messenger



February 15, 2017



From Sharon Campbell, Board Chair

As we are now in the second month of the new year, I wanted to give a short report on FCCG's new board structure for 2017.

In July, 2016, a task force was formed to look into creating a smaller church board on a trial basis. The task force spent an ample amount of time in study and discussion, in addition to conducting a congregational-wide survey. After much discernment and prayer, the task force recommended "that for a period of one year, beginning January, 2017, the current board delegate its powers to a smaller board, this number to be decided by the current board." The board discussed the recommendation, shared suggestions and concerns, and voted to approve the recommendation on September 12, 2016. The board positions were then filled from congregational nominations, and the congregation voted to approve the new board structure and representatives on November 20, 2016. The current bylaws remain in effect.

These board representatives (see list below) will serve for a one-year trial period. During this time a Board Task Force will meet to continue study, discussion and evaluation of the board structure. This new task force is made up of the Board Chair (Sharon Campbell), Vice Chair (Kathleen Yant), ministers (Dan Jones and Casey Tanguay), and two at-large members (Doug Harrison and Melody Biffle). At the end of the year, this task force will provide a report/recommendation, at which time, a full board and congregational vote will be taken to decide whether to continue with the smaller board of representatives or revert back to the larger boards of the past.

So far, the feedback on the smaller group of board representatives has been positive overall. I welcome your questions and comments about the new [trial] board structure, and ask that you pray for the board representatives as they do God's work through the church's goals and initiatives.

## 2017 FCCG Board Representatives

Board Chair (Sharon Campbell)

Board Vice Chair (Kathleen Yant)

Board Treasurer (Bill Dunn)

Elder—going off in 2017 (Chris McMillan)

Elder—going off in 2018 (Bob Simpson)

Elder—going off in 2019 (Bobbie Barger)

Diaconate Chair (Denise Armstrong)

Senior Trustee (James Schnitker)

Ministry Cabinet Member #1—Education (Stephanie Gordon)

Ministry Cabinet Member #2—Evangelism (Pat Aston)

Ministry Cabinet Member #3—Fellowship (Cyndy Smith)

Children's Sunday School Rep (Diana Callaway)

Youth Sponsor Rep—(Renee Godwin; Shay Houston—*rotating*)

Elder Emeritas (Lee MacDonald)

Adult Sunday School Class Rep—Followers (Billie Bliss)

Adult Sunday School Class Rep—Apostles (Jo Lines)

Adult Sunday School Class Rep—Ruth Mix (Sondra Martin)

Adult Sunday School Class Rep—Christianity 101 (Jeff Holcomb)

Adult Sunday School Class Rep—Cooper Class (Virginia Stone)

Adult Sunday School Class Rep—Crusaders Class (Russ Lyons)

Adult Sunday School Class Rep—Crossroads (Emily Henderson)

# FCCG YOUTH NEWS

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

Evening Youth Group on Feb 19th, 5-7pm

Youth Mission Trip Fundraiser Coming Up: Contact Renee Godwin

Reminder: Sign up for Mid-Winter Retreats

JYF / Chi Rho *TOGETHER*

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

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

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



## FCCG YOUTH SELLING T-SHIRTS TO RAISE FUNDS FOR YOUTH MISSION TRIP



Youth will be in Fellowship Hall on Sunday, March 5th to assist with online ordering of t-shirts.

Mark your calendars for 2017 VBS



June 18th thru June 22nd

# PRAYER REQUESTS

## Circle of Fellowship

Martha Ferrell

## Shepherds

Billie Donaghey

## God's Messengers

Pat Spradley

## The Grapevine

Joyce Witt Boyd  
Bettye Davenport

## 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*

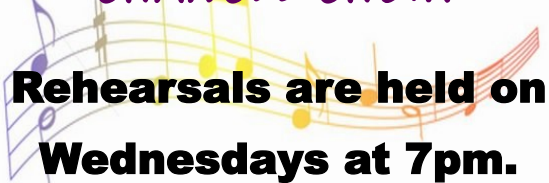
*Rev. Jordan Byrd, Pastor, First Christian Church, Palestine, TX*

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.**

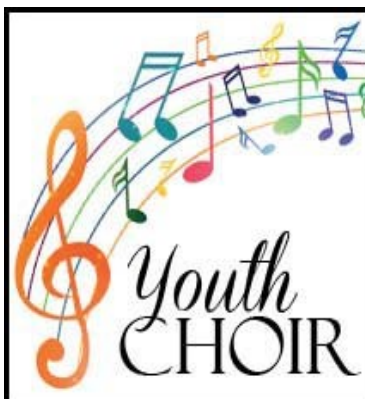


## CHILDREN'S CHOIR

(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.

# STARTS THIS SUNDAY—FEB 19th

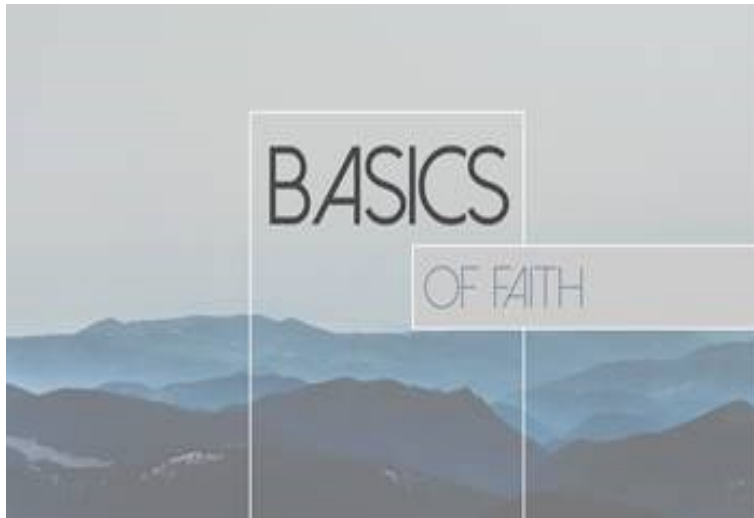
Special Edition Sunday School Hour  
Learning Event

*Future Dates: 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 will meet March 26 and April 2  
during the Sunday School hour.



**Good Sams of  
Garland Needs  
Volunteers—Call  
972.276.2263**

If you would like to volunteer, please call Pam  
Swendig.



### 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](mailto:kyant1@aol.com); 972.496.0534 or  
Eva McKannan; [patevamck@verizon.net](mailto:patevamck@verizon.net); 972.414.1737



# THANKS FOR GIVING!

From Brenda Crosthwaite, Outreach Ministry

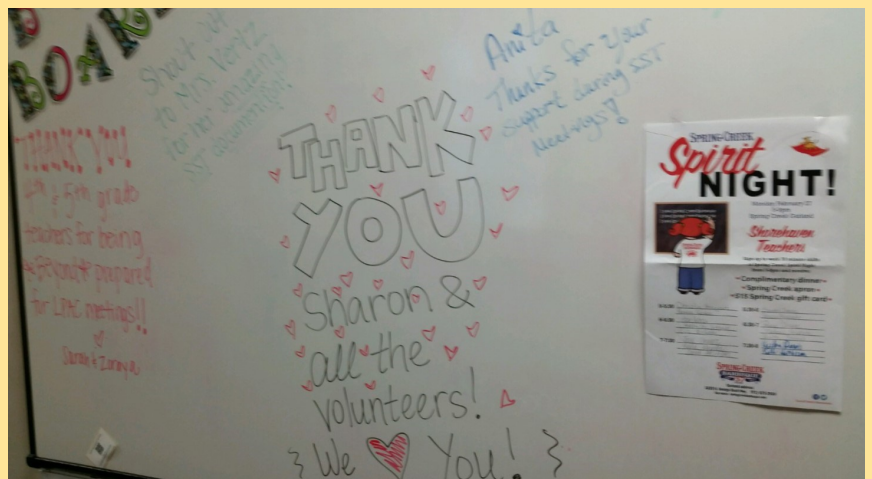
The Outreach Ministry wants to give each of you a great big hug and “thank you” for contributing to those in need through FCCG’s Outreach Ministry. You are the heart of this ministry. We gave a total of twenty-five Turkey Dinners last year to families that would not have had a Thanksgiving Dinner otherwise. Your overwhelming generosity at the holiday season allowed us give donations in records numbers to families in need through Juliette Fowler Communities, Good Samaritan, New Beginnings, and families identified by our congregation.

You blessed forty-four *Angels* with Christmas gifts this holiday! Kim and James Schnitker were most charitable of their time to deliver your gifts to the FCC Rowlett Reindeer Project.

In late 2016, FCCG adopted Shorehaven Elementary School, and its students and teachers benefit greatly from your support. Members of our congregation currently volunteer at Shorehaven, reading in the library and classroom, assisting with office work and helping teachers with special projects. To show appreciation, coffee and donuts have been served to the Shorehaven teachers and staff by FCC members. Our efforts have provided many needed educational supplies. Volunteers are still needed; contact the Outreach Ministry or Sharon Campbell for information.

**Teacher Appreciation Week is coming soon and we need your ideas and help to make their week special.** Please call and get involved. It is rewarding to help the staff—they are so gracious and appreciative of all we do for them.

Thank you for being so generous of your time, financial support and gifts.



Bulletin Board at Shorehaven Elementary

# Care Groups



**Bobbie Barger** is heading up FCCG's **Membership Ministry** this year. Below is a listing of the church's Care Groups and their leaders, and the Elders serving each group.

## Circle of Fellowship

Leader: *Judy Shwartz*

Elders: *Dwight Brand* and *Bob Simpson*

## Fishers of Families

Leader: *Gale Sullivan*

Elders: *Kristen Nowlin* and *Judy Ross*

## God's Messengers

Leader: *Marilyn Camp*

Elders: *Chris McMillan* and *Matt Prestenberg*

## Hands of Faith

Leader: *Lori Shugart*

Elders: *Eric Dacon* and *Debbie Fetzer*

## Shepherds

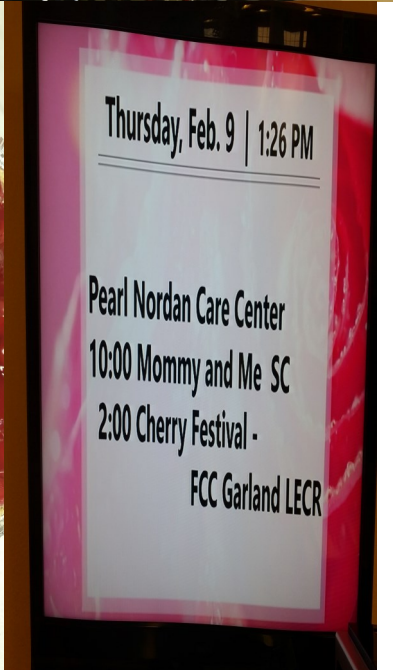
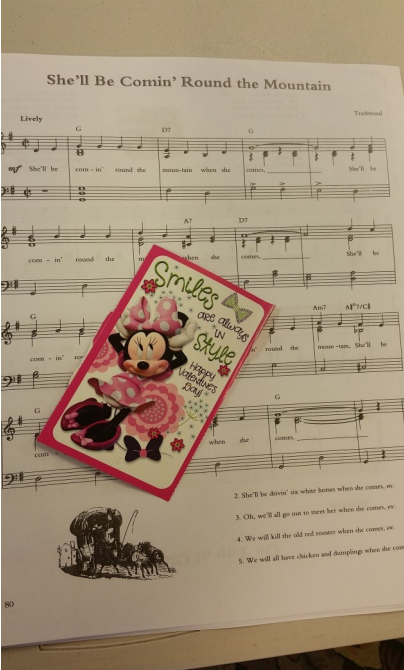
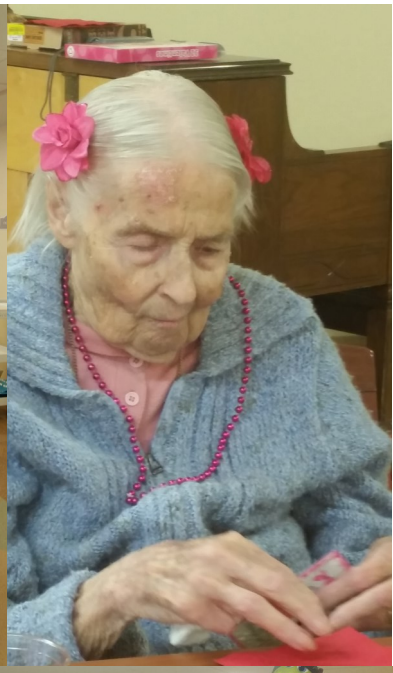
Leader: *Sondra Martin*

Elders: *Greg Camp* and *Brownie Sherrill*

## The Grapevine

Leader: *Billie Bliss*

Elders: *Nancy Worden* and *Bobbie Barger*



**FCCG DWM Outreach at the Annual **Cherry Festival** at Fowler Community Homes on February 9<sup>th</sup>**



## Families & Professionals MARRIAGE RETREAT

*June 16-18, 2017*



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](http://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!)



## Mothers of Preschoolers

Meets Most Second and  
Fourth Sundays

5-7pm in Room 203  
(childcare available)

***Next Meeting is Sunday evening, February 26th***



Save the  
**DATE**™



## **ALL CHURCH FAMILY MISSION TRIP**

### **July 26-29, 2017 (Wednesday thru Saturday)**

- 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.
- All ages are welcome to attend. All children/youth under 18 years must have an adult or adult sponsor attend with them.
- Costs will be about \$150/person. Scholarships available. Don't let money be a reason for not participating!
- 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.
- 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.



**First Christian Church Garland**

**115 S. Glenbrook**

**Garland, TX 75040**



# *The Messenger*

**A Publication of First Christian Church  
(Disciples of Christ)**