

The Messenger

July 26, 2017



SUPPORT SNEAKER SUNDAY!

Adult Sunday school classes will collect **SNEAKERS**, and Youth Sunday school classes will collect **SOCKS**. Winning classes will be awarded a *“to-die-for”* breakfast.

Donations may be made in your Sunday school class, or if you don't have a regular class, then to the Sunday school class of your choice.

Sunday, August 6th is SNEAKER SUNDAY and last chance to donate!

MOMENT'S REFLECTION

Be cheerful no matter what; pray all the time; thank God, no matter what happens. This is the way God wants you who belong to Christ Jesus to live. -1 Thessalonians 5:17-18

I've always thought Paul was a little over the top in his words to the Thessalonians. Give encouragement? Yes. But make people feel bad for feeling bad? I don't know.



Church there had its hopes set high on Jesus' second coming. But when weeks turned to months, and some of the beloved charter members passed away, discontent set in. Seems these Christians were equipped for hard work, even persecution. They just weren't prepared to work hard, suffer persecution, indefinitely.

Their situation recalls a beloved, yet curmudgeonly, Stewardship Chair in another church. I twisted his arm into doing a job he wasn't totally sold on doing. After weeks of cajoling, I finally won him over by suggesting, "John, a campaign only lasts a few weeks. Give it your best for a while, and then you'll be done. You can do it." He tried hard. But in the days following our church's pledge Sunday, after several evenings of follow-up visits, he called to report: "Pastor, I've been good for over three weeks now. I don't have any more nice in me."

Truth is, being nice takes effort for all of us. And it's rarely convenient. My friend John was probably a little less predisposed to it, but having a good attitude, saying positive words, cultivating nice thoughts and actions—this is a discipline. I'd say it's even a spiritual discipline.

Did you read the story, see the picture, about the sign on the Pope's office door? It reads, "Vietato Lamentarsi." In any language that means: "NO WHINING!" That's what he said. No whining. In smaller print the sign continues: "Transgressors are subject to a syndrome of victimization and the ensuing reduction of a sense of humor and capacity to resolve problems. Sanctions are doubled when the violation is committed in the presence of children."

None of us knows the troubles he's seen. Thank God for that! In recent weeks, the Vatican's auditor general resigned, its treasurer returned to Australia to face trial for sex abuse and its top doctrine official was dismissed.

I know. You have your troubles, too. Neither Paul nor I are minimizing them. But, together with the Pope I'm asking that you do more than whine about them. In fact, Paul says spend some time praying and thanking God for what's right with your life. **-Dan, Summer 2017**

FUNDRAISER

for New Donation Center Supplies

Bid on one of the floral arrangements in Fellowship Hall (bid sheets are in front of each arrangement). Bids start at \$35 and *all proceeds* will go toward materials for the new **DONATION CENTER** — bins, rolling carts, etc.



Arrangements will be available for pick up on Sunday, August 20th, after the Sneaker Winners Breakfast



GOOD SAM'S Needs Donations of Plastic Utensil Packets for Goodie Food Bags for the Homeless



THANKS to everyone who so generously gave of their time to come up for the **All-Church Clean-Up**. Your help was greatly appreciated!

-Brenda Crosthwaite



NEED VOLUNTEER(s) living in North Garland/Firewheel area to pick up donuts on Sunday mornings (for Coffee Fellowship) at *Bon Ton Doughnuts*, 1225 Beltline Rd. #14, Garland 75040. Donuts need to be at the church between 8:00am-8:30am on Sunday mornings. *Contact Cyndy Smith if you can help.*



Sunday, July 30th will be Sondra Martin's last day for picking up donuts for Coffee Fellowship. Sondra has performed this task faithfully for many years and for her unwavering commitment we offer our deepest appreciation for a job well done. Sondra has been an unsung hero, bringing joy not only to our little ones, but also to all of the grown-ups who enjoy a sugary treat to start their day.

Thank you, Sondra!



A new **DONATION CENTER** has been set up at FCCG. All of the donation boxes previously stored under the mail cubbies in the Avenue A entrance hall have been moved to the new **Donation Center**, located between the Nursery and the Ruth Mix classroom on the north side of the building (look for the sign). The church is in the process of getting more suitable donation receptacles and hopes to have them in the new **Donation Center** soon.

LOST & FOUND—Coats and Sweaters

Attention Members: there are a number of nice sweaters and coats hanging on the clothes rack inside the Avenue A entrance. If you're missing a coat or sweater, please check the clothing rack. Please note, as part of the Avenue A entrance clean-up, the **Lost & Found** may soon be moved to the Donation Center—details to follow.



PRAYER REQUESTS

Circle of Fellowship

Martha Ferrell

God's Messengers

Juanita Brock

JoAnne Terry

Hands of Faith

Denny Lee

Shepherds

Tammy Holcomb

John Lowe

Pat Spradley

The Grapevine

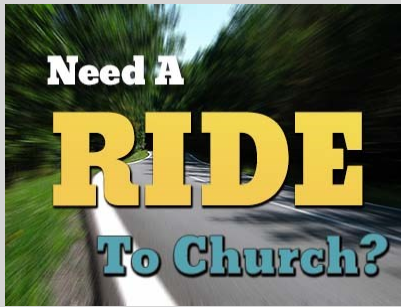
Joyce Witt Boyd

Bettye Davenport



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.



NEED A RIDE TO CHURCH?

Sign up in Fellowship Hall and someone will contact you.

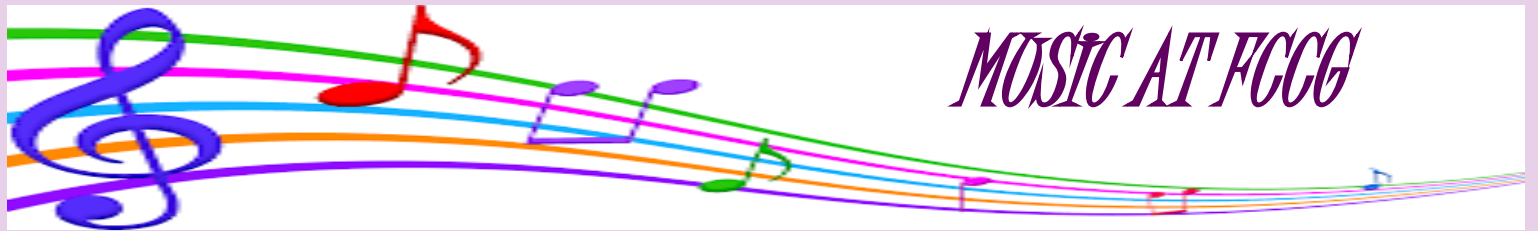
Buy A Brick

Contact Kathleen Yant;
kyant1@aol.com;

972.496.0534

or Eva McKannan;

patevamck@verizon.net; 972.414.1737



MUSIC AT FCCG

CHANCEL CHOIR

Rehearsals on Wednesdays, 7-8pm

Contact Stan McGill

HANDBELL CHOIR

Rehearsals on Wednesdays, 6:00-7:00pm

Contact Virginia McBee

YOUTH CHOIR

Rehearsals on Sundays, 4-5pm

Contact Judy Grasham

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Rehearsals on Sundays, 5:30-6:30pm

Contact Tammy Holcomb

** All Choirs On Summer Hiatus **

CDs of the Benjamin Harlan Service are now available. Contact the Church Office or Stan McGill. Cost is \$5 per CD.



We welcome new member *Patty Crow*, who joined FCCG on Sunday, July 23, 2017.



Dave Ramsey “The Legacy Journey” — Coming This Fall

Sunday September 10—Sunday October 22, 10:20-11:50am

The **Legacy Journey** by Dave Ramsey is a 7-week study that teaches how to truly live and leave a legacy for generations to come. This class will lead you deeper into investing, basic estate planning, purposeful living, safeguarding your legacy, and discovering the keys to generational wealth and true generosity. Through video teaching, class discussions and interactive small-group activities, you'll learn a biblical framework for living intentionally now so that later you'll be able to leave a legacy that will secure your family's future and make a lasting impact on the world around you.

If you are interested in purchasing a membership and attending these classes, talk to Rev. Casey.

First Christian Church
115 S. Glenbrook
Garland, TX 75040



The Messenger

A Publication of First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)