

The Messenger



June 20, 2018

MOMENT'S REFLECTION

"What is truth?" -John 18:38

I won't tell you what to think about our nation's current immigration policies. Yes. I have my opinions. But I'm not in the business of politics. Instead, I choose to be a faithful pastor by offering you a way to think through the immigration issue with a Christian mind—a method of interpretation.

Two Sundays ago, I preached a sermon entitled, "What is Truth?" The sermon was my best reflection on a Christian answer to Pilate's question of Jesus (John 18:38). I think it might be good to quote some of what I said in that June 11th sermon.

The sermon included a 5-point rubric for discerning truth—ways to begin thinking like a Christian. I prefaced my remarks with the following word of hope:



"The good news is that the scriptures say that the Holy Spirit helps us. The Holy Spirit enables us to tell the difference between right and wrong, truth and untruth. John 16:13 talks about the Spirit of truth that guides us in the truth. Maybe that's the first thing we Christians need to know. It is possible to determine what is truth. In an age of subjectivity, it's possible to know what is true.

Later in the sermon, I said: "There are some guidelines to help us evaluate the truth."

1. Common Sense. If something seems screwy, it probably is." {In his book, *The Will of God*, Leslie Weatherhead also talks about "conscience" as one way that God speaks truth to us}.

2. Origin of source. Journalists talk about reputable sources. In

the Church we talk about Scripture. That's our reliable source. And so? Do the truths we consider to be most precious, do they have a foundation in Scripture? Are they theologically informed?

3. Core biblical themes. From Old to New Testament, there are core narratives, core themes, that keep repeating themselves. You can't miss them. You don't need a fine-tooth comb. They're not obscure. Sometimes we get hung on literal interpretations of single verses. The deeper truth is found in the larger story of God's salvation. And you know what those major truths are.

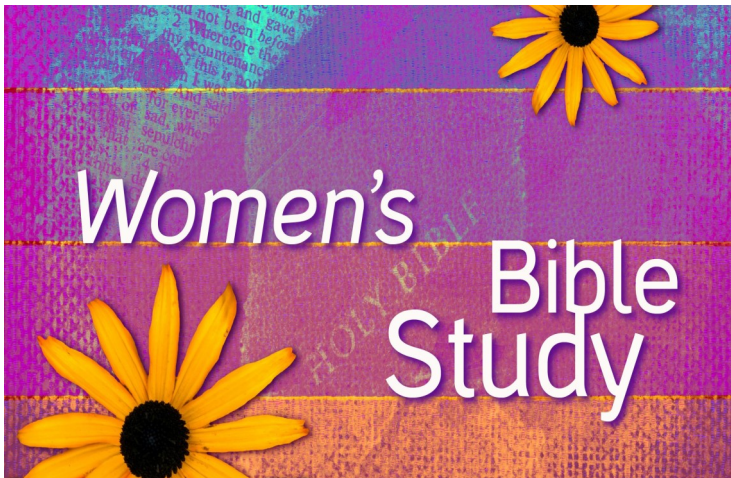
God is creator. God is provider. God cares. God loves to the point of death on a cross. But God also holds accountable. God forgives. God delivers us. God is inclusive. We see these truths lived out in the life of Jesus Christ. In fact, that's why Jesus came to us. That we might know the truth about God.

4. Every truth is consistent with these core narratives. Meaning? If a supposed truth is destructive. If it excludes and diminishes. If it's hateful. If it is greedy, or self-centered. If it takes the life away. If it assumes no responsibility and encourages reckless living. If it's rejecting, and divisive. It's probably not a truth of God.

5. Paul often talks about the fruit of the Spirit. And I think that's another good guideline for distinguishing truth. Lies cause a path of destruction. Truth leaves a trail of life. Truth edifies. It lifts up. It encourages. It leads to life. It may also convict us. So that sometimes the truth awakens us to reality we have longed ignored. Truth promotes spiritual growth. It doesn't lead people away from Christ. It ultimately brings them to him. Truth encourages Christ-like living.

So, what is the truth about our nation's policy on immigration? I pray for the Holy Spirit to guide you in your deliberations. **-Dr. Dan**

Families & Professionals News



Families & Professionals WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Meets each Wednesday, 6:30pm
at Rev. Casey's home —
3419 Tulip Lane, Rowlett 75089.
Sheri Dacon and Rev. Casey will lead this summer
Women's Bible Study. Snacks and drinks provided.
Feel free to bring additional food/dinner.

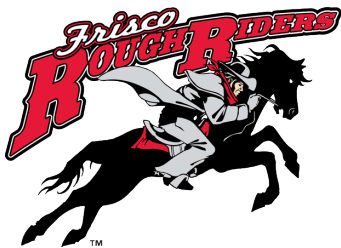


ROCKWALL CONCERT BY THE LAKE — *King George Band* : George Strait Tribute

Thursday, June 21; concert starts at 7:30am at The Harbor
(2059 Summer Lee, Rockwall)

FREE family fun event—kids welcome. Bring chairs, blankets to sit on, drinks/snacks, etc.). We can coordinate carpool and meeting place closer to date.

-Rev. Casey



Rough Riders Baseball Game Family Night

Saturday, July 21, 7:05pm

\$20/ticket (includes ticket, all-you-can-eat/drink, souvenir items, and pre- or post-game Christian concert)

RESERVE YOUR TICKETS BEFORE / BY June 24

Fusion DINNER CHURCH

Saturday, July 28th, 6:30-10:00pm. We will gather at the church for lively discussion centered around a delicious meal. Following the example of the early church, we share our lives and faith around filled tables, celebrating Jesus' presence among us and growing in our faith with one another. RSVP to Rev. Casey Tanguay. **(childcare available)**

There is a place for you at our table . . .



Fusion: a merging of spirituality into real
everyday life



V B S

Sunday thru Thursday * July 22-26

5:30-8:00 pm

Register online at www.fccgarland.org OR registration forms in Fellowship Hall and Church Office

LIBRARY PROJECT

Books in the library have been relocated to their new shelving locations according to their high-level numeric classification. **Help is now needed** to place books into detailed numeric order on the shelves. If you have a little time and like to move books about, *please join us on Tuesday, June 26th from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm for a little Library Shuffle.*



FCCG Home Group News



Vision and Mission Statement for Ministering to the FCCG Home Group

Vision Statement: Minister to Home Group Members by serving their needs through love and humility as Christ would.

Mission Statement: To provide fellowship, inclusiveness and love to our church members and love to those who cannot drive or are medically/physically incapacitated.

Home Group Chair *Bobbie Barger*; **Leaders** *Sharon Campbell, Les Perry, and Sondra Perry*

During the next few months, a profile of one of the FCCG Home Group members will be featured in *The Messenger*. Lee MacDonald will be our first featured member of the FCCG Home Group!

Clintilee (Lee) MacDonald

Personal Life Story

I was born September 16, 1921 in Trenton, Fannin County, Texas. I attended school in Trenton, graduating as Valedictorian of the 1938 class. I also attended the University of Arizona at Tucson. During World War II, I met and married cadet Daniel M. MacDonald when he was in flight training at Jones Field in Bonham, Texas. I have 1 child, 4 grandchildren, 6 great grandchildren, and 1 great great grandchild. In 1968 I became a member of the Texas Federation of Women's Clubs. I traveled with the Women's Speaker Bureau campaigning for passage of the Equal Rights Amendment. I served as President 1984-1985; we traveled extensively. While in Japan, I organized PTAs in American schools and also Officers Wives clubs on the combined Air Force bases. I was furnished with a car to visit offsite Japanese schools and set up PTAs.

Church Activities

At First Christian Church Garland, I have served 2 terms as Deacon, 2 terms as Elder and 1 term as Trustee. In 1990, I was the first woman to serve as Chairman of the Executive Board. I am a member of the Ruth Mix Sunday School Class. At Christmas time my handiwork is very evident in the Christmons on the Christmas tree and the banners hung from the balcony and back of the chancel area. In a two year labor of love, I researched and put together the information necessary to secure a historical marker for our church, dating back to 1875. I will forever be grateful to have received the title of Elder Emerita, an honor earned for service to First Christian Church Garland.

Present Time

I have always been in good health until lately. I am able to take care of myself but do miss being able to drive. I am anxious to learn more of what the Lord has in store for me.

CLOSING (TO THE CONGREGATION OF FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH GARLAND)

Thank you for these many years of love and support; **and to the Lord**, may we celebrate your promises as we worship in fellowship and provide the means to keep future generations.

-Love and Blessings, Lee



SPECIAL BOARD MEETING



This **Sunday, June 24th**, at 11:30am in Room 201—*regarding Bylaws Revision*



Disciples Women Ministry 2018-2019 Book

The *Disciples Women Ministry* will soon be issuing the 2018-2019 book and needs correct contact information for all FCC ladies. Please send your address, telephone, or email changes to lauriedodd4313@gmail.com

Papercrafting Play Days

Beginning Thursday, June 14th, the **Midnight Stampers of Garland** will meet in Room 201 at 1 p.m. They will meet each Thursday through August 23rd. There will be **no play day on July 26** (Vacation Bible School.) Come join us for an afternoon of various paper-crafts. Each person will bring their own projects and supplies. If there is something you would like to learn, need ideas, want a helping hand, let me know. We are a sharing and caring group and welcome all who enjoy card making, scrapbooking, book making, and such. **Call Linda Harrison at 972-533-4016, if you have questions.**



Air-Conditioning Update . . .

We are still working out a few kinks with the Air-Conditioning. THANK YOU for your patience.

The Messenger

A Publication of First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

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