

The Messenger

February 6, 2019



MOMENT'S REFLECTION

"I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord!'" -Psalm 122

I miss you. You used to be a regular attender on Sunday morning. Sometimes even before the coffee had brewed, you were here, coursing through the building. Greeting people. Catching up on stories. Filing through the narthex at the end of service to greet me.

I don't see you as often now. I wonder where you've been. How your life is. Where God is in your journey of faith.

Sometimes I see you at the store. You're always so friendly. We talk as if nothing has changed. Pick up on the old stories that bind us together. You smile and tell me you're fine. The family, too. They're all fine. I remember when your kids were little. So, it pleases me when, standing there at the check-out stand, you tell me all about them. The oldest is married. The youngest, the one who used to tell me stories about her favorite kind of ponies—chestnut, cream color, the spotted ones that you told me are called "Appaloosa"—she's in college now. Plans to be an animal doctor. I'm not surprised. Talking with you, I remember how close your family's life used to be intertwined with the church. But once you and I leave the store we both know it'll be only chance that brings us back together again.

You aren't the only ones I miss. I miss some of the pillars of the church who've passed on. I can still see the places they used to sit on Sunday morning, and sometimes when I'm writing a sermon, I still see their faces, recall some of the conversations. I miss the ones who've moved away, too. Or the ones for whom life changed and much as I wanted so badly for them to stay and never leave, those of us who loved them knew it was time. I miss the ones who don't have the physical vigor to come.



But you're the one I can't get out of my mind on Sunday morning. Sometimes you call to tell me that a loved one is in the hospital. I hear a hint of apology in your voice, as you ask if I'll come have prayer. "I know I haven't been to church much lately." And I tell you that it doesn't matter, because if you knew a pastor's heart, you'd understand that it really doesn't matter. I love you unconditionally. I'll pray for you whether you come to church or not.

But I miss you. Your presence matters to me. I'll be there when you call. I'll look forward to the times when we see each other at the store. I'll enjoy the little updates. But I want you to know that none of these things replaces you being here Sunday morning. -Dan

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH GARLAND



PROUDLY PRESENTS
RENOWNED COMPOSER
BARRY TALLEY
&
the Talley Brothers
IN CONCERT WITH
THE FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
CHANCEL CHOIR

FEBRUARY 24, 2019

9:00 A.M.

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH GARLAND SANCTUARY
“PRAISE TO THE LORD”

Barry Talley grew up in West Texas, graduating from West Texas State University in 1980. He is now the Executive Director of Fine Arts for the Deer Park Independent School District located in the Houston area. He served as the Choral Director at Deer Park High School for thirty-five years before moving into full time administration in 2015. He is in his 37th year as Music Director at the Deer Park United Methodist Church.

Barry has always been an active writer and arranger of choral music. He has over 50 songs and arrangements to his credit with publishers including Hal Leonard and Alliance. He has written commissioned works for both churches and schools in Texas.

He is one of three brothers who chose choral music as their vocation. The Talley Boys made their mark in music in different areas of the state. Randy, the eldest brother (though he does not like to admit that) taught most of his career in the Odessa area. Billy, the middle brother (considered by some to be the smartest), retired in 2017 from Tascosa High School in Amarillo where he spent over 30 years of his teaching career. Both Randy and Billy are former presidents of the Texas Choral Directors Association. The Talley Boys have sung all over the state including appearances with Larry Gatlin.

Barry served as the President of the Texas Music Educators Association in 2000-2001. The Texas Choral Directors Association honored him as a recipient of the Choral Excellence Award in 2013.



JYF
Valentines
Sale

Feb. 10th
8:30am -
11:30am

Valentines will
be delivered Feb.
10th during
Sunday School



Dos Banderas
Tex-Mex Restaurant

**Have Dinner at Dos Banderas for our
Youth Fundraiser—Monday Feb 25th
A portion of the sales from 4:00pm to 8:00pm
will go to our Youth Group.**

Week of Compassion Special Offering February 10th and February 17th



We will continue collecting money for Week of Compassion through February 10th and February 17th. **Rev. Caroline Hamilton-Arnold**, Associate Director of Week of Compassion, will be our guest preacher on **Sunday, February 17th**. She will also lead a presentation about Week of Compassion



during the Sunday School hour in the sanctuary. Caroline has the honor of serving as Associate Director for Week of Compassion. Her primary area of responsibility is coordinating responses for disasters in the United States and Canada.

More than we can imagine

February 17-24



Brad Rountree to be guest preacher February 10th



At precisely 7:12 on the morning of December 13, 2015 Brad and Rhonda Rountree received a call that Brad's surgeons were flying out to get Brad a new heart. Time was of the essence and Rhonda wrote:

"It's been evident for a long time—especially this week—and most certainly yesterday—Brad needs a heart. Pray for weather patterns, flights, surgeons—just pray that everyone and everything involved—

sees God's hand in this."

Please come and learn of Brad's story when he presents his sermon, "The Heart of the Matter," during First Christian Church Garland's 9:00 a.m. worship service on February 10th.

Brad Rountree has served New Liberty Baptist Church since October 12, 1977. He is a long-time friend of our Chancel Choir.

***"My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever." -
Psalm 73:26***

Disciples Women's Ministry Monthly Meetings

Morning Circle – Monday Mar. 4th at 9:30am
In the Fellowship Hall

Evening Circle – Tuesday Mar. 5th at 6:45pm
At Main Street Café

Contact Shirley Miller

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DWM Taco, Bingo & Bake Sale



Sunday, Feb 17

Bake Sale – 10:00 am



Taco Lunch – 11:30 am

\$ 5 (Kids under 6 eat free)



Bingo – 12:00 pm

Bingo Cards: 1 for \$5 or 3 for \$10

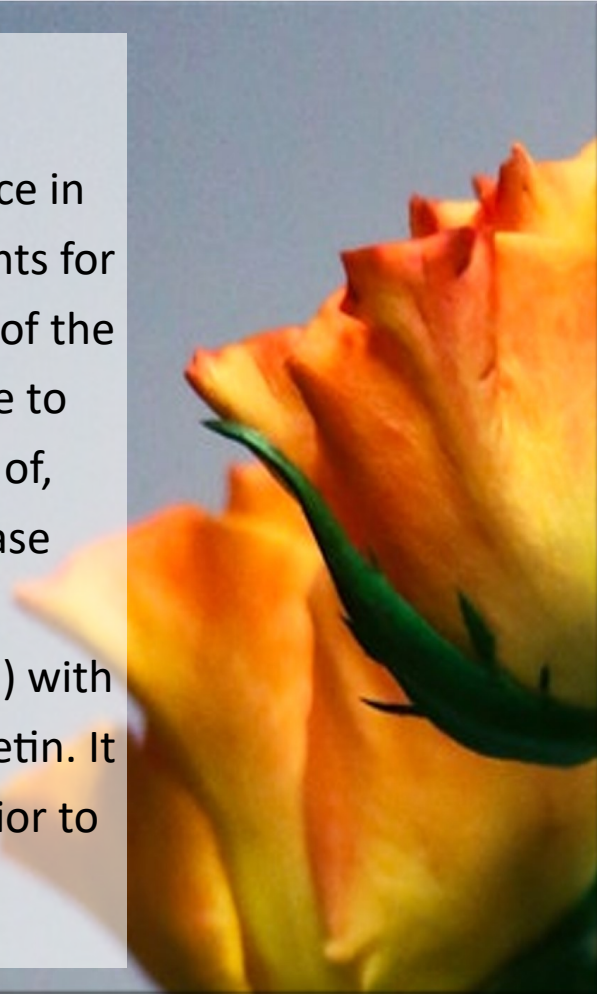


FUSION DINNER CHURCH

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16
6:00PM**

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.

Childcare is available



The church would like to thank **Nancy Langford** for her 12 years of service in taking care of all of the flower arrangements for the sanctuary each Sunday. This is a duty of the Worship Committee, so if you would like to donate a flower arrangement in honor of, memory of, or for any celebration, please contact Emily Henderson (ehenderson@collin.edu or 214-293-1182) with the preferred date and details for the bulletin. It would be helpful to do this two weeks prior to the preferred date. Thank you!

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Saturday, March 2nd

8:30am-10:30am



Please join us for a **2019 Children's Ministry Planning Meeting**
on
Sunday, February 10, at 11:30 am in Room 205.

Please help us make this a fun and successful year for our children.
We want to hear your suggestions and feedback.

Events to be discussed will include:

- *Easter Egg Hunt
- *Senior Recognition
- *Vacation Bible School
- *Sunday School Recognition
- *Trunk Or Treat

Childcare is available by request.

See you there!

Stephanie Gordon
214-673-9059



PRAYER CONCERNS

Circle of Fellowship

Wes Ferrell
Erlinda Martinez
Virginia Stone
Martha Williams

God's Messengers

Nina Wood

Hands of Faith
Michael Armstrong
Mike Whalin

Cup of Life

Mary Helen Shelley

The Grapevine

Lynda Simpson

PASTORAL CONCERNS LINE



469-573-1717

A dedicated phone number for your use in contacting a FCCG minister with your pastoral concerns.



115 S. Glenbrook Dr.
Garland, TX 75040

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A publication of First Christian Church, Disciples of Christ
115 South Glenbrook Drive, Garland, Texas, 75040