

The Messenger

February 4, 2015



2015 Leadership Goals

The following goals are a result of collaboration between FCCG Board and Ministerial staff, and will help drive our focus in the coming year. We encourage you to spend time in prayer over these goals and the success of our future ministries. The goals were presented to the Board in its January, 2015 meeting by Board Chair David Dodd.

- **Community Outreach Program**

The church will be meeting with the City of Garland and other area not-for-profits to determine what potential local mission opportunity is the best fit for the church. Our goal is to further define this ministry by the end of the summer of 2015. In the interim we will focus on assistance to the elderly in the City of Garland. We expect to have our first local outreach activity by the summer of 2015.

- **Adult Mission Trip**

John Harrison will lead our first “all church” mission trip to the Disciples camp in Athens, Texas on April 30th – May 2nd, 2015. This mission is intended to be an intergenerational activity that will introduce our members to the logistics of participating in an extended mission opportunity and will enable more kids to afford a Christian camp experience. By reducing the costs of maintaining the camp, fees for kids will be kept at a more affordable level and our church will have had an impact on over 1,200 kids.

- **Joseph Martin Music Event; April 12th**

World renowned Composer/Musician/Instrumentalist Joseph Martin will take center stage with our own Sheri Dacon during the morning worship service, with an extended celebration reception following in the Fellowship Hall. The members will be asked to invite friends/family and neighbors to the event as an opportunity to introduce our church to more people. This event will be underwritten by the Harold and Martha Rusk fund.

- **Activity Center**

Harry Aston will lead a task force to determine the appropriate action for the church with regard to our Activity building. We hope to have this issue resolved by the end of the year.

- **Renovation/Update Church Facility**

We will be studying the possible renovation of the interior entry to the church (Ave A side) and Fellowship Hall area, as well as studying alternative solutions to provide a larger, modern training /gathering room for our growing Families and Professionals Ministry.

- **Other Programs for 2015**

- * Our Families and Professionals Minister will be continuing to offer new programs for this Ministry.
- * Our Ministers will work collaboratively on a new series of Minister-led Sunday School training programs to be provided in the summer/fall.
- * We will be reviewing our Visitor shepherding in an effort to make sure all Visitors are engaged into the life of the church from their first visit.
- * We will continue to offer top quality children’s programming as always
- * We will continue to research and enhance our worship service offerings with music and programming that has a broad acceptance and appeal.



News Flash

DWM Chili Cook Off

March 1, 2015 at 11:30am

Cherry Festival at Juliette Fowler.

Feb 11th, 2pm. Please bake your favorite cherry dessert for this special occasion. (If you can't attend, but would like to bake a dessert, please drop off the dessert at FCCG between 1:15-1:30pm on Feb 11th). Carpool will be available to Juliette Fowler on Feb 11th. We will leave the church at 1:30pm; please be on time to carpool.



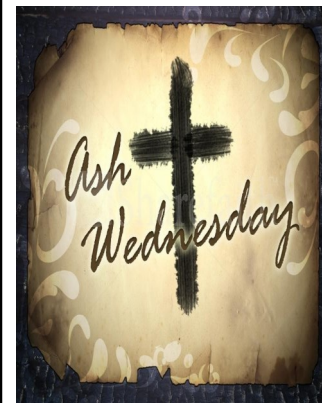
NTA DWM Quarterly Project for Jan 18th-May 16 is **This Side Up Family Center.**

We are collecting donations of the following: \$1 Bingo prizes, cans of soda, bottled water, packaged snacks, toilet paper, paper towels, and new family board games. Anything you can give is appreciated.

(Donation bins located in Fellowship Hall).

Area Men's Breakfast

Saturday, February 7, 8:30am at East Dallas Christian Church



Ash Wednesday Service

7:00pm Wednesday February 18, 2015

Ash Wednesday Pancake Supper



Youth of all ages and their families are invited to a pancake supper on Ash Wednesday (Feb. 18th) at 6pm in the Fellowship Hall. Why pancakes you ask? Traditionally, the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday is called Shrove Tuesday or Fat Tuesday referring to the practice of the last night of eating richer, fatty foods before the ritual fasting of the Lenten season, which begins on Ash Wednesday. We eat pancakes as they are an excellent way to get rid of excess fat and butter. And they are delicious. We will celebrate the cleaning of the pantry on Wednesday before going to our Ash Wednesday service in the sanctuary.

--Pastor Allison



Fusion

: a merging of diverse, distinct, or separate elements into a unified whole

Calling All Families & Professionals . . .

We tend to compartmentalize so many aspects of our lives. We separate our lives into fragmented elements (work- home- family - friends- church- spirituality). Although we don't always do this consciously we still find ourselves dividing and categorizing. Our faith and spirituality is not immune to this partitioning, as we go to church on Sunday and then set our spirituality on the shelf until the following Sunday. We need to find ways to de-compartmentalize, to meld and to unify our faith and spirituality into all aspects of our lives. We need to find ways to take the broken parts and fuse them together into a unified whole. Although it may seem silly and insignificant, our hope is that these gatherings will help provide us with opportunities to begin this "fusion".

Join us for "Fusion" on Wednesday February 11th at State Street Grill (601 West State Street, Garland) at 06:30pm. Adults only please.



Families & Professionals Lenten Series Spiritual Disciplines: Creating Space for the Holy

Led by Rev. Casey
Wednesdays February 25- March 25th
06:30pm Brown Bag Dinner
07:00-08:00pm Spiritual Discipline (childcare available)



Lenten Services Schedule

Ash Wednesday
February 18th, 7:00pm
Palm Sunday
March 29th, 9:00am
Maundy Thursday
April 2nd, 7:00pm
Good Friday
April 3rd, Noon

2015 MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

Needed: LEADER to coordinate a task force for 2015 to assist in the establishment and coordination of potential ongoing local outreach/mission events related to providing assistance to the elderly in Garland with needed home repairs. Please contact David Dodd (email: ddodd@irr.com) if interested in this exciting outreach opportunity!



Rev Casey Tanguay writes . . .

Christianity21

January 22-25 I was given the privilege to attend the Christianity21 conference in Phoenix, AZ. Although the trip felt fast and furious, my experience was everything that I hoped it would be. I have returned inspired and enthused with new ideas and a reignited passion for exploring how we can effectively BE the Church in this 21st century. I was able to fellowship, idea-share and learn from fellow colleagues in ministry. The conference featured twenty-one (yes, twenty-one!) different speakers who shared their passions and visions for the future of the church. Thankfully, I was able to spend some time in reflection and prayer after the conference, allowing me to better process through all of the information that was disseminated. During this time, I thought about our specific context at FCCG and began to imagine how we can best utilize our current strengths while also embracing steps towards transformation and growth. This conference reminded me that just like us as human individuals, the Church is continually a work in progress, continually moving and changing, while always seeking to become a greater reflection of who and what God is calling us to be. Upon my return there are three hopes that I intend to spend some time focusing on and visioning with:

- Provide a sacred, holy and safe space that allows for honesty, transparency and the nurturance of genuine Christ-like relationships.
- Explore ways that we can increase our hospitality to one-another and to our community. It should be a hospitality that causes people to feel better about themselves upon their departure rather than just better about us.
- Establish a sacred, holy and safe space that encourages hard questions to be asked and difficult conversations to take place. It should embrace the transcendence and mystery of God, while believing in the unifying concept that we can believe together, even when we don't always believe exactly the same.

I hope that you will join me in dreaming and praying continuously with great expectations about what God is doing in and among us!

In Christ,

Rev. Casey

Our Church "Timothies"

Rev. Elizabeth Grasham has accepted a call to be minister at Heights Christian Church in Houston. She will begin her ministry there on February 8th. Elizabeth also celebrated her marriage to Gene Montanaro recently. Gene is a Care Flight pilot for the Women's Hospital in Houston. Elizabeth and Gene live at 4214 Gardendale, Houston, TX 77092; Elizabeth's email is: revelgm@gmail.com

Rev. Amy Sutton began a one-year Chaplain residency at Integris Oklahoma Baptist Hospital in Oklahoma City this past August. Upon completion of her residency this August, Amy will pursue a full-time, permanent Chaplaincy position.

Dr. David Halleen will meet with the Regional Committee on Ministry this Spring for probable completion of the ordination process. As David's sponsoring congregation, David and the Church will be working together to plan his service of ordination later in the year here at FCCG. Following ordination, David plans to pursue a full-time parish ministry. David is currently part-time pastor at Bethany Christian Church in Dallas.

Please join me in celebrating these "Timothies" in our congregation!

FCCG's Outreach Emphasis Begins February 15th

Details to follow about our Church's Goals for Giving



SCOUT SUNDAY on February 8, 2015

The Scouts will be recognized during the February 8th worship service. FCCG sponsors Cub Scout Pack 161.

All Scouts are invited to wear their scout uniforms to worship service on February 8th.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Cup of Life

Becky Williams

Fishers of Families

Dottie Harper

Blondell Lewis

Amanda Shields

Hands of Faith

Jill Kirker

Shepherds

Valerie Camp

Laura Lemaster

The Grapevine

Judi Archibald

Dylan Godwin

Wade Godwin

Lynda Simpson



*JYF Will Be Selling
Valentine's BEFORE
Worship and During Coffee
Fellowship
on Feb 8th (Last Day)
in Fellowship Hall*



**Mid-Winter Retreat
High School**

Feb 20-21

Cost is \$45

Contact Pastor Allison for more information

SAVE THE DATE

for
**ALL CHURCH
MISSION TRIP**

April 30—May 2, 2015



February Elders On-Call—

Russ Lyons (972.412.9107)

Chris McMillan (214.793.2719)



Our Deepest Sympathy
to Judi Archibald and Family
upon the death of Judy's
mother,

Lois Siebenthaler,
who passed away on
February 2nd.



Congratulations to
grandparents Tricia and
Doug Harrison, and
great-grandmother
Fonda Thomas, upon
the birth of a new grandson,
Brooks McRee Harrison,
born to Courtney and Mac Harrison

"When In Our Music God is Glorified"

**Featuring world-renowned composer
Joseph Martin
in concert with FCCG Choir**

April 12, 2015 at 9:00am

*Underwritten by the
Harold and Martha Rusk Fund*



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