

The Messenger

December 2, 2015



Holiday Craft Fair

Saturday, December 5th

9:00 am - 3:00pm

You will find an assortment of



Holiday Items Knit and Hand-Sewn Items
Handcrafted Handmade Items



Vintage Items Handmade Jewelry Scentsy

FREE ADMISSION!

**First Christian Church Garland
115 S. Glenbrook Dr., Garland, Texas 75040**

Sponsored by: First Christian Church Youth Ministry

MOMENT'S REFLECTION

"God said {to the Satan Angel}, 'All right. Good ahead—you can do what you like with him. But mind you, don't kill him.'" -Job 2:6 (The Message)

As a pastor I'm often asked some of the same questions. One of the more frequent ones: "Is God punishing me for something?" And I always say, "No. Nothing in the New Testament makes me believe that the God revealed in Jesus Christ acts this way." Yet as the sufferings of life pile up, I can tell that some good, faithful Christians aren't sure.

Ran across the following cartoon in a recent **The New Yorker** magazine (December 7, 2015). The cartoon's caption gives whimsical credence to what some of us already think:



"At first, I was teaching Job a lesson, but now I'm just messing with him."

Still, the answer is "No." God doesn't really choose to mess with us like this. Perhaps God uses the situation to teach a lesson, but God doesn't invoke intentional suffering to make a point.

Nevertheless, if you find yourself hung up with God, or God knows who else (think: spouse, friend, co-worker, the crazy driver in front of you), consider this little admonition from a recent **Prevention Magazine**, "*Bury Your Hatchets, Fight Your Blues*," (December 2015). "Letting resentment brew and stew is depressing. Literally. Now a study in **Aging and Mental Health** confirms that those who practice forgiveness (even with God!) end up with better mental health." The article goes on to say, "The best part is you don't have to tell the object of your anger, petty or otherwise, you've made amends. Just (poof!) let bygones be bygones." **-Dan, Advent 2015**



**DEADLINE FOR ORDERING POINSETTIAS
IS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13th
Forms in Fellowship Hall and
the Church Office.**

Advent

Hope · Love · Joy · Peace



Second Sunday of Advent—December 6th
FCCG Children's Christmas Program at 6pm in the Sanctuary
(Reception to follow in Fellowship Hall)

Third Sunday of Advent—December 13th
FCCG Chancel Choir's Christmas Cantata
Light! Out of the Darkness
at 9am Worship Service

Fourth Sunday of Advent—December 20th
Rev. Ray Owens' Retirement Reception at 3pm in Fellowship Hall

Christmas Eve Services—December 24th at 6pm and 11pm
Wassail will be served in the narthex at both services

PARENT'S NIGHT OUT

The High School Youth will be hosting a Parent's Night Out Babysitting Evening on Friday, December 11th, before our lock-in. If you would like to take advantage of the babysitting, please RSVP to Pastor Allison by Friday, December 4th. Babysitting starts at 6:30pm. Pick-up is at 10:00pm. High School youth should plan on being at church from 5:45pm on the December 11th through 8am on the December 12th.



DWM Circle Meetings—December

Morning Circle Meeting

Monday, December 7th, 9:30am, at the Church

Morning Circle will have a salad luncheon after the meeting; please bring a dish of your choice.

Evening Circle Christmas Meeting

Tuesday, December 8th, 6:30pm

At the home of Judy Ross, 4515 Southampton, Garland

Contact Judy about what dish to bring; she has a sign-up sheet.

(babysitting available at Judy's home)



****Please bring twin blankets for Good Samaritans; and stuffed bears for the Garland fireman ****

ANNUAL QUILT SALE

Sunday, December 6th, during Coffee Time, in Fellowship Hall.



INVENTORY OF CHURCH KEYS



We are making our yearly accounting of keys to the Church. If you have a key to the church, please provide the Church Office with the key number (it's stamped on the key); you can leave a note in the Administrator box under the stairs by Fellowship Hall, call the church at 972.272.5423; or email the church at officeadmin@fccgarland.org. If you have a church key you are no longer using, please return it to the Church Office, as we are running low on extra keys. Thank you.

NOTICE TO SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES



We have an over-abundance of desserts for the upcoming reception following the Children's Christmas Program.

MIKE'S KIDS "Helping the Poorest of the Poor"

Mike's Kids is an annual program that is supported by the North Texas Area Disciples of Christ Church and is part of the Southwest Good Samaritan Ministries (www.swgsm.org) in the Rio Grande Valley. This program supports children who have been abandoned or families that have been forced out of their homeland to a new country. **Donation Boxes in Fellowship Hall** (items will be picked up December 15th).



Good Samaritans Needs Donations of Hygiene Kits for the Homeless of Garland

(Donation Box in Fellowship Hall)

Need Travel Size Items—

Moist wipes

Razors/Shaving Cream

Washcloths

Deodorant

Toothbrushes / Toothpaste

Soap



CHANCEL CHOIR rehearsals are held on Wednesday evenings at 7pm. Contact Stan McGill if you are interested in joining.

CHILDREN'S CHOIRS rehearsals are held on Sunday Evenings — **Youth Choir** (3rd Grade and up) meets from 4:00pm-5:00pm. **Children's Choir** (4 yrs old through 2nd grade) meets from 5:30pm-7pm. Contact Tammy Holcomb for more information.

HANDBELL CHOIR REHEARSALS are held on Wednesday evenings at 6:00pm. Contact Virginia McBee for more information.

Garland Overnight Warming Station (GLOWS)

The City of Garland has approximately 150 individuals and 800+ families who are considered homeless. When cold winter weather hits these people may have nowhere to go to escape the cold. The City of Garland experiences about 33 nights a year where temperatures fall below freezing. There currently are no shelters or facilities to house people when temperatures become dangerously cold. The GLOWS coalition has put together a plan for providing emergency housing for individuals and families who are homeless. This plan includes a heated space for overnight accommodations, as well as, provisions for dinner and breakfast. The warming station, at the local Salvation Army, will be open when forecasted temperature is 32 degrees with a 20% chance of precipitation or a standing temperature of 25 degrees. The station will open by 6:00pm and will close the following morning by 8:00am unless dangerous conditions continue.



Volunteers are needed to assist with transportation, hospitality and security. There are various shifts available. If you are interested in volunteering or learning more about GLOWS, attend the upcoming Training/Information Session or talk to Rev. Casey Tanguay. GLOWS Training/Information Meeting will be held on Saturday, December 5th from 2:00pm-4:30pm, at **Matthew 25:40 Project**; 2118 Wall Street #800; Garland, TX 75041

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR MEALS ON WHEELS

We are in need of additional volunteers if our church is going to continue our ministry to the community in which we live! We deliver meals to homebound individuals every Monday. Each volunteer only delivers one day a month with a time commitment of approximately 2 hours. **We currently need volunteers (one or two people) to deliver the second Monday of each month, and volunteers (one or two people) to deliver meals the third**

Monday of each month. Our route is easy to learn (maps are provided) and training will be provided the first time you deliver (one of our experienced volunteers will go with you). Coolers containing the meals for each route are delivered to First Presbyterian Church, located around the corner from our church, by 10:15am each day. Routes consist of one cooler filled with hot meals and one cooler containing cold items. After delivery of our route the empty coolers are returned to First Presbyterian for pickup.

Delivering meals through the Meals on Wheels program is one of the outreach ministries in which our church is involved. This is a program set up to provide a hot, nutritious midday meal to those individuals unable to prepare a meal for themselves. The people who receive this benefit are appreciative of the care and time given to them. For some, this is the only source of food they eat daily. We would like to continue our support of this worthwhile program by providing volunteers to cover a route each Monday.

I can guarantee you'll receive more than you give from this wonderful ministry to our community! Please contact Elaine Roeger at 972.926.1074 to volunteer or with any questions.



TOGETHER WE CAN DRIVE AWAY HUNGER!!

PRAYER REQUESTS

Circle of Fellowship

Erlinda Martinez
Tommie Potts

Cup of Life

Robbie Collister

Hands of Faith

Bobbie Caldwell
Gary Carroll
Mary Carroll

The Grapevine

Judi Archibald
Joyce Witt Boyd
Dylan Godwin

Elders-On-Call for December:

John Grasham
(214.704.1934)

David Worden
(972.475.8958)



ATTENTION PARENTS OF CHILDREN/YOUTH **Children's/Youth Choir Schedule—Dec, 2015**



Dec 6—Be at church at 8:30am to practice – singing for 1st Monday

Dec 6—Be at church at 5:30pm to prepare and present Christmas Pageant

Dec 6—Christmas Pageant with fellowship afterward

NO REHEARSALS REMAINDER OF DECEMBER – MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Jan 3—Regular rehearsal schedule – not singing in morning service

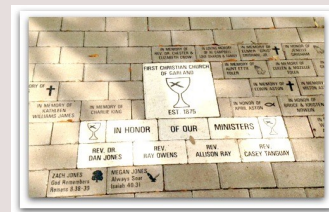
BUY A BRICK

Contact Kathleen Yant;

kyant1@aol.com, 972.496.0534 or

Eva McKannan,

patevamck@verizon.net; 972.414.1737



HOMEBOUND COMMUNION

is served on the first Sunday of each month by an Elder. If you would like to be served, please contact the Church Office.

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115 South Glenbrook Drive, Garland, Texas, 75040