

The Messenger



March 7, 2018

Palm Sunday

March 25th

Worship Service 9am

Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday, March 25th

at 11:30am

For Children up thru 5th Grade

Hunt will take place in grassy lot by Activity Center parking lot; in case of rain, hunt will be moved indoors

COLLECTING EASTER CANDY for Easter eggs.

Need small, individually-wrapped candy to fit in plastic Easter eggs. Please donate by Sunday, March 18th.

(Donation box in Donation Center)



MOMENT'S REFLECTION

"Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven." -Matthew 6:10

Jesus teaches that we should do the "will of God." Simple, right? Not exactly. It seems to me that three things make this "simple" command of Jesus difficult.

One, we are American Christians. Much of our thinking about life is based on the virtue of individual freedom.

We tend to make decisions based on what we believe is in our best interest. The Christian faith certainly has a place for what I call personal piety. One of our favorite Easter hymns carries the refrain, "And he walks with *me*, and he talks with *me*, and he tells *me* I am his own." But the Christian faith also challenges us to think in larger terms. As Christians we're called to live for the Kingdom and not merely ourselves. That's a challenge for us American Christians.



Two, we're not sure how to conceptualize the will of God. Through the ages the Church has offered three main ways.

- A. The so-called "blue-print" concept of God's will which emphasizes that there is one, perfect, course of action. God has a blueprint for each life. The goal is to find that one way.
- B. The so-called "wisdom" concept of God's will (Garry Friesen) which emphasizes that insofar as we fill our minds with the scriptural wisdom of God's will we have the capacity, and the responsibility, to choose appropriate courses of action. We don't wait for a sign or heaven. We apply biblical wisdom to make decisions.
- C. And then a balance of the two, or what Gordon Smith calls "friendship with God," where we make decisions in dynamic relationship with God through a process of discernment. Both wisdom-responsibility and divine-seeking guidance.

As your pastor, I recommend the merits of ways B and C. I think the goal of the Christian life is to know the mind of Christ. But I believe our best wisdom must always be applied in relationship with Christ. I tend not to believe that there is one right way to live. I tend to believe that Creator God gives us appropriate latitude to choose faithful ways of living.

Finally, how do we decide? Leslie Weatherhead gives the clearest step-by-step process. Listen to your conscience. If it seems right or wrong, it probably is. Use common sense. Seek the counsel of a trusted friend. Read Scripture. Listen to the voice of the Church. Listen for the still small voice of God. **-Dan, Lent 2018**

Special Lenten Study—*"Lord Teach Us to Pray"*

On Sundays during Lent (Feb 18—March 25), Dr. Dan Jones and Rev. Casey Tanguay will lead a special Lenten study during the Sunday School Hour—in the Sanctuary. Everyone is invited to participate. Each study is self-contained, so you can attend any or all sessions and still gain an understanding of the material.

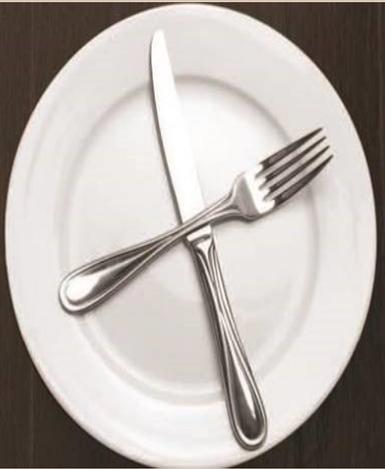


Sunday March 11: Feeding Ourselves: *What place does self-sufficiency have in Christian life? (Give us this day our daily bread)*

Sunday March 18: Writing it Off: *What does the reality of our forgiveness say to our treatment of others? (And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who have trespassed against us)*

Sunday March 25: Crying For Help: *How does a Christian respond to the enormity of evil in the world? (Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil)*

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



Fusion: a merging of spirituality into real everyday life

We have a new “dinner church” format for **Fusion** and you’re invited to join us! We gather monthly 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. These festive dinner parties are one way that we celebrate Jesus’ presence among us and

how we grow in our faith with one another.

Our next **Fusion DINNER CHURCH** will be in April (exact date *TBA*). Childcare is available. RSVP’s are helpful. Contact Rev. Casey for more information.



Collecting BOX TOPS for Shorehaven Elementary

Shorehaven Elementary is raising funds to enter a choir competition, and in support of them, we are collecting **BOX TOPS**. There is bin set up in the Donation Center for BOX TOPS. Collection deadline is April 30th. Contact Sharon Campbell for further details.

LOST & FOUND

The Church’s **LOST & FOUND** articles have been relocated—to baskets inside the chest (between the grey chairs) in the sitting area of the Avenue A entry hall.

Easter Lilies are now available for purchase; order forms in Fellowship Hall and the Church Office.



FCCG Quilters are in need of a couple more **sewing machines**. If you have one to donate, please contact **Eva Schneeberg**.

MONEY TREE FOR JAMES HODGE

Please donate to the **Money Tree** for James Hodge’s Retirement Gift. Money Tree will be in Fellowship Hall this Sunday, March 11th and next Sunday, March 18th. Thank you.



FELLOWSHIP HALL TV

The TV in the Fellowship Hall is available for use during various functions and events. Key capabilities are:

- Ability to display slideshows or videos for things such as weddings, funerals or other type of events using a USB flash drive.
- Ability to display PowerPoint presentations using a laptop connection for meetings and/or events.
- Ability to show movies using a laptop with a DVD player.



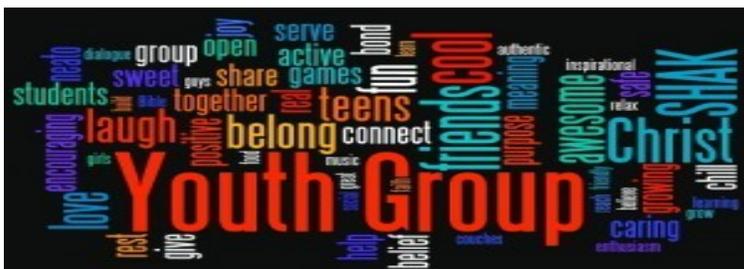
To schedule the TV, please contact the church office. You will be given instructions on how to use the TV for your specific need. Also available will be instructions for how to convert your slideshow or video into an acceptable format for display. To avoid last minute confusion *always* test your media at least one day prior to the event. For questions regarding the TV, please contact Don Smith.



THE PASTOR'S CLASS is scheduled for Sunday, March 25th, 5:30-7:00pm. Contact the Church Office if your child wants to attend the class and/or is interested in baptism.



MOPS next meeting is Sunday, March 11th, 5:30-7:00pm at *Intrinsic* (Garland)



YOUTH GROUP meets on Sundays, 5:00-7:00pm (at the church).



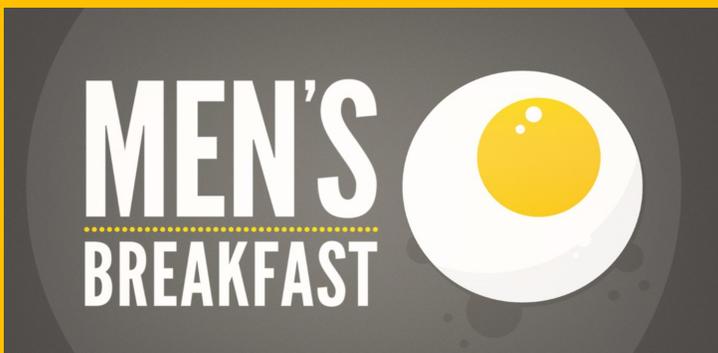
DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

begins Sunday, March 11, 2018.

Set Your Clocks Forward

SATURDAY, APRIL 7TH AT 8:30AM (FELLOWSHIP HALL)

Come early to hang out and have coffee with friends as our volunteer chef team prepares a tasty breakfast. (if you can cook - join the team!) We'll eat together then hear our guest speaker, the one and only Eric Dacon. This can be a time of leaning into God's Word together and discussing topics that we need to not only talk about but also DO something about. God has uniquely called and equipped men to be servant leaders in their families, community and in the church, and to fulfill the mission that he has given us to REACH and EQUIP Everyday. ALL men are welcome!



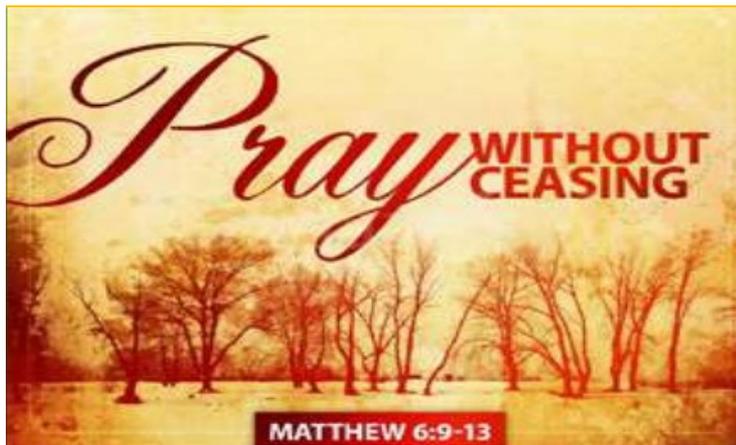
Please RSVP to Julian Olalde: jolalde@farmersagent.com

Thank You

from Judy Shwarts . . .

*Dear Disciples,
Thank you for all the help provided my husband and me.
The food, attention, and love was really appreciated.
What a great Church!*

Blessings, Stan & Judy Shwarts



Circle of Fellowship

Bill Fowler

Shepherds

Helen Smith
Pat Spradley

Fishers of Families

Harry Aston
Olis Lewis
Judy Shwarts

The Grapevine

Joyce Witt Boyd



Music at FCCG

CHANCEL CHOIR

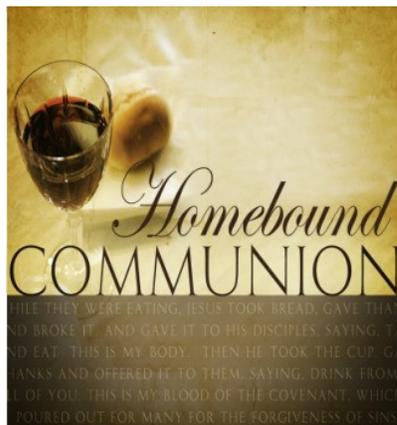
Rehearsals on Wednesdays, 7-8pm
Contact Stan McGill

HANDBELL CHOIR

Rehearsals on Wednesdays, 6:00-7:00pm
Contact Virginia McBee

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Rehearsals on Sundays, 4:00-5:00pm
Contact Sheri Dacon



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.

Buy A Brick



Contact Kathleen Yant;
kyant1@aol.com;
972.496.0534 or Eva McKannan;
patevamck@verizon.net; 972.414.1737



THANK YOU

for your generous giving!

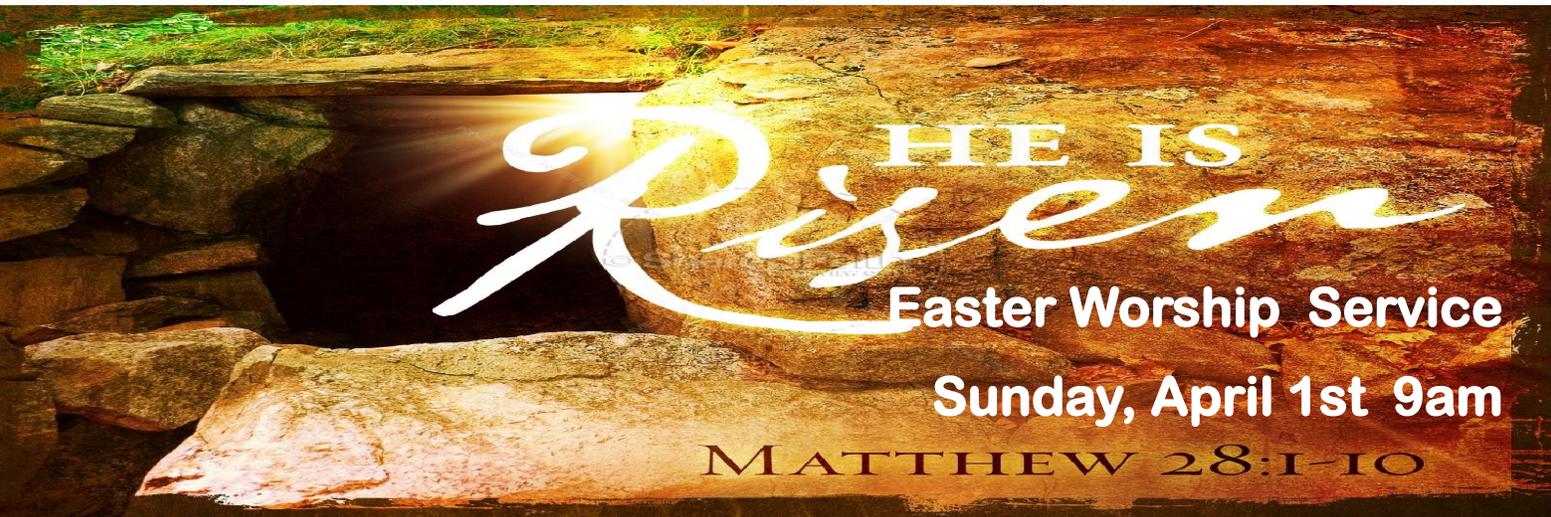
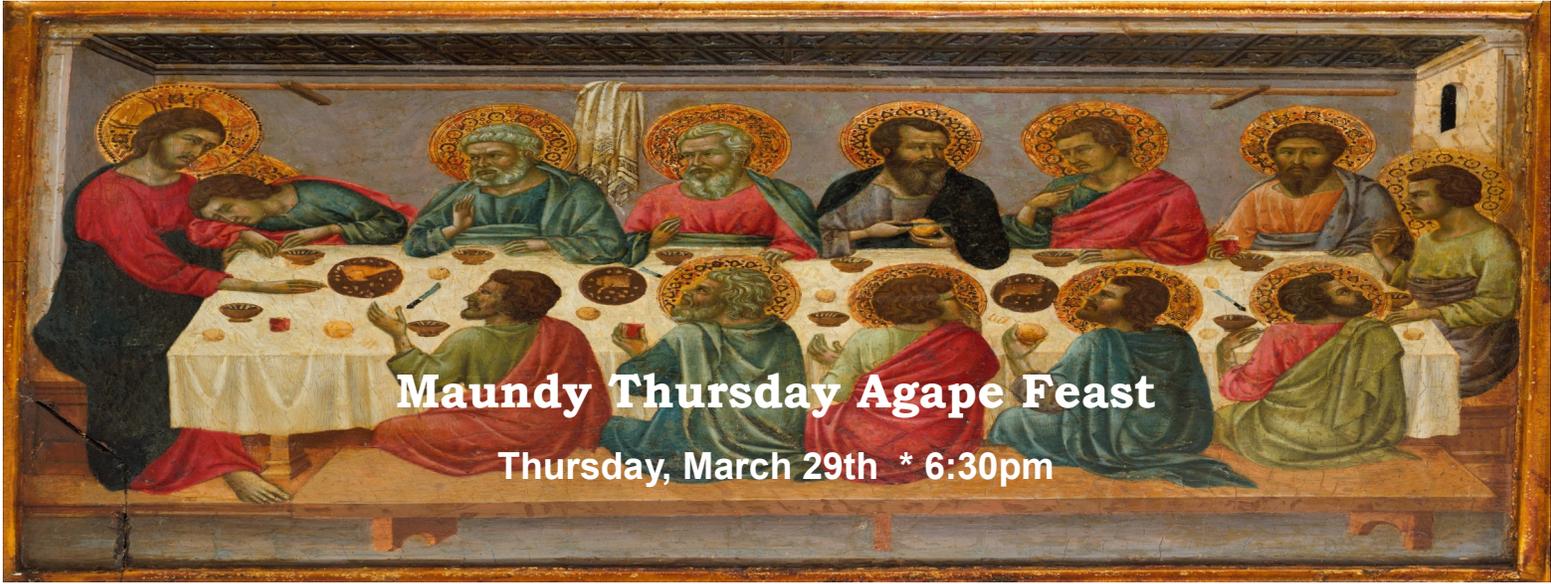
Week of Compassion

Total Collected To Date **\$5,867**





HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE





*First Christian Church
Garland*

proudly presents renowned
composer

PEPPER CHOPLIN

in concert with the Chancel Choir

Sunday, April 22, 2018 at 9am

“Within These Walls”

Underwritten by the Harold and Martha Rusk Music/Art Memorial Fund



JOURNEY OF HOPE, a local grief support center, where our very own **Kerri Newman** works, is hosting a special **Family Fest** on Sunday April 29th. They are really looking forward to this community-wide, family-friendly event! The Fest will include brunch catered by *Norma's Cafe*, carnival games, ventriloquist act, balloon artist, live bunnies, and a memorial butterfly release.

The event is to benefit **Journey of Hope's** bereavement programs for children.

They need people to help lead the carnival games and we'd love to help, right?!

The event is on Sunday, April 29, 12:00-2:30 PM at John Paul II High School in Plano.

If you are willing to help please let Rev. Casey know!
(casey@fccgarland.org)

Kids are welcome to attend with you and participate in all the fun!

<http://johgriefsupport.org/events/>



JOIN US FOR a **FAMILY BRUNCH** AND AFTERNOON OF
CHILDREN'S CARNIVAL GAMES WITH a
MEMORIAL BUTTERFLY RELEASE!

Sunday, April 29, 2018 from 12—2:30 PM

John Paul II High School, 900 Coit Road, Plano, TX 75075
Early bird prices: \$10 Kid Brunch \$15 Adult Brunch
\$20 Unlimited Games \$25 Memorial butterflies

GAMES

Brunch from

ACTIVITIES

FACE

PAINTING



SILENT AUCTION

LIVE BUNNIES

BALLOON ARTIST

MEMORIAL BUTTERFLY RELEASE

VENTRILQUIST

CRAFTS

PRIZES!

SPECIAL VISIT BY **HOPE THE BUTTERFLY**

Journey of Hope Grief Support Center is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. Proceeds go to bereavement support program for families.

First Christian Church
115 S. Glenbrook
Garland, TX 75040



The Messenger

A Publication of First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)

Dr. Dan Jones, Senior Minister

Rev. Casey Tanguay, Minister to Families & Professionals

David Ware, Minister to Youth

Church Office

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(email) officeadmin@fccgarland.org