

The Messenger

August 16, 2019



Search & Call Processes at Work

The Book of Acts describes a moment in the early church, following Jesus' resurrection, when the first disciples were tasked with choosing a replacement for Judas (Acts 1:21-26). Writer says that after prayer, the community "cast lots" to help them choose between two candidates.

I like that our early ancestors prayed. I don't advocate that we "cast lots." Instead, I ask you support a process of search and call based on a time-honored practice of discernment. Discernment is a spiritual

*Even en route to lunch,
the Search Committee
kept their eyes peeled...*



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discipline of preparing oneself to listen to and hear the directing counsel of God. In discernment, we do our homework (prepare job descriptions, take stock of our church finances, write a church profile, meet together to deliberate, review resumes, and interview). But in all our work we strike a posture of discernment: we listen for God to speak to us about our ministry and how a candidate's gifts and graces for ministry might serve our church's ministry needs.

The Search Committees named below, are working to search and call our church's next members of the ministerial staff. We have entrusted them with important, sacred work. As they do their work, I (and they) will covet knowing that:

- You honor the process of search and call.
- You pray for the members of the committee to receive God's counsel.
- You send us candidates that have the gifts and graces we need.

I believe that the living Christ is prepared to help us in this work of search and call. I believe that the living Christ is already working in the hearts of those whom we will call. I believe we will experience joy and blessing in the months ahead. I believe our Church has an excellent future. -Dr. Dan

Minister to Youth Search Committee

Kristen Nowlin (Chair)

Sheri Dacon

Julian Olalde

Associate Minister to Families & Professionals Search Committee

John Grasham (Chair)

Stephanie Gordon

Harley Henderson

Rick Roeger

Kate Walker

Progress update from the Associate Minister Search Committee:

So far, the committee has had two meetings, one on Sunday, July 28, from 7:00-9:00 p.m. and the second on Tuesday, August 6, from 6:00-7:30 p.m.

In the first meeting, the committee reviewed the processes of minister search, selection and calling with Dr. Larry Ross and began completing the first step in that process by working on a Congregational Profile.

During the second meeting, the committee completed the profile so we would be able to give the completed document to the Area for the use of candidates who may be interested in our position. We also worked on the Associate Minister job description itself.

In our upcoming meetings, we will complete the job description and submit it to the Area in order to start receiving candidate resumes.

If you know of anyone that you want to recommend for our Associate Minister position, please submit candidate names and contact information to the committee by sending them to the email address listed below. The candidate information will be collected and submitted to the Area for verification, screening and background checking.

If you have any questions about the Committee's work, also please send them to jgrasham@gmail.com

Search Committee Chair, John Grasham

Coming Soon



The Ark is on its way! It has been an exciting time out on our playground these last few weeks. Old playground equipment has been taken down and deeply entrenched poles in concrete have been painstakingly removed. Many thanks to all of you who have given your skills, time and muscle to this very important project for our children. We have received news that the Ark is being prepared for shipping and will leave Pennsylvania possibly today, August 16th, to be delivered as early as Monday, August 19th, or as late as Wednesday, August 21st. Once the Ark is here we will begin the building phase. Our next big work day is Saturday, August 24th. More details to follow.

Here's some work days we need help with Saturday, August 17 from 8am to 10am and August 24th from 8am to 11am. We are needing to prepare the ground and get it ready for the Ark.

I am so excited to see this project come to light. We have worked so hard and I can't wait to see our children enjoy it.

- Don Smith

School Supply Drive

We're continuing to take donations of school supplies for Shorehaven Elementary. You may place them in the Donation Box in the Fellowship Hall. Don't forget to consult the storyboard to see what kinds of supplies each grade level will need. The last Sunday to bring donations is August 25th. Anita Roland, Counselor at Shorehaven Elementary, will be in worship service on Sunday, August 18th.



Youth Sponsor Meeting August 24th 11:30am Room 201

To all Youth Sponsor—please attend this very important meeting. We will be going over the calendar for the year, the sponsors responsibilities until another youth minister is found, sponsor age level assignments, teaching assignments for Sunday evening, sponsor covenants, and how to best communicate with Stephanie and Dan. Lots of vital topics to go over as we search for a new youth minister.

Aug 24 Events

Mark Your Calendar



9:00am



AED/CPR/First Aid Training



10:30am



Safe Church Training

**Events will take place in Room 201
Questions? Contact Stephanie Gordon**

AED/CPR/First Aid Training
(adult, child, infant)
American Heart Instructor
August 24, 2019
9:00 am in Room 201

Safe Church Training
August 24, 2019
10:30 am in Room 201

Reservation required by August 18. Class is limited to first 20 reservations. The church will pay enrollment fee for youth sponsors and employees. At least one youth sponsor from each group must have current training. Any church member may attend at a cost of \$35 per person. Payment to FCC must be received in the church office by August 18. Contact Stephanie Gordon for more information, 214-673-9059

Our church By-Laws requires annual Safe Church training for those who lead, teach and care for our children and youth. If you are a Youth Sponsor, Sunday School teacher, or nursery employee please plan to attend. Contact Stephanie Gordon for more information, 214-673-9059.



Sending a huge thank-you for the wonderful send-off for my family and I last Sunday! We greatly appreciate all of the prayers, gifts, and words of encouragement. We definitely feel greatly loved and will be forever grateful for our 5+ years at FCCG. While we are excited about the adventures ahead, we are also deeply saddened to have to say “goodbye” to all of you, our beloved church family. You have all played an important role in my development as a minister and in the life of my family. We are particularly grateful for the ways you have loved and nurtured Asher and Eliza. You will be forever in our hearts and prayers!

Grace,
Rev. Casey, Andrew, Asher, Eliza Tanguay

It's great to know
the world is full of
such generous people...
like you.

Thank you so much for
allowing our nursing students
to use your church!
- EL Centro Nursing
Students



The DCCCD Nursing School program made a generous donation to the FCCG Bereavement Fund. The church hosted their graduation in the Sanctuary earlier this summer and they sent this thank you note to us, along with the gift.

Sneaker Sunday Success



Much thanks to all for so generously donating to this year's Sneaker contest! There were a total of **487 sneakers** donated with the Crusaders class donating 242 and winning! Socks of 337 pair were collected with 172 pair of underwear making our total collection of 996 items. The Youth class age 2 years thru 4 years old class won and will be getting new games. Your donations were shared with Shorehaven and Freeman Elem., Achievement Center of Garland, Friendship House, New Beginnings and Salvation Army. Freeman, Achievement Center and Friendship House received our donations for the first time this year. A huge thanks goes to FCCG for toughing so many of our community in need, children and adults.

Thanks.

Brenda Crosthwaite

NEW MEMBERS

Rev. Dr. Doug Skinner and his wife, Mary Lynn, who joined by reaffirmation of Christian faith, Sunday, July 21. Doug retired from active ministry last year, following a 20-year tenure as Senior Minister at Northway Christian Church Dallas. Mary Lynn is Director of Media Learning Services for Plano Independent School District. They have two adult children, daughter, Anna (John) Bowers and son, Danny Skinner. Mary Lynn is Pastor Dan's sister. Mary Lynn attended our church last year while Doug was completing an interim ministry at First Christian Church, McAllen. Welcome the Skinners!

Jason Collard, who is First Christian Church Garland's sound and light operator, officially joined by reaffirmation of faith on Sunday, August 4th. Jason will be helping to get our video streaming services up and running. You may contact him at Jason@fccgarland.org.

Journey of Hope

Earlier this year, some of the Families & Professionals group provided dinner for Journey of Hope. Everyone who participated was greatly appreciative. We had a blast doing it, so we will be doing it again! **We have committed to providing dinner for the support groups on August 29th and October 24th.** We need 6 more volunteers for the August 29th dinner. If you're able to do this, meet at First United Methodist Church at 6pm. We should be out of there by 7:30 after cleanup.

If you are unable to help with your time and talents, you can also help by providing monetary donations or donations of plasticware. Talk to Jason Collard for more information.

Journey of Hope Grief Support Center is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing group grief support to children, adolescents, and their parents or adult caregivers who have lost a loved one to death.



Feed My Starving Children

A group of FCCG members went to serve at Feed My Starving Children on July 27th. The group was joined with members of other local churches in packaging meals for close to 80 kids for an entire year! Thanks to everyone who participated to make this a success!

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR MEMBERS WHO HELPED OUT JULY 27TH

Jason Collard
Stephanie Gordon
Dan Jones
Jenny Jones
Sondra Perry
Cara Prestenberg
Matt Prestenberg
Pam Preskitt
Randy Preskitt

Andrew Tanguay
Asher Tanguay
Casey Tanguay
Judy Ross
Doug Skinner
Kim Whalin
Leasa Wolf





Men's Breakfast
Sat., September
7th
8:30am

If you would like to donate the flower arrangements for the worship service, there is an order form in the front office that will need to be completed and submitted.

****NEW—You may also submit a flower order form online at <http://www.fccgarland.org/flowers>*

Thank you!

Celebration of Life

We congratulate Brittany and Junior Ojeda on the birth of Annalia Grace Ojeda

born July 22nd. Proud Grandparents are David and Kim Stafford. Proud great-grandparents are Dwain and Diane Howard.



We congratulate Krista and John Tomlinson on the birth of Everly May Tomlinson

born August 2nd. We congratulate also proud grandmother Paula Miller and grandfather Mike Newman. Proud great-grandmother is Shirley Miller.



Youth Corner



Youth Pastor David Ware resigns

David Ware, our Minister to Youth the past 2 ½ years, gave a letter of resignation to the Church Board in a regularly scheduled meeting Sunday, July 14. A copy of David's letter is included below. As you will read, David is grateful for his time of ministry with our youth. Yet, over the past few months, he has increasingly felt a call to a different career. David will complete his tenure as our Minister to Youth, Sunday, August 25, and we will have a Farewell Reception for him that morning during Sunday School hour. David has made clear to me that his resignation is coincidental (and not related) to Pastor Casey's recent resignation announcement. Both Casey and David are beloved staff whom I will miss greatly.

Through his years with us, I have grown in my appreciation for David's spirit of servanthood and humility. David has a good soul, a generous heart. I will miss his place on our staff.

Between now and his departure, please take the opportunity to thank him for his ministry to our youth and to give him blessing and encouragement as he begins the development of a new career path.

- Dan

Dear FCC Garland family,

This is a letter to express my immense gratitude for the privilege and honor of serving as your Minister to Youth for almost three years. During this blessed time I have grown with a deeper understanding of Christ's love and Christian community. I truly have loved my time here at First Christian Church and I have loved working with the youth. With these things in mind and with a heavy heart I must announce that I am resigning from my position of Minister of Youth. After careful prayer and discernment I have realized that my calling is in another profession. My last Sunday with you will be August the 25th.

I want to thank all of you at First Christian Church for welcoming me with open hearts and arms almost three years ago. I have felt like a part of the family since day one. Throughout my ministry, there has been nothing but support, encouragement, and love shown to me. I am beyond grateful for this wonderful community and what it has done for me. I will forever cherish the times that I have had here and I will forever cherish the people who I have had them with.

Rev. Dr. Dan Jones and I have already spoken regarding my discernment of this and for plans to make this transition a fruitful one. I will continually pray for this process and ask that you all do the same.

Again, thank you for everything FCC Garland family. I love and cherish you.

David Ware



Youth Corner

Farewell Reception



We will have a farewell reception for David Ware on August 25th during the Sunday School hour. There will be a money tree in the Fellowship Hall for the next couple weeks.

Youth Activities



Youth Activities
Sundays, 5:00-7:00pm
(beginning Aug 18th)

Youth Sponsor Meeting
Sat. Aug 24th
11:30am

JYF Kickoff Party
Fri. Aug 16th
6:00pm-8:00pm

Parent Meeting
Sun. Aug 25th
Sunday School hour
Room 214

CYF / Chi Rho Kickoff
Party
Sat. Aug 17th
6:00pm-8:00pm

YOUTH KICKOFF

pool parties



JYF Kickoff Party
Fri. Aug 16th
6:00pm-8:00pm

CYF / Chi Rho
Kickoff Party
Sat. Aug 17th
6:00pm-8:00pm



PRAYER CONCERNS

Fishers of Families

Gail Greene

Linda Wimbish

God's Messengers

Ophelia & Ken Hancock

Hands of Faith

Gerry Cooper

Dennis Lee

Glenda Lee

Shepherds

Billirene Donaghey

The Grapevine

Carroll Barnes

Bettye Davenport

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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