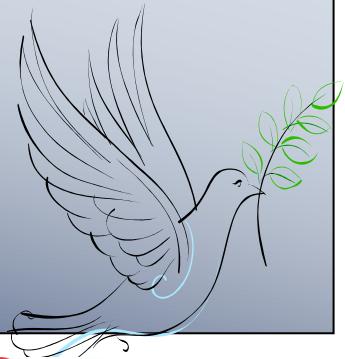


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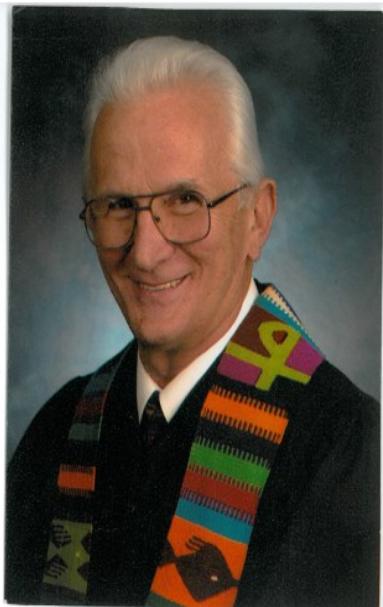


January 21, 2015

CONGRATULATIONS



Two of our members are to be recognized and honored, and we wish to extend our best wishes to them for their accomplishments.

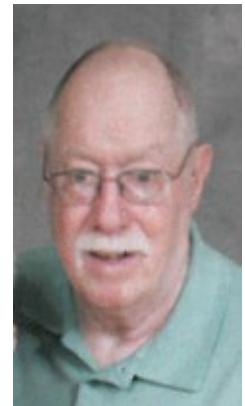


Our very own **David Worden** will be honored at this year's TCU Minister's Week during the Brite Divinity School luncheon. The event will take place on the campus of Texas Christian University, The Kelly Center, on Tuesday, February 10 at 12:30pm.

David will receive the Distinguished Minister Award for Pastoral Ministry. The award is a significant recognition of a lifetime of exemplary pastoral service to the Church. The recipient of this award is an alumnus/alumna of Brite who has rendered outstanding and continuing service as a faithful minister with a long tenure in the local congregation.

Members of the ministerial staff, including Dan, Ray, and Casey, will represent our congregation at the luncheon. You may also plan to attend by registering at <http://www.brite.edu/events/ministers-week>. Tickets for the luncheon are \$20. The Kelly Center is located at 2820 Stadium Drive, Fort Worth, TX 76109.

Gary Carroll will be honored this February 10 by the Masonic Lodge in his hometown of Florence, Kansas for 50 years of membership. This is quite an honor for Gary and, of course, he is quite excited to go back for the presentation of his 50 year pin. Over the years, Gary has served in several positions in his Lodge, as well as being Master for 7 years.



Please let Gary and David know how proud you are of them!



Coming Soon . . . A New FCCG Member

Best wishes to The Tanguay Family upon the welcome news of a new daughter expected in July.

"We Survived the Holidays!" Gathering

You're invited to join The Tanguays at their home (1718 Crockett, Garland) on **Thursday January 29th at 6:30pm** for dinner and "decompression" as we relax and enjoy one another's company. We will also spend this time talking about future possibilities for starting a regular home-based gathering. Kiddos are welcome. Please let me know if you are planning to attend so I can ensure that we have enough food!



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 decompartmentalize, 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 our "bible and beer" gatherings will help provide us with opportunities to begin this "fusion".

Join us for "Fusion" on Wednesday February 11th at State Street Pub & Grill (601 West State Street, Garland) at 6:30pm for drinks, dinner and discussions of faith. Adults only please.

NTA Leader and Learner Training Event

Every year the North Texas Area hosts a day of training and learning for all church leaders (that's you in case you were wondering!). This year's event will take place on Saturday January 31st at East Dallas Christian Church. Check-in begins at 08:30am and the event goes until 3:00pm with lunch included. Casey will be leading a workshop from 1:45-3:00pm (see description below). Registration for the event is required. Let Casey know if you are interested in attending—we can coordinate carpool. There is also the possibility of just attending part of the event if you are unable to commit to the entire day. Registration forms are available in the Church Office.



"Building a Christian Community with Young Adults"

Rev. Casey Tanguay, Leader

We've all read the articles and seen the statistics about how the Millennials and the younger generations have had it with the church. The "spiritual-but-not-religious" category continues to grow and churches and ministers are at a loss of what to do. This workshop will not provide all the miracle answers but will hopefully shed some light on how we can even begin to tackle the complex issue of building a Christian community with young adults in the 21st Century.

MOMENT'S REFLECTION



In an article entitled, "Want to Avoid Injury," Chris Ballard, of **Sports Illustrated**, writes about the philosophy behind Dr. Marcus Elliott's P3 clinic. The California training facility works with elite athletes to not only rehabilitate injury but more importantly, to predict injury. Using instruments of biomechanics, Elliott and his staff gather and assess some 5000 data points including: how an athlete jumps, lands, pivots and which parts of the body are favored. The data not only helps the athletes understand what injuries they're prone to, but how to change such movements in order to prevent a likely injury. Elliott's sports training philosophy is gaining credence in the professional world. Owners, who spend millions on franchise players, look at Elliott's process as a way to be proactive, rather than reactive, in a team's treatment of potentially career-ending injury.

I wonder sometimes if we could begin to look at the practice of our Christian faith in much the same way. While many of us have lived long lives of Christian faithfulness, we nevertheless practice a form of "fox-hole spirituality." Meaning? We pray most passionately when there's a problem, a threat, a fear, an insurmountable challenge, imminent danger. In good times, when there is no practical need for God's enabling power, we tend to relegate spiritual discipline to daily discretion—something to practice it if we want or remember. In this way, our faith is reactive and not proactive.

But what if we made a simple change of mind and heart? What if we began to look at the daily practice of prayer not as means to get an answer to an urgent need? What if we began to see it as a means of strengthening our souls, our relationships with God, relearning potentially injurious behavior, so that in the course of daily life we have the spiritual sense to avoid pitfalls and temptation? As we finish the last days of January and prepare to enter into the heart of another Lenten February, perhaps we could make it a new habit to practice proactive, preventative spirituality. —Dan



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!

Combined Family and Professionals Sunday School

"Who Are We As Disciples of Christ? Why We Do What We Do the Way We Do It"

During the entire month of January the Families and Professionals group will be meeting in the Activities Building during the Sunday School hour for a combined class. All are welcome to join this group as we take a look into "Who We Are As Disciples of Christ," exploring where our denomination came from and where we are headed. This class will be taught by Rev. Casey Tanguay and Dr. Dan Jones.



PRAYER REQUESTS

Circle of Fellowship

Erlinda Martinez

Cup of Life

Marty Rogers

Fishers of Families

Amanda Shields

Blondell Lewis

Dottie Harper

Helen Platt

Jo Brister

God's Messengers

Sheila Patterson

Hands of Faith

Jill Kirker

Shepherds

Laura Lemaster

The Grapevine

Judi Archibald

Dylan Godwin

Wade Godwin



JYF

Valentine's Day

Card Sale

Jan 28th - Feb 8th

in Fellowship Hall



**Welcome
to Our
Church
Family**

Elders On-Call

January—

Kathleen Yant
(972.496.0534)



February—

Russ Lyons
(972.412.9107)
Chris McMillan
(214.793.2719)



Mid-Winter Retreats

Cost for all is \$45.

Contact Pastor Allison for
more information.

Middle School
(6th - 8th) - Jan 30-Feb 1
High School - Feb 20-21

*Julian and Kathleen
Olalde, and their
daughters, Brynna,
Sophia and Madelyn*



The Messenger

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