

The Messenger

March 20, 2014



March 11, 2014

First Christian Church
115 S. Glenbrook Drive
Garland, Texas 75040

Dear Quilters

Eva Schneebery just dropped off another stack of quilts for our Pediatric patients. They are beautiful – one cuter than the next. All of the staff spent some time oohing and aahing over this wonderful gift from you.

Eva may have told you, but we are a Medicaid only Pediatric Clinic and most of our clients struggle with everyday living.

For our foreign emigrants, it is even more difficult. Our families coming from Myanmar (Burmese) and Nepali come from a very different world than the one they live in now and learning American ways is difficult. Sometimes they do not realize that even here in Texas, we get cold weather and moms will show up with their babies without a warm blanket simply because they do not have one or do not realize they need one. They often walk a mile or two with their children to come to our clinic and are caring, loving parents.

I wish you could see the look on their face when one of our nurses hand them a quilt – you would think it was Christmas to see the happiness on their faces when they see that someone cared enough to sew and donate such a wonderful gift. I especially like the caring words that you write on each quilt.

Everyone here in our clinic appreciates your efforts and the donation of these beautiful quilts. Thank you so very much.

Gratefully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Judy Hominick".

Judy Hominick
Manager, Office Operations
Pediatric Clinic
214 345 2844



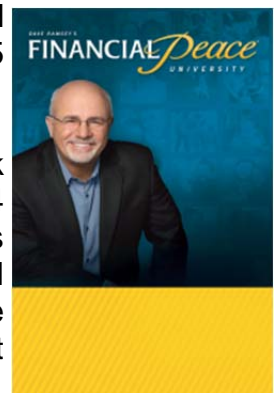
BEANS & RICE LUNCHEON

This Sunday, March 23rd the Outreach Committee will kick-off our month long Special Day Offering with a beans & rice luncheon. This meal will represent those around the world who are less fortunate and only have beans and rice to eat. We encourage you to bring your favorite game and afterwards plan to stick around for an afternoon of fun and fellowship playing games!

DAVE RAMSEY'S FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY PROGRAM

Sign-ups can be done in fellowship hall on Sundays. You may also find a registration form on our website at fccgarland.org/forms. Cost is \$25 and if you have any question please contact the church office.

The Dave Ramsey Financial Peace University program is a nine week course that will be held at FCCG each Sunday starting March 30, 2014 (exception - no classes on Easter Sunday). There will be two sessions held each Sunday (one at 10:30am, one at 6:00pm) each session will go for one hour and a half. Each session will use the Sanctuary for the first forty-five minutes for a video followed by 45 minute breakout sessions.



FAMILIES AND PROFESSIONALS GROUP

We will have a lunch gathering for the Families and Professionals Group on Sunday, March 23rd at the church. We have another candidate for our ministry leader position and want all of you to have a chance to meet the candidate and family. Come with your families, we'll provide food and drinks!

LENTEN SERMON SERIES TO BEGIN SUNDAY

Finding Abundant Life: From Shame to Grace

Dear Church Member, want to pass along a brief note about a forthcoming 3-part sermon series which I will begin this Sunday. The series will draw from Dr. Karen McClintock's book, **Shameless Lives, Grace-full Congregations**. McClintock invites us to become "shame-less," so we can assist others in the church to find a life of joy and grace. McClintock explores shame as a theological and psychological emotion, defining it as "a feeling of unworthiness in the sight of God or significant others." While guilt says, "I made a mistake," shame says, "I am a mistake." McClintock says that this journey from what she calls the pervasive "shame-reinforced theology of the Church" makes us better able to receive the grace of God and to experience the abundant life that Jesus promises. (John 10:10)

March 23, 2014

Series: Finding Abundant Life: From Shame to Grace

Sermon: "Jesus Delights in Us"

Scripture: John 3:16-17

Synopsis: On this Sunday we begin the work of acknowledging and then rehabilitating what McClintock calls a pervasive "shame-reinforced theology." Today, we take note of all the ways that we carry burdens of shame and feelings of unworthiness as we begin to rejoice in the assurance that Jesus Christ has come to offer us abundant living, not knuckle-wrapping condemnation. Today, we relish in the mercy of our Savior who focuses less on our sinful inadequacies and more on our redeeming value. - Dan

March 30, 2014

Sermon: Guest Preacher, Rev. Ann Dotson, preaches on the theme of "Local Outreach: Charity Begins at Home"

April 6, 2014

Series: Finding Abundant Life: From Shame to Grace

Sermon: "Acceptance: Healing Comparison Shame"

Scripture: Psalm 139:13-16

Synopsis: In this week's sermon we identify the origins of self-shame, even congregational shame that arises from our habit of making debilitating comparisons with other individuals, other churches, even our church in another age. Healing begins in accepting that we manifest God's creative wonder in myriad ways in all stages of life. Today we affirm the goodness of who we are as individuals and a congregation in this present moment.

April 13, 2014 (Palm Sunday)

Series: Finding Abundant Life: From Shame to Grace

Sermon: "The Problem with Perfectionism: How Good Do We Have To Be?"

Scriptures: Matthew 5:48; Mark 14:27-31

Synopsis: Years ago Edmund Steimle gave a famous little sermon, "When Religion Becomes a Burden." Steimle pointed to the belief we Christians carry that to be good Christians, we have to live like Jesus. The reality is, we never can live up to that measure of Messiah-like greatness. This week, we walk with Jesus through the streets of Jerusalem and out to Calvary. Despite our best intentions, we will fail. The essence of the Christian faith in times like these is not: "Jesus told us and we failed anyway." Rather, "Jesus values us despite our failures." Some of our shame begins to heal once we acknowledge the need to let go our perfectionistic expectations. It strikes me that Holy Week is ground zero in our attempt to accept the grace of Jesus Christ. Jesus gets it all right. We get it all wrong. And yet ?

PRAYERS, JOYS & CONCERNS

MARTY ROGERS
DOTTIE HARPER

JUDI ARCHIBALD
JOY HITCH

2014 CHURCH DIRECTORY

It's that time again.....yes, *Church Directory time*. Have you ever looked across the aisle and wondered who is that person or ever wanted to send a card and not had a good address? Well now we have a solution! We are developing the 2014 church directory and will begin shooting photographs for the directory the week of April 7th-12th starting at 2:15pm during the weekdays and 10am on Saturday. If you would like to reserve a spot for you and your family to have their photographs taken you can go to our website (www.fccgarland.org) and click on the link for the 2014 Directory. There will also be sign-ups in Fellowship Hall beginning on March 16th. As always you may contact the church office for assistance. We hope everyone will participate to have a complete directory as it is good to look back on our history.

Brenda Crosthwaite, Directory Coordinator

SUNDAY EVENING GOSPELS STUDY

March 23—Jesus Speaks in Parables

Even those who should understand Jesus by now, don't. Instead of speaking plainly, Jesus teaches with parables. It's a method to more deeply engage those who listen carefully. His parables draw from everyday life but carry deeper lessons of life. In one parable, Jesus teaches how little beginnings have great possibilities.

(Reader's Note: A Simplified Harmony, Knight, 84-89)



SNACK SUPPER HELP WANTED

Every Sunday, youth families take turns providing a meal for the youth who come for youth group. We currently have a few Sundays open. If you are interested in providing the meal, we usually feed 30-40 youth and adults. Snack supper does not have to be intricate, but we do ask for a protein, veggie/fruit, and a dessert. *Available dates are April 13th and 27th.* Please contact Pastor Allison if you are interested in serving.



Painting supplies are needed: metal paint pans (liners will be used inside the paint pans), metal paint frames, extension poles, 20 plastic paint pan liners. These supplies will be returned to you if labeled. There will be a Church Work Day box under the stairs for your supplies. If you would like to volunteer to help with this project on *Tuesday, April 8th, Saturday, April 12th or Saturday, April 19th starting at 9am* please give Brenda Crosthwaite a call at 972.495.3681.

MAGAZINE MINISTRY FOR JULIETTE FOWLER

We are in need of magazines to donate to various organizations, garland memorial and Baylor Garland and Baylor Senior Center and two different Brisias Centers and Sachse Senior Center. A box for these magazines has been placed underneath the staircase for all collections.

MURDER MYSTERY DINNER

A Fabulous 50's Murder Mystery Dinner will take place on March 30th at 5:30pm. Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door and \$20 per couple. All ticket sales support our youth mission trip.

2014 NTA ASSEMBLY

The annual area assembly will be held at First Christian Church in Plano on May 4th from 3-5pm. The guest preacher will be Rev. Coretha Loughridge.

EASTER CANDY DONATIONS

The Fellowship committee will provide a hotdog lunch on Sunday, April 13th at 11:15am. Following lunch there will be an Easter Egg Hunt. Please invite your family and friends to join in all the fun and fellowship.

We need donations of Easter Egg Candy in order to have a successful event. There is a box located in Fellowship Hall for all donations.



PASTOR'S CLASS

Every year the ministers of the church offer a special class for kids in grades 4 through 8. The class is designed to help youth understand what it means to accept Christ as Lord and become a member of the church through Christian baptism. This year the class is scheduled for **Sunday, April 6th from 4-7:15pm**. Each youth will receive a very nice notebook of information. If your child is in grades 4-8 and has not been baptized please encourage them to attend. Those who are high school age or older may contact one of the ministers about your desire to be baptized on Easter Sunday, April 20th. Please call the church office (972-272-5423) if your child plans to attend.

COMING THIS SUMMER

2014 Vacation Bible School June 15th-19th 5pm-8:15pm



Easter Lily Order Form

Name: _____

In Memory of : _____

In honor of: _____

Pick up Deliver to a shut-in

Easter Lilies are \$17⁰⁰/ per plant. Payment is due at time order is placed.

Due by April 14, 2014

