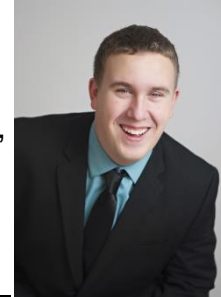


The Messenger

May 22, 2014

WOLFE GRADUATION PARTY

Rodney and Tammy Wolfe would like to extend an invitation to all in the church to attend a graduation party for their son, Evan Wolfe, on May 31, 2014 from 2pm to 4pm in Fellowship Hall. If you are able to attend please either call or email by May 23. The Wolfe's phone number is 469-652-9809. Their email is rodneyandtammy75474@gmail.com.



MOMENTS REFLECTIONS

Peter Steinke, one of my professors at Austin Presbyterian, has written several books describing how church families mirror the same emotional complexities as one's own personal family. (Some of his works include, **How Your Church Family Works, Congregational Leadership in Anxious Times, Healthy Congregations**). Steinke draws from a whole body of systems theory research in saying that a congregation is a fluid emotional system. Meaning? Everything that is true of you and your family is typically true of your church family, only magnified by the number of personal family units in the church (think x120!).

And so? When families experience change, for instance, even for the very best of reasons, it tends to introduce an element of stress into the emotional system. Even if there is anxiety among a few members of the church family, the whole congregational system tends to feel a degree of anxiety. Think of it this way. One small pebble thrown into a large pool of water produces a much larger ripple effect.

Why do I say all this? Because, while our church is experiencing a great number of tremendously positive changes (our church's Young Families and Professionals Ministry, for instance), the landscape of our church system is changing. And though we celebrate these changes, and understand their necessity, we (some of us) are nevertheless anxious.



Perhaps it helps to know that this is a normal experience in the face of any change. Perhaps it also helps to know that only healthy, living, growing churches experience the discomfort of change. Perhaps it also helps to know that while we need to take stock of our feelings in the face of change, God is present to help us move forward with courage. –Dan

PRAYERS, JOYS, & CONCERNS... FOR THE FOLLOWING:

MARTY ROGERS- CUP OF LIFE

JUDI ARCHIBALD-THE GRAPEVINE

GARY CARROLL - HANDS OF FAITH

PAT ASTON - FISHERS OF FAMILIES

PEGGY GUTHRIE - THE GRAPEVINE

RUTH REMEUR - HANDS OF FAITH

JAMES AXE - FISHERS OF FAMILIES

BETTYE DAVENPORT - THE GRAPEVINE

NOTE FROM ALLISON

My friends, this summer is going to be wonderful! We have 27 youth and adults signed up to attend camp at Disciples Crossing. Additionally, we have 7 members who will be serving as camp staff: Mike Whalin, Jacki Merucci, Larry Kirker, Alex Cossio, Cameron Cossio, Laurie Dodd, and myself! We are sending youth to almost every camp: Grand, Family, JYF, Chi Rho, Eighters, Niners, and CYF. Monica Martinez and I will also be attending the Christian Youth Leadership Seminar at Ceta Glen for training as Youth Ministry Council members.

For those of you who have never been to camp at Disciples Crossing, it is a wonderful time spent surrounded by God's glory delving deeper into God's Word with Christian youth from all over DFW. Many of our youth will make life-long friendships while at camp and come home with a renewed love for Christ. While they are away, I encourage everyone to pray for our youth's relationship with Christ and their safety while at camp.



COMBINED SUNDAY SCHOOL



There will be a combined Sunday School on June 8th and our guest speaker will be Dennis Kavanaugh with CRU E.A.S.T. A note from Dennis: "Following Christ is an adventure. When He sent me to minister in Japan in the early 90's, I thought I'd stay there until He called me home. Four years later the Lord showed me my need for further biblical study and I returned to the US to enroll in Dallas Theological Seminary, completing a PhD in 2011. After serving DTS as an adjunct professor for two years, I again heard the call to missions! This time in Southeast Asia. Next stop is Singapore!"



Thank you, thank you, thank you for everything--food, visits, cards, phone calls, and most importantly PRAYERS. I am sure that I have the best support system in the world, because you are all wonderful!

Love and blessings,

Pat Aston

SUMMER FAMILY ACTIVITIES

Movie Night at 7pm - June 11th, July 9th, August 6th

Game Night at 7pm - July 20th, August 6th, August 20th

NEW CHURCH PICTORIAL DIRECTORY

Photo make up day is Saturday June 14th. Please call the church office to schedule your appointment for pictures or you may go to our website at www.fccgarland.org and schedule your appointment. Thanks again to everyone for participating in making our new church pictorial directory a success. If you have questions, please call Brenda Crosthwaite at 972-495-3681.

THIS WEEK'S SERMON

May 25, 2014 (Memorial Day Weekend)

Sermon: "Shepherd in Combat Boots: The Mightiest Weapon of All"

Scripture: John 15:12-14

Synopsis: Supporters of the Rev. Emil J. Kapaun, an Army chaplain who died a prisoner in the Korean War, are still working to have him declared a Catholic saint for his life-saving ministrations to them. But last year they relished the joy of seeing him posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor by the President. His story makes grown men cry. His sacrificial spirit is a sermon all its own. Perhaps Father Kapaun truly is a saint. Or maybe, he's a man, a soldier, a Christian who dedicated his life to Jesus' mandate: "That we lay down our lives in loving one another as Christ loves us." How ironic that in a war of guns and bullets, a great story of valor was told with neither.

Scripture Link: <http://bible.oremus.org/?ql=266510840>

SNACKS FOR MISSION TRIP

If you would like to donate individually wrapped snacks to our 17 youth and adults going to **Galveston, TX from July 13th-19th** please place them in the bin in Fellowship Hall. We would love things like granola bars, snack pack chips, fruit snacks. We are not asking for water or Gatorade this year.





DAY TRIP TO HAM ORCHARDS

The Elite Group would like to invite you to take a day trip to Ham Orchards on Friday, June 20th in Terrell, TX. We will take the church bus and plan to leave the church at 9:30am. We will visit the orchard and then have lunch on our way back. Contact Sondra Martin at 469.600.3168 for any additional information.

PRESCRIPTION EYEGLOSS/SUNGLASS DONATIONS

The Disciples Women's Ministry would like to ask for everyone's help in collecting prescription eye or sun glasses. All the glasses will be taken to the 2014 Disciples Women's Quadrennial Assembly in June to donate to the Lions Club. This outreach project is in honor of FCCG member, Tom Daniel, and his many years of dedicated service to the Lions Club organization. There will be a box in Fellowship Hall in which the glasses may be deposited.



2014 CCSW MEN'S RETREAT

The CCSW Men's Retreat will be held at Lake Brownwood Christian Retreat on September 19th-21st at 9030 Retreat Road, Brownwood, TX 76801 (325) 785-5133. The theme will be "In, NOT Of This World". Guest speakers will be Rev. Dr. Raumone Burton, Senior Minister, University Christian Church in Houston, TX and Rev. Mark Denton, Senior Minister, West Mesa Christian Church in Albuquerque, NM. Highlights are: PREACHING * TEACHING * SINGING * WORSHIP * FELLOWSHIP * WORKSHOPS * RELAXATION. There will be special offerings: *Saturday* - 2015 Men's Mission Project; *Sunday* - 1/2 to Men's Leadership Fund and 1/2 to Speaker's Fund.

- **WORKSHOPS: (Preliminary list)**
One by each Keynote Speaker, Social Networking Technology for Churches, Spirituality, Update on CCSW Area Structure Changes, How to Coordinate and Fulfill a Mission Work Project
- **RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES:**
Pre-Retreat Golf Tournament, Bridge, Horseshoes, Basketball, Volleyball, Golfing, Fishing, Dominoes, Card Games, and Rest & Relaxation
- **POWERFUL SINGING**
Rick Linn will come from Georgia to be our Song leader -Accompanied by your Instruments: Bring your instrument and join in with the music.
- **AWARDS & PRESENTATIONS:**
Layman of the Year Minister of the Year Attendance Awards Golf Tournament and Recreational Winners

Registration is available on our website (www.fccgarland.org).

ALMOST HERE!

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

Registration can be found on our website at www.fccgarland.org/forms.

You may also find forms in Fellowship Hall.

