

The Messenger

January 16, 2014

CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY CHOIR

First Christian Church is proud to announce the Chapman University Choir will perform on January 24th at 7pm. This highly-select 34-voice mixed choir will perform a wide variety of songs. The University Singers have been acclaimed throughout the world, performing from the Vatican to the Hollywood Bowl.



MEN'S BREAKFAST

The first Men's Breakfast of the year will be held on Saturday, January 18th at 8am. All are welcome to come and enjoy fellowship with the Men of First Christian Church Garland.

JOB OPENING - DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMMING FOR DISCIPLES CROSSING

Position Title: Director of Programming
Reports To: Executive Director and Camp Board
Attends: NEA, NTA, and TBA Board/Council meetings to encourage excellent and transparent communication (and any other CCSW Area configurations' board meetings that eventually utilize Disciples Crossing for youth and children's camps, conferences, and retreats)

For more information about the job there is a full description posted on the bulletin board.

JYF LOCK-IN

The JYF will be having a lock-in on January 17th at the church. Please have your child at the church at 6pm. You and your child are invited to eat at our monthly Men's Breakfast on January 18th. Please have your child bring \$5 to cover cost of an outing.

THANK YOU

On behalf of all our family, we would like to express a heartfelt thank you to everyone at First Christian Church for all the kind words, prayers, cards and flowers we received last week after the passing of the most special man in our lives, Kenneth Ray Akin. Words cannot express what it meant to our family during this sad and difficult time. We know the following weeks and months will be hard, but it is heartwarming to know that we have such a wonderful Church Family to give us strength and support. Your kindness will always be remembered. A special thank you to Dr. Dan Jones for performing a wonderful service that we will always remember with a smile and a tear. Dad would have been so proud and honored.

From the Kenneth Ray Akin Family

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

In 1990, a Super Bowl Sunday prayer inspired a group of young people to do something more than celebrate a football game. They created the Souper Bowl of Caring, and have mobilized youth across the country to raise more than \$71 million for people in need.

Please drop \$1 (or more) in a soup pot on Sunday, February 2nd. For more information on the Souper Bowl of Caring visit tacklehunger.org.



2014 MISSION TRIP TO GALVESTON, TX

Mission Trip is July 13-19 to Galveston, TX. Rev. Allison Ray needs your registration form and \$50 deposit by February 9th. The total cost is \$200. We prefer not to give scholarships to this event as the cost is already discounted through fundraising. However, if help is needed, please speak with Rev. Allison Ray me and we can work something out.

JYF VALENTINE FUNDRAISER

As a fundraiser, JYF will be selling Valentines during coffee fellowship on January 26th & February 2nd. Valentines will be delivered during Sunday School on February 9th.

OFFERING ENVELOPES

Offering envelopes are now available in Fellowship Hall.

THIS WEEK'S SERMON

January 19, 2014

Sermon: What to Do With Them?

Scripture: Mark 7:24-30

Theme: This week's sermon is a biblical reflection on a sensitive topic: racism, and its ugly cousin, prejudice. I give this week's sermon not as an enlightened prophet of justice. Rather, I speak humbly as a preacher who was taught relatively benign, though no less divisive, forms of racism growing up, and has spent his whole adult life trying to overcome it. Here in the heart of Texas, a state rich in a not-so-distant history of segregation, I'm guessing I preach to the choir. This week's sermon closes with what I believe is a stirring five-minute call to social justice put together by a Christian Theological Seminary media group. This is Sunday to meditate on the theological significance of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Christian Legacy.

PRAYERS, JOYS & CONCERNS

JENNY JONES

JERI HARRISON

BLONDELL LEWIS

BETTYE DAVEPORT

MARTY ROGERS

JEFF HOLCOMB

JERRY ROWELL

WE GIVE OUR SYMPATHIES TO THE FAMILY OF **DOROTHY BENNINGFIELD**
UPON HER PASSING ON JANUARY 10, 2014

WE GIVE OUR SYMPATHIES TO **SAM BLAKE & FAMILY**
UPON THE DEATH OF **DON BLAKE** ON JANUARY 12, 2014

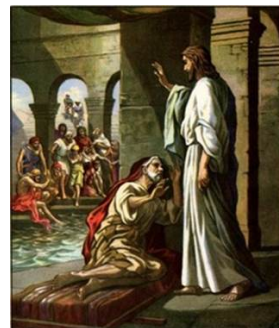
EXTENSION OF SUNDAY SCHOOL TIME

Beginning the first Sunday in February (February 2, 2014) the Sunday School hour will be extended from 45 minutes to 1 hour, with the bell ringing at 11:15 AM rather than 11:00 AM.

SUNDAY EVENING GOSPELS STUDY

Sunday, January 19, 6 p.m., Cole Parlor

Our Sunday evening study continues this week with a look at gospel stories from Jesus' Galilean ministry, in particular, stories that describe his ongoing battle with religious authorities over proper observance of the Sabbath. Our discussion will also focus on some Jesus' teaching about "life and judgment" remembered in the 5th chapter of John's Gospel. Although the study begins with Scripture, using George Knight's, **A Simplified Harmony of the Gospels**, as a guide, the conversation inevitably turns to matters of daily living. No pre-study required. Simply come with Bible in hand and a willingness to engage the living Gospel. During the study we also take time to lift up prayer needs.



2014 NORTH TEXAS LEADER EVENT

The NTA Leader Event will be held at Northway Christian Church, 7202 W. Northwest Hwy, Dallas, TX 75225. The speaker will be Johnny Wray, he is the Interim Executive Director of Week of Compassion. The event will be held Saturday, January 25, 2014 and the topic will be "Transformation Through Outreach". There will be a special event afterwards, a Concert by Chapman University Choir at 3:15 pm.

If YOUR church would like to set up a table-top display of what your church does for Outreach, others would love to come by and chat with them. We just need to know if your church would like such an opportunity.

Also, among the workshop descriptions you will find many that you might want to encourage specific people to attend. For instance:

- a) Those involved in planning present or future MISSION Trips, domestic and international, will benefit from those workshops
- b) Anyone contemplating starting a community-based outreach organization will find help in how to establish such. Young clergy in particular are very interested in detaching such from 'churchy' organizations. Bi-vocational or part-time ministers should also take a look at this, for the possibility of supplementing their income.
- c) Anyone struggling with the role of women in church leadership and ministry would benefit from Massey's workshops on this.
- d) Several workshops establish theological understanding of Outreach
- e) There are multiple workshops on specific outreach programs: Rowlett Reindeer, community gardens, Sunday morning outreach, community fellowship meals, Men's ministry, Women's ministry, disaster relief, special needs ministry are all workshop opportunities
- f) Those who are struggling with end-of-life issues (their own or a loved one) have workshop choices, as well as an update on Fowler Communities

All the church growth literature now is lifting up the central role ENGAGEMENT IN MISSION has in attracting new people to existing churches, and in even sparking fundamental transformation. I urge you not to let this Leader event pass without your church sending present and future leaders. You might even want your church to pick up the \$20/person tab. Registration form is located under forms on our website at fccgarland.org and they are also offered in the church office. The schedule is as follows:

Schedule

8:30 - 9:00 a.m. Registration and Gathering
8:30 a.m. Outreach Fair Opens
9:00 - 9:30 a.m. Keynote - "One Question"
10:00 - 11:15 a.m. Workshop Session #1
11:30 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. Workshop Session #2
12:45 - 1:30 p.m. Lunch
1:45 p.m. Outreach Fair Closes
1:45 - 3:00 p.m. Workshop Session #3
3:15 p.m. Chapman University Singers Concert

Cost is \$75 if paid by 1/19
\$80 if paid by 1/26

2014 Chi Rho Mid-Winter
(6th-8th grade)



A Whole New View: Experiencing the Bible in
New Ways



February 7-9, 2014

Check-in starts Friday, February 7th at
7:00 p.m.