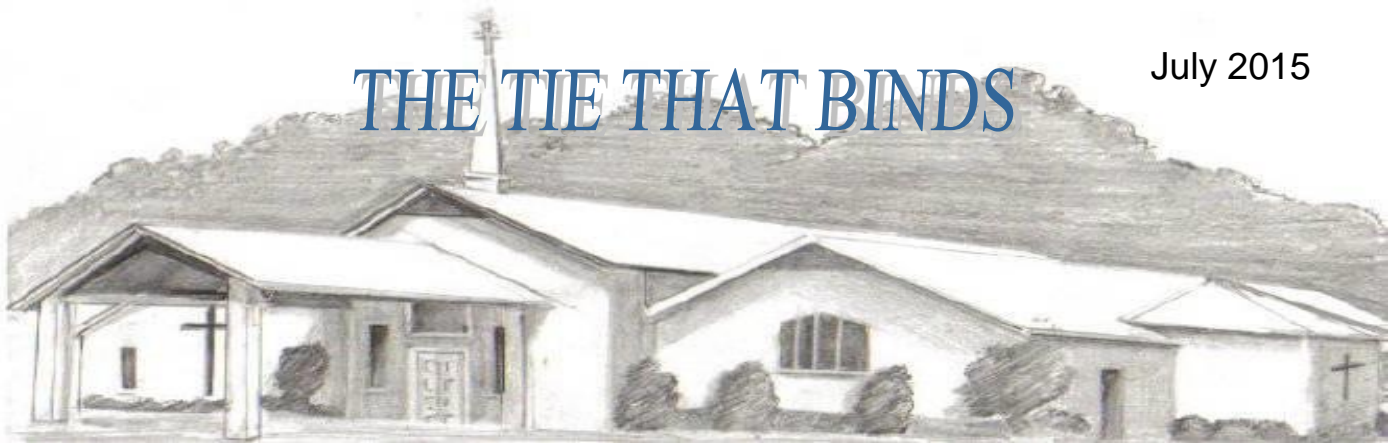


THE TIE THAT BINDS

July 2015



First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
204 E. Graves St. / P. O. Box 872
Burnet, Texas 78611
Phone: 512 756-2223
Fax: 512 715-9684

Rev. BJ Tapley
Church e-mail: fcburnet@verizon.net
Church website: www.fcburnettx.org
Office hours: Monday–Thursday 9:00a–3:00p
Emergency contact: Bennie Clark 830 613-0395

From the Pastor . . .

6/25/15

During the month of June, we have been doing a sermon series entitled “Why” that was based off of a book by Adam Hamilton called *Why? Making Sense of God’s Will*. The preparation for this series has been incredibly helpful in my own life and I pray that the sermons have touched your lives as well as we all journey through life and struggle to make sense of how God works in our lives.

With this series in the back of my mind this month, I wanted to share this devotional from the Friday June 12th Still Speaking Daily Devotionals that are emailed to me every day. This particular devotional is entitled “The Big Spoon” and is written by Molly Baskette who is the Senior Minister of First Church Somerville UCC in Somerville, MA. She uses the scripture passage from Ecclesiastes 3:5 which says, “A time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing...” In her devotional she writes:

The other night, our daughter crawled into bed with us at 4 a.m., her icy hands and feet snaking over us in the most alarming way. She knows we love her but she also knows we love uninterrupted sleep, and so she began to make her case:

"I was awake from 11 until 2 and then I fell asleep for a few minutes and—"

"Carmen—"

"And then I woke up and I had had a bad dream and it was all about a guy in a mask chasing me and—"

"CARmen—"

"And then I was scared but I didn't want to wake you up so I used my stress ball and then I said prayers with my prayer beads and then I still couldn't sleep and so I came up here and lay down on the cold floor with a little blanket, and I REALLY didn't want to disturb you but then I was shivering and . . ."

"CARMEN. Snuggle me and go to sleep."

And I wrapped my big warm limbs around her small cold ones, and we fell asleep.

This is how we are before God sometimes. Struggling and trying to do it on our own and failing miserably, and making ourselves miserable, and finally coming before God with all kinds of rationalizations and proofs and evidence of our exertions, and God just says, "HUSH! Rest." And wraps us up in Her great warm limbs, the big spoon to our little spoon.

Building Relationships, Growing Faith, Welcoming All in Jesus Christ

Prayer

God, next time, can You help me skip the self-inflicted independent-minded misery, and get straight to the embrace? Amen.

It is my prayer for each of us that we will more readily go to God and our loved ones with our needs, concerns, joys, fears, and whatever else we are dealing with so that we do not have to endure alone.

Grace and Peace,



GENERAL CHECKING ACCOUNT		
April 30, 2015 Balance		\$40,599.15
May 2015 Deposits		
General Fund	\$10,296.07	
Designated	\$4,263.71	\$14,559.78
May 2015 Disbursements		
Budgeted/General Fund	(\$9,664.29)	
Other Fund/Pass-Through	(\$4,730.33)	(\$14,394.62)
May 31, 2015 Balance		<u>\$40,764.31</u>

Driving Ministry

Have you ever needed someone to drive you for a doctor's appointment? The Elders are recruiting volunteers who would be willing to join a rotation to drive folks to doctors' appointments on an as needed basis. Pastor BJ will coordinate the needs of our members and find drivers who are available to drive to Austin and other surrounding towns. If this is a ministry you would like to be a part of, please email BJ at revbjtapley@gmail.com or the church at fccburnet@verizon.net and let us know. Also, if you are in need of this ministry, please let BJ as early as possible and he will work to find someone available to help.

First Christian Church
P O Box 872
Burnet TX 78611

THE TIE THAT BINDS

July 2015

Building Relationships, Growing Faith, Welcoming All in Jesus Christ

2015 Leadership Team

Moderator.....Grover Howell
Vice Moderator.....Michele Darling
Secretary.....Teri Howell
Treasurer.....Bennie Clark
Historian.....Kay Snyder
Education.....Brenda Williams
Faith-Sharing.....Ron & Marilyn Petrick
Membership.....Harriett Reed
Outreach.....Michele Darling, Lisa Nance
Property.....Richard Dunegan
Worship.....Susan Clark
Disciples Men Rep.....Ron Petrick
Disciples Women Rep.....Marilyn Petrick

Pastoral Relations Committee:

*Ron Petrick Walter Selcer Susan Clark
Art Johnson Ronda Hostetter Charolette Collie

Trustees:

Lisa Nance
Auda Ross
Walter Selcer

Elders:

Michele Darling
Hank Holt
Ron Petrick
*Harriett Reed
Walter Selcer
Grover Howell
Bennie Clark
Susan Clark

Jr. Deacons:

Alayna Engen
Cheyenne Steve

Deacons:

Paula Harris
Teri Howell
Art Johnson
Brenda Williams
Susan Selcer
Yvonne Evans
Celeste Bruton
Jerry Hostetter
Ronda Hostetter
Karol Shepherd
Cricket Branon
Charolette Collie
Linda Guess
Terry Matlock
*Marilyn Petrick

* chairperson



Who are your Friends? Who do you Love?

When my family gathers at my aunt's house in Gonzales or Teri's family gets together on July 4th in Northern Michigan, there is always someone or maybe even several people that can't make it. Maybe work or some other commitment keeps them from participating in family fun.

Sometimes I look around in church and see empty chairs that normally have members sitting in them. I never imagined that I would or could miss someone in my blood or church family, if they were gone one time, but I do. Now I know who my friends are and I know who I love... that is each and every one of you, Teri's family and mine. To our church family, when you are not at our gatherings or in church with us, **YOU ARE MISSED!**

Your presence blesses everyone and everyone's presence will bless you. Have a happy and safe 4th of July!

Grover Howell
Moderator

Elder Report

The Elders are picking an entity in our community to pray for each month. This month is it **Military Veterans and their families**. Please keep these brave women and men and their families in your prayers as they make the sacrifices which keep us safe.

God bless you all.
Harriett Reed
Elder Chair

A Moment About Giving

Each Sunday we devote part of our worship service to the service of giving back to God some of the blessings we have received. It is a time devoted especially to the giving back financially, but what about the giving of our non-financial blessings? It has been said: "What an abundance of gifts we have to offer: musical talent, the melody of laughter, the use of our hands in cooking and repairs, the use of our minds in problem solving, curiosity, compassion, patience, urgency, spiritual reservoirs, financial resources, obedience, and courage to act. All these gifts, and others which bear our personal marks, are symbolized in our offering for the work of the church. Let us commit ourselves in service as we worship God with our offerings."

The summer months are filled with vacations, family reunions, and hot weather. We invite you to think about ways you currently give some of the blessings you have received and see if there are new ways, or different ways, or more ways in which you can share your blessings with your church family. We pray for safe travels for each of you. Know that we miss seeing you when you are gone and look forward to your return.



Deacon's
Corner

While we're sad that the Knight's have moved, we are grateful to Linda Guess and Terry Matlock who have agreed to replace Ann & James as Deacons.

Marilyn Petrick
Deacon Chair



Disciples Women's Ministries

Disciples Women's next meeting will be held on **Saturday July 11th** at **9:00a** in the Fellowship Hall. Yvonne Evans will lead the study which will be on Esther. Focus Scriptures will be Esther 1:5-21, 2:1-18, 3:12-4:17, 8:1-8.

Marilyn Petrick
DWM Representative

Bible Basics Sunday School Class

In light of summer vacation and school being out our Adult Bible Basics Sunday School Class will be taking the summer off. Class will resume on **Sunday August 30th**. We will be studying the Book of Genesis in preparation for Bible Olympics which will be held here at First Christian Church in October. We welcome anyone who would like to join our study in August and be on our team.

Greg Williams



All of the camps are facilitated at Disciple Oaks Gonzales location

July 7-11 – Beginners' Camp (completed grades 2-3)

*Early-bird fee \$275 **

Regular fee \$315 due by June 7

July 7-11 – Junior Camp (completed grades 4-5)

*Early-bird fee \$275 **

Regular fee \$315 due by June 7

July 26-Aug. 1 – Chi Rho Camp (completed grades 6-7)

*Early-bird fee \$400 **

Regular fee \$440 due by June 7

**BBA website says Early Bird fees were due April 20th, but that has been extended.*



Disciples Men's Ministries

At the last Disciples Men Breakfast the men voted to not meet during the summer months of July and August.

Our next breakfast will be **Saturday September 12, 2015**. This is a change from the regular time being the third Saturday of the month due to the Regional Disciples Men Retreat in Brownwood the weekend of **September 20 – 22, 2015**. The theme this year is "Diversity in our Region". The General Conference of Disciples Men will be holding their every four year event "Sessions 2016" at the **TCU campus July 22-24, 2016**. Many plans are being made with top notch Keynoters and Workshops catered to MEN. The Theme is "YOU ARE CALLED BY NAME" Isaiah 43:1-2.

Ron Petrick

Adult Sunday School Class



The Adult Sunday School Class will be meeting during the summer months. All are invited to join us as we continue our study in the Old Testament

books of Amos, Micah, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Zechariah, and Malachi. Our lessons this quarter challenge us to consider not what we mean when we say "justice," but what God means. Not only to talk about justice but to pursue it and work with God to make it a reality. When we speak the word justice into sentences it should be through transformative, redemptive actions. "Do justice, embrace faithful love, and walk humbly with your God" (Micah 6:8). So come join in this very interesting study.

Ron Petrick



OUTREACH MINISTRY REPORT

With the tragic and overwhelming floods of recent, please remember that you can contribute to Week of Compassion through The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in our own offering plates. Most importantly, you can be 100% sure that 100% of your donation goes to that particular disaster relief.....your check can be made payable to FCC Burnet and write in the memo portion of your check where you would like your donation to be sent.

Continue to remember food items for LaCare. There is always extra needed for the summer when the kids are home all day! Ask Marilyn or Linda for specific items needed.

Noisy Offering was collected on June 7th in the amount of \$90.66 From June 1 – June 22nd Monday's Kitchen served 304 meals and donations of \$163.93 were received.

Please look over July's Monday's Kitchen schedule! If you are interested and can commit for this month or every month on a particular Monday or just some times, let me know! We can rotate positions and Mondays worked to make it a lighter load for those who are available. If you think that this ministry only provides meals.....come eat with us one Monday and you will see that it is also about relationships between the volunteers and the people who attend and the relationships between the volunteers themselves. It is amazing that when things just shouldn't work out, they do!

Michele & Lisa
Outreach Co-Chairs

MONDAY'S KITCHEN SCHEDULE OF WORKERS JULY 2014

July 6, 2015

Set Up:		Celeste Bruton
Cook:	1)	Michele Darling
Bake:	1)	Michele Darling
Serve	1)	Celeste Bruton
	2)	Michele Darling
	3)	Karol Shepherd
Clean-Up:	1)	Michele Darling
	2)	Lisa Nance

July 13, 2015

Set Up:		Sharon Childers
Cook:	1)	Lisa Nance
Serve	1)	Celeste Bruton
	2)	Maedel Hearn
	3)	Karol Shepherd
Clean-Up:	1)	Lisa Nance
	2)	Sharon Childers

July 20, 2015:

Set Up:		Celeste Bruton
Cook:	1)	Susan Clark
	2)	Bennie Clark
Bake	1)	Mary Alice Ross
	2)	Celeste Bruton
Serve	1)	Janie Howell
	2)	Celeste Bruton
	3)	Susan Clark
Clean-Up	1)	Dave Bowmaster

July 27, 2015:

Epicenter



EDUCATION

WORSHIP ARTS CAMP (WAC) August 3 – August 7 Help needed!

Each year, during the first full week in August, First Christian Church holds a free Worship Arts Camp. We spend the week sharing our gifts through music, drama and art. This year will be our 7th annual Worship Arts Camp and will be held **August 3rd – 7th**. More details to come.

Brenda



Dear Congregation:

Thank you for your generous donation to WBC Opportunities Meals on Wheels and Senior Activity Centers program. Your gift of \$1056.12 will make a difference in the lives of local

senior citizens.

WBC Opportunities is able to achieve our mission because of the investments of you and others in our services. The mission of WBC Opportunities is to provide resources and opportunities needed by children, adults and seniors of Williamson and Burnet Counties and to realize educational growth, economic self-sufficiency and improved quality of life. Thousands of people have been served during our 48 year history.

In the past year, WBC Opportunities served more than 161,000 meals through our Meals-on-Wheels program and 6 senior Activity Centers; worked with more than 1,000 children and their families through our 14 Head Start 105 centers; provided affordable housing to more than 200 families; and helped more than 26,000 people with utility assistance, rental assistance, referral services and budget counseling in our 6 Community Services offices. This was because of people just like you, coming together to help our neighbors during their time of need.

Thank you for your partnership in providing hope and supporting people. Together, we are making an impact!

Sincerely,
Diana Phillips
Executive Director



Haylee with ribbons from her Burnet County Fair entries



Katlyn (center) & Isabella (right) with ribbons from their Burnet County Fair entries

BIBLE OLYMPICS

On **Saturday October 3, 2015** we will host Bible Olympics here at First Christian Church, Burnet. The study area will be the book of Genesis.

Thanks,
Brenda