



# *THE TIE THAT BINDS...*

## FEBRUARY 2022

### **From the Interim Minister...**

**Rev. William “Bill” Howden**



One of the luxuries my wife, Jan, and I allow ourselves in our senior years is a cleaning service, who come in twice a month to do our heavy cleaning. I am writing this on the day they were scheduled. The manager called this morning to say that the crew scheduled to clean our house had called in sick. So many other workers were out that rescheduling was not really an option – could we just skip this time?

We skipped. And since Jan is having back trouble right now, that is how I ended up running the vacuum cleaner this morning – a task I am usually careful to avoid!

Which proved to be a healthy reminder of how dependent we all are on others, and how grateful we should be for the efforts of others: the store clerks who stock the shelves, the farmers who grow our food, the people who assembled the computer on which I type this newsletter column. (I once had a neighbor who worked at the town’s sewer treatment plant; I was really grateful to him!)

And so it is in the church. Especially in this time between pastors, it takes many people, performing various tasks, to keep the church going. Someone has to print the bulletins, and pay the bills, and fix snacks for after church, and change the lightbulbs, and serve on the search committee. Let us be grateful for each one who steps forward to help.

As Paul wrote to the church in Corinth long ago, “Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good” (1 Corinthians 12:5-7). “To each”: Each of us has gifts to use for the benefit of all. Thanks be to God!

And thanks to each of you who brings your gifts to the church, along with your gratitude for the gifts of others. Working together, we are the body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:27).

Honored to be working together with you,

*Rev. Bill Howden*

[wchowden@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wchowden@sbcglobal.net)

210-771-5981



Dear Congregation,  
 The Search and Call Committee received several profiles of potential candidates from our regional minister, Rev. Al Walker, last week.

We have begun to review these individually and will meet soon to discuss.

We also learned that we are able to advertise for the part-time minister's position on the regional website, <http://www.ccsww.org/jobs>. Feel free to check this out as we are hopeful that this will be posted by February 1.

We appreciate each of you and your patience as we continue through the search and call process. We are extremely thankful for Rev. Howden during this time of his interim ministry with FCC. We also think Ron Petrick for continuing to schedule excellent pulpit supply ministers when needed.

Please continue to pray for the committee – that we may be open to God's guidance and direction.

We are blessed and honored to serve with you.  
*Sharon, Wayne, Ron, Bennie and Michele*

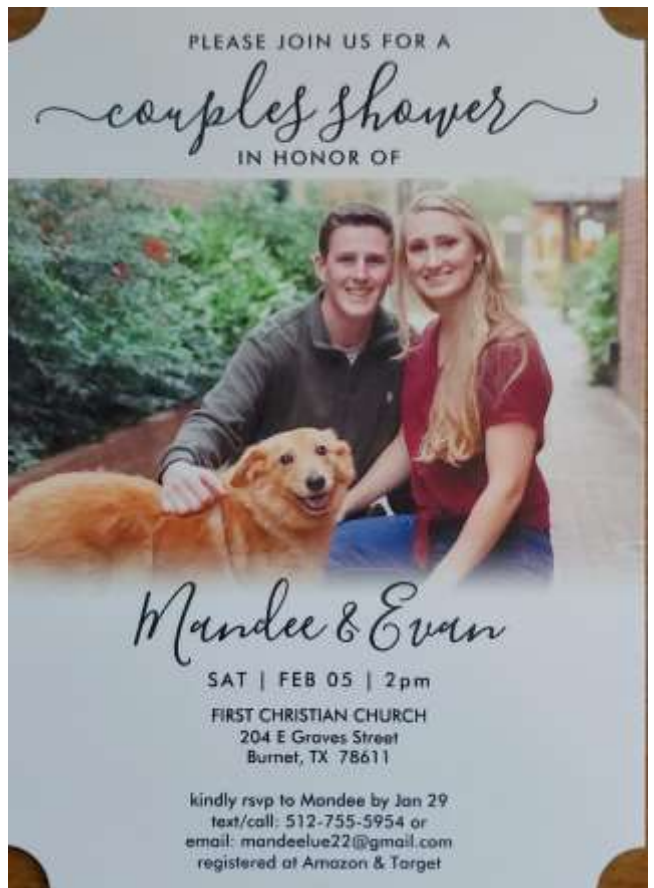


Rev. Bill Howden has requested meeting with the Care Group members to get to know each other and for you to know him. Care Groups 2 through 4 are scheduled to meet on February 20, 2022, right after church. The meeting will be no more than 1 hour. Your Care Group Elder will be contacting you to confirm if you will be able to attend. Contact an Elder for information:

- Care Group 2 - Hank Holt – 830 798-4054
- Care Group 3 - Bennie Clark – 830 613-0395
- Care Group 4 - Michele Darling – 830 798-6533
- Care Group 1 - Ron Petrick – 512 417-2120

**WHAT'S HAPPENING**

- Feb 05 2-4p Couples Shower for Mandee Harris and Evan
- Feb 06 Noisy Offering benefitting Burnet County Child Welfare Board
- Feb 09 6p Committee Council Meeting
- 6:30p Elders Meeting
- 7p Board Meeting
- Feb 11 Teri Howell's Birthday
- Feb 14 Happy Valentine's Day
- Feb 15 Ron Petrick's Birthday
- Feb 18-19 CCSW Disciple Women's Leadership Training
- BBA/CPA Disciple Men's Retreat
- Feb 20 Week of Compassion Special Offering
- Feb 21 Peggy Spiekermann's Birthday
- Feb 27 Week of Compassion Special Offering





Just a quick reminder to pick up an extra can of soup or Vienna sausage on your next HEB run, and then add it to the blessing box on your next church run. 😊 The blessing box gets regular use this time of year with the seasonal influx of cold weather, latchkey schoolkids, and post holiday bills. Your can of soup makes a difference!







Wow! It is hard to believe that the first month of 2022 has come and gone. The church had a great month.

We started off the year with a service of individual devotionals on January 2nd. It was inspirational as they were all from the heart. On the 9th, 16th, and 23rd we had sermons from our interim minister, Bill Howden. The 9th is titled "Put Fear Aside", the 16th is titled "Our Anxieties; God's Abundance." Unfortunately the sermon on the 23rd had some technical difficulties so is not available. On the 30th we had a guest minister, Mike Austin, who's sermon title was "Adoption." If you would like to either revisit these sermons, or hear them for the first time, please visit [fccburnett.org/sermons/](http://fccburnett.org/sermons/). There are also many great sermons from previous dates that are available.

Our board meeting on January 12th was a good meeting. Thank you to everyone who was present to help keep our church moving forward. The Elders always discuss, and pray, for those that need our support. Marilyn stepped up to the plate to become the Deacon chair, the Committee Council had nothing new to report, except I know that Michelle and her committee are always looking ahead, and Sharon continues to work on our church history. The Search committee, also chaired by Michelle, got information from Bill Howden that we can advertise our open pastor position and that has been addressed.

Bill Howden expressed his appreciation for the warm welcome he has received and has started making phone calls, and scheduling visits for pastoral care. Bill is also scheduling meetings with each individual Care Group to receive more input from all of us regarding anything involving the church. The first group meeting was on the 23rd

and each of the other groups will follow in the coming weeks. Your Care Group Elder will let you know when yours is scheduled.

We will continue to use the self-contained Communion cups for the foreseeable future. Thank you, Bennie, for continuing to keep up with these.

Lastly, thanks to Ron and Larry, the Baptismal stained glass and the outside cross are now both lit up each night. It makes our church stand out for everyone to see.

I look forward to keeping each of our members informed on what we are doing to help make your church the best it can be.

God Bless!

Wayne



**First Christian Church-Bertram  
Disciples of Christ  
Serving Schedule  
February 2022**

	ELDER Joys/Concerns Communion Prayer Stewardship Prayer	DEACONS Prepare/Serve Communion Offering	WORSHIP LEADER Welcome & Announcements Call to Worship Invocation & Prayer
Feb 06	Michele Darling	Linda Guess Marilyn Petrick	Ron Petrick
Feb 13	Ron Petrick	Sharon Tippie Wayne Spiekermann	Jonnie Stark
Feb 20	Bennie Clark	James Engen Jennifer Engen	Yvonne Evans
Feb 27	Hank Holt	Jonnie Stark Linda Guess	Sharon Tippie

The Elder is responsible for Joys/Concerns; Communion Prayer; Stewardship Prayer  
Communion Preparation: Covid Approved Containers

If you are unable to serve on the day you are scheduled, please notify the Office  
Administrator and a replacement will be assigned.





# February 2022

*Seasons and Colors of the Christian Year*  
01/07 - 03/01 Ordinary Time (green)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5 COUPLES SHOWER for Mande Harris and Evan 2-4 pm
6 5th Sunday after Epiphany 9:30a Sunday School 10:45a Worship  NOISY OFFERING benefitting BCCWM	7	8	9  6:00p Committee Council 6:30p Elders Meeting 7:00p Board Meeting	10	11  Teri Howell's Birthday	12
13 6th Sunday after Epiphany  9:30a Sunday School 10:45a Worship  MONTHLY LUNCHEON	14  VALENTINE'S DAY	15  Ron Petrick's Birthday	16	17	18  CCSW Women's Leadership Event - Athens, TX  BBA/CPA Men's Retreat 2022 - Disciple Oaks	19
20 7th Sunday after Epiphany 9:30a Sunday School 10:45a Worship WEEK OF COMPASSION SPECIAL OFFERING  Care Groups 2-4 Meet with Rev. Bill after service	21	22  Peggy Spiekermann's Birthday	23	24	25	26
27 2nd Sunday in Lent  9:30a Sunday School 10:45a Worship  WEEK OF COMPASSION SPECIAL OFFERING	28					

<b>Elders</b>	
Ron Petrick (2022)	Hank Holt (2023)
Michele Darling (2022)	Bennie Clark (2024)
<b>Deacons</b>	
James Engen (2022)	Linda Guess (2023)
Jennifer Engen (2022)	
Sharon Tippie (2022)	Jonnie Stark (2024)
Marilyn Petrick (2022)	Wayne Spiekermann (2024)
<b>Trustees</b>	
Art Johnson (2022)	Richard Dunegan (2023)
Ron Petrick (2024)	

**2022 Leadership Team**

Moderator	Wayne Spiekermann	
Vice-Moderator	Bennie Clark	
Secretary	Melissa Johnson	
Treasurer	Bennie Clark	
Historian	Sharon Tippie	
Education	} Committee Council -	
Faith-Sharing		
Membership		
Outreach		
Property		
Worship		
Disciple Men Rep		
Disciple Women Rep		
		Michele Darling
		Marilyn Petrick
	Sharon Tippie	
	Ron Petrick	

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