



THE CALLER



Vol. 8 Issue 06-2 Week of June 9, 2008

A weekly newsletter of the First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) of Lancaster, Texas

MELISSA'S MEMO



Last Sunday our church board approved our church participating in the **New Beginnings** church appraisal program. However, before our church invests in this program, the whole congregation will be asked for their approval. **New Beginnings** is a program that comes from the Disciples of Christ Homeland Ministries. It is meant to help Disciple congregations that are in

decline to make good decisions about their future.

New Beginnings will allow us to have an outsider or outsiders come in to evaluate our church. They will present a report to our church at the end of their gathering of information. The report will detail possible options for our church. The **New Beginnings'** personnel will not tell our church what to do, they will only make suggestions.

If we decide NOT to participate in the **New Beginnings** church appraisal program at this time, we will not be able to participate again until 2011 as they will not be in this area again until then.

If you want more information about **New Beginnings**, please see either me or Jerry Peck on Sunday, and we will get you a copy of the powerpoint that was presented

at the meeting at the Highlands Christian Church and a copy of the **New Beginnings** brochure.

Personally, I think that the **New Beginnings** church assessment program is an excellent potential resource for this church. As someone said during the board meeting, the assessment by **New Beginnings** will help to give our church a direction—which is something that we need. Also, it will help all of us to realize the situation that our church is currently in, and give us ideas on how our church can reinvent itself and revitalize our congregation.

Also, I want to remind you that **we are having Disciples' History and Beliefs classes on Monday night. Our class starts at 7:00 p.m., but we gather at 6:30 to eat dinner together (it is bring your own brown bag). Class is over sometime between 8:00 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.** The first week we learned about the founding four of The Disciples of Christ. Please come and join us for a time of study and discussion!

Please continue to pray for Ab, Anna, Annie, Bob, Margaret, Nancy, and Steve. Also, please continue to pray for God's guidance for our church.

I am privileged to be-

Your minister-
Melissa +



**Called Congregational Meeting
following our Worship Service on Sunday, June 22th**



**The First Christian Church of
Lancaster, Texas
(Disciples of Christ)**

750 West Main Street, Lancaster, Texas 75146

Minister - Reverend Melissa Bitting

Sunday Schedule of Services

Worship Service 10:00 am

Office - 972.227.2474 || Fax - 972.227.0623

Website - www.fccltx.org

Church e-mail - fccltx@airmail.net



WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Monday, June 9nd-
7:00 pm - *Disciple's History (Brown bag at 6:30pm)*

Tuesday, June 10rd -
(Open Schedule)

Wednesday, June 11th-
(Admin Office Closed)

Thursday, June 12th -
(Admin Office Closed)

Friday, June 13th-
(Open Schedule)

Saturday, June 14th -
(Open Schedule)

Sunday, June 15th-
8:30 am - **Choir Practice**
9:30 am - *Prayer Meeting in Library*
9:45 am - *All Elders & Diaconate Prayer in Chapel*
10:00 am - *Worship service*
10:15 am - *Kid's Sunday School*

To see future dates please go to our website at www.fccltx.org



**BEAN
LUNCH**

**SUNDAY
JUNE 29TH**

**Enjoy
Fellowship &
Great Food**

SUMMER HOURS

Beginning June 2008, the Caller will be mailed twice-a-month. The electronic Caller will continue to be e-mailed weekly. If you would like to receive the electronic Caller, email fccltx@airmail.net



Join us JULY 6TH, 2008
for a picnic to celebrate the
**162nd Birthday of Our
Church**

Food and Drink furnished
Games and Entertainment



CWF HEART-TO-HEART



**Disciples Women's Ministries /
Christian Women's Fellowship
(CWF)**

Mattie Crockett, President

**SATURDAY, JUNE 21st @ 9AM
INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS**

We will not meet in July or August 2008 due to summer conflicts.

See ya' on the 21st! Come earlier and enjoy breakfast provided by the Disciple Men's / CMF.



WHAT'S COOKING IN CMF

**Disciples Men Ministries /
Christian Men's Fellowship
(CMF)**



Dan Odom, President

Our next monthly Breakfast Meeting will be held on **Saturday, June 21st at 8:00 am**. Cooks and helpers please be at church by 7:00 am.

No meetings in July or August!

CMF / Disciples Men is open to all men of the Church .



WORSHIP TEAM

June 15, 2008		June 22, 2008	
<i>At The Table</i>	Bob Browne Debbie Tarpley	<i>At The Table</i>	Mattie Crockett Joan McShan
<i>In the Pews</i>	Nancy Sewell Hailee Hansen Jackie Feil Bill Bitting	<i>In the Pews</i>	Hailee Hansen Jackie Feil Bill Bitting Nancy Sewell
<i>Homebound Elders</i>	Debbie Tarpley Billy Ray Dickey Nannett Morrison	<i>Homebound Elders</i>	Jerry Peck Bob Green Dan Odom
<i>Worship Leader:</i>	Jackie Feill	<i>Worship Leader:</i>	Jackie Feill

Homebound Elders please meet in the Treasurer's office immediately following worship to schedule visitations.



PRAYER CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

Please keep these people in your prayers

JOYS

Stephanie Patterson (grand daughter of Jimmie Tindall) released from hospital

Texas Nurses Association named Cindy Melis as one of top one hundred nurses in Dallas/Fort Worth

CONCERNS:

Norma Jean Becker (sister of Rowena Head & Billy Ray Dickey) broke her arm

Amy Hall Shackelford

Lois' friend with sever headaches

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

Is extended to the family and friends of Spencer Dilworth (Peggy Dickey's cousin's husband)

This Prayer list reflect those received the week of this Caller. The on-going Prayer Requests are in our Sunday Bulletin.

Note: For an addition, correction or deletion to our prayer list; please fill out a Prayer Request form, or call the church office at 972-227-2474.

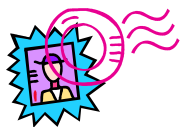
The Lancaster Masonic Lodge 160 is seeking blood credit through the Dallas Carter BloodCare system for a member of our church. After giving birth to twins about a week ago, she began internal bleeding. To date, she has had 10 units (many more) of blood to keep her stable. The doctors are confident they can find and stop the bleeding. If you, your family or friends can donate blood to this deserving family, we would appreciate it. The donation can be made through Lancaster Masonic Lodge #160 Sponsor number: 030830 with the Carter BloodCare. Those outside the DFW area can have their local blood donation center contact Carter BloodCare at 800-DONATE-4 for details on transferring blood credits.




A BIG THANKS to Nancy Sewell and Suzy Bate for your gifts to our Yard Fund

Please drop them a line...

Stephen A. Miller
ASG-QA
Attn: Dyncorp Number 516
APO,AE-09898



STEWARDSHIP

Financial Report as of Sunday, June 8, 2008

Total Giving	\$ 1854.91
Yard care	-\$ 50.00
<u>Image Refund</u>	<u>-\$ 149.91</u>
Budget Giving	\$ 1655.00

Church Attendance for Sunday, June 8, 2008

Worship Service : 45 members / 3 visitors
No Children's Sunday School was held



REACHING OUT



How does the New Beginnings Assessment Service work?

New Beginnings takes place in six phases:

Phase I: The congregation sends in profile information of its current participants. The congregation is also asked to submit video of recent worship service, financial reports for the last three years, and insurance information.

Phase II: At a mutually agreed time, regional or area staff and a New Beginning consultant meet at your church for an on-site assessment. This entails a complete building inspection, financial review with the financial officer, a windshield tour of the community, meeting with the moderator and pastor, and an Appreciative Inquiry session with the

congregational and regional leaders that seeks to understand your programmatic and missional strengths. Your congregation will receive a 25 page report of this visit, including: Congregational demographics; Community demographics; Tenure of participants (church members); A pin map showing location of membership; Financial history; Building condition; Congregational appetite for change; Congregational energy level; Congregational relational levels; Evaluation of administrative, programmatic, and building resources; Potential strategies for mission.

Phases III, IV, and V will be discussed in a future Caller. This information is also available at the New Beginnings website: www.churchextension.org.

New Beginnings does not force change on a congregation, develop the long-term ministry plan or settle conflict within the congregation!

2007 CWF COOKBOOK



Contact any CWF member to a cookbook
ONLY \$10.00!

Words from Church Bulletins



Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.

Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

The peacemaking meeting scheduled for today has been canceled due to a conflict.



**You should always pray,
and not give up.
Luke 18:1**

As a senior citizen was driving down the freeway, his car phone rang. Answering, he heard his wife's voice urgently warning him, "Herman, I just heard on the news that there's a car going the wrong way on Interstate 77. Please be careful!"

"Heck," said Herman, "It's not just one car. It's hundreds of them!"