



# THE CALLER

WEEK OF FEBRUARY 23, 2009



A WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF THE FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST) OF LANCASTER, TEXAS



## MELISSA'S MEMO



**This Wednesday night at 7:00 p.m., we will be having our Ash Wednesday Service. I hope that all of you will be present at this service.** We will be offering the imposition of ashes at the close of our worship on Wednesday night. Ash Wednesday gets its name from the practice of placing ashes on the foreheads of

the faithful as a sign of repentance. The ashes used are gathered after the Palm Crosses from the previous year's [Palm Sunday](#) are burned. In the liturgical practice of some churches, the ashes are mixed with the Oil of the [Catechumens](#) (one of the [sacred oils](#) used to anoint those about to be [baptized](#)), though some churches use ordinary oil.

During this season on Lent, I hope that you are remembering to take time to pray for our church every day. I think that God is doing trying to do a "new thing" here at First Christian, and we need to LISTEN to God's voice during our prayers to be able to determine where God is calling our church to go. God is still speaking----are you listening? God told Jesus' disciples that accompanied Him during His transfiguration to "Listen to Him (Jesus)". Those are good words for each of us to live by today.

This week marks the end of our Cottage Meetings.

The facilitators of the Cottage Meetings will be

meeting together in the next couple of weeks to talk about all of the ideas and input that each of you has given. We will be summarizing and organizing it, and then we will have a session to present all of the groups' input to you after a Fellowship Dinner in March. Further details regarding the date of the fellowship dinner will be coming soon.

Lent is a time for us all to reflect upon our life and our walk with Christ. Is your relationship with the Lord where you would like it to be? If not, can you commit to becoming more disciplined by spending time daily with your Bible and in prayer.

You might wonder why I keep harping on prayer. It is because I am sure that prayer change things—it changes relationships, it changes people and it can therefore change churches. Prayer helps us to keep focused on God. Prayer helps us to unite as the "Body of Christ". Prayer helps us to keep the Devil from using our disagreements as a way to divide us. Prayer allows us to forgive and to be forgiven.

Try to spend this season of Lent reflection on your faith journey. Look for ways that you can deepen your walk with Christ. Continue to pray daily for our church and for its members. I look forward to seeing each of you in worship this Sunday as we continue our journey towards "New Beginnings". I covet your continuing prayers for my ministry with you.

Grace and Peace-

Melissa +



### 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](http://www.fccltx.org)

Email - [fccltx@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fccltx@sbcglobal.net)



# WEEKLY SCHEDULE

**Monday, February 23**  
*(New Beginnings @ 7 PM)*

**Tuesday, February 24**  
*(Open Schedule)*

**Wednesday, February 25**  
**(Ash Wednesday Service @ 7 PM)**  
*(New Beginnings @ 2 PM)*

**Thursday February 26**  
*(Open Schedule)*

**Friday, February 27**  
*(Open Schedule)*

**Saturday, February 28**  
*(Open Schedule)*

**Sunday, March 1**  
 8:45 am - Choir Practice  
 9:30 am - Prayer Meeting in Library  
 9:45 am - All Elders & Diaconate Prayer in Chapel  
 10:00 am - Worship service

EMAIL ADDRESS : FCCLTX@SBCGLOBALNET



# STEWARDSHIP

## FINANCIAL REPORT AS OF SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2009

Total Giving	\$ 3601.00)
Refund Pat Fabby	\$ ( 27.00)
Jack & Pat Royder - Carillons	\$ ( 50.00)
General Fund Nancy Sewell	
Memorial to Lawn	\$ ( 100.00)
General Fund Billy & Peggy Dickey	
Memorial to Lawn	\$ ( 20.00)
Ferguson Family Trust to Memorial	
	\$ ( 2000.00)
Mary McVey Memorial Fund	\$ ( 20.00)
Billy Hugh & Rilla Ann Mulder	
Memorial Fund	\$ ( 25.00)
General Fund Gerald & Patty Peck	
Bells	\$ ( 25.00)
James B. Tindall Memorial Fund	\$ ( 30.00)
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Budget Giving	\$ 1254.00



# CWF HEART-TO-HEART



**Christian Women's Fellowship  
 (CWF)**  
**Mattie Crockett, President**



**CWF Bible  
 Saturday @**

**Study is this  
 9:00 AM.**

**Please join us as we continue our  
 study of Mary Magdalene.**

**Plans are being made for our prayer  
 breakfast, please watch for more  
 information.**

*Ladies, as a member of our church, you are a member of  
 our Disciples Women's  
 (CWF) Fellowship! Please support us!*



# WHAT'S COOKING IN CMF

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

**Dan Odom, President**

**Breakfast meeting is the 4th  
 Saturday of each month @ 8:00 am  
 Cooks - 7:30 am**



# WORSHIP TEAM

**March 1, 2009**

**March 8, 2009**

*At The Table* Bob Green  
 Bryan Heard

*At The Table* James McGinnis  
 Joyce McGinnis

*In the Pews* Marion Ripley  
 Will Morrison  
 Pat Royder  
 Cindy Melis

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 Pat Royder  
 Cindy Melis  
 Marion Ripley

*Homebound Elders* Nancy Odom

*Homebound Elders* Mattie Crockett  
 Joan McShan  
 Bob Browne

*Worship Leader:*

*Worship Leader:*

HOMEBOUND ELDERS MEET IN THE  
 TREASURER'S OFFICE IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING  
 WORSHIP TO SCHEDULE VISITATIONS.



## PRAYER REQUESTS AND MEMORIALS

Please keep these people in your prayers...

Dan and Nancy Odom  
C. D. Robinson

*THIS PRAYER LIST REFLECT THOSE REQUESTED THE WEEK OF THIS CALLER.  
OUR ON-GOING PRAYER REQUESTS ARE REFLECTED IN OUR SUNDAY BULLETIN .  
FOR AN ADDITION, CORRECTION OR DELETION TO OUR PRAYER LIST;*

In Memory of Frances Knight

Nancy Sewell

In Memory of Faye and Lawrence Ferguson

The Ferguson Family

In Memory of Annie Sealy  
David and Nancy Worden  
Nancy Sewell

Dear Church Family,

Words cannot express how much we appreciate all the cards, calls, thoughts, and prayers.



Thank you for supporting us in this long exhausting journey. Our church family means so much to us.

We love you all,

The Family of Stephen Burkhart

In Memory of Faye Ferguson

Billy Ray and Peggy Dickey  
Nancy Sewell  
James B. Tindall  
Gerald and Patty Peck  
Billy Hugh and Rilla Ann Mulder

In Memory of Steve Burkhart

Nancy Sewell  
Mary McVey  
David and Nancy Worden  
James B. Tindall



## NEWS AND HAPPENINGS .....



**LADIES, PACK YOUR BAGS AND KEEP THIS DATE OPEN**  
**APRIL 17, 18, 19**

### "IT'S BOB CALLING"

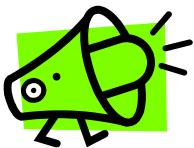
Bob Koster has started a phone campaign on behalf of the Membership/Evangelism Committee. He will be calling everyone in our current "Address List of Family and Friends", published November 3, 2008. Our goal is make sure we have your current contact information



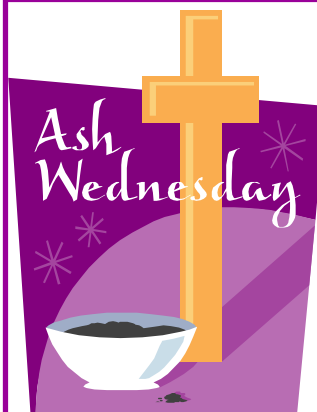
### CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS

*ASK NOT WHAT YOUR CHURCH CAN DO FOR YOU,  
BUT WHAT CAN YOU DO FOR YOUR CHURCH?*

*Have you checked the tables in the Narthex lately? There are forms there to sign-up to bring flowers for the altar and to read the scriptures on Sunday mornings.*



*IS IT YOUR TURN NOW?*



Our church will be o b s e r v i n g Ash Wednesday on February 25 @ 7:00 p.m.

Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent, which is the period 40 weekdays before Easter. Lent originated as a season of spiritual preparation for Easter, in remembrance of the suffering, death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Communion will be served by intinction, which is the dipping of the bread into the communion wine, and served individually to each worshipper by Reverend Melissa Bitting.

You will be blessed by attending this service.

The Blessing Box 50/25/25 Raffle Tickets will be on sale Sunday February 22, 2009 by CWF. Tickets will be \$1 each or 6 for \$5. 50% of funds raised will go to The Blessing Box Mission. And two very lucky winners will walk away with 25% each. The drawing will be held Sunday March 22, 2009 after service.

