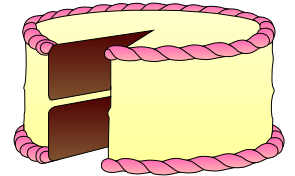


CWF is Looking for Donations & Volunteers for Their Bake Sale This Weekend



CWF is looking for baked goods that you would like to contribute to their **BAKE SALE** in Fellowship Hall on **Sat., Feb. 14, from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. and on Sun., Feb. 15, from 8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.** Profits are used to support CWF mission projects. Please bring your items to Fellowship Hall on Sat., Feb. 15 by 11:00 a.m. or bring them marked for CWF to the parlor prior to that time. Also, if you can help during the sale, please sign up on the sheet tacked to the CWF bulletin board outside the parlor. If you have any questions, call Linda Bossi at 890-1079.



Week of Compassion is the relief and development fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and serves as a faithful and effective way for Disciples congregations, members and friends to channel their resources and concerns to the humanitarian needs of suffering people in the world.

Southwest Good Samaritan Ministries

Mission is always about a face. The Week of Compassion — in addition to its support of Disciples volunteering at eight mission stations across the Gulf in response to Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, Gustav and Ike — contributes to the Southwest Good Samaritan Ministries in its work with the 'poorest of the poor' on both sides of the border in south Texas. More than finances, we know that our church's mission is always about faces — about the families and individuals who are being served in response to Christ's command to "love one another."

We look into the face of the Peruvian refugee who came with his family to the United States seeking freedom from religious persecution. As a pastor and evangelist in the mountain region of his country, he was threatened with death by guerilla forces "simply because of his faith."

Once in Los Fresnos (Texas), he was offered immediate gifts of shelter, food, clothing, legal aid and the support of a Hispanic Disciples congregation. Today, the family has established a new life — their oldest son attends TCU!

There is the face of Maria, a 12-year-old girl who lives at Casa Bethel (a children's home) in Matamoros, Mexico. She receives special toys and clothing at Christmas from the Mike's Kids Program; weekly food is provided by the Disciples' Rice and Beans Projects; and a special school grant pays for her tuition, uniform and supplies — continuing her education and shaping her future.

And there is Alfredo, whose wife died of cancer two years ago, leaving him alone to raise six children. He works 60 hours a week for less than \$400.00 a month. The family's home was a dilapidated shack with cardboard siding, a leaky roof, and dirt floor. Through the newly begun Casita Project, a 'small house' has been constructed, providing a safe, dry, and secure dwelling.

Yes, the Week of Compassion and Southwest Good Samaritan Ministries understand that its mission is about more than money — it is always, always, about a face.

Along the Avenue

Pastoral Search Committee Report

Your Pastor Search Committee met twice in January and once so far in February. It takes quite a bit of work to prepare for accepting the profiles of candidates and we have been working hard to get ready. We have to complete a profile of our church which the candidates will receive. It will be just over five pages of information about our church. The survey that members completed a few weeks ago is an important part of that profile. The rest of it will be completed this month and our goal is to have it ready to present at the General Board meeting on March 8. Once the profile is approved, we will be ready to start receiving the profiles of candidates from the regional office.

The results of the survey have been collated and discussed in our meetings. These results showed that the top three ministerial emphases for NACC members are Proclamation of the Word (effective preaching), Congregational Fellowship (building fellowship and community), and Corporate Worship (planning and leading worship). If you are interested in viewing the complete results, a printout is available in the front hall of the church.

Now we are requesting more information from you. We are ready to start accepting your recommendations for pastor. The Chest of Joash is in the front hall. If you feel that you know of someone that should be considered as a candidate for our next full time pastor, you should let us know by placing the name in the chest. It is fine for these suggestions to be anonymous, but they do not have to be. It is important for you to remember, though, that we cannot have direct contact with these individuals. We simply give the names over to Mike Weinman. He can then contact the individual and request a profile from him or her.

Although some aspects of the search must remain confidential, this is an open process and the members of the church have every right to understand the process of selecting a new pastor. Please let me or Herb know if you have any questions.

Jennifer Klein



Molly Elizabeth was born on Feb. 6 to **Gary & Laura Eagleburger**. **Annie** is the big sister and **Richard & Kathy Brodbeck** are the grandparents. Congratulations!

Congratulations to **Evin Barber** on winning the championship in the 140# Class in Junior Varsity Conference Wrestling this year.



Report for Sunday, February 1, 2009

Worship Attendance	200
Church School Attendance	93
Homebound Served	4
Weekly Pledge Receipts	\$6,285

Report for Sunday, February 8, 2009

Worship Attendance	192
Church School Attendance	73
Homebound Served	5
Weekly Pledge Receipts	\$6,347

Sunday, February 15

Sermon

"Tell or Don't Tell?"
Dr. Herb Knudsen

Scriptures:

First Lesson II Kings 5:1-14
Gospel Mark 1:40-45

Worship Leader Craig Hacker

Sunday, February 22

Sermon

"A Healthy Rhythm for Living"
Dr. Herb Knudsen

Scriptures:

First Lesson II Corinthians 4:3-6
Gospel Mark 9:2-9

Worship Leader Leslie Forrester

Sign Up for a Special Small Group Program

In 2002 the Lilly Foundation funded a major, four-year research project across seven denominations. It was aimed at identifying and analyzing evangelism in highly effective, mainline congregations. The focus was primarily on motivation and the systemic realities that encouraged those churches to reach out and share the Gospel with others. What they discovered was basic, yet profound. Those congregations had effective habits of prayer and great confidence in faith-sharing. From there, Disciples pastor/attorney/author Gay Reese and her research partners developed a set of three books aimed at helping churches gain such confidence, motivation, and effectiveness in their congregations toward “unbinding the gospel.” These books have addressed a significant need in the church and now are among the best-selling religion books and seminars in the country.

The NACC elders in their monthly meetings have already been studying these materials and are now prepared to facilitate a series of congregational study groups during Lent. They are excited by the potential of this program for strengthening the spiritual health and vitality of our congregation as we soon anticipate calling our new pastor. Thus, **we hope all of you** might be able to participate in one of these prayer and faith-sharing study groups. A multitude of times during the daytime and evenings of each week are available. Each group will ideally have between 8-12 participants to enable full participation by all. Each weekly meeting over the six weeks will generally last 60-90 minutes and will be held at a mutually convenient place for the participants (the church; a home; a coffee shop; probably not a park – it's still too cold out!).

The study book is titled *Unbinding Your Heart: Forty Days of Prayer and Faith Sharing* by Martha Grace Reese. Each participant will want a personal copy of the book at a cost of \$12.75. We can make other arrangements if the fee is a problem. There are six chapters, one per week, which will be used for discussion in the group meetings as well as its focus being the theme of each Sunday's worship and sermon during Lent. There are also forty daily devotionals in the book for your use at home during Lent – which include a scripture reading, a place for your reflections and notes, and a prayer exercise.

What if you cannot make all the small group meetings or do all the devotionals? That's okay! We understand conflicts arise or trips are planned. All we ask is you try your best to be at or do as many as you can, so that you might garner the benefit of this program. Truly, we believe four meetings are better than zero where there would have been no engagement in any of the themes; and that 28 devotional studies are better than zero. The keys are to have some connection with the issues being raised and to get better acquainted with other members of the congregation.

Groups will start the week of March 1 and finish during Holy Week just before Easter (April 12).

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14

The **C.W.F. BAKE SALE** will be held in Fellowship Hall from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.



MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16

The **ELDERS MEETING** will be held in the parlor from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15

The **C.W.F. BAKE SALE** will be held in Fellowship Hall from 8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Worship services at 8:15 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. and Sunday School at 9:30 a.m.

Choir rehearsal will be held in the music room at 10:15 a.m.

Youth groups will meet from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

The **PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE** will meet in Room 213 from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17

The **PROPERTY DEPT. MEETING** will begin at 5:30 p.m. in Room 107.

The **INTERIM STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING** will begin at 6:00 p.m. in Room 217.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18

Chancel Bells rehearse at 6:00 p.m. in Room 207.

Chancel Choir rehearses at 7:00 p.m. in the Music Room.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19

The **CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE** will meet in Room 107 at 6:00 p.m.