

Disciples of Christ no creed but Christ

September 2011



Saint Andrews Christian Church
3945 North Josey Lane
Carrollton, Texas 75007
972.492.753
www.e-sacc.org

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THOUGHTS FROM THE PASTOR

“Trust In the Lord”

Scripture references: Psalm 37: 03 and Isaiah 12:02

The journey of moving toward the actual date of retirement (October 31, 2011) is much more challenging than I imagined it would be. Through increased times of prayer, reflection, evaluation, and outright soul-searching, I realize more and more that the issues of retirement are large and complex, and I am small.

What would it be like for Anne and me if we could format and control every decision, every variable, and every contingency impacting our future? Wouldn't that be perfect and amazing? Actually, it would be horrible! To have and hold full control takes the Lord right out of the process. To grasp the steering wheel with white knuckles eliminates all room for the movement of God's spirit of love. It is our faith that we can trust the Lord. Looking back over the years, we know that it is best to let go and trust the Lord. This is our faith and our guiding principle as we go forward.

The question I hear most often is, “Well, what are you going to do when you retire?” Just for fun, I say, “Nothing!” Later, I explain that I will be learning more about and practicing “Sabbath” in my life. Sabbath describes times that are healing and restorative, times when we delight in being alive and give thanks for blessings. (A great resource book is [Sabbath: Finding Rest, Renewal, and Delight in Our Busy Lives](#) by Wayne Muller.) Clearly, I am committed to being the best husband, father, grandfather, friend, and neighbor I can be. I will be the best retired pastor of SACC in every way possible. I will fully support the new pastor and all the changes that will come. I will be exploring the back creeks of several of our local lakes and enjoying fishing. (Anne says that she is going to teach me to cook! Whoa!)

We hear this saying so often, “It's all good! It's all OK!” Well, that's right as we “trust in the Lord.”

(Footnote....After finishing this article, I went to the hospital to be a witness for a woman who is estranged from her family. I served as a witness so that she can receive the treatment she needs. The doctors and staff are doing their very best to help her under difficult circumstances. Now, I need to get on with the business of living my life as a faithful follower of Jesus Christ.)

Off to the movies!! It's Anne's birthday!!

Blessings,
Randy



LIFTING

CARING

SERVING

September

Birthdays

- 1 Velvet Scholz
- 6 Kent Sylvis
- 8 Alaura Sylvis
- 16 Jonathan Monson
- 18 Kenny Baker
- 18 Jack Blankenship
- 18 Jackie Hammonds
- 19 Charles Burkhardt
- 21 Devon Henkis
- 23 Elizabeth Koch
- 24 Bill Brashear
- 25 Margaret McCasland
- 25 Amy Stephenson
- 29 Hannah McCasland

Anniversaries

- 1 Wanda & Jack Blankenship
- 30 Marge & Bill Brashear

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Aug.

- 30 Disciples Women's Group, home of Marge and Bill Brashear, 1317 Ponderosa Pine Lane, Carrollton, 6:30 pm

Sept.

- 4 Wii Party, 5:30 pm
- 7 First Kids' Kafe of the new season, 5:45 pm
- 8-10 Photos for Pictorial Directory (for appointments, call Anne Smithson)
- 9 Empty Nesters, 7 pm, at home of Wilsons, 1086 Hawkwood Way, Allen
- 10 Dance lessons. Get ready for Stephenson/McClendon wedding! 6 -8 pm
- 11 Fellowship Luncheon, 12 pm. All welcome!
- 13 Elders' Meeting, 7 pm
- 17 Seniors Fellowship, 6 pm
- 17 Stephenson/McClendon bridal shower, 10 am, Fellowship Hall
- 18 Installation of elders Margaret McCasland & Jean Crover, 11 am
- 18 Board meeting, 12:45 pm, Fellowship Hall
- 19 CMF – Billiards at Main Event, Frisco, 7 pm
- 22 CCA Food Pantry, 6 pm
- 23 Young Adults, 7 pm, Fellowship Hall
- 25 Youth Sunday service, 11 am
- 27 Prayer Pals, 12 noon

Oct.

- 2 Installation of elders Mary Peebles and Evelyn Witherspoon, 11 am



GUESS WHO!



Extra Prayers Please

Lyndsey Campbell
 The Chaplin Family
 Christine (Coyle gr'daughter)
 Mary and Dan Daniel
 Tom Ebel
 Barbara Miller
 Glenn Startz
 Gary Stephenson
 Grant Story
 George Tiegs
 Holly Williamson

GET INVOLVED WITH SACC

SACC TEAMS ARE ROCKING!

Membership

Calling Kids of all Ages!!



On September 7th at 5:45, we will begin our new season of Kids' Kafé. We have served 200 dinners, and we look forward to at least 200 more! Dinners are a reasonable \$3. (It's hard to find a good \$3 dinner anymore.) Profits from the Kids' Kafé help to pay ½ the cost of summer camps for our SACC youth.

Also, if you would be willing to provide the desserts for Kids' Kafé, please let Anne Smithson or Gary Stephenson know. Desserts don't have to be homemade. We like all sweets!!

Please plan to join us on Wednesday nights. You'll be glad you did!!

September Fellowship Dinner

On Sunday, September 11, at 12:00 noon, the congregation will gather for lunch in the fellowship hall. Attendance at luncheons has been very good in 2011, and we want to keep up the good work.

Please remember to bring extra food so that we can invite visitors to stay for lunch and fellowship. We use a covered dish format.

Place food items in the fellowship hall before worship.



Thanks! Anne Smithson; Mary Peebles; Velvet Scholz – Membership

Sign up Now!!

Church Photo Directory



Dear SACC Family,

Many changes have taken place at SACC since our last Pictorial Directory. We have selected Olan Mills Directory Division to photograph the family portraits and publish a new directory. With their system, you will be photographed and view your proofs at the same sitting.

This directory will aid us in a number of ways:

- Provide a way for us to put names and faces together
- Help us to introduce our church to friends and neighbors
- Aid the leadership, committees and other groups to identify and include new people into the mission and ministry of the congregation
- Record special memories of our church life together at this point in our history

Of course our Church Pictorial Directory won't be complete without you! You are a very important part of our church family. We care about you! Whether you're a long time member or a new member of SACC, we want you to be included in our Pictorial Directory. Every family unit (whether a single person or a large family) who participates and views their proofs will receive a free \$25 portrait gift certificate, no purchase necessary, as well as a free pictorial directory. If you have additional portrait needs, you will be able to choose from various portrait packages at special savings.

Again, let me emphasize the importance of our congregation having 100% participation! I encourage each of you to reserve a time to have your photograph taken. If you haven't reserved an appointment time, please call or e-mail Anne Smithson (972-596-5942) (anne.smithson@e-sacc.org). The actual photo sittings will be on Thursday, September 8th from 2:00 p.m.-9:20 p.m., Friday, September 9th from 2:00 p.m.-9:20 p.m., and Saturday, September 10th from 9:30 a.m.-5:10.

This will be an important tool for our congregation, and I encourage all of you to make an appointment time! If you are unable to sit for a photograph, we will supply one for you (just joking!) Thanks for your support!

Christian Men's Fellowship

The Christian Men's Fellowship is going to Main Event, 9375 Dallas Parkway, Frisco, TX at 7 p.m. on Monday, September 19. We are going to play billiards (pool). This will be fun for the group. Each person should bring \$15.

For questions, contact Gary Stephenson, gms73@netzero.net



Seniors



On Saturday, September 17th, the seniors will meet at the church for potluck at 6pm. If you remember last year, Martha entertained us with funny stories and jokes. Come again this year and see what she has in store for you.

Empty Nesters

Casual party at the Wilsons' September 9, 7 pm. 1086 Hawkwood Way, Allen.

From Highway 121, turn south on Stacy. Turn left at the first street (Ridgeview). Turn right at the first street (Kenilworth). Turn right on Hawkwood Way. 1086 is on the right about 2/3 of the way down the street. RSVP. Come casual and empty handed.



Outreach

WHAT ELSE IS HAPPENING?

DANCE MOVES:

On September 10th at 6:00 p.m., the Stephenson family will be practicing dance moves for the upcoming celebration of nuptials for Amy and Reggie. If you would like to learn some new moves or practice old ones, come to the Fellowship Hall and have some fun. Bring a snack or finger food to enjoy with others. We'll have lemonade and tea provided. See you there!



INSTALLATION OF ELDERS

We are blessed to have dedicated Elders in our congregation. Four new Elders are beginning terms of service: Mary Peebles, Evelyn Witherspoon, Margaret McCasland, and Jean Crover.

On two Sundays – September 18 and October 2—we will include an installation and blessing of Elders in the service of worship. Please include these new leaders in your prayers.

BRIDAL SHOWER!

We are excited that TWO members of our congregation are getting married. Best of all, they are marrying each other!

Join the bridal shower honoring Amy Stephenson, soon-to-be- bride of Reggie McClendon.



Saturday, Sept. 17, 10 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall

DON'T MISS IT!




Youth Sunday

September 25, 11 a.m.



Lead a life
worthy of the calling ...
making every effort
to maintain the unity
of the Spirit in
the bond of peace.
Ephesians 4:1-3

 **WORRYING** does not take away
tomorrow's TROUBLES;
it takes away today's PEACE



REMINDERS

Recycling for Cash----Protect the Environment



The recycling program has started, albeit slowly. This is a terrific opportunity to clean out a few drawers with unwanted or unneeded equipment.



At SACC we are constantly looking for community and stewardship projects. Here is a program that combines both areas. This is not a one-time event.

Hopefully, with your help, it will continue to be a fundraiser for the church.

What can you donate? Lots of things.

- | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| Cell phones | Digital cameras | Radar detectors |
| Laptop computers | Video cameras | Electronic book readers |
| Inkjet cartridges | MP3 players | GPS devices |

Place your unwanted electronic items in the box in the Narthex. We'll take it from there!

Once Again-Bargains Galore!

Saturday, September 17th, the Carrollton Citizen Police Academy Alumni Association will hold a garage sale at the church from 8-1. Since it's the same time as the shower for Amy, you may want to drop off some items that morning.



All proceeds benefit the Carrollton Police Department Team Texas. This is a group of officers who ride bikes throughout the state to events that honor fallen officers. Call Cindy Whitten at 972-416-9084 if you have questions.



"Listening to a 40-minute sermon is not suffering for Jesus, Sammy."



HELLO, GOD

Hello God, I called tonight
To talk a little while

I need a friend who'll listen
To my anxiety and trial.

You see, I can't quite make it
Through a day just on my own...

I need your love to guide me,
So I'll never feel alone.

I want to ask you please
To keep my family safe and sound.

Come and fill their lives with confidence
For whatever fate they're bound.

Give me faith, dear God,
To face each hour throughout the day,

And not to worry over things
I can't change anyway.

I thank you God, for being home
And listening to my call,

For giving me such good advice
When I stumble and fall!!!!!!!

Your number, God, is the only one
That answers every time.

I never get a busy signal,
Never had to pay a dime.

So thank you, God, for listening
To my troubles and my sorrow.

Good night, God, I love You, too,
And I'll call again tomorrow!

P.S. Please bless all my friends and family too.

Author unknown

SEARCH AND CALL COMMITTEE

Hello To All



The Search and Call committee has met frequently over the past few weeks and have made excellent progress in our effort to work through the multiple steps necessary to replace our beloved retiring pastor Dr. Randy Smithson. We have been reviewing the process documents, assigning sub project responsibilities, meeting with the area and regional Disciples leadership and familiarizing ourselves with the intricacies of effectively bringing a new pastor to our congregation.

This past week we reviewed applicant profiles of candidates for the interim pastorship. This position will be held by an individual of our choice and will be in place for approximately 6 to 12 months. The role of the interim pastor is to help our congregation transition from our present state to one that will receive and welcome our new pastor. The committee reviewed a number of extremely qualified candidates and was able to pare the number of final interviewees down to four top applicants.

We are presently communicating with and discussing terms of engagement with our final choice. Once we have completed that agreement we will be announcing to all of you this exciting choice. We would be blessed to have any of the finalists as our interim pastor as they all have excellent credentials and resumes and are trained and certified by our church governing body in the specialty area of serving congregations like ours that are needing a new pastor.

Thank you for your support through this process. We appreciate the dedication of our committee members but their strength comes from you our fellow congregates. Please pray for all of us.

I am including my cell phone number if you have any questions about the timing or the details of this process.

Gratefully

March Maher
 Chairperson, Search and Call Committee
 214-724-1694

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP SCHEDULE – SEPTEMBER 2011

Activity	9/4	9/11	9/18	9/25
Prepare communion	Jean and Wally Crover	March Maher	Louellen Stephenson	Brett Malott
Greeters*	Gregg & Martha Hoppe	March and Sheila Maher	Sally & George Tiegs	Velvet and Laura Scholz
Worship Leader	Bill Sawyer	Russ Daniel	Michael Gordon	Jeff Koch
Scripture Reader	Melissa Rembecki	Sandra Ninemire	Elizabeth Koch	Erin Schafer
Servers	Leah Gordon Michael Gordon Margaret McCasland Charlotte Sasser Gary Stephenson Wilma Edwards	John McCasland Hannah McCasland Robyn Shipley-Gerko Hannah Gerko Louellen Stephenson Laverne Henkis	Erin Schafer Michael Schafer John Wilbanks Jan Wilbanks Kari Sylvis Jason Whitley	Trina Burris Rodney Burris Wally Crover Mary Peebles Michael Peebles Gregg Hoppe
Communion Leader	Anne Smithson	Jim Neill	Randy Smithson	Bill Sawyer
Children's Message	Amy Stephenson	Reggie McClendon	Anne Smithson	Jean Crover
Extended Session	Trina and Rodney Burris	Debbie and Missy Gondolf	Carol and Kelsey Johnson	Charlotte Sasser

Message to Greeters: Please invite all visitors to sign the guest book located on the small table to the left of the main Sanctuary doors.

REQUEST AND APPRECIATION: No schedule is perfect. If you need to secure a replacement, please do so. Then email Nancy.daniel@e-sacc.org or phone the Church Office (972.492.7531) to tell us the change. Thanks.