

CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
1110 GUADALUPE STREET  
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701

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Central Christian Church  
(Disciples of Christ)  
Austin, Texas  
August 2009

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www.cccaustin.org / staff@cccaustin.org

Senior Minister  
Pastoral Care Minister  
Director of Music  
Office Administrator  
Wedding Coordinator  
Mail & Parking Manager  
Landscaping Coordinator

Dr. James W. Van Meter, Jr.  
Rev. Michael Moore  
Ed Heenan  
Kirsten Van Meter  
Ed Heenan  
Robert Marcott  
Alton Taylor



Office Hours: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

**Sunday**  
9:30 Sunday School  
11:00 Worship Service  
12:05 Special Prayer  
12:10 Fellowship

**Monday – Friday**  
New Beginnings (AA)  
12 Noon

**A Message from Pastor Jim**

Summer is just about over. In just a few weeks, our vacation experiences will be just memories. As we look forward to a new church year, I would like to ask all of us to evaluate our personal relationship with God and to His church.

I would like to suggest some things that are important if we are to fulfill the ministry to which we have been called.

The first is to be **faithful**. Faithful in our attendance at worship. It is my belief that if we could get all of our members who attend Central Christian Church in worship at the same time, our sanctuary would be fairly full. Make a commitment to be in worship every Sunday. Then, faithful in our financial support of the church and its ministries. It takes all of us working and giving together to sustain the ministry of Central Christian Church and to grow and expand. Perhaps, most importantly, faithful in our prayers for our church. We cannot accomplish the mission of our church on our own. We need God's guidance and strength.

The second action I would like to suggest is **involvement**. What is your gift that can be utilized in promoting the ministry of our church? Where can you plug in your talents to help accomplish the work of the kingdom? All of us need to be involved. People who keep statistics tell us that within the average Protestant church, 80% of the work is done by 20% of the people. Think what we could do if we could raise that figure to 40% or 50%. Perhaps you could volunteer your time to call on members who can no longer attend services or volunteer to work with our Christian Education Committee, or sing in the choir, or any one of a multitude of tasks that need to be done. Why not make a commitment to volunteer this year.

The next thing I would suggest is **enthusiasm**. Be enthusiastic and positive about what is happening within our church. Speak about your church to your friends at work and in your neighborhoods. Invite folks to come and worship with you. The best evangelism is an enthusiastic positive expression of what you experience here

Finally, keep doing something about what almost every visitor to our church comments on, and that's what a friendly church we are. Almost without exception, our visitors say that they are warmly greeted and welcomed. One lady said to me recently, "I walked in here this morning a visitor and a stranger and left feeling like I was a long-lost cousin". It is that kind of experience that will bring people back.

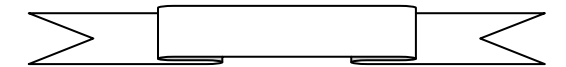
As always, I look forward to a new church year and I trust you are as well.

Pastor Jim

**Thank you!!!**

A big THANKS!! to the many youth, children, and adults who helped clean the pews on Sunday, July 19. This was truly an intergenerational effort to make our sanctuary sparkle.

James McGuffee, Trey, Kirsten & Austin Van Meter & their friend, Victor, Rod, Carol, Collin, & Nick Bowser, Eddie, Jill & Mitchell Torres, Ginger & Rachel Meeks, Melody, Zach & Lexi Thomson, Susan, Erin & Riley Winebarger, Julie & Susan Fox, Brad & Heidi Bounds, Ed Heenan, Elizabeth Leiser, and Kathy Rodriguez.



**Mark Your Calendars! – Garage Sale August 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>**

Our first 2010 mission trip fundraiser has been scheduled. We will have a garage sale on Friday and Saturday, Aug. 14 and 15 with set up on Thursday, Aug. 13. We need all youth ages 13 and up, and their parents to pitch in and help if at all possible!

The trip is in the very early planning stages, but tentatively, it is through Group Workcamps, and their rules state that youth must be 14 and over (next summer) to attend. We look forward to most, if not all, of our high school and college youth attending!

**Who** - Youth entering 8th grade (this year) and above

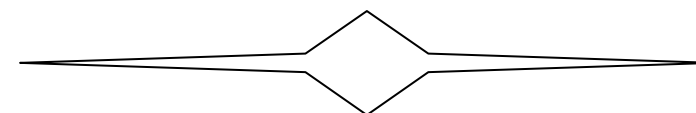
**What** - Garage Sale

**When** - Aug. 14/15 (Fri. and Sat.) with set-up on Aug. 13 (Thurs.)

**Where** - CCC Fellowship Hall

**Why** - To raise funds for our 2010 Mission Trip

If you have any donations, please bring them to church. Contact Brad to make arrangements!



## From Behind the Wall

The days and Sundays are flying this summer. The heat isn't slowing the lazy days of summer, at least not for me. August is here and that means gospel songs and spirituals at the 11 o'clock service with the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Band which, as you have noticed in recent months, has gotten smaller. We still have the right spirit though.

On July 5, Oscar Houchins and Cindy Milton performed a special arrangement of "The Battle Hymn of the Republic". We are truly blessed with these fine musicians. This was the first time I had heard Oscar sing. I understand why he is in the Texas Music Hall of Fame.

Mr. Marcott sang before God and the Central Christian Church congregation on July 12. His signature piece is "I Believe" which he sings with conviction. Bob's disposition is always pleasant when he is singing. I joke with him about his grumpiness; perhaps there will be more solos from Bob in the future, which should keep everyone happy.

The Stone-Campbell Worship Service brought together singers from University Avenue Church of Christ and United Christian Church. Bert Crowson and B.J. Pierce from UACC and Laura Zachery-Reynolds from UCC will have more stars in their crowns for sending volunteers at 5:00 PM on July 12 for a quick rehearsal of "Lord of the Dance" and "Tenderly Calling". The Chancel Choir was augmented to nineteen singers of near-professional quality. Thank you, UACC and UCC. Indeed, through your music you brought unity to the Stone-Campbell Dialogue.

Torre Dominguez's father, Mitch Van Horn, brought his buddies, 4 Gents for Jesus, to Central Christian Church on July 19 with a special musical offering of "Order My Steps", "Wade in the Water", "He Never Failed My Yet" and the "Lord's Prayer". Even with the CD in the boom box, the singing was so enjoyable. The congregation just couldn't say enough good things about these 4 Gents for Jesus. Thank you Torre for having your musical daddy and his buddies join us.

Kirsten continues her music ministry with us every month and "Bist du bei mir" by Stoelzel is yet another offering of her beautiful voice to God's service and for our appreciation. Aren't we fortunate in having Kirsten with us?

The removal of the pew cushions brings Central Christian Church closer to our restoration of our church which is in the National Register of Historic Places. The youth along with several adults put Murphy's Soap to the test. Our ancestors are certainly very proud of the hard work put into the cleaning of our beautiful wood pews. The joyful noise will resonate more brilliantly as we move forward in our restoration.

As a reminder, let us know if you have a special request for our August Gospel Songs and Spirituals. You know where to find me – behind the wall.

Ed Heenan, Director of Music

## News About the Newsletter - Changes in October 2009

In order to get information out more quickly and to cut paper and postage costs, we will be changing the way we send out the newsletter. Starting in October, most people will receive the newsletter electronically via e-mail. If you currently receive e-mails with news or information for all members, such as reminders about luncheons, then the office has your current e-mail address and you don't have to do anything. If you are not sure whether the office has your current information, please call Kirsten at 512-476-6941.

Members and friends who do not have a computer or who do not have access to one or who find it difficult to read on a screen will continue to receive the paper newsletter. We will be working hard to make sure that everyone who needs a paper newsletter will continue to receive one. Please let Kathy Rodriguez or Leticia Flores know if you have any concerns or questions.

### Musings:

Every once in a while, I read the personals in the morning paper. Quite often someone is thanking St. Jude or some other Saint for answering a request. This disturbs me because Jesus said to "pray to the Father in My Name". He said that the only way to GOD was through Him. Now I don't want to be picky, but prayer, according to Jesus, is communication between God and the supplicant. GOD hears no prayer unless it is to him through the name of His Son, Jesus. Any favorable result to a prayer to or through a Saint is merely a coincidence.

I want to remind you that Satan answers prayers, and of course, they are counterfeit and so cleverly disguised you won't know the difference. Yes you will, when that answer has you in trouble up to your eyebrows. I wonder what Bible they read. Maybe they need to show up here at Central where GOD reigns and Jesus shows the way.

Bob Marcott

## Cloisonné Custom Christmas Ornaments

The Christmas Bazaar Committee is sponsoring this fundraiser on behalf of Christian Education and Restoration. Help us to make our minimum orders, so we may have these ornaments available for sale to the public at the Christmas Bazaar, as well as to sell to Bridal Parties throughout the year.

CCC's custom ornaments have great detail and color, and are \$30 each, with the set of 2 for \$50, and each ornament comes with its own padded box.

If you would like to help us by getting your pre-order in early, please email Melody Thomson at [melodyart1@sbcglobal.net](mailto:melodyart1@sbcglobal.net). Melody and Julia will also have sample ornaments on hand and will be taking orders after church until August 2<sup>nd</sup>. Remember, we take MC/Visa, and thank you so much for your support!

The Christmas Bazaar Committee

## Mission Trip Notes

"I did not know that there were still people like this in the world." This was a quote from one of the residents that the youth of CCC helped while on their mission trip to Texas City. The youth were split up into 14 teams and were sent out all over to help those who could not help themselves. They scraped paint, replaced boards, cleaned up debris in houses, painted, and much more. The total number of hours that they served was more than 380.

We stayed and Peace Lutheran Church in Texas City. We slept in bunk beds while others slept on the floor of their gym. While the living conditions were better than in years past, the Texas heat was in full force. The heat index was well over 100 degrees every day. Most of the youth worked outside while some worked inside without air conditioning. As hot as it was, all the youth did a great job of serving their resident and revealing God through their actions.

A typical day went like this. Wake up call was at 6:45 a.m., and breakfast started at 7 a.m. Our morning worship service started at 8 a.m., and we were off to our worksites by 8:30 a.m. While at our worksites, we had a sandwich lunch and mid-day devotion. It was back "home" by 3 p.m., and dinner was served at 5:30 p.m. Then it was time for evening worship. After evening worship, we were able to spend time as a youth group where we shared our experiences of the day, sang songs, and talked about how God revealed himself to us. We then had just a little while to shower before lights were out at 11 p.m.

We would like to thank you all for your support that you have shown the youth of CCC. We could not have done it without your spiritual and financial support. The youth were able to raise \$9361 and donated \$3200 of their own money to go on this trip. Total expenses (van rental, registration fees, food and tools) were \$10,730. This left us with \$1831 towards next year's trip, which is already in the planning stages.

This trip was amazing in so many ways. It allowed us to help those that were affected by Hurricane Ike. It allowed us to grow closer as a youth group and to form bonds that will last a lifetime. Most importantly, it allowed us to get away from all the distractions of everyday life and to focus on our relationship with God.

Thank you, thank you, thank you CCC for this once-in-a-lifetime experience that will change the lives of not only the ones we served, but for those of us that went on this mission trip forever.

In His Service,  
Brad Bounds  
Youth Sponsor



## Office Hours

During the week, CCC staff members can be found in the church office during the times listed below. Please keep in mind the senior minister and the director of music may also be at meetings, appointments or visitation during office hours.

Pastor Jim

Mon – Weds: 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

Thurs: 9:00 am – 11:30 am  
1:30 pm – 3:30 pm

Friday: Off

Ed Heenan

Mon: Off, *appointment only*

Tues: 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Weds: 1:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Thurs: Off, *appointment only*

Friday: 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Robert Marcott

Mon – Friday 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Kirsten Van Meter

Mon – Friday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

### BRIC Update

The committee met but we did not have a quorum. We did decide to have the pews renovated, and Brad and our wonderful children did a fabulous job doing that very thing. They contributed not just the sweat off their brows, but the results saved a looaad of money. We have tested the comfort factor of the bare wood and the consensus was that they were, indeed, comfortable. We await your comments.

Bob Marcott, Committee Member

## August Luncheons:

Everyone is invited to gather for lunch at Luby's (Oltorf and IH-35) on August 2<sup>nd</sup> after church. All are welcome!

The August luncheon will be on August 9th. Social and Fellowship will provide the main dish. Members are asked to bring side dishes and desserts!

## Prayer Requests

Valarie Adams, Harry Albertson, Jim Anderson, Marla Anderson, Marjorie Bailey, Mary Love Bailey, Bonnie Bounds, Howard Bounds, Gertrude Bowser, Anita Dowty, Jim Glather, Patty Goodwin, Joan Gross, Florn Hebert, Jim Hewitt, Joel Johnson, Ron Johnson, Jerry Jungmichel, Alma Menn, Michael Moore, Rex Place, Glenda Prather, Deborah Richards, Sharon Riley, Carl and Geraldine Schold, Dave and Cheryl Schmidt, Louise Sherman, Joy Smith, Bea Spalding, Fred Spradlin, Earl Stahl, Janice Stoner, Alton Taylor, and Sarah Warlick.