



First Christian News

*We are Disciples of Christ, a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world.
As part of the one body of Christ, we welcome all to the Lord's Table as God has welcomed us.*



UPCOMING events

- Adult Sunday School *on hold for now*
- Children's Sunday School
 - During service
- January 13 - Board Meeting 9:30am

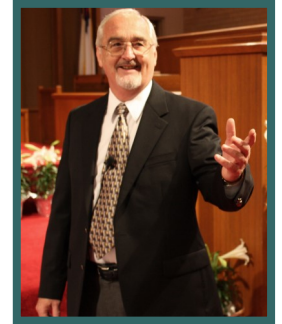
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THE MINISTER'S MESSAGE

REBOOTING FOR THE NEW YEAR

In recent years we have all grown accustomed to the many foibles and quirks of electronic devices, including computers, cell phones, television service providers, and even digital components in our cars. Now and then something goes wrong, and usually the first step to a resolution is to reboot.



Just as our computers can start to bog down and lose speed, so can our lives. In the course of a year's activities we often find ourselves losing energy and feeling as if we were stuck in mud, all because of the clutter of "non-significant" things we have to take care of. Other people's urgent needs have become our urgent responsibilities, to the point that have little time and energy for ourselves. Things we want and need to do get shelved for the sake of "squeaky wheels" that demand grease. Day by day, issues, events, requests, crises, problems, all pile up and crowd out both personal joy time and spiritual time. When that happens, we need an opportunity to reboot and start fresh.

That's why celebrating the New Year is a valuable and healthy thing. In a way January 1 is just another day. You sleep late to recover from the midnight count-down on New Year's Eve. You watch a parade on television, then you go out to lunch and add black eyed peas as a side to whatever else you order, to assure good luck for the coming year. You may visit with friends or go shopping. But there is little more to the day than that. Yet there is more. We have ample evidence that such simple celebrations have a powerful impact on us emotionally, allow us to dump out the gunny sack of burdens, gripes, disappointments, and start afresh. Even the custom of making and sharing New Year's resolutions is a healthy and invigorating thing to do, even if over the year we let a couple of them slide.

Besides all that, for us as Christians, the New Year is a good time to read a few Bible stories about beginning again. Each one provides us with new perspectives on how to make a fresh start. Most of the famous characters in the Bible made a radical change at some point in life, to become a new person with a new direction. In the Old Testament Moses recovered from exile in the wilderness to lead the exodus of his people from bondage and become the great law giver. Naomi and Ruth recovered from losing their husbands to start a new life, more meaningful and rewarding than before. In the New Testament, Simon Peter recovered from denying Jesus to become the chief spokesman at Pentecost, and Saul of Tarsus left behind a misguided quest of persecuting Christians to become the great apostle of Christ to the nations.

So, during the month of January, let me urge you to welcome newness, drop a little useless baggage, embrace a fresh spirit with vigor and great expectation. Let's all reboot. It'll do you good.

Brother Les

HANGING OF THE GREENS PICTURES



DECEMBER BOARD MEETING SYNOPSIS

- The minutes were approved from the November board meeting.
- Mike Rippy presented the Financial Report – Audio Equipment purchased this month. Mike Rippy will provide a list of 2018 Outreach to add to the bulletin.
- Nominating Committee report - Mary Smith is the lay member of the committee.
- Multimedia Update – We used the system for the first time last service. We are still adjusting to new volume. Need to get microphone for Elders. Overall positive.
- Signs – placement permissions. Robbie Eastep has volunteered to put sign on South side. Ivonne Heistand and Larry Lambert on the West side. Daniel Tisserand made a motion to buy 2 signs at approximately \$800 each. Marilyn Chamberlin seconded. Motion passed. Kenny Bean will contact sign company to purchase.
- The Board approved having the front door entry and porch releveled. This work has been done. Total cost was \$850.
- Live Nativity – Frame is set up and ready.
- Christmas Eve Service will be at 6:00pm and will be a candlelight service.
- Meeting adjourned at 10:26 am. Next Board Meeting will be January 6, 2019 at 9:30 am

LIVE NATIVITY PICTURES

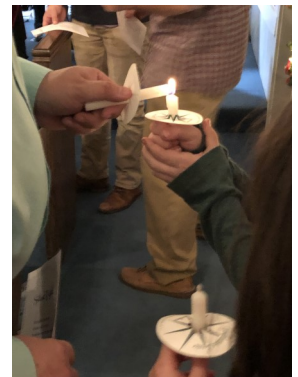
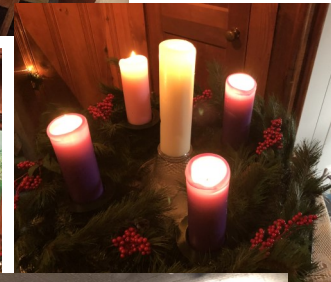
Thank you to everyone who took the time to make this event happen!



CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE



The Poen Family became new members of our church!



WELCOME TO OUR CHURCH POEN FAMILY

Mike, Angie, Dakota and Dayton Poen officially joined the church on Christmas Eve! Welcome to our church family!

Here is their contact information.
10475 W. FM 455
Celina, Texas 75009

Email: maddpoen@gmail.com
Cell : (214) 766-4687



CHILDREN'S CHOIR PERFORMANCE

Thank you to Gloria Kautz, and of course, all the children of the church for putting on a wonderful Christmas Choir Program!



Thank You
Dr. Les Massey
for another year of
wonderful leadership, full of
faithfulness and heart!

HYMN OF THE MONTH - "ANOTHER YEAR IS DAWNING"

"Another Year Is Dawning! Dear Father, let it be"... What a hymn to sing to our Father in Heaven beginning a New Year. A prayer unto God for whom nothing is impossible. A hymn to beseech our heavenly Father for a good year ahead; a year of resting and trusting, of praise for His mercies and faithfulness, and of service to Him. Let this be our heartfelt prayer too as we look forward to another year with the Lord.

"Another Year Is Dawning" was written by Frances Ridley Havergal and composed by Samuel S. Wesley. Frances Havergal was born at Astley, Worcestershire, December 14, 1836. In 1852, Frances said, "I committed my soul to the Savior, and earth and heaven seemed brighter from that moment." A short sojourn in Germany followed, and on her return she was confirmed in Worcester Cathedral, July 17, 1853. She wrote these words in 1874 as a poem for her New Year's greeting cards. The hymn was subsequently included in her *Under the Surface*, 1874, and *Life Chords*, 1880.





SERMONS AND TEXTS FOR JANUARY

January 6	Following a Star	Matthew 2:1-12
January 13	Flight for Life	Matthew 2:13-17
January 20	Holding Greatness in your Arms	Luke 2:27-32
January 27	Knowing Who You Are	Luke 2:41-52

JANUARY CELEBRATIONS

Birthdays

01/09	Traylyn Tadlock	01/20	Paul Zimmerebner
01/10	Brad Cave	01/22	Jean Young
01/12	Daniel Mitlyng	01/23	Nancy Neill
01/14	Carl Winnette	01/26	Emma Dimock
01/16	Linda Waco	01/29	Jessica Ploch
01/18	Danielle Chamberlin	01/31	David Stiles



NOVEMBER TREASURY REPORT

Income

Sunday Offerings: 8,480.20
 Memorial Gift Fund: \$0.00
 Special Offering: \$65.00
 Miscellaneous: \$2.52

Monthly Total:
\$8,547.72

Expenses

Salaries: \$3,631.15
 Utilities: \$123.25
 Supplies & Food: \$0.00
 Insurance: \$0.00
 Miscellaneous: \$245.43
 Taxes: \$0.00
 Maintenance: \$12,318.49

Monthly Total:
\$6,318.32

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Find us on Facebook!

Service: Sundays at 11:00 am
Sunday School: 10:15 am

Rev. Dr. Les Massey
Home (972) 495-2027
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Email: lfmassey@swbell.net

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION NEEDED

To make the newsletter more personal, please send pictures or information on achievements, births, awards, or anything else of interest to Kimberly Tisserand at tisserand@outlook.com



HAPPY NEW YEAR

Prayer Requests

Please keep Heather Carter, Lester and Jeannie Greenwald, Louis Cave, Michael and Linda Waco, Christian Dimock, Kyle Schindler, Brian Larson, Kim Rogers, Paxton Babb, Sandra Zimmerebner, Nancy Neill, Scott Franklin, Butch Barnes and Brad and Karen Chilton in your prayers for strength, healing and comfort.

If you have a prayer request, please fill out a pew card or let Kimberly Tisserand know.