



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.*



NEW MINISTER COMMITTEE UPDATE

Our New Minister Committee is comprised of Andy Dimock, Karen Chilton, Marilyn Chamberlin and Danielle Chamberlin. They have been tirelessly working with Disciples of Christ to find wonderful prospects for our preacher position. We all greatly appreciate all the time, effort and energy they have put into this complicated process. Thank you from the entire congregation!



UPCOMING *events*

- Adult Sunday School 10:00 AM
- Children's Sunday School
 - During service
- February 2 - Board Meeting
9:30 am
- February 9 - Valentine's Luncheon following service
- February 16- Week of Compassion Special Offering

Disciples of Christ has submitted a list of potential preachers and the committee has researched each candidate to see if they would be a good fit for our church. It is a daunting task to find candidates that will fit, not only our church, and the wonderful family feel we have, but also a somewhat part time position instead of full time since our operating budget will not allow very large salaries. This is limiting our options, but the committee has three prospects, all of which will preach during the month of February. The committee will welcome feedback of each minister from the congregation so they can get a feel as to how that candidate fits within our church family.

The candidates are Norman Jean Alexander and Dave Hargrove. Ray Owens has also approached the church stating he is interested in the position as well.

Norman Jean Alexander currently lives in Amarillo, Texas and attended Brite Divinity at Texas Christian University along with East Texas State University.

Dave Hargrove currently lives in Arlington, Texas and attended Texas Christian University and the Houston Graduate School of Theology.

And Ray Owens, you all know, as he has been guest preaching for our church for the past 4 weeks. Ray will continue to preach at our church in February on the Sundays the other two candidates are not preaching.

Finding the right match between a church and minister is not as easy task. It is a detailed process especially in a church of our size. We all take this journey together to better our church, grow our faith and lay the foundation for future church generations.

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*Gracious God, We now have a better appreciation for the phrase
"a match made in heaven"! Grant us wisdom to make the
best possible pastoral match for our congregation.
We know you will lead us in the right direction.
Amen.*

VALENTINE'S LUNCHEON - FEBRUARY 9

Mark your calendars for Sunday, February 9th and enjoy a yummy "cooked with love" luncheon after our service. Bring your favorite dish or dessert to share with your fellow church family members.



JANUARY BOARD MEETING SYNOPSIS

- Mike Rippy presented the December report and End of Year financial report. Our State Farm Insurance payment was paid twice. They are reimbursing us for \$1,908.36. Our bank sent the additional payment without our approval. \$9,555.14 in offerings came in during December and expenses were \$7,859.99. Our year to date total for 2019 was \$84,007.49 in income and \$84,447.69 in expenses. Our offerings in 2018 were \$79,119.36 and offerings in 2019 were \$83,184.32. Our yearly attendance was 2,126 people that attended church. Over the last four years our attendance has increased each year, coming from 1,836 people in 2016 to 2,126 people in 2019. The church program for children and Preacher Massey drew families and new members during the past few years.
- Andy Dimock presented the New Minister Committee report. Karen Chilton, Marilyn Chamberlin, Danielle Chamberlin and Andy Dimock are on our New Minister Committee. The committee has filled out the parishioner report about our church and the Disciples of Christ will match us with a list of possible ministers. The committee will pick a few prospects to have them come and preach at our church. Ray Owens will be guest preaching for the month of January. Potential preachers will come in the month of February. Hopefully, we have a new preacher hired in March 2020.
- Brittany Yokovich contacted the church to include an article in the upcoming Weston Newsletter about our Live Nativity event. Our event will be featured in their first newsletter coming out the first week of February.
- Bank Corp South bought Texas Star Bank. It is in a transition period. We will be staying with Bank Corp South as of now and we will see how things go through the year. We may look in to moving our CDs from the Anna branch to the Celina branch when they come up for renewal.
- Our Valentine's luncheon will be on Sunday, February 9, 2020. Kimberly Tisserand will set up tables and chairs and Scooter Cave will decorate tables.
- Karen Chilton brought up the idea of a service project for the church. It is an organization called Feed My Starving Children. The board loved this idea. Karen Chilton will work on getting a date secured for us to volunteer.
- Next meeting will be on February 2, 2020 at 9:30 am

HYMN OF THE MONTH - "I EXALT THEE"

Artist: Pete Sanchez

Writer: Pete Sanchez, published in 1977

As a young husband and father, Pete Sanchez was seeking guidance and studying the Psalms. While meditating on Psalm 97:9, he was struck by the beauty and power of the verse, "For thou, Lord are high above all the earth."

Wanting to capture this praise in song, he went to the piano and began writing. But he couldn't seem to finish it. For well over a year, he struggled to complete the song but just couldn't find the right words. Then, out of the blue, the chorus came to him. This simple song of praise, and personal cry from a worshiper's heart, is now sung by believers around the world.



DECEMBER TREASURY REPORT

Income

Sunday Offerings: \$9,327.32
 Memorial Gift Fund: \$0.00
 Special Offering: \$220.00
 Miscellaneous: \$7.82

Monthly Total:
\$9,555.14

Expenses

Salaries: \$7,225.00
 Utilities: \$418.64
 Supplies & Food: \$116.35
 Insurance: \$0.00
 Miscellaneous: \$0.00
 Taxes: \$0.00
 Maintenance: \$100.00

Monthly Total:
\$7,859.99

2019 YEAR TO DATE TOTALS

Income

Sunday Offerings: \$83,184.32
 Memorial Gift Fund: \$125.00
 Special Offering: \$660.00
 Miscellaneous: \$38.17

2019 YTD Total:
\$84,007.49

Expenses

Salaries: \$60,062.19
 Utilities: \$3,237.21
 Supplies & Food: \$1,594.56
 Insurance: \$7,357.56
 Miscellaneous: \$2,409.10
 Taxes: \$512.55
 Maintenance: \$7,369.16

2019 YTD Total:
\$82,542.33

Gain/Loss: \$1,465.16

WEEK OF COMPASSION SPECIAL OFFERING - FEBRUARY 16

Week of Compassion is more than a week. It is a ministry of the whole Church, reaching those in need "around the world, around the year." Any time we respond to a need in the world, we bear witness to the unity of our table, faithfully sharing the gifts that we have as an expression of Christ's love. In working together with partners, we represent the Disciples of Christ commitment to unity, making our resources reach farther and growing our impact on a global scale. As the relief, refugee, and development mission fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Week of Compassion works with partners to alleviate suffering throughout the world.

Your gifts to Week of Compassion help provide seedlings that will offer nourishment and income to those in need. God is at work doing so much more than we can imagine! And when we contribute to Week of Compassion, we are part of God's work in the world.



FEBRUARY CELEBRATIONS

Birthdays

02/01 Jason Cave
 02/15 Karen Chilton
 02/18 Juliet Dimock
 02/20 Steve Harlow
 02/21 Daniel Tisserand

Anniversaries

02/13 Jason & Shelly Cave
 02/16 David & Heather Carter

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Find us on Facebook!

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

Kimberly Tisserand, Secretary
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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

I have LOVED you
with an everlasting

LOVE

Therefore with

LOVING

KINDNESS

I have drawn you.

JEREMIAH 31:3

Prayer Requests

Please keep Heather Carter, Lester and Jeannie Greenwald, Michael and Linda Waco, Christian Dimock, Kyle Schindler, Brian Larson, Kim Rogers, Nancy Neill, Amy Davey, Austin Daughtery, Jerry & Mary Smith, Louis Cave, Catherine Worsham and Margaret Marlar 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.