



Community Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

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Communi-K

Volume 38

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January 4, 2012

Dear Friends,

Starting the New Year calls to my mind some interesting comparisons and contrasts to note momentarily. One is the annual cartoon picturing the fresh-faced, cherub-like Baby New Year standing next to the weary-looking, bent-with-age figure of Father Time, representing the past year, saying, "It's all yours now, kid." Baby New Year is bright-eyed and innocent looking; apparently unaware of what he has just inherited from the past year's experience. The visual of a baby inheriting all the cares and turmoil's of a world-in-progress seems almost ridiculous until you and I reflect back to the birth in Bethlehem that we celebrate.

For many of us, the birth of Jesus becomes this almost surreal night of blissful, peaceful calm, as if the problems of the world were shut out for a few hours. We see and hear in our hearts and mind the quiet cry of a baby or see the yet unfocused eyes trying to take in glimpses of the world while gently grasping our finger. God becomes simple and vulnerable, lovable, "hold-able." We ignore the words of Simeon that Jesus will "bring about the rising and falling of many" and to Mary, "a sword will pierce your own soul, too." There is power and destiny behind this child's birth as there is for the "Baby New Year." What will be accomplished or destroyed in its time, healed or killed, nurtured or starved, banished or welcomed? With Jesus we know; for the New Year we cannot say for certain.

In some ways, I am also reminded of several of the pictures Marvin and Ruth brought back from their trip to Alaska. They had several shots of one of the glaciers they visited in the process of calving icebergs. Calving is when huge chunks of the glacier crack and break off, cascading down the cliff of the glacier to splash into the ocean creating an iceberg. One minute you are observing the sheer cliff-like face of the glacier, peaceful and majestic with awe inspiring beauty, and the next minute there is a rumble and crash as a massive piece of the wall

breaks off and plummets down with a tremendous splash sending water and ice crystals everywhere. Experience tells us not to get too close, but its beauty draws us to be as close as possible.

We are drawn to Jesus as a beautiful baby to experience that love and joy of being close to Him while He is small. Soon He will be telling us to forgive those who have wronged us, to turn the other cheek, to take up our own cross and follow Him as He took up His own to die on our behalf. He will challenge our every notion of what being peaceful and happy are all about. He will wonder about us as He did His own disciples when we, like them, either don't get what He is saying or cannot put it into action. He will instruct us to become like children, to be slaves and servants of one another, and will ask us for our unconditional love above everything else in our lives.

For a short while each year, Jesus is that wonderful baby in our midst, beautiful and peaceful to be close to and we are drawn into his sweet smile. Before long, though, He invites us to grow and change in God's grace, and from there we are invited to pare down and give ourselves away as He gave of Himself. Like glaciers, we are not here forever. We are always changing, moving and sometimes withdrawing. We have the ability to change the landscape in which we are a place for good or ill in the same way that we hold the Baby New Year in our arms (or the baby Jesus?) and determine what we will do with him. However, let us be mindful, if not grateful, that Jesus, like the Baby New Year, is just as likely to change us as we are Him.

Welcome to our/Your world, baby Jesus!

David

Prayers of Community

Immediate Prayers

Monique Cohen, wife of Mic Burnett's long-time co-worker definitely has cancer and is undergoing testing about a genetic predisposition to more cancer.

Joie Burnett, aunt of Mic Burnett, has cancer and is too weak for the special treatment she needs.

David Nichols, friend of Becky Baker, suffered an aortic aneurysm. He is still in ICU but has improved.

Linda Fairchild broke several bones in her hand while walking her dog; she may need surgery

Family & friends of Bob McCord, friend of Cyndy Emmert, due to his death

Family & friends of Christian, former student of Kristin Slight—he and his sister were killed in a car accident.

Joys

Kenneth Kellam III preached at his church on Christmas morning and his dad was with him.

Ongoing Prayers for Friends and Family

Community Christian Church

Israel

All Christians in countries where Christians are persecuted, up to and including death

All women who live in countries where Sharia law is strictly imposed

Families of war casualties

20+ MILLION unemployed and underemployed people and their families

Continuing victims of all disasters—fires, floods, earthquakes, droughts, etc.

Rebecca Allard, Neil Baker, Boni Baver, Gordon Beck, Guy Braswell, Kenn Briscoe, Mitty Brown, Jonathan Buck, Gloria Burke, Raymond Butts, Margaret & Troy Compton, Coon family, Katy Davis, Jean Duffy, Doug Easley, **Bobbie Ellis**, Mrs. Foster, Gary & Shannon Fuller, **Tyler Gall** Jasmine Garcia, Doug Gerbosi, **Ryan Giddens**, **Christie Gill**, Connie & Joe Gordon, Grace Church, Jerry Griffin, Vera Hall, Cindy Hamilton, Joyce Hamm, Bryan Haywood, Ronnie Horowitz & daughter Helen, Betty Jean House, Stella Jacobson, Kahn family, Liz Keene, Marv & Norrita Knecht, Roy Knight, Virginia Krueger, Carl Arthur Leppert, Roy Lewis, Robbie Longacre, Everett & Charlotte Loughry, Patrick Lopez, Lisa Lynn, Jim & Kayla McAfee, Jody McCutcheon, Megan McKinley, Duke Millard, Stanley Myers, Todd Oncken, Brown Plummer, Martha Quistian, June Rawlings, Leslie, Alan & Chance Redwine, Margie Renfrow, Helen Reynolds, Joe Ross, Larry Rutledge, Nicole Sanders, Jan Savage, Janelle Schuyler, Shelby, Jeffrey Sholden, **Laurie Steckeret**, Ana Stenzel-Wallace, Matt Sullivan, Mary Margaret Taylor, Tami Taylor, Dwight Vance, Shelly Viscovo, Gwen Vloedman, Tammy and Shelby Wagner, **Doug Watson**, Christine Wickizer-Tobin, Dr. Brent Whitworth, Marie Wolfe, Brandon Wright, Kevin Wright, Tracey Wyrick

Service Men and Women

The people who serve in our military both at home and abroad, especially: Bryan Aft, Jeffrey Brown, Josh Brown, Chandler Berg, Chaplain Paul Carpenter, Dan Cockerham, Troy Dorsey, Aaron Duncan, Jason Fairchild, Chaplain Kyle Fauntleory, Camilla Maybee, Amanda Parker, Ryan Parker, Scott Pitchford, Shawn Sears, Matt Sawyer, Shane Shupak, Devin Watson, Jeff Williford, George Woodley, Rob Wright

Boar's Head and Yule Log Festival

The wonderful Boar's Head and Yule Log Festival will be held again on Saturday, January 7 at 3:00 p.m. at University Christian Church in Fort Worth. If you would like to car pool, meet at 12:30 p.m. on the church parking lot.

We will have dinner at Charleston's Restaurant immediately after the performance. A sign-up sheet is posted on the office window. We have to make dinner reservations by noon on Friday. If you haven't already signed up please call Joan Seawright at 972-618-8030 by noon Friday so she can include you in the reservations.



January Anniversaries

January 3	Omar Jarjur & Yang You
January 8	David & Dani Cartwright
January 14	Dick & Carolyn Straw
January 23	Larry & Linda Hahn

January Birthdays

January 3	Margie Renfrow
January 6	David Murphy Kellam
January 8	Patty Latham
January 10	Paul Latham
January 11	Jane Martin
January 14	Jim Webb
January 15	Jason Dove
January 17	Greg Hendrickson
January 21	Ken Penrod
January 28	Lori Ann Carpenter
January 29	John Hall

Junior Church Leaders Needed!

As we move into 2012, we'd like to add several teachers to the rotation in Junior Church. It is NOT a difficult assignment. The teaching lesson is printed out IN BOLD LETTERS and the children spend a majority of the class time moving from reflection station to reflection station—on their own. You are simply an adult presence in the room.

I would invite you to SERIOUSLY consider this opportunity to be engaged with our children in their spiritual formation. All materials are provided. If you have questions, please call Dani Cartwright at 817-944-8794. There will be a calendar on the office window beginning January 1st for sign up for teachers!

Thank you for your care for our children!

Board Meeting

There will be a board meeting on **January 29 at 6:30 p.m.** in the library. The 2012 budget and proposed updates to the Policies & Procedures will be discussed. We need a quorum.

Mark Slaight
Board Chair

Calendar of Events

Saturday, January 7

12:30 p.m. Car Pool to Boar's Head Festival at UCC in Fort Worth

Sunday, January 8

8:00 a.m. Elders' meeting
9:30 a.m. Sunday school
10:50 a.m. Worship
10:50 a.m. Junior Church
12:15 p.m. Fellowship Time in Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, January 11

5:00 p.m. Stitches meeting
7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Thursday, January 12

10:00 a.m. Spiritual Disciplines Prayer Group

Sunday, January 15

9:30 a.m. Sunday school
10:50 a.m. Worship
10:50 a.m. Junior Church
12:15 p.m. Fellowship Time in Fellowship Hall
5:00 p.m. Pastoral Relations
7:00 p.m. OPCOM meeting

Wednesday, January 18

7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Thursday, January 19

10:00 a.m. Spiritual Disciplines Prayer Group

Saturday, January 21

8:30 a.m. Property Workday
8:30 a.m. DWM Meeting

Sunday, January 22

8:00 a.m. Elders' meeting
9:30 a.m. Sunday school
10:50 a.m. Worship
10:50 a.m. Junior Church
12:15 p.m. Fellowship Time in Library
12:15 p.m. Mary Anne Potter's & Lu Sifferd's flock meeting in Fellowship Hall

Worship Attendance 12/25/11 49

Visitors 14

Hal Coon	Sara Coon
Stan Coon	Dorothy Dyer
Debb Faulk	Laura & Kyle Fauntleroy
Grace Fauntleroy	Griffin Fauntleroy
Geoffrey Gafford	Bill Keene
Johnny Muir	Frank & Suzanne Myers

Worship Attendance 1/1/12 45

Visitors 4

Debb Faulk	David Lederbord
Wayne & Mary Quick	

Financial Report

(Budgeted weekly **revenue:** \$2,788.46)

Receipts for 12/25/11 \$5,539.00

Receipts for 1/1/12 \$1,617.00

Note from Treasurer

As of the end of December, CCC is considerably less negative than the 2011 forecast. Thanks to each of you who met your pledged amount and to all of you who gave considerably more than you had pledged. Thanks, too, for those of you who are unpledged for increasing your giving in November and December. CCC received generous donations from HeartPaths and the Echidnas that were applied to the utilities account. Happy New Year!

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You

My thanks to the choir, director and accompanist for your musical talent given to the congregation throughout the year. The musical offerings in December were the best ever. The choir is few in number, but mighty. Thank you to Kristin and Anne for the beautiful music for Christmas Eve, thank you to Laura and Dani for the beautiful music for Christmas day, thank you to Jan for the beautiful music for New Years day.

Lee Cole

Deacon Serving Schedule

The following deacons signed up to serve during the month of **January:**

Paul Latham, Proctor	
Lee Cole	Leigh Duvall
Carol Johns	
Paul Latham, Deacon Chair	



Sunday, January 8

Psalm 29

Luke 2: 22–35

Sermon:

“Shaking the Wilderness”

Worship Participants

Preacher: David Cartwright
Lay Leader: Teresa Gafford
Acolyte: Caroline Kellam

Sunday, January 15

1 Corinthians 6: 12–20

Mark 1: 4–13

Sermon:

“Temple Time”

Worship Participants

Preacher: Karlan Fairchild
Lay Leader: Mic Burnett
Acolyte:

Leading Worship for January

Elders: Teresa Gafford, Marvin Rogers
Deacons: Paul Latham, Proctor
Lee Cole Leigh Duval
Carol Johns

Outreach

Marvin Rogers took 71 lbs. of food to NETWORK on January 13. Please let's continue to keep finding ways to contribute to NETWORK and the Hunger Pantry and to fill the baskets in the north foyer with canned goods.

Join Us on Sundays

9:30 a.m. *Sunday School*
10:50 a.m. *Worship Service*
12:15 p.m. *Fellowship Time*

Church Office Hours

Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Church Office Contact Info

972-234-4571 ccc@cccrichardson.org

David Cartwright's Contact Info

972-234-4571 (office) djc@cccrichardson.org
972-437-4869 (home) tracvad@aol.com
972-998-9193 (cell)

Calendar Updates

For updates to the CCC calendar, check with the church office or the bulletin board across from the church office.

The next issue will be Wednesday, January 18, 2011

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http://www.ntaccsw.org/pages/minisite_cccrichardson_newsletters

Rev. David Cartwright	Minister
Jeannine Frank	Church Secretary
Rebecca Baker	Choir Director
Anne Speights	Accompanist
Hop Chu	Childcare
Santos Camarillo	Custodian
Mark Slaight	Board Chair
Julie Knecht	Board Vice Chair
Amy Taylor	Board Secretary
Mary Anne Potter	Church Treasurer
Teresa Gafford	Chair of Elders
Paul Latham	Chair of Diaconate

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