



Community Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

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Communi-K

Volume 38

Number 26

December 21, 2011

Dear Friends,

"Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright" invites us to begin dreaming about a night cloaked in destiny and promise. Was it as serene as this beloved carol implies? Probably not, but it does get us to consider some of the symbolism implied in its message. On that otherwise generic night so long ago, where was the silence residing? Was it quiet in Bethlehem or the surrounding area that night? Or was it only quiet around where Mary and Joseph were staying? Was the silence more theological in that there wasn't anyone worshiping or praying that night? The introduction to this carol (some identify it as the most beloved of all the Christmas carols) opens our imaginations to a poetically pristine setting surrounding Jesus' birth.

As with most hymns and carols, the back story, of how and when the song was written and what the author was experiencing, offers enriched meaning to all of our own "stuff" we impose upon it. "Silent Night" was written by Father Joseph Mohr hastily Christmas Eve night in 1818. He was the pastor of the Church of St. Nicholas Catholic Church in Oberndorf, Germany in the Austrian Alps. He was finishing preparations for the midnight service when he discovered that their large pipe organ suddenly was not working. It would have been featured prominently in the service. He wrote the words to this hymn rather quickly and took them to his organist, Franz Gruber, with the idea that, with a simple tune, it could be used that evening with only guitar accompaniment for the congregation to learn and sing. Franz wrote the music for it, and it was sung for the first time that evening. "Silent Night, Holy Night" gave the congregation there at the Church of St. Nicholas encouragement that even without their church organ, the Christmas Eve service would still be a holy experience. "All is calm, all is bright" reassured folks that the Christmas experience would still shine in their midst even if the service did not go as originally planned.

"Round yon virgin, mother and child" begins to bring the birth event into the sanctuary and into their lives once again as shepherds and angels surround everyone about the manger.

While the actual birth of Jesus may have indeed been a "silent", "calm and bright night" 2000 years ago, the beginning of this cherished Christmas carol also spoke directly to a German congregation 200 years ago about worshiping in the midst of adversity and anticipating holiness in the experience. In case you are wondering, it was the organ repairman who actively shared this Christmas hymn across Austria. His name was Karl Mauracher. He heard the story and asked for a copy of it, then shared it at churches where he went to do organ repair. It was first published in a German hymnal in 1838 and was brought to the U.S. and used by many German speaking congregations. It made its first appearance in print here in an 1863 book of Sunday school songs. Were it not for a broken church organ, we would not have this most cherished Christmas carol.

For those of you who read the Communi-K back in September, I included a true story that happened during WWI on Christmas Eve in 1914 where both German and Allied forces began singing together "Silent Night" and "Stille Nacht" and the war ceased on that part of the front for several hours as the troops on both sides came out of their trenches and embraced one another. This carol touches the heart as few can or do.

In Christ's service together wherever He leads,
David



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!

Children's Christmas Program

Thanks to Linda Fairchild for her work in creating the Children's Christmas Program and in teaching the children the songs and the text! Thanks to the ladies who made the red bows for the children's choir robes—they were precious!!!

The Christian Education Committee

Calendar of Events

Saturday, December 24

5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service

Christmas Sunday, December 25

9:30 a.m. Sunday school (*Friendship Class will not meet*)
10:50 a.m. Worship
12:15 p.m. Fellowship Time in Fellowship Hall

Monday, December 26

Jeannine will be on vacation

Wednesday, December 27

No Choir Practice

Thursday, December 29

No Spiritual Disciplines Prayer Group

Sunday, January 1—New Years Day

9:30 a.m. Sunday school (*Friendship Class will not meet*)
10:50 a.m. Worship/Hymn Sing
12:15 p.m. Birthday Celebration in Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, January 4

1:00 p.m. 55+ meeting
7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

Thursday, January 5

10:00 a.m. Spiritual Disciplines Prayer Group

Saturday, January 7

12:00 p.m. 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
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



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS 2011

Given By

*Alma Bradshaw
Dani & David Cartwright*

Lee Cole

Linda & Karlan Fairchild

*Helen Frank
Friendship Class
Kevin & Christy Horn*

*Jim & Ruby Latham
Joanne McKinley*

*Rob & Mary Anne Potter
Ruth & Marvin Rogers
Jerre Roseborough
Don & Edie Slape
Amy & Brian Taylor*

Bill & Judy Whitley

Colleen Wooten

In Honor Of

*Patty, Paul, Amelia & Katy Latham
Our daughter: Douglass Anne,
our niece & nephew: Grace &
Griffin Fauntleroy*

*Miles Hutto, Morgan McCoy and
Teresa Gafford*

*Catherine Caroline Patterson,
Ari Teeple & Carter Fairchild
Mary & Stanley Frank*

*Shut Ins & Jeannine Frank
Our children: Betsy, Cameron,
and Fletcher*

*Our children & grandchildren
My grandchildren: Kathleen,
Megan, James & Amy McKinley*

Our grandchildren

*Our children & grandchildren
Family*

*Our children & grandchildren
Whitley, Nolan, Macy, Nana &
Grampy*

*Amy, Brian, Whitley & Nolan
Taylor and Macy Whitley*

*Khloe Wooten, Paul & Lindsey
Wooten, Nathan Wooten & Kim
Newton*



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS 2011

Given By

*Alma Bradshaw
Dani & David Cartwright
Lee Cole
Cyndy Emmert & Art Roberts
Denise & Larry Fairchild*

Linda & Karlan Fairchild

*Helen Frank
Joanne Hakimi
Norma Harrison
Norwood Heinley
Christy & Kevin Horn*

*Carol Johns
Jan Loughry
Rick & Jane Martin
Rob & Mary Anne Potter
Alice, Jessica, & Rebecca Potter
Marvin & Ruth Rogers
Dick & Joan Seawright
Lu Sifferd
Mark & Kristin*

Anne Speights

*Sandy & Jim Webb
Henrietta Wilson*

In Memory Of

*Harvey E. Bradshaw
Blair G. Loving
Richard L. Cole
Fran Wren & Ginger Emmert
Alice & Quentin Fairchild,
Jack Bullard & Mildred Sharp
Quentin & Alice Fairchild and
Fred Teeple
Mary & Stanley Frank
Jim & Norma Walker
Jim & Norma Walker
Melba Heinley
Our grandparents: Bill Anneman,
Gray & Barbara Cooper, and
Walter & Lily Marshall
Hayley Carol Wester
Dick Loughry
Joyce Martin
Our parents
Byrdell & Homer Seawright
Our parents
June Cantrell & Byrdell Seawright
Evorah McPherson
Hank & Jenny Slaughter
Franklin & Jean Lord
Bruce Dyer, father, and
Matthew Speights, son
Jon McRaney
Rupert Wilson*

Worship Attendance 12/11/11 **77**

Visitors **15**

Michael Baker	Rachel Baker
Debb Faulk	Griffin Fauntleroy
Jeannine Frank	Caroline Kellam
David Kellam	Steve Kellam
Chris Krajcir	Priscilla & Scott Long
Jon Powell	Arthur Roberts
Wayne & Mary Quick	

Worship Attendance 12/18/11 **101**

Visitors **16**

Hal Coon	Sarah Coon
Stan Coon	Debb Faulk
Jo Jeanes	Caroline Kellam
David Kellam	Steve & Mary Ann Kellam
Dean Knecht	David Lederbord
Wayne & Mary Quick	Brian Taylor
Chuck & Sally Turner	

Financial Report

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

Receipts for 12/11/11 \$6,507.00

Receipts for 12/18/11 \$8,097.00

Note from Treasurer

As of the end of November, CCC is negative to the budget. If you are behind on your pledge or if you can donate more, December is the time to do it!! Also, if you plan to pre-pay your 2012 pledge for tax reasons, I need your checks received or post-marked on or before 12/31/11.

Julie Knecht, CCC's vice-chair, will lead a cost-reduction effort early next year to look at all major budget items and determine possible actions to reduce costs while preserving CCC's ministries. She is looking for volunteers who would like to participate in that effort. Volunteers do not need a finance background, just an interest in optimizing financial stewardship for CCC. Let Julie know if you would like to participate.

Mike's Kids

We had almost 1,000 boxes full of clothes and toys along with items too big to fit in boxes. CCC con-

tributed over 150 of those boxes! Thanks to everyone who contributed, Disciples Women, and the tough volunteers who faced the rain to help pack and load!

Thanks,
Mark

Deacon Serving Schedule

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

Paul Latham, Proctor
Carol Johns



Paul Latham, Deacon Chair

Sunday, December 25

Luke 2:1–20

Sermon:

“Nativity Prayer”

Worship Participants

Preacher: David Cartwright
Lay Leader: Mary Anne Potter
Acolyte:

Sunday, January 1

Isaiah 61:10–62:3

Galatians 4:4–7

Sermon:

“Symbolism Are Us”

Worship Participants

Preacher: Karlan Fairchild
Lay Leader:
Acolyte:

Leading Worship for January

Elders: Teresa Gafford, Marvin Rogers
Deacons: Paul Latham, Proctor
Carol Johns

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 4, 2011

The *Communi-K* is published bi-weekly by Community Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), 1300 Holly Drive, Richardson, Texas 75080, (972) 234-4571, (972) 235-4947 fax, editor, Jeannine Frank. © 2002 Community Christian Church
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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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