



# The NTACC

Vol. 18 No. 5 A publication of the North Texas Area of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) September 2007

## Larry's Latest

### Musing on Moving the Area Office

We are in our spiffy new offices now, and are fairly close to being 100% unpacked. It is amazing how much 'stuff' you accumulate when you are in one place for eight years! I believe that the movers moved some 200 boxes plus furniture. We uncovered files giving history on situations going all the way back to the 1800's. Such great leaders we have had, and continue to have, in the North Texas Area!

I would be remiss, though, if I did not publicly thank those who helped make this move possible: **Lyn Robinette**, our administrative assistant, who worked an amazing number of hours to pack and unpack; and **Hal Hinkley** who bird-dogged the remodeling project here at Western Heights Mission Center, 3525 Lawler Rd. in Garland. Hal did much of the work himself and saved the Area thousands of dollars. Thanks, Hal!

Now that we are moved in, feel free to stop by and visit! This is the AREA'S office and mission center, after all. There are a few tasks yet to finish – a better front entrance, moving the mailbox, and some landscaping and deferred maintenance issues – but we need to begin the next major focus: how to best use this gift to the glory of God in mission? To that end, the Cabinet established a new work group called "The Mission Center Team." Its chairman will be on the Cabinet. Its task will be to think through, design and implement uses for the campus, as well as tend to its physical needs. If you would be interested in getting in on the ground floor of this new service opportunity, call me or e-mail me at [lross@ccsw.org](mailto:lross@ccsw.org).

We WILL need a number of folk who would like to contribute an hour or so every few weeks:

- a few handymen and women
- a couple of folk to do routine maintenance on the A/C and Heating units
- some who would like to drive the lawn tractor in between visits by the paid lawn crew

Ministry continues even in the midst of moving. New Life Christian Church celebrated its one year anniversary (congratulations, **Pastor Irie!**) and Destiny Worship Center has begun fundraising to build on their site in Cedar Hill (100 Parkerville Road). Licensed Minister's Training starts Oct. 6 at Rush Creek Christian Church in Arlington with **Rev. Stephen Goss** of Harris Methodist Hospital as the main presenter and **Rev. Bob** and **Vicki Stewart** as co-deans. That is also the morning of the next Area Board meeting and Open House at the new Area Office.

The search for an Associate Area Minister continues, with **Rev. Mark Irons** as chair of the Search Committee. Many qualified candidates have made application!

The October 17 workshop with **Gay Reese** on "Unbinding the Gospel" is the next step in our Area-wide evangelistic strategy. We will learn from the book's author how to use her newest resources to do a 40 day churchwide study during Lent of 2008. Some NTA churches have already been studying the book and using its principles and report an emphasis on prayer is very helpful.

Our first 'New Beginnings' congregation, Midway Hills Christian, has enjoyed the presence of **Rick Morse** from Church Extension leading them in a study on church transfor-

mation. This new program appears to have significant value for churches wanting to transform in place.

We have also been visited by **Nadine Burton** from New Church, in an exploration of new church start possibilities in the McKinney area near Celina or Prosper, and in the Savannah area near Denton. This could involve a new approach in partnership with the General, Regional, Area and local manifestations of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) to be explored at a New Church Summit in Phoenix in November.

Lastly, there are ongoing meetings for "New Day...New Direction" across the Region in search of clarity and new ideas about the mission, structure and function of the regional manifestation of the church. Nearly 80 clergy have attended one of 5 meetings, and many lay leaders attended an evening meeting for them. This conversation will also be held as part of the Area Board meeting October 6 to which all are invited.

I am amazed at the energy and vitality in the North Texas Area! Let's stay eager and focused to find God at work and join God in that work!

**Larry**

### "Unbinding the Gospel: Real Life Evangelism"

Presented by  
**Gay Reese**

Wednesday, October 17  
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

East Dallas Christian Church  
629 N. Peak St.

Cost: \$10 (covers lunch)

Sponsored by North Texas Area  
and Trinity-Brazos Area

Send your list of attendees with the name of your church and your fees to:

North Texas Area of the Christian Church  
3525 Lawler Rd., Ste. 101, Garland, TX 75042

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Lyn T. Robinette  
Editor

NTACC Deadlines  
November 6, 2007  
January 2, 2008  
March 4, 2008  
May 4, 2008

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Larry J. Ross  
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Bookkeeper

### Search and Call

The following congregations are in various stages of the Search and Call process for ministerial staff. Please keep them in your prayers:

First, Anna  
Midway Hills, Dallas  
Oak Cliff, Dallas (P/T)  
Rosemont Center, Dallas  
(Associate)  
First, Denton  
First, Ennis  
First, Paris

### New Office Space

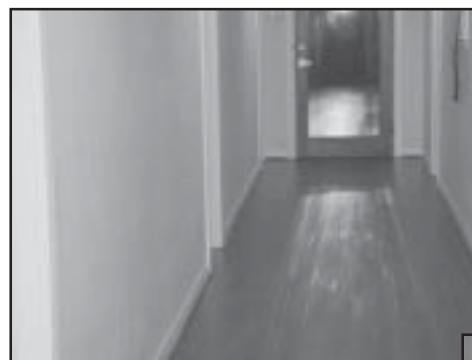
In the July issue of NTACC we had pictures of our new office space during the renovation. We moved August 15 and are enjoying our newly furnished space.



Larry has a large corner office. We are both enjoying stained glass windows.



The workroom allows for easy access from Lyn's office.



The entrance hall with wood floor. The glass door connects to the rest of the building.

Built in cabinets increase our storage space above the file cabinets.



Lyn is slowly organizing her office and desk.

**There are boxes available from our move. Call the office if you are interested.**

### Disciples Women/CWF News

The next General meeting will be Saturday, October 27, at 10:00 a.m. at First Christian, Duncanville. The program "Today and Tomorrow for Disciples Women's Ministry," will be presented by Regional President, **Sydney Wirsdorfer**. Lunch will be at noon and reservations for lunch and childcare should be made with the church (972-298-2166) by Wednesday, October 24. The church is located at 203 S. Main St., Duncanville, 75116.

Linda Morrow  
President

### Disciples Men/CMF News

The next Area men's breakfast will be held at First Christian Church, 115 S. Glenbrook Dr., Garland on Saturday, November 3, at 8:30 a.m. This breakfast will be the start of our annual Mike's Kids Ministry, where we fill banana boxes with toys, clothes, rice and beans. **Each man is requested to bring one toy to this meeting for Mike's Kids.**

At the Area meeting in August a special election of officers was held and **Bob Counts** from East Dallas Christian was elected President. **Ely Dorado**, from Rosemont Christian, Dallas, was elected Vice-President.

By the time you read this paper, the retreat at Lake Brownwood will be over and I know that it was a success. Larry Ross reports there were about 200 men in attendance.

See you all in November

Bob Counts  
President

**Mark your calendars now!**

**NTA Leader Event  
Saturday, January 19, 2008**

**Central Christian Church  
4711 Westside Dr., Dallas**

# Youth News



## CYF Fall Lock-in Rally

**“I Want It All and I Want It Now”**

**October 13 - 14**  
**7:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.**  
**Cost: \$5.00**  
**Bring a friend**

**Keynote by Emily Attaya**

**First Christian, McKinney**  
**1800 W. Hunt St.**

## Chi Rho Fall Rally

**Sunday, November 11**

**2:30 to 5:30 p.m.**

**Juliette Fowler Homes**  
**1234 Abrams Rd.**  
**Dallas 75214**

**Please mark your calendars!!**

**CYF Mid-Winter January 25-27, 2008**

**Chi Rho Mid-Winter February 8-10, 2008**

**New Day...New Direction Conversations about the Region held in the Area.**

## Disciple Crossing News

Disciples Crossing, in its first major building effort since the Kaleidoscope Master Plan Study was completed several years ago, will build a handful of cabin/meeting rooms in a village arc near Pine Dorm to be completed (hopefully) by next summer. It hopes to do this from existing resources and private donations.

At the same time, plans are underway for a major building campaign the following year to address the needs for more dining area, large group meeting area, and a retreat center. The North Texas Area is supporting the cabin building plan with a donation from its reserve funds. The camp will be asking for significant VOLUNTEER involvement in the construction of the cabin(s) later this year and next.



# North Texas Area Bulletin Board

## Woman Without Limits

Saturday, October 6  
 Registration fee \$10.00  
 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
 Rosemont Christian Center  
 1304 S. Hampton Rd., Dallas

You are invited to a day dedicated to you, today's woman. Speakers will share with you a special word that will refresh your soul.

This is the 5<sup>th</sup> conference for women sponsored by the Educational Center for Biblical Studies and Rosemont Center. This is a bilingual event and the host speaker is Dr. Awilda González-Tejera.

Continental breakfast and lunch are included in the registration fee. Registration information can be found on the Area website [www.ntaccsw.org](http://www.ntaccsw.org).



Area Committee on the Ministry members from right to left: Rev. Ken Crawford, Forest Grove, Allen; Kathryn M. Williams, Warren Avenue; Rev. Debbie Chisolm, First, Lewisville; Charlie Mooneyham, First, Aubrey (see next column); Rev. Ron Pingelton, First, Denison; and Maria Garza, Rosemont, Dallas. These members met recently with candidates from the Area who are licensed ministers.

## Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

### Charlie and Charlotte

**Mooneyham**, members of First Christian, Aubrey, were honored this month by the Frisco Independent School District with the naming of an elementary school located in McKinney

Congratulations to **Rev. Dr. Doug Skinner** and wife, **Mary Lynn**, at the birth of their first grandson, **Andrew Harold Bowers**. Parents are **John** and **Anna Bowers**. John is the youth minister at Trinity Christian, Fort Worth.

Congratulations to Area Moderator, **Bob Williams**, and family who recently welcomed a grandchild.



Congratulations to **Rev. Susan Martin** on her ordination in August at First Christian, Richardson.

### Minister News

**Rev. J. Allen Lowe** was installed as Senior Minister at Creekwood Christian, Flower Mound, and **John Whitfield** was installed as Minister at Romine Avenue, Dallas,

## Area Board Meeting and Open House

Saturday, October 6

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

New Area Office  
 Western Heights  
 Mission Center

3525 Lawler Rd.  
 Garland 75042  
 972-272-2900

### Health and Wellness Fair

Casa View Christian Church, 2230 Barnes Bridge Rd., cordially invites the community to visit their Health and Wellness Fair on Saturday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Carter Blood Care will receive blood donations and free screenings will be offered by Van Family Chiropractic, Texas Society to Prevent Blindness, Deaf Action Center, and the American Diabetes Association. Flu shots will be available from Maxim Health Systems (there is a fee if you don't have Medicare). Doctors Hospital, American Cancer Society, Solace Therapeutic Massage, General Nutrition Centers, AVON Cosmetics will be represented.

Also attending will be the Parkland Memorial Hospital's representative receiving applications for CHIPS/Medicaid insurance coverage for children. You must bring proof of residency, as well as payroll voucher/check stub.

We will have representatives from five area retirement centers that offer independent living facilities, plus assisted living accommodations and skilled nursing care. The facilities include Juliette Fowler Homes, Golden Acres Home for the Jewish Aged, the Loyaltan of Lake Highlands, Autumn Leaves, and Summerville at Lake Highlands.

The youth of the church will have light refreshments available for purchase. Please join us as we celebrate good health and wellness.

### Area Calendar

#### October

Area Board Meeting - 9:00 a.m.  
 Office - Western Heights Mission Center  
 October 6, 2007

Licensed Minister Training - 8:45 a.m.  
 RushCreek Christian, Arlington  
 October 6, 2007

CYF Fall Lock-in Rally  
 First Christian, McKinney  
 October 13 & 14, 2007

Unbinding the Gospel: Real Life Evangelism  
 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
 East Dallas Christian  
 October 17, 2007

Stalcup School of Theology for the Laity  
 Katherine Godby - 8:30 a.m.  
 Northway Christian, Dallas  
 October 20, 2007

#### November

Rachel Event for Ministers' Wives  
 Lake Brownwood  
 November 2 - 4, 2007

Area Disciples Men/CMF Breakfast  
 First Christian, Garland - 8:30 a.m.  
 November 3, 2007

Area Committee on the Ministry - 9:00 a.m.  
 Area Office - 3525 Lawler Rd.  
 November 5, 2007

Stalcup School of Theology for the Laity  
 James Suggs - 8:30 a.m.  
 Northway Christian, Dallas  
 November 10, 2007

Area Cabinet Meeting - 5:30 p.m.  
 Area Office - 3525 Lawler Rd.  
 November 13, 2007

Office Closed for Thanksgiving Holidays  
 November 22 - 23, 2007

North Texas Area of the Christian Church  
 (Disciples of Christ) in the Southwest  
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