



The Link

The Weekly E-Newsletter of Disciples Christian Church
January 7, 2010

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Updated Prayer Requests



- **Cruger R., Jan M.'s brother**, had his prostate removed on January 5 due to cancer.
- **Aidan Gonzalez** had an endoscopy on January 7.
- **Laura Y.'s step aunt** had successful cardiac surgery on January 5th.
- **Family of Randy, Leggon's newborn**, died January 3, 2010.

The prayer requests in *The Link* each week are recent updates. A list of ongoing prayer requests appears in our worship bulletin each Sunday.

A Message from Rev. David



First of all Kristina and I want to thank you again for your generosity and for allowing us some time to be with our family and friends in Missouri. Additionally we can't thank you enough for all your prayers for our trip. With the exception of an hour and a half delay on Christmas morning and our luggage arriving in Springfield a half hour later than we did, our trip was great. Even the kids did great and as for flying, slept on the plane both going and coming.

Although we enjoyed some time off we realized, at least in the back of our mind, that we couldn't be gone forever and that a host a projects and deadlines were already waiting back in Texas. Maybe you felt the same way. Although time with family and friends was nice you realized that it couldn't last forever and that your calendar was quickly filling up. Emails to sort through, paper work to file, messages to return, papers to grade, cleaning to do and that's just the tip of the iceberg. The reality is that we've all got things to do, places to be and people to see. I know it seems distant but before we know it our days turn into weeks and weeks to months and soon 2011 will be here. I know what you're thinking, David, slow down, we're barely in January. You're right we're just days into January. Still January is a great time to set new goals, to make new plans, to begin a new project, or learn a new skill or try a new hobby. The possibilities are almost endless. However in the midst of planning and calendarizing our lives and amidst planning all these new things we're going to do or try, we absolutely cannot forget nor neglect our spiritual life.

Maybe it's just human nature but many people seem to take care of the immediate more pressing more apparent needs like those emails, messages, stacks of paper and other projects and in turn forget about or neglect the more intimate personal side of their lives. But what about the needs of our souls and of our spirits? As for you and me, are we planning time to commune with God? Are we seeking new ways of worshiping God or understanding the scriptures? Can we hear the ever present voice of God among the dates and deadlines that rattle around our head? These are tough questions that ask us to dip below surface level and office calendars. These are questions that will hopefully cause us to consider the place that God has in our lives and whether we are growing with and spending time with God, His son, His word and the Body of Christ.

I realize that like so many others I have a ways to go on this journey. I too need to redirect and refocus some of my attentions. I too need to allow time to be with God and Jesus and to learn and to hear and to see in new ways. I too need to grow in the Body of Christ. I too need to stop, perhaps slow down long enough not to miss the great and glorious star of Jesus that shines above and beyond and through all the dates and deadlines demanding my time and attention. As I write this the beginning of Epiphany is upon us and I wonder what if people had missed this experience, that is, the "manifestation of the divine nature of Jesus Christ" (Chalice Worship, 1997). What if Joseph and Mary weren't willing to be a part of this spectacular event? What if the shepherds didn't follow the star? What if the wise men had missed it? What if they never took time to look for it, to see it or to be moved by it? What if their calendar was too full to experience the nature and wonder and awe and mystery of God and His only son, Jesus, the Word made flesh and dwelling among them...among us? What if...what if...we miss it?

It's easy to get caught up in making our plans for the future and there's nothing wrong with being organized, however in the midst of plans and projects let us not forget to slow down, even stop long enough to see and hear and experience the Glorious nature of God in Jesus Christ.

Blessings in this New Year,

In Christ

David

Installation Service

On **Sunday, January 10** the Installation Service for the 2010 Officers, Trustees, Elders, and Deacons will take place during worship, followed by a **reception in the Atrium**. Everyone is invited and encouraged to join in this special occasion.

Ministry Team Opportunities

DCC members and friends,

As 2010 is upon us, so is the need to focus on God's plans for the church and the community in which we live and reach out to. That said we need your help. Ministry teams cannot work effectively without the continued support and involvement that you can offer. As you know there are many ways to support the church from financial gifts to sharing your time and energy. That said there are a variety of ways to serve and be apart of activities at DCC so please prayerfully consider how you might be involved in the coming year. Some of the ministry teams include Stewardship, Property, Worship, Community, Education, Evangelism and Outreach. As well, there are opportunities to work with youth, help plan the 2010 Vacation Bible School, and be involved in DCC's women's ministry. Although some of our Ministry teams already have leaders in place, great leaders can only do great things with your support and involvement.

Again, please prayerfully consider how and where you'd like to serve and let Rick or I know by Sunday January 24.

In Christ,
David

Thank you!



Dear DCC members,
Your generous gift at Christmas was a wonderful blessing to our family. Thank you for the caring that you show to staff members. It is truly appreciated!
Laura Young, Music Director

Music Notes

Laura Young



Music Notes

Thank you to John Prewitt, Rev. David Nordyke, Ty Young, Ricky Boyer, Marin Young, and Lois Teed-Gillen for the songs they contributed to the Christmas Eve concert. Julie and I really appreciate you!

Thank you also to the choir for singing beautifully and to Julie Boyer for signing with the choir during the Christmas Eve worship.

Handbells will resume in a couple of weeks, time TBA.

The Chancel Choir has resumed meeting on Wednesday nights at 6:30 and Sunday mornings at 9 a.m.

2010 NTA Leader Event

You won't want to miss the **2010 NTA Leader Event** scheduled to take place on **Saturday, January 16 at First Christian Church in McKinney**. The theme of the event is "Building Community across Generations." The keynoter and workshop leader is Ed Hammett, author of "Reaching People Under 40 While Keeping People Over 60."

A prayer breakfast kicks off the event at 8:15 am, followed by the keynote speaker. Dozens of workshops will be available throughout the day, with the event wrapping up at 3:15 pm. The church is located at 1800 W. Hunt St., McKinney, 75069. Registration forms and workshop details are located in the Atrium for those interested.

January Young at Heart



Dave and Sally Bell will be hosting their annual chili supper at their house for the Young at Heart group on **Thursday, January 21st**. They will have two kinds of chili, regular and chicken, and will also furnish the drinks, crackers, etc. Guests are asked to bring side dishes, dessert, etc. Their address is 17420 Calla Drive, Dallas. Dave will have maps at the church for anyone who has not been there before.

Vacation Bible School Meeting

Vacation Bible School Meeting **Sunday January 24** following church. I know it seems too early and maybe too cold to be thinking about VBS, still I want to have a **short** meeting to choose our date(s) for VBS, see who's on board to help,



and set the next date to begin planning and laying the foundation for our VBS program.

DCC Board Meeting

A DCC Board Meeting is scheduled for **Sunday evening, January 31 at 7 pm**. All board and committee members should plan on attending this important "first of the year" planning meeting. It will take place in the Atrium.



Mid-winter Retreat & Camps

There are a number of NTA sponsored camps and retreats for all age groups taking place in the New Year. Fliers are available in the Atrium along with all the necessary registration forms. The Tri-area summer camp dates have been posted in the Youth Room for those interested. Additional information will be on the NTA webpage soon.



The Mission of Disciples Christian Church

In order to follow Jesus and worship God, we will serve our neighbors. We will minister to our fellow Christians. We will live and tell the good news of Jesus Christ in all we do.

Disciples Christian Church Staff

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