



The Link

The Weekly E-Newsletter of Disciples Christian Church
January 21, 2010

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Updated Prayer Requests



- The **victims, their families, and volunteers** who are struggling with the aftermath of the **Haitian earthquake**.
- **Ron C., Jan C.'s friend** hopes to begin a different clinical trial soon.
- **Sonny E.'s mother, Bala**, is doing better.
- A **friend of John P.'s** is asking for prayer.

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

This past week many of us watched the TV, surfed the internet, read the paper/magazine or listened to the radio in shock at the devastation in Haiti. In a terrifying instant, thousands, even millions of lives were changed and are still changing. Without warning a massive earthquake hit this already struggling nation. From the poorest people on the streets to national and international leadership to the hundreds of volunteers there for a variety of reasons, no one was spared the tragedy of this event. Young, old, sick or healthy, each affected and forced to deal with the present and the uncertainty about the future. And yet even through the devastation glimmers of hope have been heard or felt in the survivors and most certainly those working hard to provide assistance and begin the process of rebuilding.

As I said last Sunday, even in disaster and devastation the Spirit of God is hovering. Lives are being impacted each day through people just like you and me who desire to do something, anything, to help. Humans made in the image and likeness of God are serving as an extension of the hands and feet of Christ from their doorsteps to the ends of the earth, including the nation of Haiti.

If you're like me then perhaps you're wondering what can I do, how can I be the hands and feet of Christ, how can I be God's ambassador to a nation and people so ravaged by pain and despair? How can I make a difference? After all the need is so great and I am...just one, small, weak, ill-equipped. The truth is there are a number of things that we're not and may never be, but does this mean we can't do our part? Does this mean that others won't be affected by what we can do? On the contrary. We are members of the Body of Christ and as such all are needed and all can make a difference and do great things for the Kingdom of God. Remember that the Body of Christ, like our human bodies, is made of many wonderful and amazing parts, each gifted and equipped and able to do unique and special things. If one part is missing the other parts are affected, albeit in more or less dramatic ways, but affected nonetheless.

The idea then, is that it takes everyone. From young and old, to the more or less equipped and prepared. More importantly it takes humans or 'parts' with a willingness and desire to help. Of course the recent devastation in Haiti is not the only disaster to strike in the last few weeks or months or years and unfortunately it won't be the last. However as members of the Body of Christ we can remain steadfast in our commitment to helping others and in doing so live and tell the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Therefore **we can help**, we can do something, but what and when and how? No matter what the situation I might recommend that we spend some time discerning how God is leading us to help. As for this most recent disaster in Haiti there is no doubt that some people will be used as prayer warriors lifting up...victims, survivors, rescuers, leadership and the rebuilding process. For others it might be putting together health kits for infants, children and adults. For some it might be providing clean water for drinking and washing or warm blankets for temporary bedding. For some it might be actually volunteering in Haiti and spending time with those in need. And still others will be led to help financially, providing the necessary funds for one of the amazing groups already organizing relief efforts now and in the weeks, months and years to come.

Week of Compassion of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is just one of these amazing groups providing care and assistance in Haiti. If you'd like you can make a financial gift to Haiti Relief through WoC by placing your offering in an envelope and marking "Haiti Relief" on the outside. If you write a check please also indicate "Haiti Relief" on the memo line.

DCC will be collecting this special offering for Haiti Relief for the next 2 weeks as well as being open to God's leading for further assistance.

Peace to the Body of Christ
David

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 a part 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 me know by Sunday January 24.

In Christ,
David

Music Notes

Laura Young



The Chancel Choir is rehearsing on Wednesday nights at 6:30 and Sunday mornings at 9 a.m.

In preparation for Ash Wednesday, our rehearsal will take place at FCC on February 3rd, and we will meet at FCC to present a choral anthem together for the February 17th Ash Wednesday service.

Special Offering for Haiti

Did you know that 100% of what you give now to **Week of Compassion** goes directly to Haiti Earthquake Relief efforts? A special offering will be collected the next two Sundays for Haiti relief through the **Week of Compassion** organization. Please consider writing a check to this Disciple Ministry. Funds/envelopes should be marked "Haiti Relief".

Plano Food Pantry

Thanks to the generosity of DCC a load of canned goods was delivered to The Plano Food Pantry this week. The volunteers were very appreciative and said that their current needs include tuna, canned fruit and jelly. Bar soap and toilet paper are always needed to include in the recipient's bag. The Pantry works in concert with the Collin County Assistance Center who determines the eligibility of those seeking help. Please continue to bring items to the barrel outside of the Fellowship Hall for the needs are great.

January Young at Heart – TONIGHT!

Dave and Sally Bell will be hosting their annual chili supper at their house for the Young at Heart group **TONIGHT 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.

Vacation Bible School Meeting

There will be a Vacation Bible School Meeting **Sunday January 24** following worship. I know it seems too early and may be 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.



Rev. David

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.



Disciples Women's Ministry

Disciples Women's Ministry will have their next meeting on **Tuesday, February 16 at 7 pm**. They will be discussing the book, "Same Kind of Different as Me" by Ron Hall and Denver Moore. The meeting will take place in the party room at Barbara R.'s apartment complex. Dixie D. will provide refreshments.

Disciples Women's Ministry is open to all women in the church. Having read the book is not a requirement.

Disciples Women's Vision Event



All DCC women are invited to the first **CCSW Disciples Women's Vision Event** taking place at Community Christian Church in Richardson. The event begins on Friday, February 26 with dinner at 6:30 pm and ends on Saturday, February 27 at 4 pm. Cost is \$20 payable at the door. Rev. Adonna Bowman will be the keynoter and facilitator. For more information, see the pink cards on the desk in the Atrium.

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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