#### **SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST**

## Disciples Christian Church

- Please join us
- Anticipation
- Beginning again!
- Pentecost—the Holy Spirit

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# THE LINK

# Join us this Sunday for Pentecost!

This Sunday we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit with song, Word and prayer. Whether you join us in person or online, it promises to be a good service and we need you with us. For those joining in person we will have a reception following service and then once again we will "release the doves"!



For those who choose to worship with us online, you can watch at www.dccplano.com, or on our Facebook page or on YouTube at https://youtu.be/eEJGKWPgENY

# Lord Hear Our Prayer...

- Nancy B.'s cousin, Dennis, in hospital in Oklahoma.
- Prayers for the students and families in Uvalde.
- Thanks for Amy's new job.

# **ANTICIPATION!**

# June!

June 5th Pentecost Sunday w/reception and release of

doves

June 5<sup>th</sup> Eagle Scout Ceremony for Josh Connors @3pm

June 12th Potluck following worship

July!

Jul 17<sup>th</sup> Potluck w/ Sloppy Joes

And More to Come!

## Beginning again!

Have you ever just had one of those days? You know, where from the moment you even start to think about opening your eyes, things just seem to go wrong? How about this day?

It begins when the alarm goes off. For some silly reason, you couldn't find that stupid clock (which was exactly where it has been for the last 2 years). Instead of quietly turning off the alarm, you end up knocking not only the alarm clock off the nightstand, but the bedside lamp also. Lamp broke... as did the light bulb. You step on the broken light bulb, causing a little bit of a cut, a great deal of muttering and a rather rude awakening. Then, going into the kitchen, you poured that life affirming first cup of coffee and set the pot back down... onto the counter where it breaks. More broken glass, another mess to clean up (and more muttering of an uglier variety) and you haven't even been awake for 10 minutes yet! Pitiful, isn't it? Follow that with a broken hairdryer, missing keys, more spilled drink, a tear in a brand-new shirt and finally and with a great deal of embarrassment, walking into a wall. Seriously, you walk into a wall. All of this by 9:00 AM. You might believe you need a new day, a re-do.

Pentecost is this Sunday. Normally the story in Acts is told. You know the one; "and they were all together in one place... and the Holy Spirit came over them like tongues of flame... and they all began to speak in different voices". And yes, we will be reading that again. It is the story of new beginnings. It is the story of renewed hope and opportunity.

Each of us here has the opportunity to make each day a new beginning, to open ourselves up to the work of the Spirit in our life. We can choose to understand, hear and speak in a new way, to become like new wine. In order for that to happen, I think we need to let go of that rough start. Let go of old ways of looking at life, old ways of responding. What is that saying? If you continue to do what you have always done, you will continue to have the same results you have always gotten? Something like that.

So, your morning might have started off rotten. Normally, I think we would have focused on that, fed on that and expected more of the same. But you know what? We can choose to be a new version of ourselves. This is a day of new beginnings, all is possible, and it will be wonderful!

#### Dear friends.

The tragic shooting at Uvalde Elementary saddens me. It angers me and it hurts me. Once again, innocence has been lost. Not just for the children who lost their lives that day, but all children everywhere who must deal with it, the parents who must try and explain it, and all the first responders and teachers who have to heal.

I tried to think of something to say, something that would help heal your hearts, help bring about thought and discourse, but at this moment I have nothing that would help and not hinder. I have attached a pastoral response from the Regional Minister for the Southwest Region of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Andy Mangum. May his words help all of us.

#### "Friends.

The tragic mass shooting in Uvalde, Texas has left many of us speechless. We carry grief and sadness, rage and anger, confusion that verges on despair. As people of faith our response begins with prayer. Prayers for extra measures of God's compassion and mercy for parents whose lives have been ripped apart, siblings who will live with a constant ache for the rest of their lives, extended family who will seek to offer comfort and find words and actions inadequate, children and educators who were in the building and who must navigate their own trauma response. We pray for schools and teachers, administrators, office workers, custodians, and cafeteria workers. We pray for law enforcement officers and first responders. May we never dismiss the role prayer must play in our lives. Prayer is the breathing in and breathing out of faith.

As we pray, we also pray for ourselves. We pray that God will grant us the resources of strength, intelligence, and follow-through to make the necessary changes moving forward. We cannot go back in time and correct our previous inaction. We must find the emotional stamina, collective courage, and God-given wisdom to make changes to protect the most vulnerable whom God has placed in our care.

I believe the changes we need to make will require changes in our laws and changes in the ways we address mental health. I believe it will require us to acknowledge our patterns of glorifying violence and of treating human life with irreverence. As Disciples, we need to claim the resources God has uniquely entrusted to us. The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) has been a meeting space for people who profoundly disagree with one another. We have been the people who have said change will require trust and trust requires dialogue and dialogue requires honesty and vulnerability. We need to reclaim our culture of being the people who could stimulate, challenge, and even irritate one another precisely where the stakes are highest and resist the temptation to deny one another's worthiness within the family of faith. The polarization within our culture and the death-dealing silent treatment and gamesmanship we permit with our social and political systems is destroying us from the inside out. Disciples are not the only denomination who received the capacity for difficult conversation as a birthright, but it is a part of what God has enabled us to do in the past and a gift our world needs in the present. Our General Minister and President, Rev. Terri Hord Owens, has said, "May they say of Disciples: they love Jesus too much to hate each other."

As Disciples, we identify ourselves by a call to create spaces where human wholeness is possible. In that Spirit, one of our founders claimed the words of Ruth to Naomi as a communion meditation and invitation. Today, these same words echo in my Spirit and make me wonder if we could form a covenant with one another in this fragile human family saying: Do not press me to leave you or every turn back from following you. Your journey is part of my journey; and the well-being of your home is as sacred to me as my own. Your people shall be my people just as your God is my God. Where you die, I die also and the place where you are buried contains parts of my life as well. May I be supremely accountable to God if I allow anything—even your death—to separate me from the work of enabling your wholeness."

Andy Mangum, MDiv, DMin
Regional Minister and President
Christian Church in the Southwest

## COOL BEANS YOGA: every Tuesday and Thursday from 6-7 pm

We are a fairly athletic yoga group who practice integrating the body, mind, and breath. We have many different levels in the class and everyone modifies as they need; no experience is needed and everyone is welcome!

We try very hard never to cancel so when the instructor is away, members of the class participate in leading.



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

#### **Disciples Christian Church**

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Email: theoffice@dccplano.com Website: www.dccplano.com Disciples Christian Church Staff

Rev. DeAnna Golsan, Sr. Pastor Jan Carter, Administrative Assistant Lynice Trevino, Pianist







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#### **Christmas 2016 Memorials/Honorariums**

Beginning on Sunday, December 4 through Sunday, December 18 you will be able to make a donation in memory or honor of a loved one. All money received will go to the Plano Food Pantry. Donation envelopes will be on the Welcome Table in the Atrium.



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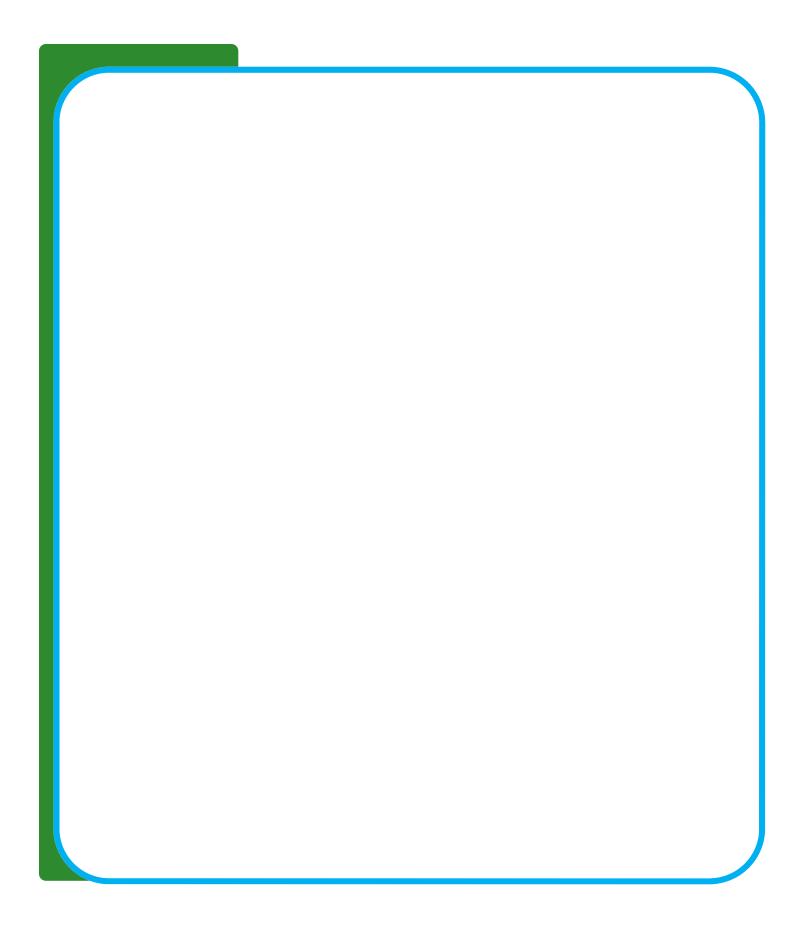
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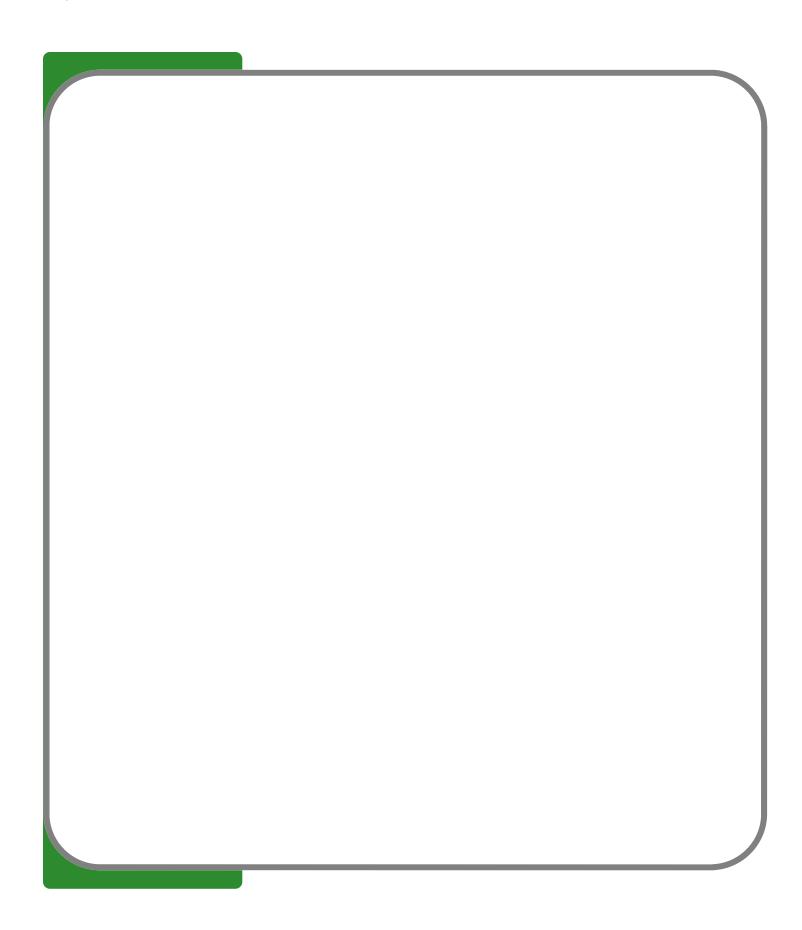
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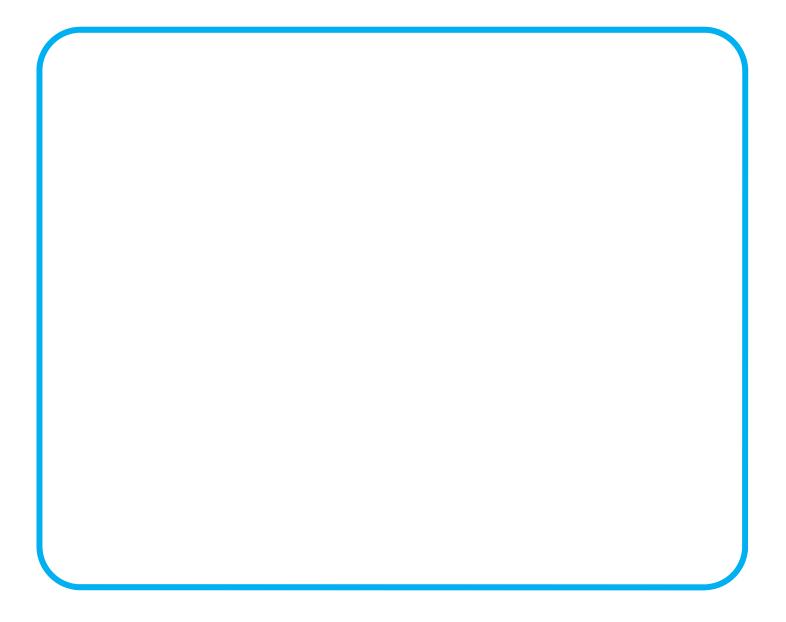
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