



# THE VISITOR



**FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

(Disciples of Christ)

1203 North Fulton, Denton, Texas 76201

Phone: 940-566-4990  
The Church's 144th Year

Web address: [www.fccdenton.org](http://www.fccdenton.org)  
February 1, through February 8, 2012

## Church Pictorial Directory

Our Membership Ministry is putting together a new church pictorial directory of active/current members and needs your help. Please submit a recent family photo (no larger than a 4" x 6") or email a digital picture that you would like to have included. If you do not have a recent photo and would like to have your picture taken, we will be taking photos with a digital camera before and after church each Sunday. There will be a box in the church office labeled "Pictorial Directory" for you to drop off your photo. Inside the box is a copy of our current directory for you to update any changes to your contact information. This will be a "work in progress project," so your cooperation and support is greatly appreciated!

Lucie Chapman and Glenna Tompkins



**Valentine Candlelight  
Dinner  
Saturday, Feb. 11  
Fellowship Hall  
6:30 p.m.**

**Sponsored by Disciples Men Fellowship**

*Steak dinner with all the trimmings.*

*Freewill offering will be taken.*

*Please RSVP to Dixie in the church office.*

## A fundraiser benefiting Our Daily Bread

Come and watch Denton's best civic and business leaders play basketball against the internationally acclaimed Harlem Ambassadors!



**Feb. 10 - 7:00 p.m. Denton High School Gym  
1007 Fulton Street**

**Ticket Cost: \$10.00 (5 and under free)**

(Pastor John has tickets, or you can purchase them at Our Daily Bread/St. Andrew Presbyterian Church.

TACKLE



HUNGER

*For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in. Matthew 25:35 NIV*

Each year on the weekend of the Super Bowl our youth host a chili cook-off to collect donations to help feed the homeless. Every penny counts! All the funds raised go to our local soup kitchen, Our Daily Bread.

The Chili Cook-Off will be this Sunday, Feb. 5, right after church. And, don't worry, we will have you home before kick off of the big game. We give gold and silver spoons out for the best chili and the best decorated table. And you get to vote with your pocket books and wallets. For every five dollars donated you will receive one poker chip to place your vote for the best tasting chili! Our youth get to vote on who has the best decorated table. So be sure to come out and help stop hunger here in Denton! Fun is sure to be had by all.

If you are interested in entering your chili in the chili cook-off, please contact me.

## Phone Problems

We are experiencing problems with our voice mail in the church office. Until the issue is resolved, please do not leave phone messages for the church staff -we do not receive them. We are working to resolve the problem and hope to have it fixed soon. In the meantime, please feel free to call the following numbers should you have an emergency or need to speak to us immediately.

Thank you.

## Out of the Whirlwind

Those of you who still get a newspaper might have read the story that I did, about an Afghanistan woman, a mother of three little girls, who was killed by her husband and mother-in-law for not having a boy baby. Maybe this will be refuted by the time you read this, but the killer was NOT a member of Al Qaida or the Taliban. Supposedly he was one of our somewhat/quasi allies.

This story, by itself, is upsetting, but when one takes with it all the other stories about what is happening around the world to women, it is darned near apocalyptic.

There was recently the story of the woman who was raped, then jailed because the rape was sex “outside of marriage,” and only got out of jail when she agreed to marry her rapist. One wonders if that is what passes for justice in some places.

Those stories are but the tip of the iceberg. Less dramatic stories like that are on inside pages of the newspaper and on the internet almost daily. Women not allowed to drive. Women beaten for being seen in public with a non-relative man. Little girls spit on for not dressing “modestly. Etc, etc, etc...

As a father of two daughters and grandfather of three granddaughters, I don't want my girls to live in a world where women are demeaned, treated like property, abused, and even killed because of some arbitrary standards set by men who think of women as second-class humans.

As a pastor I have to acknowledge that we have come a long way since Old Testament times when women really were property and treated as such. The New Testament was a huge step for the equality of women but not a complete step. Even Paul went back and forth, in some places making women subordinate and others announcing that male and female were made in the image of God.

Nowadays...we know that churches do not do anything uniformly and that includes the way we value women. We accept women as deacons, but many others do not. We elect women to be on the board and/or to teach Sunday School classes, but many others do not. We elect women to be elders and call them to be ministers, but many others do not.

In short, we highly value the women of our church and in our lives as well as appreciate the gifts that the Holy Spirit has given them. And we will not stand idly by while a tide of debasement rolls toward out shores.

We hope that you will invite your friends, coworkers and neighbors to come sit with you in worship this Sunday. The scripture for the day is Isaiah 40: 21-31. God only knows what I will say about it because I have not yet done the hard work of teasing out the meaning of God's word for our church – but I will!

Peace,  
**Pastor John**

## Attendance & Stewardship: Jan. 29

**ATTENDANCE:** Worship 116 Nursery 2

### GENERAL FUND INCOME

Pledges, Checks, Loose Offering \$3,935.02

**Total for General Fund \$3,935.02**

*Total needed weekly to fully fund  
the General Fund*

\$4,517.45

### SPECIAL FUNDS (Not for General Fund)

Youth Fundraiser (Heifer Project) \$ 8.74

Youth Fundraiser (Camp Fund) 103.00

Flower Ministry 39.00

Ramsey Financial Peace University 800.00

**Total for Special Funds \$950.74**

**TOTAL SUNDAY OFFERING \$4,080.50**

### YEAR-TO-DATE FINANCIALS

**Budget for the Year 2011 \$239,424.99**

Amount Needed to Meet Budget \$22,587.25

Amount Received for General Fund \$26,075.79

**YEAR-TO-DATE DIFFERENCE +\$3,488.54**

## Serving Schedule: Feb. 5

**Worship Leader:** Mark McNairy/Becky Burke

**Vintage Worship Leader:** John Tompkins

**Serving:** (Bread) Linda Morrow (Cup) Jim Lehman

**Diaconate Serving:** Karen and Lee Fry,  
Glenna Tompkins, Jacque Walston

**Alternate:** Judy Gohlke **Prepare:** Janis Tully

**Clean Up:** Dixie Smalley, Mamie Snead

**Greeters:** John and Glenna Tompkins, Belva Hennen,  
Norma Harrison, Mandy and Andrew Duncan,  
Mark McNairy, Bart and Lori Yoder

## Congregational Meeting Called Sunday, Feb. 12

Please note a congregational meeting has been called for Sunday, Feb. 12, for the purpose of electing Hugh Ayer and J Cantwell as Elder Emeritus.

### Reminders

The February Priscilla Circle meeting will be held on Feb. 21 at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Virginia Choate.

The Elders Retreat is scheduled for Feb. 25 and will be held in the Fellowship Hall.

## Health Concerns & Prayer Requests

Bob Collier, Bernice Croix, Charlie Davis, Bill Fry A.D. and Jean Hartline, Norma Harrison, Max Hightower Pat Martin, Donna Merritt, George Morrow, Oran Nabors Sue Quinney, Logan Shewmake, Connie Pack Stonebraker Gina Gohlke Wicker

### Prayer Requests

†Oran Nabors has returned to the Plaza Rehabilitation in Richardson for continued physical therapy. He is in Room 311.

†Logan Shewmake had blood clot surgery on Monday. He is in Presbyterian Hospital.

†Sarah Smalley will undergo an MRI and other medical tests this week.

†Stephanie Mobley has been in and out of the hospital. She is undergoing medical tests.

†Bob Collier continues rehabilitation at Good Samaritan Village. He is in Room 4407.

†Cassie Sexton requests prayers for her uncle, Dean Taylor, who has advanced cancer and treatment is uncertain.

†Cassie also requests prayers for her uncle, Dean Church, who will have a second knee surgery at age 85.

†Judy Gohlke requests prayers for her brother, John Hoover, who is undergoing treatment for bladder cancer.

†Dave Lewis requests prayers for his father, John Lewis, who is in declining health.

†Paula Shewmake asks continued prayers for her friend Diana Galliano, her daughter Erin Babin, and grandbaby.

†Charlice Talbott requests prayers for her granddaughter, Jessika Mellinger, who is pregnant and suffering from a serious intestinal disease.

†Donna Merritt is continuing her chemotherapy treatment.

†Several avenues are being explored to acquire trial medication for George Morrow.



When kicking off a new church, numbers matter. If you kick-off with a half empty room then you can plan on limping along for at least a good while. On the other hand, if you kick off with a full room you are likely to convey to potential church members a sense of enthusiasm and momentum that makes it easier to get on board.

For that reason, Grace Christian Church, our new church plant in Prosper, is asking if we have some willing people who might come and “help make the room full” for any of their four key services: Feb. 5 or 12, March 4 or 18. You can’t transfer your membership (somewhere there is a law or bylaw that says “O, no!” And be sure to tithe before you go!! But you can help them get off to a running start.

They will welcome all of us who come, but they are hoping that some of our “missionaries” will be in their target age group: ages 25-40.

Can you help for at least one Sunday?

## A Note from the Music Minister

You know the old saying about Texas weather? If you don’t like it, wait a minute; it will change. Two Sundays ago, worship featured praise music and the Gospel Men’s Quartet. Last Sunday we offered Bach with harpsichord and strings! On any given Sunday, you might hear your favorite style of music, or you might not. But it is sure to change. I’ve never worked with a choir as versatile as this one. We are fortunate to hear so many different styles of sacred music. You can’t miss a single service.

The harpsichord I played last Sunday, as you probably already know, was a generous gift from Oran and Charlotte Nabors. It was important to me to feature it in worship on the occasion of Oran’s birthday. The Sanctuary Choir and our String Quartet were privileged to offer some of Bach’s most beautiful music in worship.

This coming Sunday, we will hear from C Unit. Olivia is doing great work with out talented youth. I always look forward to hearing from them. I know they will inspire.

There’s plenty of great music coming up in February. Ash Wednesday is Feb. 22, and we will be combining choirs with Trinity Presbyterian. I look forward to all the great music of the Lenten season.

I’ll see you in worship.

*Mark*

## Youth Ministry Notes

Just a reminder parents that C Unit will be singing in church this Sunday. Please be sure to have your youth at church for practice on Wednesday night and on Sunday at 10 a.m. so that they can work with Olivia.

Also, this week’s Chili Cook-off will require some help with set up and cleaning. Please have your youth at WNL and Sunday School and plan to stay after lunch to help with this.

*Cassie*

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## February Birthday's

3rd: Mark McNairy    10th: Glenda Ball  
11th: Myra Harrison    19th: Bernice Croix  
23rd: Phyllis Burton    26th: Don Womack  
27th: Libby Ayer

## Sunday School Info:

### Adult Fellowship Class

We will reflect upon Mark 1:29-39. Jesus has moved out of the synagogue in Capernaum and visits in the house of Simon and Andrew. He continues preaching and healing. How do we sustain Jesus' ministry?

### Chapel Class

The Chapel Class starts a new study this Sunday, "Heroes of Faith." Lesson 1 is "Pleasing God." Hebrews 11:1-6, Genesis 4:1-12.

## Calendar of Events

### Wednesday, February 1

6:00 PM Wednesday Night Live  
6:30 PM Youth Choir  
7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal  
7:00 PM WNL Youth

### Sunday, February 5

9:30 AM Church at Study\*  
10:50 AM Worship Service\*  
12:15 PM Chili Cook-Off

### Wednesday, February 8

6:00 PM Wednesday Night Live  
6:30 PM Youth Choir  
7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal  
7:00 PM WNL Youth

*\*Childcare provided*

## Welcome Visitors

The Nabors Family  
Jessica Swindle  
Leonard Scheer