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## FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

*To Know Jesus Christ and Make Him Known to Others*



From the  
Pastor's Desk

### Missing Out

Mary was on her way to the grocery store one afternoon. She wanted to pick up a few last-minute items that she would need to fix dinner for her family that evening and maybe a few extras for the next couple of nights. The store was not far away and would only take a few minutes of her time to accomplish her mission. The route that she took was a familiar one and just happened to take her by the church that she attended. Mary had not been in attendance for a couple of weeks now because of some events on the weekends that had conflicted with the Sunday church services. That was OK to Mary as she “knew” everyone at the church would understand.

As Mary drove on the route to the store, she began to pass the church and she glanced over to look at the building. She was expecting to see the old building standing there looking as majestic as ever. She always thought how beautiful the building was. The church constantly reminded her of an ancient castle that stood on a hillside and looked down on the villagers below. A sense of protection emanated outwards from the old structure, giving comfort to those who looked at the building and somehow promoting the belief that something larger was behind it. The King sits on the throne, ever watchful to the horizon for the first sign of trouble, ready to sound the alarm.

What Mary was not expecting was to see all the cars parked in neat rows in the parking lot. Her mind quickly raced through all the files in her brain as Mary scanned to remember what the event might be that was taking place at the church this day. Mary asked herself out loud, “Was there a funeral today?” She had not heard of anyone passing away recently. “Was someone getting married?” No, that could not be it; no one was engaged to be married that she knew. No, there was no meeting that she could come up with to explain why *all* the cars were at the church.

Mary continued her path to the store, but the vision of the cars remained on her mind. The more she thought about it, the more she became perplexed. Finally, she wheeled the car around and headed back up to the church. Mary was now determined to find out just what was happening at the church. It was beginning to really bother her that she did not know what was going on. She considered herself very active in the life of the church.

As Mary walked into the church, she was greeted by the joyous sound of people laughing. The sweet smells of homemade cakes and breads drifted through the air. Mary could even smell her favorite pie that one of the ladies of the church makes for special occasions. “What’s going on here?” Mary said openly to no one in particular. The answer came in the form of a friend of hers walking up to her saying, “Mary, I’m so glad you and your family made it!” Mary looked confused. “What is the occasion?” This made her friend laugh. “You remember, we are celebrating the church’s birthday today!” This still did not ring any bells with Mary. “I don’t remember anything said about this in church,” Mary said. “I don’t know how you could have missed it” her friend countered, “It’s been in the church bulletin for the past three or four weeks, the newsletter mentioned it for a couple of months, and I know that the pastor e-mailed everyone early this past week.”

Mary looked down at the floor. She had let her life outside take over from her church life. Mary barely read the newsletter; in fact, she usually only scanned it before tossing it in the trash. She also had a habit of deleting the pastor’s e-mails, they were commonly about some sick member of the church that she had not taken the time to know, but most sadly, she had not been in church for some weeks because the events outside the church had become more important to her than the events inside the church. Mary had to admit that it was her own actions that had caused her, and her family, to lose contact with the church.

How much do we miss out on the life of the church when we don’t pay attention? There are so many ways in which the church provides for us to participate in the life of mission within the church. There are so many events that are designed for the members of our families or us to take part in. We can do so with so little effort.

God calls us to be a part of the community and to be faithful. He calls us to be a willing and active member that helps in the growth of the church.

Praying for you as I hope that you are praying for me, *Craig*

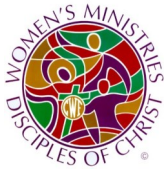
All ladies of the church and their friends are invited to attend CWF meetings. Lessons are based on the book The Well-Watered Woman by Gretchen Saffles.

Our next meeting will be held on **Monday May 1, 2023 at 2:00 pm.**

Lesson: "In Every Season" by Linda List

Devotional: Lori Uptmor

Hostesses: Sherri Winton and Jan Compton



Outreach for this month is Visitor Bags and Comfort Meals for Funerals

In Christ,  
Janice Compton



All ladies of the church and guests are invited to

**Woman at the Well**  
by  
Sandra Wakefield

Saturday June 10, 2023 at 11:00 am

Hostesses will provide drinks and bread/crackers. Please bring a covered dish salad to the luncheon for all to share.

Sandra Wakefield presents, "The Woman at the Well." Though this woman was an outcast in her hometown, Jesus showed her great respect and unconditional acceptance. His conversation with her is the longest-recorded conversation with anyone in the gospels! Experience her life-changing encounter with the only one who can bring total transformation to anyone who will allow it.

Sandra Wakefield is an author and conference speaker. She leads women's retreats as part of her ministry, Fearless Heart.

She is an award-winning actor, and portrays women of the bible onstage, making the bible come to life. Her book, The Esther Effect: The Secret to Her Success, states that "If God has brought you to it, He will lead you through it!"

In May 2019, Sandra was invited to New York to portray Mary the mother of Jesus for the UN Ambassadors' wives.

While living in England, and as a member of the London Bach Choir, she was one of two Americans to sing at the royal wedding of Prince Charles and Lady Diana.

Sandra is an ordained minister.





## Lay Leader: Kim Wilhite

**Sunday, May 7, 2023**

**Elders:** Scott Gilmore & Mike Siemann  
**Deacons:** Janet Baska, Lisa Stevens, Sharon Drinning, Kristi Johnson, Linda Dudley, Jerry Vick  
**Sound System:** Sherri Winton  
**Camera Operator:** Ryder Norris

**Sunday, May 14, 2023**

**Elders:** Dale Hogue & David Dickens  
**Deacons:** Sue Ann Norris, Reece Norris, Clay Norris, Sherri Winton, Lori Uptmor, Barbara Gale, Kim Wilhite  
**Sound System:** Lisa Stevens  
**Camera Operator:** Ryder Norris

**Sunday, May 21, 2023**

**Elders:** Ron Norris & Linda Conder  
**Deacons:** Ann Barrow, Ruth LeVasseur, Ann Embrey, Nancy Holland, Ann Winton, Carol Dickens  
**Sound System:** Erik Vick  
**Camera Operator:** Ryder Norris

**Sunday, May 28, 2023**

**Elders:** Ron & Jan Compton  
**Deacons:** Janet Baska, Lisa Stevens, Sharon Drinning, Kristi Johnson, Linda Dudley, Jerry Vick  
**Sound System:** Sherri Winton  
**Camera Operator:** Ryder Norris

## PRAYER

### Those For Whom Prayer is Needed (Know that we are praying for you)

As you go to God in quiet time this week, please remember these individuals in your prayers. Thank you!

**Our Church Family:** Ronnie Glenn, Jay Cole, Pat Sparks, Michael & Ruth LeVasseur, Pat Hopper, Joe & Cynthia Parnell, Joni Jenkins, Barbara Gale, \*Nancy Holland\*

**Our Extended Church Family:** Skipper Robinson, Joyce Kimmell, Teresa Banda, Paul Williams, Becky Spicerz, Ken Roberts, \*Gary Gwaltney, Bonnie Feather, Ruby Allen, city of Terrell, member of the Miller family\*

*In  
Loving  
Memory  
of*

### Elizabeth Hogue

Scott & Charlotte Gilmore - Maintenance Fund

### Abby Andrews

J.W. & Ann Barrow - Maintenance Fund

### David List, Jr.

Jeff & Janet Baska - General Fund

### Colleen Metcalf

Jeff & Janet Baska - General Fund



IN HONOR OF



DORIS LANE

Nancy Lambeth - Maintenance Fund

**Please remember our Thailand missionaries  
when you send cards, letters or emails.**

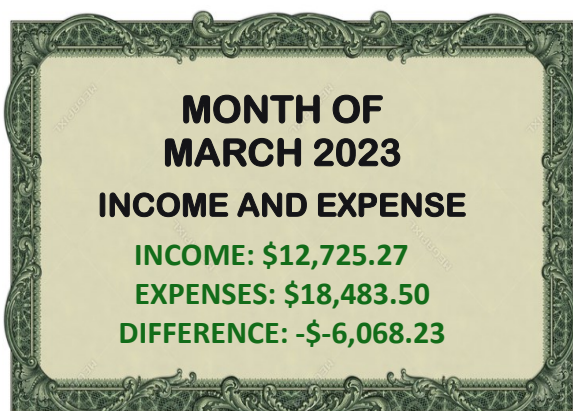
Address: Dave and Mint Dawson  
With sons Taiga and Murray  
174 Moo 13  
Bha Phai San Sai  
Chiangmai, Thailand 50210

Email: [davemintdawson@gmail.com](mailto:davemintdawson@gmail.com)



Friendly reminder:

When putting cash in the offering plate, please put your name and amount given on the envelope so we can put it on your end-of-year contribution report. Any questions, please see Donna Best or Ann Winton.



Dear Church Family,

I want to thank our church friends for all the sweet notes, calls and prayers over the last year. I truly believe my health was restored by the grace of God through the power of prayer.

May the Lord bless and keep you.  
Prissy



Dear First Christian Terrell,

Thank you so much for the donation of ten dollars to help us get candy for the Easter party. You all so generously donated to the children. You are truly making a difference for the kids at the Kaufman County Children's Shelter. We really appreciate your thoughtfulness and the support of our children and the shelter.

Respectfully,  
David Asbill, Director Kaufman County Children's Shelter

Hi Y'all!

I miss you.  
Pat Hopper

Keep us in your prayers  
Becky—Breast Cancer  
Paul—Depression  
Me—Who knows?

We miss you too Pat!



## TERRELL SENIOR TERRACE'S RESIDENTS MAKE DONATIONS

The residents at Senior Terraces, which includes quite a number of our own members, decided they wanted to do a service project and they chose our Hearten Food Pantry and Hygiene Pantry for Serenity Corner. Over the past two months they have collected food and hygiene items worth about \$500 that have been placed in the pantry we house and manage for Serenity. We want to say "Thank You" for helping us with this Outreach Project.

Residents holding examples of the food items they collected for Serenity.



Residents showing some of the Hygiene items they donated to the Serenity Hygiene Pantry. The beautiful box they used for the collection was made for the project by our member Wayne Howe.



**Our thanks to all the folks at Terrell Senior Terraces who participated in this project and for their desire to help the homeless people of Terrell.**



## YOU ARE INVITED TO VISIT OUR HISTORY ROOM!!!!

We hope you, our members, as well as guests, will take time to visit the Church History Room in the next few weeks. A display of our church's history was set up for the Community Church Tour held recently in celebration of the City's Sesquicentennial celebration. It will be left in place until after our celebration on Sunday, May 7th of 100 years of worship in this sanctuary. You will want to spend some time browsing, learning about our past, seeing photos of the church family through the years at work, worship, play and service.

Do you know what was happening in the country at the time our church history began? There is a timeline on the wall.

Have you ever wondered how many ministers we've had over our almost 150 years on this corner? We have photos of most of them.

Would you like to know who were members of the church in 1922? We have a collection of Church Directories, the first one dated that year.

Our Christian Women's Fellowship was active as early as 1934 and we have a collection of Yearbooks from 1934 to present.

You can read about important events in the life of our church from 1922 forward in the collection of newspapers that have been preserved, stories such as the installation of our Kimball Organ and the parade of citizens, marching bands and organizations who marched from downtown to celebrate the opening of the second sanctuary built on this site.

**YOU WON'T BE DISAPPOINTED BY YOUR VISIT!!**

One of the displays is from Mary Lindsey's collection: hats and gloves worn by Mary and one of her sisters in the photo of the girls ready for worship in our sanctuary on Easter of 1949.



## SERENITY CORNER ACTIVITIES HIGHLIGHTED

Serenity recently received \$4,000 in grant funds from Trinity Valley Electric Cooperative's Charitable Foundation. These funds are generated by TVEC's Operation Round-Up program where customers round up their monthly electric bills to the next whole dollar amount and the portion that is rounded up goes into this Charitable Foundation to be used as grant to local non-profits. These grant funds will be used to stock the Hearten Food Pantry as well as other Direct Aid programs of Serenity Corner.

The date of Serenity's Annual celebration, showing gratitude to its neighbors for not only accepting the Homeless ministry in its midst to operate there, but giving support to the ministry. "SERENIVERSARY 2023" will take place on Saturday, June 24<sup>th</sup> – 2-4pm at 212 S. Rockwall. They are asking for donations: funds, new children's bicycles, bounce house sponsors, volunteers to monitor, serve food and do cleanup. If you can help please contact Charlotte Gilmore, 972-742-9802.

"Christmas In July" – Watch for announcements of a new project for Serenity. Our church, in coordination with others, will celebrate Christmas with our friends at Serenity on Friday, July 21<sup>st</sup> with Christmas Shoebox Gifts, a Christmas meal, music and worship. More details will follow!!!





The "Adopt a Classroom" campaign is one part of Terrell ISD's Community action project. This endeavor is a great opportunity for our church to show our love for the school children of Terrell. During the month of May we will receive a special offering for this purpose. As well as supporting students by providing classroom supplies, we will also be reducing the amount the teachers spend out of their own pockets. Please prayerfully consider donating to this worthwhile cause.

Cash or checks will be gratefully accepted. Please make your check out to FCC and note Adopt a Classroom on the memo line. Offerings for this mission will be combined and one check will be delivered.

Your Outreach Committee



# Sereniversary 2023

Saturday June 24, 2-4 PM at Serenity Corner  
212 S. Rockwall St, Terrell Texas



## Seven years behind us, and many more to come!

Come celebrate our anniversary with us. There will be food, games for kids, a bounce house, music and more!

If you would like to donate, contact Don by text at 469-474-4513 or email to [don@serenitycorner.org](mailto:don@serenitycorner.org).

We are looking for general funding, 4 kids bicycles and prizes for games.

We need volunteers for the bounce house, games, set up and take down, greeters, trash patrol and more.

**We appreciate your participation!**

## Happy Mother's Day

"She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come. She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue." PROVERBS 31:25-26

