



The Chalice



Linking Congregations in Partnership, Sharing the Life, Hope and Message of Jesus Christ

Vol. 15 No. 11

Bluebonnet Area/Lower Rio Grande Valley District of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the Southwest Region

November 2010

A message from the Area Minister . . .

As most of you know the BBA office is located at Woodlawn Christian Church. Each morning at 9:00 the church carillon plays two or three hymns broadcast from the bell tower. This week I found myself singing along "Count your many blessings, name them one by one..." My singing wasn't so good, but it is good spiritual practice to attend to the blessings in life. The entire world celebrated with Chile this week as 33 miners were rescued. Courage, commitment, community, faith, hope and joy became the currency of the day. We have much to celebrate in the BBA. There is, of course, much to be done, but there is much for which to be grateful. Among the many recent blessings is the opportunity to welcome several new ministers to the area.

- * Central Christian Church, Austin called Rev. Peggy Edge as Senior Minister
- * Central Christian Church, Corpus Christi called Rev. John F. Justiss as Senior Minister
- * First Christian Church, Fredericksburg called Rev. Charles Waugh as Interim Minister
- * First Christian Church, Kingsville called Rev. Terry Neel as Senior Minister
- * First Christian Church, San Marcos called Rev. Jill Sullins as Senior Minister (Installation Service was held September 26, 2010)
- * Marbach Christian Church called Rev. Arlie Lammers as Senior Minister (Installation Service was held September 19, 2010)
- * Woodlawn Christian Church called Rev. Bill Howden as Interim Minister

Each one has come to us in response to a Divine initiative. We are blessed to have them among us. Let's celebrate God's Goodness represented in their presence among us.

Bluebonnet Area/LRGVD General Fund	Income and Expenses by Month												January - September 2010				
	Jan 10	Feb 10	Mar 10	Apr 10	May 10	Jun 10	Jul 10	Aug 10	Sep 10	TOTAL							
Income																	
42000 - Gifts from Area Congregations	11,753.78	5,618.26	12,473.31	7,855.78	3,287.52	7,266.65	7,733.10	4,387.08	5,084.51								65,459.99
42500 - Gifts from Individuals	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	175.00								975.00
45000 - Christian Church in the SW	1,223.25	2,446.50	1,223.25	1,223.25	0.00	1,223.25	2,446.50	1,223.25	0.00								11,009.25
45200 - Investment Income	128.50	14.43	12.06	109.34	12.71	13.27	364.54	16.61	0.00								671.46
46000 - Licensed Minister's Trng Books	0.00	0.00	50.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	50.00	-214.09								-114.09
47000 - Event Income	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	705.36	1,018.47	0.00	5,697.92	-102.64								7,319.11
Total Income	13,205.53	8,179.19	13,868.62	9,288.37	4,105.59	9,621.64	10,644.14	11,474.86	4,942.78								85,320.72
Expense																	
50100 - Area Minister	11,312.64	4,068.61	8,728.12	3,227.21	4,102.25	3,679.00	3,096.17	3,972.59	3,264.80								45,451.39
50160 - Area Minister Housing	2,400.00	2,400.00	2,400.00	2,400.00	2,400.00	2,400.00	2,400.00	2,400.00	2,400.00								21,600.00
50500 - Staffing Costs	2,932.86	2,932.86	1,572.86	2,795.86	2,795.87	2,795.85	2,795.86	2,795.87	2,795.85								24,213.74
52000 - Operating Expenses	3,566.27	2,195.81	1,570.84	2,706.91	1,835.80	1,774.55	2,859.96	1,458.77	1,477.96								19,446.89
60000 - Departments/Committees	0.00	62.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00								62.00
70000 - Event Expense	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	125.00	27.00	3.00	0.00	0.00								155.00
Total Expense	20,211.77	11,659.28	14,271.82	11,129.98	11,258.92	10,676.40	11,154.99	10,627.23	9,936.63								110,929.02
Net Income	-7,006.24	-3,480.09	-413.20	-1,841.61	-7,153.33	-1,054.76	-510.85	847.63	-4,995.85								-25,608.30

Bluebonnet Area/LRGVD	General Fund Cash Position	As of October 4, 2010
		<u>October 4, 2010</u>
Cash Available to General Fund		
Checking and Savings Accounts		
FirstMark Non Profit Savings		5.00
First Mark CU Checking		85,482.86
First Mark CU Savings		<u>100.00</u>
TOTAL AVAILABLE FUNDS		85,587.86
Committed Funds		
VISA Compass Bank		414.44
Area Benevolence Fund		213.39
Chalice Dove Ministries		60.00
Men's Ministries		633.40
New Church Starts		19,002.62
Reconciliation Funds		2,585.56
Women's Ministries		845.99
Camp Scholarship Fund		2,000.00
Unexpended Funds--Disciples Womens Retreat		<u>8,634.55</u>
TOTAL COMMITTED FUNDS		34,389.95
TOTAL AVAILABLE FUNDS		<u>51,197.91</u>

GOOD

.....
CONQUERS :
:



EVIL

“Turn from evil
and do good.
Seek peace
and pursue it.”
-Pslams 31:14

Come and celebrate God's word as
we explore our theme through
Disney and Pixar movies!

Cost: \$100

Deadline: Oct. 29th at the BBA office.

Arrival Time: Nov. 12th 7PM

Departure Time: Nov. 14 10AM

Directors: Jason Braun 512-353-2982
and Jennifer Adamson 210-385-7349

Fall Rally 2010: November 12-14th



The **registration form** is available online at bluebonnetarea.org under the Events page. Or you may contact the Area Office at bba@ccsw.org and (210) 822-4345.

For Immediate Release

World Premiere
~ *On Christmas Night* ~
Composed and Conducted by
Bob Chilcott

Contact Rev. Mary Lu Johnston
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University Christian Church of Austin, Texas, is pleased to announce the world premiere of *On Christmas Night*, a Christmas Cantata, by celebrated British composer Bob Chilcott. Mr. Chilcott will conduct the premiere in two performances at 3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. on December 12, 2010 in the church sanctuary. The work is a sequence of music and readings for the festive season which combines new arrangements of well-known and well-loved Christmas carols with newly-composed carols. The work was commissioned by and written for University Christian Church Austin, thanks to a generous bequest from the Estate of Roy Cates in memory of Dr. Lawrence W. Bash, Senior Minister at University Christian Church Austin from 1949 to 1959.

Mr. Chilcott was a chorister and choral scholar at King's College, Cambridge, and was a member of the vocal group The King's Singers for twelve years. He has worked as a composer since 1997, writing a variety of choral music. Over 100 of his pieces have been published by Oxford University Press. He is a Principal Guest Conductor of the BBC Singers, and he has conducted a number of other choirs, including the World Youth Choir, the RIAS Kammerchor, the Orphei Drangar from Sweden, Jauna Musika from Lithuania, the Taipei Chamber Singers, and the Tower New Zealand Youth Choir. He has worked in 23 countries on six continents, and at festivals all over the world.

Public question and answer sessions with this engaging and well-known composer are set for 2:15 and 6:15 p.m. in the church sanctuary, and receptions will follow both performances in the fellowship hall.

Free tickets for the performances of *On Christmas Night* are available by calling University Christian Church at 477.6104 or emailing admin@ucc-austin.org.

As the Coordinator Coordinates...Disciples Women's Ministries

September 24-26, 2010...Gonzales, Texas--There was an incident report of strange noises of an explosive nature coming from an area a few miles outside of Gonzales. No, it was not a re-enactment of the "Come and Take It" battle of the Texas Revolution. It was the sound of the Lodge at Disciple Oaks Retreat Center groaning and stretching to hold the 118 Disciples Women from the BBA / LRGVD who attended the annual fall retreat.

All past records of attendance for this particular gathering were crushed, with approximately a dozen more in attendance than ever before. This is because of the dedication of the cluster consultants who spread the word about this retreat. Also, for the first time, different registration options were offered, allowing retreaters to come the full event, one night, and Saturday only.

"Singing the Lord's Song in a Land That's Getting Stranger" was the chosen theme by our keynoter, Rev. Dani Loving Cartwright, our Regional Minister and President. And sing we did! Using both the Chalice Hymnal and the Chalice Praise, we sang and sang and sang!

We were blessed with the great weather, workshops, worship services, music, and opportunities to shop. The silent auction was many times larger than any in the past, thanks to an amazing group of women. Their enthusiastic bidding raised \$1637 for the Regional Women's project "The Challenge", which almost doubles the total raised in the entire region since its inception. A offering of \$1205 was collected, and will be split between Inman Christian Center and Southwest Good Samaritan Ministries.

Below is a summary of our attendance and our giving.

Stats for Attendance

- 25 churches in attendance
 - Alamo Cluster (15)—Marbach, Western Hills, Alamo Heights, Rolling Oaks, Central San Antonio
 - Town and Country Cluster (7)—UCC Taylor, Somerville
 - LRGVD (19)—Ebenezer, Emmanuel, FCC San Benito, FCC Edinburg, Bella Vista
 - Hill Country Cluster (22)—FCC Kerrville, FCC Llano, FCC Burnet
 - Coastal Cluster (22)—Central Corpus, FCC Kingsville, South Shore/Corpus, FCC Pettus, FCC Victoria, FCC Aransas Pass
 - Capital Cluster (32)—San Marcos, Shepherd of the Hills, Round Rock, Central Austin
- 43 "Newbies" in attendance
- "100% Newbies" Award was given to South Shore Corpus bringing 7, and Bella Vista bringing 3.
- 2010 "Judy" Award was given to Round Rock Christian Church for the largest attendance of 16. Burnet graciously handed over the trophy.

Congratulations to all Clusters and Churches for Outstanding Attendance!

Stats for Giving

- Silent Auction \$ 1637 Proceeds go to the CCSW: DWM Staff Support to raise money to fund a staff person for DWM "The Challenge".
- Offering \$1205 Proceeds will be split 2 ways between SWGSM and Inman Christian Center.
- Blessing Boxes \$43.30 Proceeds will be sent to IDWM for mission support.

WAY TO GO! Disciples Women of the BBA / LRGVD!

In the closing worship, the DWM leadership team for 2010-2012 was installed. They are as follows:

- Coordinator – Melanie Holtz
- Alamo Cluster Consultant – Janie Harrison
- Capital Cluster Consultant – Sharen Trickey
- Hill Country Cluster Consultant – Harriet Reed
- Town & Country Cluster Co-Consultants – Etta Ross and Rita Fields
- Coastal Cluster Consultant – Sallie Ferrell
- LRGVD Co-Consultants – Raquel Garcia and Caroline Herbert

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I want to take this opportunity to thank you for all your support during the last two years as your Coordinator. What an awesome ride it has been. It has been my pleasure to work with and for you, and during this time I have discovered that we have a wealth of talented, dedicated women in the Bluebonnet Area. With Melanie Holtz and her new team in place, I have no concerns for the future of the DWM in the BBA/LRGVD. Your future is bright.

Your sister in Christ,
Marilyn Petrick

FORMER DISCIPLES MISSIONARY TO CONGO, RICHARD DODSON, DIES

Former Disciples missionary James Richard "Dick" Dodson, 85, has died. Dodson, who served as a missionary in Africa, died Sept. 21 in San Antonio, Texas. He and his wife, Joy, served in the Congo for 11 years. Richard Dodson was the founding dean of the Congo Protestant University's theological seminary in Lubumbashi. He also was director for the African-American Institute in New York City, then in Tanzania and in the Ivory Coast. In addition, he was director of the Overseas Liaison Committee to the American Council on Education in Washington, D.C., and worked as a human resources and education consultant for USAID in Washington and then in Congo (Zaire).

Dodson graduated with a bachelor's degree from Transylvania University, and earned a master of divinity degree from Lexington Theological Seminary. He received a joint educational doctorate from Columbia University and Union Theological Seminary in New York City. For more, see: www.disciples.org/Portals/0/PDF/DNS/2010/20101013-RichardDodsonObit.pdf

Ecumenical Spirituality: The Heart of our Unity in Christ

INDIANAPOLIS, October 13, 2010 -- A major element of the 100th Anniversary Celebration of the founding of the Council on Christian Unity has been providing worship resources for congregations throughout the year aimed at developing a more dynamic ecumenical spirituality.

The newest resources available are for All Saints Day (November) and Advent (December). They were written by Linda McKiernan-Allen, minister at West Street Christian Church, Tipton, IN; and Ron Allen, professor of preaching at Christian Theological Seminary in Indianapolis.

McKiernan-Allen and Allen are both noted Disciples teachers in the area of worship. They crafted worship materials this year emphasizing Martin Luther King Jr. Day, the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, African American History Month, Lent, Easter, Pentecost, National Hispanic and Bilingual Fellow Day, Reconciliation Ministry, David Kagiwada Sunday/NAPAD Week, and World Communion Sunday.

Each month's resources include calls to worship, opening prayers, invitations to the Table, notes on preaching from the lectionary texts of the day and closing prayers.

"I believe these worship resources capture the vision and face of the 'new ecumenism of the 21st century' in language that speaks to the best of our Disciples tradition," said Robert Welsh, president of the Council on Christian Unity. "Highlighting worship and spirituality as the heart and soul of the ecumenical movement, I hope these resources will be used by congregations in worship in the years to come."

The worship resources can be found on the CCU website at <http://www.disciples.org/ccu/100thAnniversaryResources.html> .

BBA TODAY

NOVEMBER

- 6 LRGVD Annual Assembly
- 6 DORC Board Meeting, Gonzales, 10:30 a.m.
- 8 Pastoral Relations Committee, Hyde Park, 11:30 a.m.
- 8 *LRGVD Mentor Group Meeting*, FCC Edinburg, 7:00 p.m.
- 9 Capital Cluster Meeting, Hyde Park CC
- 12-14 CYF Fall Rally, DORC, Gonzales, \$100
- 13 *Capital Mentor Group Meeting*, Hyde Park CC, 10:00 a.m.
- 17 Alamo Cluster Meeting, Rolling Oaks CC, 11:30 a.m.
- 25-26 *BBA Office Closed in Observance of Thanksgiving*

DECEMBER

- 2 *Alamo Mentor Group Meeting*, Alamo Heights CC, 10:00 a.m.
- 11 *Capital Mentor Group Meeting*, Hyde Park CC, 10:00 a.m.
- 13 *LRGVD Mentor Group Meeting*, FCC Edinburg, 7:00 p.m.
- 14 Capital Cluster Meeting, Hyde Park CC
- 15 Alamo Cluster Meeting, Rolling Oaks CC, 11:30 a.m.
- 24-31 *BBA Office Closed in Observance of Christmas Holidays*

JANUARY

- 8 *Capital Mentor Group Meeting*, Hyde Park CC, 10:00 a.m.
- 9 Outdoor Ministry Committee Meeting, DORC, Gonzales 3:00 pm.
- 10 *LRGVD Mentor Group Meeting*, FCC Edinburg, 7:00 p.m.
- 17 *BBA Office Closed in Observance of Martin Luther King Jr Day*
- 22 Clergy Leadership Institute, Austin

We Want To Hear From You!

- Do you have a special event planned that you would like to share with other congregations across the BBA/LRGVD?
- Have you had a special celebration (pastor's birthday, ordination ceremony, graduation, church anniversary, community event, etc.)?
- Have you or your members served your community, state, or nation in a special way?
- Please let us know! Please send your stories and pictures to Anna in the Area office (bba@ccsw.org) **by the 15th of each month** to include in the next month's issue.

The Chalice

A monthly publication of
BBA/LRGVD Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

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