

HCC's Christian Visitor

Hurst Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

March 22, 2009

Rev. Chris Carathers
Senior Minister
Cell (817) 726-5333

Rev. Sammie Bennett
Senior Minister Intern

Rev. Justin Floyd
Youth Minister

Mike Bond
Board Chair

Karen Erby
Chair of Elders

Ferral Bishop
Administrative Secretary

Richard McReynolds
Music Director

Nancy Gage
Pianist

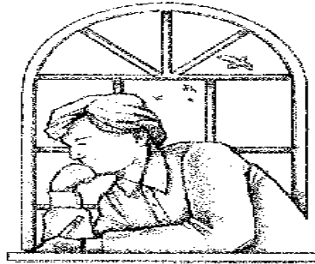
Diane Lloyd
Nursery Attendant

Brian Briscoe, MS, LPC-i
Licensed Counselor

745 Brown Trail
Hurst, Texas 76053
Church Office (817) 282-4927
e-mail:

hcchurst@hurstchristian.org
Website: www.hurstchristian.org

Office Hours - Tuesdays
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.



**In our
thoughts
& prayers**

- *Troops and the Country of Iraq
- *Congregation
- *Church Transformation
- * Hispanic Community
- *Economy
- *Vida Nueva
- *Peace in Gaza
- *Samuel Rudzitis - Friend of Nancy Gage
- *Joy Tullous
- *JM Gilley
- *Florence Aime` - Her son
- *All those that have lost their jobs
- *Keith Jesmain
- *Family of Chuck Hammond
- *Elston Hall
- *Fred Pallett
- *Charla Benegas

Small Groups

<u>Leader</u>	<u>Meeting</u>	<u>Phone #</u>
Karen Anderson	Sat. 10 a.m.	817-232-9093
Mike Bond (Group meets every other Sat.)	Sat. 5 p.m.	817-571-2929
Sandra Hall		817-283-0560
Dee Yeats	Sat. 9 a.m.	817-571-8136
Chris Carathers (Young Couples 20-35 Yr. Olds)	1st & 3rd Tues. at 7:00 p.m.	817-726-5333

Chris' Thoughts

What a wondrous time is spring! Don't you just love the warm weather and the chance to get outside again? Hope springs eternal, and it's during spring that things come back to life after the cold of winter (unless you're in Texas and you really don't have much a winter and then when spring hits you never know if you need an umbrella, a coat, or shorts from day to day!)

As things come to life around us we still find ourselves in the season of Lent that talks of death and sin. But soon we will be turning the corner and Easter will be here before you know it!

Just as life begins again in the spring, we also find our church growing into new life as well! We have a wonderful Easter week planned with extra worships and an Easter egg hunt. We have small groups that are beginning. We have a Habitat build in April, a cookout coming in May, a day at the ballpark watching the Ft. Worth Cats play in June, and on and on! There is SO much going on right now, and isn't it wonderful?!?!?

One thing that we have to make sure of during this wonderful time is that we don't leave anyone behind and that we don't forget anyone! Last summer we formalized our small group ministry. Our goal was to get as many people in small groups as possible, yet we knew that not everyone would be a part of a small group. SO, we ALSO made a promise that we would take care of the people who are NOT active in a small group. We planned to do that through our Shepherding groups that we've been accustomed to over the years.

Well, we have gotten better organized between our Shepherd groups and our small group ministry, and we are once again renewing our Shepherd ministry!

As you know, our Shepherd ministry is designed to keep in touch with people and all they are going through. We put people in small groups and assign a Shepherd to each group. That shepherd is responsible for checking up on their "flock" from time to time including doing things like possibly sending birthday cards, putting people's names on the prayer list, communicating with the pastoral staff about any needs they are aware of, and on and on. Our Shepherds are very important in the life of the church! They are a vital link between the church and the people in it.

If you are not in a small group, we continue to encourage you to try it out. If small group is not for you, or you just don't choose to be a part of one that is wonderful too! If that is the case, please make sure that we have you on our Shepherd lists so that we can stay in better contact with you!

I pray that you all are having a wonderful Lenten season and that you are growing in your faith during this journey.

Blessings,

Chris

AREAS OF SERVICE

3/22/2009

Presiding Elder: Dee Yeats

Counting Elder: Pat Emerson

Diaconate: Bud Dotter, Michaela Bond, Belle Madalora, and Laura DuPuy

Comm. Prep: Bobbie Douglas

Communion Invitation:

Rev. Sammie Bennett

3/29/2009

Presiding Elder: Dee Yeats

Counting Elder: Pat Emerson

Diaconate: Bud Dotter, Michaela Bond, Belle Madalora, and Laura DuPuy

Comm. Prep: Bobbie Douglas

Communion Invitation:

Rev. Justin Floyd

4/5/2009

Presiding Elder: Dee Yeats

Counting Elder: Pat Emerson

Diaconate: Bud Dotter, Michaela Bond, Belle Madalora, and Laura DuPuy

Comm. Prep: Bobbie Douglas

Communion Invitation:

Rev. Chris Carathers

First Saturday of the month at 9:00 a.m.
We will gather for Church Clean-up, fix up and repairs.

Holy Week Schedule

Wednesday, April 8th:

Fellowship lunch and worship (NO Wed. night activities)

Thursday, April 9th: Maundy

Thursday service, 7:00 PM

Sunday, April 12th: Easter

Service: 10:30 AM

Easter Egg Hunt after the worship service.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR WORSHIP, STUDY, SERVICE AND FELLOWSHIP

3/21 Saturday

3/22 Sunday

9:00 A.M. Sunday School

10:00 A.M. Choir Prep

10:20 A.M. Elders' Prayer Time

10:30 A.M. Worship

12:00 P.M. Choir Rehearsal

3:00 P.M. Grief Counseling

3/23 Monday

7:00 P.M. Elders' Meeting

3/24 Tuesday

7:00 P.M. Games Night

3/25 Wednesday

6:00 P.M. Brown Bag Dinner

7:00 P.M. Youth Group

7:00 P.M. Adult Bible Study

7:00 P.M. ESL Classes

3/26 Thursday

3/27 Friday

3/28 Saturday

3/29 Sunday

9:00 A.M. Sunday School

10:00 A.M. Choir Prep Time

10:20 A.M. Elders' Prayer Time

10:30 A.M. Worship

12:00 P.M. Choir Rehearsal

3:00 P.M. Grief Counseling

3/30 Monday

3/31 Tuesday

7:00 P.M. Games Night

4/1 Wednesday

6:00 P.M. Brown Bag Dinner

7:00 P.M. Youth Group

7:00 P.M. Adult Bible Study

7:00 P.M. ESL Classes

4/2 Thursday

4/3 Friday

4/4 Saturday

8:00 A.M. DMF Meeting

(Disciple Men's Fellowship)

9:00 A.M. Church Clean Up and

Fix Up

4/5 Sunday

9:00 A.M. Sunday School

10:00 A.M. Choir Prep Time

10:20 A.M. Elder's Prayer Time

10:30 A.M. Worship

12:00 P.M. Choir Rehearsal

Needed: Filled Plastic Easter Eggs

Please fill with wrapped candies or small trinkets. Thank you for leaving them in the church office.

Congregational Meeting and Vote

Sunday, March 29th

Immediately following the worship service. The purpose is to revisit the vote from the last year that suspended the Constitution and Bylaws.

Habitat Build!

We have signed up for a Habitat Build April 18th! It will be from 8:00-3:00. We only have 10 slots so sign up soon! The build will take place at 703 Central Dr., Newark, Texas.

Upcoming Elders' Meetings

Monday, March 23rd at 7:00 p.m.

Monday, April 6th at 7:00 p.m.

Monday, April 20th at 7:00 p.m.

Beautiful Feet Ministries
We meet the **third Sundays of the month at 6:00 a.m. at the church and then travel to Beautiful Feet in Fort Worth. We will be meeting on April 19th and May 17. Our church takes the Summer off from Beautiful Feet.**

Youth News

What an amazing weekend we had! We joined up with the youth group from University Christian Church and participated in the 30 hour famine. We learned about hunger, war, and poverty from places all over the world. Then we learned about how those same things exist right here in our own backyards. We worshiped outside in the cold, right next to one of the busiest streets in Fort Worth so we really got a feel of what it is like to try to sleep outside in February in the middle of a bustling city. Then on Saturday morning we made 200 sandwiches for Beautiful Feet. When we went on Sunday we took the sandwiches with us and they were so happy! We also made bags of grace filled with food like water and even candy and others filled with toiletries. Then we help UCC out by making desert for their Room In the Inn ministry where they open there doors and allow the homeless in during the hottest and coldest months of the year, then they serve them breakfast. It truly was an amazing weekend.

Its camp time again! We will forms available for summer camps just ask Justin. If you are wanting to get involved there are a lot of opportunities. You can help sponsor a youths camp experience any donation will be wonderful. Or if you are feeling really dedicated you can talk to Justin about being a counselor for a camp. If you have a passion for working with kids from age 4 to age 18 then there is an opportunity for you to help out! The camp directors are always looking for adults and it is an amazing experience for the youth but also for the adults. If you have never been to camp before please consider being a counselor and see what all the fun is about!

Justin Floyd
Youth Minister
(817) 366-5196 cell

Life Enrichment Small Group
Tuesday, March 24th at 7:00 p.m.
Tom and Ferral Bishop's House
812 Chrissy Creek, Euless, TX 76040
(817) 684-4084

This group is for 35-55 year olds who want to enrich their lives. This is the newest small group.

They will meet on the second and fourth Tuesday's of the month. Please let the Bishop's know if you like to attend.

New & Prospective Members
Brown Bag Lunch (Part 2)

We will have our second session on Sunday, April 5th right after church. I hope you can make it!

New Members:

Morgan (c. 817-727-1203) and Elizabeth Williams (c. 817-727-1109)

Morgan.Williams0770@gmail.com &
elizabeth.williams519@gmail.com

2327 L Don Dodson #162
Bedford, TX 76021

Morgan works for Sherwin Williams Paint, and Elizabeth works for "Which Wich"—a sandwich shop, in the corporate office. They are HUGE Texas Tech fans (especially football) and have been very active in our small group ministry.

Disciple Men's Fellowship
Meetings are the first Saturday of
the month at 8:00 a.m.

Facts and Figures

General Fund 2009 To Date

<u>Date Received</u>	<u>Received</u>	<u>Needed</u>	<u>Total Received</u> <u>To Date</u>	<u>Year To</u> <u>Date Needed</u>
February 22, 2009	\$ 2,070	\$ 2,400	\$ 18,202	\$ 19,200
March 1, 2009	\$ 2,519	\$ 2,400	\$ 20,721	\$ 21,600
March 8, 2009	\$ 2,901	\$ 2,400	\$ 23,622	\$ 24,000
March 15, 2009	\$ 1,472	\$ 2,400	\$ 25,094	\$ 26,400

ATTENDANCE

March 1, 2009
Worship 53
March 8, 2009
Worship 55
March 15, 2009
Worship 51

Pictorial Directories

We have begun talking about a new pictorial directory! It's been 5 years since our last pictorial directory. The photography places are doing more and more of the work, but we would still need to have someone here that would work directly with them. If you, or someone you know would like to coordinate this project for us, please let us know!

Counseling Services

Brian Briscoe

I am licensed to provide individual, couple, group, and family counseling in depression, anger, anxiety, addiction, and many other issues. I currently run a men's sobriety support group on Sunday afternoons (<http://webpages.charter.net/javajunkies/>). For more information, call 817.907.6937 (907-O YES)
Brian Briscoe, MS, LPC-i

"The Connection"

—a place to feel and get connected with God and each other!
Come join us on Wednesday nights!

6:00:

Brown Bag Dinner:

If you're coming straight from work, or you just don't have time to get the kids fed, bring your dinner with you! We'll have tables set up in the Fellowship Hall where we can all eat together and have a time of fellowship.

7:00-8:30:

Youth Groups:

Junior high and high school youth (*youth room*)

Adult Bible Study: "Building Blocks"

Lead by Pastor Chris—we will have a time of faith building and exploring together. If you've never picked up a Bible, or if you are well read in the scriptures, this will be a place you can call home! (*Parlor*)

ESL Classes:

Lead by Dee Yeats, and Pedro Olvera—this class is designed for Spanish speakers who want to learn more basic English (*choir room*)

Adult Bible Study:

Lead by Sammie Bennett (*Library*)

Trinity-Brazos Area Assembly

Saturday, April 25th, 2009

From 9:00 a.m.—2:30 p.m.

Central Christian Church, Fort Worth, Texas

Registration fees : \$15 per person or \$25 per couple

Registration Deadline is Tuesday, April 7th

HURST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(Disciples of Christ)
745 Brown Trail
Hurst, TX 76053

Non-Profit
Organization
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Permit No.

HCC Christian Visitor is published every two weeks except for the last two weeks of the year.

Sammie's Bit

One of my favorite movies is a quite recent one called, "Dan In Real Life" with Steve Carell. It's a great movie, if you haven't seen it I recommend it! The producers of the movie got only one person to do all the music, Sondre Lerche and the first song that he does in the movie is called "To Be Surprised." That song seems to have a huge impact on the rest of the movie. This song also reminds me a lot of how our faith, our relationship with God, and the calling that we have been given by God. There is always an aspect of being surprised in life no matter what.

Faith is such an easy thing to be surprised by. Life is such an easy thing to be surprised by. Surprise is an exciting thing to experience anyways!!! There is just so much within our faith that surprises us and completely changes the way that you live your life. Faith's surprises have a way of strengthening us so that we have the ability to experience the bumps that will come down our road. There is only one assurance in our lives, and "baby be prepared to be surprise."

When we continue on our journey of faith, it is easy to get comfortable in our lives. But then there are those times, the most glorious and awful of times, that completely sweep us off our feet. Those are the times that the surprises strengthen us in a way that we never thought possible or needed. Those are the times that our faith is something that just radiates off of our faces. Those are the times that those surprises help to define who we are.

Be prepared to be surprised on your journey,
Sammie