

HCC's Christian Visitor

Hurst Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

March 8, 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

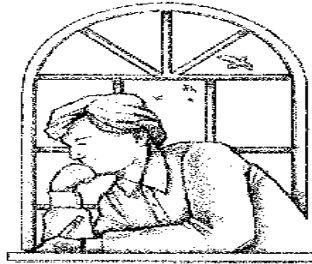
Diane Lloyd
Nursery Attendant

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
- *Mary Guernsey - On a Ventilater
- *Joy Tulous
- *Florence Aime` - Her son
- *Pat Moore - Her daughter's mother-in-law had stroke
- *Dee Yeats - Nephew had gallbladder surgery
- *Betty Fleet - Having corroted artery cleaned
- * All those that have lost their jobs

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

Lent is an interesting time of year. Every year during Lent some people engage in the practice of giving up something as a small sacrifice during the 40 period between Ash Wednesday and Easter.

This past week, as I began my journey through Lent, I decided to give up sweets and sodas as I have already shared. That decision has caused different reactions from some people. Many people within our church are supportive, but I have met others outside of our church that don't quite understand what the point of giving something up during Lent is. I even had a friend of mine ask me if I was Catholic.

The fact of the matter is that the practice of giving something up during the Lenten season is a spiritual practice. It is an opportunity for us to give up something or to take something on—like a daily devotional—that will help us focus more on God.

Spiritual practices once were the bedrock upon which people built their faith. Spiritual practices were things that helped people draw closer to God as they allowed their spirit to grow. But during the Reformation, when the Protestant Church split from the Catholic Church, there was a rejection of all things Catholic, and this included many spiritual practices.

Well, what people have been realizing ever since is that there is a deep need for spiritual practices in the lives of Christians. You may not realize it, but regular worship is a spiritual practice—a corporate spiritual practice because you do it with other people. There are other corporate spiritual practices as well like public prayer, but the vast majority of spiritual practices are individual—something you do by yourself.

That is why they are so hard. It's hard to remind yourself and to stay disciplined enough to regularly pray, or write in a journal, or have a regular time of silence, or fast, or any of the other individual spiritual practices. BUT, these practices are important so that we can keep our focus more on God, and when we do, it also makes us more sensitive to where God might be leading us.

I pray that we will all incorporate one new spiritual practice into our lives this year so that our faith may continue to grow and we might draw even closer to God.

Blessings,

Chris

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!

**It's That
Time Of Year Again!
It's time to order Easter Lilies.**

The order forms are located in the
Sunday bulletin.

The flowers are \$7.00 each.
Orders should be in by March 29th.

AREAS OF SERVICE

3/8/2009

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

3/15/2009

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

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. 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

OPPORTUNITIES FOR WORSHIP, STUDY, SERVICE AND FELLOWSHIP

3/7 Saturday

3/8 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

2:00 P.M. Board Meeting

3/9 Monday

3/10 Tuesday

7:00 P.M. Games Night

3/11 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

3/12 Thursday

3/13 Friday

3/14 Saturday

3/15 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

3/16 Monday

7:00 P.M. Elders' Meeting

3/17 Tuesday

7:00 P.M. Games Night

3/18 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

3/19 Thursday

3/20 Friday

3/21 Saturday

3/22 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

3:00 P.M. Grief Counseling

The church would like to have a name, phone number and address for emergency use only for each member. This information is needed for each member, so that we may reach a friend or loved one in case of an emergency. Please leave this information in the church office in the secretary's in box on her desk.

Upcoming Board Meeting March 8th at 2:00 p.m.

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! More details to come!

Upcoming Elders' Meetings

Monday, March 16th
At 7:00 p.m.
And
Monday, April 6th
At 7:00 p.m.

Beautiful Feet Ministries
We meet the first Sunday of the month at 6:00 a.m. at the church and then travel to Beautiful Feet in Fort Worth.

We have some wonderful new faces among us!

Brian & Kelli Briscoe and their children:

Brian 817-907-6937; Kelli 817-907-8304

724 Joanna Dr.

Hurst, TX 76053

bbriscoe@att.net

Brian works at Catholic Charities and is also on our staff as a Counselor. Kelli works in publishing and writing.

Rob and Cheri Ritchey and their son Alex

817-514-2015

5805 Kennedy St.

Watauga, TX 76148

cherinelle@mac.com

Rob works in computer programming and Cheri is a homemaker.

Sharon Owens (husband-Robert; 2 children)

h. 817-577-4604

c. 817-223-9658

6001 Barry Dr.

Watauga, TX 76148

Sharon@winstonwatercooler.com

Sharon works for Winston Water Coolers in accounts payable.

Jim and Ferne Hays

h. 817-437-3094

2805 Brookshire Dr.

Grapevine, TX 76051

jim.ferne@gmail.com

Jim was in retired from the Navy. They have most recently toured the country in their RV, but have now settled in Grapevine near their children.

Keith Jesmain

c. 817-691-6695

8012 Sitka St.

Ft. Worth, TX 76137

flying_angels16@hotmail.com

Keith is attending TCC to get his basics before going on to get his Engineering degree and then go fly helicopters in the Air Force.

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 8, 2009	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,400	\$ 13,946	\$ 14,400
February 15, 2009	\$ 2,186	\$ 2,400	\$ 16,132	\$ 16,800
February 22, 2009	\$ 2,070	\$ 2,400	\$ 18,202	\$ 19,200
March 1, 2009	\$ 2,519	\$ 2,400	\$ 20,721	\$ 21,600

ATTANDANCE

February 8, 2009	
Worship	66
February 15, 2009	
Worship	62
February 22, 2009	
Worship	66
March 1, 2009	
Worship	53

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 this winter!

We will be starting our Wednesday Night Schedule On January 14th after our January Mission Trip.

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*)

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

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

Sammie's Bit

You know what they say about Texas weather? Wait five minutes and it'll change. I think that we are experiencing that during this spring/summer/fall/winter start of this year. But it's been an interesting change – some days we reach into the 70s and 80s, others we stick in the 50s, and some mornings we start at around freezing! Talk about inconsistent! But, it's a beautiful thing...not knowing what to expect fully.

We have an exciting God. A God that knows exactly what we need whenever we ourselves have NO idea that we need it! We may go to God with a list of things that we believe that we need but really God has a totally different plan for us! It's a wonderful thing learning what we really need by what we actually receive. God always knows what's going on in our lives and even though we wake up wanting that warmth to fill us, sometimes we are greeted with freezing temperatures.

Even though the cold may be too much to bear sometimes, we are always filled with some sort of warmth within our souls. It may be a hard thing to come across sometimes but it is always there. It is warmth that we cannot find anywhere else except in our faith with God. It is amazing warmth that consumes our every inch. Our souls become overjoyed with how much this warmth provides us the ability to endure all the stormy weather that we experience in our lives.

And that is something that no freezing temperatures, scorching hot days, or thunderous rainstorms can never take away from us. That is something to be joyful about!