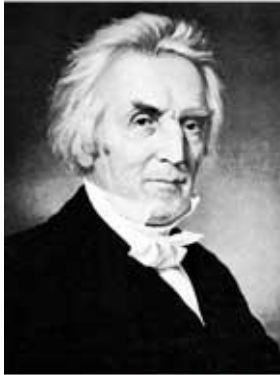




Coming Fall 2009
**Disciples History:
Foundations of Faith**



This is the first course offering of ACTS; a multi-year educational program designed for both beginners and existing lay leaders.

Learn how the Disciples of Christ got its start, what helps shape us as a denomination, where we have been and how that helps us know where we may be going.



- **Low Cost – \$75.00 plus books**
- **Designed for high school and above**
- **Six topics in a variety of formats**



Course Topics:

- Disciples Early History
- Disciples Identity
- Disciples Theology
- Disciples Fore-mothers
- Disciples People of Color
- Disciples Polity and Structure

Course locations:

- FCC Palo Alto
- FCC Selma
- FCC Concord
- Fruitridge CC Sacramento
- FCC Chico
- FCC Ukiah
- Online
- NAPAD/ Korean course
FCC Oakland

**Learn more about and register for
this exciting new class online at
<http://www.ccn.org/acts.htm>**

* If you don't recognize these pictures that's a good reason to take the class.

ACTS Class Dates for Ukiah

Saturdays; October 17th, November 7th, and November 21st
9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Redwood Geographic Area Fall Meeting

In conjunction with the ACTS Program, The Fall Meeting of The Redwood Geographic Area of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) will be held on Saturday, October 17th in Ukiah. If you are planning to attend, please contact Pastor Christine at 498-8469, or Jerry Carter at 442-3005. We plan to depart the church at 5:45 a.m. sharp!



The Christian Window

An Occasional Publication of First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
730 K Street Eureka CA 95501 707-442-2824

Eurekachurch.org

October 2009

Ministers:
All the People

Pastor:
Christine Tomascheski

Cabinet Chair:
Del Sponsler

Treasurer:
Jerry Carter

Secretary:
Ann Sponsler

Deacons:
Jerry Carter
Susan Driscoll
Kaylin Harincar
Troy Thornton

Elders:
Stephan Selvage
Ann Sponsler
Del Sponsler
John Tomascheski

Buildings & Grounds
Caretaker:
Robert Taylor

GREAT COMMUNION

World Communion Sunday

On Sunday, October 4, 2009 we will be joining with other churches in the Stone-Campbell movement in celebrating the bicentennial of Thomas Campbell's "Declaration and Address". According to the Disciples Heritage Foundation:

"The "Declaration and Address," more than any other document, serves as the constitution for our faith movement. It is there that Thomas Campbell says "the church of Christ upon earth is essentially, intentionally, and constitutionally one." *(for more information visit www.greatcommunion.org)*

The members of First Christian Church Eureka invite you to attend worship this Sunday and share in "Great Communion."

"We are Disciples of Christ, a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world. As part of the one body of Christ, we welcome all to the Lord's Table as God has welcomed us."

--Disciples of Christ Identity Statement

Crazy Hat Day and Barbeque Luncheon

The tradition continues...

Put on your best crazy hat and join us for a special worship service on Sunday, October 4, 2009. We will celebrate "Great Communion," and have some fun just being silly. Special music will be provided by Matthew Cook and John Tomascheski. A barbeque luncheon will be served in the Redwood Room following worship. Be sure to invite your family and friends to this fun annual event.

“The good news is...”

“The good news is...” How many times have we heard our Pastor use those words with us? Do we really listen to what is shared with us after that phrase each Sunday?

Well, let me use our Pastor’s words as I give you the good news about our church. The good news is...

1. Our church is open each and every Sunday regardless of the number of people attending the morning service.
2. Our church provides meeting rooms for many organizations that would have difficulty securing a meeting place because of the nature of their meeting. Our church is truly a needed resource in meeting and serving the needs of our community members.
3. Our church was build during the Great Depression, and we think that we have it rough today!

Unfortunately the bad news is that we do not receive enough ongoing financial support to sustain our current ministry.

It has come to my attention that many people feel that our church is going to fail to meet its financial obligations in the next couple of months.

Here are some facts:

1. The groups that utilize our building donate about \$14,500.00 per year.
2. Our fundraising efforts generate about \$2,000.00 per year.
3. Our general offering received is about \$18,400.00 per year.
4. It takes approximately \$52,000.00 per year to maintain our current ministry.

5. This means that we are currently going in the red by approximately \$1,400.00 per month.

6. Our financial reserves (including memorial funds and special gifts) will help to keep us operating into the coming year.

Here are some possible options:

1. Reduce the pastor’s time/salary
2. Sell the building and use the proceeds to continue our ministry in a different location/configuration.
3. Rent out the entire building, and hold services in a different location.
4. Increase fundraising activities
5. Increase general fund giving

As you can see, some decisions must be made. I would like to encourage each of us to prayerfully consider what God is calling us to do and be.

If we want to see our church continue and also to thrive in our ministry, then we need to work together to come up with a plan of action. This could happen through a combination of the above options or perhaps there are additional options we have yet to discover.

Regardless of what decisions are to be made we need your input, and look forward to hearing your ideas. Please feel free to contact me in person or by phone at 442-3005, or plan to attend a listening session. The first listening session will follow worship on October 18, 2009 in the Sequoia Room.

Sincerely,

Jerry

Jerry Carter, Treasurer

Miracles at 7th & K

Miracles really do happen! We have prayed, and prayed, and prayed, and our prayers are being answered...

Plans are in the works for a new sprinkler system. A plumber has volunteered to help us with the design and installation, and much of the supplies will also be donated. Just imagine how inviting our yard will look with a new lush green landscape. Of course, volunteers from the congregation will also be needed in order to complete the job, but I am confident that God will lead folks in stepping up to the task...

A volunteer has taken our church on as her project for a grant writing class at Humboldt State University. She will specifically be researching funding possibilities for help in painting the exterior of our building. Of course, we don't know what will come of this effort, but we can continue with our prayers...Prayer is a powerful resource!

A creative individual has volunteered to help us with producing a video that will help us get the word out to the community about our church. We have a lot to offer to our community... "We are the Disciples of Christ, a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world..."

Almost every day that I am at the church, a member of a group stops by my office just to let me know how much he or she appreciates our church for providing a safe, loving, and non-judgmental place to gather with peers for support.

Our congregation took a huge leap of faith this summer in granting me a two month sabbatical for study and rest. I understand that this was a really big deal for us, having

never granted a sabbatical to a pastor before. Scary as it was for all of us, we survived! And we have been blessed with a renewed energy and willingness to try new things and to work together in our ministry.

I have been thinking a lot about Helen Selvage and Lois Flowers, recently. They were both so special, each unique and beautiful in her own way. I personally learned a lot from both of them, and it was difficult to say good bye, but such an honor to celebrate who they were. I have a photo of the two of them together that hangs in my entryway. Every time I see it, I am reminded of the common bond of love and dedication they shared for their God and their families, for their friends and for their church. The miracle of Christian discipleship and friendship is such a blessing...And at First Christian Church, Eureka we have been truly blessed even beyond our understanding...What a legacy we have received...

As you will note after reading our treasurer's column, on the following page, we do have a lot of work cut out for us in discerning what comes next, in our life and ministry together. As we set about the tasks before us, my prayer is that we remember that miracles really do happen and prayers really are answered...even in a place such as this, even in a time such as this...and, "with God all things are possible."

Blessings,

Pastor Christine

Calendar

Sunday, October 4, 2009

World Communion

Great Communion Sunday

Crazy Hat Day:

Invite your friends, wear a crazy hat and come prepared for a special day! Lunch will be served.

Wednesday, October 7, 2009

Simple Supper and Bible Study, 6-8 p.m.

Sunday, October 11, 2009

Cabinet Meeting,

8:30 a.m. in the Sequoia Room

Lectionary Readings:

Job 23:1-9, 16-17; Psalm 22:1-15;

Hebrews 4:12-16; Mark 10:17-31

Wednesday, October 14, 2009

Simple Supper and Bible Study, 6-8 p.m.

Saturday, October 17, 2009

ACTS Program in Ukiah, 9:30 a.m.

Sunday, October 18, 2009

Lectionary Readings:

Job 38:1-7; Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35c;

Hebrews 5:1-10; Mark 10:35-45

Listening Session in the Sequoia Room following worship.

Wednesday, October 21, 2009

Simple Supper and Bible Study, 6-8 p.m.

Sunday, October 25, 2009

Lectionary Readings:

Job 42:1-6; Psalm 34:1-8;

Hebrews 7:23-28; Mark 10:46-52

Wednesday, October 28, 2009

Simple Supper and Bible Study, 6-8 p.m.

Sunday, November 1, 2009

Lectionary Readings: Ruth 1:1-8;

Psalm 14; Hebrews 9:11-14; Mark 12:28-34

Wednesday, November 4, 2009

Simple Supper and Bible Study, 6-8 p.m.

Saturday, November 7, 2009

ACTS Program in Ukiah, 9:30 a.m.

Sunday, November 8, 2009

Cabinet Meeting,

8:30 a.m. in the Sequoia Room

Lectionary Readings:

Ruth 3:1-5, 4:13-17; Psalm 127;

Hebrews 9:24-28; Mark 12:38-44

Wednesday, November 11, 2009

Simple Supper and Bible Study, 6-8 p.m.

Sunday, November 15, 2009

Lectionary Readings:

1 Samuel 1:4-20; 2 Samuel 2:1-10; Hebrews

11:14, 19-25; Mark 13:1-8

Wednesday, November 18, 2009

No Simple Supper and Bible Study

Community Thanksgiving Sing, 7 p.m.

Saturday, November 21, 2009

ACTS Program in Ukiah, 9:30 a.m.

Sunday, November 22, 2009

Lectionary Readings:

2 Samuel 23:1-7; Psalm 132:1-12;

Revelation 1:4b-8; John 18:33-37

Wednesday, November 25, 2009

Simple Supper and Bible Study, 6-8 p.m.

Sunday, November 29, 2009

First Sunday of Advent

Lectionary Readings: Jer 33:14-16;

Ps 25:1-10; 1 Thess 3:9-13; Luke 21:25-26

Tuesday, December 1, 2009
Advent Journaling Group, 7 p.m.

Thursday, December 3, 2009
Simple Supper and Bible Study, 6-8 p.m.

Sunday, December 6, 2009
Second Sunday of Advent
Lectionary Readings:
Malachi 3:1-4; Luke 1:68-79;
Philippians 1:3-11; Luke 3:1-6

Tuesday, December 8, 2009
Advent Journaling Group, 7 p.m.

Thursday, December 10, 2009
Simple Supper and Bible Study, 6-8 p.m.

Sunday, December 13, 2009
Third Sunday of Advent
Cabinet Meeting,
8:30 a.m. in the Sequoia Room
Lectionary Readings:
Zephaniah 3:14-20; Isaiah 12:2-6;
Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:7-18

Tuesday, December 15, 2009
Advent Journaling Group, 7 p.m.

Thursday, December 17, 2009
Simple Supper and Bible Study, 6-8 p.m.

Sunday, December 20, 2009
Fourth Sunday of Advent
Lectionary Readings:
Micah 5:2-5a; Luke 1:47-55; Psalm 80:1-7;
Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45

Tuesday, December 22, 2009
Advent Journaling Group, 7 p.m.

Thursday, December 24, 2009
Christmas Eve
We will join with our friends at
First Congregational Church for a
joint **Candlelight Christmas Eve**
Service at 11 p.m.

Lectionary Readings:
Isaiah 9:2-7; Psalm 96
Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-20

Tuesday, December 29, 2009
Advent Journaling Group, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, January 5, 2009
Advent Journaling Group, 7 p.m.



November 18 John Tomascheski
21 Merv Selvage

December 13 Dixie Knife
20 Helen Valentine
25 Stephan Selvage