



# The Christian Focus

## 2012 Leadership Training School

February 2012  
Volume 113 Issue 2

There is still time to register for the Leadership Training School to be held next Saturday, February 4, at First Christian Church in Oklahoma City. The cost is only \$8 per person or \$50 per church. It begins with registration at 8:30 a.m., includes displays, a bookstore, worship, two class sessions, and ends at 1:00 p.m. We will car pool from the church at 6:00 that morning and eat lunch on the way back home. This event is sponsored by the Oklahoma Region of the Christian Church and offers classes for everyone. Here are some of the class titles (for more specific information on a class, see Loy):

Worship & Wonder/ Godly Play  
Faith and Film: Let's go to a Movie!  
What Will Your Legacy Be?  
What Jesus Never Said!  
Worship According to the Psalmist  
Ask an Architect  
Joys of Intercessory Prayer  
Resources for Small Church Ministry  
A Look at Congregational Nursing  
Israel and the West Bank  
Christian Theories of War  
Issues in Youth Ministry: Social Media  
Elders a Primary Leaders  
Hand Bell Choir Basics  
Young Adult Ministry  
Introduction to Appreciate Inquiry: A Fresh Approach to Evaluating Congregational Life

The LOGOS Ministry  
Friendship Feast: Free-Meal Mission in Ponca City  
Preparing Your Church for the Great Wealth Transfer  
Alternative Funding Options: Grant Writing for Congregations  
New Stewardship Resources for Your Congregation  
Congregational Communication in the Digital Age  
New Lenten/Easter Resources and Ideas for Worship  
Transformative Health Ministries and How to Get Started  
Godbearing 2: Spiritual Practices for Youth & Children's Workers  
Seeing the World Through God's Eyes  
ARK (Adults Relating to Kids)  
The Congregational Life-Cycle  
Children's Curriculum Overview for VBS & Church School  
Hand Bell Choir General Reading Session  
The Diakonos Ministry for Deacons

## Valentine Banquet

The men of the church will host a Valentine Banquet on **Sunday, February 12 at 4:30 p.m.** in the fellowship hall. Cost will be \$15 for males and free for females and children. A sign up sheet is located on the bulletin board so that the men will have an idea of how many to prepare for. This year's entertainment will feature Wayne and Sharon Majors as 'Strange and Wonderful'. Rides to and from the church will be provided, and a vegetarian option is also offered.



## Assistance Available

We have church leaders who are available to assist anyone from their car to the church and then to your seat on Sunday morning, then they will assist you back to your car again after worship. Greeters are stationed at both north and south doors and are more than happy to send someone out to help you. Simply call ahead to let us know what kind of assistance you need, or pull up near the north door (under the carport) and honk your horn. Wheelchairs and walkers are also kept near the north entrance for those wishing to use them. If you desire, a church member will park your car for you (and then pull it back up to the door after worship) while another escorts you to the church. Please remember this especially in rain or when the parking area is covered with snow or ice.

## Friend Sunday – February 19

The Vision Committee plans to have a Friend Sunday each quarter this year. This is an opportunity for everyone to bring as many friends as you can to worship with you. As an added incentive, there will be a contest between the 8:30 and 10:45 services to see who can bring the most visitors! Round one of the competition will be held on February 19.

## Home Visits

The elders have begun weekly home visits. Each week two elders and Pastor Loy will visit two homes of church members. Through this process each member's home will be visited during the year. Pastor Loy will contact members on Monday to set up times for the visits (often on Wednesdays between 6:00 and 7:00, but some weeks other days will be used). If you would like them to come see you early on, please contact Pastor Loy.

## Inclement Weather Policy

In the event of bad weather causing dangerous driving conditions, we may cancel or modify our Sunday morning worship services. If this happens we will attempt to call as many members as possible and in addition we will contact KTUL, channel 8 out of Tulsa, to report any cancellation or change. So please tune in to that channel for updates on their list of church closings.

The policy for the Wednesday children's ministries are that if school is canceled or closes early, there will be no D.O.C.K. meetings. If school is in session on Wednesdays, even if there is a threat of bad weather approaching, the meetings will be held. For fellowship groups or committee meetings, members will be contacted by phone of a cancellation.

CWF is taking donations of old adult sweat shirts. If you have some that have stains on them don't throw them away bring them to the office and we will turn them into adult bibs to be used at the nursing home and for others in need of them. Thank you.

## Sunday Night Study

A new Sunday Night video study will meet each Sunday night of March, 6:00 – 7:15 pm. We will meet in the parlor to watch and discuss the video series, 'Verbs of God,' in which Margaret Feinberg uses fresh insights and Biblical teaching to study four verbs that Scripture uses in conjunction with God. When we understand how God is active in the world around us, we realize God is always active and engaged in our lives.

## Baptism Class/ Commissioning Course

Classes will soon be held for anyone interested in joining the church or being baptized to learn about the process and what it all means. Class meetings will be in the Upper Room on Wednesday afternoons, 5:15-6:15 p.m., Feb. 29, March 7, 14 & 28. While designed for 3<sup>rd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> graders, the classes are open to all. Contact Pastor Loy if you have any questions.

## New Life for an Old Room

The first room to the right upstairs that was a library among other uses is now to be a room the youth will use. There are crafts, old books, and odds and ends in the room. If you have something stored in that room you will need to collect your items by the end of March as it is going to be cleaned out and put to use.

## Ash Wednesday Service on February 22

A thirty minute Ash Wednesday service will be held on February 22 at 6:30 p.m. to help us prepare for the coming season of Lent. This service will be designed to help prepare us for the journey through Lent through the sharing of scripture, songs, prayer, and the imposition of ashes.

## New Year for The Deacons

This year the deacon's meeting time will be different. The deacon's will start meeting every other month and have a meal provided before the meeting. The next meeting will be March 15th at 6:30 p.m. Meetings will have an agenda and a opportunity to get to know your fellow deacons better. Deacon's need to be able to call upon each other for help and support. Also the deacon's will not be asked to clean the church instead the church family as a whole will see about getting that taken care of a couple of times a year. If you have any questions Dona Dorr is chairperson and Shirley Benham is co-chair.

## CWF's Annual Stew Supper

The annual Stew Supper this year will be Friday, **March 2nd from 11 am-1 pm and 4:30- 7:00 pm.** The cost is \$6. Kids 10 and under eat free. Tickets are available to buy from Betty White or you can stop by the office. The meal consist of stew, homemade cornbread, crackers, homemade desserts and drink. The Stew Supper is a successful project do to the help and support of the whole church body. A phone call will be made to you soon to see if you can help with your time, talent and food ingredients. If you would like to volunteer before then you can call **Becky Crocker 918-519-2673.**

## Loy's Lines

In lieu of my article, this month I offer you the following letter from Ron Degges, the president of Disciple Home Missions:

*Today we begin a whole new year. Hopefully, the New Year will be filled with possibility and peace for all of our congregations and leaders in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). These are what I call the 'Two P's of Our Faith.'*

*Possibility is the gift of looking forward to what is possible and not looking backward with regret. There are two kinds of people in this world: those that look ahead and have everything to gain and those who look behind and have nothing to lose. Granted, if you take the safe way you will take the way of looking backwards. You will recount those stories of old. You will have a bag full of memories. You will be able to rest on the laurels of past accomplishments.*

*However, if you choose to look ahead you will be taking a risk. Sometimes you will fall smack on your face. You may get a little bruised and wounded along the way. You will probably even wonder if all the struggling you have to do is worth it. In the process, you will be creating a new future for you and your congregations. Edwin Louis Cole writes: "Don't let someone else create your world for you. For when they do, they will always make it too small. God is a big God and has big plans for you." I agree wholeheartedly and hope that you will choose to live in the realm of possibility!*

*Peace is the second 'P' of our faith. It has remained rather illusory throughout human history. For some reason we would rather fight than be at peace with one another. Why we have all this aggressive behavior pent up within us is a puzzle to me. But we do, and it has been the cause of all manner of wars and oppression. Everything we dislike - slavery, sexism, racism, violence, hatred - you name it, have their rootage in the absence of peace.*

*Peace is what we need if we would be able to maximize our possibilities. It is what Christ came to bring. It is what the church is called to spread. It is what will turn this world around. I hope that all who call themselves Disciples will join me and Disciples Home Missions in being ambassadors of possibility and peace here at the close of one year and the beginning of the new.*

*Two 'P'-ly yours,  
Ron Degges*

### Upcoming Sermons

January 29, 2012:	"Jonah: A Story of History & Jokes & Laughs & Prophecy & Mission and...Epiphany"	
	Jonah 3:1-5,10	
February 5, 2012:	"Fear, Shock, and Awe of the Lord" Psalm 111	
February 12, 2012:	"A Touch of Love"	Mark 1:29-39
February 19, 2012:	"The Transforming Power of the Light of God" (Transfiguration Sunday)	1 Corinthians 4:3-6
February 26, 2012:	"The Lenten Journey Begins by Learning to Trust God" (First Sunday in Lent)	Psalm 25:1-10

### [An Awakening...Many People, One Body](#)

<b>Date:</b>	<b>February 19, 2012</b>
<b>Time:</b>	<b>4:00-5:30 pm</b>
<b>Location:</b>	<b>Fellowship Christian, 500 N. 15<sup>th</sup> St., Broken Arrow</b>
<b>Phone:</b>	<b>918-258-1321 or 918-520-7455</b>
<b>Guest speaker:</b>	<b>Rev. Shane Hickey</b>
<b>Special Music:</b>	<b>Franklin Birt-Forest Park Christian Church; Christian Church Chancel Choir, Broken Arrow</b>
<b>Guest Organist:</b>	<b>Robert Guess-Pine St. Christian Church</b>

**Sponsored by the Growing Congregations. A love offering will be taken to help the Growing Congregation to continue to providing worship and fellowship opportunities for the N.E. Area churches.**

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**Church Staff**

Rev. Dr. Loy Hoskins, Minister  
Nancy Evans, Secretary  
Christy Clark & Stacie Vunetich,  
Co-Youth Leaders  
Barbara Eyman, Nursery Attendant  
Stacie Vunetich, Custodian  
Maintenance  
Ed Myers, Organist  
Judy Barkman, Pianist  
Dona Dorr, Choir Director

**Lay Leaders**

Kim Aveni, Board Chairperson  
Jennifer Farmer, Board Vice Chairperson  
Betty Cox, Secretary  
Karen Jackson, Treasurer  
Jim Aveni, Assistant Treasurer  
Steve Hall & Gail Carley,  
Elders Co-Chairperson  
Dona Dorr & Shirley Benham,  
Deacons Co-Chairperson



Men's Meeting on  
**February 7 at 7:00 pm.**  
The Men's meeting business this month will be continuing preparations for the Valentine Banquet February 12.

**Schedule of Events**

**Sunday**  
Worship 8:30 & 10:45 a.m.  
Fellowship & Refreshments 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.  
Elders 12:05 p.m.  
(1st Sun. of ea. month)  
Disciples Teen (8th-12th) 12:15 p.m.  
(2nd & 4th Sun. of ea. month)

**Wednesday**  
Disciples Of Christ Kids (2nd-4th) 3:45 p.m.  
Disciples Of Christ Kids (5th-7th) 5:00 p.m.  
Adult Choir 6:30 p.m.

**Thursday**  
Caregivers 10:30 a.m.  
Christian Women's Fellowship 12:00 p.m.  
(2nd Thursday of each month)  
(except June, July & August)  
Deacons 6:30 p.m.  
(3rd Thur. of odd months of the year)

All ladies of FCC are invited to a Potluck Luncheon and CWF Meeting Thursday, February 9th, 2012

Place: **Church** Time: **12 Noon**

Program: **Laura Townsley**

Devotion: **DeAnn Hill**

Hostess: **DeAnn Hill, Barbara Williams**



<u>General Fund</u>	<u>11/30/2011</u>	<u>11/30/2010</u>
Balance on Hand 11-30-2011	\$7,605.57	\$6,796.46
Offering in December	<u>\$14,784.81</u>	<u>\$10,650.70</u>
Total Available	<b>\$22,390.38</b>	<b>17,447.16</b>
<b>Disbursements in December</b>	(13,167.30)	(13,259.35)
<b>Trans from Gen Fund to youth camp</b>	<u>(20.00)</u>	
<b>Balance On Hand 12-31- 2011</b>	<b>\$9,203.08</b>	
Check book balance:	\$28,112.53	\$10,930.06
Restricted Budget balance:	(18,909.45)	(10,930.06)
Amount of funds available in general fund	<b>\$9,203.08</b>	-

Happy Valentine's Day



For more information the financial report is on the bulletin board across from the office.

Attendance Rec.	8:30 Service	Sunday School	10:45 Service	Special Offering	Obligated Fund
December 18th (111)	(24) \$632.00	(35) \$9.00	(87) \$1,507.19	S.P. Christ \$120	Vision \$15.00
December 25th (78)	None	None	10am (78) \$1,824.38	—	Vision \$15.00
January 1st (60)	None	None	10am (60) \$3,124.81	(12/30/11) \$2,400.00	Vision \$25
January 8th (96)	(33) \$1036.00	(38) \$11.25	(63) \$2209.82	\$25.00	Vision \$180.00
January 15th (111)	(29) \$916.00	(40) \$14.00	(82) \$2,100.75	—	Vision \$15.00
January 22nd (96)	(31) \$1107.00	(34) \$13.25	(65) \$1206.85	—	Vision \$15.00