



GOOD NEWS from the

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Week of August 22, 2011



DALE MATHERLY ARRIVES AT FCC

I would be very surprised to find anyone in the congregation who is not aware that we have extended to William Dale Matherly the call to become our next Senior Minister. Rev. Matherly's first Sunday in our pulpit will be August 28th and later that day there will be an all-church potluck supper to welcome the Matherly family. Dale's family includes his wife, Traci, and their son, Will. Their daughter, Haley, is attending college and will not be moving to Topeka at this time.

As my final act as Chair of the Search Committee, I want to provide you with a brief introduction to Dale Matherly:

Dale has numerous traits which prompted the Search Committee to recommend him to the Board and congregation. Dale is God-centered, very open, approachable and thoughtful. The Search Committee felt that Dale radiated a love for God's church and all of us who are God's children.

Dale's preaching style is "historically centered." One of the lay persons who served as a reference for Dale stated that he has an "incredible grasp of the context in which scriptures were written and how the stories relate in modern times." The Search Committee also discovered that Dale has a strong vision and a commitment to outreach and hands-on missions at the local, national and international levels.

We found Dale to be a thought-provoking conversationalist. During our face-to-face interview, we were totally engaged by what he had to say, and I think each of us concluded that Dale Matherly is a person with whom each of us and our families could relate. Perhaps that is a result of his deep spiritual commitment to his own life, as well as personal traits that enable him to lead by example. Yet Dale has been able to delegate responsibility well, based on his belief in a lay leadership that encompasses clear expectations and accountability.

In sum, Dale Matherly has the intellectual, leadership and spiritual abilities needed to help our church continue to grow and thrive as an effective mission-driven community of faith. Please join me next Sunday in welcoming Dale, Traci and Will to the fellowship of our congregation.

Bob Alderson, Chair
Search Committee

Disciples Center at Tawakoni Annual Gala & Auction!

Saturday, September 17

11:00 am - Appetizers & Silent Auction

12:30 pm - Dinner

2:00 pm - Live Auction

Join us for an up-beat afternoon of
Food, Fellowship and Fun!

Youth will be servers

Tickets only \$30 each

Registration and donation forms can be picked up
at the Church office, or found at the
Regional website: www.kansasdisciples.org

All Church Potluck

Sunday, August 28 at 6:00 pm

Fellowship Hall

Join us as we begin our Fall schedule
and welcome Dale, Traci and Will Matherly
to our church family.

Bring food to share and your own table service.

Drinks will be provided.

It may be hot outside, but we're cool!

Thanks Be to God!

What a wonderful day Sunday was! Thank you for the cards, gifts and the beautiful stole made by Lynn Owsley. Special thanks to Rick Ryan and Noble Morrell for their kind words, to Jim Miller for his poem, to the Disciple Women's Fellowship for hosting the reception, but especially to each of you for the support and kindness you have shown us! Linda and I have truly enjoyed our time in Topeka and the friends we have made here! My parents were in worship with us and on the way home commented on what a "great church" you are! Lin and I agree and have no doubt that Dale and Traci will love you just as we have!

As you know, the Matherly's are in town. Traci has started her job with Auburn-Washburn School District and son Will is already in the swing of school. Dale is in the pulpit on August 28th. I am excited about Dale's coming and know he will bring faithfulness, energy and enthusiasm to his work. As he shares his gifts I know great things are in store for FCC of Topeka!

As of this writing we are not sure where God will take us next. I will visit with churches and see what falls into place, while Linda and I have a couple trips planned as we enjoy some time off.

As we leave you with fondest of memories, I share with you a story about a mother and son who come home one day. The mom needs to start dinner and return a few calls, so she puts her son on the floor with a 50 piece jigsaw puzzle of the world. She tells her son to put the puzzle together, thinking it will give her time to do her work.

But in just a few minutes the little boy is at his mother's side saying, "Mom, I finished the puzzle!" The mother couldn't believe he had put the puzzle together so rapidly so she asked him, "How were you able to put the puzzle together so quickly?" The boy said, "Mom, on the other side of the puzzle there was a picture of Jesus, and when I had Jesus in place, everything else was in place!"

Praying that Jesus always has the proper place in my life...and yours!

Blessings and love to you!

Dale and Linda



2011 Disciple Men's Fall Retreat



Discovering the Joy of Being Different, Yet United in Christ

Rev. Sotello Long, Facilitator

September 23 and 24, 2011

Disciples Center at Tawakoni

Registration forms available in the church office

Registration deadline: September 9

Mail registration to

Christian Church in Kansas

2914 SW MacVicar

Topeka, KS 66611

Kansas Disciples Women Retreat

LOOKING PAST THE CHURCH'S DOOR

Midweek Session: October 5 - 7

Weekend Session: October 7 - 9

Disciples Center at Tawakoni

Keynote Speaker: Amy Gopp,
Executive Director, Week of
Compassion

Retreat Day Camp available for
children 2 years through middle
school

Registration due September 1

Registration forms available
in the FCC office
or at www.kansasdisciples.org

Mail registration to
Christian Church in Kansas
2914 SW MacVicar
Topeka, KS 66611



Planning to Attend the Gala?

Are you planning on attending the Annual Gala on September 17?

Barb Runge is organizing the tables of FCC members. To make your reservations, call Barb at 478-4480.

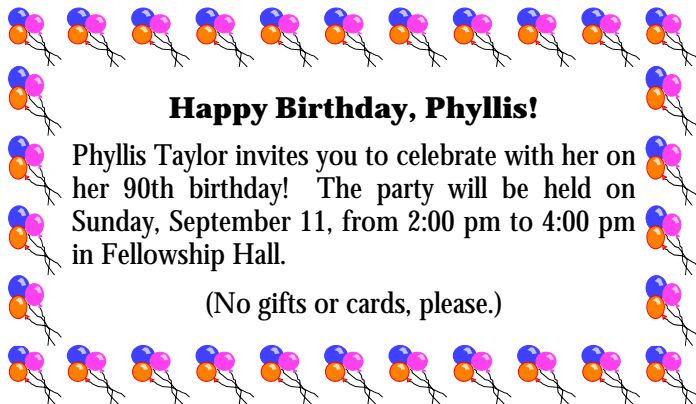




To the Congregation of First Christian Church:

I was overwhelmed by the cards, notes and well-wishes I received in connection with my recent stay in the hospital. Thank you. I am truly blessed to be a part of such a caring community of faith.

Bob Alderson



Happy Birthday, Phyllis!

Phyllis Taylor invites you to celebrate with her on her 90th birthday! The party will be held on Sunday, September 11, from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm in Fellowship Hall.

(No gifts or cards, please.)

Congratulations

Bill and June Horn have a new great-grandson! They are welcoming James Clifford Newman, born on August 16 and weighing 8 pounds and 8 ounces.

Congratulations to Sharon Watkins, the General Minister and President of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), who has been named one of *Huffington Post's* 10 Inspiring Women Religious Leaders!

PRAYER CONCERNS

Health Concerns:

Janet Ballantyne, Jane Congelton, Bill Corwin, Irene Cox, Ruby Eldridge, Jeanne Freeborn, Marie Greenway, Esther Heidebrecht, Kay Hermann, Peg Noble, and Jason Owens.

Cancer Patients:

Lynda Belanger, Sylvan Bingham, Sharman Blasing, Frank Delgado, Yvonne Hamilton, LaJonna Johnson, Kathy Martin, Lester Shaw, Russ Shaw, Jami Thompson, Art Von Stetten, Pat Walters, and Jesse Whiteside.

Keep these people in your prayers:

Regional Staff, Christian Church in Kansas; Dr. Sharon Watkins, General Minister/President, Christian Church (Disciples); those serving in the military; Goshen United Church, Lucky Hill, Jamaica; those traveling; those seeking employment.



So we can provide the best pastoral care we can, please let the church office know if you are having surgery or need pastoral care.

Temporary Address

Frank and Diana Fisher

Their address for the next three or four weeks:

2148 SW Burnett Road
Topeka, KS 66614
Cell Phone: 217-3581

Blood Pressure Screening

Sunday, August 28 from 9:45 am to 10:15 am

provided by your Health Ministry Team



Marian Clinic invites you to

The Ultimate Concert

Fountain City Brass Band

Sunday - September 11 - 3:00 pm

White Concert Hall - Washburn University

Free Admission - Doors open at 2:15 pm

Marian Clinic invites you to celebrate the 23rd anniversary of its founding and 23 years of service to the mission of "revealing God's healing love . . . to those who are poor and vulnerable."

Major sponsors are Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth Healthcare System; BA Designs; Security Benefit; Pfizer Foundation; Wendling, Noe, Nelson, and Johnson, LLC; NUH Law Firm; and Taggart and Associates.

A free will offering will be collected during the concert to support healthier lives for the uninsured.

Using Your Image to Spread God's Word

We are in the final stages of revamping our website and we need pictures of our church and its members to show others what we are all about. By completing and returning the Consent for Photograph form, you allow us to include your image or your children's image on the new website or with other efforts to invite others into our church family.

We will not connect any names with the pictures. If we don't have permission from you, we won't be able to use your image, individual or group, on our website.

Call Mike Woodbury, 383-0813, or the church office if you have questions.

Thank you for your help and God bless!

Technology Committee



CACS School Supply Drive Every Sunday in August

Again this year we are gathering school supplies for 501 students who attend Highland Park Central. A large number of this school's students are from homes where family income is below the poverty level. It is even difficult for our students to get to places where school supplies are given out. I will take these supplies to the school office where all teachers will have access to them. We are always thankful for anything to help our students. This year we will have a low incidence special education room that will need the baby items listed.

spiral notebook, wide-rule, 70 pgs, plain
notebook paper, loose-leaf, wide-rule .
pencil box, with lid or pouches for pencils
pencils, yellow #2 wooden 12 ct. pkg.
ITOYA glue sticks (roll-up type), small
Sharpie permanent marker, black
index cards, 3x5, 100 ct. pkg

Ziplock freezer bags, gallon
tennis balls
scissors, blunt
plain pocket folder
crayons, box of 24
crayons, box of 8 large
Clorox wipes, container
facial tissue, large box
baby wipes

Ziplock freezer bags, quart
pink eraser, large
dry-erase markers, black
colored pencils, pkg of 12
markers
back-pack (no wheels)
cotton gloves
hand sanitizer
toothbrush,
toothpaste and cup



Tables for Six

The Membership Ministry Team is organizing "Tables for Six." Six people, couples or singles, meet for dinner once a month for three months at someone's home or at a restaurant. It's a neat way to make new friends and share fellowship time with people you'd like to know better.

If you're interested in participating, call Connie in the church office.



There's a place for you

Sunday Worship Services
8:45 am and 11:10 am
Sunday School 10:10 am

Church Office Hours
8:00 am-12 N, 1:00-3:00 pm
Monday-Friday

Child Care Center
First Christian Church
785-272-4291



Do We Know Where You Are?

If your contact information has changed, please let us know! Send your new address, phone number, or e-mail address to the church office.



Please make sure the doors are locked when you leave the church buildings.

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH STAFF

- Ministers All Members of the Church
- Interim Senior Pastor Dale Walling
- Associate Pastors
- Congregational Care & Adult Ministries..... Connie Skinner
- Children/Youth..... Donna Schultz
- Young Adult Ministry..... Brett Martin
- Director of Music Programs David Lundry
- Organist Joe Fitzgerald
- Hand bell Director..... Debby Martin
- Praise Team Monty Smith
- Nursery Superintendent..... Becky Coffman
- Custodians..... Phil Anderson, Mona Peña
- Director FCCCCC Robin Leiningner
- Parish Nurse Becky Stauffer
- Bookkeeper Ken Young
- Administrative Assistant..... Lisa Howard

Got an item for the newsletter?

Contact Connie Skinner in the church office or send an e-mail to fcctopeka@fcctopeka.org the week BEFORE the newsletter is printed. Please include your name and/or the author's name of any articles.

NEXT GOOD NEWS PUBLICATION DATES:

Sept 7	Oct 4
Sept 20	Oct 18

First Christian Church Topeka is a congregation that:

welcomes all · nurtures faith in God · cares for others · celebrates belonging to the body of Christ.

**First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
1880 SW Gage Blvd.
Topeka KS 66604**

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Topeka KS 66604-3380
Permit No. 753

Return Service Requested

COMING UP:

Wednesday, August 23

6:00 pm - Just Move It

Thursday, August 25

6:30 am - Elders
5:45 pm - Al-Anon
6:00 pm - 4th Thurs Book Club



Sunday, August 28

8:45 am & 11:10 am - Worship
9:45 am - Back 2 School Breakfast
10:10 am - Back 2 School Bash,
Child Center
10:10 am - Sunday School
6:00 pm - Fall Pot Luck Supper

Monday, August 29

8:00 am - Prayer Ministry
6:45 pm - Scouts

Wednesday, August 31

6:00 pm - Just Move It

Thursday, Sept 1

6:30 am - Elders
5:45 pm - Al-Anon
7:00 pm - Bunko



Saturday, Sept 3

8:30 pm - Prayer Shawl Ministry

Sunday, Sept 4

8:45 am & 11:10 am - Worship
10:10 am - Sunday School

Monday, Sept 5

Labor Day!
Church Office Closed

Tuesday, Sept 6

5:30 pm - Technology Team
7:00 pm - Ministry Teams

Wednesday, Sept 7

5:00 pm - DWF Exec. Board
6:00 pm - Just Move It

Thursday, Sept 8

6:30 am - Elders
5:45 pm - Al-Anon

Disciple Women's Corner



Look At What's Coming Up!

September 21 at 12:30 pm

DWF luncheon features Ann Foster, who traveled to Turkey with the Woman-to-Woman worldwide program

October 5, 9:30 am

Executive Board Meeting

October 5 through 7
KDW Retreat, Midweek

October 7 through 9
KDW Retreat, Weekend

October 19, 12:30 pm

DWF luncheon features a Hy-Vee dietician who will demonstrate cooking for one

Sunday Servants August 28, 2011

Ministry of the Table: Pam Failor
Counters: Jewell Welch & Steve McCoy

8:45 am

Elders: Terry Orozco
Lay Readers: Barb Runge
Greeters: Heather Bieker/Jim Miller
Acolytes: Joe Sittenuer
Sound Techs: Vern Failor
Lighting Techs: Jason Gray
PowerPoint: Andrew Howard
Ushers: G. Steinbach/D. Pagel
Welcome Ctr: Jan Votaw

11:10 am

Bob Alderson
Connie Lollar
Tina Lonergan/Sandi Reesor
Kaycee Miller
Vern Failor
Paul Kirkwood
Andrew Howard
L. Broadhead/C. Lollar
Penny McCoy

Diaconate Team # 4

Sunday Servants September 4, 2011

Ministry of the Table: Pat Shaw
Counters: Sandi Reesor & Glenda Yocom

8:45 am

Elders: Shirley Cook
Lay Readers: Noble Morrell
Greeters: Jan Keeler/Noble Morrell
Acolytes: Joe Sittenuer
Sound Techs:
Lighting Techs:
PowerPoint: Andrew Howard
Ushers: Myron & Jeanine Mott
Welcome Ctr: Phyllis McMahon

11:10 am

Larry McDaniel
Shirley Williams
Glen & Meredith Sonderegger
Larisa Myrick
Andrew Howard
Bill & Lisa Corwin
Sandi Reesor

Diaconate Team # 1

Average Worship Service Attendance

July 2011: 260

July 2010: 238

% Difference: +9.3

Average Sunday School Attendance

July 2011: 157

July 2010: 167

% Difference: -6.2%



Youth & Bells

Sunday afternoon program begins September 11

JYF youth group (kids in 2nd to 5th grade) will meet from 3:45 to 5:15 pm and hold Chimes rehearsal from 5:15 to 6:00 pm.

Chi Rho youth (6th to 8th grade) meet for Bells rehearsal from 3:00 to 3:45 pm. A supervised free time is from 3:45 to 4:30 pm and Chi Rho youth group meets from 4:30 to 6:00 pm.

CYF youth (9th to 12th grade) have Bells from 3:45 to 4:30 pm and then CYF youth group meets from 4:30 to 6:00 pm.

JYF youth will meet at 3:45 pm to kick-off their youth group year.

Sunday, September 11 we will kick off our Sunday afternoon youth program. Chi Rho and CYF youth groups will meet at the church at 4:30 pm for games and fun as we kick-off the new school year.



JYF Youth Sponsors Needed

We are still in need of volunteers to sponsor our JYF youth (2nd to 5th grades) this year. Volunteers meet twice a month from 3:45 to 5:15 pm. It's a lot of fun and involves planning fellowship meetings and service opportunities with our 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th graders. Please contact Donna in the church office (272-4290.)

Shine on Wednesdays

5:30 pm to 7:15 pm

Kick-off September 14



Shine will again be meeting on Wednesday nights in Fellowship Hall, starting on September 14. Our program will begin at 5:30 pm with a fellowship meal for all kids and helpers. The meal on Wednesday nights is an important part of the program, and table games and fun will be a part of each meal. At 6:15 pm we will break into our small groups and meet in the sanctuary basement.

Shine is for all ages of kids and youth –

3 years old to 12th grade.

Adult volunteers are needed to serve as Table parents. Please give Donna a call in the church office (272-4290) if you would like to be a part of this ministry.



Bring your donations for the school supply drive. You can drop them off at the Bash.