

May 14, 2012



# The East Side Insider

East Side Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Tulsa, OK



Volume 41, Issue 20

## Senior Recognition Sunday

Welcome new members!

Photo courtesy of Ron Flanagan



Congratulations to Sunny Todd on her graduation from Union High School! Sunny and her support staff, Jackson and Alicia, are pictured above.

The Todd family invites you to a reception after church next Sunday, May 20, to celebrate.



Photo courtesy of Daniel U'Ren

What joy when frequent visitors, become our friends and then choose to join the East Side family! That's what happened Sunday when Patsy Messer and Vaughn Fairbank transferred their memberships, and Fred welcomed them 'home'.

### Disciples Church Partners:

When was the first time you remember receiving the bread and drinking the grape juice? These simple symbols draw us back to the sacrifice that Christ made for each of us. These symbols take us to the many places and tables where we have shared the common loaf and fruit of the vine. This year's Pentecost motto, "Setting the Table in New Places," reminds each of us we are called to take the table to places in our society that don't currently have a Disciples witness.



For the past 12 years the Pentecost Offering has been in place to support the planting of new churches. During that period of time God has used the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) to start more than 730 new churches. These new churches have reached more than 45,000 people for Christ. A large number of these people are new to the faith. When you give to the Pentecost Offering, you help support these new churches. One half of the offering stays in the region where you live and one half goes to the general new church office to fund the recruitment, assessment, training and coaching of new church pastors, spouses and core team members. In the past 12 years more than 1,300 persons have been trained, on your behalf, to spread the Good News of the Gospel.

How can your congregation help? We ask that your congregation pray each week for our new church pastors who are making tremendous sacrifices to Set the Table in New Places. We ask that you invite new church pastors in your region to come and share about their ministry in your worship service. We ask that you collect the Pentecost Offering on May 20 and 27. Together we take the Table that means so much to us to people who have not yet eaten from the loaf and sipped from the cup.

Visit [www.hopepmt.org](http://www.hopepmt.org) for additional Pentecost Offering resources.

**Shalom,  
Charlie Wallace  
Minister, Congregational Relations  
New Church Ministry**

*A special day offering of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in support of establishing 1000 new congregations.  
Pentecost special offering envelopes will be in the bulletins May 20 and 27.*

# Sunday School News

## Parables

Decisions 2012

*The Human Rain Delay...* David was scheduled to teach last Sunday's Bible study on "The Good Shepherd;" however, last Saturday night, David had to be rushed to the Emergency Room. And, this is never good. David, we hope your recovery is speedy. And, Helen's brother, Bob, has not been doing well, either; so, this is a long week for us Parables with our prayers.

Thus, last Sunday morning, we found ourselves without our teacher for the lesson. However, like Fernando Valenzuela (you have to be a Los Angeles Dodgers fan to get the connection), Enos becomes our starting pitcher without taking any warm up tosses. But, not to worry; Enos performs better than Mike Hargrove (intense baseball fans recall him as "The Human Rain Delay"--it's worth a "google"). And since it was Mother's Day, and being quick on his feet, Enos asked us sheepish types if anyone knew the lyrics to one of his favorite songs, "M-O-T-H-E-R a word that means the world to me." Among all of us, we think we got most of it (of course, during this "rain delay," Enos is brushing up on the Bible lesson for the morning, "The Good Shepherd." But, here is what we know about the song written by Howard Johnson (no, not that Howard Johnson) and Theodore Morse (yes, that Theodore Morse) in 1915, and made famous by Eddie Arnold (yes, that Eddie Arnold). *"M is for the many things she gave me; O means only that she is growing old; T is for the tears she shed to save me; H is for her heart of purest gold; E is for her eyes with love-light shining; R means right and right she'll always be. Put them all together they spell MOTHER, a word that means the world to me."* Upon which Enos had his throwing arm warmed up; and, it was "Play ball." "I am the Good Shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep." (John 10:11). Jesus declares himself to be the Shepherd of mankind, that is, of as many of mankind as will accept Him as their Shepherd. It is a beautiful metaphor, ever cherished by Christians, of Jesus' tender and devoted care of His people. Good going, Enos. Get better soon, David and Bob.

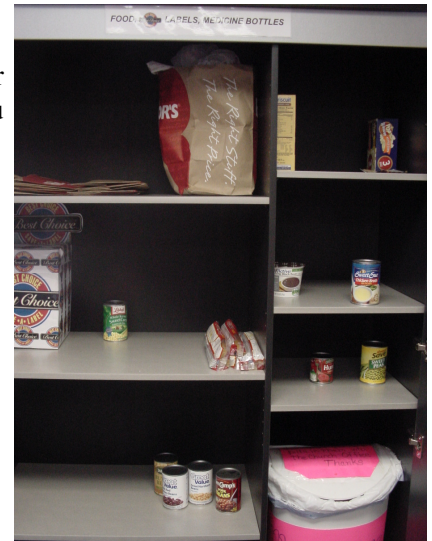
Bill M.

## K.N.O.C.K. Returns May 18!

**K.N.O.C.K stands for Kid's Night Out Classic Klub and that stands for FUN! Liz and her crew will be ready for you with inflatables and more this Friday night, May 18! It's only \$2/hour per child, and the hours are 5:30-10:30 PM. Parents, remember that your reservations are needed by Wednesday, May 16. Please call Liz (918-234-3677) or the church office (918-744-1377) or email Marj at [office@esc.org](mailto:office@esc.org)**

## The cupboard is bare....can you help?

We are so thankful for those of you who have brought food for our pantry, but as you can see, the need is ongoing. Several folks have stopped in and we've been able to help them get through their food crisis. It's time to restock so we can help the next neighbor in need. Thanks for helping!



Photos by Marj Watts

## Youth news

*2 Hezekiah 3:5 "God helps those who help themselves"*  
I had one of those experiences this week when you meet someone for the first time and they hear you are a minister and then spout off something bizarre and then ask, "Do you know where that is in the bible?" I must have had a dumbfounded look on my face by the smile on theirs when I replied, "I don't think that is in the bible." Sometimes I wonder if they are testing you or validating themselves in their biblical knowledge and they suddenly feel smarter or something as they affirm they know it is in the bible somewhere. Often it is something similar that has really been changed over the years and soon the incorrect saying is more accepted. Similar to the 3 wise men in the Bible, it never says how many wise men, only that there were 3 gifts. Tribulations 4:18 "This too shall pass". Ok, so that is not in the bible, even though, according to CNN writer John Blake, Mike Ditka once said "Scripture tells you that all things shall pass," during a news conference after being fired as the coach of the Chicago Bears. Actually it is nowhere in the bible, though in the King James Version they often interpreted "In those days" as "and it came to pass". Maybe that is where the saying "this too shall pass" comes from. God helps those who help themselves comes from an Aesopian fable, "Cleanliness is close to Godliness" came from John Wesley, "God works in mysterious ways" actually comes from a 19th century hymn by the English poet William Cowper. There are several things I have heard for years that might surprise you that they are not there or the wording is different enough to change the meaning. Makes you want to go back and read the Bible to see what else is or isn't in there!

Shalom, Daniel

## Prayers and Praises

Keep our ministers and worship team in your prayers as they attend to their many duties, and still find time to coordinate and plan meaningful worship services each week.

Your prayers are requested and appreciated for the many members of our congregation with health challenges. They include David Smith, Sharon McKee, Barbara Goodenough, Laura Parkhill, Betty Newman, Alton Davis, Marie Shahadi, Bill and Jean Norbin, Susie Smith, Kay Duffield, Wayne Fry, Sheila Hood, Bob Hodges, Elfriede Fickert, Lynn Pierson, their families and caregivers.

Please prayerfully consider the ways you can be a blessing to East Side. Might it be as a Sunday School teacher, VBS helper, Pickin Fer Pencils volunteer, van driver, youth group sponsor or meal provider?

Additions? Please call the office or send an email to [office@esc.org](mailto:office@esc.org).



## From the Inside Out

Can you remember where you were, what you were doing, 20 years ago...10...5? When I see a video, like the one Dan prepared of Sunny for Senior Sunday, or like those that have become so prevalent at funeral and memorial services, I am fascinated by the way a span of images can turn us into time travelers, allowing those watching such intimate access into another person's life. I recently pulled a sampling of digital pictures taken of family gatherings (our five grandchildren were the reason they were taken) over the last 12 years (our oldest is 12); I hardly recognized myself! But those images filled in the gaps of my hazy memory and suddenly I was reliving each special moment. And it gave me such a warm feeling to know that there were many more special moments to come. Can you imagine where you will be, what you will be doing, 5 years from now...10...20? Have you looked through the church directory recently? Many of the people seen in those images are no longer with us. No wonder our worship attendance has declined. That directory was compiled a little over three years ago and in that time we've had many new people come into our church family, but still our average worship attendance has declined by about 17%. Others will continue to join us. But will they be enough, or come soon enough, to sustain programming, staffing, facility maintenance...? We already run a deficit budget and have for many years. Thank God, we have a fund that covers the shortfall, and it could for a while to come. And I guess that would be alright, if it was just about us and our little church family. But it isn't about us. It's about the people around us, in our community and in our neighborhood – from our steps to the ends of the earth, as one of our denomination's slogans reads. That is our purpose. We are here to serve. We have been assigned a mission. And that means that there is a narrow line between using money faithfully in furtherance of our purpose and wasting money for our own comfort and survival. If we can't imagine, now, where we will be in 5...10...20 years, then we are probably wasting money, no matter what we spend it on. But our Recipe for Growth DOES imagine what the future might hold. It remembers our purpose and provides a framework for being faithful to our mission. We could do worse than to let it guide us in our spending...now.

Blessings, *Fred*

## ESCC's Fencing Team is #1



Did you know we had a fencing team? The members are Ken Adams, Jerry Hume, and Larry Gage, with coaching and cheering supplied by a variety of walk-up sources. Many thanks to the team for the great looking new fence around the courtyard of the activity center.

When you have time, take a look inside the fence. It's lovely!



Photos by Marj Watts

**East Side Christian Church  
(Disciples of Christ)**

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Tulsa, OK 74112

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**Sunday Schedule**

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.  
Youth Meeting 12:00-2:30 p.m.

**Church Staff**

Rev. Fred Turner.....Minister  
Rev. Daniel U'Ren.....Associate Minister  
Marj Watts..... Office Manager  
Austin Ambrose..... Choir Director  
John Cory ..... Director of Praise Band  
Phyllis Danley..... Accompanist  
Liz Hume.....Nursery Supervisor  
JoAnne Cox.....Director of Congregational Care  
Jackson Todd.....Building Superintendent  
Shutterbugs among us ..... Photographer

<b>Statistics for Sunday</b>	5/13/2012
Sunday School	100
Morning Worship	142
Income Received for Budget (includes income from trust)	\$4,341.00
weekly need for 2012 =	YTD
7,976.91	\$136,196.32
Designated Areas	\$151.00
Funds from Trust, year to date for budget.	\$38,140.00

**Serving Schedule May 20, 2012.**

**Worship Leader:** Rev. Daniel U'Ren  
**Communion to Hospitals:** Bill Kendall, Susan Berkinshaw  
**Homebound Communion:** Morgan Gurthet, Bill Kendall, Nancy Shahadi, Marian Bryant  
**Deacons:** Bill Fairlie, Capt., Barbara Fairlie, Kaye Gurthet, Phyllis Knapp, Caitlynn Morgan, Deanna Taylor, Evan Taylor, Marilyn Brinkman, Virginia Miller, Tina West,  
**Jr. Deacons:** Keyton Haverstick, Megan West  
**Greeters:** Larry and Maxine Gage  
**Programs:** M.C. Vanderford  
**Words with Children:** Rev. Daniel U'Ren  
**Children's Church:** helpers needed  
**Toddlers and Twos helper:** Julia Frusciante  
**Youth Sponsor:** Wayne Metevia **Youth Meal:** Diana Caughron  
**Video Tech:** Bill Kendall or Erik Herring or Austin Ambrose  
**Communion Preparation:** Dana Higeons  
**Hospitality table:** Claudette Adams  
**Offering Counters:** Claudette Adams, Terry Brinkman  
**Van Driver:** Ken Adams, 918-369-1969

*If unable to serve, please secure your own replacements*

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**Mission Statement of East Side Christian Church**

Affirming that Jesus is the Christ, our Lord and Savior, we seek to be faithful to God's call. We challenge ourselves to lead people to Christ, provide spiritual growth opportunities and be a loving church family. We commit to the sharing of our time, talents, and resources to our church and community.

**Regular Events**

Tuesdays Quilters, 10 AM-2 PM  
Handbell rehearsal, 6:00 p.m.  
East Side Ensemble Rehearsal 7:10 PM  
Thursdays Praise Band Rehearsal, 7:00 PM  
3rd Friday KNOCK (Kids night out) 5:30 PM  
Outside groups that meet on our campus:  
Sundays Adult Children of Alcoholics, 2 PM  
Mon. -Fri. Noon, Alcoholics Anonymous  
Mon. -Fri. Senior Adult Activities, 8AM-4 PM  
8 AM Walking in the Gym  
Mon. & Thurs 7:00 p.m. Mixed Martial Arts  
Mon.-Thurs. 5:45 PM Jazzercise  
3rd Tues. 7 PM Transplant Support group

**Looking Down the Road**

Tues., May 15 Handbells, 6 PM  
Ensemble, 7:10 PM  
Thurs., May 17 Praise Band, 7 PM  
Fri., May 18 K.N.O.C.K. (Kid's Night Out Classic Klub)  
5:30-10:30 PM, Activity Center  
Sun., May 20 Homebound Communion Sunday  
Senior reception for Sunny Todd after church  
Youth meeting after church  
Mon., May 21 Elders, 6 PM  
Tues., May 22 Handbells, 6 PM  
Ensemble, 7:10 PM  
Wed., May 23 CWF Circle 6 Salad Supper, 6 PM,  
Jason's Deli, 61st and Memorial  
Sun., May 27 Memorial Day Sunday  
Youth have afternoon off  
Mon., May 28 Memorial Day, church office closed  
Tues., May 29 Handbells, 6 PM  
Ensemble, 7:10 PM  
Thurs., May 31 Praise Band, 7 PM