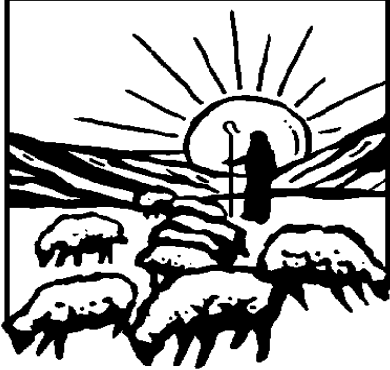


August 2005

The Shepherd's Lyre



Shepherd of the Hills
Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
6909 W. Courtyard
Austin, TX 78730
(512) 343-7858
(512) 343-7968 (fax)
www.shccaustin.org

Email: shcc@shccaustin.org

Office Hours:
Monday-Friday
9:00 am-2:00 pm

SHCC Staff

Amy BeVillie Elder, M. Div.
Foster Pastor
amy@shccaustin.org

Rodney B. Coleman, M. Div., D. Min.
Senior Minister
rod@shccaustin.org

Greg Lanier, M. Div.
Associate Minister
greg@shccaustin.org

Eric Y. Elder, M. Div.
Minister of Children and Youth
eric@shccaustin.org

Mark Manning
Music Director
mark@shccaustin.org

Rebecca Hartmann
Administrative Assistant/Editor
rebecca@shccaustin.org

Gloria Young Kim
Pianist

DISCIPLES ELECT SHARON E. WATKINS AS GENERAL MINISTER AND PRESIDENT

PORTLAND, OREGON (Disciples News Service) * A highpoint in the proceedings of the 2005 General Assembly occurred on Tuesday when Sharon E. Watkins was elected General Minister and President of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

Following a resounding affirmative vote, Watkins, 51, walked to the platform amid cheers and applause and said, "We are a church whose time has come. We have so much to share, and we must be bold and courageous in sharing our story."

Watkins becomes the seventh general minister and president of the 750,000 member denomination, and the first woman to head the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ.) She succeeds Wm. Chris Hobgood and will serve out of the denomination's general offices in Indianapolis, Ind.

"Today is not about me," said Watkins, addressing the more than 3,000 representatives in the plenary session after she

was elected. "It's about all of us joining together and letting God work with us and through us so that we can ultimately share God's love with others." Watkins has served as Senior Minister of Disciples Christian Church in Bartlesville, Okla. for the past eight years. The ordained minister said she believes her experience and passion for the work of local congregations will have a positive impact in her role as General Minister and President. She also embraced the growing diversity of the church and noted that it contributed to the strength of the denomination.

"God is calling us to sing a new song," she said. "Sometimes we will sing different notes, and sometimes there will be discord, but when we all blend together we will be blessed and God will be glorified."

In announcing Watkins to the General Assembly, LaTaunya Bynum, chair of the Search Committee said, "Rev. Dr. Sharon Watkins exemplifies the faithful leadership we seek. She is thoughtful,

gentle and clear in her convictions. She models for us faithful leadership."

"The actions of the Assembly today affirm the work of the Search Committee and show that the Spirit of the Lord is upon us," said Charisse Gillett, Moderator of the church.

Watkins will be formally installed Wednesday evening during the General Assembly's closing worship services at the Oregon Convention Center.

Watkins holds a doctor of ministry degree from Phillips Theological Seminary, a master's of divinity from the Yale Divinity School, and a bachelor's degree in French and economics from Butler University.

She is married to Richard (Rick) H. Lowery, Professor of Old Testament at Phillips Theological Seminary. They have two children, Bethany and Christopher.

Children and Youth World

The CAT and JYF groups are getting ready for a great fall! This fall we will hear about the Awesome Adventures of Jesus, act them out, and invent games that teach us about Jesus our Lord.

CAT (K-2nd) and JYF (3-5th) will begin meeting on Sunday August 21, right after church. A snack lunch will be provided.

The Youth Groups, Chi Rho and CYF will also meet on August 21, from 4:30 till 6:00 pm. Remember that Eric will be here for guitar lessons for any age, from 4:00 – 4:30. The youth will begin to plan the year, talk about next summers Service Trip, upcoming camps and other activities.

All groups will meet again on August 28.



Children's Church

All children from pre-K through 3rd grade are invited to come to Children's Church after the children's moment in Sunday worship. We learn the Lords Prayer, hear one of the Sacred Stories from the Bible, and create art in response to the story. Sometimes we sing! Come see the work of the children outside the children church room! Stories and leaders for August are:

- August 7:** Ginny Lucich
- August 14:** David Carroll
- August 21:** Eric Elder
- August 28:** Dana Austin



Carnes Scholarship Recipients Announced

The Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce the recipients of the Carnes Scholarships.

Congratulations to:

- Chris Hellums
- Katherine Olson
- Christa Owen
- Jessica Hellums
- Erin Coupal

We also wish to thank Faye and the late Curtis Carnes for their generosity in providing these scholarships to assist our church members.

All of these recipients will be recognized during Worship on Sunday, August 7.

Bettie Duff
Scholarship Committee

Easter Seals Open a Handicap Accessible Playground

Easter Seals-Central Texas had the grand opening of an accessible playground for children with disabilities and their friends on July 25 at 919 W. 28 1/2 Street in Austin. The funds have been contributed by PGA tournament players and

through other local fundraisers in town.

Easter Seals has been helping individuals with disabilities and special needs, and their families, live better lives for more than 80 years. From child development centers to

physical rehabilitation and job training for people with disabilities, Easter Seals offers a variety of services to help people with disabilities address life's challenges and achieve personal goals.



Winding Down With a Word of Thanks

The Landscaping Committee, being a spin-off from the Site Planning Committee, is winding down. The tasks that we adopted have been addressed.

Jennifer Richter drew up a master plan for the location of the new plants and improvements.

In April, the road serving additional parking topped off with crushed granite stone was completed. Likewise, the parking lot paving under the supervision of Stan Kirby was completed.

Hank Anawaty made arrangements for curb stops to be installed on the new parking lot and the building of steps at the SE corner of Gray Hall.

Stan Kirby arranged for the installation of the detention pond fence and the moving of a portable

building. Stan and Bob Tate placed underpinning around both portable buildings.

Railroad ties were placed adjacent to the new road. Bark and mulch was spread to better define the additional parking areas served by the new roadway.

Ray Combs and Bobby Parker provided the installation of a new outdoor light to cover the new parking area and improve the existing tree lights.

A committee of Bonnie Smith, Jeanne May and Jenn Richter selected a Landscaping Company to lay stone and to plant the bushes at the entrance to the Church driveway and front door to the main building. The new plants need watering every other day. Bonnie, Jeanne,

Joyce Coleman and Marilyn Echols are handling this task.

A study is being made by Bob Tate to possibly provide a watering system to the new plants. Information on this will follow.

Bill Keene prepared monthly income and expense reports and a profit and loss budget report during the project.

The compliments received by the committee members are appreciated.

I am pleased to report that due to the donation of time, talent or materials by committee members that we are under budget for the project.

Many thanks to all of those who have participated in the landscaping project. You did well.



ARCH Continues to Serve the First Tuesday of the Month

SHCC will continue for the rest of the year to volunteer at Austin Resource Center for the Homeless (ARCH) on the first Tuesday of the month.

The next volunteer date is Tuesday, August 2 from 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm.

The address to ARCH is 500 E. 7th St. Parking is between ARCH and St. David's Church.

A sign up sheet is available in the Narthex for those interested.

If you have any questions, please call Joy Blythe at 970-6060.

A Note From the Music Director

We have had a wonderful summer in the music ministry. But the time has come for us to begin thinking towards next season, as we gear up to begin rehearsing again in earnest.

As a quick reminder: Bell Choir rehearsal begins on August 17 at 6:30 pm. All are welcome to come and ring with us, or even to just sit and watch.

Chancel Choir continues to rehearse at 7:30pm every Wednesday evening.

We welcome all, no matter what your experience level, to raise your voices with us in praise of the Lord.

We have great fun singing and ringing every week, and hope you can join us!



A Message From Our Foster Pastor

As I look over the themes of the lectionary for the last Sunday in July (its mid week and sermon preparation is part of my daily activity), I'm struck (again) by themes that run through the Hebrew Scriptures and that run through our lives still today. The Old Testament reading is Genesis 32:22-32, the story, of Jacob wrestling with a stranger, deals with struggle and conflict and transformation. Jacob struggles all through the night (have we?) to realize he has been wrestling with God who proceeds to give him a new name (transformation). The first week in August

your church staff, accompanied by Jerry Vaughan, moderator, and Vicki Mayabb, vice-moderator will be taking a retreat on Wednesday and Thursday. We will be in Fredericksburg, working together, praying and planning for our congregation, dreaming, preparing for a new year. I believe that this is the first staff retreat SHCC has had (transformation). (If you need one of the ministers, please call their mobile number.)

SHCC is moving toward transformation. God is actively calling us (and sometimes wrestling with us) to important mission

and purpose. A new cabinet is gearing up for a new year, our education program is increasing its programming for children, youth, and adults, our outreach to our community and beyond is challenging us to new levels of giving. We have opportunities for growth and service for every member of our congregation. Please take some time, talk with one of your pastors, and find a place to serve and also be part of one of our educational programs.

The adult study class will present its program for the fall and through Christmas. The children

will begin a new curriculum called PowerExpress that is so much fun while it teaches wonderful Bible stories through hands-on, active learning. Finally, I encourage everyone to be part of this worship service as we settle back into routine after active and busy summers.

Oh, we will have times to struggle with God. We will be reminded that faith is accompanied by doubt. And we, like Jacob so long ago, will struggle to hear and know God's call to us here at SHCC. Come, be a part of the transformation!

I'll see you Sunday,
Amy

Shepherd of The Hills Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)



6909 W. Courtyard
Austin, TX 78730

Place
Stamp
Here

August 2005

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
	1 7:00 pm Cabinet Meeting	2 8:00 am ORG 5:30 pm ARCH 6:00 pm Westminster Glen HOA Meeting	3 Staff Retreat	4 Staff Retreat 6:30 am CMF Prayer Breakfast 11:30 am CWF Luncheon 7:30 pm Choir 8:00 pm AA	5 Office Closed	6 11:00 am SIKHs
7 9:15 am Coffee, Pastries, & Fellowship 9:30 am Sunday School 10:40 am Worship	8 7:00 pm Book Club @ Russell's Bakery	9 No ORG	10 7:30 pm Choir	11 10:00 am Staff Meeting 8:00 pm AA	12	13
14 9:15 am Coffee, Pastries, & Fellowship 9:30 am Sunday School 10:40 am Worship After Worship Seekers@ Elsi's Mexican/ Salvadoran Restaurant	15	16 No ORG	17 7:30 pm Choir	18 10:00 am Staff Meeting 8:00 pm AA	19	20 6:30 pm Still Wandering @ Threadgills and then Bat Cruise
21 Back to Church Sunday 9:15 am Coffee, Pastries, & Fellowship 9:30 am Sunday School 10:40 am Worship After Worship Worship Committee Meeting	22 Newsletter Deadline 7:00 pm Cabinet Meeting	23 No ORG	24 6:30 pm Bell Choir 7:30 pm Choir	25 10:00 am Staff Meeting 8:00 pm AA	26	27
28 9:15 am Coffee, Pastries, & Fellowship 9:30 am Sunday School 10:40 am Worship	29	30 No ORG	31 6:30 pm Bell Choir 7:30 pm Choir			

August Birthdays

Elizabeth Akin	August 2
Davor Juricic	August 2
John Pappas	August 2
Rebecca Corkill	August 6
Kathy Richmond	August 7
Gayle Barksdale	August 9
Jim Echols	August 10
Mike Herrold	August 11
Mary Ann Fitch	August 15
Lucinda Valenti	August 15
Dylan Lucich	August 16
Mark Manning	August 16
Bill Keene	August 18
Dawn Lewis	August 18
Larry Secrest	August 19
Jon Fitch	August 21
Morgan Witt	August 21
Dot Kirby	August 25
Jim Gravier	August 26
Roxi Owen	August 26
Jennifer Bosworth	August 27
Michael Henderson	August 28
Randy Long	August 28
Daniel Whitcomb	August 28
Madeline Fitch	August 29
Kevin Locke	August 29
June Yeatman	August 29

Worship Committee

The Worship Committee will have a meeting Sunday, August 21st after worship.

July CMF

The next CMF prayer breakfast will be Thursday, August 4th from 6:30 am to 7:45 am at the Denny's located at 7820 Burnet Road. Questions? Call Adrian Gentry at 345-3541

August Anniversaries

Rod & Mary Ann Coleman	August 8
Bill & Jane Keene	August 20
Gary & Jeanette Whitcomb	August 22
David & Karen Terry	August 24
Jeff & Sharon Hobbs	August 26
Eric & Amy Elder	August 29
Dan & Sandy Owen	August 30
Jeff & Ginny Lucich	August 31

August Seekers

Seekers will meet for lunch after worship Sunday, August 14 at Elsi's Mexican/Salvadoran Restaurant on Burnet Road.

August Still Wandering

Still Wandering will meet Saturday August 20th at 6:00 pm at Threadgills located at 301 W. Riverside Drive. After dinner, they will go to the Bat Cruise that begins at dusk. The cruise is \$8/person or \$6 for 60 and over. Please RSVP to Linda Hoops no later than Sunday, August 14th at 914-8622 or lhoops@austin.rr.com.

ORG

There will be no ORG during the month of August

July CWF

The monthly CWF luncheon will be Thursday, August 4th at 11:30 am at Siena located at 360 & 2222. Reservations are required. Please Milesa at 288-8306 or email her at dmj@austin.utexas.edu if you would like to attend.

There will be no CWF meeting in August. The regular meeting will resume in Septemeber.