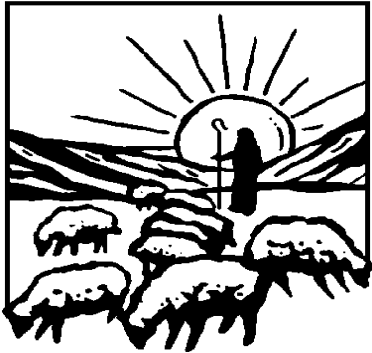


January 2010

# The Shepherd's Lyre



Shepherd of the Hills  
Christian Church  
(Disciples of Christ)  
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## THY ROD AND THY STAFF

Happy New Year!

I'm personally pleased to move into 2010. I'm hoping that this year will bring a sense of order, calmness and routine. 2009 was a year of chaos at SHCC. The building noise, dust, unsettledness and process is finally getting to me. So far, 2010 is off to a limping start. The heat has been out in the main building. A computer crashed – mine. A file drawer won't open, the others work, it just quit. I can't wait to see what breaks next. Thank you, Bob, for the emergency space heaters. And Mark, for resending the music for Sunday – we're having e-mail challenges, too. And Sheri for helping with the bulletins. It will all pass. Hopefully soon.

On the positive side, the building is definitely in the end stages of the process. The painters should finish this week. The tile is going down. The stained glass window – WOW – it is gorgeous!

I've been meditating a lot recently on the creation story. Yes, it's the chaos part that has captured my mind. Then God added order. Life is chaotic. God calls us, and helps us to add order. I'm going to meditate on God's sense of order next. Later, I'll move on to the part where the creation is blessed.

May God add order to your chaos.

*And blessing,*

*Rod*





## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

There will be a very important Congregational Meeting following the Sunday morning worship service on January 10, 2010 in order to vote on our SHCC 2010 budget.

Please mark this event on your calendars and make every effort to attend the meeting.



Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for all of the many acts of kindness and help at the time of my mother's recent death-- the generous outpouring of food, the beautiful Bromeliad, the many cards and notes of condolence and for your presence at her memorial service. Your love and support have been greatly appreciated by my whole family.

Mary Lynn, Paul and Ann Woodall

## Seen around SHCC...

Choir Christmas Party, 12-16-09



Director of Music, Mark Manning, with his favorite gift.



A good time was had by all.

## Outreach Opportunities

### Austin Resource Center for the Homeless (ARCH)

**Tuesday, January 5, 5:45 pm**  
500 East 7th St. at Neches

Join us to help feed a gourmet meal to about 100 homeless men. If you are interested, please contact Suzanne Gonzalez.

[suzanne\\_gonzalez@msn.com](mailto:suzanne_gonzalez@msn.com)

### Mobile Loaves & Fishes

**Monday, January 18, 5:15 pm**


We need help making sandwiches, loading the truck, and distributing food to the homeless and working poor of Austin. Please contact Lucinda Valenti if you can help: [lvalenti@mindspring.com](mailto:lvalenti@mindspring.com).


### February Newsletter Deadline


The deadline for submissions for the February newsletter and calendar is **Monday, January 25 at 12 noon**. Thank you!




## Opportunities for Fellowship and Growth


 **The CWF (Christian Women's Fellowship) Lunch** will be on **Thursday, January 7, at 11:30 am** at the Bamboo Grill, 6507 Jester Blvd. All are welcome!

 The next meeting of the **CMF (Christian Men's Fellowship)** will be **Friday, January 8, at 7:00 am** at the Waterloo Ice House on 360 at 2222.

 The **Book Club** celebrated the Christmas season with a meeting at Jody Kehle's house. We had fun with our used book exchange, led by Tara Nash, and everyone enjoyed sharing food, drink and good conversation about books. For the first time, the Book Club also had a Christmas outreach project. Members brought children's books that we donated to the Dell Children's Hospital, a gift that the hospital staff said was more welcome than toys.

This month we are reading Amy and Isabelle by Elizabeth Strout, an author whose book of short stories we read recently. We will be back at the Triumph Café on Spicewood Springs Road on Monday night, **January 11, at 7:00 pm**. Everyone is welcome to join us.

 **CWF Day Group:** The monthly day meeting will be **Wednesday, January 20**. We will meet at the church at **2:00 pm**. The program is Chapter 4, titled "Blood Will Tell" from our study book, "Really Bad Girls of the Bible." We usually have an interesting discussion about the lesson, since all kinds of ideas flow from the "bad girls" in each chapter. Please call Milesa if you have questions (288-8306)

 **CWF Monday Night Escape Group:** The Women's Escape Group will meet on Monday, January 25<sup>th</sup> at the church. Susan Hill will lead us for the start of a new program which is based on the Disciples magazine, "Just Women." All women are invited to come. Any questions? Call Susan Hill at 292-9095.

 **The ORG ("Old Retired Guys")** group meets every Tuesday for breakfast and discussion, 8:00 am at Triumph Café, 3808 Spicewood Springs Rd.



## **2010 Annual Mission Trip to Southwest Good Samaritan Ministries**

**January 15-18, 2010**

A group from SHCC will be going to Bayview, Texas on Friday afternoon, Jan 15<sup>th</sup> and returning on Monday, Jan 18<sup>th</sup>. We will caravan in several vehicles and some may return earlier than others as needed.

Those going on the mission trip to Bayview, Texas (Casa Compasion) will need to bring the following on the trip with them:

- bedding (sheets, pillows, blankets (bed-roll ?). Note that the facility has separate rooms, bathrooms for men and women and the beds available are bunk-beds.
- personal items: toothbrush, toothpaste, soap (including anti-bacterial soap), bath towels, toilet paper, etc.
- small space heaters (may or may not be needed, but just in case they are needed)
- proof of health insurance
- hats, sun-screen, and bug-spray.

All tools needed for the mission trip are available on site; we can purchase items locally.

It is now necessary to bring your Passport if you intend to go with a group across the border to Matamoros, Mexico to visit the orphanage.

More information is available at: [http://www.swgsm.org/pages/requirements\\_general\\_info](http://www.swgsm.org/pages/requirements_general_info) (Scroll toward the bottom of this web page for more on what to bring.)

SHCC will take care of any facility fees shown on the web page, as well as providing groceries, pots/pans, and trash bags for our stay.

We invite those of you who want to participate, but have not yet signed up, to contact Randy Hill at [rhill15@austin.rr.com](mailto:rhill15@austin.rr.com) or at 512-292-9095.



<u>NAME</u>	<u>BIRTHDAY</u>
Bettie Duff	January 2
Madeline Jones	January 4
Jack Jones	January 5
Laura Parker	January 5
Mary Layton	January 10
Faye Carnes	January 14
Taylor Long	January 17
Todd Coleman	January 19
Katie Lucich	January 20
Rick Olson	January 21
Bethany Brevard	January 23
Jed Blaich	January 24
Mark Brice	January 24
Susie Olson	January 24
Jessica Hellums	January 27
Callie Brice	January 29

### Great News for Women of the Southwest Region!

What a blessing we have coming to the Southwest Region in February! Adonna Bowman, Executive Director, Disciples Women's Ministries, will lead the Women's Visioning Event at Community Christian Church in Richardson on February 26-27, 2010. Tickets are \$20 at the door, and this will cover both the Friday evening meal, and lunch on Saturday.

Disciples Women across the Region are invited to attend the FIRST Vision Gathering for Disciples Women's Ministries. Adonna will lead us through a discovery process. It will involve lots of conversation, study, listening, and worship. A hotel has been secured at a discounted rate – but in order to get that information, you must call and register with Andrea Gantz at 817-926-4687.

We will begin Friday evening at 6:30 pm with dinner and end Saturday afternoon by 4:00 pm. Dinner and lunch will be provided at Community Christian Church in Richardson.

We are grateful that Adonna can be with us and share from her knowledge to help us get CCSW Disciples Women's Ministries pumped up for 2010!

**SAVE THE DATE!** Also, SHCC will have a special treat when Adonna Bowman will be our guest speaker on Sunday, March 7<sup>th</sup> during our Disciple Women's Sunday event. We look forward to hearing from her!

### JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES



<u>NAME</u>	<u>ANNIVERSARY</u>
Chris & Gail Adams	January 6
Rick & Susie Olson	January 8
Jerry & Sharon Miller	January 9
Dave & Judi Proctor	January 9
Jon & Mary Ann Fitch	January 19
Elliot & Kathy Richmond	January 27
Tom and Bonnie Smith	January 27

January 2010

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 <i>New Year's Day</i> <i>Office Closed</i>	2
3 EPIPHANY SUNDAY 9:15 am Coffee, Pastries & Fellowship 9:30 am Sunday School 10:40 am Worship	4	5 8:00 am ORG  5:45 pm ARCH	6 EPIPHANY  7:00 pm Bell Choir 8:00 pm Chancel Choir	7  11:30 am CWF Lunch @ Bamboo Grill	8 7:00 am CMF Prayer Breakfast @ Waterloo on 360	9
10 9:15 am Coffee, Pastries & Fellowship 9:30 am Sunday School 10:40 am Worship 12:00 pm Congregational Mtg 12:30 pm Outreach Committee Meeting	11  7:00 pm Book Club (at Triumph Café)	12  8:00 am ORG  11:00 am Disciples' Clergy Lunch @ HPCC	13  6:30 pm Outreach Committee Meeting 7:00 pm Bell Choir 8:00 pm Chancel Choir	14	15 <i>MISSION TRIP BEGINS</i> <i>Jan. 15-18</i> <i>to Southwest</i> <i>Good Samaritan Ministries</i>	16
17 9:15 am Coffee, Pastries & Fellowship 9:30 am Sunday School 10:40 am Worship	18 <i>Martin Luther King Jr Day</i>  5:15 pm Mobile Loaves & Fishes	19  8:00 am ORG	20 2:00 pm CWF Meeting @ SHCC 7:00 pm Bell Choir 8:00 pm Chancel Choir	21  7:00 pm Cabinet Meeting	22  12:00 pm Theological Discovery Group	23
24 9:15 am Coffee, Pastries & Fellowship 9:30 am Sunday School 10:40 am Worship 12:00 pm Trustees Mtg 12:00 pm Shepherds Meeting	25 12:00 noon Newsletter Deadline 5:30 pm CWF Women's Monday Night Escape Group	26  8:00 am ORG	27  7:00 pm Bell Choir 8:00 pm Chancel Choir	28	29 <i>CHI RHO MIDWINTER BEGINS</i> <i>Jan. 29-31</i> <i>in Gonzales</i>	30
31 LAITY SUNDAY 9:15 am Coffee, Pastries & Fellowship 9:30 am Sunday School 10:40 am Worship						

## Thank You!



Thanks so much to everyone who so generously supported our Christmas Angel Project this year. Your contributions of gifts to individuals served by three different LifeWorks agencies were very much appreciated by the LifeWorks staff and the individual recipients. Once again, the congregation of Shepherd of the Hills has responded in a big way in sharing the gift of love with others in our community. Thanks to you all for your continuing and generous support of our efforts to be a presence in the community through outreach.

To Members of SHCC:  
On behalf of our Board and staff, thank you for supporting the Samaritan Center. The Samaritan Center for Counseling and Pastoral Care offers accessible, professional counseling to almost 2,000 families and individuals a year in Central Texas from our 5 locations. For almost 35 years, we have provided an array of mental health services within a spiritual context to help people avert crises, build healthy relationships and lead productive lives.

Your donation will enable Samaritan Center to continue its vital work in our community. We are deeply honored by your support, and accept it graciously on behalf of those individuals it will assist.

Sincerely,  
Nancy Blaich  
Executive Director

## *Looking Ahead in 2010... Dates to Remember*

- ❖ Saturday, February 13      ORG Annual Valentine's Day Dinner  
   @ Mimi's Café, 6:00 pm
- ❖ Sunday, February 14      Certificate of Occupancy Sunday  
   (target date to move into the new sanctuary)
- ❖ Wednesday, February 17      Ash Wednesday - Lent Begins  
   Ash Wednesday Service @ 7:00 pm
- ❖ Sunday, February 21      Lenten Study 6-week series begins  
   "A Purpose-full Life" led by Rod Coleman and Greg Lanier
- ❖ Sunday, February 28      New Sanctuary Dedication

**Chi Rho Midwinter**

January 29-31 in Gonzales

Preach the Gospel  
ALWAYS  
(and if necessary use words)

Cost: \$100  
Registrations due **Jan.11**  
at the BBA Office

*Please call the Church Office (343-7858)  
for more information or a registration form.*



The Membership Committee is composing a list of past members (inactive or moved) that previously attended SHCC. We would like to send an invitation to the Open House for our new sanctuary to as many folks as possible. Please send an e-mail with names, addresses, or e-mail addresses of any folks you may be aware of to [sheri@brice.com](mailto:sheri@brice.com).

**Shepherd of the Hills Christian Church**



**(Disciples of Christ)**

6909 W. Courtyard Dr.  
Austin, TX 78730

Place  
Stamp  
Here