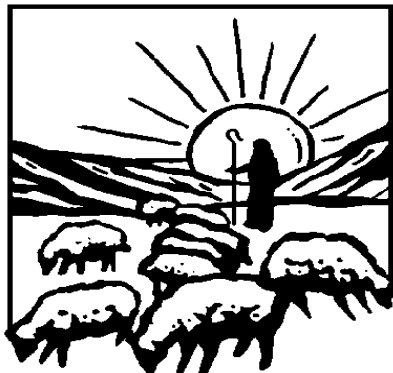


July 2005

The Shepherd's Lyre



Shepherd of the Hills
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(Disciples of Christ)
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2005-2006 Congregational Officers Elected

At the congregational meeting on June 12th after worship the following officers were elected for the 2005-2006 church year:

- **Moderator:** Jerry Vaughan
- **Vice Moderator and Personnel Chair:** Vicki Mayabb
- **Treasurer:** Linda Hoops
- **Assistant Treasurer** (an appointed position): Jerry Miller
- **Secretary:** Priscilla Blanton
- **Trustees:** Jim Echols and Mike Herrold
- **Personnel Committee members:** Marilyn Echols and Kim Anawaty

This congregation has made an extraordinary effort to have a great year this past year. Everyone has given there very best to make our church continue to function during this interim period. I want to urge everyone to continue with this same level of effort in the coming year. Just because Rod is back, we can't just rest on our laurels. Keep up the good work and help SHCC grow and shine in all areas. Jerry and the other officers need your prayers and your support.



Bob & Jeanne May are having a potluck dinner **4th of July Party** at their home. Come early to swim or at 7:00 pm for dinner. Fireworks from the Austin Country Club should start around 9:00 pm. Bring your kids or grandkids and dress for the heat. Call Jeanne at 345-1516 for directions and to give her an idea of many to expect.

Any Baby Can Diaper Drive

Dear Shepherd of the Hills,

Once again, you have come through resoundingly in support of the families we serve at Any Baby Can. This year's diaper drive raised \$580, 757 diapers, and 240 wipes – including a check for \$300 from the Outreach Fund. To compare diapers to dollars, consider that we raised more than 5,900 diapers and 240 wipes. That is phenomenal and I would like to thank you on behalf of Any Baby Can's families.

Shepherd of the Hills' support enables us to serve many of the most needy children and families in Austin. We will use the church's donation to fund programs such as the Candlelighters Childhood Cancer Program, which

serves children with cancer and their families by providing comprehensive emotional, physical, medical and social support so that no family goes through their journey with cancer alone.

I am personally grateful for the amazing amount of support that Shepherd of the Hills has given to Any Baby can in the form of donations and participation in our diaper drive. It is wonderful to be a part of such a vital ministry. Thank you to all of you at Shepherd of the Hills!

This is my last week as coordinator for the diaper drive, so I will look forward to participating with you all next year as a donor. Hip, Hip, Hurray!

Thanks,
Mike Herrold



ODE TO DIANE BAKER

Thanks is too small a word.
So, we thought we'd write an ode...

Diane was our moderator,
the best in all the land,
She worked at other churches
but thought SHCC was grand
Method, purpose, and organized
are new words that she taught
so we worked real hard like her
until our feet fell off
But she tolerated our despair,
and found the best in each
Made sure that all the goals we had
were just within our reach
She knew when the church doors
opened, made sure they weren't locked
And many times we'd see her come to
church in some new frock
Diane brought wisdom
and a quiet style that saved
us from a boring year and she even
shared her Dave.

Thanks Diane, and Dave for sharing
her. We'll see you on Sunday, Amy



**YOU ARE INVITED TO
MARY HILL'S
BIRTHDAY PARTY**

The children of Mary Gladys Keith Hill invite you to the celebration of her 95th birthday Sunday July 10, 2005 at 2:00 in the afternoon The Park at Beckett Meadows at 7709 Beckett Road, Austin, TX

"No gifts please, except to bring a memory to share."

Moderator's Report 2004-2005

This year started out with more than a few challenges. Thanks to excellent support from the staff and cabinet, we had a successful year. New programs were started and old programs were expanded. We've added new members and we have visitors who are excited about attending SHCC. Some of our new members are now actively participating in church leadership roles.

I want to thank you for taking the challenges of this year seriously. When we had our planning retreat at the beginning of the year, all the cabinet officers went away from that session and activated your committees by setting some clear goals. I think we have seen the results of that goal setting in all areas of church life. Every committee has seen areas of improvement. Some of our accomplishments for this year include starting 3 community Bible studies, serving the homeless at ARCH, Dinners for 8, working at Capital Area

Food Bank, successful shepherding of several church members/families in crisis, Biblical Spanish class, painting of the buildings and the first floor rooms of the Education Building, organization of the children's library, a very successful Hands on Housing, completion of the paving, water detention pond, landscaping, etc. project, Vacation Bible School with an attendance of over 25 children, First Friday Fun programs, two retreat/work programs at Good Samaritan Ministries in Los Fresnos, improvement to the church website, adding wireless networking to the office, increased organization in the office, our nursery is full of babies (3 nursery workers are needed each week), the Book Club meets regularly, and we increased variety in worship plus some things which I'm sure I've forgotten. We weren't afraid to try new things – some worked and some didn't but we tried. It fed my spirit to see everyone

working so energetically for the improvement of SHCC and the lives of those whom we touched. I especially want to thank everyone for the positive attitude that was displayed during the bingo discussion. There were many opinions about the project and we all listened respectfully to one another until a conclusion became clear. This kind of respectful discussion is not always possible in church life and I am very appreciative to this congregation for this chance to see a church at it's best.

More than anything, I want to thank the ministers in this congregation for making this interim period (and the interim-interim period) vibrant and forward looking. We have adults and children who really want to be at SHCC thanks to their leadership.

I see nothing but good things for this congregation in the future as long as we keep this spirit alive.

--Diane Baker

SHCC Book Club News

The next meeting of the SHCC Book Club will be at Russell's Bakery, a coffee place located at the corner of Hancock and Balcones. It is just south of Chez Zee on Balcones. They have coffee, of course, pastries, salads and sandwiches. We will meet at 7:00 pm on July 11th, and the book to

review will be Milesa's selection of **Jan Karon's At Home In Metford**. At this meeting Suzanne will inform us of the book for August.

If Russell's is a good experience for us next month, it could become home base for our club. They are willing to host us

and we can meet there on a regular basis. That is certainly good news. No specific summer goals were mentioned last night other than walking the aisles of the local book stores and having a book "jump" out at you. Only readers know this.

Outreach News and Update

We will be serving at ARCH again on July 5. We had a great turnout on the first Tuesday in June. Thanks to everyone who came to help serve the meal, wash dishes and visit with the homeless clients that we met there. It has been a great experience, and because of increased interest in participating, we are going to look into the possibility of scheduling a second night, so that we might have two or more teams working. That would be great!

For those of you who expressed an interest in working at the food bank the next time, we haven't scheduled another date, yet, but we will, so don't give up!

Our Shepherd of the Hills Care Team working with Austin Interfaith Care

Alliance is still functioning, but we have only one active member. At this time, that is enough to meet the minimal needs of our care team partner, a woman living with HIV. The Austin Interfaith Care Alliance will be having another volunteer training the evenings of Tuesday, July 19, and Thursday, July 21. They have expanded their services to include not only those living with HIV-AIDS, but those with cancer, Lou Gehrig's disease and other serious illnesses. Care teams might be asked to run errands or provide transportation, help with housekeeping or meal preparation or just provide companionship. If you don't want a long-term commitment, they also have the option for short-term care help in some cases. If you would like to be part of a new team from

Shepherd of the Hills, please ask me for information or contact Roger Temme at roger@interfaithcarealliance.org or 459-5883 for details.

Thanks for another wonderful response to the Mother's Day-Father's Day Diaper Drive in support of the programs of Any Baby Can. You can see the details about Shepherd of the Hills' donations in Mike Herrold's letter of thanks to the congregation.

Thanks to Eric Elder and Pat Vaughan and our young people who represented Shepherd of the Hills in their trip to Southwest Good Samaritan Ministries where they participated in their own outreach project.

Thanks for your donations of craft and school supplies for Comfort

House and for continuing to bring your motel toiletries for LifeWorks. Your donations of good used clothing find a home at one of several agencies and are always appreciated.

The Outreach Committee thanks EVERYONE who has contributed time, money or materials to help the outreach mission of the church during this past month and throughout the year. Your help makes our ongoing work in the community possible, and all who benefit appreciate it.

--Suzanne Gonzalez
Outreach Committee



A Brief History of Our Cradle Cross

A few short years after the founding of SHCC in April of 1984, Senior Minister Rod Coleman and Billy Tumlinson had a conversation about a symbolic gift from the church to the newest members born in the congregation. The idea was a small wooden cross, called a cradle cross, which would be a gift to the newly born and parents from the church as a silent reminder of the present of the church in their lives. Some churches were already practicing this idea. Anyhow, the

idea took root and when SHCC acquired its land, the notion was to make these small wooden cradle crosses from the trees on the church property. There was an abundance of cedar trees available, and when opportunity arose, expectant mothers and ground clearing workdays, a few cedar trees were harvested for this purpose. Each cradle cross handed out to families and their newborn children came from these cedar trees. They have always been a gentle

reminder that SHCC blesses them and offers a symbol of the church's love to them. This has been the practice for a number of years now, since 1990. During that time Billy has been fashioning these crosses for our members. Now the tradition has been passed along. Stan Kirby, long time Disciple member (Harlingen, Monroe, Denton, Austin), and a wood worker as well, has assisted Billy in the latest round of "cross making." Around twenty or so new cradle crosses have been

made, just in case needs arise. This tradition of cradle cross making has been passed along to another, from the hand of one friend to another, and from there to the hands of excited parents. This is a small bit of our history, and a tradition that continues.



Dear Church Family,

Please accept my thanks for your wonderful support during my knee surgery and recovery. A special thanks goes to Laura Hensley, Jane Keene, Billy and Pat Tumlinson, and Greg Lanier for sitting with Amy during the operation. For the cards and meals that have come our way, again thank you! Isn't it great to have a church family? I have experienced that personally this past week.

In Christ's service,
Eric Elder

Thank You Letter from AAIM

Dear SHCC:

Thank you for your contribution to the **Austin Area Interreligious Ministries (AAIM)**. Your financial support enables AAIM to nurture interfaith dialogue and cooperation for the betterment of our community. In this day and age, it is more important than ever to insist that the human family not be polarized along religious lines. AAIM strives to be the voice in Austin, which celebrates our differences and views them as assets to building a stronger and wiser community.

AAIM's ongoing interfaith programming includes our annual Thanksgiving Service and Celebration, our Interreligious Assemblies. Our Sunday morning KNVA-TV show Austin Faith Dialogue, our weekly Clergy Columns which run in the *Austin American-Statesman* and *The Austin Student*, and our weekly Spirituality Book Club, held at Book People.

Our citywide ministries include our Hands on Housing program which rehabilitates homes in East Austin, our English as a Second Language

courses for refugees and our Community Chaplaincy program for victims of Crime and disaster.

AAIM relies on contributions such as yours to continue our efforts to bring healing and hope by building community. As we unite for a better world, we are proud and deeply grateful for supporters like you.

--Rev. Emilee Whitehurst
Executive Director

**Shepherd of The Hills Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)**



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Austin, TX 78730

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July 2005

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
					1	2 11:00 am SIKHs 12:30 pm Eighters Camp Returns
3 9:15 am Coffee, Pastries & Fellowship 9:30 am Sunday School 10:40 am Worship	4 HAPPY 4TH OF JULY OFFICE CLOSED	5 8:00 am ORG 11:00 am Chi Rho Camp begins 5:30 pm ARCH	6 7:30 pm Choir Practice	7 6:30 am CMF Prayer Breakfast 11:30 am CWF Luncheon 8:00 pm AA (Ed Bldg)	8	9 11:00 am Chi Rho Camp Ends
10 9:15 am Coffee, Pastries & Fellowship 9:30 am Sunday School 10:40 am Worship	11 7:00 pm Book Club @ Russell's Bakery	12 8:00 am ORG	13 7:30 pm Choir Practice	14 7:00 pm LCRA Meeting 8:00 pm AA (Ed Bldg)	15	16 6:30 pm Seekers
17 9:15 am Coffee, Pastries & Fellowship 9:30 am Sunday School 10:40 am Worship After Worship Seekers @ Fujiyama Japanese Steak House	18	19 8:00 am ORG	20 2:00 pm CWF 7:30 pm Choir Practice	21 8:00 pm AA (Ed Bldg)	22	23
24 9:15 am Coffee, Pastries & Fellowship 9:30 am Sunday School 10:40 am Worship	25 Newsletter Deadline 7:00 pm Cabinet Meeting	26 8:00 am ORG	27 7:30 pm Choir Practice Staff Retreat	28 8:00 pm AA (Ed Bldg) Staff Retreat	29	30
31 9:15 am Coffee, Pastries & Fellowship 9:30 am Sunday School 10:40 am Worship						

July Birthdays

Priscilla Blanton	July 1
Georgiana Davila	July 2
Rebecca Pruitt	July 3
Cristina Coupal	July 4
Sandy Owen	July 5
Rachael McCord	July 6
Ryan Anawaty	July 8
Greg Lanier	July 8
Mary Hill	July 11
Karlan Witt	July 11
Mary Lynn Woodall	July 12
David Baker	July 14
Christa Owen	July 15
Paul Fletes	July 16
Kalyn Horst	July 16
Gary Beckner	July 18
Alex Lewis	July 20
Hannah Lewis	July 20
Karen Terry	July 22
Cam Witt	July 24
Robert Miller	July 28
Cody McCord	July 29
Randy Henderson	July 30
Stan Kirby	July 30

June Anniversaries

Gregory & Linda Ross	July 12
Bob & Phyllis Tate	July 16
Pat & Jenn Richter	July 22
Adrian & Jill Gentry	July 24
Bob & Joyce Coleman	July 29
Mark & Sheri Brice	July 30
Randy & Susan Hill	July 30

Dinners for Eight

If you would like to sign up for summer "Dinners for 8", please email Diane Baker at dbaker@highlandparkbaptist.org or call her at 695-4393 ASAP. You can either host a dinner or attend one.

July Seekers

Seekers will meet for lunch after church on Sunday, July 17th. We will be going to Fujiyama Japanese Steak House, which is located off of Braker/183. We went last year, and all had a good time. Come join us for a fun and entertaining lunch!

July Still Wandering

Still wandering will meet Saturday, July 16 at 6:30 pm. Activity and location will be announced at a later date. If you have any questions, please call Linda Hoops at 292-9108.

July CWF

The monthly **CWF luncheon will be Thursday, July 7th at 11:30 am at Siena** located at 360 & 2222. Reservations are required; please call Milesa at 288-8306 or email her at dmj@austin.utexas.edu if you would like to attend.

Our July CWF Meeting will be Wednesday, July 20 at 2:00 pm at the church.

The title of our lesson this month is "Setting the Compass, How do I get my bearings? Small Steps Can Make a Difference."

All ladies are invited to attend.

July CMF

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