



AUGUST SUNDAY SCHEDULE

PRAYER MEETINGS, SUNDAY SCHOOL, AND WORSHIP SERVICES

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| 6 | 10:30 – 10:50 | Prayer Meeting in the Sanctuary |
| | 11:00 – 12:00 | Worship Service in the Sanctuary |
| 13 | 10:30 – 10:50 | Prayer Meeting in the Sanctuary |
| | 11:00 – 12:00 | Worship Service in the Sanctuary |
| 20 | 9:40 – 10:20 | Sunday School in the Lumsden Chapel <i>The Power of Weakness and the Weakness of Power – Revelation 5, Mark 10:17-31, Romans 13:1-10</i> |
| | 10:30 – 10:50 | Prayer Meeting in the Sanctuary |
| | 11:00 – 12:00 | Worship Service in the Sanctuary |
| 27 | 9:40 – 10:20 | Sunday School in the Lumsden Chapel <i>The Transfiguration of Power – Revelation 5</i> |
| | 10:30 – 10:50 | Prayer Meeting in the Sanctuary |
| | 11:00 – 12:00 | Worship Service in the Sanctuary |



MEMORIAL WINDOWS

We have 106 windows in the Gymnasium/Social Hall and Kitchen that require replacement. Our goal is to replace all windows with plexiglass for safety and durability. To do so costs \$50 per window pane. We have established a Memorial Window Fund for this purpose. If you would like to honor someone who has made a significant contribution to your life or the life of the church, or if you would like to purchase a window pane in memory of someone special who has died, please forward your check to the church Attn: Financial Secretary, or place it in the Sunday offering. Be sure to write on your check the name of the person in whose honor or memory your are donating. An acknowledgment list will be prepared listing donors's names and the names of the memorialized and honored people.



First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)

15 Madison Street, Watsonville, CA 95076
(831) 724-4517 • FAX (831) 724-5285



BELL TOWER

August, 2006

MISSION STATEMENT

We, at First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) of Watsonville, as part of the Church Universal, are committed to Spreading God's abounding Love, Proclaiming Jesus Christ's Message through the Truth of the Gospel by Word and Deed, and Spiritually Growing and Sharing the Gift of the Holy Spirit through Involvement and Interaction with the Diverse Community in which we live. In Faith, Unity; In Opinions, Liberty; In all Things, Love.



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PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

BY DR. REUBEN NEGRON

Conventions can be an exciting as well as a refreshing experience. It's exciting because conventions play so positively on your emotions. For instance, you get the opportunity to mingle with people you haven't seen for so long. Conventions are somewhat similar to class reunions where old friends and classmates gather to see how well kept or mistreated each looks. During our denominational conventions, colleagues and friends catch up with the latest news and gossip; yes there is some of that too. You get to hear jokes or heartbreaking stories during coffee hour. There is always a subject to bring up. On the other hand, religious conventions are also a refreshing experience because the programs there are guided to enrich our faith experience whether through worship or prayer or fellowship. We learn so much from sermons, workshops, presentations, and Bible studies.

As you already know, I attended the Hispanic convention held in Killeen, Texas, from July 13-16. Killeen is a rapidly growing city located right along Fort Hood some 80 miles north of Austin. It's no surprise that the Army base furnishes an economic boost to the city's growth. They even have a Wal-Mart Super Center (my favorite store). Business is booming and fast food establishments can be found everywhere. Highway 195 and other secondary roads run right through or into

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ANNUAL RUMMAGE & BAKE SALE

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2006
9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

- ❖ All proceeds will go towards the Stage Curtains fund.
- ❖ Set-up in the gym beginning Tuesday, September 5th.
- ❖ Volunteers needed to set-up tables, sort, arrange, and price merchandise, and work shifts on the sale day.
- ❖ For more information, please contact the church office.

Rummage Sale Rules Strictly Enforced:

- ❖ Appliances, equipment, kitchenware and tableware – Must be clean and operational
- ❖ Clothing, shoes, and linens – Must be clean with no damage (stains, holes, rips, tears, etc.)
- ❖ Furniture and furnishings – Must be clean and repaired
- ❖ Electronic Equipment – Must be clean and fully functional
- ❖ Toys and Books – Must be clean and in good repair
- ❖ Bake Sales will accept home-baked goods, packaged, wrapped and identified for individual sale.



All items must be clean and sale ready!



AUGUST SCHEDULE

- 1 – 14 Pastor Reuben will be on vacation
- 8 9:00 am Men's Breakfast Meeting at Norma's
- 6 Guest Ministers Geoffrey and Ruth Ann Moran Celebrate Members' August birthdays
- 13 Guest Ministers Geoffrey and Ruth Ann Moran
- 27 After Worship Fellowship / Lunch at the California Grill restaurant in Freedom



the city which connects to the state capital. You find people from all walks of life, and it appears, like any other growing city in our country, that the folks there are learning to live with each other.

However, what caught my attention in Killeen were the huge and beautifully designed churches (everything about Texas is huge) from different denominations. The Iglesia Cristiana Monte Sinai is not an exception; its semicircle sanctuary hosted over 400 delegates from all over the United States, Canada, and other countries from the Caribbean and South and Central America. The ambience there was perfect for an uplifting convention that had a tight agenda of resolutions, workshops, celebrations, and the installation of Rev. Humberto Pimentel as National Pastor for Hispanic Ministries. The theme for the event couldn't be more appropriate, "Tell My People to March". The Christian Scripture was based on I Peter 2:9-10. I have to admit, worship was uplifting and contagious; no one could help but to follow the rhythm of the hymns and songs. Even our General Minister and President, Rev. Sharon Watkins along with Regional Ministers and general delegates were clapping to the music, enjoying the wonderful atmosphere of Christian adoration and fellowship.

The core of the four day event was based on the calling of the Church to march without hesitation against the worldly trends that undermine the power of the Gospel. The delegates were reminded of their responsibility to share with their respective congregations the call to be and spread the Good News. Dr. Samuel Pagan was the keynote speaker for the event and his interpretation of the theme eloquent but most important, relevant.

In conclusion, my experience in Killeen was an eye-opener. While it is true that I attended the convention as a representative of our region to assure the Hispanic convention of our interest in establishing a strong relationship and our intention to open at least 10 Spanish-speaking congregations by 2020, I believe the convention's theme challenges everyone including me. It is necessary to march on and pursue the call, to plant new communities of faith. All people are entitled to enjoy the benefits of the gospel of Christ. We, too, are in the process of marching, making history, making the difference, getting involved. That is what the call is about.

Staying behind is not a good option. For us "staying behind" has so many meanings. Staying behind can mean to choose to espouse a survival mode of existence, it means to be disconnected from the mission and purpose for which we are called, it means to be irrelevant to the people who we are called to serve, and finally, it means to be complacent with what we have become.

I pray that our region and local congregations embrace the call to spread the Good News to all people, and I trust that our churches employ its resources to affirm the love of Christ for all people starting right here in Watsonville.

In shared ministry, *Reuben*