

MIRACLE DAY COORDINATOR

DO YOU BELIEVE IN MIRACLES?

Miracle Day is a joint mission venture between the **National Benevolent Association** and the **Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)** in its citywide, area, or regional manifestations. It is meant to be the Disciples' version of the old Amish "barn raising". The miracle is to complete a major project of some physical nature at a Disciples church building, mission center, or campground in one day using the physical labor of a large number of Disciple workers.

Records show volunteers from more than 1,300 congregations and 66 NBA units have participated in the 51 NBA Miracle days since the program began in 1998. Their efforts brought new life and energy to 81 churches, 2 day care centers, 10 campgrounds, and 3 mission centers!

Garfield Park Christian Church in Santa Cruz has a Miracle Day project set for Saturday, November 5, 2005. We need a volunteer to coordinate the members of our congregation so we may help Garfield Park with their Miracle Day project. Interested? Contact Pastor Reuben.



CHURCH HISTORIAN WANTED

SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

We have some beautiful wooden, hand-made history books that are in dire need of being updated and kept up. We need an historian to record and share our rich church life not only for our future but to celebrate these experiences with our area and regional churches. We have many people willing to donate photos, newspaper articles, etc. Now if we only had someone to put it all together. Please see Pastor Reuben if you are interested in this important ministry.



SPRING CLEANING

THE TRADITION CONTINUES

Please join us on Saturday, June 18th, at 9:30 a.m. at our church for our annual good old-fashioned spring cleaning. Bring mops, vacuum cleaners, brooms, dust cloths, carpet steamers, paint, cleaning products, and, of course, food. Pick your pet peeve (*and each one of us has at least one*) to clean and make it shine!

If you can't make it on Saturday, make arrangements with Pastor Reuben to come during the week. There is no wrong time to clean the church!

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
15 Madison Street, Watsonville, CA 95076
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BELL TOWER

JUNE, 2005

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 REV. REUBEN NEGRON

Yes, it's that time of the year when academic institutions and churches alike acknowledge and rightfully recognize their graduates. A sense of fulfillment and accomplishment fills the air, not to mention the awesome feeling of pride that both parents and children share.

Here at First Christian Church in Watsonville, we don't fit in our own skins because we have three winners: Reuben Negron graduated from Norwich University, Ethan Alessandri graduated from Watsonville High School, and Crystal Nordquist graduated from Aptos High School. These are three living blessings and excellent reasons for us to be joyous. It is blessings like these that invite us to continue celebrating God's bountiful grace.

As for our graduates, I believe I speak for the majority of us here in Watsonville, "remain focused on the Lord." I encourage you to nurture your imagination, create a vision that corresponds to your calling, and allow Christ to be the epicenter of all your goals. Never lose sight of the good experiences and the values that helped you reach the level that you now enjoy. Always remember the lessons that your Sunday school teachers shared with you, and, of course, try to follow the good

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OUTREACH

VETERAN'S HOSPITAL IN PALO ALTO SATURDAY, JULY 23, 2005

Our Mexican Fiesta was such a hit in April, we have been invited back to prepare a delicious lunch at noon for the 40+ Veterans (mostly from Iraq) currently being treated in the Palo Alto Veteran Hospital's trauma center, blind unit, and spinal cord injury section.

This will be a festive party atmosphere in the Veterans' dining hall. In addition to a sumptuous lunch, the Veterans really look forward to talking and socializing with people.

These Veterans have difficult therapy during the week and Saturday is usually their "free" day. They are living at the trauma center for surgery, therapy and counseling. Many of them do not have family or friends nearby but have been at the hospital for many months. Their disabilities include: post traumatic stress, blindness, amnesia, spinal injury, and amputation, among others.

If you are unable to physically participate on July 23rd, a monetary donation will be appreciated to help purchase supplies and decorations. Please mark your donations for the "Veterans' Lunch".

LORRAINE MATHIESEN, CHAIR



PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

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examples your parents set throughout the years. Some of you will pursue a college experience and others will apply for a job. Whichever route you decide to take in life, I advise you to arm yourself with courage and be prepared to be challenged. So far, you have been successful; you can continue being so if your heart is straight with God and yourself.

It is up to us as a church to pray and encourage our graduates and students alike to pursue excellence through a Christ-centered life, and to continue academic studies in the disciplines that will help them to follow their calling.

Congratulations to all our students!

Reuben

YOUTH CAMP



June 26 – July 2	Chi-Rho	(entering grades 6, 7, & 8)
July 3 – July 9	CYF I	(entering grades 9 & 10)
July 10 – July 16	CYF II	(entering grades 11 & 12)
July 29 – July 31	Post High	(just graduated high school)
July 31 – August 6	Junior Camp	(entering grades 4 & 5)

Cost of camp at **Community of the Great Commission** this year is \$365 per youth; registration and a \$50 deposit were due **before** June 1st; after June 1st, add \$10. Registration forms are available online at www.ccncn.org.

Funds are available to help each camper pay for registration. How much money is available per camper, however, depends upon how many youth attend. **Full registration paid by the church is not guaranteed.** As soon as we know how many campers are going, Pamela Mathiesen, Financial Secretary, will be able to determine the exact amount the church will be able to contribute per camper.

The \$50 deposit to the Region is nonrefundable and nontransferable.

There are Camp Scholarships available at www.ccncn.org. Applications for these scholarships must be postmarked no later than June 10th.



CAMP FUNDRAISER

HELP SEND A CHILD TO CAMP

We are currently taking orders for delicious baked goods (such as cookie dough, coffee cake, cheesecake, etc), kitchenware, and decorative items ranging from \$6 - \$20. With each purchase, you contribute to our youth fund.



**For more information,
please contact Marianne Fuentes.**



There is no time to waste; orders need to be completed by June 17.

Additional items for Christmas will be available in August to raise money for next year's camp fund.