

# CROSSROADS

*From the General Minister and  
President*

people to join in. It helps people feel part of a community.



April 26, 2006

To the Thousands of Disciples Praying—Thank You!

Every Monday at noon a small group of people at Disciples Christian Church in Bartlesville OK meets to pray. They pray for the needs of the community and the world—and they write notes to those for whom they have prayed. The scene is repeated here and there around the church. Untold comfort and encouragement is received as those notes are opened and read.

What is more important than the number is knowing that there is a group of Disciples who are joining hearts and minds and seeking the direction God has for our Church. I know that daily prayer for the Church is nothing new for many of you. However, reading the growing number of those becoming part of 10,000 Disciples Praying is for me, like receiving the note from the prayer group. It says, "We are praying for you. We are praying God's guidance for all of us as we seek to be faithful to our calling to be and to share the good news of Jesus Christ."

The actions of that small prayer group in Bartlesville, where I formerly served as pastor, are representative of the individual prayers and prayer support groups taking place throughout our Church. At the time of this writing, more than 6,000 of you have agreed to join in daily prayer through 10,000 Disciples Praying. I am overjoyed that so many people have agreed to pray daily for the church and for its leadership. Through prayer, we can accomplish many powerful things and reach a better understanding of our common mission: "to be and to share the Good News of Jesus Christ, witnessing, loving and serving from our doorsteps—to the ends of the earth." (Acts 1:8)

I celebrate that more than 6,000 people who care deeply about the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) have made known their daily covenant of prayer in less than two months. I await with anticipation the thousands more who will join this effort to more deeply ground our life together in prayer.

God bless you!

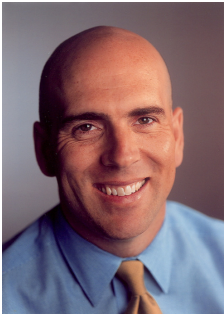
*Sharon*

In a way, the number of those who have become part of 10,000 Disciples Praying is irrelevant, of course. But attaching a number gives us a sense of being involved in something larger than ourselves. It encourages

Sharon Watkins  
General Minister and President

## It's a Different World

by Rev. Dr. Russell Peterman, Senior Minister



Our young people are growing up in a different world from the one you and I and our parents grew up in. Each year the staff at Beloit College in Wisconsin puts together a list to try to give the faculty a sense of the mindset of that's year's freshmen class (the Class of 2009), most of who were born in 1987.

Here are several key points from the list:

- For daily caffeine emergencies, Starbucks has always been around the corner.
- Bill Gates has always been worth at least a billion dollars.
- They don't remember when "cut and paste" involved scissors.
- With little need to practice, most of them do not know how to tie a tie.
- Pay-Per-View television has always been an option.
- There have always been automated teller machines.
- Voice mail has always been available.
- They have grown up in a single superpower world.
- They have never used a bottle of White Out and don't have a clue how to use a typewriter.
- They never saw the shuttle *Challenger* fly.
- Digital cameras have always existed.
- Snowboarding has always been a popular winter pastime.

- They feel more danger from sexually transmitted diseases and being in school than from possible nuclear war.

While times and mindsets change, some things never will. What will never go out of style is our need and desire to be in relationship with others and with God. People of all ages are longing for a soul-shaking, heart-waking, world-changing God to fall in love with. And if we don't find that God in the Christian church, we will most certainly settle for lesser gods elsewhere.

I don't have all the answers, but I do know that in times such as these I am proud to be a part of a community of faith that offers something more to the young people of this community than a donut. I look at the lives of our youth who have had their world turned inside out when they have been empowered to serve in places like Mexico, and I give thanks for you for sending us on that journey. I look at our young people who have had their souls shaken alive because they have been given not answers, but a safe place to question, wonder and discover the presence of God within them, and I give thanks for Sarah and our youth sponsors who love our young people and create for them that place. When I think of the youthful hearts – including my own – that have fallen in love with God under the care of the people of this congregation who have modeled for them faith, love and acceptance, I give thanks for you who live out your faith in very real, tangible ways.

For *you* I am thankful,



## A Look at Our Bottom Line

### Pledge Payments Slightly Below Budget

Our finances for the first four months were nearly on target, the Finance Ministry Team reports.

Pledge income totaling nearly \$44,000 was brought in, which is slightly behind schedule. While we are very pleased to see that 18 pledges are actually ahead of schedule at this point in the year, 23 pledges are under paid, leaving us with a slight shortfall. Also noteworthy was the decrease in "loose offerings". Several things might have contributed to this, most notably is the extremely rainy weather we've had, which may have held down Sunday attendance.

Please know that your leadership team is working diligently to hold down expenses, which are also under budget! In a year in which a deficit budget was approved, this will be incredibly important to our overall financial health. However, the programs and ministries that are supported through your stewardship contributions are important and need to be funded!

As we enter into the summer months — when people often travel as well as have added expenses — it will be even more imperative that our community of faith will give with our "first fruits" and remember to "pay before we play!"

Please be sure that your financial contributions are up to date, and remain current during these upcoming months.



### Serving in Worship...

**June 4, 2006**

**Pentecost Sunday**

**Church Remix: Becoming a New  
Old Church**

**Acts 2: 1-21**

**"Vital Signs"**

**8:30 AM**

**Elder:** Diane Maltester

**Deacon:** Don and Cookie Orescanin  
**10:45 AM**

**Table Elder:** Debbe Hughes

**Offertory Elder:** Kathleen DeGiobbi

**Diaconate:** Don DeGiobbi [captain]  
Mark or Julie Hood, Collier Laird, Al and  
Bev Lockwood, Luz Porto, Pat Watson

**Ushers:** Elaine Ortiz [captain] Patti  
Halter, Janet Hecker, Lisa Crays

**June 11, 2006**

**Church Remix: Becoming a New  
Old Church**

**Acts 2: 41-47**

**"Vintage Christianity"**

**8:30 AM**

**Elder:** Janet Gay

**Deacon:** Greg Mitchell &  
Cho Nai Cheung

**10:45 AM**

**Table Elder:** Debbe Hughes

**Offertory Elder:** Carolyn Partney

**Time for Children:** Toni Barmore

**Diaconate:** Hugh McNamar [captain]  
Mike Hecker, Tom Kilpatrick, Kate  
Landberg, Lori Landberg, Diana Sage

**Ushers:** Elaine Sherman [captain]  
Linda Smith, Ruth Langley, Hugh  
McNamar



## Opportunity for Service

The Church office is looking for the following two people who are willing to help out when Emrys is on vacation.

### 1. Assistant Treasurer.

This person would be prepared to cover the Treasurer position. The person will need to come into the Church office only one morning a week when Emrys is on vacation to work with our Finance Secretary. Monday mornings are ideal, but if the right person volunteers who cannot manage Monday mornings, times can be negotiated. Duties would be limited in scope and involve:

- entering information into QuickBooks
- preparing checks.

### 2. Assistant Office Manager.

This person would be prepared to come into the church office on Monday and Thursday mornings while Emrys is on vacation. Someone who could also manage Tuesday mornings would be an added bonus for the church. Duties would be limited in scope and involve:

- answering the telephone
- preparing simple documents such as attendance records and letters to visitors
- helping with the production of Crossroads

Training will be available for both positions.

Please prayerfully consider if you are being called to serve our church in this way. Responses should be received by the church office by mid-June.

P.S. There is no monetary compensation, but working for the church has its own rewards.



## Birthdays and Anniversaries

### June

Mark Hood	June 2
Janet Appel	June 3
Brooklyn Jeffreys	June 8
Lynne Hile	June 9
Jan Eversole	June 10
Beverly Lockwood	June 14
Marie Hertz	June 15
Jackie Watts	June 15
Tom Kilpatrick	June 19
Elaine Sherman	June 21
Chris Carlisle	June 22
Colleen Long	June 25
Janet Gay	June 25
Elaine Ortiz	June 27
Athena Gutierrez	June 28
Katherine Smith	June 30
Al & Katherine DeBella	June 1
Michael & Rebecca DeWeese	June 15
Paula & Tim Rose	June 17
Don & Edith Tarvin	June 23
James & Kay Jezek	June 27
Ashford & Pat Twigg	June 28



## Accommodation Needed



Out of town people going on our Mexico Mission Trip this year will need overnight accommodation for Friday, June 23, 2006.

We are looking for folks who are willing to provide a place for Mission Trip members to sleep, shower, have breakfast and provide transportation to the church first thing in the morning—they leave early for Mexico!

If you are willing to do this, please let the church office know, with details of how many you can accommodate.

Emrys@concordfcc.net  
925-685-7503

Janet and Mike Hecker

### Thank You

Thanks very much for the recognition of my 90th birthday. I appreciated the many, many cards I received and the sentiments they expressed. I also got many from FCC by way of my mail carrier. Please know your friendship is treasured.

Sincerely, Hazel Sawyer

## A Night of Music With

Josh Elson

The Way

And

Dan Paul

June 10, 2006 at 7:00 pm

First Christian Church, Concord

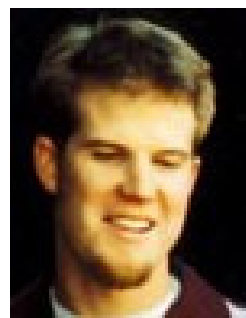
This show will be a benefit concert for the 2006 Mexico Mission

Tickets:

\$20 for Adults

\$15 for Youth

Sponsored by First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) of Concord, working with AMOR Ministries of San Diego, CA





**FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST) IN CONCORD**

A PLACE TO WORSHIP, TO GROW, AND TO MAKE A  
DIFFERENCE

*Staff:*

Senior Minister:	Rev. Dr. Russell Peterman
Director of Youth Ministry:	Sarah Partney
Office Manager:	Emrys Lloyd-Roberts
Organist:	Robert Coslett
Custodian:	Daniel Blanton

*Contact Information:*

Office Hours: Monday to Thursday: 8 am—4 pm.  
 Phone: 925-685-7503 Fax: 925-685-0963  
 Address: 3039 Willow Pass Rd., Concord CA 94519

**CROSSROADS**

Diana Clay Carlisle, editor  
 Email submissions and subscriptions to: [Crossroads@Concordfcc.net](mailto:Crossroads@Concordfcc.net)  
 Submission deadline for next issue: Monday, 10/17 11:00 a.m.

***All submissions are subject to editing!***

*JYF Goings On*

Our JYF group met on Sunday, April 30 and May 21 to pack boxes of clothing to send to Afghanistan. The children and adults who helped were: Candace, Tim, and Raylene Luckert; Kristen and Ian Rose; Zak and Nik Gay; Jane and Mason Mitchell; Emily Morgan, and Diana Carlisle. On the two Sundays we were able to send 13 boxes! Many thanks to all of you and to those who contributed \$135.00 to help pay the cost of shipping.

Together we can make a difference in a world where not everyone has everything they need.  
 Thanks again,  
 Carolyn Partney 