



**Disciples Christian Church
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Disciples Christian Church Mission Statement

“As caring, compassionate followers of Jesus Christ it is the mission of Disciples Christian Church to share the Good News of Salvation. God calls to us to share this Good News with those in the community who have not heard. God calls us to spiritually nurture our church family by actively involving all in inspirational worship, education, fellowship and service to others. God calls us to care for those in need through hands on involvement within our community.”

UP/IN/OUT

UP
IN
OUT

June has been a tremendous month for outreach for DCC. Eight of our members traveled to New Orleans to work on Hurricane Katrina relief. If you were in church the Sunday they returned, you saw how touched those members were and what a difference it made in their lives. They will be changed forever. We owe them all a big thank-you for for taking time out of their busy lives to do such good work in the name of God on behalf of Disciples Christian Church. Also, a big thank-you to all who donated and raised money to help send them. It wouldn't have been possible without everyone's support.

During the month of June, we again served several folks dinner and hospitality at Chosen. Thank you to all who cooked and served. Again, this is something that doesn't happen with one or two people. It requires a group effort, and our church, as usual, came through with lots of support.

Coming up later in July, we will be having our garage sale to raise money for St. Raphael's. Please plan on donating some things around the house that you can part with. This is such a worthwhile ministry. If you have items which you are unable to transport, not a problem. Dave Adamson has graciously volunteered to use his trailer and pick your stuff up for you. Helping with this project is one way you can personally help someone in medical need. This was a huge success last year and we would love to repeat it.

As you can see, outreach is something each individual can do and be a part of, but when we pool our resources and work together, we are able to do incredible work that none of us could do alone. The folks at DCC are very caring and generous. God calls each one of us to lift each other up. Our talents are many and different. Often we feel that we can't do a lot or that we can't make a difference, but as evidenced by all of our activities, we are def-

initely changing lives and lifting people up. We are establishing a conduit between God and those in need. What is God calling you to do?

MISC. NEWS

SMALL GROUP NEWS . . . "If you're afraid of the "Book of Revelation" come to our Bible Study and learn why you shouldn't be. We'll begin this study July 18th, 9:30Am."

Thanks, Susan and Myrna

MOWING TIME AGAIN . . . Mowing season has returned and we need your help! There is a signup sheet on the office window, please check and see how you can help! Thanks!

HELP NEEDED . . . With the choir taking its annual summer break, we are in need of help this summer with anthems for worship. If you are willing to help, or you know someone who would share their musical gifts with us, please sign up. Thanks for your help! (Signup sheet is on the office window.)

CHOSEN . . . We serve our friends at CHOSEN this month on **Thursday, July 8th** and **Wednesday 14th** . Please check the signup sheet to see how you can help. Thanks!

BABY SHOWER . . . The ladies of the church are invited to a baby shower for Emily Longard on July 11th at 2:30pm in the church's fellowship hall. Mary and Liz Longard are hosting the shower. And, by the way, IT'S A BOY!

ELDER'S DINNER . . . The Elders will have a dinner on July 16th (at a place to be named later) at 6:30 p.m. for all new Elders, current Elders, outgoing Elders, spouses or significant others.

DEACON SCHEDULE --- For July is: Sarah Ferguson*, Scott Ferguson, Liz Longard, Jeff Moxley, Tammy Gross, Becky Druley, Danny Vangen. * captain for the month.

DEACON TRAINING . . . There will be new deacon training after worship on July 18th.

As I see it

You have heard it said that one person's junk is another person's treasures. I discovered how true this was when I slipped away with your human pastor and others to New Orleans for their mission trip.

One day as I was "observing" your human pastor at work supervising the hanging of drywall (he didn't even know how to hang dry wall, 10 seconds before being asked to supervise the work), the home owner, Leo, asked your human pastor to follow him to where he was "staying" (this is a term that is used in the south which means living to us here in the north). Leo wanted to show him some of the prized possessions owned.

Among them was some very nice things; some beautiful relief carved clocks, including a grandfather clock, which was the work of an inmate at a local prison; a football that was given to Leo by one of the owners of the New Orleans Saints. But one of the most prized possessions of Leo, was some small, painted coconuts. That's right, coconuts. These coconuts are given out from parade floats (they used to be tossed out, but that was stopped because of some of the coconuts hitting folks on the head). These coconuts are prized possession of many folks down there. They keep them for years and years. One lady we met had one that went back to 1960.

Now I don't know why these coconuts are valued as priceless. I believe it's more than just the memory that becomes attached to these coconuts. I don't know, perhaps it has to do with survival.

Your human pastor asked these folks about the status of hope in the area. Everyone he talked to said the same thing, "We are resilient people. We've got through stuff before and we'll get through it again."

We all know that there are folks who look down on New Orleans and its people. For some, the folks of New Orleans are "worthless." The thing is, many of the folks in New Orleans know that, too. They can tell if you think they are valuable.

One of the most touching moments was when Pastor Charles Duplessis, after he had told our group their story, told the group, “Any time you all are in New Orleans just ring our doorbell. You are welcome here anytime.” Once back in the van, your human pastor told our group that they don’t say that to everyone.

Imparting the love that has been implanted in our hearts requires us to look upon others as persons of worth. That’s what Pastor Charles experienced from our little merry band of missionaries and that’s why they received a standing invitation of hospitality.

When you value another human, then the stories they tell you can become transformational. That’s what we all experienced from the trip. I hope you can make one of these trips.



Until next time, Freddy

JOHN'S JOTS

Where have you seen God today?

That was the question we were asked each evening during our recent mission trip to New Orleans. Bro. Vance Moore, the director or the Westside Mission and regional minister for the Great River Region, a large Mississippian would ask us this question after we had cleaned up from the day’s work.

For some the question may have had a “say what” effect. “I didn’t see any parting of the waters of the Industrial Canal. I didn’t see any open wounds suddenly close. What do you mean, ‘where did you see God today?’.”

For some, the days adventure had moved by at an overwhelming pace. New sights and sounds and smells and people added to our sense of inadequacy for the mission. How do we process all of this newness and now you’re

asking me, “where did you see God today?” I haven’t had time to look for God, I’ve just been way too busy just getting my feet on the ground.

For some, the question itself left them with a sense of spiritual inadequacy. “Wait a minute, I don’t really know how to answer that question. I must be a real spiritual loser.”

For some, the question reminded them of where they were in their relationship with God. The struggle to answer it, may have demonstrated that they really weren’t sure God was still making himself known to the world because God had not been made himself known in their own time of need.

For some, the question reminded them of the hope that is in God. It reminded them that God is indeed with us and on our side.

If you struggle with the question, it doesn’t help if someone says, “I see God everywhere and in everyone.”

For some, the answering of the question brought revelation. “I saw God today in a black, hard-to-understand Cajun named Leo, who didn’t get in a hurry and if he saw someone he always took the time to spend some time with them, because that’s how God acts. God doesn’t get in a hurry because God understands that he has an eternity to get his work done and he spends time with folks because relationships are always more important than tasks.”

The answer to the question is transformational because, for instance, it means that I have slowed down enough and been open enough to look for God. It means I have slowed down enough to see God in relationships. It means I have taken to time to not be self-absorbed in my own life, to see folks encouraging one another; to see folks helping one another; to see folks listening to one another; to see folks stopping what they are doing, putting aside their own needs, to do something loving and grace filled for another one of God’s creation.

Where did you see God today? I saw God this morning making a person, who’s not an early person, smile and laugh. I saw in that early morning phone call a person transformed into someone who wasn’t her normal grumpy self.

So, where have you seen God today? The answer just may change your life.

*Shalom,
Pastor John*

PRAYER LIST

JULY 2010

Lois Johnson – Shut In

Kim Vangen – her new hip has become dislocated.

Vada Lee Accirido – Lois Johnson’s sister-in-law, has cancer

Hershel Estridge – Lois Johnson’s cousin, dealing with health issues.

Lynn and Tad Adam's Grandmother -- ill at her home.

Ron Hurst – dealing with kidney issues.

Chosen-Prayers for the will of God in the lives of the staff and guests.
Those who lives have been affected by job loss and financial uncertainty.

Susan Spears – at home recovering from back surgery.

JULY BIRTHDAYS

Disciples Christian Church Family would like to wish members with a birthday in July a “Happy Birthday” with lots of happiness and warm memories in the year to come.

Name	Day
Tammy Gross	1
George Spears	14
Pete Ayers	17
Terrie Cox	24
Colin Whitt	24
Emily Williams	30

If we have forgotten anyone, please let Pastor John know. Thanks!