#### **CONTACT WITH CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

Central Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) San Antonio, Texas



#### **WORSHIP**, CONNECT, SERVE

Experiencing life abundant through worshipping God, connecting with each other and the community, and serving others.

#### Michael's Mind



Philippians 4:13 was a memory verse in my youth. "I can do all things" was a bumper sticker sold at youth rallies and Fellowship of Christian Athletes events. I learned the verse from a paraphrased version of the New Testament: "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." I used to think that verse meant that nothing would be impossible for me. I can do all things. This may be the most frequently quoted promise in the Bible. It is also badly interpreted by many.

I found out, as some of you have, that I could not do "all things" even when I worked and prayed very ardently. I could not throw a 105 mile per hour fastball no matter how high the mound. I could not make the Olympic track team even in my prime. I know now that God will not grant everything I pray for. I cannot do everything I feel I should do and accomplish everything I wish. But I am a Christian and I love Jesus Christ. I want to do good things for Him. I love God's church. So why is this promise so badly interpreted?

Mainly we have secured verse 13 out of its context. The Apostle writes this from prison under the prospect that he is to be sentenced to death. Already Christians were being killed/martyred for their faith in Christ. Yet in the 3 verses prior to "I can do all things" Paul writes that he is content. I have learned that whether I have a lot or if I am in physical need...if everybody likes me or some don't...no matter what life circumstances come my way...the secret to contentment is knowing I can handle it all "in Christ" who strengthens me. Will we be able to trust Christ in the good times and the bad times?

Don't believe it if somebody tells you that the Christian life is going to be always easy. But you can do all things (in Christ) when you are in Christ. So know how to trust when you are down...and know how to live when things are looking good, (how to abound). Jesus Christ brings this kind of contentment. You can do all things through Christ! But this does not mean that you will always get what you want. It means that ours is the contentment...the Peace of Christ...even Paul was not spared his "thorn in the flesh" but "Thanks be to God" he found contentment in the victory of grace. This is the strength that overcomes.



February is the month so many people do their best to share their love with one another in so many ways as we celebrate Valentine's Day.

John 15:12-13 (NIV) "My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends."

Jesus was clearly saying here that our love towards one another as the family of God should not be dictated by "feelings" because you cannot give a commandment to feel a certain way. Yet, this love He wants us to have is a choice that we make in our hearts to love one another even as He loved us!

I want to encourage you during this time of year and special celebration of love, to take a little extra time to appreciate and love the family of God.

We live in a world in which actions are only determined by the feelings of the moment. If a person feels in love, they do all they can to bless that person who loves them. Yet, so often when the emotions are not what they once were, their level of commitment to that person takes a direct hit.

We cannot go through this life without being offended, and often our offense arises out of unmet expectations, yet these are the times our love is tested! I encourage you today to pass the test and love one another not only in the times of harmony and agreement, but also in those challenging moments when it is difficult to do so!

1 John 3:16 (NIV) "This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters."

In Christ's Love.

**Rev. Nelson Torres** 



This past weekend I directed Chi Rho MidWinter at Disciple Oaks Camp & Retreat. This was a two-night retreat for 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders designed for them to get away from normal life and find sacred time with God and have some fun of course. It was my first time to direct at this camping ground and we brought a handful of adults and youth from our church, so it was destined to be a good time (and a lot of work for me).

Our theme for the weekend was "God is calling you" and we spent the weekend talking about biblical characters' call stories including Jonah, Samuel, and Mary the mother of Jesus. Then we looked at the youth around us and invited them to answer God's call or simply consider how they are still figuring out God's call for themselves.

One of the activities that I led was more insightful in calls than I imagined when I was planning it. I found a bag of clothespins in the church's storage closet and glued small pictures of phones on them. They were all different phones, some of them looked like the same fancy cell phones the kids use and some of them looked like the rotary phone that my dad has stored up in the attic. Saturday morning, I got out my envelope of premade clothespins and started pinning them on the sleeves and hoods of the youth. I tried to be sneaky about it, but that's harder than I thought.

Some youth were not phased, they knew this youth minister was up to no good, playing a trick on them. Some of them ran away from me and the clothespin, some people gave their clothespin away, and one of the youth from our church hid his so I would be misled into giving him another one. At the end of the weekend, it was confirmed that every kid had a clothespin which represented a call.

My hope in this activity is that the youth would learn that everyone gets a call to be who God made them to be. Sometimes we accept our call, sometimes we try to run away from our call, sometimes we simply ignore it for a better time. My prayer is that all of us can find and discern what God calls us to do. May we be inspired by the young girl called by God to raise a little boy who would grow up to be our Savior.

1 Samuel 3:4 says Then the Lord called Samuel. Samuel answered, "Here I am." Luke 1:38 says "I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered.
"May your word to me be fulfilled." Then the angel left her.

Amen.

## THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

"Whatever you ask for in prayer with faith you will receive."



Disciple Oaks Camp & Retreat is asking for our help for their work day on Saturday, February 23, 3019 8 am - 3 pm. Lunch is provided.

Let Rev. Katherine Wright know if you want to attend, we can all ride together.





We still have a handful of offering envelops that need to be picked up. If you didn't get any for 2019 and would like some, there is a list on the same table where you can sign up for some to be assigned to you. Let the office know if you have any questions.

Jimmy Percival 2019 BOS Treasurer

This month we are collecting soup for Inman



Drop off with the Secretary in the church office. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

Thank you in advance!





February 5	Darrell Ream
February 8	Liz Henderson
February 13	Nancy Allyn
February 12	Glenn McGuyre
February 15	<b>Matthew Perez</b>
February 20	Becky Sims
February 25	Arianna Moembo
-	Brianna Moembo
February 26	Julie Grace Carlson
February 27	Jerry Gray
February 28	<b>Eddie Martinez</b>
-	Cristina E. Slaughter

We hope it's your best one yet.
Wishing you all nothing but happiness on your special day.

## Happy 2019 from your Board of Stewards Chair Lisa Harbert!

It's an exciting year with some new opportunities to serve our Lord Jesus Christ.

Come join us for prayer gathering time at 6pm on Tuesday February 5th in the Chapel and then go with us to say thank you to our city's First Responders. We will pray for them and leave them food. It's our evening of Gratitude to God as a church!

Come join us!!

Also, available to you are the packets from the Stewardship Luncheon outside the office for you to review. We are excited for you to find new opportunities to be involved in the church.

God Bless and please keep praying for our wonderful church!

In Christ's love, Lisa



# Come Join the FUN!

You can be a part of the Chili Cook-Off.

Sign-up sheet is right outside the office on the bulletin.

You can also sign up by sending an email to secretary@cccsa.org



# Mission South & Disciple Oaks Present

# 2019 Summer Camp Dates & Fees

Family Camp - May 24-26, 2019

Directors: Emily Wycpalek and Judy Dalton Fee: \$TBD Programming: Sara & Jonathan Fisher

CYF Conference (completed 9th-12th grade) - June 9-15, 2019

Directors: Brett Coe and Evan Tiffany Fee: \$405

Eighter's Camp (completed 8th grade) - June 16-22, 2019

Directors: Augusta Cloyd and Steve Cloyd Fee: \$450

JYF Camp (completed 2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> grade) - June 25-29, 2019

Directors: Jenny Gray and Carolyn Allen Fee: \$305

Chi Rho Camp (completed 5th-7th grade) - July 7-13, 2019
Directors: Maggie Mossler and Lorellye Graham Fee: \$405

Online Registration Opens February 15, 2019

Check out discipleoaksretreat.net and facebook.com/discipleoaks for more information

#### **HONORARIA August - December 2018**

#### In Honor of Katherine Farmer To the Building Fund

Cristina E. Slaughter

In Honor of George R. Gregory To the GRG Organ/Carillon Fund Chancel and Handbell Choirs

In Honor of Dr. Douglas R. Boyer

To the Music Ministry

Chancel and Handbell Choirs

#### MEMORIALS August - December 2018

#### For the CCC Endowment Fund

Tom Collins In Memory of: - Rev. Katherine Wright

> Dr. Orval Holt -- Cecille Martinez

> > For the CCC Scholarship Endowment Fund

In Memory of: **Lois Thomas** Patricia & Roger Garland

> Kathryn Youngblood - Patricia & Roger Garland Patricia & Roger Garland Dr. Patrick Tolar Aurelia and Louis Giron – Cecille Martinez

For the Music Ministry

In Memory of: Phyllis Jenks - Cristina E. Slaughter

Bruce and Yendys Borchers - Laurie Harvey

For the Building Fund

In Memory of: Dr. Orval Holt - Harry Steel

For the Barbara Garverick Sewing Fund

Irene Mashburn - Cristina E. Slaughter In Memory of:

#### For the George R. Gregory Organ/Carillon Fund

#### In Memory of Tom Collins

Cristina E. Slaughter Yvonne Ryall Cecille Martinez Sally Harwood Covenant Class Ron & Kay Weaver

Cathie Owen Richard & Marjorie Parrigan

Diane Persellin Pat & Roger Garland

Fred & Pat Witta Karen Bessette Harlan Adamcik Bill & Gretchen Ryan

Carlo & Stephanie Van Ulft Mary Lou Russell

Veronika Pue

01.18.19

# CCC FEBRUARY 2019 PRAYER CALENDAR

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
					1	2
"A life growing					Ask God to	Pray for all
in its purity and					lift us up in	neighbors
devotion will be					comfort as	who live
a more					we give our	alone & let
prayerful life."					burdens to	them know
-E.M. Bounds					Him	they really
						are not
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Pray to have	Lift up in	<u>Prayer</u>	Pray that we	Pray for	Pray for the	Pray for
eyes that see	prayer those	<u>Gathering</u>	open our	those	hungry, that	relatives wh
only the best in	who need an	Pray for our	hands	suffering	they receive	live far awa
others and a	extra hand to	church	generously to	from alcohol	nourishment	& let them
heart that	get thru each	ministries to	others in	drug abuse	comfort, and	know they
forgives the	day – as you	grow &	Christ	that they find	hope	are loved
worst	extend yours	flourish in		hope		
40		God's name	40	4.4	4 -	4.6
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Ask God to	Pray that we follow God's	Pray for all our	Ask God to	<u>Valentine</u>	Pray for our	Pray for
guide our		grandchildren	open our	Thank God	spouses and let them	those who
efforts to pray &	wishes for us	that they grow	hearts to him	for His love		are moving
speak to Him	in all things	in love, joy and	in adoration	for us as we show that	know they	to new
with sincerity, from our hearts	and with His	happiness	and love	love to	are loved &	homes that
irom our nearts	help			others in His	appreciated appreciated	they be safe
				name		& happy
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Thank God for	Pray that we	Pray for our	Pray for	Pray for our	Pray & thank	Pray that
loving us in	willingly offer	CWF and all	mothers with	world	God for the	God's grace
spite of our	our hands and	women of our	difficult	leaders to	friends we	will bless us
imperfections &	hearts in	church, that	pregnancies	stand true to	have who	this day and
for always	service to	our	that all goes	the needs of	love and	every day
giving us	others in love	fellowships	well w/birth	their people	support us	
another chance		remain strong	w/God's help			
24	25	26	27	28		
Pray & thank	Pray for our	Pray that we	Pray for all	Pray for our		
God for His	partners in life	know God's	new infants	dear friends	THE THE	
blessings to us	& thank God	presence in	that they	& let them		
in our family	they are with	breaking bread	flourish &	know they		
bonds of love &	us in all things,	with those we	grow strong &	are loved		
togetherness	lifting us up in love	love	happy	always		

And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask anything in my name, I will do it. If ye love me, keep my commandments.

John 14: 13-15

# FEBRUARY 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
"Our lives begin to	o end the day we be	ecome sílent about t	hings that		1	2
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.						
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Ministers Week					
10:50 Worship 5:00 pm Youth Group		9:30 am CWF Group 1 10:30 am CWF Groups 2-3 6:00 pm Prayer Gathering 7:00 pm Gratitude Trip	6:30 pm Handbells 7:30 pm Choir 6:30-7:30 pm Military Ministry			
10 10:50 Worship	11	12	13	14	15	16
12:00 pm Love Mission Fundraiser Lunch Chili Cook- Off		9:00 am Benevolent Sewing 6:30 pm Executive Committee	6:30 pm Handbells 7:30 pm Choir 6:30 -7:30 pm Military Ministry	Valentine's Day		2:00 pm Dedication of new building at Disciple Oaks
5:00 Youth Group					BBA/CPA Men's Retreat at Disciple Oaks	
17	18 Presidents'	19	20	21	22	23
10:50 Worship Birthday Sunday 5:00 pm Youth	Day Church Office CLOSED	11:00 am CWF	6:30 pm Handbells 7:30 pm Choir 6:30 -7:30 pm Military Ministry			8:00-3:00 pm Camp Work Day 9:00 am CMF
24 10:50 Worship 5:00 pm JYF & Youth Group	25	26 6:30 pm Elders	6:30 pm Handbells 7:30 pm Choir 6:30 -7:30 pm Military Ministry	28		

Don't limit your Challenges. Challenge your limits!

#### Contact with Central Christian Church

Central Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) 720 N. Main Avenue San Antonio, Texas 78205



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Our Ministers:

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**Rev. Katherine B. Wright**Minister of Family Life & Community katherinewright@cccsa.org

Our Staff:

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Dr. Douglas R. Boyer, Minister of Music

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