
COLLEGE MOUND GAZETTE



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“meeting the spiritual needs of the future while preserving the traditions of the past”

Prayers & Joys

Our nation, our leaders, our troops, our law enforcement officers, and relationships during these challenging times, for the Healthy Church Initiative (HCI), folks traveling, those impacted by flooding Joy for a great time at the Fish Fry and the 5th Sunday Music and Worship, Joy that Rick and Janie King are back from Canada, Family and Friends of Dawn Puckett, Diana Ferguson (back home receiving home healthcare. She is getting stronger), Lem Pierce, Kathy Boltin, Clara Burnett (Fell recently), John and Jody Briggs, Lorri McGuire, Rock and Reid’s granddaughter Emma, Donald’s Nephew, Hudson, Pilo Vega (Triple bypass), John Rounsavall, Bill Russell and Family, Marilyn Cowen and Family, Vickie’s neighbor, Julie Dubois (stage 4 cancer), Kasey King, Dotty Burton, Pam Hogan (Mother passed away), Tommy Bell, Jan and Tom Williams, Chase and Destiny Arredondo

This Week at College Mound October 6-12, 2019

- ☞ **Game Night:**
Monday, October 7th, 7 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall
- ☞ **Bible Study:**
Wednesday, October 9th, 12 noon and 7 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall
- ☞ **Supper Club:**
Friday, October 11th, 5:30 p.m. at Yellow Rose in Terrell
- ☞ **Pavilion Clean Up:**
Saturday, October 12th, 9 a.m. in the Pavilion
- ☞ **Birthdays and Anniversaries:**
Dana Reed – October 9th
Kevin Bell – October 10th
Lola Arredondo – October 11th
Bob & Susan Williams – October 11th

Last Sunday, September 29th

Attendance in Sunday School: 33

Attendance in church: 66



Luke 16:19-31 A rich man dies and is tormented, but Lazarus dies and is treated well. Sermon: "The Gated Community" Pastor Bob told a "Twilight Zone" version of the scripture, about a rich, gated community. The rich man thought he had it all, inside his gates. But the real "Pleasant Valley" is outside the gated community! We must follow the prophets and Moses' teachings to get to that heavenly place!



Val Van Ry brought a visitor with her last Sunday - Sue Conner. Doris made her feel welcome!

Next Sunday, October 13th, there will be an Administrative Council Meeting immediately following the worship service. This meeting is to approve the 2020 budget and 2020 Leadership Roster in preparation for Charge Conference, which will be on November 10th from 3-5 p.m. at Wesley UMC in Greenville.

AUCTION UPDATE

Countdown to Auction: 6 weeks

Distinct Donors: 22

Donated items: 98

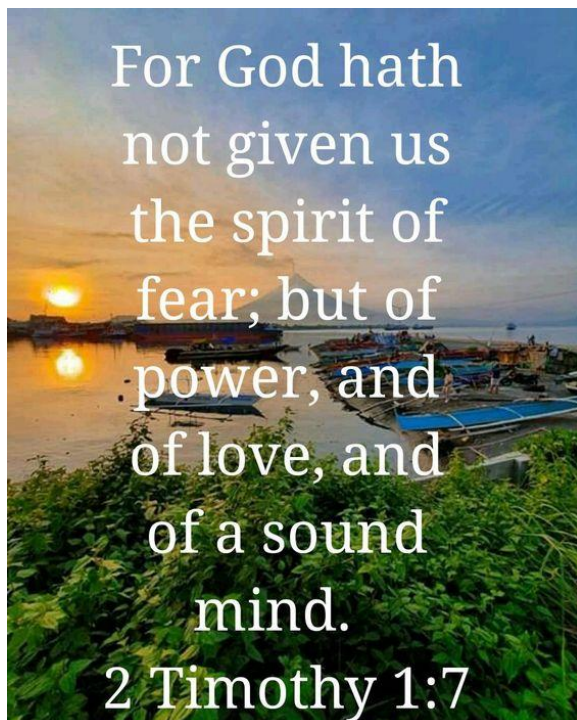
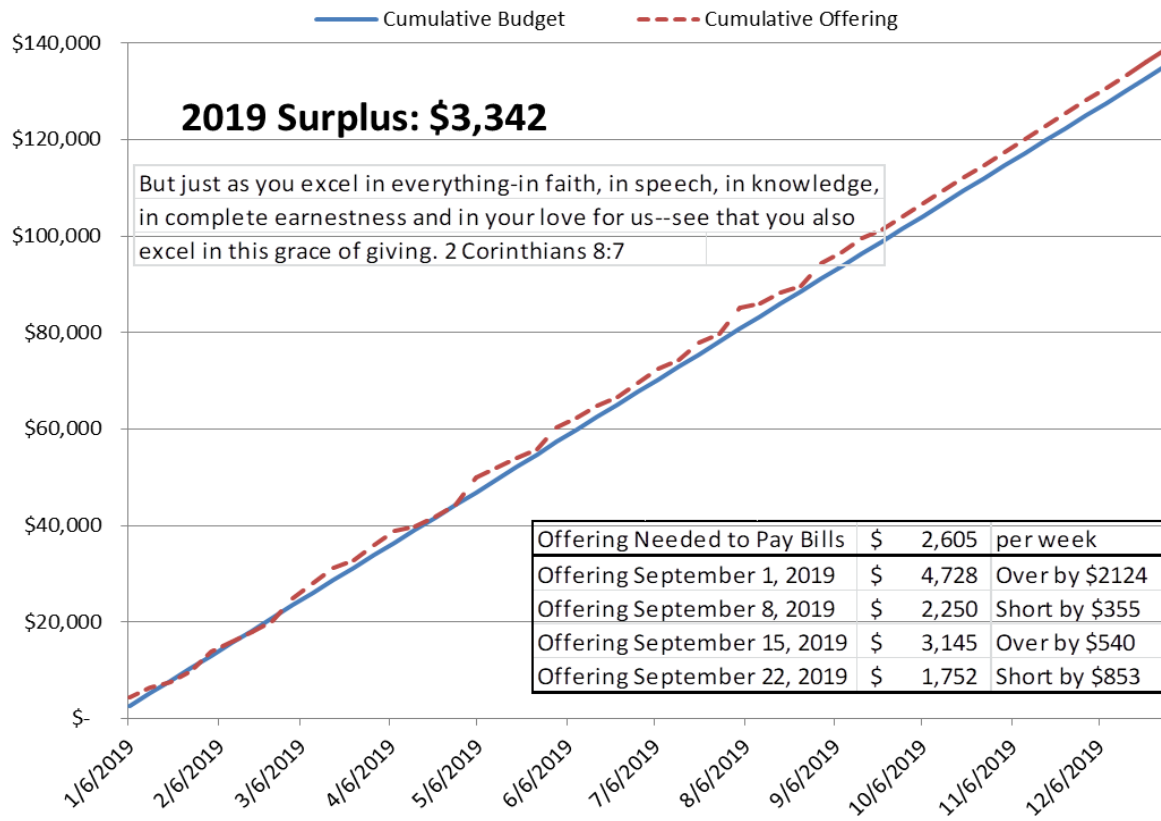
Tickets are now available from Kathy Boltin. Grab a bunch and sell them around town! And send your items list to becca10000@aol.com as soon as you can.



Pavilion Clean Up for Auction
Saturday, October 12th, 9 a.m.

Mt. Moriah Baptist Church in Terrell is having a benefit Tea Party next Sunday, October 13th, from 3-5 p.m. Refreshments will be provided, and the Tea Party will be raising funds for the American Cancer Society. Please come out and support this worthy cause if you are able! The church is located at 822 S. Park in Terrell.

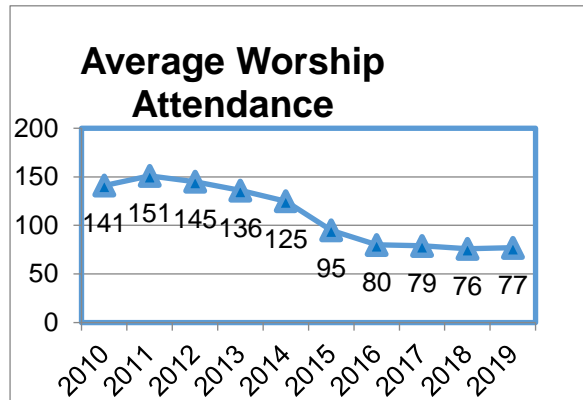
Church Budget at 9/22/19



HCI Update Part Two

Last week's update noted some changes that have been made since we began the Healthy Church Initiative (HCI). In part two, let's look at some of the results of those changes.

I was appointed to College Mound UMC in July 2017. When I'm appointed to a new church, I focus on one statistic: Average Worship Attendance. That one statistic alone gives me a pretty good idea of the health and vitality of a church. Below is a chart of the Average Worship Attendance at College Mound UMC since 2010. Note that the 2019 number is the Average Worship Attendance through September 22.



In the month prior to my appointment at College Mound UMC, I reviewed the data from 2010 – 2016. I noted the Average Worship Attendance dropped by 47% between 2011 and 2016. When I stepped into the pulpit on July 2, 2017, I knew that number needed to stabilize quickly. As you can see, the Average Worship Attendance stabilized in 2017 and has remained stable over the past couple years. The Average Worship Attendance has stabilized and that's a good thing. Some long-time active people have moved out of the area and some have gone onto glory. But God has called some new people to College Mound UMC, and they are contributing greatly to the Mission and Vision of College Mound UMC.

I'm sure many of you had concerns about HCI and radical changes being made at College Mound UMC. Having been through HCI at my previous appointment, I knew the most radical change College Mound UMC would face would be having a new pastor for the first time in 29 years. There have been a few bumps along the way, but all in all, that transition has gone extremely well. HCI is more about changing the culture and focus within a church than it is about making immediate radical changes. The focus is on transformational change and that change begins on the inside and moves outward. Through worship attendance, Bible studies, and Sunday School classes, individuals begin to experience transformation from the inside out. The church as a whole then begins to experience that transformation from the inside out. Relationships are enhanced in the church, and people work together to achieve common goals. That in turn leads to reaching out to the community in new ways so folks in the community can participate in this transformation. God calls us to be faithful and the transforming love of Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit will take care of the rest.

Our HCI prescriptions noted that there were some structural changes that needed to take place. In my next update, we will talk about some proposed changes the Administrative Board and how those changes will help us better fulfill the Mission and Vision of College Mound UMC as we move together into the future.

Blessings,

Pastor Bob