

THE NEWSLETTER OF HYDE PARK CHRISTIAN CHURCH SHARING THE CHALICE FOR 100 YEARS

FROM THE DESK OF JAMES

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- The new year brings change.
- Today is time for new beginnings.
- Where do I get plugged in?
- Where do I volunteer and serve the church and community?
- Let unity guide me like the polar star.
- Why will raising money for CROP fulfill my hunger?

In Roman mythology, Janus was the god of gates, doors, doorways, beginnings, and endings.



His most apparent remnant in modern culture is his name-sake-the month of January. Janus was frequently used to symbolize change and transitions such as the progression of past to future, of

one condition to another, of one vision to another, of young people growing up, and of one universe to another. Hence, Janus was worshipped at the beginnings of the harvest and planting times, as well as marriages, births, and other beginnings. He was representative of the middle ground between barbarity and civilization, rural country and urban cities, youth and adulthood.

A historical sketch of Janus as related to January provides an interesting description that offers meaning for life in progress. January is a time to look back and count our blessings. It is a time to look forward with anticipation and recognize the opportunities for new beginnings. It is the time

to "look both ways," forward and backward! It is time to make God and the Church a most important part of our lives. It is a time for commitment to new ventures that exceed old ones. It is a time to acknowledge that "rearview vision" is 20/20. Therefore, looking both ways will make a difference in the way we approach the New Year. We won't need to make the same mistakes again this year if we wisely view our past mistakes as opportunities for better decisions and relationships in the coming year.

The following poem by S. H. Payer may best express the way to live properly in the New Year.

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LIVE EACH DAY TO THE FULLEST

Live each day to the fullest. Get the most from each hour, each day, and each age of your life. Then you can look forward with confidence and back without regret.

Be yourself...but be your best self. Dare to be different and follow your own star.

And don't be afraid to be happy. Enjoy what is beautiful. Love with all your heart and soul. Believe that those who love you, love you. Forget what you have done for your friends, and remember what

they have done for you. Disregard what the world owes you and concentrate on what you owe the world.

When you are faced with a decision, make that decision as wisely as possible...then forget it. The moment of absolute certainty never arrives.

And above all, remember that God helps those who help themselves. Act as if everything depended on you and pray as if it depended upon God.

Be a living expression of God's kindness. ~Mother Teresa (1910-1997)

Miracles and Blessings,

James



ELDER OFFICERS FOR 2009

So I exhort the elders among you, as a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ as well as a partaker in the glory that is to be revealed.

Tend the flock of God that is in your charge, not by constraint but willingly; not for shameful gain but eagerly; not as domineering over those in your charge but being examples to the flock. And when the Chief Shepherd is manifested, you will obtain the unfading crown of glory. 1 Peter 5:1-4

Hyde Park would like to present the 2009 Elders as the following:

Chair
Nancy Grassel

Vice Chair
Stanley Cavitt

Recorder
Jack Clagett

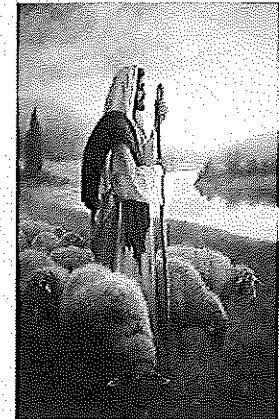
Representative to Personnel Committee
Merle Lentz

Representative to Bradshaw/Hamner Fund
Karla Larson

Representative to Doc & Bonnie Taylor Youth Fund
Karla Larson

Representatives to the Board Fred Conder (through 2011) Sam Eaves (through 2010) Bob Tucker (through 2009)

Thank you.



Tend the flock of God that is in your charge...

HISTORY OF THE STONE-CAMPBELL DIALOGUE

Dear Hyde Park Christian Church Family and Friends,

Near the end of his earthly ministry Jesus prayed for us,

“Let Christian unity be our polar star.”

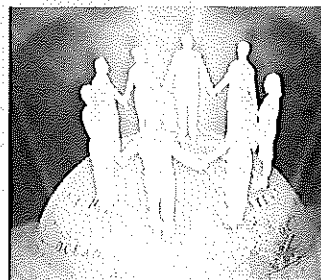
“I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given them so that they may be one, as we are one.” John 17:20-22

-Barton Stone

Barton Stone’s words express a compelling vision, “Let Christian unity be our polar star.” In 1809 Thomas Campbell’s words in the *Declaration and Address* reflect the urgency of Christ’s prayer when he says “the church of Jesus Christ on earth is essentially, intentionally, and constitutionally one.”

Their vision brought a great movement into existence—one that called on Christians to worship and work together. Tens of thousands responded. Yet Christ’s prayer has been forgotten along with the vision of

Stone and Campbell. What was once a unity movement is now divided into the Christian Churches/Churches of Christ, the Churches of Christ, and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). For much of the twentieth century these three streams had little, or no, contact, fellowship, or knowledge of each other. A new possi-



bility for unity developed in 1996. The Disciples’ General Minister and President, Richard Hamm, spoke to the executive board of the World Convention of Churches of Christ in Calgary and invited the North American heirs of the Stones and Campbells to begin a dialogue. Having no illusions of merging, but believing God can do what we cannot, the groups began the dialogue to encourage reconciliation among the three major streams of the Stone-Campbell Movement in America

and agreed upon this statement of purpose:

“To develop relationships and trust within the three streams of the Stone-Campbell Movement through worship and through charitable and frank dialogue that the world may believe.”

The Dialogue has been meeting each year since. Within the Austin area, members of the Stone-Campbell gather quarterly to share worship, fellowship, and food.

The next meeting will be on Saturday, March 21 and will be hosted by Hyde Park Christian Church.

All HPCC members, friends and visitors are warmly invited to participate. In addition, HPCC volunteers will be needed to serve as hosts. Please feel free to contact me for more information, and let us come together in the Christian spirit of reconciliation.

Grace and Peace,
Jacqueline Baker

DAY OF PLANNING



January 25th immediately after service there is a *Day of Planning meeting*. We are hoping every member will make time for the meeting. Make sure and be a part of this important day.

Hyde Park Christian Church is planting good seed in Austin with their

community garden. Please join the celebration as we dedicate the garden as a congregation.

There will also be a potluck after service. A very busy day with news, food, and fellowship. Don't miss out on the fun and memories Hyde Park Christian Church has to offer.

WHAT IS THE ARK FOR PARENTS?

Do you have a rebellious child? Do you need encouragement? ARK for Parents offers a wonderful opportunity for families to communicate and to express love toward one another. Research done by the ARK Group shows that children develop a healthy self-concept when the important adults in their lives give them unconditional love.

Parents who love their children unconditionally encourage them and make them feel worthy of being loved no matter what! In ARK groups, parents learn to teach their children responsibility and how to use respectful, yet effective discipline, instead of punishment. Parents participate in active discussion and problem-solving together.

ARK Parenting Class and Divorce Care will be starting in the near future. Stay tuned for dates and times. A series of presentations followed by discussion and group problem solving. ARK is a support group for parents. Please help us spread the word throughout our church and our community.



Knowing they are loved by you...is the most important thing your child will ever learn.

MARGARET MACIAS ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

My name is Margaret Macias and I am excited to work with a wonderful staff and congregation. I may be new to Hyde Park Christian Church but I am no stranger to the church.

I became a Christian when I was 14 years old. After four years in serving the Lord at my church I attended Texas Bible Institute for two years. I later pursued my degree in Mass Communications. My husband and I moved to Austin six months ago.

Sarah Ashley resigned as the administrative assistant to finish her college degree. She is missed by the staff and congregation. No

one can take her place. Thanks to her I have the pleasure to work here at Hyde Park Christian Church.

My goal is to make the transition for the church as smooth as possible. Together we will see what works best for everyone. The office is in transition but soon the office will be in order. Thank you for your patience. Please place all notes in my inbox. This will insure that all messages get to me and do not get misplaced.

By Monday morning all information for the newsletter and bulletin should be placed in the ap-

propriate folder or sent to my e-mail. Once I print the newsletter Monday afternoon all information given after will go in the following newsletter. Please come in and see me if there are any questions or suggestions you may have. I am happy to help and serve any way I can.

I will be in the office from 7am to 4 pm. I usually stay in the office for lunch but if I am running an errand for the church please call me anytime on my cell phone at 832-641-8346. I look forward to the new year together. I want to thank you for being so warm and welcoming. Thank you!



Margaret Macias
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THE NEWSLETTER
OF HYDE PARK
CHRISTIAN
CHURCH

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Austin, TX. 78751
Phone: 512-452-2596
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E-mail: office@hydeparkcc.org
Address Change Request

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage PAID
Austin, Texas
Permit No. 1276

Please Remember in Prayer

HPCC Members:

Jo Carol Berggren, Mel Crawford, Tony Glass, Dorothy
Glasscock, James McKibbin, Louise Karpeh, Cecil Smith, Betty
Walden, Alva Warden, Josephine Warden, Laura Wendell,
Margaret Wiley.

Friends and Family of HPCC Members:

Men and Women of our Armed Forces including: Chris Casey,
Patrick Fowler, Andrew Schlessinger, and Doug Thorpe; Alice
Cain, Latoya Caine, Sylvia Casey, Jamye Collier, Tara Crain,
Joe Christopherson, Charles Davenport, Leslie Einhaus, Delia
Fabian, Jerry & Carol Jones, Judy Light, Howard McDaniel, B.J.
Pierce, Chris Ratliff, Leena Rector, Sharon Riley, Maggie
Rincon, Henry Rodriguez, Rudy Stallings, David Stried, Cynthia
Traylor, Stephanie and Andrew Williams.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

January 16th-18th
Junior-Senior Weekend Reunion!
Eighter's Camp

January 18th
Install 2009 Officers

January 19th
Board Meeting

January 23-25
Chi Rho Mid-Winter Rally 6-8th grade

January 25th
Community Garden Dedication
Day of Planning
Pot luck
Special Program at Shepherd of the
Hills at 6pm(www.swgsm.org for info)

January 31st
Board Meeting at Hill Country Chris-
tian Church in Spring Branch @1pm
(lunch provided for \$5.00)
RSVP (210) 822-4345

**Congratulations to
Mr. & Mrs. Carstarphen**
on their beautiful baby boy.
Cole Thomas Carstarphen
Born 3:27 a.m. on Saturday,
January 10, 2009.
Weight: 7 lbs 1 oz
Length: 19.5 inches



"Am I My Brother's Keeper"
Genesis 4:2-9

Rev. Raumone Burton will speak at the
Disciples Men Retreat on February 20-
21. Sign up to attend the inspiring
preaching and fellowship. Pick up a
brochure at the information table for
more details.

Attention Congregation!

Do you have a heart to serve?
Volunteers are needed to make re-
freshments and coffee before worship
service. Sign up sheet is by the front
office.

CROP Hunger Walk is coming up
March 7th & 8th. This nation-wide
series of walks sponsored by the
Church World Service is raising money
to fight hunger around the world.

Last year CROP Walk raised approxi-
mately \$130,000 to fight hunger. Our
congregation has a chance to contrib-
ute to this great fundraiser.

WALK!
MAGAZINE