

December 27, 2007

WFMCC Weekly

Looking Back and Moving Forward



So do not be foolish but learn what the Sovereign God wants you to do. --Ephesians 5:17

Dear Friends,

A new year is upon us. In just a few more days it will be 2008. I don't know about you, but 2007 seems to have passed in a blur. Significant changes occurred in my life that I'm not quite sure I've had adequate time to reflect upon. Likewise, Wichita Falls MCC has experienced significant changes as well. From incredible growth and new ministries blossoming like spring flowers to the departure of your pastor, Rev. Lea Brown, as she was faithful to follow God's call to MCCSF.

What do all those changes mean? How can we get our bearings in a time of change so that we can safely and joyously navigate the coming year? It is important to take a moment to reflect on these things so that we can more boldly embrace our future.

In this week's sermon "Looking Back and Moving Forward", Barbara Mann will invite you to do just that as she links the past and present with the incredible future that lies just beyond the horizon. I encourage you to attend this Sunday and learn how we can look back and move forward, regardless of change or uncertainty.



I'll return to Wichita Falls on January 3rd and will be preaching a special Feast of Epiphany sermon on January 6. In the meantime, feel free to call or email me if there is anything I can do to be of service to you.

Happy New Year!

Blessings and Peace,

Nori

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1. Transition News

Nori will be holding a congregational forum immediately following the 11 a.m. service on Sunday, January 6th. Please plan to attend to learn more about Nori's work schedule, our transition time, and worship themes and special events that are being planned for the months ahead.

2. Pet Calendars Are Still Available

Give the gift of fur...or feathers...or fins this Christmas! The 2008 WFMCC Pet Calendar can be yours for just \$15 each. They make wonderful Christmas gifts while providing financial support for our church, all at the same time. You can purchase calendars from Ronda Hall.

3. There will be a Board of Trustees meeting at 1 p.m. on Sunday, January 6. All are welcome to attend and watch in wide-eyed wonder the fearless BOTS do the business of the church!

4. Break the Barrier Update

Many thanks to everyone who has been contributing to our Break the Barrier Fund. Our current total is now \$4,597! These funds are set aside each month to fund our dream of hiring a full-time director of music and worship. With the continued faithfulness and generosity of the WFMCC community, we can be assured that we will be able to make this dream

come true.

The next Break the Barrier offering will be received Sunday, January 20th.

5. WFMCC 21st Anniversary Banquet

Tickets are on sale now for WFMCC's 21st Anniversary Banquet, which will be held on Saturday, January 26th. Join us for dinner, a silent auction, entertainment, our annual presentation of the "Spirit of the Community" Award, and a rousing bunco tournament, all to be held at the Women's Forum at 6 p.m.

Tickets cost \$21 each for adults and can be purchased from anyone on the Anniversary Committee. We also need your nominations for the "Spirit of the Community" Award, which you can place in the suggestion box located in the church foyer.

6. WFMCC Change Drive Continues

This Sunday is your last chance to nickel and dime the church, as we try to fill up the two five-gallon containers in our sanctuary with loose change. Our goal is to collect "Ten Gallons of Change for 20 More Years," and together we can do it!



And why not get a jump start on this worthy goal for 2008? There are cups labeled "10 for 20" in the back of the sanctuary next to the change containers. Take as many as you like for your home, vehicle, workplace, etc., to help you collect your change. You can bring the cups back with you to church any Sunday and pour your coins into the containers.

Every penny, nickel, dime and quarter will help us continue our ministries into our 21st year and beyond.

7. Thanksgivings and Prayer Requests

Thanksgivings for chosen family with whom to share the holidays and the smooth recovery of Michael and Steve...**Prayer requests for** for travel mercies for church members over the holidays...for those for whom the holidays are times of stress and sadness rather than joy, and for a

prosperous and joyous new year for us all.

Wichita Falls MCC

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