

January 10, 2008

WFMCC Weekly

A Little Something from Heaven



SPECIAL NOTICE: Please keep Laretta Dowd and her family in prayer as they grieve the death of her mother, Sheila Ann Haggerty Dowd, who died early this morning. Fortunately, Laretta had enough notice to be able to drive to the hospital and join her siblings at her mother's side last night. The funeral will be this Saturday.

..and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Beloved Child; with you I am well pleased." --Luke 3:22

Dear Friends,

This Sunday we celebrate the Baptism of our Savior. This day commemorates the time when Jesus waded into the muddy waters of the River Jordan to where John was waiting. Up until that time, all eyes seemed to have been on John. The gossip at the water cooler had him pegged as potential Messiah candidate material. He was clearly the front-runner in the race. Maybe this election year has made me get carried away on the analogy :) (I hope it's okay to use emoticons in these emails) However, it wasn't a campaign and John graciously knew that, taking his place as the one who anoints the Anointed One. We often see baptism as a sign of our faith in Jesus, but to Jesus, it would have meant something different. The River Jordan was the common place where all the people gathered. It symbolized the community. When Jesus walked out to the middle of the river to where



John was waiting, when he allowed himself to be immersed in the water, he was symbolically immersing himself into his community - their cares and fears, their hopes and dreams. He was saying, *I want to enter into your lives at their most tragic and most joyful moments. I am making a commitment to be with you through thick or thin. I will not desert you and not even death will be able to keep my love from you.*

No wonder God was so pleased with Jesus. As we immerse ourselves into the River Jordan that threads its way through Wichita Falls MCC and our communities, may we feel how pleased God is with us as well.

Blessings and Peace,

Nori

In This Issue:

New addition! See January birthdays below

1. Pastoral Search Team Announced

2. Regional Elder to speak this Sunday

3. **Special MLK Worship Service, January 20.**

4. **Break the Barrier Update**

5. **No Day But Today Meeting, January 27th.**

6. **WFMCC 21st Anniversary Banquet**

7. **WFMCC Change Drive**

8. **Thanksgivings and Prayer Requests**

1. Pastoral Search Team Announced

At last week's Board of Trustees meeting, a new Pastoral Search Team was formed to begin the search for your new permanent pastor. The Team members are Board of Trustees members: Barbara Mann (chair), Ronda Hall, Valerie Vela along with Karen Booth, Martha Catano, Dwight Marcus, Ron Preston, and Beth Romm. This team will be meeting with Rev. Elder Lillie Brock briefly today and will begin the process of seeking out the permanent pastor whom God is calling to serve WFMCC. Please pray for them as they undertake this significant work.



2. Regional Elder to speak this Sunday.

Rev. Elder Lillie Brock, our Regional Elder will be preaching this Sunday, January 13th at the 11 a.m. worship service. Please plan on attending and invite a friend!

3. Special Dr. Martin Luther King worship service.

On Sunday, January 20th, Karen Booth, Cookie Cicello, and Dwight Marcus will present a panel discussion on Dr. King's famous "I Have a Dream Speech" and share their reflections on how much closer (if at all) we are to

January Birthdays

*If your birthday is this month
and isn't listed, email
nrost@wichitafallsmcc.org to
be included*

Solyta Trainer 1/17
Annette Bever 1/18
Kelly Poer 1/20
Cathy Rudy 1/22
Addison Hale 1/26
Glenn Hendrix 1/28
Brent Braswell 1/29
Katie Farmer 1/29

fulfilling Dr. King's dream and how we as Christians are called to racial justice.

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. No Day But Today Meeting

No Day But Today ministry will meet on Sunday, January 27th, following the Anniversary worship service. If you are concerned about HIV/AIDS in Wichita Falls and beyond, plan on attending this important meeting. See John Forsythe for more details.

6. 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.

On Sunday, January 27, continue the celebration and join us at our 11 a.m. worship service as Rev. Elder Dr. Nori Rost preaches a special Anniversary sermon.

7. WFMCC Change Drive

Stay tuned for the amount of change collected in 2007. While we didn't fill up the containers, a little change can go a long way. And why not get a jump



start on this worthy goal for 2008 as we try to fill up the five-gallon container 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!

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.

8. Thanksgivings and Prayer Requests

Add your Thanksgivings and Prayers Requests to the Prayer Book in the foyer at church or email them to nrost@wichitafallsmcc.org

Thanksgivings for the new journey WFMCC is on, for chosen family who love us unconditionally...**Prayer requests for** Laretta Dowd, whose mother passed away today, for David Hernandez, Becky Rhoades, and Bee Smith who have all been battling upper respiratory bugs, for Martha's mom who was admitted into hospital with severe anemia-and praises that initial tests are coming out fine, for Michael Starnes, whose recovery from surgery has been complicated, for finding the right job, also travel mercies and a safe return for Mary June and Debra who are vacationing in Hawaii.

Wichita Falls MCC

1401 Travis Street

Wichita Falls, TX 76301

(940) 322-4100

www.wichitafallsmcc.org

Rev. Dr. Nori Rost

(719) 963-0242

[Forward email](#)

 **SafeUnsubscribe™**

This email was sent to pastormel@wichitafallsmcc.org by nrost@wichitafallsmcc.org | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Rapid removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).



Wichita Falls Metropolitan Community Church | 1401 Travis Street | Wichita Falls | TX | 76301