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The Advance is the official publication of **Azle Christian Church**
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Elder Emeritus Wendal Hoover,
 Paul Reed

Don't Wait

Expect the Unexpected.

Two weeks ago, if you told Paul Bales he would almost die and be on a ventilator, he probably would have asked you what you were smoking. Last Wednesday, my brother in law, Dale Hovland, didn't know when he woke up that morning, that in the afternoon he would have a stroke and go blind in one eye. And, at the beginning of 2011, many people in this congregation didn't know that by the end of the year, someone very dear to them would have passed away.

You're probably thinking - o.k., but what does this have to do with Stewardship.

Don't Wait! Don't Wait!

Since filling out your Time and Talent Card, if you've decided you would like to help with VBS, or Worship Ministry, or help with the golf tournament – then do it. You *don't have to wait* until next year to fill out another card. Any of the people who chair the different Ministries of ACC would welcome a new hand on deck.

If you've thought about increasing your giving by \$5 – put it in the offering plate – don't wait!

If you've been intending to bring peanut butter for the "Inasmuch Food Pantry" and just haven't done it – go to the grocery store, now – *don't wait!*

Point being, there are limitless opportunities for stewardship - from increasing your pledge amount to sending that Get Well card to your sick friend.

Don't Wait! God has placed these opportunities before you. *Do it, now!* Because you're not guaranteed tomorrow.

Susie Hiles

A Word from the Worship Ministry

Greetings all!

If you missed the Worship Service Sunday, January 22, 2012 -well, you missed a lot. The Choir Loft was full and led the congregation in music that filled the Sanctuary. Members and guests really joined in and could be heard! The stewardship message was great and full of energy. The sermon was wonderful and also full of energy.

Please, don't miss out on any other Sundays (if possible). You just might miss out on joy full music, inspiring sermons, and lots of abounding energy. See you!

BUDGET REPORT




Budget Needs Per Week	\$3,650.89
Received January 15, 2012	\$2,631.00
Received January 22, 2012	\$2,667.00
Received Year to Date	\$12,527.00
Actual Expenses Year to Date	\$13,399.59
Income Over (Under) Expenses	\$2,606.41

Attendance Report

Sunday, January 15, 2012	Sunday School	62
	Worship	98
Sunday, January 22, 2012	Sunday School	53
	Worship	88
Average Year to Date	Sunday School	45
	Worship	90

CROSSES FOR SALE

We have crosses made from the wood that was on the 1893 building. These are made from wood that could not be reused for the building and each one represents a little bit of our ACC history! If you would like to have one, see Scottie and for a donation of \$20.00 she will give you a cross. Funds go to the ongoing restoration.

Need some chores done in and around your home? Let our youth help you?

They are working to raise money for their mission trip and are willing and able to earn this money!

Contact David for scheduling.
817/437-7296 or
drchristman1@yahoo.com

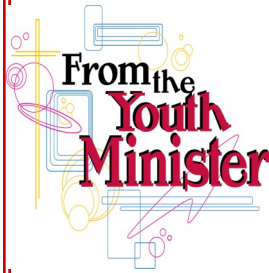


January 29, 2012

Worship Leader	Matthew Hudman
Table	David Christman
Bread Elder	Chris Piercy
Wine Elder	Dollene Price
First Greeter	Linda Gardom
Second Greeter	Bob Upchurch
Deacon	Eddie Weger
Deacon	Leslie Bales
Jr. Deacon	Brian Lingo
Acolyte	Isabelle Piercy
Children's Moment	David Christman
Children's Church	None
Visitation	Susie Hiles
Home Communion	Mark Hiles & Eddie Weger

February 5, 2012

Worship Leader	David Christman
Table	Ken Hall
Bread Elder	Dollene Price
Wine Elder	Nancy Robbins
First Greeter	Jennifer Ipser
Second Greeter	Steven Hightower
Deacon	Matthew Hudman
Deacon	Sandra Gallatin
Jr. Deacon	Trisha Lingo
Acolyte	Blake Saurenmann
Children's Moment	Ken Hall
Children's Church	Chelle Jacobs
Visitation	Mark Hiles
Home Communion	Lisa Lingo & Matthew Hudman



Hey Everybody,

Well, if you have not heard it by now, here is the big news: on January 11, 2012, our son, Loken Elijah Christman, was born. He came into this world weighing 7 pounds, 15 ounces and was 19 and 1/4 inches long. After four days in the hospital, we took him home and he is a constant joy in our lives. He is perfect and we praise God for this wonderful gift in our lives. I will be back in the office starting on Wednesday, January 25. Thank you for all your prayers for my family and I would ask that you would continue to pray for Krista and me as we juggle being good parents and finding time to sleep. 😊

In youth news, there are several retreats coming up. The JYF midwinter retreat is this coming weekend. Jana Howell will be taking the JYFers down to Athens for a weekend of fun and worship. The TBA JYF retreat will be on January 27th-29th, the Chi Rho retreat will be February 3rd-5th, and the CYF retreat will be the 24th-26th. There is still time to register for camp if you plan on going on the CYF retreat, so come to my office, get the forms and fill them out.

The youth will also start selling stock soon. For those of you who do not know, each year for our mission trip we sell "stock" in the lives of our youth. In this economy the stock market is crazy and you never know what you are going to get. But in buying stock in the lives of our youth you are purchasing stock that will never depreciate because you are contributing to their growth in their walk with God. On top of that, when the youth get back from the mission trip, we hold a stockholder's dinner. Anyone who has purchased stock is invited to come and be served dinner which is prepared by our youth. There they will share with you all what they did on their mission trip and how they grew in their relationship with God. There is always a fun video too. Each of our youth will have to sell 25 stocks to cover their trip, so, if you are able, please help them raise money for our trip to the Heifer International ranch in Perryville, Arkansas. We are also looking for a couple of adults to go with us on this trip. Krista is no longer a youth sponsor, due to the birth of Loken, so we need sponsors to go with us on the week long trip. If you are interested please see me.

The other fundraiser that we are doing right now is the youth for hire fundraiser. If you have any odd jobs around your house that you need help with, then hire however many youth you need to, to get the job done, and we will be there. Aaron Ipser is heading up this fundraiser, so, please contact him if you have any job information.

In periods of transition, where churches search for a new minister, many people have lots of questions. What type of minister are we looking for? What direction do we want to go with our church and the new leadership that is coming in? Will there still be a place for me here? Will this still be my church? Where do we go from here? Right now we have wonderful ministry search team asking these very questions, and tackling hard issues as they look for our new senior minister. Even though they are the ones that will make the final decision to call the pastor, I am sure they wouldn't mind your input. In fact, I am sure they would welcome it. So let them know how you feel, let them know how we can meet your needs and the needs of our community. In all things let us give thanks to God who has blessed us and is leading us in new directions.

God Bless,
Rev. David Christman

Azle Christian Church

outreach. 35 years ago,
to dedicate 10% of the
Outreach continues to be
congregation, so this



today. In addition to this outreach, there are a lot of other special efforts done by the church such as mission trips for all ages, the Heritage Building restoration, the Drive for Compassion Golf Classic and many others.

In 2011, our church expenses far exceeded our contributions, by over \$21,000. In order to cover these expenses, we borrowed against the special accounts for various programs mentioned above. Those programs are now at risk if we neglect to pay back the loan or continue to have our expenses outpace our contributions. On Sunday, January 15th, Becky Stults suggested that each family contribute and additional \$5 each week through 2012 to reimburse the funds borrowed.

I hope you will consider what you can do to help support the ongoing mission of Azle Christian Church.

Peace, Jennifer Ipser, Stewardship Chair

What Will Matter

By Michael Josephson

Ready or not, some day it will all come to an end.

There will be no more sunrises, no minutes, hours or days.

All the things you collected, whether treasured or forgotten will pass to someone else.

Your wealth, fame and temporal power will shrivel to irrelevance.

It will not matter what you owned or what you were owed.

Your grudges, resentments, frustrations and jealousies will finally disappear.

So too, your hopes, ambitions, plans and to-do lists will expire.

The wins and losses that once seemed so important will fade away.

It won't matter where you came from or what side of the tracks you lived on at the end.

It won't matter whether you were beautiful or brilliant.

Even your gender and skin color will be irrelevant.

So what will matter? How will the value of your days be measured?

What will matter is not what you bought but what you built, not what you got but what you gave.

What will matter is not your success but your significance.

What will matter is not what you learned but what you taught.

What will matter is every act of integrity, compassion, courage or sacrifice that enriched,

Empowered or encouraged others to emulate your example.

What will matter is not your competence but your character.

What will matter is not how many people you knew, but how many will feel a lasting loss when you're gone.

What will matter is not your memories but the memories of those who loved you.

What will matter is how long you will be remembered, by whom and for what.

Living a life that matters doesn't happen by accident.

It's not a matter of circumstance but of choice.

Choose to live a life that matters.

Submitted by Pete Tamez

ANNOUNCING Wednesday Night Fellowship Dinners CHANGE

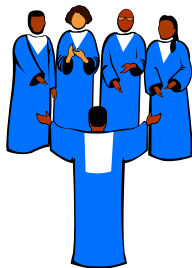
We are making some changes in the way our *Wednesday Night meals* are handled. Huddles Catering will still cook our meals on the second and third Wednesday nights of each month. The first and fourth Wednesday nights will be potluck meals which showcase the outstanding cooks of Azle Christian Church. The money from these meals will go toward the organizing groups who will plan, advertise, set up, and clean up. In this way, Relay for Life, Youth Mission Trip, Costa Rica Mission Trip, Southwest Good Samaritan Mission Trip, Heritage Building Restoration Project, and whoever else I left out, can be supported as we continue to fellowship with one another. Start pulling out your favorite recipes and respond with your culinary delights on the first and fourth Wednesday nights when announced.



Mark your calendar for **February 1**. This is the date to sample ACC's excellent potluck cuisine. The Elders are the organizers for the night's event and the fund recipients will be announced that night. Dollene is cooking red beans, cornbread and corn casserole. Whip up your delectables and bring them on **February 1**. (Someone please bring something chocolate).

Please, don't miss these opportunities to spend time with your fellow church members outside the sanctuary on Sunday morning. Thanks for your help in making this outreach successful.

The Membership Ministry



Welcome Holly Davis Choir Director

Holly Davis was born in Winnfield, Louisiana but has lived in Texas off and on since 1984. She married her husband, Dave (who is a native Azleite) in 1991. They moved to Nashville, TN, where they lived until 1999. They moved back home to Texas and have lived near Azle ever since.

Holly and Dave have one son, Nathan, age 11. She has spent all of her working life in music. She started as a public school teacher, then, after earning her Master of Music degree from Texas Christian University, began working in church music. She directed the music ministry in a Nashville United Methodist Church until moving back to Texas. She was the music director of Azle First Methodist Church for eight years, until her son started elementary school. She then began to teach classical voice to area high school students. Now she is very happy to combine her two loves, private teaching and church music, and is looking forward to serving you here at Azle Christian Church.

MUSIC, MUSIC, MUSIC

Choir Practice, Sunday at 9 AM



Handbell practice
Monday at 7 PM



Join us for fun, learning and service



The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) describes itself this way: “We are Disciples of Christ, a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world. As part of the body of Christ, we welcome all to the Lord’s Table as God has welcomed us.” We go on to define our mission as: “To be and share the Good News of Jesus Christ, witnessing, loving and serving from our doorsteps to the ends of the earth.” One of the ways in which we become the good news and serve others is through Week of Compassion.

Week of Compassion is described as the relief, refugee and development mission fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada. It seeks to equip and empower disciples to alleviate the suffering of others through disaster response, humanitarian and sustainable development, and promote mission opportunities.

Some of us have been privileged to have gone on work mission trips, or some other opportunity sponsored by the Week of Compassion. For reasons of temperament and obligations many of us could not do those things. But what we can do very often is provide support, most often financial, for the good work that Week of Compassion does that we cannot do. All of us can share, in one way or another, in the good achieved in the help given to the world by Week of Compassion. The 2012 Special Offering will be received February 19-26.

-Shalom.
Ken Hall



YOU ALL are invited to the
Annual Super Bowl Party
Sunday, February 5, 2012

Sponsored by the Seekers Sunday School Class
At the home of
James and Carole Cudd
151 Oak Court, Springtown
Arrive anytime after 4 pm. Bring snack food and drink to share.
Coffee and tea provided.
Ham, Ribs and Turkey all ready for you and your friends.

A football pot to support the Valley Mission Trip will be
Available for your contributions.

Directions: 817-523-4484 or 817-229-5237



New Prayer Requests

Friends and family of Nancy,
Doug Saurenmann's aunt

Cathleen Thatcher, eye surgery recovery

Victims and survivors of the winter tornados



On-going Prayers Requested

Debt Reduction Campaign

Paul Bales

Kenneth Foster

Shelby Hiles

Dakota Hall

Lisa Brown

Pam Noble

Stephanie & Jason Sorrows

Friends and family of Lilly Viering, 4 months

Friend of Nancy Robbins

Family and friends of Duke Tomerlin,

Friend of the Grogan's

Ellen Malone, Mario and Myron

Family and friends of Gerald Redding,

Cousin of Dannie Davis

Krista and David Christman and Loken Elijah

Judy Semlinger

*Sandra Bishnoi

Brock Powell

Christopher Sellers

*Leah Vann

*Ricky Stults

Mike Crossley

Raymond Smith

Jerry Hall

Bruce and Barbara Rose

Rita Flatt

Janice Hutton

Marc Filgo

Evelyn Ashley

Matthew Grogan

Lee Huff

Bill Medley

Jackie Spitzer family

Andrew Price

Terry Massey

Hope, cancer

Cassi Sellers

*Bill Scott, hospice

*Julie Gardom

Rhonda Newkirk

Ruthie Addington

John Tadlock

Austin Woolsey

Carolyn Woodall

*Perry Bowen

ACC Search Committee

Dale Hovland

Dawn Zimmerman

Duffy Errington

Shannan Teubner

Camden Hand

John Piercy

*James Daughtrey

Maria Lopez

Richard Sutton

Eddie Butryn

Ashley Gillings

Peggy, seizures

Kendra, unborn baby

Ella Latham

Roper

Marjorie, Tom Arber's sister

*Vancil Trammell

Paul Reed

*Russell Eagleton

*Patsy Clay

*Pauline Cowan

*Jack Cowan



Notice:

We will list family and friends for one month, unless notified otherwise. If you feel they should be listed longer than that, please let us know.

Serving in the military: Ryan Stults' friend, Sam Hollis, Afghanistan; Chad Tidwell, San Antonio; Spruill's grandson, David Collins, San Diego; Brandon Carroll, Persian Gulf Iraq; Matt Hudleston, Korea; Jonathan Hendricks, Afghanistan; Jared Curry, Afghanistan

COSTA RICA MISSION TRIP

June 29 through July 8, 2012



Sunday, January 29

8:30 0 10:45 AM

Pancake Breakfast

To support the
Costa Rica Mission Trip

We will offer a breakfast casserole in addition to the Pancakes and Bacon breakfast.


The Costa Rica Mission Trip is scheduled for June 29 through July 8, 2012. We have 5 youth and 2 adults signed up to go to Costa Rica to spread the love of this church. On this trip we will conduct Vacation Bible Schools for the area children and distribute bags of food to the families. Since the trip requires air travel, the cost of the trip is much higher than other mission

trips the congregation has supported. Please consider sponsoring one or all of the youth that are participating in this mission trip. This will be a great opportunity for these teenagers to learn about the cultures in other countries. The youth attending the mission trip are Brian Lingo, Tricia Lingo, Cassi Sellers, Kale Sweet and Aaron Ipser.

Donations can be made at any time to the church office, at any of the fundraising events or in the weekly offering. Just specify that it is for the Costa Rica Mission Trip and what cost and/or person you wish the support to benefit.

For more information, contact:

Jan Flavin, Outreach Chair or Jennifer Ipser, Costa Rica Team Leader

 **Azle Christian Church**
(Disciples of Christ)
117 Church Street
Azle, TX 76020-3107

Return service Requested

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
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AZLE, TEXAS 76020

Sharing our Christian
Community

"We are a Christian community that loves God and our neighbor, where everyone is welcome at Christ's table. God accepts you just as you are and so do we."

Lectionary 01.29.2012
Deuteronomy 18:15-20
Psalm 111
I Corinthians 8:1-13
Mark 1:21-28

Lectionary 02.05.2012
Isaiah 40:21-31
Psalm 147:1-11, 20c
! Corinthians 9:16-23
Mark 1:29-39