



Common Ground September 2008

"Pointing People to Jesus through Reaching, Teaching, Celebrating, and Serving."

Have you wondered...

- How many people are praying for needs?
- Why is communion offered on certain Sundays?
- Who decides what missions to support?
- What programs are offered to the women of the church?
- How does the Friends help so many people?
- What else can we do to reach out to our community?
- How do we decide what the parade float will look like?
- Who takes care of our advertising?
- How our offerings are used?
- Who looks after the gardens?
- Who changes our light bulbs?

How can I help?

The answers are in our people who serve in ministry! Come find out about the many ministries of White Rock Community Church. Information, Survey Sheets, and help will be in the parlor every Sunday morning through the month. Elections for the annual ministry membership will be held at the congregation meeting in September.

**It's time to hear your calling.
It's time to get involved.**

It's time to show Our

PRIDE!

To share who we are as a community (WRCC) with the larger GBLT community.

**The Annual Alan Ross Freedom
Parade will be Sunday**



Come rain or shine!

We will march through the streets and make the Lord's name known. If you would like to help staff the booth in Lee Park or assist with the construction of the float, please contact the church office and your name will be passed along to the outreach committee. Church dress that morning will be 'Parade Casual' and the service will be shortened to allow us to get in place for the 2:00 pm start time.

A Message from Pastor

The “Queen’s Wave”

As many of you know, I had a recent accident which left me with a right palm full of stitches. It hurts when my hand is not elevated. So the obvious solution is to keep it elevated. This is what I have been doing everywhere I have gone over the past few days. The console in my Explorer works out perfectly for an elbow rest for my “Queen’s Wave” arm position. However, I have experienced stares from fellow drivers and pedestrians. They evidently think that I am waving at them. It is the “Do I know that guy?” or “did that stranger just wave at me?”, kind of look. It is kind of funny and somewhat embarrassing at the same time.

But what I find most interesting about this situation is two-fold. The first thing is that it reminds me how insulated from human interaction we have become. It is just a piece of glass that separates me from my fellow drivers but it might as well be a thick brick wall. Any perceived attempt of communication, i.e., the Queen’s Wave, is met with stares. The second thing is my reaction to the whole situation. I just stared straight ahead to avoid eye contact, thus reinforcing the isolation.

So what should I have done? I suppose I could have just rotated my palm back and forth in a true Queen’s Wave and smiled like crazy instead. So I ask myself the question, “What would Jesus do?” The only thing that came to me was the advice that the Apostle Paul gave to the young preacher, Timothy:

*“Preach the word, **be prepared** in season and out of season; correct rebuke and **encourage**-with great patience and careful instruction.” II Timothy 4:2*

Be prepared to encourage. That is what I think Jesus would do. It seems to me the Queen’s Wave and a crazy smile could do just that; encourage. Perhaps such an odd thing would break my fellow drivers out of their isolation, bring a smile to their faces, and lift their mood, and encourage them to also be more open to others all around them. If it didn’t work for them it sure will work for me.

So I think I am going to try it, the next time my Queen’s wave posture is encountered with stares, I am going to encourage! I will let you know how it works.



September 7, 2008
Romans 13:8-14 “Wearing Jesus”
Pastor Douglas Shaffer

September 14, 2008
Romans 14:1-12 “Terms of Judgment”
Dr. James P. Walker

September 21, 2008
Philippians 1:21-30 “What is Your Source of Joy?”
Dr. James P. Walker

September 28, 2008
Philippians 2:1-13 “Be Transformed”
Dr. James P. Walker

September 28 Quarterly Congregational Meeting Presentation of Deacon Candidates
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Renovation Update

I learned something new recently through a conversation with a Presbyterian minister who had been on staff when the Casa Linda Presbyterian Church owned our building. He told me that for the last seven years of its existence the former church did nothing to maintain or update the facilities. He said that the reason for this was that they doubted their continued existence as a church. That doubt and the resulting inaction led to their death as a congregation.

Without a Vision the People Perish- Proverbs 29:18

It sounds like they lost their vision. They were no longer clear about their mission as a church. They also were set in their ways and not open to newness. They watched their facility grow old around them as they atrophied and died as a church.

I believe that there is a lesson in this bit of history for White Rock Community Church. Our people sit in the same pews on a Sunday morning in which the congregation of Casa Linda Presbyterian Church sat. We have sat in these pews over 10 years. Due to a number of challenges WRCC has faced over the years we have unfortunately continued in the footsteps of our predecessors. We have done very little to maintain or update our facilities. But now we have decided as a congregation that the direction of our footsteps needs to change. We have established a Renovation Committee to lead us in the process of much needed renovation. Now we are in the process of establishing a vision, a Master Plan, which will guide the repair and restoration of our facilities, refreshing, and reviving our facilities to meet the needs of our mission in the 21st century.

Pastor Jim

Accomplishments	Next Steps
Completed all remediation required by the Fire Marshal (passed) Received abatement, air quality monitoring and construction fees related to basement abatement Setup west wing storage areas for drama and worship/decorations Completed second workday Relocated Choir from basement Relocated Children (temporarily) to WW Acoustical and sound assessments Estimates on kitchen equipment Received all HVAC quotes	Take Renovations website "live" Complete Congregational survey summary Engage Architect and other professional advisors Complete space plan Complete basement renovation estimates Complete estimates based on space planning Finalize master plan format Finalize master plan budgeting template

**Look for updates and information on the Renovations website
The link will be provided in the weekly church bulletin
Information will be added regularly**

Tithes or Tickets

I recently read a cute story about a little boy in church for the first time who watched as the ushers passed around the offering plates. When they came near his pew, the boy said loudly, “Don’t pay for me, Daddy, I’m under five.”

Obviously he thought his father’s offering was their admission to get into church that day and that youngsters—like at so many other places—should get in free.

Sometimes adults may think like that as well. When we attend Sunday services we put some money in the offering plate as if it is our ticket to get into church that week. Our commitment to God and his ministries has to be much more than that. It must be an overall, on-going, unyielding commitment to offer up to Him just a portion of all the wonderful bounties He provides us. All our blessings flow from God’s goodness and love for us and we need to return to Him more than just the price of admission for a Sunday morning service.

If you have not made your commitment to God to give your ten percent tithe back to Him, I pray that you will do so today. You never know how He will bless you in return, but you can be assured that He certainly will. And, if you would like to know more about how you can help support our church and its ministries or if you have questions about how our funds are used to achieve our mission of pointing people to Jesus, please let me know. I’d be happy to visit with you.

David Gibbons
Church Treasurer

“ Pointing People to
Jesus through...

REACHINGTEACHING
CELEBRATINGSERVING

Teacher Appreciation Sunday September 7



Please Join us after Service for Lunch in the activity center as we honor everyone involved in the education ministry of WRCC!



Sunday Morning Worship
September 7th

Recognition of teachers and presentation of advancement certificates to the youth.

If God may be leading you to minister to our infants and children on Sunday mornings, please see
Education Chair—Kirsten Fleenor
or Pastor Douglas for details.

Prayer Ministry

Please remember our Committee groups for
September’s prayer focus:



- ◆ Outreach
- ◆ Facilities/Grounds
- ◆ Education
- ◆ Choir

The Prayer Committee has created a colorful bookmark for the month of September that includes a prayer for all of these committees and ministries. If you didn’t receive a bookmark in morning worship, you can pick one up in the parlor.



BLACK TIE DINNER, INC.

Ticket sales have begun! Please see the sign-up sheet in the parlor for advance ticket sales.

As beneficiaries, we will need to sell a minimum of 4 tables for the event on November 22, 2008. Tickets are \$300.00 to this premier event of the year.

We will also be selling raffle tickets for a 2008 BMW 128i convertible. Raffle tickets are \$100.00 and can be obtained from Pastor Douglas or any Friends board member.

We will also need TONS OF VOLUNTEER HOURS! - both throughout the months ahead, and the week-end of the Dinner in November. If you can be "on-call" to assist with stuffing envelopes for a mailing, or would like more information about the variety of volunteer opportunities available, please e-mail or call Pastor Douglas (douglas@whiterockchurch.org or 214-320-0043 ext 29) for further details.

Please remember, every ticket sold to the event or the raffle, every hour of volunteer time have a direct impact on the amount of funding White Rock Friends will receive after the event. So please start saving your money and making your time available to participate in this exciting event.



This Month's Birthdays

Sept. 3 David M
 Sept. 6 Ken D
 Sept. 7 James R
 Sept. 10 Tim W
 Sept. 12 Melanie L
 Sept. 13 Scot K
 Sept. 16 Marie H
 Sept. 17 Michael C
 Sept. 18 Joey A
 Sept. 21 Miachel T
 Sept. 23 Michael R
 Sept. 24 Gary E
 Sept. 24 Micheal C
 Sept. 25 David E
 Sept. 26 Ted H
 Sept. 26 Lorna MacD
 Sept. 29 Cruz F



Women's Ministry

Upcoming Activities

25th Anniversary of TGRA in Austin

September 5 & 6

Diana DeLashaw is contact person

Women's Retreat

September 27 at the church - 8:00- 4:00

Speaker: Toni Trueblood

Radio Personality – Minister – Counselor

Singles Ministry Activities—Watch for Details

Serving lunch at Friends – TBA

Progressive Dinner – TBA

Game Night - TBA



9353 Garland Road
Dallas, Texas 75218

www.whiterockchurch.org

Church Office Hours
10 AM to 4 PM
Monday through Thursday

Main Phone
214-320-0043

Fax
214-320-0098

Worship and Study Schedule

Sunday Bible Studies 9:00 AM
Sunday Worship 10:45 AM
Children's Worship 10:45 AM
Wednesday Bible Studies
10:00 AM
7:30 PM
Friday Night Home Bible Study
2nd & 4th Fridays at 7:00 PM

Sunday Night Live!

All church Potluck and
innovative Worship Program;
3rd Sundays at 6:00 PM

Pasta with the Pastors
1st Sundays after church

Choir Rehearsal Wednesdays 7:30 PM

*For more details on any of the events
listed please call the church office.*



White Rock Friends

214-324-1193

General Store Open

1st, 2nd, 3rd Tuesdays & Satur-
days

10 AM to 2 PM

Lunch Served

1st, 2nd, 3rd Saturdays

10 AM to 2 PM

Clothes Closet

1st & 3rd Saturdays

11:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Senior Pastor Dr. James P. Walker

Associate Pastor Douglas Shaffer
WRF Administrator

Assistant Pastor Marianne Munde

Assistant Pastor Vivian Davis

Pastor Emeritus Dean Bishop

Administrator Shawn Casaba

Executive Assistant Linda Watson

Choir Director Ken Dover

Pianist Antoine Spencer

Organist Charles Bridges

Sound Technician Lori Martin

Webmaster Laura Doscher

September Dates and Information

September 3	Policies and Procedures Meeting
September 3	Choir Council Meeting
September 6	Facilities Meeting
September 6	Worship Committee Meeting
September 6	Outreach Committee Meeting
September 7	Pasta with the Pastors
September 14	Education Committee Meeting
September 14	Nominating Committee Meeting
September 14	Women's Ministries Meeting
September 14	Couples Planning Meeting
September 20	Friends Board Meeting
September 21	Prayer Committee Meeting
September 21	Alan Ross Freedom Parade
September 15	Finance Committee Meeting
September 17	Church Council Meeting
September 18	Communications Meeting
September 24	Deacon's Meeting
September 24	Personnel Meeting
September 28	Quarterly Congregational Meeting

Note: Meetings are subject to change. Please check with your committee chair if there is a question.