

Happy Thanksgiving



Necia Robinson Memorial, Angel Statue Dedication

Sunday, November 8, 2009
(following Sunday Worship service)

Facilities & Grounds Committee has placed an "angel" to watch over the memorial garden. On November 8th she will be dedicated to honor the life & service of Necia Robinson.

Necia was a humble, often quiet, servant who embraced the values of service, love and stewardship. She acted swiftly to lend a hand, listened and knew when to speak, and volunteered when few folks were available. She remained an integral part of the Facilities and Grounds Committee throughout her years at WRCC, spending countless hours of her spare time at church. It is suggested, anecdotally, that Necia has touched every ceiling tile, every roof beam and every brick on our property.

Necia's most beautiful legacy, however, is her wife Cheryl and their four children: Michael, Ray Ray, Daniel and Jamie. This memorial angel reminds us that we are called to serve each other with love and that our lives are to be an example to others.

Necia entered the kingdom of heaven on August 13, 2008.

"But you have come to Mount Zion, to the heavenly Jerusalem, the city of the living God. You have come to thousands upon thousands of angels in joyful assembly,

23to the church of the firstborn, whose names are written in heaven. You have come to God, the judge of all men, to the spirits of righteous men and women made perfect, 24to Jesus the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

" (Hebrews 12:22-24



On October 18th we honored Pastor James Walker for more than 7 years of ministry at our church. All in attendance enjoyed wonderful food and fellowship and the opportunity to show our love and appreciation to Pastor Jim and his partner, Greg. Pastor was given a large Celtic Cross by a Little Forest Hills Artist to be installed in Pastor's gardens some time in the near future. We continue our prayers and support for Pastor and Greg's next phase of their journey.



Fast Five

Sowing Memories....

James Parker served on the Facilities and Grounds Committee shortly after coming to White Rock. He also served on the Relocation Committee and was ordained as deacon last week. In 2007 Parker served as chair of Facilities and Grounds, succeeding Necia Robinson's long standing leadership and service to us in the stewardship and care of our church home. He has been working with many this last year to find a way to honor the memories of Necia. On November 8, a new addition to our memorial garden will be dedicated to our dear sister, Necia.



How long have you been a member of White Rock?

I've been a member for about 8 years. In fact we (he and his spouse Mike) joined on Palm Sunday, the week before Pastor Jim became our Senior Pastor.

What brought you to White Rock?

Originally Mike saw an ad in the Voice and we chose to visit. Pastor Dean was interim Pastor. We just felt really at home the moment we came here.

Where is your faith background rooted?

Primarily Southern Baptist and Assemblies of God. I went to an Assemblies of God High School where I graduated.

Tell me about your inspiration to the dedication service.

Necia was here for a very long time and was unwavering to her service in Facilities and Education with the kids. She was one of a core group that initiated the development of the Memorial Garden. When she passed it left a huge whole in our group and in many people's hearts she was the rock of that group for many years; not only a rock but a Christian example for us. She was a great example of a servant. The dedication service is two days before Necia's birthday. Facilities and Grounds wanted to do something to honor Necia's memory and her dedication to us as a servant ultimately. We will be dedicating an angel statue in honor of her service. The statue came from Northhaven Gardens purchased with donated funds for this purpose. There is a very similar statue that sits in front of Cheryl's home and Necia's parents' home. The statue really just symbolizes an angel that looks over everyone basically.

How did Necia's life touch your life?

In a couple of ways. One is she lived as a Christian example and taught me. When we talked about the meaning of our committee (F&G) it was always about service and she always tied what we did to scripture. And she was fantastic as a counselor. When there was disagreement or misunderstanding she taught me personally how to be open and to look for the truth and handle the situation in a Christian way. And the third point is I loved that she was a dreamer and doer. She saw the potential in our people; and in our facilities; and in our grounds; and in our children; and always did her best to put those dreams and needs into action with the limitations we sometimes have. She was never afraid to continue to accomplish things.



On Monday, October 26, Daniel Montelongo, Gary Waldrep and Pastor Douglas went to the new Bailey's Steakhouse on Park Lane to attend the DIFFA Dallas annual check presentation. The White Rock Friends Check for this year was \$16,925.00. Praise God for the Support our Friends Ministry receives from this funding partner!



"Greetings from the Pastor Search Committee"

Our first meetings have been accomplished and we're making headway. The chair person is Sharon Blair and the secretary is Fred Ward. The other members of the group are Kelly Drake, Tammy Morgan, and Lourdes Gutierrez.

We need your prayers, insight, and patience as this is a process that has to be faithfully considered for our church. Our initial priority is to find an Interim Pastor, and to that end, we're preparing a job description of what we want that person to accomplish, or be responsible for, in the interim period before we find our new Pastor. We have set some initial goals and we will advise you as we make them happen.

If you have questions or comments, please contact the committee at this email address:

PastorSearch_WRCC@yahogroups.com

Carolyn Miller was featured in the last Fast Five article. Her picture was unavailable at that time.



Deacon Ordination



Members of our congregation come forward to pray for our New Deacons by 'Laying on Hands' as the Pastors anoint them with oil.

Sunday, October 25 was a glorious day of celebration for us as we held our Annual Deacon ordination. Gerald Box had previously served our church and been ordained to the office of Deacon. He joined in the foot washing service as part of his commitment to returning to active service as a Deacon. Our congregation was filled with many friends and family to join us as Erika, Parker, Pat, George, Carolyn, Scott, and Harry were ordained for the first time to the office of Deacons. We recognized Lourdes Gutierrez, Michael Murrell and Daniel Montelongo for the completion of their 4 years of active Deacon service, and Harry Hunter for his past year serving as Deacon Chair. We thank God for the start of this new opportunity for ministry for our Servant-Leaders!

Whew and Amen (So be it!)

October has been an exciting month in the life of our Church Community! New ministry committees are taking shape, the Servant-Leaders are in place on our Deacon Ministry Committee, and final members of the church council will soon be elected through various committees. The Fall is the greatest season of transition of our leadership...and we have accomplished much, and have much for which we should be thankful to God. As we move now into the great season of giving thanks, I am reminded of Luke 12:48 "Foreveryoneto whom much is given, of him shallmuchbe required." We all have a choice to make, both in our personal lives, and for the life of our church: do we look forward to the waiting challenges and fall victim to fear of what may happen? Like how are we going to get through all the financial and leadership challenges? Or do we take stock of God's faithfulness and His sustaining power



NOVEMBER WORSHIP

- Nov. 1 Mark 12:28-34
"Loving Our Neighbor"
Pastor Douglas preaching
- Nov. 8 Mark 12-38-44
"The Heart of Giving"
Pastor Viv preaching
- Nov. 15 Psalm 16
"In Joy We Receive;
In Joy We Give"
Pastor Marianne preaching
- Nov. 22 Psalm 93
" Lord Over All"
Pastor Douglas preaching
- Nov. 29 1st Sunday in Advent
Luke 21:25-36
"The Anxiety Machine"

Rev. Kaye Lee preaching



MARK YOU CALENDARS!!

- Harvest Homecoming Thanksgiving Dinner - Nov. 22
- Advent begins - Nov. 29
- Choir Concert - Dec. 5
- Friends Christmas party - Dec. 12



October Attendance

October 4	110
October 11	114
October 18	141
October 25	178



Roof information will be in the parlor and on the website as it

and stand firm in our faith and say, "With God, nothing is impossible!" Are we looking at the needs that face us as a church family and respond in confidence that 'our God shall supply all that we need'? Pastor Viv, Pastor Marianne and myself will be sharing from God's word over the next several weeks about stewardship. I think the key to healthy stewardship comes when we focus on the generosity of God to us...and search our own hearts to find ways to give generously back to God. It's about recognizing all we have been given in our own lives and learning what it means to be the best stewards of what God has entrusted to our care. If we believe that every good and perfect gift comes to us from God, then we just need to listen closely; and God will direct us how to fix the roof, show love to our neighbors through Angel Boxes, and how to effectively carry out the mission we are called to do! We have been given much, and the reality that much will be asked of us, should fill our hearts with excitement and expectation as we move forward together.

Blessings,
pastor douglas

Do You Desire a New Opportunity to Volunteer at your Church Community?

This Saturday, Oct. 31 we need to relocate the Friends' Office and Store to the East Wing due to roof leaks and unstable ceilings. This is will be an ALL HANDS ON DECK action of the community! (come at 10 am!) But there will be more upcoming projects and ongoing needs. If you have a skill, or just a willing pair of hands and some time on your schedule, please e-mail pastor douglas at douglas@whiterockchurch.org subject line; Volunteer here! And let us know of your interest and availability. And please be watching future Mid Month Memos and Common Grounds for future opportunities.

Harvest Homecoming

Like the earliest of all Thanksgiving celebrations, this year's congregational meal will be a great group effort and an amazing expression of community! As is tradition, the Deacons will be sponsoring the turkeys, but for the rest of the meal, you have an opportunity to show off some of your favorite recipes. If you have a large oven and can possibly help us with cooking a turkey, please let the church office know. In order that the rest of the meal will be balanced (all green bean casseroles and no mashed potatoes isn't very fun...), we will be assigning side dishes by category, divided up by Deacon Care families.



Adam Canales, Carolyn Miller, Cruz Fernandez, Erika Barron, and George Hacker's Deacon Families will bring desserts.

Gerald Box, Harry Staten, Jack Martin, James Parker, Kelly Drake, and Lorna MacDougall's Deacon Families will bring potato or

becomes available.



The Women's ministry is having a **TURKEY RAFFLE**. The tickets, which are \$2 each, will be available on the following Sundays, November 1, 8, 15, 22. The drawing will be held on November 22 during the Thanksgiving dinner.



November Birthdays

- Nov. 2 Cheryl
- Nov. 5 Antoine
- Nov. 7 Scott
- Nov. 8 Nancy
- Nov. 10 Gary
- Nov. 12 Harry
- Nov. 13 Shawn
- Nov. 15 Kathy
- Nov. 18 Konnie
- Nov. 25 Michael
- Nov. 28 Charlene
- Nov. 28 Richard
- Nov. 29 Kyla

dressing dishes.

M.C. Kiel, Marie Hewlett, Max Nunez, Pat Moore, Scott Igo, and Sharon Wood's Deacon Families will bring vegetable or salad sides.

If you are an active visitor and a part of our church family, but not yet assigned to a Deacon Care Family, please prepare your dish based on the following guide: If your name begins with the letters A through H- bring desserts, I through L - bring potatoes or stuffing, M through Z - bring vegetables or salads. We ask that everyone bring enough for your family, and extra so we will have plenty for all the guests at our table.

The fellowship will begin at 5:00 in the Activity Center...you will be adding your contribution to the great buffet at that time. Following dinner, we will have a group activity lead by the Worship Committee. We will be building Advent wreaths for each household to take home to aid in their Advent celebrations this year. Advent begins the following Sunday on November 29th, so this is a great way of getting ourselves ready for the season.

So go through your favorite family recipes, and come preparing to celebrate and give thanks as a church family.

September 2009 Treasurer's Report

Following are the financial results for September 2009:
Total contributions (excluding Friends Ministry): \$16,471
Total expenses (excluding Friends Ministry
& Renovations expense): \$29,343
Total deficit for the month of September (\$ 12,872)
Year-to-date financial results through September are:
Total contributions (excluding Friends Ministry
and endowment gift): \$231,532
Total expenses (excluding Friends Ministry
and Renovation Expense): \$260,366
Total deficit Year-to-Date though September (\$ 28,834)

Our giving provides for our church's ministries and ultimately to our mission to "point people to Jesus through reaching, teaching, celebrating, and serving". Please be in prayer about the finances of our church, and what we need to do as a church to encourage each other to be faithful and cheerful givers.

If you've been struggling with tithing on a tight budget or if you have stopped tithing altogether, I encourage you to start again as soon as you can. Even if you start with only a small percentage and work your way up, it is still something. God knows things are tough and that tithing isn't always easy, but He also knows it works and that it blesses you and leaves you better in the end. And when things get tough, find encouragement through God's Word and remind yourself of the good things to come.

"And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart." Galatians 6:9

Rick Marshall, Treasurer