



ALAMO HEIGHTS CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

6435 N. New Braunfels San Antonio, TX 78209
Phone: 210-828-5728 Email: AlamoHeightsChristianChurch@yahoo.com

Newsletter Vol 1.4 September & October 2023



Notes from Our Shepherd- Pastor Lisa

The Kingdom of God-

Our hope is that through this newsletter, we improve:

1. **Our Church's Communication**
2. **Our Church's Ability to Plan Ahead**
3. **Our Growth in The Power, Love and Guidance by The Holy Spirit**

Jesus replied, ***"The coming of the kingdom of God is not something that can be observed, nor will people say, 'Here it is,' or 'There it is,' because the kingdom of God is in your minds"*** (Luke 17:20-21).

As we look at the kingdom of God throughout the teachings of Jesus, we discover that it includes many important concepts including (but not limited to):

1. **Spiritual Realm or Presence:**

In some passages, it seems Jesus was referring to a spiritual or divine realm where God's sovereignty and rule are fully realized. In this view, the Kingdom of God is not a physical place, but rather a state of being where God's authority and principles are acknowledged and lived out in people's hearts and lives.

2. **Social and Ethical Transformation:**

Jesus often spoke about values such as love, compassion, forgiveness, and justice. The Kingdom of God can refer to a church that submits to God's rule so these values are upheld and practiced, resulting in transformed communities.

3. **Future Eschatological Kingdom:**

Some interpretations emphasize the future aspect of the Kingdom of God. This view suggests that the Kingdom will be fully realized at a later time, often associated with the Second Coming of Christ, when God's ultimate reign will be established on Earth.

4. **Present Reality and Process:**

Another perspective is that the Kingdom of God is both a future hope and a present reality. It's seen as a gradual process of God's reign unfolding in the world as people align themselves with God's will and values.

5. **Personal Relationship with God:**

Some interpretations focus on the idea that the Kingdom of God refers to an intimate and personal relationship with God. **It's about individuals entering into a close connection with the divine, experiencing God's presence, and living in accordance with God's teachings.**

Allow yourselves to "Put on Jesus" and bring The Kingdom of God to Earth NOW!

Upcoming Events:

Bible Study every Wednesday 11:30am-

Sunday Bible Study 9:30am-

Giving This Month:

Beans and Rice and Easy Food to Eat for Children



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Always Bring Easy To Eat Food for Inman- Their Pantry is very Low.

You can designate a Gift in Offering Plate for Inman, CAMS or Water/Food Purchase.

Did You Know... We are hosting a Big "Trick or Treat on 10/29 with The Hispanic Church. Our hope is to make this a BIG event for Children in the neighborhood by also hosting a Petting Zoo. We need everyone to plan to help the afternoon from 2-6pm on 10/29. Open your trunk or plan to dress up and help host and invite families to our Church!

Please turn in your opinion on upcoming events (attached). We will start in October having events for the Church.

The Board meeting will be re-scheduled for October. This is a critical meeting to approve Nomination Committee folks and The New Board. More announcements coming on this.

Focus On Dr. Bill & Janis Erwin



Janis Erwin

I was born on Valentines Day, 1941, in Plainview, Texas. At that time, my Dad taught science at Plainview High School. When I was about a year old we moved to Washington, D.C., where Dad worked for the FBI during the war. We moved back to Plainview, where Dad taught at Wayland Baptist College and we lived in Matador Hall on campus where Mom was the House Mother. Then we moved to San Angelo, Quanah, and finally to Lubbock when I was in fifth grade. By that time, I had a brother and two sisters.

I remember very clearly when I first believed. My mother and I were cleaning house on the farm where we lived outside of Quanah. I remember asking my mother, "What does it mean to be a Christian?" I had been going to church since Cradle Roll, and Mother taught Sunday School and Daddy was a deacon. I've often imagined the sense of responsibility and the prayers she must have prayed on that day as she led her own little 10-year-old daughter to the Lord. Very soon afterward, I was baptized at First Baptist Church.

One summer I was on the staff of Glorietta Baptist Assembly near Santa Fe. Another summer I worked as a Summer Missionary under the auspices of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board in North and South Dakota, helping small congregations hold Vacation Bible Schools.

Bill and I met in the College Department at Second Baptist Church in Lubbock. We got married in 1962 even though we both had another year to go before graduating from Tech. As a psychology major, Bill



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knew he would have to go on to graduate school. So after I graduated, I got my first teaching job in Abernathy, Texas, and Bill commuted to Tech to begin working on his PhD. In the end, I received my PhD degree – Putting Hubby Through.

Daughters Crystal Dawn and Amy Rene came along and I taught remedial reading at home. During my 35-year teaching career, I taught choral music, orchestra, English, reading, remedial reading, self-contained special education, English as a Second Language, and served as junior high librarian.

Dr. Bill Erwin

I was born in Gould, Oklahoma on a cold January 4, 1940. My family moved to Amarillo in 1942. On May 31, 1958, I graduated from Amarillo High School. While I was a student at Texas Tech, I married Janis Richardson on September 8, 1962.

I accepted Christ into my life during an Angel Martinez revival in Amarillo during the summer of 1957. At that time I was attending Tascosa Baptist Church.

When I was going to Tech, I joined Second Baptist Church, where I met Janis in the College Department. Janis and I continued our membership there until we moved to Louisville, Kentucky, where I completed my doctoral internship at the University of Louisville Medical School. While in Louisville we attended Walnut Avenue Baptist Church and Crescent Hill Baptist Church. Our daughter Crystal was born in Louisville. After the year in Louisville, I accepted a job at TCU where we attended University Baptist from 1969 until 1971.

In 1971 I graduated from Tech with a Doctor of Philosophy Degree. We moved to Amarillo where I was on the faculty at West Texas University in Canyon from 1971 until 1979. In Amarillo we found that the Baptist church no longer suited us. At that time we joined First Christian Church, partly because of the wonderful children's program there. Our daughter Amy was born in 1973. I became licensed as a psychologist in the state of Texas and began a private practice that has lasted fifty-one years.

We moved back to Lubbock and then two years later we made our last move – to San Antonio at the behest of a former colleague who wanted me to practice with his group. At that time, Alamo Heights Christian Church was between pastors. We waited until Bill Smythe became pastor and joined. Our girls grew up in a church that nurtured them and helped them to become caring individuals.

The Erwin's Dreams for AHCC:

Janis: I would like AHCC to continue to be a caring, nurturing community of believers. I believe we have a lot to give to our community so we need to reach out. And, of course, I would like to see the choir loft filled with singers!

Bill: I would like to see this caring community of believers continue to show God's love to those who need Him.

Dream for our Church....

Again he said, **“What shall we say the kingdom of God is like, or what parable shall we use to describe it? It is like a mustard seed, which is the smallest of all seeds on earth. Yet when planted, it grows and becomes the largest of all garden plants, with such big branches that the birds can perch in its shade”** (Mark 4:30-32, emphasis added).

We are small but great Things can come from Being Like Jesus....



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The Back of The Bulletin...

Alamo Heights Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Calendar of Events

Sunday Bible Study: 9:30 a.m.

Sunday Worship: 10:50 a.m.

Wednesday Bible Study: 11:30 a.m.

(Please Give Pastor Lisa your email)

**October Birthdays: Jarvis Michie 10/9 Tommy Peyton 10/24 Bob
Cook 10/28 Anniversary: Ken &
Linda Hawkins 10/16**

Prayer Requests for:

Bob Monaghan

Bill Pease

Tina Arguijo

Ryan Harbert

Chad Ruch

Larry Davis Family

Brenda Sinclair

Ginger Timm

Mary Fowler

Eva Garcia

Olga Arguijo

Maggie Triola

Baby Luke Riggs

Tyler Peyton

Greg LePage

Virginia Manning

Jan Garrett & Family

Stella Zamora

Jane Delozier

Edith Richardson

Beatrice and Drew Sims

Ken and Linda Hawkins

Danee Crouch

Cindy Jones

Tina Bartosch

Joan Proctor

Tommy Peyton

Chuck Lutter

Emma Valentina

Tim & Sally Vordenbaumen

Bill & Jane Morrison

Russ Ross

Liz and Janet Jones

Brian and Anita Hickok

Wendy & Courtney Bowles

Family of Richard Hite

Andrew Englestead

Samuel Perez Family

Dorothy Gibson Family

We are a welcoming Church...

"Come Hear The Word and Feel The Spirit"

If you need counseling or help...

Call Pastor Lisa: cell 210-865-9320

lharbert@ddsav.com email

**October Outreach: PB, jelly, chili, canned food
& winter clothes for CAM**