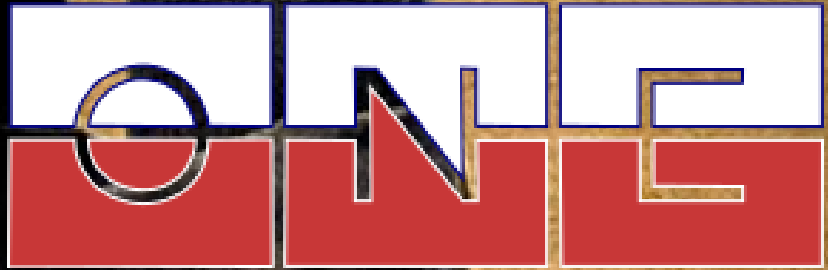


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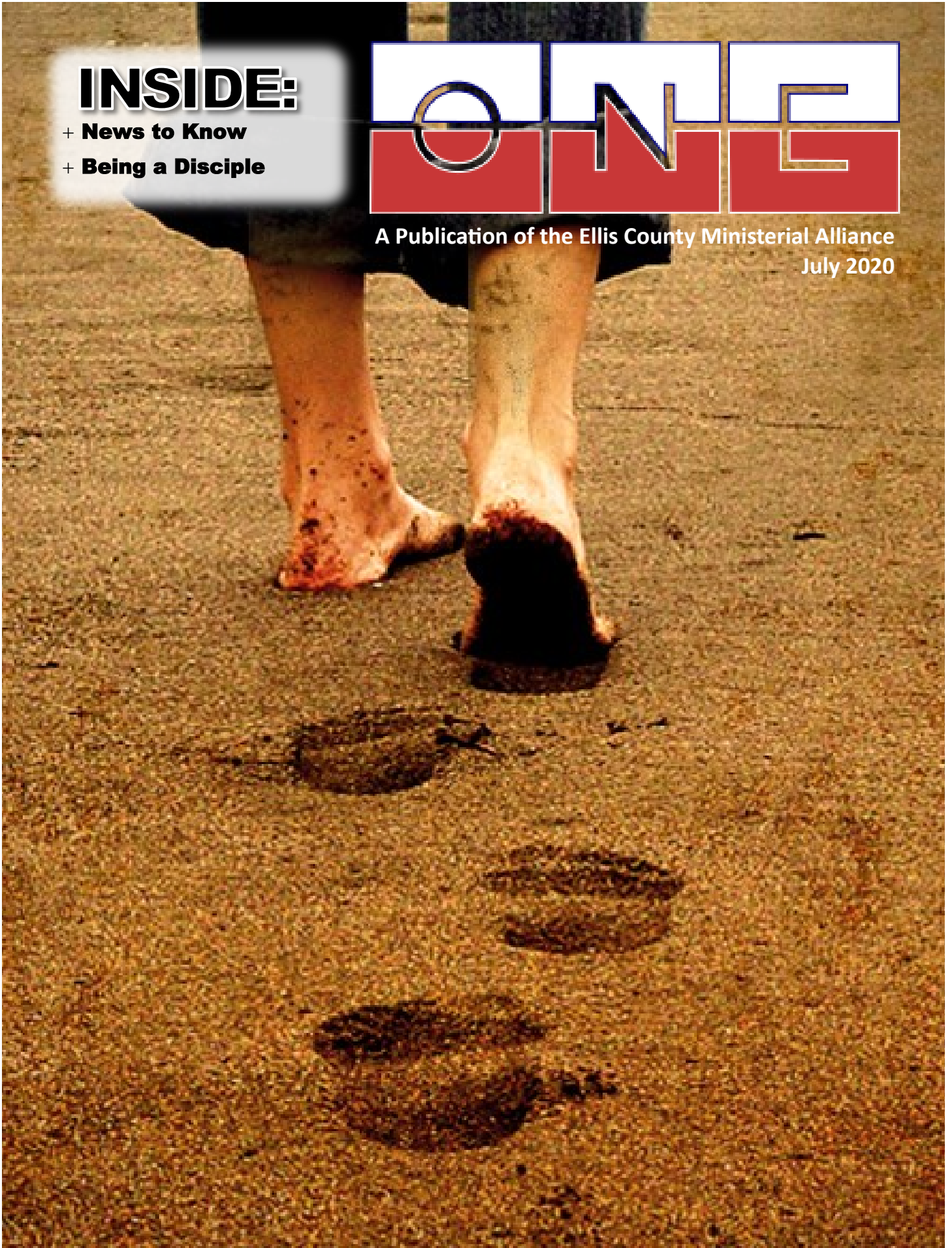
+ News to Know

+ Being a Disciple



A Publication of the Ellis County Ministerial Alliance

July 2020



News to Know

Habitat for Humanity to Reopen ReStore

Habitat for Humanity of Ellis County will be reopening its ReStore on Saturday, July 4. The ReStore is located in a separate building at the south end of Big Creek Crossing.

The ReStore sells “gently used” building materials, home décor items, furniture and appliances. The store’s hours are 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays and the first and third Tuesdays of the month. The store is staffed solely by volunteers.

The store will also begin accepting donations again, said Val Karl, co-manager. Those unable to drop off donated items during regular store hours may contact Karl at (785) 432-5030.

All proceeds are used to build homes for those in need in Ellis County.

Workshop Offered for Women, Girls

North Oak Community Church, 3000 Oak, will be hosting a workshop for women and girls from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, July 11.

“Women: Beauty Secrets of Titus 2” will focus on “living out the gospel through biblical mentoring,” organizers said. The workshop is specifically designed for adult women and girls ages 12 through 17.

North Oak women will be sharing insights from “Adorned: Living Out the Beauty of the Gospel Together,” video teachings from Revive Our Hearts Ministry and video dramas. A special breakout session on purity will be offered for the girls.

Registration is \$10 for adult women and \$6 for girls, with a \$20 maximum for mothers bringing their daughters. Lunch is included. Register online at www.northoak.net. More information is available from Sherrill Weeks at 785-731-1680 or papaweeks@hotmail.com. Childcare will not be provided.

Churches Needed to Collect Backpack Supplies

First Call for Help, 206 E. 13th, is once again collecting donations for its Backpacks for Kids program.

Linda Mills, executive director, said the organization has seen fewer donations of supplies and money so far this year due to COVID-19. Fewer churches are hosting boxes to hold donated items for the backpacks because many churches are still closed, she added.

Also, numerous financial donors are donating specifically for COVID-19 related assistance, and that money cannot be used for the backpacks program, Mills said.

She asked that any churches wishing to host a donation box to call her at (785) 623-2800. Monetary donations can be mailed to the First Call address above.

The backpack distribution will take place on Aug. 6 in the First Presbyterian Church circular driveway, 2900 Hall St.



ONE is the official publication of the Ellis County Ministerial Alliance (ECMA) which guides its mission, content, and theme. The ECMA encourage submissions from ECMA congregations. Photographs, stories, testimonies, and other submissions should be directed toward your church leaders or sent via email to one@ourecma.com.

The ECMA ONE Advisory Board will choose appropriate and timely submissions for publication. The columns in ONE represent the views of the author.

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What Does It Mean to Be a Disciple of Christ?

Cheryl Glassman

St. Nicholas of Myra Catholic Church

A disciple, according to the dictionary, is "a personal follower of Jesus during his life," or "a follower or student of a teacher." The word "disciple" comes from the Latin, meaning "to learn."

I have been a Catholic all my life. Have I always followed the rules? NOPE. But I know now that by not following and listening to God when He tried to help me there was always a lesson to be **learned**. I have grown and continue to grow every day. But I know I can do and "learn" more.

What can each of us do to be true disciples? I start with this from Luke 9:23:

"Then he said to them all: 'Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me.'"

What does that mean?

Well as I see it, we will have to be open to **learning**. We must learn to say no to temptation. We will have to learn to follow Jesus through trials, joys, suffering, loneliness, and humiliation. And we will have to learn to say yes to things that may seem uncomfortable. Disciples of Christ imitate Him and

bring His love to others. This means we must learn to love all people, even if they are different from us or don't believe what we believe.

When you learn to truly accept Jesus you will change. You will always battle with sin but know God is with you every step of the journey. And you will grow and learn - not because it saves you, but because you are so thankful to Jesus Christ for dying for us and saving us. If you see it this way, you will **learn** that the "rules" and commandments become promises to God, showing Him how much you love Him.

A Fully Devoted Follower of Christ

Pastor Micah Sanderson

Cross Point of Hays

A disciple of Jesus Christ is a fully devoted follower of Christ.

In Matthew 28:19-20, Jesus commissions us to:

"Go, therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and

of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Prior to that in verse 18, Jesus says:

"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me."

As a follower of Jesus, and because he is sovereign, when he tells His Church (who's The Church? We are!) to make disciples of all nations, we should listen.

What does it mean to be a "disciple" of Jesus? If we are going to make disciples, we need to know what that is.

Discipleship is the heartbeat of our faith

A Filly Devoted Follower of Christ (Continued)

community at Cross Point that we sum up in 3 steps known as our Discipleship Process: Love God, Grow Up, & Serve All.

First, let's summarize what a disciple is: a disciple is someone who comes to Jesus by faith and worships Him with all of their heart, soul, mind, and strength (Love God). They will continue in the process of discipleship by obeying and understanding His word (Grow Up). A disciple will act on the words of Jesus by making new disciples that make disciples (Serve All).

The first key to discipleship is to Love God. One must first come to Jesus. You cannot be a disciple without coming to know Him and having a relationship with Jesus.

You must then continue to come to Jesus in your worship. The beginning of any good thing in your life has its foundation in not just knowing about but falling in love with the God of the universe. That's why the beginning for us in any endeavor is to come into a life-changing, love relationship with our Heavenly Father.

The second key to discipleship is to Grow Up. One must understand Jesus' word by hearing it and learning it. Study the Bible, know the word of God, and commit it to your heart, soul, and mind. The old adage is true, if you're not growing, you're dying. This is about ministry service opportunities, accountability, small groups, and hands-on

opportunities to make faith become real in everyday life. Growing in spiritual maturity and relational depth are marks of a life well lived.

The third key to discipleship is to Serve All. One must act on Jesus' words. You must be on mission with all of your heart, soul, mind, and strength, so that you are making new disciples. We are to practice service toward one another as our lives model the life of Jesus. We must serve one another in the context of the church and be willing to lay our lives down in acts of service to the world outside the doors of the church as well.

Remember, when Jesus speaks, we listen. Go and make disciples that make disciples.



“IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO LIVE THE LIFE OF A DISCIPLE WITHOUT DEFINITE TIMES OF SECRET PRAYER. YOU WILL FIND THAT THE PLACE TO ENTER IN IS IN YOUR BUSINESS, AS YOU WALK ALONG THE STREETS, IN THE ORDINARY WAYS OF LIFE, WHEN NO ONE DREAMS YOU ARE PRAYING, AND THE REWARD COMES OPENLY, A REVIVAL HERE, A BLESSING THERE.” - OSWALD CHAMBERS