

Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give will never thirst again" John 4:13

FALL NEWSLETTER

the Well's seasonal update, featuring recent news current events and future developments



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"I hate asking people for money."



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"Contributions we can count on."



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"Christmas at the Well - \$50 Target Gift Cards."

Confessions of an Executive Director

"I hate asking people for money"

I've been struggling lately with whether or not I should make a confession. I've decided I will. I hate asking people for money. There, I've said it. It wasn't so hard. I hope I haven't offended anyone, or given people an out the next time I solicit their assistance. It's just that I feel uncomfortable asking people to surrender their hard-earned money. The individuals the Well serves certainly need the help, and I love them dearly. So you might ask, what's the problem? Here's the catch. If I can convey to our marvelous supporters and even those who may be considering supporting us, how much I appreciate them SHARING their wealth with us, then I think I'm on to something. I use the word wealth because even though many of our supporters are not wealthy, they are willing to share (not give) what God has blessed them with. To me, and I believe to our supporters, the word "share" connotes the true spirit of helping those who truly depend on our assistance. Come to think of it, asking you to share with our precious members at the Well doesn't bother me at all. Sometimes you just have to say it out loud or write it down.....I'm cured!

Paul Cardarella
Executive Director



Join The 300 Club Today!

"contributions we can count on"

Imagine trying to handle your monthly budget, but not knowing when the money will arrive. You're pretty sure it will arrive. You just don't know when or how much it will be. Thanks to you, the Well's annual budget this year of \$300,000 will be raised, but that's not to say we didn't have a few lean months. The 300 Club (referring to the Well's annual budget) is being implemented to eliminate this problem and to make it easier for you (our donors).

Please carefully consider signing up for the "300 Club", by taking the amount you would normally give annually and dividing it into monthly contributions via the automatic bill pay feature your bank offers online. Feel free to begin this process today, however, we will begin actual implementation in January. As you prayerfully consider what God is calling you to give next year, please consider contributing \$25, \$50 or \$100 a month in the form of an automatic withdrawal from your checking account. This will allow us to have a more even cash flow. As you know, even a non-profit has monthly payrolls and bills to pay.

As always, we welcome your feedback on how we can serve our members better. This Thanksgiving, we are most grateful for all of our amazing supporters. God bless you!

**The Well is the only
faith-based non-profit
working exclusively
with those who
suffer from severe
mental illness**

NAMI (National)

BENEFIT CONCERT

Benefiting the Well Community

**GRAMMY
NOMINATED
SIXPENCE
NONE**

THE RICHER

December 4th at 7:00pm - the Kessler Theater



"Sixpence" in Concert, Benefiting the Well

"Supporting the Well has never been more entertaining."

Join us for a night of fun, fellowship and good music, as we celebrate the work of the Well Community and another year of God's provision. This December 4th, at 7:00PM, the Kessler Theater (North Oak Cliff) will host the Well's First Annual Community Celebration and Benefit Concert, featuring the Grammy nominated band - "Sixpence None the Richer". All proceeds from the event will benefit the Well Community. The evening will feature raffle items and community member art on display and for purchase.

For more details or to reserve a VIP table, call 214-558-2309. To purchase "Friends of the Well" tickets for \$35 or general admission tickets/seats for \$25, copy and past the following link into your web browser.

<http://bit.ly/16BnFLz>

Corporate Sponsors: Avalon Alzheimer's Care, Best Parking, Shanks Architects, Four Corners Brewery, Chicken Scratch.

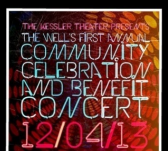
Corporate Contributors: Eno's, Odd-fellows, Union Bear, National Eagle Steel, The Mansion on Turtle Creek.

December 4th at 7pm, The Kessler Theater

CORPORATE SPONSORS:

Purchase your tickets today at

<http://bit.ly/16BnFLz>



From Isolation to Intimacy

"making relationships possible"

Many of you (our supporters) are married and have experienced long successful marriages. However, I suspect this might not have been the case had you been diagnosed with severe mental illness or been subjected to life below the poverty line. Chances are, your marriage might not have survived.



One of the most heartbreaking effects experienced by those who suffer from mental illness is the difficulty developing and maintaining healthy relationships. The majority of individuals the Well serves are single and have either never married or have experienced multiple failed relationships and in some cases divorce. Sadly, this is typical for those with severe mental illness. A multinational study of mental disorders, marriage and divorce published in 2011 found that a sample of 18 mental disorders all increased the likelihood of relationship failure.

However, this does not have to be the case. Let me share with you a story about a married couple from the Well. Longtime community members, John and Tania Ward, were married at the Well four years ago, but recently felt called to

recommit and celebrate their marital vows. Brent McDougal, Pastor of Cliff Temple, presided over the ceremony and I had the privilege of being John's best man. Read Hatley, staff member, was John's groomsmen and longtime supporter of the Well and board member, Scott Coleman, gave Tania away. It was a beautiful moment in the life of the Well and one of joy for all who participated. John and Tania's marriage is an immense encouragement to me and is a shining example of what a marriage was designed to look like. I am continually amazed by how they care for one another.

Their love is selfless and they seem to take particular pleasure in serving one another. I am confident John and Tania's marriage is not completely free of conflict, however I have never even seen a hint of tension as I observe them interact. Both are profoundly physically and mentally disabled, but together they are strong and continue to be two of the most influential and capable members of the Well Community. Though it should be irrelevant, for me it is icing on the cake that Tania is white and John is an African-American.

One of my first encounters with Tania (almost eight years ago) came when I pulled over to the side of the road after seeing Dallas police surrounding her on Jefferson St., as she had been panhandling. I intervened and the police allowed her to leave with me. While driving back to the Well's Community Life Center, Tania confessed her crack cocaine addiction and teared up as she expressed her weariness and despair.

Today, Tania has been clean and sober for many years and is a loving and faithful wife and "mother" to many of our younger community members. John and Tania met at the Well and Tania regularly testifies of God's goodness, giving Him credit for her sobriety and for leading her to the Well, where for the first time in her life she was able to develop healthy/intimate relationships. Though John and Tania clearly have a strong comment to one another, I would contend that their marital success has had more to do with the strong commitment of the supportive community that surrounds them.

While life can be immensely challenging, the joy experiencing intimacy with others provides, can make tackling life's challenges seem worth it. Never has this been more true than for members of the Well. Your continued support has made possible examples like John and Tania's. The Well is committed to reversing the destructive power of loneliness and isolation and supporters like you are helping to make that a reality.

Joshua Pulis
Program Director



Christmas for the Least of These

"Give a \$50 Target gift card to a member of the Well"

Yes, it's almost that time again. Each year we ask our supporters to contribute \$50 target gift cards. We have a goal of collecting 90 gift cards this year, as our participation and attendance begins to swell as our Christmas party approaches. This year the Well will celebrate Christmas Thursday night, December 19th. You are invited to join us as we celebrate the birth of Christ and another year of God's

provision for the Well Community. The night will include a Christmas banquet, time of worship, Christmas carols and a live Santa - in person to hand out gift cards. Please recruit your small group or Sunday school class and help us reach our goal of collecting 90 target gift cards by December 19th. Our community members survive on an average of \$650 a month, received in the form of a Social Security Check.

\$50 Target Gift Cards

can be purchased at
www.target.com or
at one of several local
Target retailers. Gift
cards can be delivered
to the Well Community
at 125 Sunset Ave.
Dallas, Texas 75208.

All donations are tax deductible. Email
info@wellcommunity.org for donation receipts.



As many of our community members are not in contact with their family, without your gift, they would not receive anything for Christmas this year. Your contribution of a \$50 target gift card makes it possible for members of the Well Community to receive a gift this holiday season.

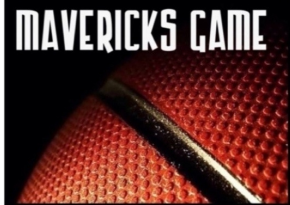
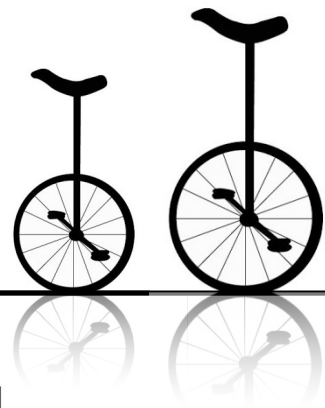


**Come hear the the "Leaky Faucets" (the Well's band)
and our choir perform live at Cliff Temple's Annual
"Community Christmas Concert"**

December 8th at 5pm in the Sanctuary at CTBC.

Community Life

Recent & Upcoming Events in the Life of the Well



September 23rd

Community Members and Journey Church together attended the Dallas Maverick's preseason opener.



December 4th

The Well's First Annual Community Celebration and Benefit Concert.



October 7th

the Well enjoyed the State Fair of Texas.



December 8th

the Well's Choir will perform at Cliff Temple's Annual Community Christmas Concert



November 13

Community Members tri to Mt. Lebanon for the annual Fall Retreat.



December 19th

the Well will hold its 2013 Christmas Party.



November 21st

FBCF honored the Well at all three of its Sunday morning worship services. Josh spoke and several Community members shared testimonies.



The New T-Shirts Are In

Email info@wellcommunity.org for ordering information. t-shirts are \$25.

Contact Us:

phone: (214) 393-5878
fax: (214) 942-8606

125 Sunset Ave.
Dallas, Texas 75208

info@wellcommunity.org

and please visit our website for more information, www.wellcommunity.org



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