

## Our Church History

The history of Weber Road Church of Christ began with the Furman and Staples Church of Christ, which was for many years the only congregation of the Lord's church in Corpus Christi.

The Furman Avenue church originated in 1898 with the members meeting in homes and later in the old Courthouse. The first permanent meeting place was on Leopard Street. In 1907, the church moved to Furman and Staples in a small wooden building, which was destroyed in the 1919 hurricane. A stucco building was erected in 1920 and enlarged in about 1925.

As the years passed and the membership increased, the need for more space became necessary. A group left and started a congregation in Hillcrest and some years later merged with Annville to become the Arlington Heights Church of Christ. In about 1932, another group left and started the Ayers Street Church of Christ. In 1949, some of the Furman Avenue members joined others in starting the Norton Street Church of Christ. In 1955, others helped start Windsor Park Church of Christ, now Kings Crossing.

Our facilities were still inadequate, including parking space, and there was no way to enlarge the building at Furman and Staples. The church purchased the Weber Road property. At this time it seemed we would be out in the country, but the area soon began to build up around us.

Groundbreaking ceremonies were held in October 1959 and construction began that month. We met for the first time in our new church home on May 8, 1960. Henry McBroom was our preacher at this time, and he moved with us to Weber Road. He was with us from 1959 to the end of 1963. George Pledger served as our preacher from 1964 until 2010, 46 years of sound and loving service along with his wife, Evelyn. After serving for 20 years as Youth Minister, Mark Hammitt began to serve as pulpit minister in 2010. Mark and his wife, Denise, enjoy working with the Weber Road family.

We have many successful programs including the youth program. Youth Ministers who have served: Paul O'Rear (1984-1989), Mark Hammitt (1990-2010), Christian Torres (2012-2017), Kenneth Pinckley (2018-current). Weber's youth participate in many activities including an annual Bible Bowl, annual Youth Rally, summer camp, VBS, weekly Bible Hour, devotionals, service projects Family Nights, and much more! Stephen Charlebois (2017-current) is our part time Families for Christ Minister serving families with children 5th grade and under.

We have always helped those in need in our community, but in 2012 we began a Food Pantry supplied, maintained and distributed by our members. The food is accompanied by Prayer

and encouragement to study and visit our assemblies of worship. We also have an active group of seniors known as "The Classics". They keep a full calendar of activities that provide opportunity for fellowship to those near 55 and older. "Meals from the Heart" is a program which provides food to our members who are recovering from surgery or illness or those new moms among us. Food Groups ensure we have a delicious meal to help comfort those who have lost a loved one. There are many more programs on-going at Weber Road! There is a place for every member to serve the Lord here.

Another important part of Weber Road is work in the Mission Fields! We work to spread the gospel by various means, such as, supporting men to become preachers as they attend Preaching Schools in Colorado, Tennessee, Texas and Haiti; and supporting missionaries around the world. Currently we have mission works in Africa, Russia, Colombia, Haiti, the Holy Lands, and Jamaica. These efforts are overseen by a busy Mission Committee made up of our members. We also continue to preach the gospel through local TV programs and World Bible School. These programs have resulted in many souls being converted and many congregations of the Lord's church have been strengthened throughout the world! "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." Mark 16:15

