

The Christian Chronicle

Rev. Darrell Vandervort, Minister
Greg Holmes, Music Director

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

(Disciples of Christ)

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Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:00

June 2007 Number 6



We are now 50 years old as a congregation. In human terms this places us in mid-life, a time when

we look forward to the nearing retirement and a well earned rest. But the Church is not a human being! In reality, as a part of the body of Christ, we are in our childhood, maybe getting ready to start school, to learn new things, make new friends, and start to grow up.

During our celebration on June 10th, we will remember all who came before us and share in stories and pictures of our past. We will get reacquainted with old friends and introduce the newer members of the church to our heritage. But what about the next 50 years?

As we reach this milestone of 50 years, we must also begin to look at the future role this congregation will play in our community. We need to stop, pray, listen, commune, and fellowship with a desire to find God's challenge for the next decade and beyond.

This does not mean that we will not worship, that we will not meet for fellowship dinners, that we will not meet for Sunday school or fellowship groups. However, it does mean we must begin looking around us, at our neighborhood, our community and learn its needs. We must also look at ourselves and see what we are doing and are not doing. We must seek God's guidance into the future and begin to set a vision that allows our church to best meet the call of God.

We will not be setting a plan that must be followed step by step, but rather chart a course into tomorrow with the knowledge that as God guides us, we will alter course. We will get back on track, improve our ability to make the journey, and embrace the travelers that journey with us.

Fear will attempt to overwhelm this effort. We do not like change, yet we know that change must occur that we may live. Fear will tell us that every plan must be rock solid and allow little opportunity for alteration. However, this congregation is a living family and we need to be flexible. We will need to explore and reach out in new and different ways. We will need to take our steps in faith that God will lead us and guide our steps back to the path when we stray.

As we enter the summer, be prepared to think about these things, to pray about them, and to get together to talk about them. There will be tools that are provided and tools that we have, but either have not used in a while or not used for this purpose. We will do these things for two reasons.

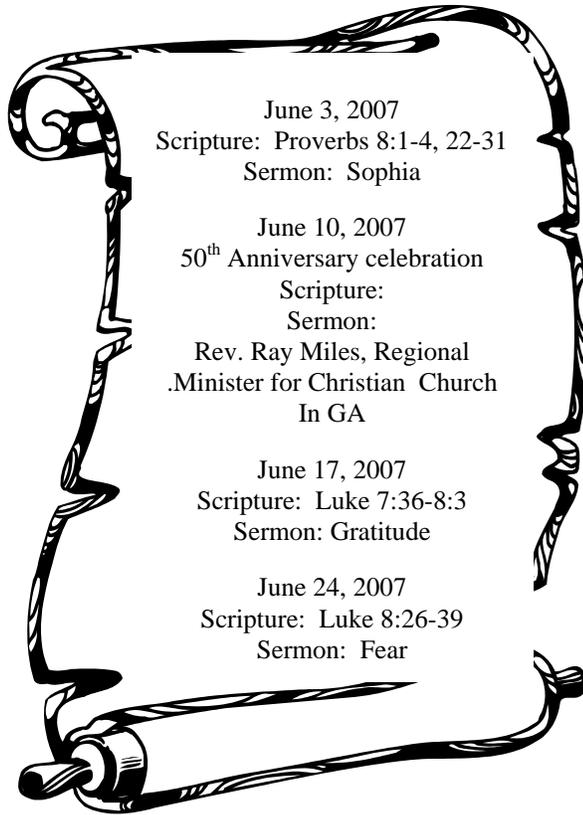
Reason One: God has called us to be a church in this community; a church of compassionate, thinking people who love God and one another. A church that strives to love and not judge, to embrace instead of push away. Are we doing this to the level God asks of us? Or is there more that we can do?

Reason Two: We are celebrating 50 years, and we need to chart our course for the next 50 years. If we do this, in 50 years, some of us will be invited to return and take part in the Centennial Celebration of First Christian Church in Warner Robins. I want it to be a celebration filled with the joy of

past ministries and the servants God has given us as traveling companions and to add to the heritage of the saints who established this church and its early vision.

Are you ready to ask God's guidance for the road ahead and to begin to set the course for the future? What a wonderful adventure it will be.

Shalom, *Darrell*



JUNE ELDERS & DEACONS

The Elders and Deacons scheduled for the month of July are: Elders – Jo Smith and Irv Shaw and Deacons – Ann Von Almen, David Von Almen, Stephen Harper and Terry Harper..



CMF BREAKFAST

There will be no Men's breakfast during July and August. The next breakfast will be on September 1st at 8:00. We look forward to seeing everyone then.

CHURCH PANTRY NEEDS

Paper towels
 Coffee
 39 gallon trash bags



SAFE HOUSE NEEDS

Paper towels
 Bathroom tissue
 Plastic wrap
 Aluminum Foil
 Gallon storage bags
 Tall kitchen trash bags
 Cleaning products, any kind
 Scrubbers
 Diapers (size large, extra large)
 Baby wipes
 Gas vouchers or gift cards
 Copy paper
 Paper clips
 Scotch tape
 Pens, (green, red, black ink)
 Manila folders
 Large Filing Cabinet

"Thank you again for all that you do for our shelter. It is because of people like you that we continue helping those who need our help and are in need of a safe environment to escape and heal from being abused." Safe House



Feed My Sheep

Our church helps support the local food pantry with non-perishable food items each month. The food pantry helps about 90 families each week. In addition to the 90 lb. We gave in April, we donated 55 lb. In May to the food pantry. Thank you for your support in our church's mission project.



LUNCH BUNCH NEWS

The Lunch Bunch met on May 9th at 2:00 at Ole' Times Country Buffet. Those present were: Bob, Gladys, Diane & Janice Fentem, Glenda & Keith Ewert, Bill & Imogene Bartoe, Evelyn Hawkins, Lonnie & Margaret Hicks, Winona

June 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 2 8:00 Men's Breakfast George Poore
3	4 Board Meeting 7:30 Tom Gilmer	5 8:00 Breakfast at Huddle House Kyla Embrey	6 Bible Study 7:00	7	8	9 Randy & Beth Bickley
10 50th Homecoming Celebration Tommy/Ashlie Scissons Forrest Schultz	11	12 8:00 Breakfast at Huddle House Model Club 7:00	13 The Lunch Bunch 2:00 Bible Study 7:00	14 Choir Practice 7:00	15 Nicole Hicks	16 Russ & Judy Cooper
17 Carter Noide	18	19 8:00 Breakfast at Huddle House	20 Bible Study 7:00	21 CWF Grace 6:30 Kathryn Peters	22	23
24 "Feed My Sheep" Sunday	25	26 8:00 Breakfast at Huddle House	27 Chris Rogers Bible Study 7:00	28 Choir Practice 7:00	29	30 Denny McReynolds

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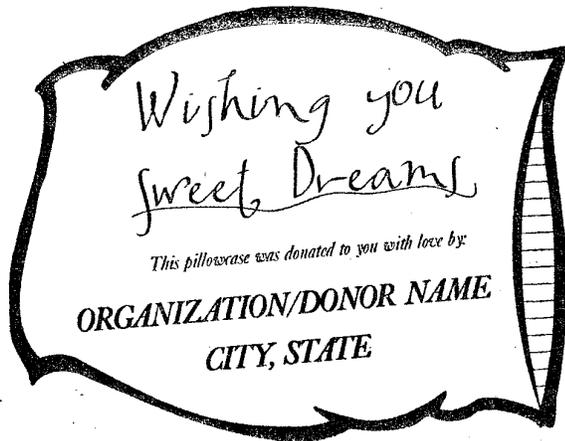
Smith, David Von Almen and Curtis & Nadine Scaggs. The next meeting will be on June 13th at Ole Times Country Buffet at 2:00 p.m.



CWF GRACE GROUP

CWF met on Thursday, May 17th. Eight ladies attended. Following the business meeting, the program was given by Brenda McReynolds. It was called "The Wisdom of Creativity and Celebration." Phyllis Fitzpatrick provided a delicious assortment of snacks for refreshments. We meet again on June 14th for a covered dish meal at 6:30. All ladies are invited to join us each month.

Sweet Dreams Successful Pillowcase Ministry Needs More Pillowcases



Generous people here in Warner Robins have been donating pillowcases to different Children's Hospitals in the area for the past two years. The director of the CURE Foundation, which provides support for children with cancer and for childhood cancer research for Egleston/Scottish Rite Hospital in Atlanta, is requesting more pillowcases to meet the demand. If you would like to bring some cheer and comfort to children away from home receiving medical treatment, you can be a part of this pillow case ministry.

The pillowcases must be:

- New

- Unwashed
- They can be:
- Colorful, in a variety of patterns for both boys and girls.
 - Embroidered, but cannot have anything glued on them.

All pillowcases will be ironed and labeled with the name of the person or organization responsible for their donation. The message wishes the recipient sweet dreams and best wishes and informs the parents that the pillowcase is made of new, unwashed material.

If you would like to be part of this wonderful project for children, you may bring new pillowcases to the Fellowship Hall and lay them on the table next to the double doors going out to the sidewalk. They will be forwarded to children who will love their very own special pillowcase that someone sent to them with love.

Thank you for your help!

A huge "thank you" goes to everyone who came to church on Clean up Day and to those who worked at different times during the past weeks to make things look better for Homecoming. You are very appreciated.



Congratulations to Stephen Harper who graduates from Northside High School and has been accepted at Macon State College and to Chris Rogers who also graduates from Northside High School and is planning to attend Macon State College. Tommy Scissons received his Accounting diploma from Middle GA Tech.

Church Bloopers

Office News – We now have a wifeless Internet service.

Please fill out a visitor's card and return it to the Hostility Committee.

HOW YOU'RE LIKE A PENCIL

Did you know that you are like a pencil? Here's how:

1. Like a pencil, you can correct your mistakes. You can't change the past, but you can rectify it. And though you can't erase history, you can erase guilt and anger with forgiveness.
2. Like a pencil, painful sharpening can serve to make you better. Your difficult times can actually sharpen your skills or shape you into the person you were meant to be.
3. Like a pencil, you can do great things when you allow yourself to be held in Someone's hand.
4. Like a pencil, you can leave your mark whenever possible. That is what you're here for—to leave your mark. It may be in small ways, it may be in the lives of people you have touched or nurtured, but you must leave something good behind whenever you can.
5. Like a pencil, it is what is on the inside that matters. Whether it is understanding or intolerance, love or bitterness, peace or unrest, kindness or self-centeredness, hope or despair, courage or fear, what is on the inside matters most

Next time you use a pencil, pause and think about that little writing tool. It teaches some great lessons about living.

Steve Goodier

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