

# The Christian Chronicle

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Greg Holmes, Music Director

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

*(Disciples of Christ)*

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Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:00

August 2007 Number 8



Once upon a time, there were the structures attached to the front of houses. Most often they

had a floor and a roof and this fence like enclosure around the outer edge that reached to about the waist of an average adult. Several stairs led up to an opening in the front of the fence like barrier and corresponded with the location of the house's front door. It was not uncommon to find chairs and even a swinging seat in this structure. It was called a front porch. People would sit outside on cool evenings and visit with passing neighbors or gather together on a neighboring porch and sit and talk.

Then prime time was created, followed by answering machines, cell phones and instant messaging. Front porches became smaller or disappeared completely. Face to face communication slipped away into the realm of the archaic.

A colleague shared a story about a youth mission trip. During the beginning of the trip the youth hardly spoke to one another because they were all busily text messaging one another with their cell phones. About a day away from their destination all the cell phones were collected and locked away, amid much complaining, for the duration of the trip to the mission. The phones would be returned on the way home. It took awhile, but soon the youth started talking to one another verbally. The week flew by and they left to come home. After about the second day on the road one of the youth

said, "Oh yeah, when do we get our phones back?" The phones were passed out and within hours, conversation surrendered to the beeping of text messages being composed.

Even this column is being written on a computer to be sent by e-mail so that it can be printed and sent by mail to other people. No face to face discussion. As a church, we need to live in community. Not a wired community only, but a face to face community. We need opportunities to gather together and share in worship and fellowship and mission. We need to gather with old friends and new friends. We need to gather with people our own ages and with people of a variety of ages. We need to gather to pray and to listen.

I grant that this kind of expectation demands the sacrifice of your time. You may not always have things occur as they would in your own home. You may have to risk welcoming strangers into your circle. This is what Jesus did.

As a church, as people of Christ, we are the body of Christ in this community and for each other. If, as we have claimed at the time of our baptism and sometimes reaffirmed when we change churches, we accept Jesus as Savior and agree to strive to walk closely along God's Way, this is among the changes we make to our life and lifestyle. Our commitment to God was not for one or two hours per week, but rather for our complete lives, our entire being, all that we are or will ever become.

When you have a family of faith, you have a resource of people to whom you may turn in

a time of challenge. A church family is supposed to be available for each other when we need prayer support. We are to help each other as best we can, even when we don't always agree on everything.

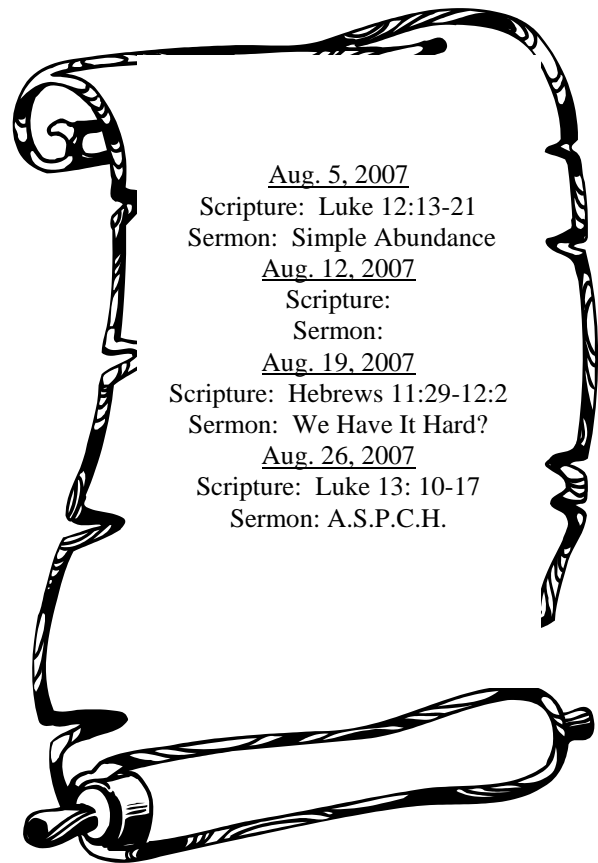
But we must be very diligent and intentional about it. We cannot sit back and wait for a call. We have to create opportunities to build the kind of trust and relationship that is needed. It can happen on Sunday morning before and after worship, if we talk to more than just the same small circles of friends. It can happen at carry-in dinners if we strive to sit with a variety of different people each month. It can happen in Sunday School as a class wrestles with the lesson and the questions it stimulates. It can occur in fellowship gatherings like CWF, Chi Rho and CYF, men's breakfasts, Tuesday morning breakfast and the Lunch Bunch. It can happen in new ways as well.

Is a deeper relationship with God and with our church family worth another couple of hours per week? Can you spare the time to help become a congregation led by the spirit of God in service and fellowship as well as worship? Does the hour in front of the TV or on the Internet answer your questions and meet the needs of your life? Then why not become a complete part of the presence of God in this place?

Shalom, *Darrell*

### **AUGUST ELDERS & DEACONS**

The Elders and Deacons scheduled for the month of August are: Elders – Randy Bickley & Lois Crawford and Deacons – Beth Bickley, Chris Rogers, Gidget Hurlbert and Nicole Crofutt.



### **CMF BREAKFAST**

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

### **CHURCH PANTRY NEEDS**

Coffee  
9 oz. cold cups  
Paper towels



### **SAFE HOUSE NEEDS**

Office supplies (typing paper, manilla folders, staples, gem clips, white out, scotch tape)  
Heavy duty aluminum foil  
Dish towels

Dish detergent  
 Automatic dish washer detergent  
 Face towels & hand towels  
 Twin sheets  
 Seasonings: Salt, Pepper, Seasoning  
 salt, Garlic powder, Accent  
 Games for small children (3-6 years  
 old)



### Feed My Sheep

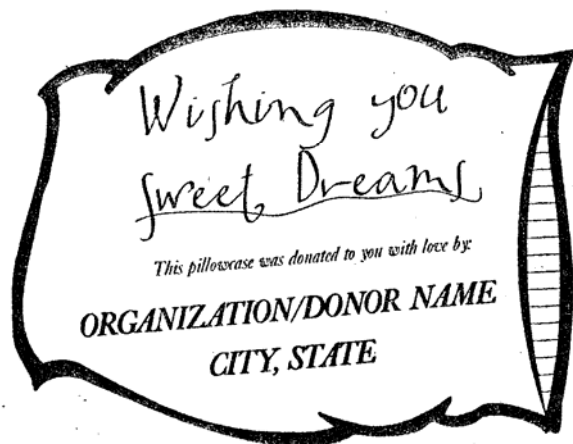
Our church helps support the local food pantry with non-perishable food items each month. The food pantry helps about 90 families each week. We have recently given about 95 pounds to the food pantry. We gave 75# in July. Thank you for your support in our church's mission project.



### LUNCH BUNCH NEWS

The Lunch Bunch met on July 11<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 at Ole' Times Country Buffet. Those present were: Nadine, Curtis & Lewis Scaggs, Margaret & Lonnie Hicks, Glenda & Keith Ewert, Imogene Bartoe and Winona Smith. The next meeting will be on August 8<sup>th</sup> at Ole Times Country Buffet at 2:00 p.m.

*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.



### CWF GRACE GROUP

We will resume our monthly meetings on Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 with a covered dish meal. All ladies are invited to join us each month.

# August 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Bible Study 7:00 <b>Bill Daviss</b>	2 <b>Taylor Hicks</b> <b>Kathy Lawson</b>	3	4
5	6 Board Meeting 7:30	7 8:00 Breakfast at Huddle House <b>Denny &amp; Brenda</b> <b>McReynolds</b>	8 Bible Study 7:00 Lunch Bunch 2:00	9 Choir Practice 7:00	10	11
12 <b>Bill Bartoe</b>	13	14 8:00 Breakfast at Huddle House Model Club 7:00	15 Bible Study 7:00	16	17 <b>John Wilkinson</b>	18 <b>Ben &amp; Doreen</b> <b>Campbell</b>
19 Fellowship Dinner 6:00	20 <b>Stephen Harper</b> <b>Joe Lombardo</b>	21 8:00 Breakfast at Huddle House	22 Bible Study 7:00	23 Choir Practice 7:00	24 <b>Vesta Wilkinson</b> <b>Grace Jordan</b>	25 <b>Irv Shaw</b>
26 "Feed My Sheep" Sunday <b>David Von Almen</b>	27 <b>Tom &amp; Linda</b> <b>Gilmer</b>	28 8:00 Breakfast at Huddle House <b>Mike &amp; Mary</b> <b>Jane Rogers</b>	29 Bible Study 7:00 <b>Shannon Bosarge</b>	30	31	



## **DIRECTIONS HOME**

**As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.**

## **DIRECTIONS TO OUR FATHER'S HOUSE**

**Make a Right turn onto Believeth Blvd. Keep straight and go through the Green Light, which is Jesus Christ. There, you must turn onto the Bridge of Faith, which is over troubled water. When you get off the bridge, make a Right turn and Keep Straight. You are on the King's Highway – Heaven-bound. Keep going for three miles: One for the Father, One for the Son, and One for the Holy Ghost. Then exit off onto Grace Blvd. From there, make a Right turn on Gospel Lane. Keep Straight and then make another Right turn on Prayer Road. As you go on your way, yield not to the traffic on Temptation Ave. Also, avoid SIN STREET because it is a DEAD END. Pass up Envy Drive, and Hate Avenue. Also, pass Hypocrisy Street, Gossiping Lane, and Backbiting Blvd. However, you have to go down Long-suffering Lane, Persecution Blvd. and Trials and Tribulations Ave. But that's all right, because VICTORY STREET is straight ahead! AMEN!!!!**

**Give these directions to your friends and family so they will not get lost.**

**Life is God's gift to you.**

**The way you live it.....is your gift to God.**

**Author Unknown**

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