

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

October 2007 Number 10



Everyone has a pair of old, comfortable shoes, or an old, comfortable item of clothing; the type of item

that may look terrible, but when you need to be comforted or just want to truly relax, it is the item you put on. It may be old, battered, scuffed, ratty, tattered, and holey, but it has the ability to calm nerves, provide real rest, and embrace your being. Your family will not be seen in public with you while you are dressed that way, but you don't care.

For a lot of people, church is just like that. We want everything to fit comfortably. We want it to not rub, touch, or bind. We want it to be very familiar. However, just as we have more clothes than our old "comfies," we need more from our church, similar to what a cat seeks lying in a sunny window. We need our church to embrace us and secure us, but we also need to be challenged and encouraged to deepen our relationship with God by following the example of Jesus more and more.

Church is where we deepen existing relationships and build new relationships. We usually prefer to hang out with people our own ages or people with similar interests; yet the church is a family. All families have people of different ages. What mother wants to give birth to an adult (talk about labor). We learn and grow ourselves as we help guide and nurture the next generations. We are blessed from mentors who become friends and family. As we get older, we may not be able to keep up with children and teens, but we can learn from them, and we can be

inspired by them. Look at the example of sportsmanship demonstrated by the WRALL team after they won the World Championship in baseball. Rather than continuing their celebration, they ran over and embraced and literally lifted their competitors. This is how the church functions best. How many generations do we spend time with in church, not counting the generations who arrive in the same car?

Our faith is not something that we collect and keep. Some people have a hobby of collectibles. These items, for greatest value, are purchased and then are never removed from their packaging, or are stored where they can be protected from damage of any kind. Collectors of some toys never remove them from their boxes, but display them in a way that resembles an in-store display for purchase. These toys are never played with; they are never handled for fun. They are looked at and admired without physical contact.

Our faith is to be taken out and enjoyed. It is to be put to use. It may get banged up and bruised, but it will heal and become stronger for it. It may get challenged and laughed at, but again, it will grow stronger. Its value is not increased by admiration, nor by aging; rather its value is measured in how it is put to use day to day. It will not be the same as it was when you first became a Christian. It will be richer with more texture and color, more depth and dimension.

The point of all of this is that we must be open and creative in building opportunities to spend time together as a church family. We need to worship together, pray together, play together, and work together.

Not once or twice a year, but as often as is possible. As we dream, pray and share seeking our "Kingdom Potential", we need to move out of our comfortable clothes, take our faith off its shelf and exchange what we find comforting and faithful with others in our great church family.

Shalom, *Darrell*

OCT. ELDERS & DEACONS

The Elders and Deacons scheduled for the month of October are: Elders – Jerri Bosarge and Deacons – Nicole Hicks, Doreen Campbell, Kody Campbell and Wayne Scaggs.



CMF BREAKFAST

The CMF monthly breakfast was held on Saturday, September 8th, at 8:00. Five attendees enjoyed a delicious breakfast prepared by Ann and David Von Almen and also enjoyed fellowship together. They will meet again on October 6th. Every man is invited to come, eat & share in the fellowship.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

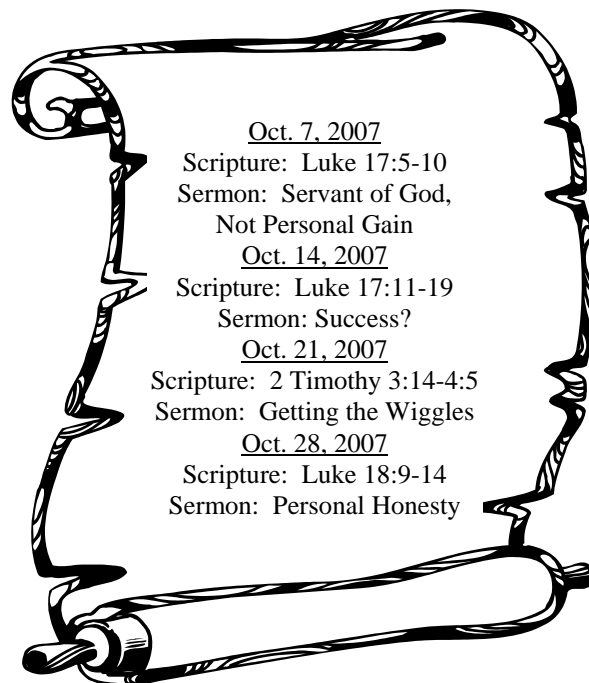
On September 16th, we had a special Sunday School kick-off in the fellowship hall with doughnuts and juice. Then we set off to our classrooms.

The new children's classes began on this day. Nicole Crofutt is teaching the Middle Elementary children, and she had three students in her new class. Juliet Nolde is teaching the Preschool-Kindergarten children, and she had four students in her new class. All children are welcome every Sunday, and the teachers can adapt for ages not specifically in those age ranges. The curriculum being used is called "HeartShaper" by Standard Publishing. It teaches traditional Bible stories with exciting interactive activities.

Join us on Sundays for Sunday School! There is a class for everyone. We have an

adult class that studies the Bible, the meanings of the text and how it applies to us today. A new adult class is in the works with Gidget Hurlbert leading it. Rev. Darrell leads the pre-teen/teenagers class. They always have a good time.

Sunday School starts at 10:00 a.m. each Sunday, and everyone is welcome! Let's learn together.



Oct. 7, 2007

Scripture: Luke 17:5-10
Sermon: Servant of God,
Not Personal Gain

Oct. 14, 2007

Scripture: Luke 17:11-19
Sermon: Success?

Oct. 21, 2007

Scripture: 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5
Sermon: Getting the Wiggles

Oct. 28, 2007

Scripture: Luke 18:9-14
Sermon: Personal Honesty

CHURCH PANTRY NEEDS

Paper towels
Bathroom Tissue

SAFE HOUSE NEEDS



Slippers (all sizes) for women and children
Canned goods
Cleaning supplies
Heavy Duty mops and brooms
Pillows
Bath towels & wash cloths
Twin sheets
Full size sheets (two sets)
Paper Products
Laundry Detergent & Bleach
Fabric Softner
Dish Soap

Tall Kitchen bags
 Plastic sandwich bags
 Tin Foil and Plastic Wrap
 Disinfectant sprays
 Tylenol for adults and children
 Cold medicine and band aids
 Baby lotion, baby oil
 Body lotion

Printing paper, manila folders
 Paper cutters, red, black & green pens
 Scotch tape, thumb tacks, paper clips

We thank you all so much for all you do for our shelter. We ask also that your congregation keep our shelter in your prayers & continue to support our task to bring some sense of safety to victims of domestic violence. Again we thank you from the bottom of our hearts. God bless you for all you do for our shelter. Safe House Staff



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 170 pounds to the food pantry. We gave 41# in August. Thank you for your support in our church's mission project.



LUNCH BUNCH NEWS

The Lunch Bunch met on Sep. 12th at 2:00 at Ole' Times Country Buffet. Those present were: Carl Shaw, David Von Almen, Bill & Imogene Bartoe, Winona Smith, Keith & Glenda Ewert and Lonnie & Margaret Hicks. The next meeting will be on Oct 10th at Ole Times Country Buffet at 2:00 p.m.



CWF GRACE GROUP

The CWF Grace Group met on Sep. 19th with a covered dish meal. Eleven ladies attended. The theme for the coming year is "Come to the Table."

We will be studying South Korea. Lois Crawford gave the Study and Worship lessons. The title was "Preparing the Table." Retreat will begin on October 12th. Blessing box money needs to be turned in no later than Oct. 7th.

HALLOWEEN PARTY COME ONE-COME ALL



Everyone is invited to a Halloween Party for all ages! This will take place in the fellowship hall on Sunday, Oct. 28th from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. There will be games, fun, food and fellowship for all who attend.

God Always answers prayers

When the idea is not right, God says, "No."

- No-when the idea is not the best.
- No-when the idea is absolutely wrong.
- No-when though it may help you, it could create problems for someone else.

When the time is not right, God says "Slow". What a catastrophe it would be if God answered every prayer at the snap of your fingers. Do you know what would happen? God would become your servant. Suddenly, God would be working for you instead of you working for God.

Remember: God's delays are not God's denials. God's timing is perfect. Patience is what we need in prayer.

When you are not right, God says, "Grow."

- The selfish person has to grow in unselfishness.
- The cautious person must grow courage.
- The timid person must grow in confidence.
- The dominating person must grow in sensitivity.
- The critical person must grow in tolerance.
- The negative person must grow in a positive attitude.
- The pleasure-seeking person must grow in compassion for suffering people.

Be blessed wherever you are in your life today! God has His hands on the situation!

October 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Christopher Von Almen	2 8:00 Breakfast at Huddle House Mike & Gidget Hurlbert	3 Bible Study 7:00	4	5 Thomas Scissons	6 8:00 Men's Breakfast
7	8 Board Meeting 7:30	9 8:00 Breakfast at Huddle House Model Club 7:00	10 Lunch Bunch 2:00 Bible Study 7:00 Scott & Juliet Nolde	11 Choir Practice 7:00	12	13
14 Pursuing the Full Kingdom Potential 7:00 John & Vesta Wilkinson	15	16 8:00 Breakfast at Huddle House	17 Bible Study 7:00 Sonia Shaw	18 CWF Grace 7:30 Sylvia Lord	19	20
21 Fellowship Dinner 6:00 Choir Practice	22	23 8:00 Breakfast at Huddle House	24 Bible Study 7:00	25 Choir Practice 7:00 Shaye Holmes Norbert Duncan	26	27
28 Halloween Party 6:00-8:00 "Feed My Sheep" Sunday Ann Von Almen	29	30 8:00 Breakfast at Huddle House	31 Bible Study 7:00 Curtis Scaggs			

WISHING YOU A WORRY-FREE DAY TODAY

There are two days in every week about which we should not worry. One of these days is Yesterday with all its mistakes and cares, its faults and blunders, its aches and pains. We cannot undo a single act we performed; we cannot erase a single word we said. Yesterday is gone forever.

The other day we should not worry about is Tomorrow with all its possible adversities, its burdens, its large promise and its poor performance; Tomorrow is also beyond our immediate control. Tomorrow's sun will rise, either in splendor or behind a mask of clouds, but it will rise. Until it does, we have no stake in Tomorrow, for it is yet to be born.

This leaves only one day, Today. Any person can fight the battle of just one day. It is when you and I add the burdens of those two awful eternities, Yesterday and Tomorrow that we break down.

Live but one day at a time!

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