

The Christian Chronicle

Rev. Darrell Vandervort, Pastor
Lisa Lombardo, Music Director

Pastor's Corner

All of March is in the season of Lent. In the Christian year there are two periods of anticipation and preparation

for what is to come. Advent prepares us for Christmas; Lent prepares us for Easter.

Lent is not to be thought of as Advent is mistakenly seen as the last shopping and party period before Christmas. Lent is the time of self-transformation as we prepare to journey to the empty tomb and encounter the definitive act of God proclaiming the full authority of the Kingdom of God on Earth.

Caesar Augustus was proclaimed to be "Son of God (Apollo's son)," divinely conceived, "Lord," and "Prince of Peace." Easter is the culmination of Jesus' proclamation that the "Kingdom of God is at hand." God has said no to Caesar and yes to Jesus. Now we must make ourselves ready to affirm with God that "Yes".

We do this by deepening our relationship with God. By examining the things that separate us and beginning to set them aside, we draw closer to God and thus to the "Way" of Jesus. In place of the things that separate, we add disciplines which draw us nearer, such as prayer, study, and service. If this sounds like something that will change who you are right now, you are correct. We should be seeking transformation or as it is mentioned in the Bible, "born again".

As Christians, we are to draw closer to God and love the same things that God loves, the Creation, Justice, and Righteousness. God made us stewards of the Creation. We are responsible for it as if it were a part of ourselves, a very near and dear part of ourselves. We are called to seek justice; there is no room for vengeance in justice. Justice is

seeking to provide the welcome and support to all the Children of God regardless of their social, political, racial, or any other labeled position. Righteousness is striving to live a life of love and justice in all that we say and do. It means to serve others before we serve ourselves.

Easter is next month. Are you prepared? There is still time to get to the work of transformation. We can all work on it together.

Shalom, *Darrell*



Feed My Sheep

We gave about 632 pounds of food to the local food pantry in 2008. We have given 74 lbs. so far in 2009. The Food pantry serves about 90 families in our area every week.

March 1, 2009

Scripture: Mark 1:9-15
Sermon: Repent and Believe

March 8, 2009

Scripture: Mark 8:31-38
Sermon: The Cross I Bear

March 15, 2009

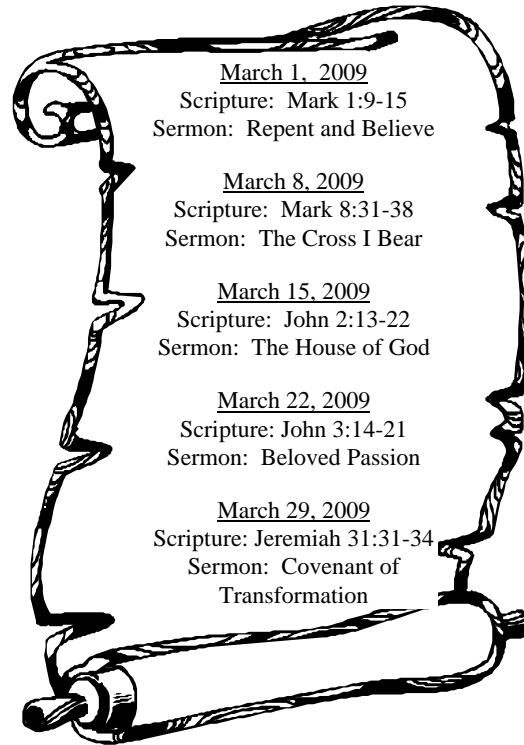
Scripture: John 2:13-22
Sermon: The House of God

March 22, 2009

Scripture: John 3:14-21
Sermon: Beloved Passion

March 29, 2009

Scripture: Jeremiah 31:31-34
Sermon: Covenant of Transformation



MARCH ELDERS & DEACONS

The Elders and Deacons scheduled to serve in March are: Elders – Tony Hicks & Scott Nolde and Deacons – Ann Von Almen, Nicole Hicks, Jerri Bosarge, & Barbara Hicks.



CMF BREAKFAST



The CMF met on Sat., February 7th. There were eleven people attending the breakfast prepared by Ann and David Von Almen. They will meet again on March 7th at 8:00 in the Fellowship Hall. All men are invited.

MARCH NURSERY WORKERS

March 1	Mike Hurlbert
March 8	Melissa and Angie H.
March 15	Ruth Griffith
March 22	Nicole Crofutt
March 29	Jo Smith



LUNCH BUNCH NEWS

The Lunch Bunch met on Feb. 11th at 2:00 at Ole' Times Country Buffet. Those

in attendance were: Carl Shaw, David Von Almen, Bob, Gladys, Janice & Diane Fentem, Curtis & Nadine Scaggs, Lois Crawford, Winona Smith, Juanita & Corey Gunnin, and Lonnie & Margaret Hicks. The next gathering will be at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 11th at Ole Times Country Buffet.

CHURCH CLEAN UP DAY



The Property Committee has planned the spring workday for Saturday, March 28th, 2009. Breakfast will be served beginning at 8:00 a.m. (this will also serve as the April men's breakfast). We have plenty of work that needs to be done to get our facilities ready for Easter and the summer. Please come and help us clean up the church and church grounds.

CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ)

The Symbol

The red chalice bearing the "X" shaped Cross of St. Andrew, which has come to be the symbol of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), was developed in 1969. The chalice symbolized the centrality of the Lord's Supper as well as the cup of Christian self-giving for the world.

The St. Andrew's Cross, the national cross of Scotland, focuses attention on the Scottish Presbyterian roots of the church. Thomas and Alexander Campbell both studied in Scotland and were Presbyterians, drawing many of their ideas from developments taking place in that country. St. Andrew, too, has been identified with the laity and evangelism, prominent emphases of the Disciples over the years.

Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Since 1968 when the Provisional Design was accepted by the General Assembly, the name of the denomination has been Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). The compound name recognized the historical coming together of two movements in 1832.

The "Christian Church" part of the name stems from the church's Kentucky ancestry and Barton W. Stone, whose followers there dissolved their Presbyterian relationship in favor of a church less complicated, less dedicated to the use of creeds as tests of belief and more to the reunion of Christians.

Thomas and Alexander Campbell, whose movement to restore Christian unity developed similarly but separately in Western Pennsylvania, rebelled against dogmatic sectarianism. Campbell chose "Disciples of Christ" because he felt it was less pretentious than "Christian Church".



CHURCH PANTRY NEEDS

Paper towels
39 gallon trash bags
Styrofoam soup bowls
White napkins

Rectangle styrofoam divided plates
Coffee and Creamer



CWF GRACE GROUP

CWF Grace Group met on Feb. 19th at 7:00. There were ten ladies attending. After the business meeting, Brenda McReynolds gave the worship/study lesson, titled "Debts Are Forgiven" taken from Luke. Brenda was also the hostess. Our next meeting will be on Thurs., March 19th at 6:00. This will be our quarterly covered deah meal.

Our annual Valentine Dinner was a huge success. Approximately 60 people attended the dinner. Virginia Hebenstreit was the recipient of the door prize, a white basket filled with heart shaped helium balloons and a large frog sitting among the balloons. We made a profit of \$216.06, and we thank and appreciate everyone who came to the dinner and supported our group.

We will be hosting the District Spring Conference this year. It will be held on Saturday, April 4th.

On Saturday, April 25 we will have a yard sale from 8:00-2:00. Please keep your yard sale items at your home until April 19th. You may bring those items to church between Sunday, April 19th and Wednesday, April 22nd. That is the deadline for bringing items to church. We no longer have storage space to keep yard sale items long term. We cannot accept any electronics, computers, exercise equipment or large furniture. Please make sure all items are clean.



VALENTINE PARTY

On Saturday, Feb. 14th, the Chi Rho and CYF hosted a Valentine Party for the children of the church. Parents brought their children to the Fellowship Hall at 4:00 p.m. and left them until 8:00 p.m. The youth provided games and entertainment as well as dinner. The youth wanted to give this Valentine gift to the families with young children so the parents could enjoy Valentine's Day without having their children along or having to find and pay a sitter. There were four Youth and one adult helping and seven children attending the party.



CWF M&M GROUP

The M&M Group met on Feb. 26th. We have changed our meeting date to the 4th Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We began a new Bible study called The Friendships of Women: The Beauty and Power of God's Plan for Us by Dee Brestin. All women are welcome and are encouraged to join us. If you have questions about the group, please call Juliet Nolde at 478-342-0356 or email at jwnolde@gmail.com.

SUPER SOUP SUNDAY

The CWF M&M Group is hosting a fundraiser on Sunday, March 1st, immediately after church called "Super Soup Sunday". Families, enter your favorite soup and win the title of "Super Soup"! The M&M Group will furnish cornbread, rolls, crackers, and PB&J sandwiches. Dessert donations of brownies and cookies are requested. Judging will be done on the best soup. Bring your spare change to vote for your favorite soup. All funds raised will go towards church improvements.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our church is growing and we need to increase the number of our children's Sunday School classes. Educating children through the teachings in the Bible is an important part of the church. Would you consider teaching one of the classes to help raise our children in the ways of Christ? Pray! Think! Look at the cute, smart kids in our church. If you would like to help, please call Juliet Nolde at 478-342-0356 or email at jwnolde@gmail.com. Thank you!

ACOLYTES

The Acolyte program officially started on February 22nd. We need Acolytes! As the prelude begins, the Acolytes bring in the lit tapers, symbolizing the presence of God, and light the candles on both sides of the altar and then extinguish the tapers. This symbolizes God's presence in our worship. During the invitation hymn, the Acolytes come forward, light the tapers, extinguish the candles, and

wait with Rev. Darrell for the blessing and charge; then with him, symbolically take the light of God out into the world, going before us, to do His work. Anyone interested in becoming an Acolyte, please contact Juliet Nolde at 478-342-0356 or email at jwnolde@gmail.com. This is a special part of our worship and all children interested are welcome to participate.



SAFE HOUSE NEEDS

Twin size mattress covers
Pillows

Snacks for children for support group (juice boxes, fruit snacks etc)

Bathroom tissue

Copy paper



Welcome
Our New
Members

Please welcome our newest members, Dwight and Debbie Davis. Dwight hails from North Carolina. He served in the Air Force and retired after serving 20 yrs. His occupation is driving a gas

truck for Florida Rock. He has one son, Robbie, 23 yrs. old. who is active duty Army & serving in Baghdad. He will be returning soon to his home in Mebane, NC. Dwight & Debbie have two grandsons, Hunter, 4 years old, and Hayden, 1 year old, who are wonderful active boys. Dwight loves astronomy, gazing off into the far galaxies. He also has a love for animals, travel, reading, and when he can find time, fishing.

Debbie is originally from California, but has been in the south so long she is officially a transplant now. She works at Robins AF base in the arts and crafts center. She has a daughter, Brandy, 28 years old, on active duty with the Air Force and married to Jason, a mechanic. Last April they became grandparents to granddaughter, Sadie. Debbie loves to quilt, cross-stitch, read and shop. She says she is trying to save our economy single handed.

They both like to travel, mostly to the mountains, Tennessee and North Carolina. They will be celebrating their 5 year anniversary in May. They like living in Warner Robins and enjoy the community and the surrounding areas.

A WISH LIST FOR OUR CHURCH

Nursery:

- New mattress and bedding for baby bed (27 1/4" x 51 5/8")

- 2 toy bins
- curtains/blinds
- new playpen
- changing pad cover/mat
- 2 receiving blankets
- air fresheners for bathroom

Youth Room:

- Trash can
- Entertainment Center
- Nerf basketball
- Snacks for refrigerator



Once upon a time there was a bunch of tiny frogs who arranged a climbing competition. The goal was to reach the top of a very high tower. A big crowd had gathered around the tower to see and cheer on the contestants.

The race began. Honestly: No one in the crowd really believed the frogs would reach the top of the tower. You heard statements such as "Oh, WAY too difficult!!!", or "They will NEVER make it to the top", or "NOT a chance that they will succeed. The tower is too high".

The tiny frogs began collapsing, one by one, except for those, who in a fresh tempo, were climbing higher and higher. The crowd continued to yell, "It is too difficult!!! None will make it." More tiny frogs got tired and gave up. But ONE frog continued higher and higher and higher. This one wouldn't give up!

At the end everyone else had given up climbing, except for the one tiny frog who, after a big effort was the only one who reached the top. THEN all the other tiny frogs naturally wanted to know how this one frog managed to do it. A contestant asked the tiny frog how he had found strength to succeed and reach the goal?

It turned out that the winner was DEAF!!! The wisdom of this story is:

***Never listen to other people's tendencies to be negative or pessimistic.


***Always think of the power words have. Remember everything you hear and read will affect your actions!

***ALWAYS BE POSITIVE!

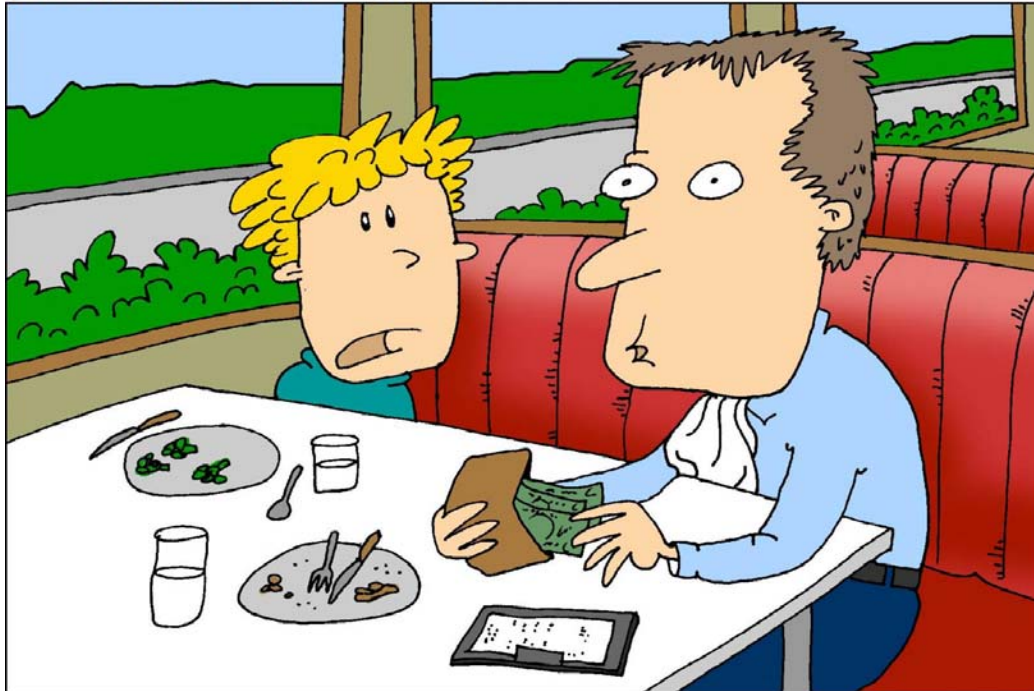
***And above all: Be DEAF when people tell YOU that you cannot make your dreams come true.

***Always think "**GOD AND I CAN DO THIS!**"

March 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 SUPER SOUP SUNDAY ChiRho/CYF 4:00	2 Board Meeting 7:30	3 8:00 Breakfast at Huddle House Bible Study 7:00	4 CPR CLASS 5-8 No Choir Practice <i>Mitchell Thompson</i>	5 <i>Emily Staub</i> <i>Phil Bosarge</i>	6	7 8:00 Men's Breakfast  SET CLOCK AHEAD <i>Donna Staub</i>
8 <i>James Layfield</i>	9	10 8:00 Breakfast at Huddle House Bible Study 7:00 Model Club 7:00 <i>Doreen Campbell</i>	11 Lunch Bunch Meet 2:00 Choir Practice 7:00 <i>Charlie Smith</i>	12	13	14
15 Chi Rho/CYF 4:00 Fellowship Dinner 6:00	16	17 8:00 Breakfast at Huddle House Bible Study 7:00 <i>Evelyn Carroll</i>	18 Choir Practice 7:00 <i>Virginia Hebenstreit</i>	19 CWF Grace Group 6:00 Covered Dish	20 <i>Mike Fitzpatrick</i>	21
22	23 <i>Marsha Vandervort</i> <i>Charlie & Jo Smith</i>	24 8:00 Breakfast at Huddle House Bible Study 7:00 <i>Debbie Davis</i>	25 Choir Practice 7:00 Facilities Committee 7:00	26 CWF M&M Group 7:00	27	28 8:00 Breakfast & Church Clean Up Day <i>Mike Rogers</i>
29 "Feed My Sheep Sunday" ChiRho/CYF 4:00 <i>Sharon-Kay Duncan</i> <i>Mellissa Hebenstreit</i>	30	31				

REVEREND FUN ©GCI, INC.



HOW COME THE WAITRESS GETS 15% AND GOD ONLY GETS 10%?

First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

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Warner Robins, GA 31093

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