

The Christian Chronicle

Rev. Darrell Vandervort, Pastor
Lisa Lombardo, Music Director



As we read about the life of the early church, we hear about persecutions, hardships due to poverty, and an average life span was in the 40's to 50's. Today's news is full of dread as well. Financial crises in business, homes, and even in churches are an accepted part of the current news. Retirement plans are drying up, children returning home, parents moving in with children and jobs becoming a premium add to the stress we all feel. Now we face concerns about our world and environment.

How do we respond to all of this as Christians? We respond as the early church did. They responded as compassionate brothers and sisters seeking to offer care and support to the best of their abilities. We, as did the early Christians, recognize that we are all in the same situation, and that real peace and security is something only accomplished by everyone working together.

This is true for financial as well as environmental concerns. It doesn't really matter who is to blame, it is only important to learn the lessons from past mistakes and not repeat them in the future. It doesn't matter whether global warming is real or exaggerated, we are stewards for God's creation and are thus responsible for the care and protection of that which God has made. We know that we cannot continue to operate as we have for decades because we have more and more demands upon the resources we have taken for granted. We need to think communally, what would best serve everyone, especially the ones with the least voice in the decision-making. Recovery should be for everyone, not just those who have always been on top of the heap.

"When you did it for one of the least of these, you did it for me." These words of Jesus should

sing in our hearts and every effort made to heal not only our financial situation, but our global environmental situation as well. There will come a time when God asks us what have we done with the resources he loaned to us. How will we answer?

Shalom, *Darrell*



Feed My Sheep

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

June 7, 2009

Scripture: Mark 2:23-3:6
Sermon: Rules vs Compassion

June 14, 2009

Scripture: 2 Cor. 5:6-10, 14-17
Sermon: A Real Makeover

June 21, 2009

Scripture: Mark 4:35-41
Sermon: Breaking News

June 28, 2009

Scripture: 2 Cor. 8:7-15
Sermon: Being In It Together



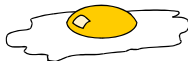
Greg Ladzinske
Grace & Howard Jordan
Irv & Sonia Shaw
Novy & Mary Ellen Foland
Family of Chris Bedgood
Steven, Christina & Baby Jade Baxte

JUNE ELDERS & DEACONS

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



CMF BREAKFAST

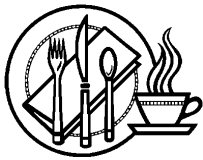


Ten people attended the breakfast on Sat., May 9th. Six people stayed after breakfast and worked in the churchyard. All men are invited to come and enjoy a delicious breakfast each month.

JUNE NURSERY ATTENDANTS

June 7	Margaret Hicks
June 14	Ruth Griffith
June 21	Gidget Hurlbert
June 28	Juliet Nolde

LUNCH BUNCH NEWS



The Lunch Bunch met on May 6th at 2:00 at Ole' Times Country Buffet. Those in attendance were: Carl Shaw, David Von Almen, Lonnie & Margaret Hicks, Bob, Gladys, Janice & Diane Fentem, Keith & Glenda Ewert, Curtis & Nadine Scaggs, Winona Smith and Evelyn Hawkins. The next gathering will be at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 10th at Ole Times Country Buffet.

CHURCH PANTRY NEEDS



White napkins
Dessert plates
Sugar
409 cleaner



Please welcome Mary Smith to our church family. She joined our church on April 26th. She says she is 80 years young and was born on Dec. 9th in Kentucky where she grew up. She lived in Indiana for many years and then moved to

Ocala, FL for 20 years. Her husband died in Jan. 2008 after retiring from Pillsbury Company. She has five children, four sons and one daughter. Her daughter, Rita Kelly lives in Warner Robins & is the reason Mary moved here. She was a member of First Christian Church, Disciples of Christ in Ocala, FL for the past nine years.

She loves to crochet, sew and cook. She says she is also is a sports nut. She likes baseball, basketball and a few other sports & watches these sports on TV when she can. She had a wonderful group of friends in Ocala, and she hopes it will be the same here. She says her only problem is that she does not drive.



CWF GRACE GROUP

CWF Grace Group met on May 21st at 6:00. Ruth Griffith, our May hostess, decided to cook a complete meal for us because at the Valentine's Dinner we did not have a chance to taste her dressing. The pans were scraped clean. We all enjoyed eating some of her famous dressing, gravy, corn, rolls, celery and carrot sticks, pickles, cantaloupe and Mary Smith's cherry cheesecake. There were twelve ladies attending. After the business meeting, Winona Smith gave the worship/study lesson titled "All are Invited". The Nominating Committee reported the new slate of officers for our coming year. The officers are: President – Brenda McReynolds, Vice President – Jo Smith, Secretary – Winona Smith, Treasurer – Sharon-Kay Duncan, Study/Worship – Lois Crawford and Service – Margaret Hicks. Our next meeting will be on Thurs., June 18th, at 6:00. This will be our covered dish meal and installation of new officers.



CWF M&M GROUP

The M&M Group met on May 28th at 7:00. All women are welcome to join them on the 4th Thursday of the month at 7:00.



SAFE HOUSE NEEDS

Bleach
 Laundry detergent
 Dishwasher Soap
 Journals
 Mattress covers (twin size)



Vacation Bible School will be held from Sunday, July 12th through Thursday, July 16th in the evenings. Mark your calendars now for a great time. The title of the VBS is "Crocodile Dock: Where Fearless Kids Shine God's Light". There will be crafts, activities, music and discoveries! Children from preschool to fifth grade are welcome to join in the fun. Call Juliet Nolde for more information at 478-342-0356 or email at jwnolde@gmail.com. More information will be given later.



FUND OF THE MONTH

By: Chris Rogers

When I sat down at the April 2009 board meeting and saw the Treasurer's report, I noticed on the designated funds page that there were a lot of funds that had no action in years. The main reason for that was because nobody except the members of the board knew about the funds. Someone suggested to me, kind of jokingly, that I write a monthly article in the newsletter about the designated funds, and I accepted. The fund for the month of June 2009 is **THE CHRISTOPHER BEDGOOD CAMP SCHOLARSHIP FUND.**

A few years ago, Christopher Bedgood and his mother got the news that Christopher had brain cancer and was not expected to live. It was suggested at the March 2009 board meeting that a permanent fund be set up to provide scholarships of need for the half of camp fees not covered by the church. It was called the Christopher Bedgood Camp Scholarship Fund in honor of a little boy who would never have the chance to experience Camp Christian. It was approved by the board and it is now a permanent. Fund. On May 9, 2009 we lost Christopher to cancer. I would like FOR everyone who wants to contribute to this fund in Christopher's memory to please note on your

check "Christopher Bedgood Fund" and it will go to the appropriate fund.

This first edition of The Fund of the Month is dedicated to the memory of Christopher Bedgood and prayers go out to his family at this difficult time.



THE WOODEN BOWL

I guarantee you will remember the tale of the Wooden Bowl tomorrow, a week from now, a month from now and even a year from now.

A frail old man went to live with his son, daughter-in-law, and four-year-old grandson. The old man's hands trembled, his eyesight was blurred, and his step faltered. The family ate together at the table, but the elderly grandfather's failing sight made eating difficult. Peas rolled off his spoon onto the floor. When he grasped the glass, milk spilled on the tablecloth. The son and daughter-in-law became irritated with the mess. "We must do something about father," said the son. "I've had enough of his spilled milk, noisy eating, and food on the floor".

So the husband and wife set a small table in the corner. There, Grandfather ate alone while the rest of the family enjoyed dinner. Since Grandfather had broken a dish or two, his food was served in a wooden bowl. When the family glanced in Grandfather's direction, sometimes he had a tear in his eye as he sat alone. Still, the only words the couple had for him were sharp admonitions when he dropped a fork or spilled food. The four-year-old watched in silence.

One evening before supper, the father noticed his son playing with some wood scraps on the floor. He asked the child sweetly, "What are you making?" Just as sweetly the boy replied, "Oh, I am making a little bowl for you and Mama to eat your food when I grow up". The little boy smiled and went back to work.

The words struck the parents so much that they were speechless. Then tears started to stream down their cheeks. Though no word was spoken, both knew what must be done. That evening the husband took Grandfather's hand and gently walked him back to the family table. For the remainder of his days he ate every meal with the family and for some reason neither the husband nor wife seemed to care any longer when a fork was dropped, milk spilled, or the tablecloth soiled.

Happy Father's Day - June 21st

Pastor Darrell Gets Peeped

Years ago I mentioned my enjoyment of Peeps, the marshmallow treats in a variety of shapes depending on the holiday. Since that time, I have never had to purchase another Peep. I should have seen the potential danger.



Throughout the year, packages would appear on my desk, on the pulpit, or both. Some holidays, some appeared months after Peep appropriate holidays. After all it takes quite a while for a Peep to go bad. I am not entirely sure which has a long life span Twinkies or Peeps, but my money is on the Peep.

This year I made comments about how pleased I was to have not been buried with Peeps during Easter. Members of the congregation indicated that I should not speak too soon as they would be sold at half price after Easter Sunday. More dire words have not been spoken.

Beth Bickley and Ann Von Almen are diligent, hard working deacons and ministry leaders of our church. They also have devious senses of humor. They live up to my mantra with my wife, "she never gets even, she gets ahead."

Two weeks ago they began their plot by taking quick and surreptitious measurements of my Ford Escort. They needed to know how many Peeps would be needed for their plan. I have no idea how long it took to gather the needed marshmallow arsenal, but last Sunday they thought themselves well prepared.

Their plan was based on a TV reality show called "Trick My Truck", they planned to "Peep my Ride." But I didn't play as expected. Rather than driving my Escort, I took my wife to work at the hospital and then drove our Prius to the church. The Prius has a larger windshield and surface area than the Escort. They didn't have enough Peep power. Not to be thwarted by my actions, they visited Walgreens next door and struck a deal with the manager to buy ALL his to see pictures of what they were going to do.

Ann and Beth slipped out of the Sanctuary, during my sermon to begin their work.



Beth's daughter Amanda Aguilar arrived to assist in the plan. As I went to the entrance to greet those who attended church, and actually stayed to listen to the sermon, "What is Sin," I noticed a poster board on the outside of the sanctuary door. It read, "You have heard of the show 'Trick My Truck' how about 'Peep My Ride.' They're here!"

I knew I was in trouble and did not want to see what awaited me around the corner of the church. After greeting the majority leaving the sanctuary, I ventured around the corner to see what had occurred. To say that I boldly went to face my future is an exaggeration, I stuck my head around the corner of the church just enough to get a peek at the peeps. Everyone was gathered around what had once been a silver Prius.

Coming of the "Just Peeped" sign were to tails made from empty Peep boxes. They were empty because I had a new sunshade for the windshield.

I learned how fortunate I was since the car was locked and the ladies didn't know that the car keys were on my desk.



The sign in the front read “...And on the eighth day God made Peeps! And they were good!”

Since this event, I have been giving away boxes of Peeps in honor of Beth Bickley and Ann Von Almen and living in trepidation of what may happen next. These ladies are not satisfied with the status quo, they want to go one step farther. Ask not for whom the peep tolls, it tolls for thee (apologies to John Donne).

Shalom, *Darrell*

June 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
		1 Breakfast at Huddle House 8:00 Bible Study 7:00 <i>Denny McReynolds Jr.</i> <i>George Poore</i>	2	3	4 <i>Tom Gilmer</i>	5 <i>Kyla Embrey</i>	6 8:00 Men's Breakfast
7 ChiRho/CYF 4:00 <i>Corey & Pat Gunnin</i>		8 Breakfast at Huddle House 8:00 Bible Study 7:00 Model Club 7:00 <i>Randy & Beth Bickley</i>	9	10 The Lunch Bunch 2:00 <i>Tommy & Ashlie Scissons</i>	11 <i>Denny & Dawn McReynolds</i>	12	13
14 ChiRho/CYF 4:00	15 Board Meeting 7:30 <i>Nicole Hicks</i> <i>Charlie & Sara Hebenstreit</i>	16 Breakfast at Huddle House 8:00 Bible Study 7:00 <i>Russ Cooper</i>	17 <i>Carter Nolde</i>	18	19	20	21 CWF Grace Group 6:00
21 ChiRho/CYF 4:00 Fellowship Dinner 6:00 <i>Katheryn Peters</i>	22	23 Breakfast at Huddle House 8:00 Bible Study 7:00	24	25 CWF M&M Group 7:00 <i>Ruth & William Griffith</i>	26	27 <i>Chris Rogers</i>	
28 ChiRho/CYF 4:00 "Feed My Sheep" Sunday	29	30 Breakfast at Huddle House 8:00 Bible Study 7:00 <i>Denny McReynolds Sr.</i>					

GRADUATION TIME

Bill Gates recently gave a speech at a High School about 11 things the students did not and will not learn in school

Rule 1. Life is not fair – get used to it.

Rule 2. The world won't care about your self-esteem. The world will expect you to accomplish something BEFORE you feel good about yourself.

Rule 3. You will NOT make \$60,000 a year right out of high school. You won't be a vice-president with a car phone until you earn both.

Rule 4. If you think your teacher is tough, wait till you get a boss.

Rule 5. Flipping hamburgers is not beneath your dignity. Your grandparents had a different word for burger flipping; they called it opportunity.

Rule 6. If you mess up, it's not your parents' fault, so don't whine about your mistakes. Learn from them.

Rule 7. Before you were born, your parents weren't as boring as they are now. They got that way from paying your bills, cleaning your clothes and listening to you talk about how cool you thought you were. So, before you save the rain forest from the parasites of your parent's generation, try delousing the closet in your own room.

Rule 8. Your school may have done away with winners and losers, but life HAS NOT. In some schools, they have abolished failing grades and they'll give you as MANY TIMES as you want to get the right answer. This doesn't bear the slightest resemblance to ANYTHING in real life.

Rule 9. Life is not divided in semesters. You don't get summers off and very few employers are interested in helping you FIND YOURSELF. Do that on your own time.

Rule 10. Television is NOT real life. In real life people actually have to leave the coffee shop and go to jobs.

Rule 11. Be nice to nerds. Chances are you'll end up working for one.

First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

**100 North Houston Road
Warner Robins, GA 31093**

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