

WARNER ROBINS DISCIPLE



Rev. Darrell Vandervort, Pastor

Music Director

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

(Disciples of Christ)

100 North Houston Road

Warner Robins, GA 31093

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Sunday School: 10:00am

Worship: 11:00am

Sept. 2011 Number 9



This month we will mark the 10th anniversary of the attacks of September 11 on the second Sunday of the month. How can we commemorate this memorial in a manner that reflects our faith as well as our national identity?

Rather than recalling the hate that caused these people to turn commercial airliners into weapons, we need to memorialize the innocent victims of the attack. These men, women and children were from all races, economic levels, social status, and religions. They were the targets merely because they were in the place chosen as sites because the planners decided that these places would devastate our national psyche.

We need to make a determined effort to remember the men and women who gave their lives in the effort to prevent further violence by overpowering the hijackers and preventing their flight from becoming another weapon. We read that there is no greater love than to lay down one's life for a friend. The people of the flight that went down in PA gave their lives for people they may never have met, let alone ever be able to call friends. Their love encouraged them to make the ultimate sacrifice of love.

Another group that gave their lives in an effort to save others were the police, fire and rescue crews, and EMTs. They set aside the natural tendency to preserve their lives and entered into the burning towers. They were following their training to bring aid and assistance to all those who were injured and attempting to escape the towers. They were not the targets; they were heroes responding to brothers and sisters in need.

The final group that we should honor and remember are the crews that went into the destruction to seek the dream of survivors and

recover bodies so that families could grieve. They did not know that entering the area for extended periods would harm their health. The dust and particles were inhaled and may have caused serious health issues for those who worked to clear and recover. They now are beginning to pay for their sacrifice.

The Hebrew Prayer book offers these words so that we can keep the events of 9/11 in proper perspective. "When God created us, He made us in His own image, in the likeness of the divine. Both male and female He created; He blessed them, and at the same time of their creation He called them Human. Therefore was a single human created to teach you that to destroy a single human soul is the equivalent to destroying an entire world; and to sustain a single human soul is equivalent to sustaining an entire world."

The hatred that led these men to hijack planes and turn them into weapons did not destroy our world. The sacrifices of the men and women who gave their lives in efforts to save others preserved our world. We claim a faith based upon a single individual sacrificing His life to the power of hatred so that the world of God's love could survive and grow.

Pray for those whose hatred continue to lead them to destruction. Pray for those who still struggle with the losses of that day. Pray for the workers who are suffering from health problems that may relate to the dust and debris of that day. Then go out and work to save the life of one person and save an entire world.

Shalom, *Darrell*

SEPTEMBER ELDERS & DEACONS

The Elders and Deacons scheduled to serve in September are: Elders: Sara & Charlie Hebenstreit and Deacons: Ted Cook, Mike Hurlbert, Barbara and Nicole Hicks.

SEPTEMBER NURSERY SCHEDULE

| | |
|----------|-----------------|
| Sept. 4 | Juliet Nolde |
| Sept. 11 | Gidget Hurlbert |
| Sept. 18 | Jessica & Angie |
| Sept. 25 | Juliet Nolde |

VBS 2011 – BACKSTAGE WITH THE BIBLE

Our VBS was held June 20th through June 24th. We had 16 in attendance with five of the kids being visitors to our church. The program was upbeat and a little Rock n Roll with great music. “Thank you” Sara Hebenstreit, Jo Smith, Pam Palmer and Jessica Hebenstreit for coming to help and encourage everyone! Gidget Hurlbert and Juliet Nolde were the co-directors. The children participated in music, crafts, supper with special snacks they made, and Bible lessons with their own Bibles and special covers that each child made for his/her Bible. Thank you to the congregation for the support you give each year to VBS!

SUMMER CHURCH CAMP (Even though I didn’t get to go!) by Juliet Nolde

I want to share my thoughts on why I think Summer Church Camp is so special. First, I know that the children of this congregation just LOVE going to church camp. They look forward to it every year and can’t wait for the next summer as soon as they come back. I didn’t go to church camp when I was a child. I did go to Campfire Girls camp and loved it. I wish we had been in the DOC church and I could have gone to church camp too. My mother grew up in Loganville Christian Church (DOC) and would go to summer church camp and made life-long friends. I was reminded of this just recently. One of the counselors at Camp Christian this year was Mrs. Marilyn Parks. Carter drew her name as a prayer partner. He and I emailed her and from several back and forth emails, she realized I was Juliet Wheeler and she knew my mother and her family from church camp. Mrs. Parks grew up in FCC of Lawrenceville and still attends there. She remembers my mother, aunt, uncle, grandmother and has fond memories of them.

Scott’s mother and grandparents grew up in the DOC church in Atlanta and they attended

church camp. I have heard stories of how they made life-long friends from camp too. These are people in their late 80’s! Scott and I met each other at Peachtree Christian Church while I was still in college. We were part of the young singles class there and attended YADA events. Friends we have from there met through church camps and married each other. I know of at least four from that group of friends that went on to be ministers in the DOC church, and that was from just a few kids that we knew.

The friendships and bonds established at church camp are priceless. They are strong and fulfilling. Our church is fostering these relationships by encouraging the kids to attend and sponsoring half of the camp fee for each child. Thank you, FCC of Warner Robins, for supporting my children and all the children because it is an investment that will last forever in their hearts!

EXCITING CHILDREN’S SUNDAY SCHOOL

We are changing the format for our children’s Sunday School class. As you may know, we have class for all the children from two years old through the 5th grade. Our VBS this summer was very successful and exciting to the kids. Following VBS, I learned that the Go Fish Guys, who wrote the VBS material, have a children’s choir program. The songs in the program are fun, educational, and exciting to sing. Since we are without a choir currently, and the kids love the music, we thought teaching the kids this music and performing once a month in worship would be a great way to teach and serve the church. So, that is what we are doing. The Children’s Choir will sing during worship on the second Sunday of each month. Besides learning songs in Sunday school, I will be teaching a small Bible lesson and doing one craft. The lesson will usually be based on the current Sunday’s scripture in worship. The kids will have reinforced learning, musical education, and service all in one class!

CWF GRACE GROUP

On September 15th we will resume our monthly meetings beginning with a covered dish meal and followed by our business meeting and program.

SEPT. SERMONS & SCRIPTURE



SAFE HOUSE NEEDS

Dishwasher Detergent
Mattress covers, twin size
Cleaning Supplies
Paper Towels
Flashlights & batteries
Alarm Clocks
Toothbrushes

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

During the time of the fellowship hall renovation, please bring your Hearts to Heroes, Food Pantry items, and Safe House items to the Narthex. **Please label your bags** so they will be taken to the appropriate places. **Remember, even though it is summer these organizations still have needs each month.**

Thank you for your help in supporting these organizations.

GOOD ADVISE FROM GOD

Effective immediately, please be aware that there are changes YOU need to make in YOUR life. These changes need to be completed in order that I may fulfill MY promises to you to grant you peace, joy and happiness in this life.

QUIT WORRYING: Life has dealt you a blow and all you do is sit and worry. Have you forgotten that I

am here to take all your burdens and carry them for you? Or do you just enjoy fretting over every little thing that comes your way?

PUT IT ON THE LIST: Something needs done or taken care of. Put it on the list. No, not YOUR list. Put it on MY to-do-list. Let ME be the one to take care of the problem. I can't help you until you turn it over to ME. And although MY to-do-list is long, I am after all...God. I can take care of anything you put into MY hands. In fact, if the truth were ever really known, I take care of a lot of things for you that you never even realize.

TRUST ME: Once you've given your burdens to ME, quit trying to take them back. Trust in ME. Have the faith that I will take care of all your needs, your problems and your trials. Problems with the kids? Put them on MY list. Problem with finances? Put it on MY list. Problems with your emotional roller coaster? For MY sake, put it on MY list. I want to help you. All you have to do is ask.

LEAVE IT ALONE: Don't wake up one morning and say, 'Well, I'm feeling much stronger now. I think I can handle it from here.' Why do you think you are feeling stronger now? It's simple. You gave ME your burdens and I'm taking care of them. I also renew your strength and cover you in MY peace. Don't you know that if I give you these problems back, you will be right back where you started? Leave them with ME and forget about them. Just let ME do my job.

TALK TO ME: I want you to forget a lot of things. Forget what was making you crazy. Forget the worry and the fretting because you know I'm in control. But there's one thing I pray you never forget. Please, don't forget to talk to ME – OFTEN. I love YOU! I want to hear your voice. I want you to include ME in all the things going on in your life. I want to hear you talk about your friends and family. Prayer is simply you having a conversation with ME. I want to be your dearest friend.

LOVE YOURSELF: As much as I love you, how can you not love yourself? You were created by ME for one reason only---to be loved, and to love in return. I am a God of Love. Love ME, Love your neighbors. But also love yourself. It makes MY heart ache when I see you so angry with yourself when things go wrong. You are very precious to ME. Don't ever forget.

SHARE: You were taught to share when you were only two yrs. Old. When did you forget? That rule still applies. Share with those who are less fortunate than you. Share your joy with those who need encouragement. Share your laughter with those who haven't heard any in such a long time. Share your faith with those who have none.

September 2011

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| | | | | 1 Sean Palmer | 2 Kody Campbell | 3 Tom Milliken |
| 4 Chi Rho/CYF 4:00 | 5 LABOR DAY | 6 8:00 a.m. Cracker Barrel | 7 | 8 Ashlie Scissons | 9 Tommy & Joan Marshall | 10 Pat Gunnin |
| 11 Chi Rho/CYF 4:00 Bob Fentem Phil & Jerri Bosarge | 12 Board Board 7:30 | 13 8:00 a.m. Cracker Barrel Bible Study 7:00 Kristyn Harmon | 14 2:00 Lunch Bunch Ole' Times Buffet | 15 CWF Grace 6:00 covered dish Charlotte Curry | 16 | 17 |
| 18 Chi Rho/CYF 4:00 | 19 | 20 8:00 a.m. Cracker Barrel Bible Study 7:00 | 21 | 22 Charlie Hebenstreit | 23 | 24 |
| 25 Chi Rho/CYF 4:00 | 26 | 27 8:00 a.m. Cracker Barrel Bible Study 7:00 Tom & Billie Milliken | 28 | 29 | 30 Betty Poore | |

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THE STONE

Two friends were walking through the desert. During some point of the journey, they had an argument; and one friend slapped the other one in the face. The one who got slapped was hurt, but without saying anything, wrote in the sand, "Today my best friend slapped me in the face."

They kept on walking, until they found an oasis, where they decided to take a bath. The one who had been slapped got stuck in the mire and started to drown, but the friend saved him. After he recovered from the near drowning he wrote on a stone, "Today my best friend saved my life".

The friend who slapped and saved his best friend asked him, 'after I hurt you, you wrote in the sand and now, you write on a stone. Why?' The friend replied, 'when someone hurts us we should write it in sand, where winds of forgiveness can erase it away. But when someone does something good for us, we must engrave it in stone where no wind can ever erase it.'

Learn to write your hurts in the sand and to carve your benefits in stone. It has been said that it takes a minute to find a special person, an hour to appreciate them, a day to love them, but then an entire life to forget them. Do not value the things you have in your life, but value who you have in your life.

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