

# WARNER ROBINS DISCIPLE



Rev. Darrell Vandervort, Pastor

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

(Disciples of Christ)

100 North Houston Road

Warner Robins, GA 31093

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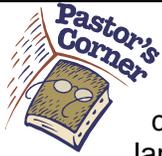
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Sunday School: 10:00am

Worship: 11:00am

August 2012 Number 8



I just finished a wonderful book called In Defense of Civility by James Calvin Davis. It is a remarkable book that challenges us to learn to speak respectfully and to listen respectfully to each other as we face difficult and challenging issues. In no manner does the author attempt to tell people to not disagree or to expect to completely change a person's mind, but approach these discussions with the realization that the person speaking to you should receive the same respect you would like to receive. Reminds me of a piece of wisdom I have seen somewhere else, "Do unto others as you would like others to do unto you."

James Calvin Davis challenges us to search for the common ground between our differences and to start working from there. There are wonderful examples in this book that show that the media's representation of debate is focused upon the polar ends of any debate. Rarely do we see that these polar extremes do not represent the majority of thought. We also must overcome the created fear of learning something new that may change how we see the debate. This is the fear of waffling. Rarely have I met anyone that has never changed their opinion on something at least once in their lives. I wouldn't eat spinach for years and would never touch greens. Thankfully, I learned they aren't so bad after all.

We do not need to debate over climate change and whether or not humanity has an impact on what is happening to our climate. We have only to remember that the earth is God's creation and we are the stewards responsible for that creation. In 1969, I watched the news cover the burning Cuyahoga River in downtown Cleveland. In order to save money companies and individuals dumped all sorts of chemicals and waste in the river. One day a spark was

struck and the river caught fire. The fireboats could not follow standard practice of pumping river water to put out the fire. Fortunately, they were able to put out the fire and people responded to the image of burning water and insisted on change. At the same time it was not possible to swim in Lake Erie without consulting the latest test of the E-coli levels. By the mid 1980's, I could take my children swimming in Lake Erie, and the river walk along the Cuyahoga was the place people went in the evening. Now it is the home of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and the ballpark for the Cleveland Indians.

What changed? People and corporate boards decided that protecting the air, water, and land was worth making some sacrifices. Unfortunately, we have gone back in the other direction. E-coli counts are again necessary before swimming in Lake Erie.

We can recycle, reuse, or repurpose all sorts of things rather than just tossing them into a pile and building a new hill or filling a hole that will someday become a new subdivision. We can treat God's creation with the respect we are to show God. I am amazed at the number of people I have seen smoking in the their cars who toss their ashes and cigarette butts out of the window rather than placing them in an ashtray in the car; or who use their ashtray and then dump it out on the ground. Drive down any road and see if you can cover one mile without seeing some trash along the street. Do you remember Iron Eyes Cody looking out at the polluted world and shedding a single tear? Would he shed more today?

Forget the debate about carbon footprints and green house gases. Use less, recycle or repurpose more. Seek better ways to lessen the amount of waste and the amount of water

you use. These are gifts from God. Treat them as if God had personally placed them before you. Give thanks for the sun and the rain; give thanks for the bees and maybe occasionally the gnats and mosquitoes. A few extra minutes a day to place recyclables in a bin and to drop them off at a recycling center is not a huge price to pay for God's creation. Maybe we can get enough demand to insist that the city pick up recyclables from our curbs along with the contents of the trashcan.

On the sixth day God looked at all that had been made and said "It is very good." Wouldn't it be nice for God to be able to say that again after millions and millions of days?

Shalom, *Darrell*

### **CMF BREAKFAST**

The next Men's breakfast will be held on Sept 1<sup>st</sup> at 8:00am.

### **AUGUST ELDERS & DEACONS**

Listed below are the Elders and Deacons scheduled to serve in August. The Elders are Irv Shaw & Jerri Bosarge. The Deacons are Angela Hebenstreit, Ted Cook, Mike Hurlbert and Sean Thompson.

### **AUG. SERMONS & SCRIPTURE**



## **WELCOME OUR NEWEST MEMBERS**

On July 1 Carter Edward Nolde made his confession of faith at the end of church service. He was born on June 17, 2002 in Lawrenceville, GA. He will be entering the 5<sup>th</sup> grade at Westside Christian Academy this school year. He loves school, especially math and science. He is a Webelos II Cub Scout with Pack 566 at Trinity United Methodist Church and enjoys camping and learning with his fellow scouts. He loves to roller skate, camp, learn, and be with family and friends. He enjoys church activities and being active in his Christian life. Carter lived in Norcross, GA until he was one year old. Then his family moved to Halley, AR for two and a half years. In December 2005 Carter and his parents moved to Warner Robins

Tyler David Hurlbert made his confession of faith on July 8<sup>th</sup>. He was born on May 16, 2002 in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. He was dedicated in First Christian Church of Midwest City, OK before moving to Warner Robins, GA. Since then, Tyler has attended First Christian Church of Warner Robins. He is currently going into the fifth grade at Hill Top Elementary. Tyler plays baseball and soccer for the Upward Sports program. Baseball is his favorite sport and the Red Sox is his favorite team. Tyler also enjoys Cub Scouts and is working on his Arrow of Light to be a Boy Scout. His best memory of Cub Scouts is when he placed third in the Pine Wood Derby. Tyler has earned his God and Me and God and Family pin through Trinity United Methodist Church for Cub Scouts. He also enjoys math and science and reading various books and magazines. Over all, he is very active in school, church, Scouts and his community.

Maxine McGuire transferred her membership to First Christian Church on July 15<sup>th</sup>. She has four married children, three grandchildren and a new great grand baby born the first of June 2012. She also has a spoiled Schnauzer dog and a cat. Her favorite things to do are gardening and yard work. Most of all, she says, is enjoying her Sunday visit to the First Christian Church.

## SURPRISE VISITORS IN CHURCH

On July 22<sup>nd</sup> our surprise visitors were Novy and Mary Ellen Foland. They were on their way from MO to FL and decided to take a detour and come visit at church. All who knew them while they lived in Warner Robins were so happy to see them. Below is a picture of them and an article Novy wrote for the newsletter about Mary Ellen's journey with Parkinson's disease and her restoration to good health:

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When we moved away from Georgia in Sept. 2006, Mary Ellen was having difficulty sitting up and was falling a lot. After we moved, her Parkinson's disease progressed to where she could no longer sit up. She would slowly slide out of a chair onto the floor. I had to strap her into her wheel chair to keep her from falling out. At home I had to carry her from room to room. I had to turn her over in bed. For two years I fed her every meal. She would go into a stupor (or trance) for 2-3 hours at a time.

In the fall of 2008 she had cataract surgery. This was good because she no longer needed glasses. Prior to that, she would bend her glasses out of shape by leaning or falling. I had to get them straightened about every three weeks

When it got to where she needed full time care, she decided that she would have the Deep Brain Stimulation surgery. In Jan. 2009, the surgeon shaved her head. Then they affixed a large frame to her head. She said she looked like Hannibal Lector. Then an MRI was taken with the frame in place. They used the MRI and the frame to locate the place in her brain that would stop the shaking. Mary Ellen had to go off of her Parkinson's medicine so the surgeon would know when they found the right location. She also could not eat that day and she had

trouble sleeping the night before the surgery. The surgeon drilled two holes in her skull after cutting the scalp and peeling it back in two places. She was awake and was watching the surgery on a TV screen. She said they drilled the holes with a hand drill (brace and bit). They then worked on one side at a time. They inserted the wire until they found the correct spot. She had to perform both physical and mental tasks. When they found the correct spot, they disconnected the electric wire and sewed the skin over the connection. When both sides were done, after 5½ hr. on the operating table, they let her eat and sleep. The next day we went home (260 miles from the hospital in St. Louis).

Two weeks later she went back. They put wires from each connector under her skin to her chest where they installed batteries in the same cavities they had install pacemakers. Two weeks later they turned on the stimulators. These affect the brain the same way that Dopamine does. Since Parkinson's medicine either turns into Dopamine or mimics Dopamine, with the stimulators we started reducing the medicine. Each month they increased the voltage and decreased the medicine. She now takes 20% of the \$10,000 worth of medicine she took in 2008.

Since the surgery, I have not ever had to lift her or feed her. Because the Deep Brain Stimulator targets only shaking, she still has other symptoms of Parkinson's, such as balance and inertia problems. That is why we use a wheelchair when away from home. Once again she is alert, can smile, and can do things. Our first great grandchild was brought to Georgia to visit us. Because of her condition, she couldn't hold him. We have had 4 more great grand babies since and she has gotten to hold them.

To call this surgery a miracle is an understatement. This surgery has only been done in the U.S. for about 15 years. Prior to that, the only option for advanced Parkinson's was full time care, such as a nursing home.

We are grateful and live every day with great enjoyment. Because I don't have to lift Mary Ellen anymore, I was able to have back surgery that relieved the pain from a pinched nerve that had bothered me for so long. *Novy Foland*

# August 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 <i>Sue Kidd</i>	2 <i>Taylor Hicks</i> <i>Kathy Lawson</i>	3	4
5 <b>Chi Rho/CYF</b> <b>4:00</b>	6 <b>BOARD MEETING</b> <b>7:30</b>	7 <b>8:00 a.m.</b> <b>Cracker Barrel</b> <b>Bible Study 7:00</b> <i>Denny &amp; Brenda</i> <i>McReynolds</i>	8 <b>1:00</b> <b>Lunch Bunch</b> <b>Golden Corral</b>	9 <i>Christopher &amp; Megan</i> <i>Von Almen</i>	10 <i>Del &amp; Juanita</i> <i>Von Almen</i>	11
12 <b>Chi Rho/CYF</b> <b>4:00</b>	13	14 <b>8:00 a.m.</b> <b>Cracker Barrel</b> <b>Bible Study 7:00</b>	15 <b>NEWSLETTER</b> <b>ARTICLES DUE</b>	16	17	18 <i>Ben &amp; Doreen</i> <i>Campbell</i>
19 <b>Chi Rho/CYF</b> <b>4:00</b> <b>Fellowship Dinner</b> <b>6:00 p.m.</b>	20 <i>Chuck Hebenstreit</i>	21 <b>8:00 a.m.</b> <b>Cracker Barrel</b> <b>Bible Study 7:00</b>	22	23 <i>Sara Hebenstreit</i>	24	25 <i>Irv Shaw</i>
26 <b>Chi Rho/CYF</b> <b>4:00</b> <i>David Von Almen</i> <b>FEED MY SHEEP</b>	27 <i>Tom &amp; Linda Gilmer</i>	28 <b>8:00 a.m.</b> <b>Cracker Barrel</b> <b>Bible Study 7:00</b> <i>Mike &amp; Mary Jane</i> <i>Rogers</i>	29 <i>Shannon Bosarge</i>	30	31	

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## **CWF GRACE GROUP**

Our next meeting will be on Sept. 20<sup>th</sup>. We will have a covered dish meal at 6:00pm and following our meal, we will have our business meeting, worship & study lesson.

## **THE LUNCH BUNCH**

The Lunch Bunch met at the Golden Corral on July 11th at 1:00pm. Those attending were Winona Smith, Lois Crawford, Curtis & Nadine Scaggs, Bob, Gladys, Janice & Diane Fentem.

**Come join the Lunch Bunch each month.  
They have a great time eating and visiting  
with each other!**

## **CHURCH PANTRY NEEDS**

Paper towels  
Toilet paper  
All purpose spray kitchen cleaner  
(409, Clorox etc.)

## **SAFE HOUSE NEEDS**

Laundry detergent  
Fabric softener (liquid or sheets)  
Dishwasher detergent  
Dishwashing soap  
Cleaning supplies  
Toilet paper  
Paper towels

**Thank you. Donations are much appreciated!**

## **First Christian Church**

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