

WARNER ROBINS DISCIPLE



Rev. Darrell Vandervort, Pastor

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

(Disciples of Christ)

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Sunday School: 10:00am

Worship: 11:00am

February 2014 Number 2



Today, we learned that Marsha's mother has bone cancer. It is probably a cancer that spread from her fight with breast cancer some years ago. Less than a year ago, my father's battle with dementia ended. Just a few weeks ago we said goodbye to a very unique woman who was born in 1910. Yet, our faith tells us that disease and death are not the end. God gives us life, forever

We read in the Bible stories of Jesus and the disciples healing the sick, restoring abilities, and reviving the dead. We carry that hope that something like that could occur today. We want to see our loved ones cured, whole, and alive. But is that the point of those stories in the Bible? Could they be pointing at something deeper?

None of the people in the healing stories in the Bible lived forever. They all died. But they were healed! To be healed is not the same thing as being cured. When we read the Bible and expect a cure, we miss the glory of being healed.

Disease and death are a part of our existence. We spend millions fighting these diseases and striving to forestall the advance of aging. We use dyes and procedures to make us appear younger. People invest in hours of exercise and training to attempt to keep the body they had in their youth. We work harder and harder to reverse the march of time which, for you and I, only runs one direction. We, often without meaning to do so, see people with a disease or a handicap or with a terminal condition as less than. Yet, these people can be healed even if they cannot be cured.

To be healed is to be at peace within each moment of life. I read the book The Robe when I was in high school. I have also seen the movie and find the scene when Richard Burton

is speaking to the crippled woman whom Jesus healed. He couldn't see her as healed because she couldn't walk. She perceived herself as fully healed because she was released from the bitterness of thinking herself less than everyone else due to her injuries. She was released from anger and bitterness, jealousy of those who could walk, and feelings of being inadequate because she could not stand. She was made whole, whether or not that wholeness was reflected in her physical condition.

To be healed, we ask God for the grace to accept this day's gifts, to release the worries about "what if", and to discover the peace in the confidence that God is ALWAYS WITH US!!!!

Will we be freed from aging, illness, loss? No, but we will be freed from the weight of attempting to change the inevitable. Don't give up. Treasure the days, weeks, months, and years that God gives. But also celebrate the knowledge that there is no power or authority in the world that can take us away from God and that we ALL belong to God. Be healed!

Shalom, *Darrell*

DISCIPLE MEN'S BREAKFAST

The Disciple Men's breakfast was held on January 5th at 8:30 a.m. There were eleven people attending. The next breakfast will be on Feb. 2, 2014. David and Ann will prepare a delicious breakfast. Come join the fellowship.

FEBRUARY ELDERS & DEACONS

Listed below are the Elders and Deacons scheduled to serve in February. The Elders are John Glover and David Von Almen. The Deacons are Chris Rogers, Doreen Campbell, Savanna Gowin and Wayne Scaggs.

FEBRUARY SERMONS & SCRIPTURE



IN MEMORY OF VIRGINIA HEBENSTREIT

A beloved lady of our congregation joined the angels in heaven on December 27, 2013.

A celebration of her life was held January 3, 2014 at McCullough Funeral Home at 4:00 p.m.

Her sweet smile & sparkling blue eyes will be missed by all. She is survived by sons, John & Charlie (Sara), nine grandchildren, sixteen great grandchildren and seven great, great grandchildren. Her Husband & two granddaughters preceded her in death.

HEARTS TO HEROES LETTER

"Dear Ms. Myra Foskey,

On behalf of my fellow service members, thank you so much for sending us the wonderful care packages. They gave us surely a little touch of home.

The treats from back home help us a great deal and help take our mind off of some of the things we have to do and missing our families and holidays. Your support means a lot to us. Everyone had a big smile when I gave them the care packages. We all would like to thank you from the bottom of our hearts! May God fill you and your family with joy and love! Have a Happy New Year!

*Blessings,
Song Hwang, LCDR, CHC, USN"*

LUNCH BUNCH NEWS

The Lunch Bunch met on January 8th at the Golden Corral. Those attending were Bob, Gladys, Janice and Dianne Fentem, two of Dianne's friends, Carl Shaw, Nadine and Curtis Scaggs & Winona Smith. If you have not attended the Lunch Bunch gathering, consider attending, enjoying good food and fellowship with friends you may only see on a Sunday. They meet on the second Wednesday of each month. Their next get together will be held at the Golden Corral on February 12th at 1:00 p.m.

DISCIPLE WOMEN GRACE NEWS

The Grace Group met at the church on Thursday, January 16th. We had 10 ladies attending. Our study/worship program was presented by Winona Smith. It was about Anna, one of the three wise women that we have been studying. Refreshments were provided by Brenda McReynolds. We had a great time at our Dec. 12th Christmas party with Jennetta as hostess. We took 16 stuffed to the brim Christmas stockings to the Safe House for each mother and each child there. We also had a profit of \$1,053.87 at our Christmas bazaar, bake sale and yard sale in November. Our next meeting will be on February 20th at church at 7:00 p.m. Come join us.

CHURCH PANTRY NEEDS

13 gallon kitchen garbage bags
39 gallon trash bags
Large bottles of liquid hand soap
Oblong divided foam plates
Small dessert plates
Dish soap
Spray cleaner

SAFE HOUSE NEEDS

Paper towels
Bathroom tissue
Trash bags
Laundry soap
Laundry fabric softener
Dish Soap
Kitchen cleaners

February 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 <i>Ben Campbell</i>
2 8:30 MEN'S BREAKFAST CCF 4:00-6:00 Chi Rhoi/CYF 4:00	3 BOARD MEETING 7:30 <i>Lori Lamm</i>	4 8:00 a.m. Cracker Barrel Bible Study 7:00	5 <i>Mike Hurlbert</i>	6	7 <i>Gidget Hurlbert</i>	8 <i>Theresa Nolde</i>
9 CCF 4:00-6:00 Chi Rho/CYF 4:00 <i>Jessica Hebenstreit</i>	10	11 8:00 a.m. Cracker Barrel Bible Study 7:00	12 1:00 Lunch Bunch	13	14	15
16 CCF 4:00-6:00 Chi Rho/CYF 4:00 <i>Curtis & Nadine Scaggs</i>	17	18 8:00 a.m. Cracker Barrel Bible Study 7:00	19 <i>Mary Jane Rogers</i>	20 DW Grace Group 7:00	21	22 <i>Tony & Barbara Hicks</i>
23 CCF 4:00-6:00 Chi Rho/CYF 4:00	24	25 8:00 a.m. Cracker Barrel Bible Study 7:00	26	27 <i>Brenda McReynolds</i>	28 <i>David & Ann Von Almen</i>	

PUT THE GLASS DOWN

A lecturer was giving a lecture to his student on stress management. He raised a glass of water and asked the audience, "How heavy do you think this glass of water is?" The students' answers ranged from 20 grams to 500 grams. The lecturer said, "It does not matter on the absolute weight. It depends on how long you hold it. If I hold it for a minute, it is OK. If I hold it for an hour, I will have an ache in my right arm. If I hold it for a day, you will have to call an ambulance. It is the exact same weight, but the longer I hold it, the heavier it becomes."

If we carry our burden all the time, sooner or later, we will not be able to carry on, the burden becoming increasingly heavier. What you have to do is to put the glass down, rest for a while before holding it up again. We have to also put our burden down periodically, so that we can be refreshed and are able to carry on.

So before you return home from work tonight, put the burden down. Don't carry it back home. You can pick it up tomorrow. Whatever burden you are having now on your shoulders, lay it down for a moment if you can. Pick it up again later when you have rested.

Rest and relax! Life is short! Enjoy it!

Anonymous

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