

WARNER ROBINS DISCIPLE



Rev. Darrell Vandervort, Pastor

Shirley Thompson, Pianist

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

August 2015 Number 8



At the end of the Gospel of John, Jesus asks Peter three times, "Do you love me?" Each time Peter responds, "Yes, Lord" and each time Jesus repeats either "feed my sheep" or "feed my lambs." We read this as an act of contrition for Peter's three-fold denial the night of Jesus' arrest. But the command given to Peter pushes it in another direction. In the Bible, anything repeated three times is of extreme importance. The triple confession, but also the triple command, reaches past Peter and should be heard by all who claim to love Jesus.

I am writing this article during the week I leave for the General Assembly in Columbus, OH. I read a story from Columbus, GA about the new rules limiting the feeding of the homeless in a public park cared for by the Public Utilities Department. There are other cities around the country that have made it illegal to feed people in public spaces. It is a rapidly growing trend.

I appreciate the concerns about lawsuits and the presence of people who may be unstable. I understand that it takes away from the attractiveness of the spaces for other citizens. I can see why people find the sight and smell of hundreds of street people to be off putting.

But we are already very good at seeing through those we choose not to notice. I am reluctant to offer assistance to a person at the entrance or exit of the highway. I have seen the cardboard sign, "Will Work for Food". I know that some of these people are not truly in need, but merely seeking tax free cash.

Jesus also told His followers that there would always be poor people. We cannot overcome that which has no end. Why even try? The hungry and the needy are too many.

But Jesus didn't tell Peter to feed all of the sheep and all of the lambs. Peter couldn't be everywhere. He could only be in one place at a time. Maybe the command is to feed the sheep and lambs where he was at the given time. It wasn't a command to end all hunger, but to provide a meal for the sheep and the lambs, more along the idea of a large picnic, or like the feeding of the 5,000.

The law says don't feed the hungry in public, unless you are a licensed food establishment, like a restaurant with an outdoor patio seating area. But what if I invite friends to a picnic and what if we have enough food with us to invite "new" friends to share in our picnic. Would that be illegal? Should I care if it might be?

If Jesus asked each of us, "DO you love me?" Would we have the courage to answer knowing that he will tell us to feed His sheep? How will you answer?

Shalom, *Darrell*

DISCIPLE WOMEN GRACE

The DW Grace Group has new officers. The new officers are planning meetings and hopefully new experiences for the group. Everyone is welcome to join us. We meet the 3rd Thursday evening from September to June at 7:00. We hope to see you there.

We will continue to collect pillowcases for Children's Hospital until Sept. 20th. It takes one yard of material designed for children and teens. Do not wash the material. We have a volunteer to make the pillowcases if you would like to participate, but do not sew. Just bring your material to church and give it to any DW lady.

Mary Jane

AUGUST SERMONS & SCRIPTURE



AUGUST ELDERS & DEACONS

Listed below are the Elders and Deacons scheduled to serve in August: Elders are Juliet & Scott Nolde. The Deacons are Dawn McReynolds, Denny McReynolds, Gidget Hurlbert & Doreen Campbell.

CHURCH PANTRY NEEDS

Divided foam plates	Kleenex
8 oz. foam coffee cups	Dish Soap
16 oz. plastic glasses	Spray cleaners
Paper towels	

SAFE HOUSE SUPPLIES

Cleaning Supplies	Dish Detergent
Laundry Detergent	Fabric Softener
Paper Towels	Kleenex
Bathroom Tissue	Furniture Spray

A HENHOUSE PARABLE

Once upon a time there was a Papa Rooster & a Mama Hen, and they had a cute little baby chick. "This little chick is never going to scratch out his living like I did," declared the Papa Rooster. "We shall see that he has everything he needs to grow up and be a fine chick."

And they did. They worked their beaks off trying to provide things for their little chick. He wore the finest, shiniest feathers in the whole

chicken yard. They taught him the finest manners and allowed him to associate with only the best chickens. "I want" is all that the baby chick needed to say, and his wish was provided. The others chicks were so envious that he had parents who took such pride in the meeting of his every wish!

In Chick-School he was always the leader. He led in reading, writing, and arithmetic; he played in chicken football and basketball and held down the first chair in the school crowing choir. He was valedictorian of his chicken class and was voted the chick most likely to make tracks! He went to Barnfowl University, and continued his education. He met a cute little chick co-ed and was wed in an elaborate barnyard affair that had the henhouse talking for weeks afterward!

His career seemed assured and the future bright, but one morning tragedy struck. He disappeared, and was never seen again. The last anybody saw of him he was tucked under the arm of a very hungry-looking hobo, who was headed for a campfire down by the railroad tracks. Alas, for the little chick! His parents did everything for him except the one thing that was absolutely needful: They never taught him how to save his life.

MORAL: Unless your child is active in the program of the Church, learning how to save his soul, he doesn't have a chance! The world is a very hungry hobo.....

(The above was copied from the PULPIT HELPS)

Practical Applications - The Golden Rule

If you open it, close it.
If you turn it on, turn it off.
If you unlock it, lock it.
If you break it, fix it.
If you can't, fine someone who can.
If you borrow it, return it.
If you use it, take care of it.
If you make a mess, clean it up.
If you move it, put it back.
If it belongs to someone else and you want to use it, get permission.
If you don't know how to operate it, leave it alone.
(Copied from an old article in an old newspaper)

August 2015

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

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2 Cabinet Meeting after Church <i>Taylor Hicks</i>	3 Board Meeting 7:00	4 8:00 a.m. Cracker Barrel American Heritage Girls 4:30-5-30 Bible Study 7:00	5 <i>Shawn & Cassie</i> <i>Bell</i>	6 <i>Angela Crawford</i>	7 <i>Denny & Brenda</i> <i>McReynolds</i>		8
9	10	11 8:00 a.m. Cracker Barrel American Heritage Girls 4:30-5-30	12 Lunch Bunch 1:00	13 Radio Club Meeting 7:00	14		15
16 Fellowship Dinner 6:00 p.m.	17	18 Cracker Barrel American Heritage Girls 4:30-5-30 Bible Study 7:00 <i>Ben & Doreen C.</i>	19	20 <i>Chuck Hebenstreit</i>	21		22 <i>Robin Robertson</i>
23 <i>Sara Hebenstreit</i>	24	25 Cracker Barrel American Heritage Girls 4:30-5-30 Bible Study 7:00 <i>Irv Shaw</i>	26 <i>David Von Almen</i> Prayer Shawl Meeting 7:00	27 Bariatric Group Meeting 7:00 p.m. <i>Nick Von Almen</i>	28 <i>Mike & Mary Jane</i> <i>Rogers</i>		29
30 Elder's Meeting 9:30 a.m.	31						

Growing Good Corn

There was a Cordele farmer who grew award-winning corn. Each year he entered his corn in the state fair where it won a blue ribbon. One year a newspaper reporter interviewed him and learned something interesting about how he grew it. The reporter discovered that the farmer shared his seeds with his neighbors. "How can you afford to share your best corn seeds with your neighbors when they are entering corn in competition with yours each year?" the reporter asked. "Why sir," said the farmer, "didn't you know? The wind picks up pollen from the ripening corn and swirls it from field to field. If my neighbors grow inferior corn, cross-pollination will steadily degrade the quality of my corn. If I am to grow good corn, I must help my neighbors grow good corn."

He is very much aware of the connectedness of life. His corn cannot improve unless his neighbor's corn also improves. So it is in other dimensions. Those who choose to be at peace must help their neighbors to be at peace. Those who choose to live well must help others to live well, for the value of a life is measured by the lives it touches. And those who choose to be happy must help others to find happiness for the welfare of each is bound up with the welfare of all.

The lesson for each of us is this: if we are to grow good corn, we must help our neighbors grow good corn.

Copied from **The Good News!** Weekly

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