

WARNER ROBINS DISCIPLE



Rev. Darrell Vandervort, Pastor

Shirley Thompson, Pianist

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

(Disciples of Christ)

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Warner Robins, GA 31093

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Sunday School: 10:00am

Worship: 11:00am

February 2016 Number 2



Lent begins this month. Lent is the season of personal preparation for Easter. We are to take the next 40 days (not including Sundays) to make ourselves ready for the Resurrection event. Devotional books will be available this month for every family as well as the opportunity to gather change in a box for the Society of St. Andrew. The Society of St. Andrew focuses upon dealing with hunger. Among the things that they do is gathering volunteers to glean fields for the hungry. For instance, during the General Assembly in Columbus, volunteers bagged potatoes for food banks and soup kitchens. They bagged thousands of pounds in an afternoon. In Georgia St. Andrew gathers volunteers to gather apples to give to food pantries and soup kitchens. It's something to think about as a congregation for the fall.

Many people think of Lent as a time to give up something. Usually what is given up is something we should avoid doing or manage better already. Maybe this year, rather than giving something up, add something. Add a specific time to read the Bible or devotional material; add a time to have family prayer; add a time for volunteering in some way; add a time for practicing spiritual discipline (meditation, fasting, or others. I have books that describe these disciplines).

Lent is a time that we are to be better prepared to receive the amazing blessing of God's Grace. We DO NOT earn this Grace. It is freely given. This does not mean that we shouldn't do anything, but

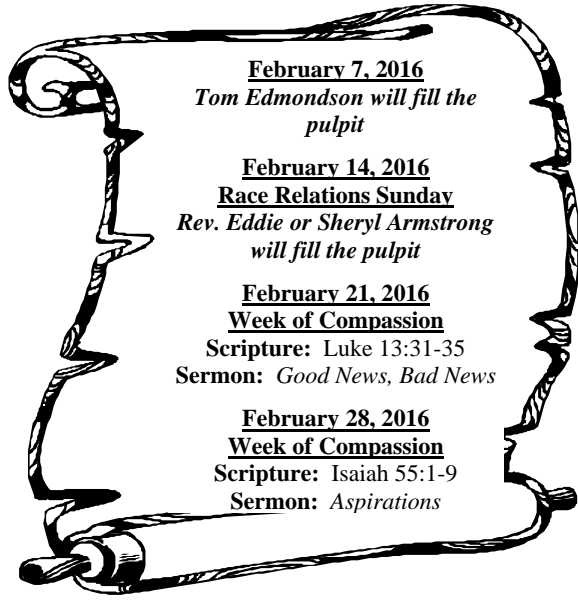
rather, that we focus upon responding to the God who provides us with this opportunity.

We are challenged to pay attention to how well we love our neighbor, how we treat each other, how closely we follow the path that Jesus taught His disciples to follow. If in this time of reflection we discover places we fall short, we are challenged to do better. It is not a time to count the times we have failed, but instead to make the effort to do better. This isn't a time to beat ourselves for our shortcomings. This is a time when we assess ourselves and find the places to improve. Think of it as preparing a TO DO List. We do not put a lifetime of things on the list, we don't even put down a week's worth of tasks. We are to list a single day's list of things that can be accomplished in a reasonable day's time. Our Lenten To Do List should focus on one aspect to improve at a time. If you don't pray often enough, deliberately set a specific time to do so. If you can't find the time to read the Bible, designate a daily time to do so.

This is how to develop our spiritual discipline; one step at a time, and not down loading it all at once. We didn't learn to read on the first day that we tried. Over 40 days, new habits can be established and new gifts discovered. This is a journey worthy of your time.

Shalom, *Darrell*

FEBRUARY SERMONS & SCRIPTURE



FEBRUARY ELDERS & DEACONS

Listed below are those serving in February:
Elders: Dale Barnickel & Irv Shaw
Deacons: Jerri Bosarge, Doreen Campbell, Dawn McReynolds & Denny Ray McReynolds.

THE LUNCH BUNCH

The Lunch Bunch met on January 13th at Golden Corral. Those attending were Curtis & Nadine Scaggs, Brenda & Denny McReynolds and Carl Shaw. The usual attendees are missed & it is hoped they will start attending again.

DW GRACE GROUP

There were twelve ladies present for the January DWF meeting. We discussed the upcoming year. The Spring Conference will be held at our church on April 23rd. We will be responsible for preparing the lunch.

We also discussed our semi-annual yard sale to be held on April 2nd. We will set up tables and price items on March 28th, 29th and 30th. Hours will be 9:00-12:00. We ask that items be brought to the church NO LATER than Wednesday, March 30th by

Noon. We cannot accept furniture, electronics, or winter clothing.

FROM CHILDREN'S MOUTHS

Susie Sunshine asked her Sunday School class to draw pictures of their favorite Bible stories. She was puzzled by little Johnny's picture, which showed four people on an airplane, so she asked him which story it was meant to represent. "The Flight to Egypt," said Johnny. "I see... and that must be Mary, Joseph, and Baby Jesus," Susie said. "But who's the fourth person?" "Oh, that's Pontius—the Pilot!"

KITCHEN SUPPLIES

Large trash bags Coffee
8 oz. foam coffee cups Kleenex
16 oz. plastic glasses Dish Soap
Spray kitchen cleaners
Divided oblong foam plates

SAFE HOUSE SUPPLIES

Cleaning Supplies Dish Soap
Laundry Detergent Fabric Softener
Bathroom Tissue Kleenex
Glass cleaner Furniture Polish
Large trash bags Toddler Pull Ups
Toilet cleaners Plastic glasses
8 oz. foam coffee cups Napkins
Divided foam plates

**Dear Lord,
I just want to thank you for another day
of my life. I need your guidance and
protection. Help me to overcome every
trial & challenges that come my way
today. Bless my family, friends &
everyone who are in need of Your
Provision, Your love, Your Will & your
Wisdom. Amen, Thank you Lord.**

February 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 <i>Ben Campbell</i>	2 Breakfast 8:00 a.m. Cracker Barrel	3	4	5 <i>Mike Hurlbert</i>	6
7 <i>Gidget Hurlbert</i>	8 Board Meeting 7:00 <i>Theresa Nolde</i>	9 Breakfast Cracker Barrel <i>Jessica Hebenstreit</i>	10 Lunch Bunch Golden Corral 1:00 NO ASH WED. SERVICE	11	12	13
14	15	16 Breakfast Cracker Barrel Bible Study 7:00 <i>Curtis and</i> <i>Nadine Scaggs</i>	17	18 DW Grace Group 7:00 p.m.	19 <i>Mary Jane Rogers</i>	20
21 Carry-in Dinner 6:00 p.m.	22 <i>Tony & Barbara</i> <i>Hicks</i>	23 Breakfast 8:00 a.m. Cracker Barrel Bible Study 7:00	24 Prayer Shawl meeting 7:00 p.m.	25	26	27 <i>Brenda</i> <i>McReynolds</i>
28 <i>David & Ann</i> <i>Von Almen</i>	29					

OUR MEMORY BANK

A 92-year-old, petite, well-poised and proud man, who is fully dressed each morning by eight o'clock, with his hair fashionable combed and shaved perfectly, even though he is legally blind, moved to a nursing home. His wife of 70 years recently passed away, making the move necessary. After many hours of waiting patiently in the lobby of the nursing home, he smiled sweetly when told his room was ready.

As he maneuvered his walker to the elevator, I provided a visual description of his tiny room, including the eyelet sheets that had been hung on his window.

"I love it", he stated with the enthusiasm of an eight-year old having just been presented with a new puppy. I told Mr. Jones that he hadn't seen the room yet. "That doesn't have anything to do with it", he replied. "Happiness is something you decide on ahead of time. Whether I like my room or not doesn't depend on how the furniture is arranged. It's how I arrange my mind. I already decided to love it". "It's a decision I make every morning when I wake up. He continued, "I have a choice; I can spend the day in bed recounting the difficulty I have with the parts of my body that no longer work, or get out of bed & be thankful for the ones that do work" he said. "He went on, "Each day is a gift, and as long as my eyes open, I'll focus on the new day and all the happy memories I've stored away, just for this time in my life. Old age is like a bank account. You withdraw from what you've put in it". "So my advice to you would be to deposit a lot of happiness in the bank account of memories!"

Remember the five simple rules to be happy:

1. Free your heart from hatred.
2. Free your mind from worries.
3. Live Simply.
4. Give more.
5. Expect less.

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