

WARNER ROBINS DISCIPLE



Rev. Darrell Vandervort, Pastor

Shirley Thompson, Pianist

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

(Disciples of Christ)

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Sunday School: 10:00am

Worship: 11:00am

November 2016 Number 11



On Nov. 7th, at 7:00 p.m. First Christian will be hosting an Election Eve Prayer Service in partnership with Faith Lutheran Church. This service will remind us to continually pray for all those who will be elected on Tuesday, whether our candidates win or lose. The unity of our faith is greater than the lines drawn by political parties and elections. I hope you will come out on Monday night to prepare for the election by seeking the presence of God.

By the time most of you will read this, I will have completed my fifth decade of life. In the grand scheme, turning 60 isn't that long to walk through life, until it is your turn to do so. As a child with my birthday the day after Halloween, most of the party atmosphere was spent on the day before, and the approach of Thanksgiving and Christmas could overshadow my birthday. As a child I spent a good number of birthdays being sick, too much candy and/or dramatic changes in temperature in Northeast Ohio could have been the cause.

Now I try to slip my birthday amidst my oldest daughter and youngest daughter's birthdays (Elisabeth shares Nov. 1 and Micah's is Nov. 3). It was far easier when they were younger. But the necessity to provide an article for this newsletter has led me to think more deeply about my 59 years of life and the purpose of Thanksgiving.

When we give thanks, we often skim the upper layer of the things for which we should give thanks. We are grateful for

family and friends, we are grateful for our success in life and work; we are grateful for overcoming illness and challenges. While this is acceptable and good, what happens when we look more deeply on the times we should have given thanks to God in our lives.

I am grateful for the family into which God placed me. It wasn't perfect, but then again perfection isn't the goal. I was loved and given the space to become who I was supposed to become. I lived in a time when I could get on a bicycle and ride all over my hometown with friends and in the summer be home for lunch and supper and dark as my boundaries. I was able to go through school and find my place not in one niche or circle, but rather as a person that connected to most of the members of my class regardless of cliques. I attended a great college and built strong ties to classmates, the same can be said about my seminary experience.

It is with profound gratitude that I give thanks for my wife and children. They have kept me sane and level (excluding those times my children attempted to drive Marsha and I over the edge). Now that they have partners and children, I am grateful that they can be driven into sanity after being driven to the other side as well.

I am also grateful for the opportunity to serve the church in all the different capacities to which I have been led. I am grateful for the good as well as for the not so good, because they have all provided lessons I needed to learn. I am especially

grateful for the challenges that lay before me as First Christian seeks to re-vision our mission in Warner Robins. We will move through this time together and with God's help be the best church for this place and time.

I am grateful for all the saints who have crossed my path and demonstrated how to live Christ-like. These saints performed no miracles as we would define them, but rather miraculously loved, listened, and taught with grace and confidence by the way they lived and treated other people.

We all have several weeks before Thanksgiving arrives. Take this time to look back over your life and remember the names and faces of the saints in your life, the people and events that helped to shape you, the gifts that were given. Also remember the struggles that made you stronger, wiser, more compassionate, more the you that you have become. Then, when you have recalled all the people and events, express that gratitude in all that you say and do to everyone you meet. After all, you might be the very saint that God needs to put in someone else's path.

Shalom, *Darrell*

NOVEMBER ELDERS & DEACONS

Listed below are those serving in Nov:

Elders: Dale Barnickel
Irv Shaw

Deacons: Doreen Campbell
Dawn McReynolds
Jerri Bosarge
Denny Ray McReynolds

DW GRACE GROUP

DWF met this past Thursday at 7:00 pm. We discussed several upcoming events. Nov. 5th from 8:00-1:00 pm is our annual Christmas Bazaar, Bake Sale & Yard Sale. If you wish to donate items for the yard sale, we will start taking donations on Oct.

30th after church. We will accept donations Mon.-Wed. from 9:00-Noon the week of the sale. We will not accept donations after noon on Wed., Nov. 2nd. The ladies will be pricing and setting up Mon. – Wed. mornings. If you are bringing items for the bake sale, you can bring them on Friday night or Sat. morning. This is our biggest fund raising event for the year, so please come join us to shop and fellowship.

We will be finishing up our backpacks for Family Promise with school supplies. We still need scissors, pencil bags, colored pencils, 1 inch binders, notebooks and glue sticks. Thanks to all who have donated so far.

Our next meeting will be on Thurs., Nov. 17th at 7 p.m. The Christmas party will be hosted by Heather Johnson this year at her home at 7:00 p.m. on Dec. 15th. Please bring a finger food to share and join us for some fun and fellowship.

Many blessings, DWF

NOVEMBER SERMONS & SCRIPTURE



KITCHEN SUPPLIES

Paper Towels
39 gal garbage bags 13 gal trash bags
Small dessert plates Kleenex
16 oz. plastic glasses Dish Soap
Spray kitchen cleaner Napkins
Divided oblong foam plates

November 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		Breakfast at Cracker Barrel Bible Study 7:00 Darrell Vandervort Randy Bickley				<i>Dakota Mimbs</i>
<i>Lois Crawford</i>		Breakfast at Cracker Barrel Bible Study 7:00 <i>Kris Campbell</i> <i>John & Mary Ann</i>	<i>Levi Cook</i>	Radio Club Meeting 7:00		
Fellowship Dinner 6:00 p.m. <i>Joan Marshall</i>		Breakfast at Cracker Barrel Bible Study 7:00 <i>Judi Cooper</i>		DW Grace Group 7:00 <i>David & Lori Lamm</i>	<i>Tommy Marshall</i>	
Thanksgiving Sunday <i>Kyle Campbell</i>	Bariatric Group Mtg. 7:00	8:00 a.m. Breakfast at Cracker Barrel Bible Study 7:00		Thanksgiving Day <i>Chuck & Angie Hebenstreit</i>		
First Sunday of Advent Hanging of the Greens		8:00 a.m. Breakfast at Cracker Barrel Bible Study 7:00	Prayer Shawl Group 7:00			

IT'S ALL ABOUT ATTITUDE

(Author Unknown)

I woke up early today, excited over all I get to do before the clock strikes midnight. I have responsibilities to fulfill today. I am important. My job is to choose what kind of day I am going to have. Today I can complain because the weather is rainy or...I can be thankful the grass is getting watered for free. Today I can feel sad that I don't have more money or...I can be glad my finances encourage me to plan my purchases wisely and guide me away from waste. Today I can grumble about my health or...I can rejoice that I am alive. Today I can lament over all my parents didn't give me when I was growing up or...I can feel grateful they allowed me to be born. Today I can cry because roses have thorns or ...I can celebrate that thorns have roses. Today I can mourn my lack of friends or...I can excitedly embark upon a quest to discover new relationships. Today I can whine because I have to go to work or...I can shout for joy because I have a job to do. Today I can complain because I have to go to school or...I can eagerly open my mind and fill it with rich new tidbits of knowledge. Today I can murmur dejectedly because I have to do housework or...I can feel honored because God has provided shelter for my mind, body and soul. I get to play a big part into what kind of day I will have? How about you?

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