

# WARNER ROBINS DISCIPLE



Rev. Darrell Vandervort, Pastor

Music Director

## 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

Oct. 2010 Number 10



Please forgive me for what I am about to do. There are only 95 days left until Christmas. The only reason I am pointing this out now is to offer a suggestion for celebrating the birth of Jesus in a different manner than Madison Avenue's version. As we are all aware, everyone's budget is tight due to the state of the economy. Many are out of work or working for a lot less than they may have done in the last few years. People are forced to make very hard decisions about what they can afford in their lives. As Christians, we should look at our "traditional" manner of celebrating the Christmas holiday and adjust it to reflect the reality of the people around us.

I am not suggesting that family gatherings and decorated homes should be dropped. I am pointing specifically to our tendency to go overboard with presents. Spending more than is comfortable because "it's Christmas" is not the lesson of the one who's birth we celebrate. Jesus was the gift to us, and the only other gifts mentioned in the Nativity stories were the gifts of the Magi given to Jesus. Mary and Joseph did not give each other expensive jewelry or gizmos. As a matter of fact, there is no mention of them doing anything for each other.

Start looking around now for special ways to share the spirit of Christmas in ways that reflect the Christian understanding that we give to honor the Christ child, not to impress the recipients of our gifts. Some possible "gifts" that can be given to adults would be gifts in their name to a special charity. A gift made by hand, not in the manner of a child's gift to a parent, but a gift of time and talent spent for that person.

Family events can focus on giving as well. Contact the local Habitat office and volunteer as

a family. Get on the schedule to volunteer at the soup kitchen or food pantry or clothing closet. Obviously, the time immediately around the holidays are prime targets, so be willing to look around outside the holiday time and make it a special family holiday event. Other things that could be done could be directed to the families in the Ronald McDonald House, Children's Hospital, or a nursing home in the area. For example, as a family bake and decorate cookies and deliver them to shut ins or elderly neighbors who have no local family.

Make a family effort of selecting from an Angel Tree and getting something that involves everyone in the choosing of the gift. Let even the youngest children, even if they need extra guidance, be involved in the act of buying, wrapping and delivering the gift. Connect the giving of gifts to the giving of gifts to baby Jesus.

I was listening to the last program of the radio show "Speaking of Faith" and they were sharing some of the broadcast interviews that have really spoken to the crew and to the listeners. The part that really grabbed my attention was an interview with a man who works with impoverished people following Hurricane Katrina. He was talking about how we respond to people in need and what it teaches our children. If the only response our children see involves opening of the wallet or the checkbook, they may never see or connect with the people we are helping.

Another person was sharing a story about baking a cake for his mother, an RN, as a surprise for her when she got off work. As he started he realized that he had no eggs for the cake mix. He remembered his mother telling stories about how the community would share with each other, especially when times were hard. If you needed a cup of sugar or a couple

of eggs, you asked your neighbors and they provided if they could. So he went across the street and borrowed two eggs. His mother's joy was diminished as he shared his tale. Today, what used to be borrowing from a neighbor to be returned in kind has transferred into begging. We live in our isolated shells called home, and hide from the interactions of the people around us.

How many of you know the real condition of your neighbors? Are they healthy; are they struggling; are they in crisis?

As we approach Advent and Christmas, the community of Christ needs to reclaim a greater sense of community. Give the gifts of community to your family and friends. Embrace a stable born child, visit that infant in the manger and get to know the other people offering their gifts of lambs, frankincense, myrrh and gold.

Shalom, *Darrell*

## OCT. ELDERS & DEACONS

The Elders and Deacons scheduled to serve in Oct. are: Elders: Denny & Brenda McReynolds and Deacons: Juliet Nolde, Evelyn Carroll, and Fran Rutherford.



## “LAST BLAST OF SUMMER FUN”

Sunday, September 19<sup>th</sup> was a fun day for all at FCC. After services, the congregation enjoyed a lunch of grilled burgers and hot dogs with all the fixings. Much thanks to our grill chef, Corey Gunnin and his team! After lunch the youth of all ages enjoyed fun in the giant water slide complete with diving dolphins and fun in the sprinkler. A bubble gum blowing contest also took place. Rev. Darrell attempted to judge who could blow the largest bubble, decided not to attempt the feat himself. (Was it the facial hair thing, Darrell or the concern about future comments about hot air?) The youngest members enjoyed playing with some old fashioned soap bubbles as well. Over all it was just a fun day to enjoy fellowship with our church family. Much thanks to all who contributed with funds or helped with the preparation and clean up to make this years Fun Day a success. Service/Fellowship Committee



## LUNCH BUNCH

The Lunch Bunch met on September 8<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 at Ole` Times Country Buffet. Those in attendance were: David Von Almen, Juanita & Corey Gunnin, Lois Crawford, Evelyn Hawkins and Carl Shaw. We really missed those who could not join us and hope you can be with us the next time we get together. We will meet again on Oct. 13<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 at Ole` Times Country Buffet.

## REGIONAL ASSEMBLY November 12-13, 2010

This year's Georgia Regional Assembly will be held at Macon First on Nov. 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. We have the opportunity to join the St. Andrew congregation to help Macon First in hosting the assembly. Our congregation has been asked to provide child care for the weekend if registrations indicate there is a need. We have also been asked to provide and host a light reception on Saturday morning before the sessions begin. If you are interested in assisting in either of these, please contact Sara Hebenstreit, who will be serving as the Assembly contact person for our congregation.

## CWF GRACE



We resumed our meetings on Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> with a covered dish meal. Eight ladies attended. Lois and Angela Crawford brought photos and gifts they purchased from Quadrennial in Greensboro, NC in June. They shared interesting facts that we are sharing with others.

Registrants: 1,887	First time attendees 648
Every time attendees 8	Husbands 78
Tweeners 40	States represented 44
Countries represented 15	Offering \$36,762
Blessing Boxes \$12,389	DMF \$321
Bras for a Cause \$4,453	Bras brought 130

Come to our annual Chinese Auction after the carry in dinner on Oct. 17<sup>th</sup>. This is sponsored by CWF Grace Group. We hope you will plan to come and have a relaxed evening with lots of laughter, and some new things to take home. David Von Almen will be our auctioneer.



## CHRISTIAN MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The CMF breakfast resumed on Sept 4<sup>th</sup>. There were nine men and women attending. They will meet again on Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup>. This will also be our fall workday. Come and enjoy a delicious breakfast and help spruce up the church yard and sanctuary.



YOUTH GROUP

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Oct. 10<sup>th</sup> – Beginning at 2:00 p.m. – Car Wash in the front parking lot (weather permitting). Donations will be accepted. The money raised will help pay for the Youth-a-palooza in January. Come get a clean car and support the youth of the church.

Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> – Watch for tickets to go on sale for the Café Amore dinner. The ticket will cover a spaghetti dinner with all the fixings plus dessert. Bring your appetites and invite friends and family.

Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> – After the fellowship dinner, come down to the sanctuary for the youth's presentation of the play "Christmissed?" Once again the Chi Rho/CYF will provide a humorous gift of Christmas entertainment. Make plans for the evening of Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>. Come to the fellowship dinner and a show.

## NURSERY ATTENDENTS

October 3	Jo Smith
October 10	Melissa & Angie
October 17	
October 24	Mike Hurlbert
October 31	Gidget Hurlbert

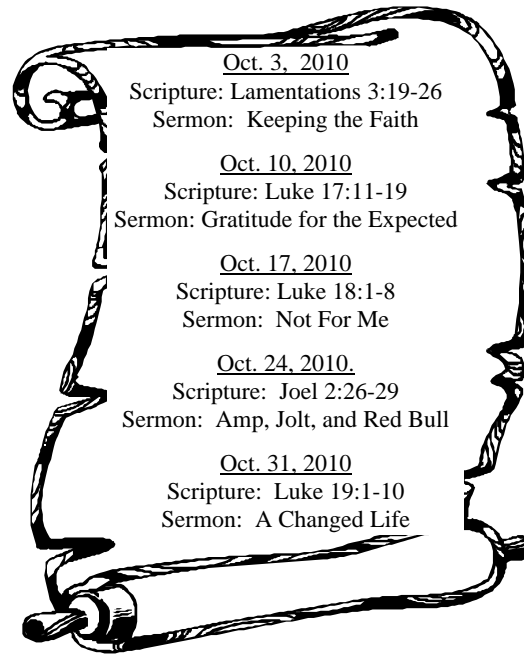
## HEARTS TO HEROES

If you bring items for Hearts to Heroes, please put them in the Narthex. If the items are for the Safe House, Feed My Sheep or the church pantry, PLEASE label the items and leave them in the Fellowship Hall.

**Please help us by labeling the bag or items you would like to donate!**

**Example:**

- Church Pantry**
- Local Food Pantry**
- Safe House**
- Hearts to Heroes**



Oct. 3, 2010

Scripture: Lamentations 3:19-26  
Sermon: Keeping the Faith

Oct. 10, 2010

Scripture: Luke 17:11-19  
Sermon: Gratitude for the Expected

Oct. 17, 2010

Scripture: Luke 18:1-8  
Sermon: Not For Me

Oct. 24, 2010

Scripture: Joel 2:26-29  
Sermon: Amp, Jolt, and Red Bull

Oct. 31, 2010

Scripture: Luke 19:1-10  
Sermon: A Changed Life



## Church Pantry Needs

- Paper towels
- Toilet paper
- Large divided foam plates
- Sugar
- 18 or 20 ounce cold cups (red or blue)
- 39 gallon trash bags



## FOOD PANTRY PROJECT

Our church gave about 80 pounds to the local food pantry in September. Please bring a few cans, jars, or packages of non-perishable food to church at least once a month to help people who really need extra help during these bad economic times.



## SAFE HOUSE NEEDS

- Cleaning Supplies
- Bath Towels
- Twin size blankets
- Diapers size 3
- Toilet Paper
- Paper Towels



## FALL FESTIVAL

The Fall Festival will be held on Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is invited. We will have hot dogs, and all the fixings. We will be asking for donations.

# October 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 <i>Christopher Von Almen</i>	2 <b>8:00 Men's Breakfast</b> Church Fall Work Day <i>Mike &amp; Gidget Hurlbert</i>
3 <b>World Communion Day</b> 4:00 ChiRho/CYF	4 <b>Board Meeting</b> 7:30	5 <b>8:00 Breakfast at Cracker Barrel Bible Study</b> 7:00 <i>Thomas Scissons</i>	6	7	8 <b>2:00 Lunch Bunch</b> <i>Ashlie Scissons</i>	9 <i>Steven Kidd</i>
10 <b>Youth car wash</b> 4:00 ChiRho/CYF <i>Scott &amp; Juliet Nolde</i>	11	12 <b>8:00 Breakfast at Cracker Barrel Bible Study</b> 7:00	13 <b>2:00 Lunch Bunch</b>	14 <i>John &amp; Vesta Wilkinson</i>	15	16
17 <b>Children's Sabbath Fellowship Dinner</b> 6:00 <i>Greg Ladzinske</i>	18 <i>Sylvia Lord</i> <i>Jannet Thompson</i>	19 <b>8:00 Breakfast at Cracker Barrel Bible Study</b> 7:00	20	21 <b>CWF Grace</b> 7:00	22	23
24 <b>Fall Festival</b> 5:00-7:00 p.m.	25 <i>Norbert Duncan</i>	26 <b>8:00 Breakfast at Cracker Barrel Bible Study</b> 7:00	27	28 <i>Ann Von Almen</i>	29 <i>Angie Hebenstreit</i>	30
31 <i>Curtis Scaggs</i>						

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## ROOM IN THE BANK



Is your life full and busy? Is it perhaps, too busy? Sometimes we fill our lives so full we don't have time for the important things. At such times I remember a story about a young girl and her piggy bank. The little girl's father had just given her a silver dollar to put into her bank. She excitedly ran off to her room to "deposit" the coin. However, in a few minutes she returned and handed the silver coin back to her father.

"Daddy," she said sadly, "here's your dollar back. I can't get it into my bank." "Why not?" her concerned father asked. "It's too full," she said, obviously disappointed.

Her father accompanied her back to her room and, sure enough, her bank was too full to accept even one more coin. It was filled with pennies!

Sometimes our lives are like that bank. It is so full of errands, obligations and activities that neither nurture us nor help anyone else, that there simply is no room left for what is truly important—the silver dollars.

Grenville Kleiser has said, "To live at this time is an inestimable privilege, and a sacred obligation devolves upon you to make right use of your opportunities. Today is the day in which to attempt and achieve something worthwhile.

Have you made room for any large coins in your bank; for those things you believe to be worthwhile? If not, you may have to remove a few pennies, but I suspect you will never know they are gone!

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