

WARNER ROBINS DISCIPLE



Rev. Darrell Vandervort, Pastor

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(Disciples of Christ)
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Sunday School: 10:00am
Worship: 11:00am
Dec. 2012 Number 12



I write this on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. Thus far, anyone with a television or a newspaper has been buried under the ads for Black Friday, which starts on Thursday, and even earlier in some places than last year. Eat your Thanksgiving meal and give thanks, take a nap and spend the night buying stuff. Granted we have a tradition of gift giving at Christmas, but is it possible we have gone overboard on the drive to buy?

In the Nov. 14, 2012 issue of *The Christian Century*, I read an article taken from the journal *Weavings* (Nov.-Jan.). "Marilyn McEntyre suggests some very practical ways that American Christians can work against a self-centered consumerism and toward concerns for the neighbor and community. Begin every day for a month asking the question, 'What can I share today?' 'What do I have that might be given away?' See if a room at church can be found to use as a 'sharing station' where tools, utensils, clothing or books could be stored for others' use. Talk on the phone with someone who may be lonely for 15 minutes two or three times a week. Host dinner-and-documentary nights to discuss public problems with a view to finding and working for solutions. Commit to a steady-state household. If something new comes in, then something else goes out. 'Who is my neighbor?' is a question we cannot afford to consign to cliché, McEntyre says."

All of us have encountered people who may be borderline hoarders, and a few who may have crossed the border. Could the attitude of our society that demands us to be huge consumers lend itself to this problem?

At Christmas we celebrate the God given gift of the infant Jesus. We emulate this by giving gifts to others. But does the current demand

that we insanely consume goods in the name of Christmas reflect the meaning of this season? God gave us a gift of welcome and inclusion in His family. Jesus became a gift of learning—learning to love each other, to set aside worry, to find satisfaction in doing for others rather than others doing for us.

In a time when people are struggling with a weak economy and un- and under-employment, could we as Christians behave more like the one whose birth we are celebrating? Give gifts to family and friends, but share with your neighbor as you are able. Make your gifts reflect your faith rather than the latest ad on TV or the advertising push for "what everyone needs".

May your Christmas be a blessing to you and your family, and may it lead you to be a blessing to others.

Shalom, *Darrell*

CHRISTIAN MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

We had 15 attendees at the November 3rd breakfast. The next breakfast will be held on Saturday, December 1st at 8:00.

CHANGE FOR MEN'S MONTHLY BREAKFAST

Beginning in January the monthly breakfast will be held the first Sunday of each month at 8:30 a.m. This change is to make the breakfast more open to those that for some reason or another cannot attend on Saturdays. So, the January 2013 Men's Breakfast will be held on Sunday, January 6th in the fellowship hall. Ann and I are looking forward to seeing more men in attendance.

David Von Almen

DECEMBER ELDERS & DEACONS

Listed below are the Elders and Deacons scheduled to serve in December. The Elders are Charlie & Sara Hebenstreit. The Deacons Ethan Thompson, Kyle McReynolds, Dawn McReynolds and Jessica Hebenstreit.

LUNCH BUNCH NEWS

The Lunch Bunch met on Wednesday, November 14th at The Golden Corral. Those attending were Carl Shaw, Nadine & Curtis Scaggs, and Winona Smith. If you have not attended the Lunch Bunch gathering before, try it. The food is good and the fellowship is great too. Their next get together will be on December 12th.

DW GRACE NEWS

The Disciple Women's Grace Group met Thursday, November 15th at the church, with 10 women present. We made \$1012.21 from our Bazaar, Bake & Yard Sale. That is the largest \$ amount in several years. We want to thank everyone who helped make the day such a success, whether it was moving chairs, putting out flyers, baking, shopping, etc.

Our project for December is providing stockings for all the children staying at the Safe House.

Our next meeting will be our Christmas Party at Brenda McReynolds' home on Thursday, December 13th at 6:00 p.m. Please bring finger foods. Brenda will provide desserts and drinks. All ladies are invited.

CHURCH PANTRY NEEDS

Paper Towels	Coffee
Toilet Tissue	Dish Soap
Dessert Plates	Glass/All Purpose spray cleaner

SAFE HOUSE NEEDS

Toilet Paper	Laundry Detergent
Paper Towels	Fabric Softener
Cleaning Supplies	Dishwashing Detergent
	Dishwasher Detergent

DEC. SERMONS & SCRIPTURE



KNOWING THE TRUTH

There are several email messages going around citing how much the military is suppressing chaplains; ie: no Bibles, no use of Jesus' name, etc. This is NOT the full truth, only a partial truth stretched to cause an uproar. Don't pass these messages on. Help stop them by using the delete key. David Von Almen


A THOUGHT TO PONDER AT CHRISTMAS

The real reason for Christmas is that Jesus was born in order to become our Savior, to die for our sins. Christmas is supposed to be a celebration in anticipation of the birth of our Savior, but we should not forget His purpose.

HAVE A BLESSED & SAFE CHRISTMAS.

December 2012

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

						1
						8:00 Men's Breakfast
2 Chi Rho/CYF 4:00	3 BOARD MEETING 7:30 <i>Pam Palmer</i>	4 8:00 a.m. Cracker Barrel Bible Study 7:00 <i>Bob & Gladys Fentem</i>	5	6	7 <i>Gavin Edmondson</i>	8
9 Chi Rho/CYF 4:00	10	11 8:00 a.m. Cracker Barrel Bible Study 7:00 <i>Jennifer Lamm</i>	12 1:00 Lunch Bunch Golden Corral	13 DW GRACE 6:00 AT BRENDA'S	14 <i>William Griffith</i>	15 <i>Margaret Hicks</i>
16 Fellowship Dinner 6:00	17 <i>Ted Cook</i>	18 8:00 am Cracker Barrel Bible Study 7:00 <i>Oliva Gowin Matthew Thompson</i>	19	20	21	22
23 Chi Rho/CYF 4:00 <i>Kyle McReynolds</i>	24 Christmas Eve Service 7:30		26	27	28	29
30 Chi Rho/CYF 4:00	31 <i>Haley Crofutt Austin Hurlbert Hunter Hicks</i>	REMEMBER: <u>DATE CHANGE FOR MEN'S BREAKFASTS</u> Beginning January 6th, Men's Breakfasts will be at 8:30 a.m. on the first Sunday of each month.				

A Prayer for Our Homes This Christmas

Lord, Thank you for the gift of home.
It's so much more than walls and ceilings, windows and doors.
It's also a place we hold in our hearts.
We feel it in the love of family.
We hear it in the laughter of friends.
We find it in the life of faith you bring.
We invite you into the places where we dwell.
Please fill our rooms with your love, and every corner with
your peace, and each moment with your joy.
May we live in your grace, and may all who enter our doors be
blessed by you in a wonderful way.
Wherever we are, make that place truly a home that reflects
your heart as we live, laugh and love together.
Amen

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