WARNER ROBINS DISCIPLE

Rev. Darrell Vandervort, Pastor

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

(Disciples of Christ)
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Sunday School: 10:00am
Worship: 11:00am
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After Pentecost, those who joined the Disciples, now Apostles, joined together into a community. Since most of these people lived in the vicinity of Jerusalem, were they not already in the same community? We think of Warner Robins as our community. We think of our neighborhood or subdivision as a community. Where we work is a community, as is where we go to school. Yet this community is different.

The Christian community sold everything they had and lived in common, sharing resources as they were needed. They ate together at least twice a day even if they did not live in the same home. They looked after each other and supported each other. They were a Community!

I spent 15 years either in school and/or serving churches in Kentucky. While I was there, I heard of the farmer, poet, and author Wendell Berry. During one of the trips this year to Lexington to help while my mother-in-law was hospitalized, I visited a local bookstore. I know how strange it must sound that I would enter a bookstore. (I only bought four books and two of them are gifts.) I purchased two books by Wendell Berry and this week I finished The Hidden Wound. I want to recommend this book to everyone. It is only 137 pages long, but it is powerful.

Berry wrote this book while teaching in California in 1968-69. This was a time of great turmoil after the deaths of Dr. King and Malcolm X and the reactions to the passage of the Civil Rights legislation. It deals with the cost of prejudice on both sides. Berry draws on his experience as the grandson of slave owners and the common prejudices under which he was raised. He knew two African Americans who lived and worked on his Grandfather's

farm. From his own memories he jumps to the impact of prejudice in the greater community and the cost of broken human community.

The copy I purchased contains an Afterward written 20 years after he wrote the main body of the book. In this Afterward, Berry outlines the consequences of broken community. Because whites were separated from working the earth and moved more and more to working for the greatest gains, we lost touch with Creation and designated others (those he saw as lesser) to do the work we no longer wanted to do. Success measured by power and wealth replaced a concern for the people around us and community became less and less important.

Berry states on page 129, "Our place of safety can only be the community, and not just one community, but many of them everywhere. Upon that depends all that we still claim to value: freedom, dignity, health, mutual help and affection, undestructive pleasure, and the rest. Human life, as most of us still would like to define it, is community life."

We are the church; we are a community. We need to grow and strengthen and broaden our community so that others may see and do likewise. We all succeed together, not by competing, but by loving God and loving all the broken humanity around us and in so doing, we begin the process of healing for all of humanity.

Shalom, Darrell

JULY ELDERS & DEACONS

Listed below are the Elders and Deacons scheduled to serve in July: Elders are Dale Barnickel and Jerri Bosarge. The Deacons are Andrea McCleese, Angela Hebenstreit, Judy Barnickel, and Kyle McReynolds.

DISCIPLE MEN'S BREAKFAST

After more than 25 years of preparing breakfast for the men of the church, Ann and I have decided it is time for us to retire. We have had a wonderful time fixing breakfast, but we are ready for a rest. Thank you to all the men that have attended over the years. See you in Church.

Love, David and Ann

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

On June 6th we had our VBS program. This year's theme was Mission Impossible. It was a lock in style VBS. Everyone came and joined the Impossible Fund Force where we got our secret agent supplies. We were treated by Bricks 4 Kids who helped us build the wall of Jericho. We learned more about our church's outreach to Family Promise and made it our mission project for the weekend. All totaled, 49 comfort blankets were made by the kids and staff to present to Family Promise. The director of Family Promise came by to tell us more about the program and how we can help homeless kids/families in our schools and community.

We found that just like Paul and Silas, nothing is Impossible with God. We rounded out the weekend with some secret agent missions, water balloon piñatas and water balloon baseball. What a great way to unwind and relax.

We had a total of 18 children and teens and ten adult volunteers. Thanks to all who helped make this event possible and for the donations of time, money and prayers.

Jeannetta Stokes

FATHER'S DAY BREAKFAST

Sponsored by CCF, this was a great fun event. All the men of the church were welcome. We had several early bird men who joined us for sausage gravy, biscuits, cheese scrambled eggs, fresh fruit, doughnuts and juice. Thank you to all the fathers, for all that you do.

CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S FELLOWSHIP

CCF will be off for the summer. We will begin again in the fall. Have a great summer.

JULY SERMONS & SCRIPTURE



DISCIPLE WOMEN GRACE NEWS

We met on Thus. June 19th. Thirteen ladies were present for our covered dish meal and installation of new offices by Mary Jane Rogers. We discussed the cook book and heard any prayers concerns. We will meet again Sept. 18th with a covered dish meal before our meeting.

LUNCH BUNCH NEWS

The Lunch Bunch met on June 11th. Those attending were Curtis & Nadine Scaggs, Juanita Gunnin and Winona Smith. They meet on the second Wednesday of each month. Their next get together will be held at the Golden Corral on June 9th at 1:00 p.m.

We need small dessert plates, plastic spoons and forks for the kitchen. Thanks for your help.

SAFE HOUSE NEEDS

Paper towels
Bathroom tissue
Trash bags
Laundry soap
Laundry fabric softener
Dish Soap
Kitchen cleaners

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| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|--|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------|
| | | 8:00 a.m. Cracker Barrel Bible Study 7:00 Juliet Nolde | 2 | 3 Evelyn Hawkins | INDEPENDENCE DAY | 5 |
| 6 Chi Rho/CYF 4:00 | 7 | 8:00 a.m. Cracker Barrel Bible Study 7:00 Jerri Bosarge | 9 Lunch Bunch 1:00 <i>Keith Ewert</i> <i>Tony Hick</i> s | | 11 Winona Smith | 12 |
| ChiRho/CYF 4:00 Andrea McCleese | Rita Youngblood Lonnie & Margaret Hicks Heather Johnson | 8:00 a.m. Cracker Barrel Bible Study 7:00 Carl Shaw | 16 John Stokes | 17 | 18 | 19 Fran Rutherford Laurie Cook |
| ChiRho/CYF 4:00 JT Stokes | 21 | 8:00 a.m. Cracker Barrel Bible Study 7:00 | 23 | 24 Laython Willis | 25 Wayne Scaggs | 26 |
| 27 ChiRho/CYF 4:00 | 28 | 8:00 a.m. 29 Cracker Barrel Bible Study 7:00 Dalton & Dakota Croffutt | 30 Corey Gunnin | 31 | | |

OUR AMERICA

I watched the flag pass by one day. It fluttered in the breeze. A young Marine saluted it, and then he stood at ease. I looked at him in uniform, so young, so tall and so proud, With hair cut square and eyes alert, He stands out in any crowd. I thought how many men like him had fallen through the years. How many died on foreign soil? How many mothers' tears? How many pilots' planes shot down? How many died at sea? How many foxholes were soldiers' graves? No, freedom isn't free. I heard the sound of Taps one night, when everything was still, I listened to the bugler play and felt a sudden chill. I wondered just how many times that Taps had meant, "Amen", when a flag had draped a coffin of a brother or friend? I thought of all the children, of the mothers and wives, of fathers, sons and husbands with interrupted lives. I thought about a graveyard at the bottom of the sea, or unmarked graves in Arlington. No, freedom isn't free.

ENJOY YOUR FREEDOM, BUT PLEASE ASK GOD TO BLESS OUR TROOPS.

First Christian Church

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