

# WARNER ROBINS DISCIPLE



Rev. Darrell Vandervort, Pastor

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

(Disciples of Christ)

100 North Houston Road

Warner Robins, GA 31093

(478) 923-1536

[pastor@fcc-wr.org](mailto:pastor@fcc-wr.org)

[www.fcc-wr.org](http://www.fcc-wr.org)

Sunday School: 10:00am

Worship: 11:00am

February 2015 Number 2



The Week of Compassion offerings will be collected on Feb. 15th and 22<sup>nd</sup>. The Week of Compassion offering is our opportunity to help those who have experienced or will experience disaster, natural and man-made. The money will provide aid to people around the globe when they need it the most. Please give as though it was your family in crisis and pray for those impacted.

The Week of Compassion is part of an ecumenical outreach aimed at relieving suffering caused by disasters of all kinds. Some denominations refer to it as The One Great Hour of Sharing; for us it is Week of Compassion. Here are some statistics gleaned from the Planning Guide for the Week of Compassion:

- Nearly 1.5 billion people in developing countries live in extreme poverty, living on less than \$1.25 a day.
- Most Americans, approximately 51.4 percent, will live in poverty at some point before age 65.
- Every day, almost 16,000 children die from hunger-related causes.
- In the United States, 14.5 percent of households struggle to put food on the table.
- More than one in four American children are at risk of hunger. More than one in five children live in households that struggle to put food on the table.
- World-wide, 1 in 8 persons are under-nourished. That means a total of 870 million in all do not eat enough to be healthy.
- 11% of the world's population still doesn't have access to clean drinking water.
- The UN is concerned that the burden of caring for refugees is increasingly falling on

the countries with the least resources. Developing countries are host to 86% of the world's refugees, with wealthy countries caring for just 14%.

- Storms, floods, famines, drought, typhoons, earthquakes, mud slides occur yearly. Each year for the past decade, an average of 258 million people have lived through some kind of disaster—in total, this is the equivalent of almost half of the world's population.
- More than 50 times as many people were affected by disaster in developing countries as in developed countries.

I selected these statistics out of two and a half pages of similar information. Helping overcome a disaster takes more than a month, or even more than a year. Look at New Orleans and the Gulf Coast. Look at New Jersey and at Haiti. All of these, and many other places, that are still trying to come back from disaster. Then turn to those who are displaced or suffering from war, such as the Middle East, the African nations, and elsewhere. Your gifts to the Week of Compassion touch lives from floods and tornadoes in the United States, to cyclones in the western Pacific Ocean.

We never want to think about what would happen if a disaster struck close to home, but if it should ever happen, wouldn't we be relieved to know that our church and many others around the world would offer help for recovery? Let's be that hope for others.

Shalom, *Darrell*

## PRAYER TRIADS

We have begun sign-up for prayer triads. This was done a few years ago and helped us strengthen our personal life and our church life. Please sign up if you have not already done so. In conjunction with this prayer effort, there is an

opportunity to read and discuss Dr. Sharon Watkins's new book, Whole: A Call to Unity in Our Fragmented World. The book costs \$15.99, but since we will order in quantity, we will receive a 20% discount. All proceeds from the purchase will go to Disciples Mission Fund. This is a denomination wide challenge to read this book before the General Assembly to be held in July in Columbus, OH. Please sign up if you want to participate in the study.

## **FEBRUARY ELDERS & DEACONS**

Listed below are the Elders and Deacons scheduled to serve in February: Elders are Juliet and Scott Nolde. The Deacons are Gidget Hurlbert, Doreen Campbell, Dawn & Denny McReynolds.

## **DISCIPLE WOMEN GRACE**

The Grace Group met Thurs., January 15<sup>th</sup>. at 7:00 p.m. with 13 ladies present. We are still selling cookbooks, so if you are interested in purchasing one for yourself or as a gift, see Sharon-Kay, Jeannetta or Brenda.

Jeannetta & Dawn are planning our church women's retreat for late Spring. More details next month. We are also looking toward April for our annual yard sale.

We are moving on in planning the upgrade for the playground. We have had \$500 donated towards this project and are hoping to have the toddler area done soon. If you would like to contribute to this project, which we hope to include some equipment for older children and a swing or two for adults, please make out the check to: DW Grace Group and put 'Playground' in the memo section. When our committee meets with the Property Dept. and we get a firmer plan, we will have an update and hope to accomplish this project soon.

Sharon-Kay presented our program, "The Master's Touch". Our next meeting will be February 19<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. at church.

We have included an E-mail note from the Safe House so you can see how much the stockings were appreciated by the children and their mothers. Thank you so much for your support

in providing stockings for 22 children and gifts for 9 mothers.

"It is with warmth and humbleness I am able to share with you the feelings of joy that were brought to our little ones during this Christmas season. With each package, you could clearly see that the little lights in the eyes, that seemed so dim for so long, were turned on as each child received their stocking. The mothers were thankful not to have to worry about yet another "hurdle", after being displaced from their homes, that would cause them to jump through it in order to provide gifts for their children. They were also very humbled to know that while thinking of their children, they were not forgotten and were thought to be valuable enough to someone out there! You may never know who these families are. You may never know when you are standing by them in the checkout line at the store, or if they work in your doctor's office or at the DMV, but tonight you will know that with your precious time devoted to this ministry, you made a world of difference in the lives of the women and children here at our shelter. May God bless you all!

Thank you so very much for allowing my staff and I to witness the hands of God at work through each and every one of you!

Yours in service,  
Tamara Rodriguez  
Safe House Director"

## **CAMP CHRISTIAN GALA**

On Saturday, March 21, 2015, Camp Christian will be holding a Gala which includes a luncheon, silent auction, and live auction. All the proceeds will go to helping maintain and improve the camp.

The Gala is a fun time to see friends from around the region, make new friends, bid on items, and help the camp. Auction items vary in price (some as low as \$5.00) and types. You never know what you will find!

I would like our church to make a themed basket. It was discussed at the January church board meeting, and we decided to do a Foodie themed basket. We will put one of the Grace Group's cookbooks in the basket and center the other items around a love of food and cooking.

If you would like to help, please purchase items based on this theme and bring them to the narthex at church. I will collect them and arrange them in a basket to give to the Gala.

Thank you for your help and support.  
- Juliet Nolde

## LUNCH BUNCH NEWS

The Lunch Bunch met on January 14<sup>th</sup>. Those attending were Brenda & Denny McReynolds and Carl Shaw. They meet on the second Wednesday of each month. Their next get together will be held at the Golden Corral on Feb. 11<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. Come join us!

## FEBRUARY SERMONS & SCRIPTURE



## A NOTE FROM WINONA

Sharon-Kay received a phone call from Winona Jan. 14<sup>th</sup>. She is doing well, still doing Rehab but getting stronger all the time. The weather there was about like it is here. She asked that I tell everyone that she misses us and keeps us all in her prayers. We all need to do the same for her. Her address is:

**Winona Smith**  
**Summit Place**  
**1119 Pickpocket Plantation Drive**  
**Room 214**  
**Beaufort, SC 29902**

## KITCHEN SUPPLIES

Large trash bags  
13 gallon kitchen garbage bags  
Divided oblong foam plates  
Paper towels  
Bathroom tissue  
Kleenex  
Dish Soap  
Spray kitchen cleaners

## A NO NONSENSE TEST FOR THE KIDS

- In which battle did Napoleon die?  
\*\*\*his last battle
- Where was the Declaration of Independence signed?  
\*\*\*at the bottom of the page
- What is the main reason for divorce?  
\*\*\*marriage
- What is the main reason for failure?  
\*\*\*exams
- What can you never eat for breakfast?  
\*\*\*lunch and dinner
- What looks like half an apple?  
\*\*\*the other half
- If you throw a red stone into the blue sea, what will it become?  
\*\*\*wet
- How can a man go eight days without sleeping?  
\*\*\*no problem, he sleeps at night
- How can you lift an elephant with one hand?  
\*\*\*you will never find an elephant that has one hand.
- If you had three apples & four oranges in one hand and four apples & three oranges in the other hand, what would you have?  
\*\*\*very large hands
- If it took eight men ten hours to build a wall, how long would it take four men to build it?  
\*\*\*no time at all, the wall is already built.
- How can you drop a raw egg onto a concrete floor without cracking it?  
\*\*\*any way you want, concrete floors are very hard to crack.

The smart kid received 0% on the exam. Each answer is correct. The teacher had no sense of humor.

# February 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 <b>CCF meets</b> <b>2:00-4:00</b> <i>Ben Campbell</i>	2 <b>Cab. &amp; Board Mtg.</b> <b>6:30 &amp; 7:00</b> <i>Amethyst Lamm</i>	3 <b>8:00 a.m.</b> <b>Cracker Barrel</b> <b>American Heritage</b> <b>Girls 4:30-5:30</b> <b>Bible Study 7:00</b> <i>Lori Lamm</i>	4	5 <i>Mike Hurlbert</i>	6	7 <i>Gidget Hurlbert</i>
8 <i>Theresa Nolde</i>	9 <i>Jessica Hebenstreit</i>	10 <b>8:00 a.m.</b> <b>Cracker Barrel</b> <b>American Heritage</b> <b>Girls 4:30-5:30</b> <b>Bible Study 7:00</b> <b>The Model Club</b> <b>7:00 p.m.</b>	11 <b>Lunch Bunch</b> <b>1:00</b>	12 <b>Radio Club</b> <b>Meeting 7:00</b>	13	14
15 <b>CCF meets</b>	16 <i>Curtis &amp; Nadine Scaggs</i>	17 <b>8:00 a.m.</b> <b>Cracker Barrel</b> <b>American Herigage</b> <b>Girls 4:30-5-30</b> <b>Bible Study 7:00</b>	18	19 <b>DW Grace 7:00</b> <i>Mary Jane Rogers</i>	20	21
22 <i>Tony &amp; Barbara Hicks</i>	23	24 <b>8:00 a.m.</b> <b>Cracker Barrel</b> <b>American Heritage</b> <b>Girls 4:30-5:30</b> <b>Bible Study 7:00</b> <b>The Model Club</b> <b>7:00 p.m.</b>	25 <b>Prayer Shaw</b> <b>Meeting 7:00 p.m.</b>	26 <b>Bariatric Group</b> <b>Meeting 7:00 p.m.</b>	27 <i>Brenda McReynolds</i>	28 <i>David &amp; Ann Von Almen</i>

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## **TIME IS MOVING ON**

As I've aged, I've become kinder to, and less critical of, myself. I've become my own friend. I have seen too many dear friends leave this world, too soon; before they understood the great freedom that comes with aging. Whose business is it, if I choose to read, or play on the computer until 4 a.m., or if I sleep until noon? I will dance with myself to those wonderful tunes of the 50s, 60s and 70s, and if I, at the same time, wish to weep over a lost love, I will do so. I will walk the beach, in a swim suit that is stretched over a bulging body, and will dive into the waves, with abandon, if I choose to, despite the pitying glances from the jet set. They, too, will get old. I know I am sometimes forgetful. But there again, some of life is just as well forgotten. And, eventually, I remember the important things. Sure, over the years, my heart has been broken. How can your heart not break, when you lose a loved one, or when a child suffers, or even when somebody's beloved pet gets hit by a car? But broken hearts are what give us strength, and understanding, and compassion. A heart never broken, is pristine, and sterile, and will never know the joy of being imperfect. I am so blessed to have lived long enough to have my hair turning gray, and to have my youthful laughs be forever etched into deep grooves on my face. So many people have never laughed, and so many have died before their hair could turn silver. As you grow older, it is easier to be positive. You care less about what other people think. I don't question myself anymore. I've even earned the right to be wrong. So, frankly, I like being old. It has set me free. I like the person I have become. I am not going to live forever, but while I am still here, I will not waste time lamenting what could have been, or worrying about what will be. And I shall eat dessert every single day if I feel like it.

- Author Unknown

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