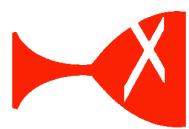


In This Issue...

- Birthdays, Anniversaries and Church Events are incorporated into the NEW Harbinger layout
- “Planting a ‘Members’ Garden”
- New “Ask the Pastor” Column

Volume 62
October, 2011



CHURCH LAUNCHES T⁴

On October 9, 2011, First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) of Marietta will launch the T⁴ program, a new approach to Christian stewardship, T⁴ “embraces all of life,” explains Rev. Jeff Shimizu, who will keynote the program in the opening sermon. T⁴ stands for a person’s *time, talents, treasure, and the earth* upon which he/she lives. The program runs from October 9 – November 20, and includes sermons by Shimizu, Donna Kremer, Jerry Gladson, and Chris Goss, weekly *e*-devotions by members of the congregation, video interviews, and culminates in a Rally Day on November 20.

“When people think of stewardship,” says Joe Kern, chair of the church’s Stewardship & Finance Team, “they think of money and finance. But stewardship is much, much more. Stewardship has to do with the whole of life.”

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it.

“If someone mentions ‘stewardship,’ I always think of the opening of Psalm 24,” notes Jerry Gladson, Minister Emeritus. “That Psalm starts with ‘The earth is the Lord’s and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it.’ Stewardship takes it all in. In true stewardship, we learn how to live our whole lives within the will of God. That’s ‘heady’ stuff.”

According to Jeff Shimizu, the T⁴ program will not be devoted to raising money. “It will deal with our ‘treasure,’ but will include much more. T⁴ isn’t a high-pressure, pledge campaign. It rather emphasizes spiritual growth. Every member can expect to grow spiritually, if they participate in the program.”

T⁴ climaxes November 20 with Rally Day. “This important Sunday, you will not want to miss,” comments Gladson. “We’ll celebrate with a covered-dish lunch, a Thanksgiving lunch, and a spiritually uplifting Worship service highlighting the loyalty of every member to this congregation.”

We are a family worshipping and serving God.
We accept, inspire and empower for Christian service.

Time Harbinger

News of First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ) of Marietta

I hate the giving of the hand
unless the whole man accompanies it.

-Ralph Waldo Emerson

Upcoming Sermons

October 2, 2011
Rev. Dr. Jerry Gladson

October 9, 2011
Rev. Jeff Shimizu

October 16, 2011
Rev. Donna Kremer

October 23, 2011
Rev. Chris Goss

October 30, 2011
Rev. Dr. Jerry Gladson



Conversations (a mid-week Bible Study)

October 5, 2011
Has the Bible been translated correctly?

October 12, 2011
The English translations

October 19, 2011
How are Bible translations made?

October 26, 2011
Which Bible translation is best?

Disciples Women

On Thursday, October 6th, we will have our next Disciples Women/Disciples Men family night. The covered dish will begin at 7:00 pm. This will be an information and idea gathering meeting. The budget will also be presented. Please plan to attend and support Disciples Women/Disciples Men in this every other month meeting.

CHURCH PICNIC

Saturday, October 8, the church will host a picnic at Laural Park in the Pavilion from 1-4 in the afternoon. Hamburgers, hotdogs and lemonade will be provided. Please bring 1-2 side dishes to share.

Come prepared for music, fellowship and fun!



Church Sponsored Wedding Shower

We are hosting a wedding shower for Dan Head and Shelly White on October 16, 2011 after worship. The couple is registered at Target. Come and celebrate the upcoming nuptials.



How Well Do You Know the Flu?

It's coming, almost here, right around the corner. I'm talking about **flu season**. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), every year in the United States, approximately 5-20% of the population suffers from seasonal influenza.

The flu is a highly contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses. It can cause mild to severe illness, and at times can lead to death. Flu viruses spread mainly by droplets made when infected individuals cough, sneeze, or talk. These airborne droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby. Less often, a person might also get the flu by touching a surface or object that has flu virus on it and then touching their own mouth, eyes, or nose.

You may pass on the flu to someone else before you know you are sick, beginning 1 day before symptoms develop and up to 5-7 days after becoming sick.

Symptoms of the flu may include:

- Fever
- Dry Cough
- Sore Throat
- Runny or stuffy nose
- Muscle or body aches
- Headaches
- Extreme tiredness
- Vomiting and diarrhea (more common in children than adults)

If you experience any of the above symptoms, it is important to contact your healthcare provider right away. There are medicines available to lessen the duration and severity of complications, but these are most effective when started within 48 hours.

Influenza is a very serious illness. Complications of flu can include bacterial pneumonia, ear infections, sinus infections, dehydration, and worsening of chronic medical conditions such as congestive heart failure, asthma, or diabetes.

The best way to prevent the flu is by getting a flu **vaccine** each year. Depending on your age and physical condition, you have several options, ranging from a nasal spray to the flu shot. It takes about 2 weeks for your body to develop antibodies. Getting vaccinated in October or November will protect you during the height of flu season, which occurs in February here in Georgia.

Even if you wait until December or January, it is still not too late, since the flu season can last as late as May.

Handwashing and respiratory etiquette are important habits to help protect you and others from transmitting influenza as well as other viruses and bacteria.

The CDC recommends that **everyone** 6 months and older get a flu vaccine each year. However, if you have a severe allergy to chicken eggs or a severe reaction to a previous flu vaccination, you should consult your healthcare provider before receiving a flu shot.

Don't let flu season catch you unprotected. Your Congregational Nurse has information to help you.



Rev. Donna Kremer

The basic idea of inner healing is simply this: that Jesus, who is the same yesterday, today, and forever, can take the memories of our past and (1) *Heal* them from the wounds that still remain and affect our present lives; and (2) *Fill* with his love all these places in us that have been empty for so long, once they have been healed and drained of the poison of past hurts and resentment.

-Francis MacNutt, *Healing*

Sunday School

9:45 a.m. Sunday

Worship & Communion

11:00 a.m. Sunday

Spanish Service

3:00 p.m. Sunday

St. Luke's Anglican Church

4:00 p.m. Sunday

AA Meeting

5:00 p.m. Wednesday

English Bible Study

6:30 p.m. Wednesday

Spanish Bible Study

7:30 p.m. Wednesday

Gambler's Anonymous Meeting

7:45 p.m.

Choir Practice

7:30 p.m. Wednesday

Food Pantry

9 a.m.-12 p.m. Monday

9 a.m.-12 p.m. Saturday

SERVING SCHEDULE
ELDERS

October 2, 2011

Bob Kremer
Donna Kremer

October 9, 2011

Sherwood Smith
Brenda Stoyko

October 16, 2011

Sherwood Smith
Brenda Stoyko

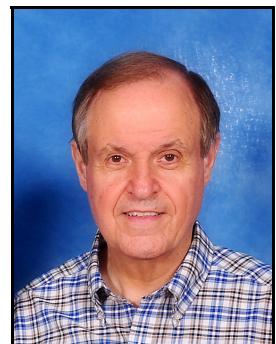
October 23, 2011

Bob Kremer
Donna Kremer

Everybody can be great. Because everybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and your verb agree to serve. You don't have to know about Plato and Aristotle to serve. You don't have to know Einstein's theory of relativity to serve. You don't have to know the second theory of thermo-dynamics to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love.

-Martin Luther King,
in Coretta Scott King,
The Words of Martin Luther King

**ALL WE
HAVE**



Rev. Dr. Jerry Gladson

You can tell from the front-page article (see *Church Launches T⁴*) that our church is getting ready for a stewardship emphasis program. Many people, unfortunately, are afraid of stewardship. Perhaps you are one of them. You want to stop reading right now. I hope you will reconsider, and read on, because I think there is a very important message here.

Stewardship *is* about money. However, it is much more than that. It takes in the whole of our lives. When we became Christians, we made the crucial surrender of ourselves to Christ, and began a life that follows Christ. The truth is that every faculty we have, our power of thinking, feeling, and moving our limbs from moment to moment, every thing we own, every goal we set, is given us by God. "For from him and through him and to him are all things," St. Paul wrote (Romans 11:36). Even if we devoted every single second of our life exclusively to the service of God, we couldn't give to God anything that wasn't already God's. As Christians, we recognize we are completely, dependent upon God for the breath we take, our physical movements, the food we eat, the space upon which we live.

Proper stewardship acknowledges that all we are and have are God's. Our time, our talents and abilities, our treasures, and even the earth upon which we live, are gifts from the hand of a generous God. On our recent cruise vacation, we had a "steward" who took care of our stateroom, changed the bed, made sure there were supplies in the shower and washroom, took out the trash, and tidied things. A steward is one who takes care of things not his/her own. We are God's stewards. Our calling is to take care of the gifts God has given us.

Jerry Gladson
Minister Emeritus

News from the Keyboard

Christmas is coming! The choir is already preparing for the Christmas cantata. If you've ever had any desire to sing with us, now would be an excellent time to drop in. Practice is Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. in the choir room downstairs.

This fall we have begun a new benefit for all choir members who attend Wednesday practices. Little by little as I share them, one each week, you can collect my exercises for voice care. The benefits of these exercises spill over into breathing and gum health, speech clarity, and facial youth. Human vocal cords, tongue, and cheeks are all muscle; maintaining these into and throughout maturity is one aim of these exercises.

The choir members serve each other as a support group for the work of these exercises. Of course, it's best if you can do the exercises every day, and several times a day. What you do in choir practice is merely instruction and incentive to keep it up.

Yes, you can go on my website www.listenary.com and read all about the exercises for voice care. It's more fun to do it together! Why not give yourself a Christmas gift in a new look and sound?



Wilma Zalabak

Wilma Zalabak
Minister of Music



Ask the Pastor

A friend tells me that God has already determined the time of our death? Is that true?

—Stumped

Dear Stumped,

Many people get the idea that the time of our death is already predetermined from biblical passages like this: “For everything there is a season . . . A time to be born, and a time to die” (Eccl 3:1-2). However, the same book speaks of people dying “before” their time (7:17).

God’s knowledge of future events, however extensive that may be, doesn’t rule out human freedom. We have some control over the time of our death. For instance, we can neglect our health and thus die before our time. We can take our own life. We can take unnecessary risks and endanger our lives.

Most believe that God’s knowledge of the future does not inhibit our freedom. We have the freedom to make genuine choices.

Ultimately, of course, we all die. It is inevitable. But God does not inflexibly set the time of our death.

If you have a question you’d like to ask the pastor, send it by letter to First Christian Church, 569 Frasier St., Marietta 30360, or email it to: fccmarietta@comcast.com. Your privacy will be honored.



Additions and updates to the Prayer List include:

Ruth Adams, Lola Bethel, Betty Burch (Venn Heerman's mother) Peter Chung Family, Josh Cox (Suzette's nephew), Jim Farris, Mildred Lockhart, Deena (DJ) Pett, Ken Russell, Ruth Zalabak (Wilma's mother)

Ruth Adams had a mild stroke Thursday, September 22. On Friday, September 23, Ruth suffered a more devastating stroke which has left her unresponsive; she is currently in hospice care.

Ken Russell had a motorcycle accident Saturday, September 24, on his way to see his daughter Melissa. His wrist is broken in two locations and the motorcycle is totaled.



You may request a complete prayer list from the office and request to have yourself or a loved one placed on the prayer list.

Planting a 'Members' Garden

Although it is not Spring, there is a garden in which every season is the perfect season to plant.

As members of this church, it is the time for each of us to plan, prepare, and plant our spiritual garden. You know, the one we sow to nourish each other, and to bear fruit in the name of the Lord. In order that the seeds of membership have a fertile environment in which to grow and multiply, we must each toil to cultivate a Members Garden, rich in love and brotherhood for one another. As we till our heart and soul for the good of others, remember to:

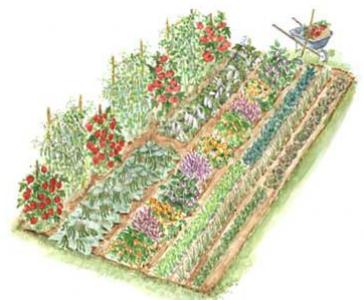
PLANT three rows of squash: 1. Squash gossip; 2. Squash criticism; 3. Squash indifference.

PLANT three rows of peas: 1. Prayer; 2. Patience; 3. Praise.

PLANT six rows of lettuce: 1. Let us be unselfish, loyal and forgiving; 2. Let us be faithful to duty; 3. Let us search the scriptures; 4. Let us not grow weary in well-doing; 5. Let us be obedient in all things; 6. Let us love one another.

NO MEMBERS GARDEN would be complete without turnips: 1. Turn up for church, prayer service, choir practice and Bible study; 2. Turn up with a smile, even when things are difficult; 3. Turn up with determination to do your best for God's cause.

After planting is completed, pray that each of us may "Grow in Grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." Amen. II Peter 3:18.



Our budget figures show that through July we received **\$102,805** in the General Fund, which is the account from which all our expenses are paid, but we spent **\$105,169**. That means after July, our deficit stood at **\$2,362** in operating funds.

Despite this deficit, our church family remains a generous, giving family. The downturn in the economy, leaving many out of work, and the corresponding decline in giving, have had consequences in our church budget. We will have to do more with less.

The hot summer has generated higher utility bills, and this has put a strain on the budget.

Your church thanks you for your sacrificial, generous gifts in time, talent, and finances. We do not take you for granted.

Financial Picture

RECOVERY MINISTRY

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS MEETING 5:00 PM
CHURCH LIBRARY

The key to success is this recreation, known in Alcoholics Anonymous as a psychic change, which incorporates a vital spiritual experience. This is made possible by what those who use the Big Book to do steps call the process. This process involves "trusting God and cleaning house." Having admitted that one's life is unmanageable and that one is an alcoholic, the next step is to recognize that help is available in a power greater than oneself. Seeking the help of that power comes next. This is followed by a thorough personal house cleaning. House cleaning involves discovering the part the alcoholic has played creating problems for self and others. It is a process of self-discovery not of self-flagellation. It is the discovery of how fears create resentments and feed the ego in a pattern of selfishness and self-centeredness. This allows the person to identify character defects and get help in dealing with these defects when they arise.



Warren Taylor

OCTOBER

Birthdays

- | | |
|-----|-------------------|
| 11- | Warren Williamson |
| 14- | Jason Williamson |
| 15- | Nancy Saunders |
| 19- | Suzette Cox |
| 21- | Bryce Scott |
| 25- | Rebecca Barton |
| 26- | Sondra Rowe |
| | Zack Shimizu |
| 27- | Claude H Conner |
| 31- | Lynn Drummond |

Anniversaries

- | | |
|-----|-----------------------|
| 1- | Martin & Shirley Muns |
| 11- | Jim & Bobbie Huff |
| 12- | Doyle & Linda Scott |
| 21- | Ken & Tommy Russell |
| 22- | Tim & Deanna Bishop |

It is not permissible to designate as 'unchurched' those who have become alienated from organized denominations and traditional creeds. In living among these groups for half a generation I learned how much of the latent Church there is within them.

-Paul Tillich, *On the Boundary*



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Pastoral Staff

John T. Lee	<i>Minister Emeritus †</i>
Jeff Shimizu	<i>Minister</i>
Donna Kremer	<i>Minister</i>
Jerry Gladson	<i>Minister Emeritus</i>
Warren Taylor	<i>Minister of Recovery</i>
Eduardo Villarreal	<i>Hispanic Minister</i>

Church Staff

Tommy Russell	<i>Administrative Assistant</i>
Sherwood Smith	<i>Food Pantry Director</i>
Sean Warner	<i>Worship Leader</i>
Wilma Zalabak	<i>Choir Director/Organist</i>