



Volume 60
August, 2009
Celebrating our
60th Anniversary
all year long

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

The HARBINGER

We are an inviting, welcoming, growing Christian community, worshipping God
in the Disciples tradition since 1949, where you are a stranger but once.

Is Jesus Present?

Excerpt from Mark 6:48-50

"When he saw that they were straining at the oars against an adverse wind, he came towards them early in the morning, walking on the sea. He intended to pass them by. But when they saw him walking on the sea, they thought it was a ghost and cried out for they all saw him and were terrified. But immediately, he spoke to them and said, "Take heart it is I, do not be afraid."

Reflection by Donna Schaper

I visited a friend in Cleveland who was looking for a church. He was not UCC but of another denomination a lot like ours. He said the service at one church he visited was excruciating, and then the person in front of him leaned back and said during the offertory, "It's usually not this bad." I wonder if Jesus is just trying to pass by, incognito, trying to find his way back to earth and hoping not to have to go through church. Is Jesus ghosting your congregation's worship? Or is he present? Would he enjoy the offertory--or hope it was over soon? Does something happen in the service that allows the possibility either that we might walk on water or at least not be afraid?

Donna Schaper is Senior Minister, Judson Memorial Church, New York, New York.

Some Ponderings for August

Wow, how fast this summer is going. School is just around the corner and Labor day is lurking in the wings. The days of picnics and ice cream socials will soon be coming to an end. I am truly impressed with the way that all of you in the church have kept your eye on the mission of the church. It has been a part of my history that many of the churches that I have been a part of have taken a respite or sabbatical from mission during the summer months.

I give a grand applause to those of you who continued. In the past few weeks I have had numerous reflections cross my desk that have allowed me to keep my focus. This summer we have seen growth in our worship services directed by God. A time when many churches are facing financial adversity and the winds on the sea are threatening to topple them, we are facing the headwinds with renewed vigor, placing our hopes in the mission that God has entrusted us. I do not wish to imply that we are without financial stresses but do wish to affirm that we are continuing to be the body of Christ in Marietta.

Casting Crowns, a Christian Band wrote a song entitled: *If We are the Body*, that sums up many of the questions that plague me daily. "*But if we are the body, why aren't his arms reaching, why aren't his hand healing, why aren't his words teaching. And if we are the body, why aren't his feet going, why is his love not showing Them, there is a way, there is a way.*" As a church I do believe that we are the body and our feet are walking and our hands are outreaching. We have been given the task to share the gift of love.

Peace and love to you as we grown together to create a healthy happy home for our Lord and Savior to call his home. Although the church is a building constructed with concrete and steel, the true cornerstone of our home and the home for the Lord is love.

As Always
Pastor Rob

**** Mark Your Calendars****

Aug. 8: Disciples Men's Regional Meeting in Macon at the Regional Office at 10:00 AM

Aug. 9: Elder's Breakfast @ 8:00am

Aug. 10: Pastoral Relations Committee Meeting @ 6:30 pm

Aug. 11: Stewardship/Finance Committee Meeting @ 6:30pm

Aug. 16: Board Meeting -12:30 pm with lunch provided
Atherton Place @ 4:00 pm

Aug. 30: Combined Worship Service @ 10:30 am with Church Picnic following worship @ East Cobb Park
3322 Roswell Road
Marietta, Ga. 30062

Prayers

The Ministries & Missions of this congregation

The men and women in Military Service

Our governmental leaders

All those who are suffering from illness, injury, and/or loneliness as well as those who are grieving loss.*

The ones that are seeking employment.

Serving the Month of August

Elders:

Aug. 2 & 9: Brenda Stoyko and
Rev. Dr. Jerry Gladson

Aug. 16 & 23: Joanne Paller and
Jeannie Farris

Aug. 30: Lola Bethel & Marge Williamson

Deacons:

Heather Hartley & Emily Morrison-serve and prepare

Brenda Taylor & Barbara Eason- serve and cleanup

Alternates: Stephen Wood ,Zack Shimizu

Greeters:

Aug. 2&9: Al & Sondra Rowe

Aug. 16&23: Mildred Lockhart and
Marge Williamson

Aug. 30: Jessica Nettles & Gina & Stuart
Juhan



From Our Congregational Health Minister, Rev. Donna Kremer

August 2, 2009 is Statewide Diabetes Day for Churches

Diabetes is a serious disease. Almost one million people in Georgia have diabetes; some are members of our Church Family. Many more of us have diabetes and do not know it. It is important that we all learn more about prevention, detection and control of diabetes. If you have any of the following warning signs: tired a lot, blurry vision, frequently thirsty, have to go to the bathroom often you may have diabetes.

Your Body is a temple. Learn more about protecting your temple from diabetes and its complications. Your Congregational Health Ministry will have educational material available (in English and Spanish) on August 2.

Free diabetes screening will be available starting at 10:30 am that day. Please do not eat or drink anything (except water) for at least **8 hours** prior to the screening for more accurate results.

Here's to your health!

CWF Potluck Dinner

Come join us on August 6, at 7 PM, bring a dish or two to share, and listen as Pastor Rob presents Reflections from General Assembly.

Pastoral Staff

Robert Mason	Senior Minister
Hal Doster,	Senior Minister Emeritus
John Lee ☩	Senior Minister Emeritus
Jerry Gladson	Senior Minister Emeritus
Dotty Lee,	Pastoral Care Associate
Jeff Shimizu	Pastoral Associate
Warren Taylor	Minister of Recovery
	Pastoral Associate
Donna Kremer	Minister of Congregational Health
Sherwood Smith	Dir. of Disciples
	Mission Food Pantry

Church Staff

Pam Barksdale	Director of Music
Wilma Zalabak	Pianist
Tommy Russell	Administrative Assistant
Sean Warner	Youth Director

Services

Sunday School	9:45 a.m.
Worship & Communion	11:00 a.m.
Youth Activities	12:30 p.m. Sundays
Bible Study	6:30 p.m. Wednesdays
Christian A/D Recovery	8:00 p.m. Wednesdays
Recovery A-Live	2:30 p.m. Sundays
Church Office Hours	8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. M-Th
Website	www.fccmarietta.org
Email address	fccmarietta@comcast.net

You are invited to...

Worship

Sundays at 11:00 AM

**Aug. 2- Sherwood Smith-
preaching**

**Aug. 9- Melissa Russell
Fain, preaching**

**Aug. 16- "Making Melodies
to God" Ephesians 5:15-20
and John 6:51-58**

**Aug. 23- "Putting on the
Whole Armor of God"
Ephesians 6:10-20 and
John 6:56-69**

**Aug. 30- "Hearing without
applying is like peanut
butter without Jam"
James 1:17-27 and Mark
7:1-8,14-15,& 21-23
Combined Service
Church Picnic**

Conversations

(A mid-week Bible study)
Wednesdays, 6:30 PM

**Aug. 5- Pastor Rob
will talk about General
Assembly**

**Aug. 12- Pastor Rob
will lead a discussion
about estate planning**

**August 19- Pastor
Rob will lead a discus-
sion on our Identity
Statement**

**Aug. 26- Pastor Rob
will lead a discussion
about what the scrip-
ture says about Bap-
tism.**



THIS IS TIME VALUED MAIL

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Marietta, GA 30060
Permit No. 302

First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
569 Frasier Street SE
Marietta, GA 30060
(2 Blocks North of Cobb County Civic Center)
Phone: (770) 428-3125
Fax: (678) 384-4080

