



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

The HARBINGER

Volume 61

September, 2010

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



You are cordially invited
to the
Ordination Service
of

Kimberly Sue Russell

Marietta First Christian
Church
569 Frasier Street
Marietta, Georgia 30060
770-428-3125
On
Sunday September 12
at 5:00 PM

SACRED PLACES

Two weeks ago, Laura and I, along with her brother, Stephen, sisters Rosemary and Ruth, took a “stay-cation” in Savannah, Georgia. Although we’d been to Savannah several times, we’d never become tourists and took in the rich history of the oldest city in Georgia (1733). Knowing that John Wesley, founder of the Methodist movement, had worked briefly in Georgia, we went to see the place where, on February 6, 1736, the ship *Simmonds*, carrying Wesley and his brother, Charles, docked off Cockspur Island, one of the Channel Islands near Savannah. Set now in thick, swampy undergrowth, with towering pines and palms, the site where Wesley preached his first sermon in America is marked by a simple obelisk. “My chief motive [for coming to Georgia] is the hope of saving my own soul,” Wesley confessed. “I hope to learn the true sense of the gospel of Christ by preaching it to the heathen [the native Americans].” He failed on both counts, but went back to England in 1737 where, as God led, he started the great Methodist revival.

Not far from Savannah, near Washington, Georgia, came another pilgrim in 1795 trying to find himself and the direction he should take. Becoming a teacher of languages at Succoth Academy, Barton Stone struck up a friendship with Hope Hull, the father of Georgia Methodism. Of his own spiritual life at this point, Stone, like Wesley, admitted that “my devotion was cold and communion with God much interrupted.” Hull, however, told Stone of the James O’Kelly Christians, a mid-1790s reform movement among Methodists. This movement would later parallel Stone’s own Christian movement and that of Thomas and Alexander Campbell. Here, in Washington the spark of revival and reform was kindled in the heart of Barton Stone, one of the human founders of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

(Con’t on pg. 2)

Greeters for September

Sept. 5 & 12– Open (I need help)

Sept. 19 & 26– Al & Sondra Rowe

Elders for September

**Sept. 5 & 12– Woody Smith
Al Rowe**

**Sept. 19 & 26– Jeff Johnson
Rev. Dr. Jerry Gladson**

If you are unable to fulfill your Sunday, please call Tommy Russell about greeters and Joe Kern for Elders

Thank you for your service.

(Con't from page 1)

Places are important. This place and the church that stands upon it at 569 Frasier Street, Marietta, Georgia, is a place sacred to us. It is sacred because we believe God has worked, is working, and will continue to work in the hearts and lives of those who worship here. With the patriarch Jacob, we humbly confess, "This is God's camp!" (Gen 32:2). ---

Jerry Gladson, Minister Emeritus

A Word From Wilma

Paul wrote, "In every way you have been enriched in Him, in speech and knowledge of every kind . . . so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Corinthians 1:5-7).

I believe this message is for First Christian Church, Marietta, and it goes like this. This church lacks no gift that the Holy Spirit could give for its leadership and the fulfillment of God's plan for it. Whatever God's plan is for this church, He has given this church what it needs to do the plan. We have in our midst the people gifted by the Holy Spirit to develop this church into what God wants it to be. When key people move away, or when someone gets hurt and stops participating, there is even then, here in our church, whatever God needs here at this time. Paul wrote to the Corinthian church further advice by which we may learn and grow. Paul's advice in the first section of his letter could be summarized, "In your differences, don't fight." His advice in the second section of his letter could be summarized, "Give no offense to the church." His advice in the third section of his letter could be summarized, "You have all the gifts you need."

"In your differences, don't fight" means to me that we will hear our differences, we will have very different sermons from week to week for awhile, we will listen to someone who is overworked and perhaps reduce our expectations for awhile, of that person, maybe of the whole church. In all our differences, we won't fight.

"Give no offense to the church" means to me that we will purge ourselves and guard our congregation from any willingness to purposely offend someone. Arrogance is out. We will give no offense to our fellow church members.

"You have all the gifts you need" means to me that, when we're doing the first two pieces of Paul's advice, we will see something brilliant emerge here because God has placed within us all the gifts we need to be the church He desires in this place at this time.

Wilma Zalabak, M.Div.

Survival Tips For Current And Future Caregivers

One day you may find that someone you care about — a spouse, parent, relative, or close friend — needs help negotiating the daily tasks of life. Perhaps that day has already come. Close to 49 million family caregivers offer assistance of all sorts to adults in America. Their efforts are vital to the lives of people struggling with illness, disability, or the changes that often accompany aging. The spectrum of tasks that unpaid caregivers undertake is truly vast, and the stresses are many. Here are some survival tips from the Harvard Health Letter

Talking with your loved one

Discussing needs can be a sticky business. It may be easy for you to imagine what sort of help is necessary, but much harder to discuss it openly or come to an agreement with the person who needs care. Ask the person in need of care to spell out what he or she believes would help. One way to open a conversation is to say: “I’ve wondered if you’re having any trouble with _____.” Or, “I’ve noticed it is getting harder for you to _____.” If offers of help are flatly declined, you might call in a second opinion about the need for assistance. Try talking to the person’s doctor or trusted relatives or friends. Their opinions may carry more weight than your own. Some doctors, particularly geriatricians, may be willing to schedule and attend a family conference to talk about what is needed. Geriatric care managers or social workers can also help facilitate these kinds of discussions and present a range of options.

Encourage forethought

Whenever possible, it helps enormously to plan ahead for certain types of assistance, such as good nursing home care and insurance coverage. You might start a conversation by saying: “I read about Medicaid planning in the news today. Do you know about this?”

Be sensitive

In many families, parents never talk to their children — even after they become adults — about finances or health problems. And it is hard to ask sensitive questions of a relative, spouse, or partner who already feels pressured from illness. Raising concerns about your own financial future can make it easier for you to ask your parent about his or her finances. The same tactic may work well for discussing end-of-life decisions. You may find that the person wants to acknowledge these issues. It can be a relief to talk frankly about troubling topics and share concerns rather than hiding them.

Honest talk for tough decisions

Certain topics — for instance, that an individual shouldn’t be driving or that it’s getting too difficult to continue caring for a person at home — are painful to discuss for everyone concerned. Even so, telling white lies or making promises that are impossible to keep can come back to haunt you. No one ever wants to go to a nursing home, for example, but instead of pledging that this will never happen, it may be best to promise only that you will try hard to work out other solutions for as long as possible. If you know a nursing home is the best long-term option, it doesn’t help to suggest that such a move is just for a few weeks. When those weeks are over, the reckoning and sense of betrayal are impossible to sidestep. It’s better to acknowledge that these are hard, sad decisions replete with many layers of loss. You might put these sentiments into your own words: “I know it’s very hard to even think about moving to a nursing home. But we can’t supply all the care you need anymore. I worry about you constantly, especially when I’m not available. I’ve tried really hard, but I can’t keep everything going. We need to think about finding a place where you’ll be safe and well cared-for all the time.” If appropriate, you might mention concerns about your own health and well-being or worries about what might happen if you become ill or unable to offer enough care. A single conversation is rarely sufficient. Let the person you are caring for grieve the loss. Moving toward a solution is likely to take time and several discussions.

One thing to keep in mind in situations where judgments might differ is that people are often willing to assume a level of risk to their safety or well-being in exchange for autonomy and personal choice. If a loved one chooses to live in a situation that seems too risky to you, you might need the help of a doctor to determine decision-making capacity. If your loved one can fully understand the consequences of his or her decisions then you must abide by them, whether you agree with them or not.

Rev. Donna Kremer, Your Congregational Nurse

Pastoral Staff

Hal Doster, John Lee✠ Jerry Gladson Jeff Shimizu	Senior Minister Emeritus Senior Minister Emeritus Senior Minister Emeritus Minister of Soulfire Ministries /Pastoral Assoc.
Warren Taylor	Minister of Recovery
Donna Kremer	Pastoral Associate
Eduardo Villarreal	Minister of Congregational Health
Sherwood Smith	Spanish Service Pastoral Associate Dir. of Disciples Mission Food Pantry

Church Staff

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

Services

Sunday School	9:45 a.m.
Worship & Communion	11:00 a.m.
Bible Study	6:30 p.m. Wednesdays
Spanish Bible Study	7:30 p.m. Wednesdays
Unlimited Recovery	7:45 p.m. Wednesdays
Church Office Hours	9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. T-F closed Monday
Website	www.fccmarietta.org
Email address	fccmarietta@comcast.net

You are invited to...

Worship

Sundays at 11:00 AM

Sept. 5- Dottye Lee will be bringing the message

Sept. 12- Rev. Rev. Chris-Goss will be bringing the message

Sept. 19- Rev. Dr. Jerry Gladson will be bringing the message

Sept. 26- Rev. Linda Whitmire will be bringing the message.



Conversations

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

Sept. 1- Bible Study with Rev. Dr. Jerry Gladson leading @ 6:30PM

Sept. 8- Bible Study with Rev. Dr. Jerry Gladson Leading @ 6:30PM

Sept. 15- Bible Study with Rev. Dr. Jerry Gladson leading @ 6:30PM

Sept. 22- Bible Study with Rev. Dr. Jerry Gladson leading @ 6:30PM

Sept. 29- Bible Study with Rev. Dr. Jerry Gladson leading @ 6:30PM

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

