

CHERRYLOGUE

News from Cherry Log Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

April, 2014

Vol. 17 No. 4

Dr. J. David Griffin, Senior Minister

Dr. Fred B. Craddock, Minister Emeritus



Mark Your
Calendar!
Church Picnic
August 23rd
ETC Pavilion



Inside this issue:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <i>Holy Week at CLCC</i> | 2 |
| <i>From My Heart to Your Heart</i> | 3 |
| <i>Voices</i> | 4 |
| <i>Prayer Labyrinth</i> | 5 |
| <i>Stewardship Moment</i> | 6 |
| <i>Birthday & Anniversaries</i> | 7 |

Maundy Thursday - April 17 at 6:30 pm in the sanctuary. "On the Passion of Christ"

Please mark your calendar for this date and time. You will not want to miss the chancel choir presentation of "On the Passion of Christ" on Thursday evening. No, this has nothing to do with the 1980's movie of the same name. It is a trilogy based on the last days of Jesus' life written by David H. Williams. The cancel choir along with soloists Bob Clarke, Robin Norsworthy, and Phillip Miller will present this moving musical work. The three musical sections "The Last Supper", "The Betrayal" and "The Crucifixion" give haunting, emotional and powerful insights into the last days of Christ's life.

Please make sure that you have this date (April 17) marked on your calendar. I believe that this may be one of the most powerful Maundy Thursday musical presentations ever at CLCC. I urge you to come and bring a friend. While it may be difficult for some to get out at night others are able. Carpool and offer a lift to those who might need a ride. Don't miss this opportunity.

Good Friday Worship Opportunities P. Porter & M. Kibler

There will be two different worship services on Good Friday. The first is a **traditional service** and the second is a **contemplative service**. There will be a soup and bread lunch in-between.

The **traditional service** begins around the tables at 12 noon in the Fellowship Hall. The leadership is provided by the Friday Prayer group and all are invited to participate. This year we will be seeing the cross through the eyes of those who surrounded the cross while Jesus suffered and died. As in previous years we will close the service with the breaking of bread and dipping it in the cup.

Following the **traditional service** all are invited to remain for the **soup and bread luncheon**. You are also invited to come to the luncheon if you are only attending the **contemplative service**. There is no charge for this meal, and no offering will be received.

The **contemplative service**, which takes place in the Choir Room at 2 PM, will focus on Mary Magdalene at the cross. Her silent, calm witness provides a model for Christian contemplatives. This service will use scriptural readings, Taize chant, and periods of silence as we quiet our minds and open our hearts to the suffering and death of Jesus. Everyone is welcome to come and experience the depth and peace of contemplative worship, even if you have not practiced this form of worship before. The Centering Prayer group meets weekly and offers support for contemplative practice.

Holy Week at CLCC

Richard Lumpkin

Mark your calendar for these Holy Week worship opportunities. Plan to attend and allow these worship experiences to enhance your personal journey to Easter.

April 13 - Palm Sunday Worship

Celebrate Early - 8:25 am
Traditional Worship - 10:55 am

April 17 - Maundy Thursday

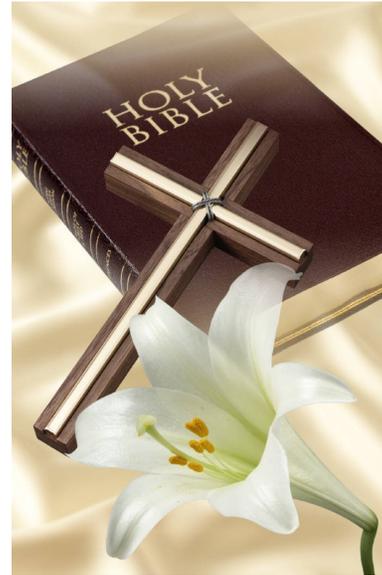
"On the Passion of Christ" - 6:30 pm

April 18 - Good Friday

Prayers, Worship - 12:00 pm
Lunch - 1:00 pm
Contemplative Service

April 20 - Easter Sunday Worship

Celebrate Early - 8:25 am
Traditional Worship - 10:55 am



HELP WANTED

We need a volunteer to re-paint the sign at the entrance of the parking lot. If you think about it, the sign has weathered seven years. Any volunteers?

CHAPLAIN CORPS

Dr. David Griffin

I (David) am so grateful for our Chaplain Corps. They provide pastoral care for our congregation and really assist me when my schedule becomes overloaded. Usually I email the chaplain of the week with my concerns and ask them to follow through on those concerns. We meet quarterly to talk and to plan for the next quarter.

There are some changes in this wonderful group of clergy. Richard Zelle has asked to be replaced and Hugh Lake will be stepping back after June of this year. We are adding Robin Norsworthy and Phil Miller to our group. Both Robin and Phil hold high credentials in the Church and we are honored they have agreed to minister to us.

Those continuing with the Chaplain Corps are Hal Doster, Bill Harrison, Mac McRoberts, and Bill Thompson.

When these clergy are ministering to you, they minister in the name of Jesus Christ and Cherry Log Christian Church.



FROM MY HEART...

TO YOUR HEART

David Griffin

I am hoping I will not need stitches. The tongue is really sore from biting it. Sometimes I just bite my tongue instead of speaking words where my words would not be helpful. (Yes, I need to do that more often.) So in the conversation I was overhearing I bit my tongue.

Jane and I were moseying through an antique store. I am a quick, probably unobservant browser so I soon took a seat near the front of the store and opened my Kindle to read. The manager or owner of the store and several of her vendors were “chewing the fat” (as opposed to chewing the tongue). Their conversation moved to church and the critique of the Sunday sermon. Well, my ears picked up. The conversation then went to their concept of God. Here is where I was tempted to jump in. I did not agree with their concept of God – judgmental, recordkeeping, and vengeful. I also learned from their conversation that the minister had had two heart attacks and they were both caused by God’s judgments. “He sure better clean up his act!” was one response I heard.

So what does one do when one feels he has the right answer? And that immediate but short-lived attitude of mine is why I did not say anything. Of course that was my ego speaking in my head. So I moved to a bench outside the store and continued to read as well to wonder about who I thought I was.

I remembered a statement by Eckhart Tolle that goes something like this: Stillness is the language that God speaks; everything else is a bad translation.



We do need to talk about God, but the words we use are metaphors that describe our idea of God. Everything we say about God is temporary, tentative, and waiting for more revelation. God’s language is stillness.

Look up Psalm 46. The Psalm begins with a statement: “God is our refuge and strength.” We are not to fear though there are earthquakes and tremors. The Psalmist goes on to say that God is in the midst of the city, in the midst of the people.

Then is the climax of the Psalm: “Be still and know that I am God.”

The most we can say about God is stillness. If we are going to talk about God in words, then let us speak about God after we have experienced the stillness of God. That will change how we talk about God and empty ourselves of our ego.

I am so glad I walked away from the conversation. God does not need to be defended. What I need to do is to live my theology of God that I find in the stillness.

We are still in Lent. We need to be still, be still and know God.

Voices OF CHERRY LOG

On this page, listen to four more
Voices that will tighten the “ties that
bind our hearts in Christian love.”
To know them is to love them.



Lindsey Norsworthy

Born and educated in Jackson Lake, GA; youngest of 9; Occupation Forces in Germany; worked in auto industry, Air Force Base in Warner Robbins; interviewed by US Congressman for Postal Services Employment; rural mail carrier, Stockbridge 30 years. He and Robin share 5 children; total family count for 3-generations = 32.

Hobbies: loves wood-work, best at fine furniture making; lifetime water lover – fishing, boating, sailing, skiing, canoeing; for obvious reason, lives on Carter Lake.

CLCC: Robin said a church that Dr. Craddock started must be what we wanted, so he followed Robin. “I love this place and that’s valuable.”



Jane Griffin

Born, educated and stayed within 30 minutes of Martin Co., NC except Meredith College years in Raleigh; Earned Social Welfare Certification; Taught K-3, mostly K. In 3rd grade, started a teaching idea box; Attained Education National Board Certification; Presenter for NC Teachers Academy workshop; started a Presbyterian church preschool.

Enjoys antique malls; walking; volunteering in thrift store; yard sales (met David at yard sale); reading. She and David married in Dingle, Ireland. They share 4 children and 8 grands. Loves the mountains.

CLCC: warmth and acceptance of congregation has been great place for first experience as “preacher’s wife”; volunteers in several outreach ministries.

Russell Gremillion

Of French descent, early life near and in Lafayette, LA.; Surgical Asst. Cert. from UVA., Worked 10 years in area ; to Florida as Out Patient Surgical Assistant. Met John 8 years ago; married in New York 4 years ago. Currently Surgical First Assistant, Piedmont Mountainside and working on certification

Hobbies: hiking, white-water rafting (anything outdoors); reads self-help, spiritual development, some James Patterson; animal lover, 2 greyhounds, Carmel & Callie plus Keri, the cat;

Catholic background; Haiti mission trip; heart is in ministry to those facing death.

CLCC: sister knew of spirit of acceptance; they visited, liked it and stayed.



Marsha Kipling

Born in McComb, IL; raised in S. Dakota by educator parents; U of So. Dakota with Special Ed degree; Master’s from Gallaudet U School for Deaf; taught 34 years at Atlanta Area School for Deaf; has shared rent, families with Sharon since 1977;

Hobbies: Camping (all 50 states) yard work; “messaging with pictures”; canoeing; bridge; get-away-house in mountains 10 years; full time 2007; adores Ellie, 4th Schnauzer.

CLCC: since 2001; “Looked for community in a church” and found CLCC. “God’s love and grace very central to it.” Has served ‘most every task here, and most often seen behind camera lens. Signs sermons in worship service.

CLCC PRAYER LABYRINTH

Cindy Avens

Two years of work by many CLCC members to create a prayer labyrinth at the church is finally nearing completion. Plans were made, the site was prepared and many truckloads of rocks have been hauled. Now the pattern for the labyrinth has been laid out and we are ready to place the rocks along the paths. All who would like to help build the labyrinth will gather at the site – next to the Garden for Others – at **10 a.m. on Saturday April 5** – if weather permits. If not, we will reschedule for the following Saturday.

The labyrinth, which is a circular path that leads to the center, provides a powerful method for walking prayer. A large stone in the center of our labyrinth, donated by Sharon Meek and Marsha Kipling in memory of their fathers, can be used as a place to sit and pray, reflect, and appreciate the beauty of nature before making the return walk.

When the prayer labyrinth is finished, CLCC will join more than 900 churches in the U.S. – including at least two dozen Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) congregations – that have built labyrinths. We will be able to offer the benefits of the labyrinth which include healing, grief work, and stress reduction, to our congregation and to the community.

The meaning of the labyrinth was expressed in the words of Rev. Dr. Sharon Watkins as she commissioned the labyrinth at Bethany College last year:

“It is a prayer walk. You come and you go and you twist and you turn and different people are on it at different points. I think of it as a dance with God, a prayer dance with God. The other thing about labyrinths that I think is so perfect for Disciples is that when you are on the labyrinth, you do twist and turn and go one way and then the other way but you never really get lost. You’re always moving into the center of God’s heart. And as we watched different people on the labyrinth at the same time, it looks like we’re going in different directions, like we’re going against each other or against the traffic, or one’s going one way and one’s going another way and what’s more Disciple than that? And yet, we are all on the path into the heart of God. Each in our own moment, each in our own point along the way, and in some kind of strange, not logical but real way, we are all together. We are all one. We’re all one in God’s heart and in the hearts of each other.”



May Events to Focus on Legacy Planning

Bill Thompson

During May the Legacy Partners Foundation of Cherry Log Christian Church plans several informational events in the homes of members. The events will explain this ministry of our church to any who did not attend an event last year. If you would like to be included in one of these home events, contact Ida-Anne Clarke this month to be sure you are included on the guest list.

Five Faiths-One Human Community

LarryJo Weas

An introduction to the similarities and differences, between the major Faiths and understanding their relevance to those of The Disciples and our individual personal beliefs.

Classes will be held for six Weeks starting April 6 at 9:30 a.m. in the conference room.

Classes to include short video by leading ministers/professors, explaining the Faith, followed by class discussions led by various CLCC members most knowledgeable of the Faith, and/or visiting teachers. Coordinated by LarryJo Weas.

Called Regional Assembly

The Regional Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Georgia, meeting on March 29, 2014 in Macon Georgia, has called, by a unanimous vote, The Rev. Agnes Denise Bell to the position of Regional Minister. See photos of the Assembly and read about The Rev. Bell go to www.gadisciples.org.

Stewardship Moment

Bill Thompson

Thanks to all who have stepped up their giving during March. With one Sunday left in March, our offerings totaled \$45,292.90. If you are still behind in your giving, we encourage you to continue to bring your pledge up-to-date.

The stewardship word for April is "Trusting." This word is so basic to being a faithful steward. A recent dedication of a non-profit's new building featured a visit by a prominent politician. He declared that we should rely less on government and more on the charity of our citizens to fund good works. Can I trust that you will do as much for God through our church?

Why I Love VBS

Come one come all to V.B.S.
V.B.S. is a fun place to learn about God.
There are all kinds of fun activities there.
One of my favorites is crafts.
Wonder what yours is?
The only way to find out is to come to V.B.S.



Emilyn Slemons



- April 03 Don & Nancy Brewer (61)
- April 04 Alejandro & Melissa Montes (16)
- April 04 Ted & Leslie Murphy
- April 05 Ray & Sue Moore (17)
- April 07 Larry & Beth Lipscomb (19)
- April 13 Jim & Dee Tingle
- April 15 Richard & Roberta Bondi
- April 20 Glenda McCumbee & Karen Price (29)
- April 22 Hall & Ann Doster (14)

CELEBRATION FUND

The following donations were made in **March**:

In Memory of:
Jane Fowler

* Total amount deposited into Celebration Fund \$720.00

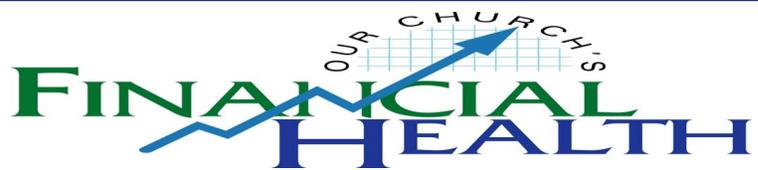


ATTENDANCE

| | Celebrate Early | Worship |
|---------|--------------------|---------|
| Mar. 02 | 25 | 117 |
| Mar. 09 | 42 | 119 |
| Mar. 16 | 27 | 106 |
| Mar. 23 | 30 | 120 |
| Mar. 30 | 39 | 136 |



- April 01 Tammy Davidson
- April 02 Lynn Doss
- April 06 Diane Ridgely
- April 11 Beverly Cranston
- April 14 Bill Groce
- April 17 Jessie Landreth
- April 20 Debbie Coburn
- April 21 Marsue Dorn
- April 27 Mary Hunt
- April 28 Chuck Zimmerman
- April 30 Fred Craddock



March Treasurer's Report

General Operating:

Contributions: \$53,993.00

Expenses: \$45,913.00

Budgeted Income \$46,130.00

Year to Date Contributions: \$126,803.00

Year to date Expenses: \$142,149.00

Volunteers

Needed

Teens & adults

no cost/no experience

for:

- 1 hour of prep time
- 1 day of behind-the scenes
- 1 day "country team"
- 2 hrs. set up
- 2 hrs. Decorating
- 2 hrs. snack time
- 2 hrs. clean-up



June 24-27, 2014

9:00-12:30

Contact: Julie Johnson
404.217.8191
holycreek@aol.com