

CHERRYLOGUE

May 2012

News from Cherry Log Christian Church

Vol. 15 No.5

Dr. J. David Griffin, Senior Minister

Dr. Fred B. Craddock, Minister Emeritus

Small Group Ministry News

Several exciting new small groups are now being formed. If you are interested in participating in any of these, or would simply like more information, contact the group leader that is listed.

Labyrinth Project Group: The prayer labyrinth, a circular path that leads directly to the center, can be a powerful spiritual tool. Walking the labyrinth engages the entire person – heart, mind and body – in prayer. Labyrinths appear in many medieval cathedrals, the most famous of which is at Chartres. Today labyrinths have become increasingly common in churches of all denominations, retreat centers, hospitals, colleges and community centers. Their benefits for healing, grief work, and calming the body and mind are well known. A group is being formed to design and build a prayer labyrinth on the grounds of the little white house. Contact Richard Zellely at 706-374-6959 or avenzell@gmail.com if you are interested in being part of this creative project!

Current Events Group: Join this group if you would like to meet with others to discuss topical issues related to politics, the economy, environmental issues, wars and rumors of wars, race/class/gender issues, etc. in the context of our perspective as a faith community. Our topics can range from world, national, regional, state, and local events. Contact John Sugg at 706-632-0080 or john.sugg@tds.net.

Theology in Film Group: There are many movies that have theological themes, such as the “Harry Potter” films, “The Golden Compass,” “Dogma,” “Hunger Games,” etc. Join this group if you would like to explore the theological elements in films such as these. Youth and young adults might find this to be a small group that is of particular interest. Contact John Sugg at 706-632-0080 or john.sugg@tds.net.

Faith and Fiction Group: Join fellow readers who want to read and discuss works of literature that present a perspective on religious faith. We’ll look at how faith functions overtly or implicitly in the world of particular works of fiction. Contact Myra Kibler at 706-636-5657 or myra_kibler@yahoo.com.

Camera Group: Calling all shutterbugs, photogs, and camera collectors! If you love cameras and photography, we’re organizing a group for you. (If you would like to love cameras and photography, you’re welcome, too!) If you would like to get together and share this great hobby, contact Jim Tingle at 903-216-0394 or j.tingle@sbcglobal.net.

Several other groups that have been proposed by CLCC members are a **Hiking Group** and a **Writing Group**. If you think you might like to participate in either of these groups, contact Cindy Avens at 706-374-6959 or avenzell@gmail.com so that we can determine the level of interest.

SAVE THE DATE!!! VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL AT CHERRY LOG CHRISTIAN CHURCH JUNE 25-29!

Parents & Grandparents - Get your preschool and elementary-aged kids ready for a fun and educational Christian camping adventure at SonRock Kids Camp! June 25-29, Monday thru Friday, 9:00 a.m. til 12:30 p.m. daily. Snacks and lunch provided. Registration available online at www.clccdoc.org NO CHARGE...ABSOLUTELY FREE!

More information to follow...SOON!!

WE'RE EXCITED!! Mark those calendars NOW!! WE CAN'T WAIT!! SONROCK KIDSCAMP!!



THE 2012 – 2013 STRATEGIC CONTEXT FOR CLCC

The CLCC Strategic Planning Committee spent some time reviewing the vision, mission, and forecasted demographics that would have strong influence on our direction over the next two years before updating the current strategic plan. This context was presented to the Board as a recommendation in March.

Cherry Log Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) has a standing Vision and Future Story. We also have a Strategic Plan that was adopted by the Board in November, 2010. This statement builds on the energy and focus that created those documents.

As the congregation looks to mission, ministries, and resources for 2012 and 2013 it is useful to have an understanding of the strategic context in which we are seeking to do God's work. To build this context we need to answer the following questions:

What is the mission of CLCC?

What do we have to share?

Who will we share with?

How will we approach these groups?

What are our success criteria?

What resources are needed?



THE MISSION OF CLCC 2012 -2013

As Disciples of Christ we seek “wholeness in a fragmented world; as part of the one body of Christ, we welcome all to the Lord's Table as God has welcomed us.” Welcome, warmth, inclusion, acceptance of everyone, the feeling of family, and loving acceptance are core values that have remained deeply embedded in our community for 15 years. **Our mission is to deepen our knowledge of Christ, represent Christ to our community, and assist others in their search for the Spirit of Christ.**

WHAT DO WE HAVE TO SHARE?

We offer a non-dogmatic theology that encourages questions and accepts a wide range of beliefs. We offer a uniquely inclusive Christian community that is diverse in many ways. We are clear that:

“In Christ we: Resolve to love, Reconcile our differences, Unite to serve.”

WHO WILL WE SHARE THIS WITH?

Demographic studies indicate that people who move to this area (“in-migrants”) will be the largest growth sector of the population. This group will be Baby Boomers who will be age 55 and older. This group will be less likely than prior generations to have prior church experience, or may have had church experience but seeking a less traditional faith walk.

Young families, youth and children remain a high priority focus but will be more difficult to reach for two reasons. The number of young families (ages 25-34) is expected to decline in the region around the church. In addition, young families choose first to attend where they already know people in their age group.

HOW WILL WE APPROACH THESE GROUPS?

We will need to offer programs and worship that are relevant to both older in-migrants as well as young families. This suggests that we retain the strengths of our current worship and programs and need to plan and implement:

Worship at times and styles that are different than we now offer. This does not mean services that are radically different, but meet the needs of those seeking a comfortable worship experience with little or no formal church background that allows seeking as well as deep meaningful worship.

Small group programs that meet the needs of new members that allows spiritual formation and integration into the larger community.

Church-wide activities that will connect people attending different worship services to get to know each other and continue the “family connection” valued deeply. This can include initiatives such as ministry teams, community service and outreach projects, church wide picnics and meals, and small group sessions.

Early success with in-migrants that will add energy to focus on young families and youth. Connecting young families in our congregation with visiting young families will be important.

CONTEXT CONTINUED

WHAT ARE OUR SUCCESS CRITERIA?

It is important to our CLCC community that we accomplish these missional goals successfully. Success includes:

- Holding the core values of welcome, warmth, inclusion, acceptance of everyone, the feeling of family, and loving acceptance;
 - Retaining new and existing members;
 - Respecting our differences, seeking to understand and reconcile them;
 - Engaging and involving members in planning and implementing change, using methods such as triads to better understand “and/both” solutions rather than “either/or” divisions;
 - Listening and understanding different points of view while seeking solutions capturing the energy found in diversity;
 - Balancing the need for integrated, aligned priorities and the flexibility that passionate people need to live their faith.
- Measures could include attendance, retention, and active members in target groups.

WHAT RESOURCES ARE NEEDED?

- Congregational support.
- Additional staff is needed to support both worship and programs.
- Congregational leaders and passionate members may need training to prepare them to meet the success criteria as the congregation grows. This includes skills to manage, mediate and reconcile differences.
- This may be funded by increased attendance.
- Space. At some point space for church-wide activities and programs will need to be considered.

GRIEF RECOVERY RETREAT; MOVING BEYOND LOSS

led by Dr. Trisha Senterfitt at The Craddock Center
May 18, 2012 beginning at 5 p.m., Saturday from 9
to 3, and Sunday, May 21, 1-4. Register by calling
706-632-1772 or email tsenterfitt@gmail.com

Clean out your closet and help us decorate for VBS!

To create a camp setting for VBS, we are looking for items you would find at a campsite, including, but certainly not limited to, the following:

Sleeping bags, blankets, canteens, tarps, backpacks, walking sticks, fishing poles, rope, lanterns, camp cookware, hats, binoculars, compasses, outside tables, and whistles. If you have any of these items and would be willing to let us borrow them for a week, please contact Judy Wyndham or Teri Slemons. Thank you!

Constitution and Bylaws

During a series of meetings for the congregation the CBL committee has received many helpful suggestions and significant feedback on the proposed new Constitution and Bylaws. We are now working with this feedback to make revisions to the drafts, and plan to present the revised drafts to the Board for approval at its May 19 meeting, and subsequently to the congregation for its approval. We very much appreciate the input we have received and encourage everyone to continue giving us feedback and suggestions as we continue our work. You may make comments on the website, or talk to individual members of the committee.

Don Brewer
David Griffin
Ham Kimzey
Marsha Kipling
Ronald Midkiff
Jack Senterfitt, Chair



FROM MY HEART...TO YOUR HEART

As I look over the bulletin from Sunday to Sunday, I sometimes forget to look at the very front page. It will have a picture on it, the name of the Sunday, the date, and a few minor and questionable characters. When editing the bulletin it is easy to overlook the front page. Maybe as a worshipper it is also.

But if you do notice, look at the season we are in. This coming Sunday will be the Fifth Sunday of Easter. Please note that that it is not after Easter. We are still in the season of Easter.

We are still living in the light and the glory of the resurrection! We are still proclaiming that Christ is risen. Easter is saying to us that God has put life into the present tense. Easter is not a promise about the future. Easter is about the presence of Christ in the present. The power of God is not some far off hope or desire or wish. The power of God is here, now, and present.

For me the proof of the resurrection is not the empty grave but lives filled with new life, risen life. So you say you have not received that life yet, that you do not feel the resurrection. The mystery is the risen Christ is present, but there is no mystery in finding and living that life. We must turn ourselves around and align our being with the life of Jesus. We must say, "Yes" to what Jesus said "Yes" and "No" to what Jesus said, "No."

Jesus calls us to risk our lives and the irony is how much we want to live risk-free lives. The playground that used to be concrete is not filled with shredded rubber mulch. The coffee cup warns that the coffee is hot. We want to be safe and I agree, but think about how we also want to be risk free.

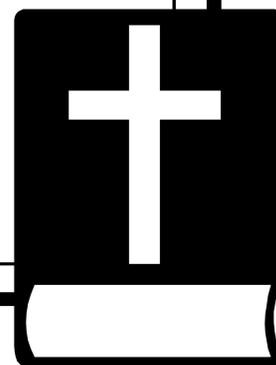
And here is Jesus saying to us to take up your cross and follow, to go the second mile, to lose our lives, to be last, and to be a servant to all. Jesus does not worry about failing, or being rejected, or being hurt, or getting burned. I am struck by these thoughts many times at the Communion Table. Jesus calls us into fellowship not to feed us so we are full but to give us nourish that we may serve, to risk being Christ to the stranger.

Maybe it comes down to asking ourselves, "What is living?" There is no living except in living. There is no being except in being. There is no loving except in giving love. There is no forgiveness except in being forgiving to others. Get the point?

Yes, the point is that the risen Christ is present and calls us to live resurrected lives, and that is not to be risk-free, but full of the Spirit to witness to others and to love others. The risk is what gives us life!

Peace,

David



MAY 2012

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

29 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM Sunday School 10:55 AM Worship Service	30 6:30 PM Into Action (AA Group) 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Line Dance - For the Health of It	1	2 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Men's Group Bible Study 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Women's Bible Study 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM Guitar Pickers 1:00 PM Bridge Group 4:00 PM - 5:45 PM Centering Prayer Group 5:30 PM Family Night Dinners	3 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Clothes Closet 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM Cherry Log Consort 4:30 PM - 6:00 PM Emotions Anonymous 5:00 PM Handbells 5:50 PM Ladies Ensemble 5:55 PM Men's Choral 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	4 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM Stephen Ministers 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Friday Prayer Group 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM Into Action (AA)	5 10:00 AM CLOCC Work Day
6 Food for Others 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM Sunday School 10:55 AM Worship Service 12:15 PM Elders Meeting	7 3:00 PM Outreach Committee 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM Grief Support Group 6:30 PM Into Action (AA Group) 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Line Dance - For the Health of It	8 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM Anglican Prayer Beads	9 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Men's Group Bible Study 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Women's Bible Study 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM Guitar Pickers 1:00 PM Bridge Group 4:00 PM - 5:45 PM Centering Prayer Group 5:30 PM Family Night Dinners	10 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM Yoga 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Clothes Closet 2:00 PM Personnel Committee 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM Cherry Log Consort 4:30 PM - 6:00 PM Emotions Anonymous 5:00 PM Handbells 5:50 PM Ladies Ensemble 5:55 PM Men's Choral 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	11 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Friday Prayer Group 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM Into Action (AA)	12
13 Mother's Day 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM Sunday School 10:55 AM Worship Service	14 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Finance Committee 6:30 PM Into Action (AA Group) 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Line Dance - For the Health of It	15	16 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Men's Group Bible Study 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Women's Bible Study 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM Guitar Pickers 1:00 PM Bridge Group 4:00 PM - 5:45 PM Centering Prayer Group 5:30 PM Family Night Dinners	17 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM Yoga 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Clothes Closet 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM Cherry Log Consort 4:30 PM - 6:00 PM Emotions Anonymous 5:00 PM Handbells 5:50 PM Ladies Ensemble 5:55 PM Men's Choral 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	18 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM Realtor Group 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM Stephen Ministers 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Friday Prayer Group 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM Into Action (AA)	19 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM Jordan Graduation Luncheon 10:00 AM Board Meeting 10:30 AM - 1:30 PM Disciples Women
20 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM Sunday School 10:55 AM Worship Service	21 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM Grief Support Group 6:30 PM Into Action (AA Group) 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Line Dance - For the Health of It	22	23 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Men's Group Bible Study 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Women's Bible Study 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM Guitar Pickers 1:00 PM Bridge Group 4:00 PM - 5:45 PM Centering Prayer Group 5:30 PM Family Night Dinners	24 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM Yoga 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Clothes Closet 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM Cherry Log Consort 4:30 PM - 6:00 PM Emotions Anonymous 5:00 PM Handbells 5:50 PM Ladies Ensemble 5:55 PM Men's Choral 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	25 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Friday Prayer Group 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM Into Action (AA)	26
27 Pentecost 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM Sunday School 10:55 AM Worship Service	28 Memorial Day 6:30 PM Into Action (AA Group) 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Line Dance - For the Health of It	29	30 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Men's Group Bible Study 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Women's Bible Study 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM Guitar Pickers 1:00 PM Bridge Group 4:00 PM - 5:45 PM Centering Prayer Group 5:30 PM Family Night Dinners	31 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM Yoga 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM Cherry Log Consort 4:30 PM - 6:00 PM Emotions Anonymous 5:00 PM Handbells 5:50 PM Ladies Ensemble 5:55 PM Men's Choral 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	1 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM Stephen Ministers 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Friday Prayer Group 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM Into Action (AA)	2

CLCC Worship Volunteers, May 2012

	Liturgist	Welcomer, Offertory Statement	Elder	Congregational server	Greeter (arrive 25 min ahead)	Communion prep	Choir Server	Soundboard	Narthex	SS (9:30 to 10:30am or noon)
Sunday, May 6, 10:55 AM (1 John 4: 7-21)	Susan Carruth	Ann Doster	Dan Pile - B Frazier Coffie - C	Tony Carruth Kathry Knox Teresa Snow Lisa Weir Nancy Blackadar John Dickinson Barbara Ferer Nancy Porter	Darfene Fike Sandra Reed Jean Rose Gary Tomblin	Karen Barker	Mac McRoberts Judy Welland	Sharon Meek Primary Sound Alan Slemmons - Secondary Sound	Joan Dickinson	Jane Kimzey E Exp Leader (1st - 5th grades) Bobbie Cherry E Exp Greeter; Kristi Mulchahey GP leader Judy Wyndham - GP Greeter Bill Harrison - Youth (6th to 12 grades)
Sunday, May 13, 10:55 AM (1 John 5: 1-6)	Nancy Brewer	Teri Slemmons	Don Brewer - B Janet Tripp - C	Charles Argo - Peggy Cleveland - Feenie Midkiff - Don Midkiff - Amado Grabel - Tom Mitchell - Cheer Shepard - Mary Beth Shepard	Katie Griffin Bill Harrison Frabia Smith Becky Walls	Jackie Lumpkin Carolyn McGinness	Jack Westbrook Byron Wyndham	Sharon Meek - Primary Sound John Garceau - Secondary Sound	NOT FILLED	David Griffin - E Exp Leader (1st - 5th grades); Judy Wyndham E Exp Leader (E Exp Greeter, Kristi Mulchahey - GP Leader; Alan Slemmons - GP Greeter Bill Harrison - Youth (6th to 12 grades)
Sunday, May 20, 10:55 AM (Luke 24: 44-53)	Zachary Cox	Jennie Peryman	NOT FILLED- B Susan Pleasant - C	Caroline Carder - Jerry Johnson - Charlie McCann - Alan Slemmons - Jennifer Mills Paul Porter Nancy Porter Julia Purrell	Edward Boye Hugh Lake Fran Lake Rosemary Willmot	NOT FILLED	Sandy McCann Nancy Midkiff	Bill Cox - Primary Sound Ralph Heller - Secondary Sound	Ham Kimzey	David Griffin - E Exp Leader (1st - 5th grades); Judy Wyndham - E Exp Greeter Kristi Mulchahey - GP Leader; Nancy Brewer (9:30-10:30am) GP Greeter Sarah Cox - SS (10:30 to noon) GP Greeter NOT FILLED - Youth (6th to 12 grades)
Sunday, May 27, 10:55 AM (Romans 8: 22-27)	Hal Doster	David Griffin	Frazier Coffie - B Lucie Coffie - C	Nancy Blackadar Jane Carwell - Carolyn McGinness Tom Mitchell - John Dickinson Trisha Senterfit Hoyal West Rufin West	Katie Griffin Bill Harrison Lynn Starr Becky Walls	Barbara Ferer Wanda Hitt	Lynn Barrett Ann Doster	John Garceau - Primary Sound Don Brewer - Secondary Sound	Beth Lipscomb	SS (9:30 to 10:30am or noon) Kristi Mulchahey-Combined GP- E Exp Leader Teri Slemmons - Combined GP-E Exp Greeter Bill Harrison - Youth (6th to 12 grades)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

May 01	Betty Hemrick	May 17	Susan James
May 02	Chris Livingstone	May 18	Bill Crowl
	Wendell Fox	May 21	Dylan Michael
May 05	Terry Woodworth	May 22	Stephen Ivey
	Max Doss	May 24	Charles Walls
May 08	Poullain Mullin	May 26	Nettie Craddock
May 09	Roxanne Neal		Allison Griffiths
May 10	Regina Diaz		Myra Kibler
May 12	Pattie Williams	May 27	Teri Slemmons
May 14	Carl Hendrickson		Martha Michael
	Alan Slemmons	May 29	Peyton Peugh
May 15	Tony Carruth		

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

May 25	Dan Pile & Jennie Perryman	(27)
May 30	Frank & Lois Grice	(48)

ATTENDANCE

Worship

April 1	222
April 8 Early	85
April 8	183
April 15	164
April 22	197
April 29	191

March Treasurer's Report

General Operating:

Contributions: \$25,754.00

Expenses: \$28,431.00

Year to Date Contributions: \$81,747.00

Year to date Expenses: \$91,228.00

Building Fund:

Contributions: \$20,714.00

Expenses: \$31,305.00

Year to Date Contributions: \$52,748.00

Year to date Expenses: \$61,305.00

*April not reported because May Cherrylogue is printed prior to the end of the month. A full detail of the church's finances are located on the members page of our website.

CELEBRATION FUND

The following made donations in **March**:

In Memory of:

Lucas Robert Barrett by George & Judy Barrett

Ruth Kimzey by Hugh & Fran lake

In Honor of:

Roxanne Neal by Lynn Starr

Jill Wolleat & Pam Young by George & Judy Barrett

Debt Reduction Contributions:

* Total amount deposited into Celebration Fund \$160.00

A Financial Moment

Many of you have asked for more regular updates on your commitments and giving. Last week, we mailed a quarterly report to summarize your giving for the first quarter. You will see a summary of giving to the building fund as well as your regular tithes. The finances of a church family are always a difficult subject to discuss for many people. All of our activities are dependent on your gifts. Without them there would be no mission work, no outreach, not even a church facility. The members of the Finance Committee are doing all we can to be the best stewards of this precious resource.

Each of you received an individual report, so let provide you with a summary of the overall situation. At the end of the first three months for 2012, our total tithing is down about \$10,000.00 from last year at the same time. However, the building fund giving has increased after the campaign last year.

The recent adjustments to the mortgage have allowed us to reduce our overall expenses and make our monthly budget a little lower. However, our giving to date is running slightly below our budget requirements at this time. As we enter into the summer months, our expenses will remain a fixed amount. Historical data tells us giving usually declines during this time. Therefore, we encourage each of you to review your commitment and your giving. For us to continue our works, we need everyone's help and participation.

We thank you for your gifts and your prayers. If you did not receive an individual report, please notify the church office so we can make sure we have the correct information for you.

The Finance Committee

Education continues.

Sunday School-in addition to the Seekers Class and the Lectionary Class (led by Michael Brunson) from April 22nd through most of June, Rev. Jim Tingle will be leading a detailed study of the Book of Acts. This book by Luke about the early church is often overshadowed by the letters of Paul. We hope this study will help to put the early church into context for your personal studies.

Wednesday Night Dinners and Programs: We are scheduled to begin our next Wednesday night program series on May 2 for the five dinners and programs in May. This series will take a fascinating look at the Amish. We will be viewing a PBS documentary about them, as well as videos we have borrowed from "The Taste of Amish" Store in Blue Ridge. Each lesson will have approximately 45 minutes of video followed by 10 minutes of discussion.

Due to the costs involved for this series, we will definitely need for you to make reservations. Please call (706-632-1048) or email (clcc@tds.net) the office if you plan to attend. If you can commit for the entire series, please let us know up front and you will only need to make the one reservation. We hope to see you there.

OPEN HOUSE

Cornerstone Baptist Church has invited our church to their Open House on May 6th, from 2-4 PM. Caroline and Doyle Carder played a large part in re-designing and constructing the new church. It is a beautiful church. We are integral partners in this community with Cornerstone and you are encouraged to celebrate with them on this joyful occasion.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Doyle and Caroline Carder are the very proud grandparents of a beautiful baby girl. Brintlie Elizabeth Carder born 4/24/2012 weighing 6 lbs 13 oz, 19 inches long! Proud parents are Dustin and Sara Carder.



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Blue Ridge, GA
30513
Permit No. 58

**Cherry Log Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
P.O. Box 289
Cherry Log, Georgia 30522**

**CHERRY LOG
CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)
706-632-1048
Website: <http://clccdoc.org>
1149 Cherry Log Street,
Cherry Log GA 30522
Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:55 a.m.
Dr. J. David Griffin, Senior Minister
Dr. Fred Craddock, Minister Emeritus
Richard Lumpkin, Minister of Music
Birdie Towle, Accompanist
Malinda Geers, Admin. Assistant
Tammy Davidson, Custodian**