



CHERRYLOGUE



News from Cherry Log Christian Church

Volume 21, Issue 7

June / July 2018

Rev. Adam J. Bradley, Pastor

Harry Gilbert, Music Director

**MOVIE
NIGHT**



Friday, July 20, 2018

Festivities begin at 6:00 PM

Menu: Hamburgers, Chips & Drink

Movie: "I Can Only Imagine"

Starring: Dennis Quaid and J. Michael Finley.

Proceeds go toward Bus / Mobile Classroom Conversion

Fun evening for everyone. Good food, great time for fellowship and the movies are family friendly!



5th Annual CLCC Church Picnic

August 4th at 10:00 a.m. ETC Pavilion

The 5th annual CLCC church picnic will be held on Saturday, August 4, beginning at 10 at the ETC pavilion in Ellijay. The church will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, drinks, and table service. Please bring a side dish or dessert.

We also would like to have entertainment so if you have a group who would like to sing or dance or present a funny skit, please let me know. I will send out a reminder closer to time but wanted to let you know the date so you can put it on your calendar.

Look for more info in the August Cherrylogue and Friday Emails.

New Sunday Education Class Offering!!

PAGE 2



Beginning on July 8th. at 9:45a.m. Sunday mornings in the fellowship hall for 'Conversations with the Pastor'. This will be a lightly structured time where people are encouraged to bring their questions and thoughts on faith, the bible, or even the Pastor! I look forward to getting to know folks better through meaningful conversation. All are welcome.

Children's Class Time Adjustment

The start time for the elementary children's Sunday School class will now be 10:00, starting immediately. This will still allow 2+ hours of class time, which includes children's worship. We can certainly accommodate any children who need to arrive earlier, but the actual teaching will begin at 10:00. If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Zimmerman, Bobbie Cherry, or Maureen Hicks.

We also need another one or two assistants for this class, most specifically for the fourth Sunday of each month. The assistant does no planning; s/he assists with greeting the children and with art and craft projects, prepares snack, and helps clean up when the children have left. If you are interested, please contact one of the three teachers mentioned above. Thank you!

Seekers Begin Study of Politics and Religion July 8

Seekers Sunday School class is shifting from study of medieval Christian mystic Julian to a study of current time in religion and politics. It was Julian who coined the term "Oneing," by which she meant union with God. The material we'll use for the politics and religion study is from the journal "Oneing," which is published by the Center for Action and Contemplation, with clear nod to Julian. It's a big leap, but not without connection.

Connection will be the aim of our study and discussions. Acknowledging the disconnectedness in our world, Seekers Class will attempt to bridge some of these disconnections. We will especially try to connect religion with politics. This will NOT be partisan debate or discussion of political parties or candidates. We will read articles by published and well known authors from various spiritual traditions and discuss those articles. We will share leadership and will practice deep listening and respectful speaking. This group is accustomed to embracing diversity and loving across differences. Newcomers are welcome to join us if interested in creating an alternative to the status quo in our society.

Seekers meets at 9:30 in one of the adult Sunday School rooms on the education hallway. We appreciate early arrival so that we can be sure everyone has a chair before we begin.

Participants are encouraged (but not required) to purchase a copy of *Oneing; Politics & Religion* from cac.org. Go to bookstore, enter *Oneing* in the search field and then scroll to the Politics and Religion issue. Cost is \$15 plus shipping.

A Moment With Our Pastor...

Grace and Peace to you, dear Church.

As we enter the warmth of summer months, my heart is warmed by the vitality of our congregation. As I write this, new leaders have been approved by congregational vote and are readying themselves for their new roles. The Bus has been wrapped in white and red with our name boldly proclaimed on its side. We have just finished a very successful Vacation Bible School - having eagerly welcomed new children into our church. We are in the process of upgrading our sanctuary sound system, and looking into how we can make our worship experiences available for online streaming (thanks to the generosity of a couple anonymous donors). A new communications team has begun their work to help us rethink and reinvest in how we share information with one another and with the wider community. And, we continue to bring our hearts and minds and souls to the worship of God our creator.

Glory be to the Spirit of God in Christ that binds us together in faith.

As we remember June's worship, where we read and considered together Matthew 10 where Jesus says to his disciples: "See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves."

We have spent last month moving through this chapter in an attempt to understand what the Lord intends when he instructs his disciples, and so us, to have Wise Innocence in the practice of faith. In a day and age when everything seems to be distilled simply into 'Us vs Them' - we have tried to learn how move beyond such limited considerations towards a unity in faith that is worthy of every believer of Jesus.

In July we are considering what it means to claim Freedom-in-Christ. We will strive to find confidence in our faithfulness to the gospel and the graciousness to make room for the Holy Spirit to turn every heart towards Christ. For we are but conduits for what God will do, moving together in the freedom we have to hear and respond to the gospel truth in the midst of us.

We are called to be peacemakers, we are called to be purveyors of hope, we are called to be witnesses to that which God is making new in the world. This is a tall task, as it was in the days Jesus, so it is now. Christian faith is not easy...but it is good - ALL THE TIME! Amen? Amen!

Each and every one of you bring joy to our communion, a gathering of believers and seekers and mystics and servants. We together reflect the glorious diversity of God's creation. And so, I hope to explore how we can learn the spiritual skills to stand firm in our Christians values while keeping true to our call to offer, to all, the gracious hope that is found in Christ.

Upcoming, in the month of August, we will be looking at the theme Sabbath: Called to Prayer. We will spend our time in worship thinking about what it means to be a prayerful person, how it is that we become a person of prayer, and how it is that we can observe the blessing that come from a life anchored in the power of prayer to move the Spirit of the Living God. I know many have questions about prayer, in fact I have been asked by some of our member to spend some time with prayer. I hope you all will attend worship and be blessed by our considerations together of what role prayer has in our lives of faith.

Thank you Church for being such a faithful partner in the pursuit of a Christ-like life.

May the Peace of Christ be with you always.

Blessings, Pastor Adam

VBS Was Fun and Green!

We have just finished four Sundays of Vacation Bible School on the theme of “Finding God’s Peace,” and we had a good time! We think we did a good job of upholding our congregation’s Green Chalice commitment: we bought very few materials, using many items we already had on hand. You brought us glass jars that we used in two of our crafts; that’s re-using, the second of the three “r’s”! Other crafts used mainly paper, which is easily recycled and much quicker to degrade in the landfill than plastic or metal. Our snacks, provided by the congregation, were healthy and were not individually packaged. They were served on paper napkins; water was the beverage, and it was served in paper cups from the dispenser, not from plastic bottles.

There are so many people to thank! Sharon Meek was indispensable; are you surprised? The others, in alphabetical order are Adam Bradley, Michele Bradley, Nancy Brewer, Lynn Chapman, Bobbie Cherry, Bev Cranston, Ben and Mary Encinias, Barbara Ferer and the Thursday women’s group, Ashlie Gray (Georgia’s niece), Kathie Grubb, Maureen And Dan Hicks, Emmie Lee, Charlie McCann, Arden Miller, Clar Miller, Trisha Senterfitt, Teri Slemmons, Mike Smith, and Laura and Ron Sturgis. Most of our youth were also able to help at least one Sunday. Sure hope we didn’t forget anyone. Thanks for loving our kids! Nancy Z and Georgia

Butterfly Garden Needs Help



The newly-planted pollinator garden on the playground needs some help with watering and weeding. I have done some of both, but can’t do any more for two weeks. Most of the weeds are grass, which is easy to recognize. There are watering cans and weeding tools under the counter in the kitchen area next to the children’s classroom. If you can spend only a few minutes, it will help.—Nancy Zimmerman

Welcoming Sarah and Brock

Cherry Log Christian Church is glad to announce that Sarah and Brock Hester has accepted the Part Time custodian of the church. They live in Ellijay with their two children ages 7 and 4. When you see them in the church, please welcome them.

Finance Committee Report

The financial data for April and May are not as rosy as for the first quarter. We anticipated a decline in giving because the first quarter contains a number of lump sum gifts. The decline in April and May are steeper than anticipated. Revenue in May was \$30,882. Expenses were \$39,119, higher than normal due to three payroll periods in May. There was a loss for May of \$8,238. For the year, we still are positive by \$2,274. The checking account has a positive balance of \$4,410.

Average weekly attendance in May was 153 and the average for the year is 159. Average giving per attendee for May was \$50. In April average weekly attendance was 158 and giving per attendee was \$49. These numbers are less than the first quarter, which we expected, but the decline is more than anticipated. The committee will be watching these numbers closely and hoping that April and May are an aberration, not a trend.

“Greening” Our Church Events



About a year ago, CLCC became a Green Chalice congregation! We’ve made definite progress towards our next level of certification, and achieving that will need the help of the whole congregation. One area where we’ve made progress is in reducing solid waste when we have events such as large meals, which we just did with our potluck on Pentecost Sunday. Did you notice that we no longer use disposable plates or utensils? We have enough of each for a large group now, so we’re not filling up trash bags with throw-away dishes. We’re still working on the cups/glasses that we drink from, as the ones we have on hand are a plastic that’s not even recyclable in this area. Hopefully we can change that in the future.

Some of you find yourselves planning gatherings for large or small groups at church, and we’re asking all groups to adhere to our new standards by 1) using the real dishes that we have in the kitchen rather than disposables (they just need to be scraped and put in the dishwasher); 2) if you decorate, check to see what we or you have on hand that can be re-used, rather than buying something new (there are vases in the kitchen and some decor items in the storeroom); 3) if you purchase beverages, do so in larger containers rather than individual, and recycle the containers, if you empty them, in the blue recycle container, after rinsing of course. Most beverage containers are number 1 or 2 plastic, but check the bottom to be sure; these are the only plastics that can be recycled locally.

If you do plan an outdoor event where you need to use disposables, opt for uncoated paper plates such as Chinet, or plates made of bamboo fiber, rather than plastic, styrofoam, or coated paper. The uncoated paper will break down much faster. If someone has a compost pile, they might even want to take them home! Also choose cardboard cups or durable plastic ones that will be re-used, not styrofoam. Plastic ware can be washed and re-used, and remember to skip the straws unless someone really needs one! Doesn’t it feel good to be green?

Ashley's Way Medical Closet

Currently the “Ashley’s Way” medical closet has the following items to loan out:

Bath chairs	Bedside toilets	Urinals and bed pans	Walkers
Crutches	Adult diapers (all sizes)		Blood pressure cuffs
Bed pads	Baby monitor and alert monitors		Walking assist belts

If you wish to borrow any of the items, please contact the church office. If you wish to donate items, please note that we **DO NOT TAKE** braces of any kind; wound care products, hospital beds, Hoyer lifts, any medications, used nebulizers, or oxygen tanks. If you have a question of what we do take or where you might donate, call the church office and someone will assist you.



July 3	Janet Elder	July 17	Micah Slemons
	Jane Murray	July 19	Wilma Fordham
July 4	Michael Brunson	July 20	Jean Rose
July 5	Russell Gremillion	July 24	George Barrett
July 6	Tab Bomhard	July 25	Tom Mitchell
July 11	Ray Moore	July 29	Marcia Congdon
July 12	Robin Norsworthy		Nancy Midkiff
July 13	Wendy Cox		
	Amado Grabiell		



July 1	Cheer and Mary Beth Shepard
July 6	Mike and Cathy Smith
July 8	Charles and Becky Walls
July 12	George & Wilma Fordham
July 19	Ed and Ellen Grant
July 22	Bob and Leslie Lewis
July 28	Kristi and Julie Johnson

ATTENDANCE

	8:25 C. E.	10:55 Worship
June 3	42	111
June 10	33	102
June 17	38	91
June 24	31	109



April Treasurer's Report

General Operating:

Contributions: \$38,938.27
 Expenses: \$37,033.77

Year to Date Contributions: \$158,217.68
 Year to Date Expenses: \$147,706.49

May Treasurer's Report

General Operating:

Contributions: \$30,882.17
 Expenses: \$39,119.82

Year to Date Contributions: \$189,099.85
 Year to Date Expenses: \$186,826.31

CELEBRATION FUND

The following donations were made this past month:

In Memory of:

Jim Bradley

In Honor of:

Cathy Johnson

Michael Brunson

* Total amount deposited into Celebration Fund \$547.00



August 4th Church Picnic
10:00 a.m. ETC Pavilion

October 5th & 6th
Church Yard Sale

October 20th
Low Country Boil