

CHERRYLOGUE

News from Cherry Log Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

January, 2015

Vol. 18 No. 1

Dr. J. David Griffin, Senior Minister

Dr. Fred B. Craddock, Minister Emeritus



Mark Your
Calendar!

Wednesday Night
Dinners return

January, 14th at
5:30 p.m.

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A GIFT FOR YOU

To be honest, I was under-whelmed.

A seldom-seen cousin wrote me: "...rummaging through attic boxes...came across stash of old letters...some from your dad...would you like...?" Well, there was no reasonable way to refuse them; but the packet lay unopened for some weeks, casualty of my lack of interest. Finally, at Jane's urging, I opened...and read.

To be honest, I was over-whelmed.

Letters dating from Dad's years of service during WWII, carbon-copied on onion-skin paper, and sent to his parents, his sister, his brothers serving in different theaters of the war. Precious thoughts about family, love, and ties that bind despite time and distance. Considered discussion of changes wrought by war in a variety of matters—roles of women, race relations, shifts in politics. References to an infant namesake, known to him only through photographs.

What a treasure; what a legacy!

Legacy Partners Foundation Administrators issue you two invitations relating to legacy; they are both gifts...no one will ask you for anything and there will be no reference to the Legacy Partners' program here at CLCC.

First, a fun, feel-good Friday night flick...with popcorn. Date: Friday evening, January 16, 2015, at 6:00 PM in Fellowship Hall. [The Ultimate Gift](#) features James Garner, Abigail Breslin, Brian Dennehy, and a strong supporting cast and tells the story of a legacy gift from a grandfather to his grandson and the subsequent changes wrought by this spiritual legacy gift.

Second, an opportunity to learn how to pass on to your loved ones your own ultimate legacy gift, your own spiritual legacy. Julie Johnson's class will begin early in 2015 and will offer insights and guidance regarding ways to share what is most dear and precious to you with those whom you love. Watch for it!

We encourage you to participate in one or both of these events...our gift to you.

FYSH

Georgia Meyers

FYSH - Youth Group Meets the first Sunday of the Month following the late Worship Service for lunch and fellowship at CLCC. Games/Youth Activities for All! Come Join Us. 6th grade through 12th grade.

Youth will be serving Fellowship Snacks January 18th, Sign up in the Youth Sunday School Classroom to H-E-L-P, please. Or Call Georgia 407-948-3025 or email georgia1267@hotmail.com

Youth will be preparing Communion Sunday, January 18th and the 25th during the Sunday School hour....Come serve Him. The Sunday School lessons will be on the Timeline and Apostle Paul. (Any youth that mentions the lesson plans **first** to Georgia win a prize!)

If any Youth did not meet the St. Simon Youth Assembly Deadline and is still interested in attending, please contact Georgia Meyers 407-948-3025 or georgia1267@hotmail.com.

Disciples Women News

Nancy Zimmerman

The Disciples Women will begin 2015 with a study of our neighboring country of Mexico on January 17th. Then we'll return to our programs on women of the Bible; the first will be brought by Robin Norsworthy on February 21. These meetings will be in the Fellowship Hall at 10:30 and all women are welcome.

The Disciples Women are active in service and outreach. In fall of 2014, we helped our regional Disciples Women (which is only funded by the women themselves), the Tower Road community, ForeverFamily, the Gilmer County animal shelter, and a local family. We have a different outreach project every month. Come and join us for friendship, education, and service on the third Saturday of each month.--Nancy Zimmerman, President

FAITH IN FICTION

Myra Kibler

The Faith in Fiction Book Group begins 2015 with an "intelligent thriller" by Michael Gruber, **Valley of Bones**. It promises to stretch our reading list beyond its normal bounds.

This CLCC book group meets on the second Friday of each month at 11:00. Everyone in the group commits to read the book if they attend the discussion, and the discussion is always an intelligent exchange of ideas from people of varied backgrounds, but all lovers of literature and good friends. After each discussion we often go out to eat to continue getting to know one another better.

Titles chosen for the future are:

Feb.--**Gilead**, Marilyn Robinson

Mar.--**Running the Rift**, Naomi Benaron

Apr.--**Fall on Your Knees**, Ann-Marie MacDonald

We always welcome newcomers who share our love of literature and critical discussion. For further information or to get the entire book list, contact myra_kibler@yahoo.com.

FROM MY HEART... TO YOUR HEART

David Griffin

I would not classify it under the tent of New Years resolutions. Usually these resolutions tend to be about changing our behaviors. Yes, some of my/our behaviors do need to be changed; no argument from me on that!

However, we are more than behaviors. Somewhere “residing” within us there is a being, a soul, a heart, a core of personhood that is more than physical body and reactionary behaviors. Some may say that this is who we are and not our behaviors.

So during the coming year, running throughout the year, I would like for us to find and to honor the self that God made over the self that we are making. If I gave the theme a name I would call it “humility”. So instead of resolutions to change behavior, I would like for us to be conscious of finding and developing humility.

So, let us start with a story for our theme of humility. The story can be found in many writings; I have no idea to whom I need to give credit.

There is a Persian story of the sage who came to the door of Heaven and knocked. From within the voice of God asked, “Who is there” and the sage answered, “It is I.” “In this House,” replied the voice, “there is no room for thee and me.” So the sage went away, and spent many years pondering over this answer in deep meditation. Returning a second time, the voice asked the same question, and again the sage answered, “It is I.” The door remained closed. After some years he returned for the third time, and, at his knocking, the voice once more demanded, “Who is there?” And the sage cried, “It is myself!” The door was opened.

Instead of aggressively projecting ourselves, we let ourselves go. This is a part of humility. Humility is not being proud, and assertive. It is being unpretentious, low in rank, and modest; the opposite of humility conceit. In Philippians Paul writes: “Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves.” (Philippians 2:3)

In 1960, Mac Davis wrote the song, “It’s Hard to Be Humble”. As ridiculous as those lyrics sound, they paint a relatively accurate picture of my attitude for a long period of my life. It is extremely hard to be humble when you’re full of pride.

I like the image of an orchestra conductor and humility. The conductor has her script/score. The instruments are in tune with each other; the multiple parts of us are in tune with each other. The conductor turns her back to the audience to conduct the orchestra. The audience is secondary; the score is primary. It is the score that drives the music. Our score is the Word of God, and that Word is manifest in Jesus, an image of humility. “He humbled himself and became obedient, even to the point of death.” (Philippians 2:8)



Voices OF CHERRY LOG

“A friend is one of the nicest things you can have, and one of the best things you can be.”

~Douglas Pagels



Rusty Coleman

Born B’ham, AL, bred Chamblee, GA; met future wife (Diane) age 12 in little league ball park; graduate GaTech; began work with IBM while there and continued 30 years; Retired age 45, established private Consultancy in Sales Training; still active tho ‘retired’ 2 years ago.

Life in 3 seasons: 1) Fall: Hunting Club a.k.a. Grandpa’s Camping Club

2) Winter: Snow skiing Sundance, Utah (some responsibilities on slopes J)

3) Spring & Summer: Motorcycling (all states except Alaska & Hawaii)

All this possible due to “incredibly understanding wife”

CLCC: Recommended by friends, “from first day we felt SO WEL-COMED, so we stayed. Active in several capacities.



Beverly Cranston

Born, bred and educated in Jamaica; trained in medical technology; spent 5 years in lab in Miami then returned to Jamaica to marry and earn University degree; eventually joined University lab system as administrator of research project on earliest stages of HIV until retirement 2006; came to GA visiting 3 stepchildren and 8 grands; loved peace and tranquility of Ellijay

Passion for gardening; as hospital volunteer is usually found in gardens; substitute teaching in Ellijay

Catholic background; Judy Barrett, also hospital volunteer, brought her to CLCC; “The best church is one that brings you closer to God. [CLCC] does that for me.”

Barbara Wilcon

Born Niagara Falls, NY; raised and educated Geneva, NY; worked as paralegal secretary (exceptionally speedy typing and shorthand); moved to Irving, Texas; three sons, one daughter (Georgia Meyers), 7 grandchildren and 7 great grandchildren; moved to her mountain top 2009.

Talents and interests: artist, watercolors and oils, still life and scenic; reads anything; knitting and crocheting in earlier years; Walk to Emaus most life-changing experience.

CLCC: searching for a church and visited us; greeted in the narthex with a hug and the words “It’s about time you got here” from a total stranger; the friendliness captured her.



Lucie Coffie

Born Jacksonville FL(3 yr), navy Dad, teacher Mom; AL 6 yrs; Atlanta (Druid Hills); BA French from Agnes Scott; 6 mo. in France; married Marton Majoros, ENT physician; earned MEd (audiology); together committed their lives to Christ; after Marton’s death, earned MA social work, UGA; married Frazier 1987; full time on Lake Blue Ridge 2005; now in Blue Ridge Village.

Enjoys: stand-up paddle board; drumming; book group; hiking; reading; Stephen Ministry; choirs; animals (ask Lucie); share 3 children, 7 grands.

CLCC: First attended pavillion to hear Dr. Craddock. “We’re here because this is our community—we love it—it was a conscious choice.”

African Drumming

Myra Kibler

African drumming has come to Cherry Log! For twenty years now, it is a phenomenon that has grown in the United States and has particularly found roots in spiritual communities. Many churches have drum circles. Now Cherry Log has one. Our drummers are beginners, which makes this a good time for new drummers to join. We are beginning with basics.

Currently drummers meet on the second Friday of each month at 10:00 in the morning, just before the book discussion group. It was just serendipity that three people in the book group played djembe drums and decided to play before the book group meeting. At some time we may add another meeting at a different time to include more people.

The djembe comes from West Africa. Traditional drums are chalice-shaped, made from trees with animal skins stretched across the top. In Africa only people born into a drum playing class played the djembe. It was used to call people to gather for specific purposes, and the specific rhythm told the purpose of that gathering. Each distinct rhythm has a name and a place of origin. Also djembe rhythms have several accompanying rhythms going on at the same time, and they play for dancers and singers.

In the US, the djembe has found many new uses and is played in many ways that Africans would not recognize. Among the benefits of drumming is simply the joy it. The scientific-minded might explain this effect as a release of endorphin after prolonged rhythmical drumming. At any rate, it is happy-making music. There has also been recognition of its therapeutic benefits, and it is being used for healing. Churches have recognized the benefit of drumming in forming community. It also benefits brain health. Learning rhythms, especially while hearing alternative rhythms at the same time, creates new pathways in the brain. After learning the rhythm with the cognitive mind, one plays it over and over until it becomes part of muscle memory and the player transcends thinking. That's good for people who live too much in their heads. And most intriguing of all, adding new pathways, increasing brain plasticity, is said to enhance spiritual perception. Incidentally, Holy Innocents Episcopal Church in Atlanta is offering a six-week course in the spiritual uses of djembe drumming beginning in February.

The Cherry Log drummers have seven djembe drums in the group. In addition there are dununba, sangba, and kenkeni, drums used with the djembe and played with a stick, and some ambient rhythm instruments. Anyone who would like to try their hands on some of the instruments is welcome to come and play with us. You need have no musical experience or own an instrument. The reason we have seven drums in the group after two meetings, however, is that people learn what fun drumming is, and they quickly invest in a drum of their own. If that happens to you, we can help you find one. People with hand problems, like arthritis, may find that they can play the drums that are played with a stick and a bell or some of the shakers which are needed for accompaniment with the drums. You can even put bells on your ankles or clackers on shoes and make music with your feet. Everyone can play. For further information, contact myra_kibler@yahoo.com.

From The Craddock Center--We're on Our Way Home!

The Craddock Center had its beginnings some 14 years ago at the "Church on the Hill" that was the former home of CLCC. I hope you're aware of the Center's "Take Us Home" campaign to raise \$325,000 to purchase the property from CLCC. Since the middle of November, the Center has we have now raised over half of the money, 55% of the entire amount! Our goal is to present the keys to Fred and Nettie Craddock, who founded the Center, on April 30, his 87th birthday! When the sale closes, the entire amount goes to CLCC for debt reduction. A gift to the Center to "Take Us Home" is truly a gift that keeps on giving--first to the Center, then to CLCC. We can't wait to expand the Center's work to benefit people of southern Appalachia, especially children, from this place that is so special to the Center. Very soon, the Center will be home! --Beth Roberts, Board President, The Craddock Center

Happy Anniversary!

January 18 Steve Stevens & Milly Hastings (35)
 January 26 Don & Feenie Midkiff (56)
 January 31 John & Dorothy Morford (15)

CELEBRATION FUND

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

In Memory of:

Cledah Tanguary
 Del Woods
 Don Baker
 Tom Rothchild

In Honor of:

Betsy Shepard & Kerrie Gilbert

In Celebration of:

Bob Clarke

* Total amount deposited into Celebration Fund
 \$1,650.00

ATTENDANCE

| | Celebrate Early | Worship |
|---------|--------------------|---------|
| Dec. 07 | 56 | 134 |
| Dec. 14 | 59 | 128 |
| Dec. 21 | 49 | 112 |
| Dec. 28 | 26 | 62 |

Happy Birthday

| | | | |
|---------|------------------|---------|-----------------|
| Jan. 02 | Wanda Neal | Jan. 16 | Donna Lehr |
| Jan. 03 | Luke Riza | Jan. 17 | Danny Johnson |
| Jan. 04 | Nancy Blackadar | Jan. 20 | Ferris Leslie |
| | Emily Matthews | Jan. 21 | Kenny Neal |
| Jan. 06 | Nancy Brewer | Jan. 23 | Milly Hastings |
| | John Garceau | Jan. 24 | Sandy McCann |
| | Conner Honeycutt | Jan. 26 | Bette Jensen |
| Jan. 07 | Sue Moore | | Judy Wyndham |
| Jan. 10 | Lynn Barrett | Jan. 27 | John Morford |
| Jan. 12 | Pam Young | Jan. 29 | Ham Kimzey |
| Jan. 13 | Diane Coleman | Jan. 30 | Yvonne McNelley |
| Jan. 15 | Beth Lipscomb | | |



November Treasurer's Report

General Operating:

Contributions: \$45,205.00

Expenses: \$40,546.00

Year to Date Contributions: \$482,082.00

Year to date Expenses: \$492,284.00

Family Night Dinners

On Wednesday evening, January 14th, Roberta Bondi will begin teaching Richard Rohr's book, Breathing Under Water: Spirituality and the Twelve Steps.

We are all addicted in some way. When we learn to identify our addiction, embrace our brokenness, and surrender to God, we begin to bring healing to ourselves and our world. In *Breathing Under Water*, Richard Rohr shows how the gospel principles in the Twelve Steps can free anyone from any addiction—from an obvious dependence on alcohol or drugs to the more common but less visible addiction that we all have to sin.

From the *Christian Century*: "Spirituality is perhaps an ill-chosen word in this book's subtitle, given that Rohr's characterization of Christianity is (and always has been) relentlessly incarnational. Here his identification of the gospel with the core tenets of Alcoholics Anonymous underscores how redemption comes to us in and through the messes we make of our lives, not despite them. Anyone with first- or even secondhand knowledge of the Twelve Steps can attest to the unsettling challenges they present to safe, respectable, middle-class Christianity: 'When the churches forget their own gospel message, the Holy Spirit sneaks in through the ducts and air vents. AA meetings have been very good ductwork, allowing fresh air both in and out of many musty and mildewed churches.'"

Dinner will be at 5:30 and Roberta will begin at 6. Come and join us!