



CHRIST CHURCH PRESS

The Monthly Newsletter of Christ Church, Presbyterian
4201 Southern Pines Drive, Evans, Georgia, 30809

Volume 10, Issue 1

January 2014

The Pastor's Pen...

Birthdays

- 01..... Diann Chew
- 02 Anne Gojda
 Ed Russell
- 03 David Robeson
- 05 Blase Emerson
 Matt Russell
- 06Kira Smith
- 07..... Bob Pentecost
- 10.....Emily Adams
- 11.....Wade Caldwell
- 12..... Bill Kemp
- 13..... Scott Doss
- 14..... Gene Gojda
- 17..... Ken Moody
- 20 Janice Britt
 Lauren Hatcher
- 24.....Teal Bailey
 Sue Moncrief
- 25Bob Rihl
- 26Sam Bailey
- 30Richard Deal

Don't Be Content!

Contentment is a virtue to be commended and cultivated—in most areas of life. Especially in a materialistic society, where people compete with one another for who has the nicest car, most spectacular house(s), the latest gadgets and toys, we need to learn the great secret of contentment from the Apostle Paul: “For I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through Him Who strengthens me” (Phil. 4:11a-13). When it comes to the circumstances and comforts of this life, for the glory of God and the good of our souls, we would do well to learn contentment.

But contentment is not always a virtue. It most assuredly is not when it comes to our pursuit of God. We are not to be satisfied with where we are in the Christian life. No matter how far we may think we have advanced in the school of Christ, we are called to press farther and go deeper to know more of God. That is why the Apostle Paul, who reveled in the surpassing joy and satisfaction of knowing God in Christ (Phil. 3:8), yet expresses his firm resolve to pursue more. “But one thing I do,” Paul declares, “forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus” (vv. 13b-14). Paul has found the One Who alone can satisfy the longing of his soul, but this has not caused Him to cease his pursuit of Christ. Rather, finding the infinite source of life and joy has stirred within his heart a torrent of holy desire for more of God. This is what A.W. Tozer refers to as “the soul’s paradox of love.” He writes, “To have found God and still to pursue Him is the soul’s paradox of love, scorned indeed by the too easily satisfied religionist, but justified in the happy experience of the children of the burning heart.”

As strange as it may sound, I am convinced that one of our greatest needs in the church today is a holy discontentment with our current spiritual condition leading to holy desire for more of God. Our desire is far too weak. We are far too easily satisfied. Tozer’s description of the problem of spiritual apathy in his day could just as accurately be spoken of the church in our day: “The stiff and wooden quality about our religious lives is a result of our lack of

(continued on page 2)

Anniversaries

- 19..... Polly & Gary Cowart
- 26 Linda & Bob Pentecost

holy desire. Complacency is the deadly foe of all spiritual growth. Acute desire must be present or there will be no manifestation of Christ to His people. He waits to be wanted. Too bad that with many of us He waits so long, so very long, in vain.”

My earnest prayer for Christ Church, Presbyterian in this New Year is to see the embers of desire for God in my own heart, the hearts of our elders and deacons, and the hearts of members young and old fanned into a white-hot flame of holy passion and desire for more of God. There is nothing we need more. Flowing from this strong desire, the leaders of Christ Church, Presbyterian, beginning in January, will be reading prayerfully and meditatively A.W. Tozer's marvelous classic, *The Pursuit of God*, a chapter a week. As your pastor, I want to invite you to join us this New Year, by supplementing your daily devotion in Scripture —not substituting—with this mighty little book that God has used to (re)ignite a flame in many a heart. And join me in making the heart cry of this book your very own:

“O God, I have tasted Thy goodness, and it has both satisfied me and made me thirsty for more. I am painfully conscious of my need of further grace. I am ashamed of my lack of desire. O God, the Triune God, I want to want Thee; I long to be filled with longing; I thirst to be made more thirsty still. Show me Thy glory, I pray Thee, that so I may know Thee indeed. Begin in mercy a new work of love within me. Say to my soul, ‘Rise up, my love, my fair one, and come away.’ Then give me grace to rise and follow Thee up from this misty lowland where I have wandered so long. In Jesus’ name. Amen.”



Missionary Prayer

Please be in prayer for these missionaries throughout the month of January.

Sharlene & Glenn Grubb

Wycliffe Bible Translators/Mission to the World (PCA)

- Pray for them as they continue to fill the roles they have in the Aviation Safety Department.
- Pray for Allison, Adam and the boys as they go through the many adjustments their family will make in the adoption of their six-month old baby boy from Uganda.

Paula & Eliseo Guadagno

Operation Mobilization, Italy

- Continue to pray for Manuela who recently returned to school after her long break due to rheumatic fever. She is doing well in school, but taking the regular shots she is required to as a result of the fever is difficult for her.
- Pray for Paula's new role as Short Term Mission Coordinator. This involves oversight of all short-term (under six months) mission experiences, in to and out of Italy.



Tim Zimmerman 

The King's Brass

LIVE

Christ Church, Presbyterian

**Tuesday, January 7, 2014
7:00 p.m.**

FREE CONCERT!

Bring a friend!



Feel uncomfortable sharing your faith?

Wish you had a tool to make it easier?

Come to the Share Your Faith Workshop!

Learn to use a simple memory tool that makes it easier to share the Good News.

RENEW YOUR PASSION FOR WITNESSING!

January 25 - 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Register at www.christchurchpres.org

**Christ Church, Presbyterian
4201 Southern Pines Drive
Evans, GA 30809**

Share Your Faith Workshops help you discern where God is working and show you how to join Him in the work. Learn how to engage people spiritually and pleasantly. For Christ Church, Presbyterian members who register by January 11 to attend, the registration fee is \$10, which includes all materials and lunch. To register please visit www.christchurchpres.org and visit the 'Share Your Faith Workshop' tab. Renew your passion for witnessing and discover ways to cultivate friendships into opportunities to share the Gospel!

Bible Study Opportunities

Young Families/Young Couples Small Group Bible Study

All young families and young couples are encouraged to attend this twice monthly small group Bible study in the home of Natalie and Ora Parish, 609 Woodwalk Lane in Martinez. This study will begin Thursday, January 23, at 7:00 p.m., and will meet on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month. *Childcare will be provided.*

Adult Bible Study: Genesis

The Adult Bible Study, which meets the first and third Thursdays of each month, resumes on Thursday, January 2, at the Moncrief home, 2910 Mayfair Road in Augusta. The first two chapters of Genesis were a great blessing as the study looked at the richness and glory found in God's six days of the creation week. All adults are invited to join the group as they pick up in the third chapter of the historical book of origins, Genesis, and enjoy fellowship, food and a faith-strengthening study.

Adult Bible Study: 1 Peter

A second Adult Bible Study will be offered on the first and third Thursdays of each month at 7:00 p.m. beginning January 16 at the home of Linda and Warren Jones, 503 Thompkins Lane in Evans. This study will enjoy a practical study of 1 Peter, exploring the divine blueprint for understanding and experiencing genuine hope in God's eternal plan and provision, while living in the real world of failure, danger and suffering.

Women's Bible Study

All ladies are invited to study the Psalms on the second and fourth Thursday evenings of the month from 6:45 until 8:00. This study resumes on Thursday, January 9. Monica Boyd hosts on the second Thursdays and Martha Folley hosts the fourth Thursdays.

Sympathy

Christian sympathy is extended to Laura and Charles Caruso on the death of her father, Lucius Bultman, on December 17 in Augusta.

Christian sympathy is extended as well to the family of Peter Letchford, PCA pastor beloved by many in our congregation, who passed away December 17 in Augusta.

Men's Prayer

Men, make plans to start your first weekend of 2014 in prayer with your brothers in Christ by attending the Men's Prayer Breakfast held Saturday, January 4, at 7:45 a.m. This great time of food, fellowship and a devotional focus on A. W. Tozer's book, *The Pursuit of God*, is sure to encourage your heart! This weekly prayer group meets on Fridays at 7:00 a.m. the following weeks of the month.

Elder Emeritus



Following almost 40 years of service to Christ and His Church, Ruling Elder Gene Gojda was honored with Emeritus status

on December 1. Gene has faithfully served as Deacon and Elder at First Presbyterian, Augusta and Christ Church, Presbyterian. Over the years he has given much of his free time to the Augusta Rescue Mission and the Youth Development Center, and continues to teach the Sunday School Class to the special elect sons and daughters of the church. We give praise and thanks to God for his faithful service.

Christ Church Press

Christ Church, Presbyterian
 4201 Southern Pines Drive
 Evans, GA 30809
 706-210-9090



January

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
			New Year's Day Church Office Closed	7 p.m. Adult Bible Study: Genesis (Moncrief home)		7:45 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship 6 p.m. Worship		7 p.m. The King's Brass Concert (Sanctuary)	6:30 p.m. Youth Gathering 7 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	6:45 p.m. Women's Bible Study (Boyd home)	7 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship 12:30 p.m. Fellowship Luncheon 6 p.m. Worship 7:30 p.m. Youth Gathering		7 p.m. Joint Session / Diaconate Mtg	6:30 p.m. Youth Gathering 7 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	7 p.m. Adult Bible Study: Genesis (Moncrief home) 7 p.m. Adult Bible Study: 1 Peter (W. Jones home)	7 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship 6 p.m. Worship			6:30 p.m. Youth Gathering 7 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	6:45 p.m. Women's Bible Study (Folley home) 7 p.m. Young Families/ Young Couples Bible Study (Parish home)	7 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast	9 a.m. Share Your Faith Workshop
26	27	28	29	30	31	
9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship 6 p.m. Worship 7:30 p.m. Youth Gathering			6:30 p.m. Youth Gathering 7 p.m. Choir Rehearsal 8:30 p.m. Brass Ensemble Rehearsal			