



# CHRIST CHURCH PRESS

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

Volume 10, Issue 7

July 2014

## Birthdays

- 03 .....Mara Ramon-Gutierrez  
05 ..... Sandra Brown  
06 .....Linda Fleming  
    Betty Gene Lovingood  
10..... John Self  
    Tracy Steed  
11.....Joe Dey  
12.....Jenny Townsend  
13.....Kelly Caruso  
14.....Elizabeth Seward  
15 ..... Billy Hatcher  
18..... Margaret Fields  
21..... Warren Jones  
    Dale McPherson  
22 .....Will Nabholz  
23 ..... Sheryl Alba  
30 ..... John Dunsmore

## Anniversaries

- 05 ..... Sheila & Lee Self  
09 ..... Sarah & Brian Moore  
11..... Joanna & Tony Miller  
16.....Helen & Wade Caldwell  
21..... Natalie & Ora Parish  
25 .....Ilona & McDonald Law  
26 ..... Tracy & Brent Steed

## The Pastor's Selection...

### "Religion Should Produce Action"

— A. W. Tozer, *Of God and Man*

The supreme purpose of the Christian religion is to make men like God in order that they may act like God. In Christ the verbs *to be* and *to do* follow each other in that order.

True religion leads to moral action. The only true Christian is the practicing Christian. Such a one is in very reality an incarnation of Christ as Christ is the incarnation of God; not in the same degree and fullness of perfection, for there is nothing in the moral universe equal to that awful mystery of godliness which joined God and man in eternal union in the person of the Man Christ Jesus; but as the fullness of the Godhead was and is in Christ, so Christ is in the nature of the one who believes in Him in the manner prescribed in the Scriptures.

God always acts like Himself wherever He may be and whatever He may be doing. When God became flesh and dwelt among us He did not cease to act as He had been acting from eternity. "He veiled His deity but He did not void it." The ancient flame dimmed down to spare the helpless eyes of mortal men, but as much as was seen was true fire. Christ restrained His powers but He did not violate His holiness. In whatsoever He did He was holy, harmless, separate from sinners and higher than the highest heaven.

Just as in eternity God acted like Himself and when incarnated in human flesh still continued in all His conduct to be true to His holiness, so does He when He enters the nature of a believing man. This is the method by which He makes the redeemed man holy. He enters a human nature at regeneration as He once entered human nature at the incarnation and acts as becomes God, using that nature as a medium of expression for His moral perfections.

Cicero, the Roman orator, once warned his hearers that they were in danger of making philosophy a substitute for action instead of allowing it to produce action. What is true of philosophy is true also of religion. The faith of Christ was never intended to be an end in itself nor to serve instead of something else. In the minds of some teachers faith stands in lieu of moral conduct and every inquirer after God must take his choice between the two. We are presented with the well-known either/or: either we have faith or we have works, and faith saves

(continued on page 2)

## The Pastor's Selection

*(continued from page 1)*

while works damn us. Hence the tremendous emphasis on faith and the apologetic, mincing approach to the doctrine of personal holiness in modern evangelism. This error has lowered the moral standards of the church and helped to lead us into the wilderness where we currently find ourselves.

Rightly understood, faith is not a substitute for moral conduct but a means toward it. The tree does not serve in lieu of fruit but as an agent by which fruit is secured. Fruit, not trees, is the end God has in mind in yonder orchard; so Christ-like conduct is the end of Christian faith. To oppose faith to works is to make the fruit the enemy to the tree; yet that is exactly what we have managed to do. And the consequences have been disastrous.

A miscalculation in laying the foundation of a building will throw the whole superstructure out of plumb, and the error that gave us faith as a substitute for action instead of faith in action has raised up in our day unsymmetrical and ugly temples of which we may well be ashamed and for which we shall surely give a strict account in the day when Christ judges the secrets of our hearts.

In practice we may detect the subtle (and often unconscious) substitution when we hear a Christian assure someone that he will “pray over” his problem, knowing full well that he intends to use prayer as a substitute for service. It is much easier to pray that a poor friend’s needs may be supplied than to supply them. James’ words burn with irony: “If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, and one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit?” And the mystical John sees also the incongruity involved in substituting religion for action: “But whoso hath this world’s good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him? My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth. And hereby we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before him.”

A proper understanding of this whole thing will destroy the false and artificial either/or. Then we will have not less faith but more godly works; not less praying but more serving; not fewer words but more holy deeds; not weaker profession but more courageous possession; not a religion as a substitute for action but religion in faith-filled action.

And what is that but to say that we will have come again to the teaching of the New Testament?



In lieu of our monthly Fellowship Meal in July, we will share in the annual Christ Church Independence Day celebration on Sunday evening, July 6. Following Evening Worship, we will enjoy an ice cream social in Covenant Hall and on the courtyard. Bring a gallon of your favorite homemade or store-bought ice cream and plan to enjoy good fellowship!

## Mission's Report

Chris and Cary Drinkard leave on July 3rd for a three-year term as Far East Director for Campus Outreach (CO). They will live in Manila, Philippines, and oversee the establishment of the work on two university campuses in the city. In addition, Chris will take on the responsibility for CO work in Thailand and Singapore. Students in the universities of the far east come from many countries which are closed to the Gospel and traditional missions. Their openness to the Word of God makes these campuses a fertile field for evangelization. Please pray for the Drinkards and the CO team in Manila to settle-in quickly and begin establishing relationships with students and university authorities. The congregation of Christ Church has committed to support the Drinkards prayerfully and financially during their term in the Philippines.



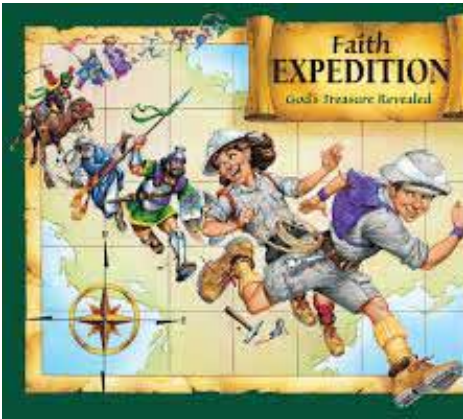
# Missionary Prayer

**Paul Volpitto, Presbyterian Evangelistic Fellowship (PEF), Augusta, Georgia**

Paul is currently involved in the ministry "Family Priorities." Originally initiated by Dr. Perkis of the Augusta School of Biblical Studies, this effort is to empower successful marriages and families.

*Please keep young Christ Church missionaries in prayer as they head to various locations this summer through Teen Missions International: Grace Cornelison (Malawi, East Africa); Will Nabholz (Tacloban, the Philippines); John Self (Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia; Seoul, South Korea). Refer to the "Pray For Our Teen Mission International Missionaries" booklet which is located on the Welcome Table.*

## Faith Expedition: Successful Completion



Once again, our gracious and loving heavenly Father poured out His blessings on Vacation Bible School. Over 40 children traveled on our Faith Expedition searching for the treasures of God's Word. We thank the Lord for the sacrificial commitment of time and energy by all the teachers and volunteers who made this effort possible. Claiming the promise of God's Word, "So shall My word be that goes out from My mouth; it shall not return to Me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it" (Isaiah 55:11), please continue to pray that the seeds planted in young hearts will grow into mature faith.



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



## July

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
Sundays Schedule: 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship 6 p.m. Worship		6 p.m. CSP Swim Team Banquet	7 p.m. Choir Rehearsal 8:30 p.m. Brass Ensemble No Youth Gathering		Church Office Closed	7:45 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
4:30 p.m. HS & College Girls Bible Study 7:30 p.m. Ice Cream Social		7 p.m. Joint Session & Diaconate meeting	6:30 p.m. Youth Gathering		7 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
4:30 p.m. HS & College Girls Bible Study 7:30 p.m. Youth Gathering			No Youth Gathering		7 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
4:30 p.m. HS & College Girls Bible Study 4:30 p.m. Jr. & Sr. High Boys Bible Study			6:30 p.m. Youth Gathering		7 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast	
27	28	29	30	31		
4:30 p.m. HS & College Girls Bible Study 4:30 p.m. Jr. & Sr. High Boys Bible Study 7:30 p.m. Youth Gathering			6:30 p.m. Youth Gathering			