



CHRIST CHURCH PRESS

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

Volume 11, Issue 1

January 2015

The Pastor's Selection . . .

Birthdays

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

"Let us therefore celebrate the festival, not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth,"
1 Corinthians 5:8.

Anniversaries

- 26 Linda & Bob Pentecost

Four Lessons in Fruitful Time-Management

- David Mathis, *Desiring God*

Acts of love don't just happen.

At times we may experience the power of the Spirit in such a way that some good deed seems to flow naturally from our heart, through our hands, to the benefit of others. But plucking a ripe raspberry from the bush in a moment doesn't mean that it just appeared. Weeks and months of sunlight and rain, proper nutrients and right conditions, went into the slow daily growth of good fruit. And so it is with our acts of love for the good of others.

There is a process to the production of love, as the apostle Paul counsels his protégé Titus: "Let our people learn to devote themselves to good works, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not be unfruitful" (Titus 3:14). Good works don't just happen. Meeting the needs of others doesn't appear out of thin air. There is a process – a learning – to devote ourselves to good.

And one significant "spiritual discipline" is learning to manage our time in the mission of love, both in terms of proactive scheduling and planned flexibility. Previously, we suggested "fairly rigid blocks for our proactive labors, along with generous margin and planned flexibility to regularly meet the unplanned needs of others." Now to the tune of making that more specific, here are four lessons in fruitful time-management, for the mission of love.

1. Consider your calling.

God has gifted each of us for the common good (1 Corinthians 12:7). He empowers a variety of gifts, services, and activities among his people (1 Corinthians 12:4-6). In terms of our professional "calling," often we find it easier to identify what it is God might be moving us toward in the future, rather than what He has presently called us to today. For instance, it can be difficult for the business student, sensing a "call" to one day do business for the glory of God, to realize that his present calling is that of a student, even as he moves toward his perceived future call in business.

Our professional calling – that regular endeavor for which God has designed our head, heart, and hands for some particular season of life – flows not only from our own aspirations and the affirmations of others, but also from a tangible opportunity. One of us might feel the call to some new profession, and have the happy approval of those who know us best, but until some specific door swings open, and we have the live opportunity to begin operating in that field, that calling remains future – and we neglect our previous charge to the detriment of our joy and the good of others.

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Four Lessons in Fruitful Time-Management

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2. Plan with big stones.

Next, in light of God's calling on us today, identify the key priorities that make up that calling. Typically, these priorities will be considerably compromised, if not abandoned altogether, if we don't plan for them with some intentionality.

Some have called these "the big stones" (Manage Your Day-to-Day, 197). Our little pebbles are the smaller things to which we regularly give time but don't contribute directly to the main priorities of our calling. If we put the big stones first into the jar of our schedule, we'll be able to fill the cracks with a good many pebbles. But if we put the pebbles in first, the big stones likely will not fit.

3. Make the most of your mornings.

Learn a lesson from the psalmists (Psalm 5:3; 30:5; 46:5; 59:16; 88:13; 90:5-6, 14; 92:2; 143:8), and from Jesus himself (Mark 1:35), and from that often quoted section in George Muller's autobiography, and make the most of your mornings.

Study after study confirms the importance of the first hours of the day for fulfilling the most important (and often most intensive) aspects of our calling. In the morning, we're typically our sharpest, and have the largest store of energy to work creatively and proactively. Also, in the mornings, we're less likely to be sidelined by interruptions and the urgencies that arise as the day wears on.

How we regularly invest our mornings can be telling. How many of us have found it true that where our morning is, there our heart will be also? When our top priority each day is reorienting toward Jesus and hearing his voice in the Scriptures, we'll be more likely to create space for that early, and less likely to leave it to chance that something won't drown it out later in the day.

Then, vocationally, how we spend those first few hours on the clock can be critical. As difficult as it can be to resist procrastinating on our most intensive and demanding tasks ("the big stones"), the most strategic time to tackle them is first thing in the morning. As to how guarding our mornings like this might be driven by love, think of it this way: In defending the light of our early mornings from trifles, we free ourselves to go on the offensive to beat back the darkness with flexibility for unscheduled acts of love. Which leads to a fourth and final lesson.

4. Create flexibility for meeting others' needs.

So far, we've been mostly implicit about how these broad time-management lessons function in the service of love. Now let's get explicit.

On the one hand, all our careful consideration of calling, and planning in light of key priorities, and making the most of the day's first hours – all these function in the service of love as the proactive output of our vocation to serve and bless others. This is, after all, what our calling is in its truest and deepest sense: how God has prepared for us, with our particular abilities, in a certain season of life, to regularly expend time and energy for the good of others. That's the proactive dimension to our calling.

But on the other hand, knowing our giftings and attending to our priorities and tackling them first thing in the morning also unleashes us to be reactive as the day unfolds, able to respond to the unplanned needs of others, whether big or small, obvious or subtle. Love both plans for fixed blocks to push forward our proactive labors of love as well as margin and flexibility to attend to others' unplanned needs as they arise.

Remember Jesus's Words

It's a Christian Hedonistic way to parcel your time for those who remember the words of Jesus, how he himself said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35). The greatest joys come not from time squandered, hoarded, or selfishly spent, but from self-sacrificial love for others to the glory of God, when we pour out our time and energy for the good of others, and find our joy in theirs.

After all, acts of love don't just happen.

Committee Assignments

Clerk of Session
John Dunsmore

Administration & Personnel
Chair: Billy Hatcher
Vice Chair: Ora Parish

Worship
Chair: McDonald Law
Vice Chair: John Dunsmore

Evaneglim, Membership & Pastoral Care
Chair: Mark Walters
Vice Chair: Ora Parish

Congregational Life & WIC
Chair: Ora Parish
Vice Chair: McDonald Law

Missions
Chair: Mel Jewett
Vice Chair: Mark Walters

Christian Education
Chair: Mike Boyd
Vice Chair: Mel Jewett

Youth
Chair: Billy Hatcher
Vice Chair: Mike Boyd

Choir Call

Make a New Year's resolution you can ENJOY by joining the Christ Church Choir! Singers are needed in all sections, but particularly sopranos, so if you can help this vital ministry of the congregation, please consider joining us on Wednesday evenings at 7PM for rehearsal. Contact Mark Nabholz (or any member of the Choir) for more information: music@christchurch-pres.org.

"Praise the Lord! For it is good to sing praises to our God; for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting," Psalm 147:1.

Share Your Faith Workshop



Have you ever wanted to share your faith with a friend or a loved one and kept putting it off because you didn't feel confident and didn't want to 'blow it'? Most of us—if not all of us—certainly have. That is why we are excited about the upcoming Share Your Faith Workshop that will be held on Saturday, January 24, from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. on the church campus. The Share Your Faith Workshop will help you discern where God is working and show you how to join Him in the work. This workshop will equip you with a simple and effective memory tool for presenting the Gospel with clarity and confidence.

Further, it will help you learn how to engage people spiritually and pleasantly, so that you will have the opportunity to share the Good News that has transformed your life. If you are interested in being equipped to share your faith—and we pray you are—be sure to register for the Share Your Faith Workshop by January 14. To register, simply visit www.christchurchpres.org and click on the 'Share Your Faith Workshop' tab. The registration fee is \$15, which includes all materials and lunch. Renew your passion for witnessing and discover ways to cultivate friendships into opportunities to share the Gospel!

Everyday Evangelism

Everyday Evangelism (EV2) is a ministry that trains people—just like you—how to share their faith in Christ. Building on the Share Your Faith Workshop, EV2 utilizes a variety of components including prayer, on-the-job training where the experienced lead the inexperienced, and the principle of spiritual multiplication. In the Book of Acts we read that the disciples “multiplied” and “multiplied exceedingly.” This shift from addition to spiritual multiplication offers the one real hope of sharing the Gospel with a world population that is, itself, continually multiplying.

If you are interested in being further equipped to share the Good News and want to be a part of Christ Church's Gospel outreach, join us on Tuesday evenings beginning February 3 at 6:30 p.m. for seven weeks where we will be spending time in preparatory devotions, classroom instruction and boots-on-the-ground training/evangelism. Scripture verses, stories and transitions will strengthen each person's ability to communicate the Gospel message. We have the best news in all the world. Let us be a church equipped for and engaged in sharing that life-transforming, eternity-changing message of hope. To register please visit www.christchurchpres.org.



Bible & Missions Conference

The second annual Bible & Missions Conference at Christ Church, Presbyterian is scheduled for February 20–22, 2015. Mark your calendars so that you don't miss this weekend centered around God's word and world evangelization.

The Reverend Todd Erickson, associate pastor for evangelism and discipleship at Second Presbyterian Church in Memphis, will be our Bible teacher for the conference. Todd is well known to many of us from his years of youth ministry here in Augusta. Our missionary speakers are Dr. Louis & Anne Carter serving under SIM, International and the Christian Medical and Dental Association. Louis is a surgeon specializing in plastic and hand surgery and Anne is an operating room RN. They served for a number of years in Africa and now serve in an itinerant ministry teaching missionary and national doctors plastic, reconstructive and hand surgery, as well as operating room procedures in mission hospitals.

Missionaries Prayer Focus

Please remember the following missionaries in your prayers throughout the month as they labor for the Lord,
“Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart,” 2 Corinthians 4:1.

Glenn & Sharlene Grubb, Wycliffe Bible Translators/Mission to the World (PCA)
Eliseo and Paula Guadagno, Operation Mobilization (OM), Italy

Christ Church Press

Rev. J. Josiah Jones, Pastor
 Christ Church, Presbyterian
 4201 Southern Pines Drive
 Evans, GA 30809
 706-210-9090



January

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
Each Sunday's Schedule 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship 6:00 p.m. Worship						
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
5 p.m. Prayer Meeting	7 p.m. Trail Life	7 p.m. Diaconate Meeting 7 p.m. Adult Bible Study, Evans	6:30 p.m. Youth Gathering 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal 8:30 p.m. Brass Ensemble	6:45 p.m. Women's Evening Bible Study 7 p.m. Adult Bible Study Augusta	7 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
5 p.m. Prayer Meeting 7:30 p.m. Youth Gathering	7 p.m. Trail Life	7 p.m. Session Meeting	6:30 p.m. Youth Gathering 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal 8:30 p.m. Brass Ensemble	6 p.m. Young Families Bible Study	7 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
5 p.m. Prayer Meeting	7 p.m. Trail Life	7 p.m. Adult Bible Study, Evans	6:30 p.m. Youth Gathering 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal 8:30 p.m. Brass Ensemble	6:45 p.m. Women's Evening Bible Study 7 p.m. Adult Bible Study, Augusta 7 p.m. Children's Ministry Teachers Meeting	7 a.m. Men's Prayer Breakfast	9 a.m. Share Your Faith Workshop
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
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