



The Spirit



Clayton First United
Methodist Church

Vol. XXXIV, Issue 18

Sept. 5, 2010

CHARLIE'S CHURCH CHUCKLES

I've been here long enough now that I am beginning to notice some things that are unique to Clayton First UMC. One of those unique things is our radio broadcast of our 11:00 o'clock service that is live on WGHC. What I've noticed is that when Noon comes, the radio broadcast is finished, whether I am finished or not! It stops, even if we continue on. I was reminded of this old story that appeared in the *Joyful Noiseletter* in March, 2010.

A recently married young couple arrived late for church, and the usher couldn't find a place to seat them together. They were split up. He on the front row and she on the very back pew. About 15 minutes into the sermon, the young bride remembered that she had left their Sunday dinner in the oven, and she was concerned that it might dry out or burn. She decided to ask her husband to rush home and rescue the dinner.

She scribbled out a note to him, and asked the usher who had seated them to please take it to the man up front. The usher thought she meant the preacher, so he delivered it to the pastor when he reached for his cup of water under the pulpit. The preacher read the note, and quickly concluded his sermon, gave the benediction and went out of the sanctuary.

Afterwards, the Chair of the SPR asked the preacher why he had stopped so abruptly. "Well, what would you have done after receiving this note?" The SPR Chair read the note. It said, "Go home and shut off the gas!"

Lessons to be learned from this include: 1) Ushers, please seat couples together! 2) Ushers, please don't deliver notes to the preacher. 3) Preacher, you have a whole assortment of keys. If you are the last one at church, please lock up! I don't know about you, but I'm smiling. I'm still here for you, and all you have to do is to let me know that you need me.

Yours and God's,



New Schedule as of Sept. 12th

8:30am-Early Service-Sanctuary
9:31 am-Connections Praise and Worship-FLC
9:45am-Sunday School
10:45am-Sunday School-FLC
11 am-Worship Service-Sanctuary

Music News

Do you struggle with change? You are not alone. In fact, most of us would readily admit that we dislike change. We find it particularly difficult when those changes are occurring within our church. Traditions that have been passed down from generation to generation and many times associated with fond memories of family, friends, and community are important to us. Understandably, when those traditions are changed or left out it can cause bitterness and heartbreak, particularly with older members who have spent their lives building that very community, dedicating hours of service and significant amounts of money in tithes.

If you are feeling as if you can relate to these statements, I would like to recommend a book by Gordon MacDonald, Who Stole My Church. Here is an excerpt from the back cover:

"MacDonald has written himself into a fictional church in a New England town. This fellowship is at a tipping point. Many of the founders are facing a decision to either accept the changes occurring in their church or leave and find something more traditional. Following these men and women on their journey will help you understand your own church and your role in it in new and enlightening ways".

I hope you will find this book to be as thought-provoking as I did. The book comes with group discussions that would work well within a small group study. If you are interested in meeting in a small group for discussion, please give me a call. I would enjoy an opportunity to explore these chapters together. The book is available in our church library located on the top floor of the FLC.

Soli Deo gloria!

Jeannie

Volunteer Opportunities

Sunday School (9:45) Downtown: Nursery workers, Pre-School, K-2nd grade, and 3rd-5 grade teachers needed
Sunday School 10:45 at FLC and 11:00 downtown: Nursery workers (alternate with Buff & Cynthia at the 11 a.m. hour)
Connections Service (9:31): Greeters, Kids Connect teachers
11 a.m. Worship: Acolytes, Altar Guild, Ushers, Children's Church

Faithbuilders: Van drivers, aides, food servers

Wed. Night Supper: clean-up and dishwashers, servers

"Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others." Romans 12:4-5

Children & Youth News

And In This Corner...ONE LIFE

We have been putting a lot of time into an event that will be hosted by RCHS Fellowship of Christian Athletes and the Fish Club on September 12 (5 -8 pm). The event is a youth experience – it has been designed for Middle and High school students but all are welcome so please accept this as your invitation to be there. Please look over the brochure (enclosed) for some details – or just call me and I will tell you about it!

We are ready to BRING ON the Children!!! Our FaithBuilder program will pick back up on September 8 – that is

this coming Wednesday. The program looks really exciting for the Fall, and we can't wait to get the kids back engaged with us! We do have opportunities for you to help us. If you feel called to volunteer and help out with our children, please let me know. And please keep your ears peeled because there is rumor of a children's choir that will start up and take place on Wednesdays after supper! (pretty exciting!!! more information to come).

A thought from John Ortberg.... "As God helps you grow, you will change but you will always be you. An acorn can grow into an oak tree, but it cannot become a rose bush. It can be a healthy

oak or it can be a stunted oak – but it won't be a shrub. You will always be you – a growing, healthy you or a languishing you – but God did not create you to be anybody else. He pre-wired your temperament. He determined your natural gifts and talents. He made you to feel certain passions and desires. He planned your body and mind. Your uniqueness is God-designed." **The Me I want to Be** (Zondervan, Grand Rapids, MI: 2010), 15.

Let Your Light Shine,

Jeremy Noffsinger



Upcoming Events

The Church Calendar is on the back page of this newsletter.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPERS begin on Sept. 8th at 6 p.m. in the FLC. Dinners cost \$6 per person with a family maximum of \$25. Sept. 8th menu features salads: Chicken, Taco, Broccoli, Grape, and congealed. Sept. 15th, Burma is cooking Beef Kabobs, rice, and broccoli casserole. Meals come with dessert and a drink. Make reservations via WNS cards in the back of the pews or at the Info. table at Connections, or call the church office by Tuesday at noon. *If you need to cancel a reservation, cancel it by 12 noon on Tuesday or honor your reservation(s) with your payment.*

FALL LADIES BIBLE STUDY features Beth Moore's revised work, Breaking Free. The group meets in the Upper Room on Wednesdays, beginning Sept. 15th, at 10 a.m. Workbooks are ready to be picked up at the church office.

CRN (Older Adult Ministries) will have their monthly meeting on Thursday, Sept. 16th, at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. A catered meal will be served and Paul Wysock and Bob Clayton will provide entertainment for the group. Contact Linda Craft to make reservations so she can order enough food by calling 706-782-3421.

UMW GENERAL MEETING will be held on Thursday, Sept. 16th, in the Fellowship Hall at 6 p.m. Light refreshments will be served and all ladies are welcome to join us. Rev. Charlie Green will be guest speaker this quarter.

UMM will hold their monthly meeting on Thursday, Sept. 16th, at 6:30 p.m. at The Bistro in The Old Clayton Inn. RSVP Ken Muller at 706-212-2031.

TRASH & TREASURE FLEA MARKET will take place in the Fellowship Hall on Friday, Sept. 24th and Saturday, Sept. 25th, from 9 a.m. till 2 p.m. Call Ken and Carol Muller at 706-212-2031 or 706-490-0080 to make an appointment to drop off donations at the Fellowship Hall. Pack all donations in boxes if possible. Monies from the sale will help continue our church ministries.

HOMECOMING will be celebrated on October 10th as we welcome Rev. Doug Volk back to our church. A covered dish lunch will be held in the Family Life Center after the 11 o'clock service.

UMM BBQ coming soon—October 31st in the Fellowship Hall!

Outreach

FAITHBUILDERS, our after-school program for children in grades K-6, will begin Wednesday, Sept. 8th. Children will be picked up from public schools and taken by van to the Family Life Center at 3:30 and enjoy praise music, crafts, playtime, and a snack until 5:30 p.m. We encourage everyone to sign up and stay for Wednesday Night Supper! Contact Jeremy or the church office for FaithBuilders forms and call Mia to make dinner reservations.

ONE LIFE—A YOUTH EXPERIENCE will be held on Sunday, Sept. 12th in the RCHS Fine Arts Building from 5-8 p.m. See the insert in this week's newsletter.

SOUP KITCHEN VAN DRIVERS are needed to provide transportation to and from New Life Community Church on Thursday evenings. Call John Boshart at 706-782-0343.



Gifts of Aug. 22nd and 29th

I will uphold Clayton First United Methodist Church with my: Prayers for our nation and its leaders, our military and their families, our church and our community, and everyone affected by recent natural disasters and the Gulf Coast oil spill

Gifts (financial)

Received for Operating (Aug. 22, 2010)	\$7,116.66
Received Year-to-Date for Operating	\$254,038.79
Needed Year-to-Date for Operating	\$342,779.32
Short YTD for Operating	\$(88,740.53)
Goal for the Ketchup Campaign	\$50,050.27
Received to Date for Ketchup Campaign	\$(10,877.76)
Needed to reach Goal	\$39,172.51
Received FLC to date for loan payment	\$42,364.74
Needed for loan payments through August	\$69,539.84
Short amount needed for the loan payment	\$(27,175.10)

Attendance for August 22, 2010

9 am Connections	61
Boat Church	146
11 am Worship	126
Sunday School	78

Gifts (financial)

Received for Operating (Aug. 29, 2010)	\$5,699.53
Received Year-to-Date for Operating	\$259,738.32
Needed Year-to-Date for Operating	\$352,861.15
Short YTD for Operating	\$(93,122.83)
Goal for the Ketchup Campaign	\$50,050.27
Received to Date for Ketchup Campaign	\$(14,653.07)
Needed to reach Goal	\$35,397.20
Received FLC to date for loan payment	\$42,969.74
Needed for loan payments through August	\$69,539.84
Short amount needed for the loan payment	\$(26,570.10)

Attendance for August 29, 2010

9 am Connections	30
Boat Church	195
11 am Worship	124
Sunday School	74

Ketch-Up Campaign News

Clayton First has received a "Challenge Offer" from an anonymous donor toward our "Ketch-Up" Campaign in the amount of \$15,000. Praise God for this donor who is allowing themselves to be an instrument of God and assisting us in doing His work in our community!



We now have \$3,925.31 toward this challenge offer. Previously, we had raised \$11,327.76; therefore, our total Ketch-Up raised so far is \$15,253.07. We are on our way towards the \$15,000.00 matching--only \$11,074.69 needed for our matching goal. God is good!!

MEMORIALS

Lake Rabun Leisure Ministries

Kasi Webb

By Johnny & Lisa Prickett

Ketchup Campaign

In memory of my parents, brother & husband

By Betty Walker

HONORARIUMS

Operating

Linda Craft

By Ralph & Ernestine Dickerson

Family Life Center

Mary Frances Summers

By Ralph & Ernestine Dickerson

Ketchup Campaign

Linda Craft's 85th Birthday

By Jerry & Rebekah Krivsky



Clayton First United Methodist Church was able to assist six households with rent or utilities in the month of August. Thank you for your generous giving and may God continue to bless this ministry of our church.

CLC (Pre-School) News

Isn't it awesome to see how great a God we serve? He provides for our every need, but not necessarily our wants. We have been so blessed at the Creative Learning Center and we want to share the blessings that God has given us. Last month, the CLC Board approved to increase our giving to the church by doubling the amount and bringing it to \$2000.00 each month. We do not tell you this to pat ourselves on the back, but to say what God says in Luke 12:48b, *For everyone to whom much is given, from him much will be required; and to whom much has been committed, of him they will ask the more.*

God has provided so much for CLC and he expects that we not keep that all for ourselves. We must share this with those who have also given us a great deal. We appreciate all that this church does in support of this ministry. We hope that there is never a doubt of how much we appreciate everyone at Clayton First United Methodist Church.

We also can use this principle of giving in our own personal lives. We can never out give God! Just give it a try— you will be blessed beyond measure.

We Covet Your Prayers!

The Creative Learning Center



Clayton First United Methodist Church

The Spirit



September 5, 2010

Mailing address:

P.O. Box 703
Clayton, GA 30525

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Sanctuary:

71 South Main Street

Education Building/Fellowship Hall:

91 South Main Street

Family Life Center:

205 Ministry Mountain Drive
Clayton, GA 30525

Office: 706-782-4426

Fax: 706-782-7454

Parsonage: 706-782-3291

E-mail: claytonumc@windstream.net

Website: claytonmethodist.com

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CHURCH STAFF

CHARLIE GREEN	Pastor
JEANNIE CHAPMAN	Dir. of Music Ministries
JEREMY NOFFSINGER	Dir. of Children & Youth Ministries
BARBARA PAILLOZ	Organist/Financial Secretary
MIA SHARPTON	Church Secretary
DIANE GARDNER	Pianist
LEISA WALL	Dir. of Creative Learning Center
TED LOONEY	Building Superintendent
JACK DUNCAN	Custodian
BURMA RAMEY	Church Chef

Welcome New Member!

Mr. Brian Leach
112 Titanium Lane
Clayton, GA 30525
706-782-3924

Church Calendar

Sunday, Sept. 5

9am-Connections-Pastor Lee Krivsky FLC
9am-LAST 2010 Boat Church-Rev. Charlie Green
9:45am-Sunday School
11 am-Worship Service-Rev. Charlie Green-Sanctuary

Monday, Sept. 6

Labor Day-CLC and Church Offices Closed

Tuesday, Sept. 7

5pm-Handbells Practice-Education Bldg.
6:30pm-Connections Band Practice-FLC

Wednesday, Sept. 8

3:30pm-FaithBuilders Begins-FLC
5:15pm-Prayer Group-Senior Room
6:45pm-Finance Committee Meeting-Upper Room
6pm-Wed. Night Supper Begins-FLC
7pm-Choir Practice-Education Bldg.

Thursday, Sept. 9

5pm-Holy Stitches-Upper Room
5:30pm-Diabetic Support Group-Senior Room

Saturday, Sept. 11—PATRIOT DAY

9am-Girl Scouts' Awards Dinner-FLC Gym

Sunday, Sept. 12—PROMOTION SUNDAY

8:30am-Early Worship-Jeremy Noffsinger-Sanctuary
9:31am-Connections Service-Rev. Charlie Green-FLC
9:45am-Sunday School
10:45 am-Sunday School--FLC only
11 am-Worship Service-Rev. Charlie Green-Sanctuary

Sunday, Sept. 12

5pm-One Life: An Experience for Students at the RCHS Fine Arts Building

Monday, Sept. 13

4:15pm-CLC Committee Meeting-Upper Room
5:30pm-Missions Committee Meeting-Senior Room
6pm-Administrative Council-Upper Room

Tuesday, Sept. 14

3pm-Girl Scouts #10186-Fellowship Hall
5pm-Handbells Practice-Education Bldg.
6pm-R.A.P. Meeting-Upper Room
6:30pm-Connections Band Practice-FLC
6:30pm-Cub Scout Pack Meeting-Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, Sept. 15

10am-Ladies Bible Study (Breaking Free) Begins-Upper Room
3:30pm-FaithBuilders-FLC
5:15pm-Prayer Group-Senior Room
6pm-Wed. Night Supper-FLC
7pm-Choir Practice-Education Bldg.

Thursday, Sept. 16

10am-CLC Grandparent's Day Program-FLC Gym
11:30am-CRN Lunch-Fellowship Hall
6pm-UMW General Meeting-Fellowship Hall
6:30pm-UMM Meeting-Old Clayton Inn
6pm-Cub Scout Pack Mtg.-FLC

Delight yourself in the Lord; And He will give you the desires of your heart. Psalm 37:4