

Bringing you

The Good News

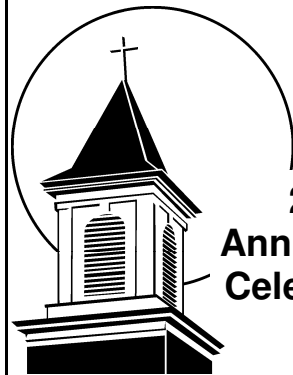


January 2010

Volume 22, No. 1

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And God Said, "No"



20th Anniversary Celebration

On January 7, 1990, West Lake Christian Church had 83 people signing a charter that read "We, the West Lake Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) under the Authority of God in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, join in a partnership with one another, the General, Regional, and Area Church in providing a witness to the good news of Jesus through worship, study, fellowship, service, for each other, and all the world."

On January 10, 2010, we will celebrate the history of WLCC. We invite all charter members that are able to come and be recognized on this 20th Anniversary.

We will also have a fellowship dinner immediately following the worship service. We are changing our regular monthly potluck to January 10. So bring your favorite meat dish, vegetable, salad or dessert and come to this milestone event in the life of West Lake Christian Church.

Elders Institute 2010!!!

...to connect, nurture, challenge, affirm and serve...

On January 22-23, 2010, ten Elders from West Lake Christian Church will attend the Elders Institute. Your representatives will be Barb Anderson, Kelly and Nancy Caldwell, Larry and Carlene Chubbuck, John and Shelby Conley, Jean Garber, Peggy Lippitt, and Nip Mohler.

The keynote speaker will be Donna Rose-Heim, an ordained Disciple minister currently serving as Interim Minister of First Christian Church, North Kansas City. She is the author of *Dream Walking* and has led numerous retreats about the spiritual life. In this event, Donna focuses on helping Disciple Elders nourish relationships that uplift the church, while recognizing areas where those relationships can become much stronger. She will address the Institute three times and involve Elders in small group exercises to strengthen relationships. This includes recognizing healthy boundaries in all relationships with members of the church and within the local community.

Remember to keep these Elders in your prayers as they continue their faith journey and learn how to better serve you and God.



Reverend Reflections by Jim Stovall

The Stovall family spent more time in Macomb, IL at First Christian Church than anywhere else. The McDonough District Hospital in Macomb is a highly regarded caring center. Part of one's appreciation for the place is discoverable in the locations for both birth and death. Palliative care in preparation for death is on the third floor and the Obstetrics Center is on the first floor.

I recall in particular the time Bob Ferguson, a great leader in the Macomb Congregation, breathed his last breath on the third floor, followed by a family continuing its dying and death emotional trauma. When the proper time came, it was time to move onto the first floor and greet another Disciple family at the nursery. In all sorts of situations in life we are called to make similar radical transformations.

One can mount the elevator as if mounting a bull in the shoot and ride down to the bottom, moving raucously from sensitivity to loss to tremendous joy. No situation excludes joy and no situation excludes sadness. The whole of life promotes a wide range of emotions and thoughts, all calling for elevator-style adjustments.

In Ecclesiastes chapter 3, Koheleth says there is a time for this and a time for that. There is a time for change and a time to remain the same, a time to rest and a time to exercise and work, a time to build followed by a time to pay for the building, a time for memories, a time for planning and a time for living now.

Emotions are wonderful things, provided we don't get stuck in them and they become tar babies. It has been my practice through the years to lead a congregation in an annual Homecoming. That meant inviting back former members, former pastors and tracing memories to beginnings. In most congregations that was a good idea. However, in one congregation the experience was a disaster, a disaster portrayed by people who idolized the past. I don't want to make light of that because the congregation had a productive past, which had moved from the first floor to the third.

Let's move forward with this scheme since the pediatric unit was on another wing on the third floor, a wing filled with children wanting parents, other family and friends to come and care. There were tales that spread about the hospital regarding the placing of relative units, from geriatrics, to palliative, to pediatrics to the nursery. For example: (1) Whenever someone died in palliative care, a baby was soon born and placed in the nursery. (2) If a stroke victim was brought into geriatrics, a child was getting well in pediatrics. Frequently churches are like McDonough District Hospital.

Gee Whiz

(An expression of surprise, dismay, or enthusiasm)

It is January.

It is 2010.

It is a New Year!

We have enjoyed the privilege of another year of life. We have experienced the "good times" and the "bad times." We may be fewer than last year, but we are all closer. Just as the euphemistic shorthand for Jesus is a minced oath – the original meaning is largely forgotten by those of us who remember the saying. Those who use it are fewer than before and it may sound rather old fashioned, but those who remember or use Gee Whiz are the same folks who had the vision for West Lake Christian Church in January of 1990.

Having the vision for a Disciples of Christ church in Laurie, MO was one thing, but making it happen was another. It took action and hard work to put that vision into reality! What is our vision today for the future of West Lake Christian Church? Are we content to keep the status quo? Do we have a vision of what we would like this fellowship to look like tomorrow or next year? Are we waiting for someone or something to move us forward towards a mission of saving souls for Christ? I'm not sure we can wait to keep moving forward. It's not about today, or tomorrow...it's about eternity!

Our humble "thanks" goes to the charter members for putting a vision into action, and also to the many who have worked so hard throughout the years to make West Lake Christian Church the great church that it is today. You have been and are "good Stewards" of the time, talent and treasures that God has provided you. I pray that we will continue to seek God's will for His vision for this church in 2010 and beyond, and for what action it will take to make it happen.

Happy New Year,
Kent Elliott



**Laurie Care Center Worship
Sunday, January 31, 2010
2:00 p.m.**

Come join the Elders for a time of worship and communion with the residents of The Knolls and Care Center.

May this new year offer you so many opportunities that you will have to puzzle over which to accept.

-Dr. Thomas Lane Butts



*Thank You,
from your Church Staff*

Dear Friends,

I was overwhelmed by the gift basket that was brimming over with presents. Thank you so much for the cards, gifts, and food. This will be a fun Christmas with our two young grandsons. We will enjoy all the goodies so much with our family.

2009 has been a great year and I feel blessed to be your church secretary, and to share in your lives. I look forward to 2010 and being a part of this wonderful church family. Thank you also for the most generous bonus. May God bless each of you with joy and wonder in the coming year.

Sandy White

I want to thank the members of West Lake Christian Church for allowing me to take part in one of the best years yet! You have all made me (and Karl) feel so very welcome. I do enjoy playing the piano when it is my turn. AND...if there is a particular song you would like to hear, and I can play it, please give me your request. I'll even try to learn a new one now and then. Thanks to Pastor Stovall, Dona Johnson, the music committee, and all others who have touched our lives in such a warm way.

In Christian Love, Sharon King

Dear Friends,

I am grateful for the wonderful gifts you have shared with me so often. You are truly a giving people!

Love and Blessings, Jim



CWF NEWS

Mary Cline, President

As we come to the last of 2009, we take this opportunity to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Blessed New Year!

Again, the craft division and SONshine Circle thank those who have supported our troop fund and CWF!

The next meeting of the Christian Women's Fellowship will be Tuesday, January 12 at 11:30 a.m. See you there!

To our dear friends,

Thank you for the love and appreciation expressed in the gifts we received at Christmas. We pray for God's blessings and love for each of you in the New Year.

Gwen and George Welch

To our Church Family:

We wish to thank everyone for the gifts we received in our Christmas Basket. We are blessed to have so many Christian friends.

Happy New Year and God bless you.

Jim and Chris Gibbs

Dear WLCC family and friends,

I want to thank you for each and every gift we have received from you. Each one will be enjoyed immediately and or through out the years to come.

Your kindness and thoughts are appreciated greatly! We are so blessed to have all of you as our Christian family. We pray God continues to richly bless each of you and our Church in the new year. Again, thank you and God bless.

In Christian Love, Dona & Roy Johnson

To my good Christians,

Thank you for my basket of goodies and cards of money. I also want to thank you for having me on the staff here at the church. I enjoyed it. I miss all you when I'm not here on Sunday morning.

Thanks again. I love you all.

Maggie Houdek

West Lake Christian Church

2009 Directory Additions and Changes

Place this sheet in your church directory.

New Members

Scott and Dawn Arnold
Naomi Ortiz, Tori Ortiz, Gracie
Serna
374-3164
73 Shallow Cove Rd.
Gravois Mills, MO 65037

Paul and Betsy Garvin
(913) 422-8126,
16572 149th Court
Bonner Springs, KS 66012
Lake house: 105 Oklaterre
Gravois Mills, MO 65037

Karl and Sharon King
374-5018
512 Cottonwood Lane
Sunrise Beach, MO 65079

Ruth Somers
372-3316
29519 Towering Oak Lane
Gravois Mills, MO 65037

Address Changes

Larry and Carlene Chubbuck
552-8259
153 Nonsuch Rd.
Lake Ozark, MO 65049

Lance Clark
1588 Purvis Road
Sunrise Beach, MO 65079

Shirley Copeland
16110 W. 133rd St. Apt 139
Olathe, KS 66062-7891

Stan Field
32235 Lee Dr.
Gravois Mills, MO 65037

Emma Head
PO Box 1354
Laurie, MO 65038

Earl King
844 Passover Rd.
Osage Beach, MO 65065

Verna Pottorff
520 Court Rd. Unit 703
Grand Junction, CO 81505

Ira and Carol Williams
18499 S. Hwy 211
Molalla, OR 97038



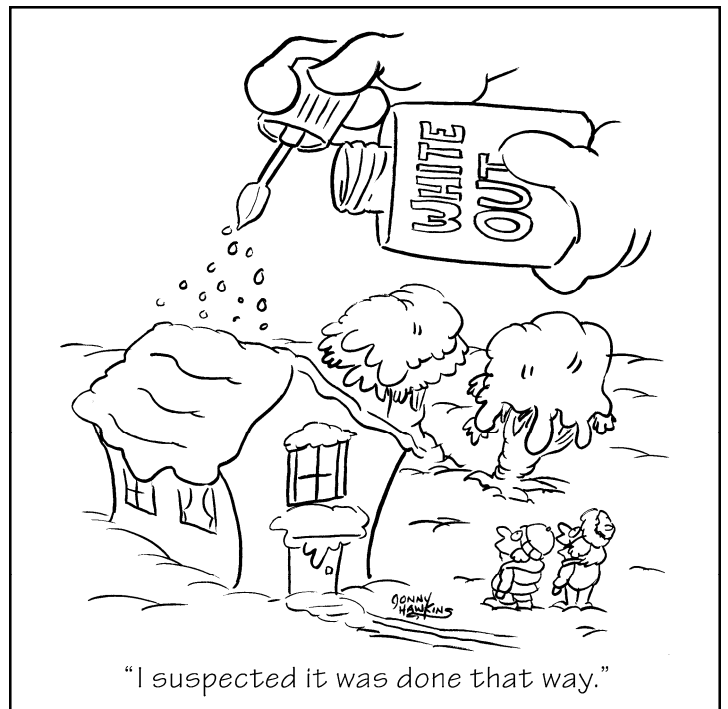
The January Principle of Stewardship

As members of a church family, we confess Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior, and the Gospel as the Word of God. In our faith we recognize the gifts which God has first given us through His grace, and accept our role as stewards in this world. We accept responsibility for managing 100% of our time, talent and resources, including our bodies. The following principle of Stewardship will provide a foundation for the role of steward in the congregation and the world.

Being a grateful steward is our Christian response to what God has first given us – the creation of life, Jesus Christ, the community of believers. We recognize that God comes first.

Paul writes of the Macedonians: “...but first they gave themselves to the lord.” II Corinthians 8:5

Our role as Christian stewards is one of many dimensions. This principle of stewardship is a foundation for Good Stewards and serves as a guide in our daily lives.



What's Your Reason For Not Exercising?

- I'm just too tired
- I'm too busy
- I'd rather start tomorrow
- It's too cold/hot/rainy/snowy outside
- I spend all day chasing my kids/dog/spouse
- Exercise is against my religion



Come join our exercise class!

Betty Greenley, our parish nurse, leads our group exercise class on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings at 9:30 a.m. This is a low impact aerobic class for all ages. Start the new year with a resolution to get more exercise

and become stronger and healthier. First class in 2010 starts on Monday, January 4.



Good habits are as addictive as bad habits, and a lot more rewarding.

-Harvey Mackay

Feeling Bored?

A young boy complained to his father that most of the church hymns were boring to him. They were too far behind the times, with tiresome tunes and meaningless words. The father put an end to the complaining by saying, "If you think you can write better hymns, then why don't you?"

The boy went to his room and wrote his first hymn. The year was 1690 and the teenager was Isaac Watts. "Joy to the World" and "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" are among the nearly 350 hymns he wrote.

He also wrote "How Long, O Lord, Shall I Complain." Evidently, just long enough to write his first hymn.

From Our Parish Nurse Betty Greenley



LRHS Parish Nurse Network
Wellness Tip of the Month

Congestive Heart Failure (CHF)

What is it?

Congestive Heart Failure occurs when your heart does not beat effectively and in turn the volume and quality of blood pumped out to the rest of your body is decreased. You may also have a buildup of fluid in your lungs (congestion.) If you have any type of heart disease or high blood pressure, you may develop CHF.

Symptoms

1. Shortness of breath during mild or daily activities
2. Trouble breathing when lying down
3. Swelling of legs and ankles
4. Weight gain of more than 3 pounds in one day or 5 pounds in one week
5. Tiredness/weakness
6. Decrease in urine production

Treatment

If you have these symptoms, see your physician, who will assess your condition. He may order tests to check the function of your heart. If CHF is diagnosed, the doctor may:

1. Start you on medication to improve the function of your heart
2. Recommend reducing the salt/sodium in your diet
3. Recommend weighing yourself daily and reporting a weight gain of over 3 pounds in one day or 5 pounds in one week
4. Stop smoking
5. Staying active according to your doctor's guide lines

Resource-

www.cdc.gov/dhdsp/library/fs_heart_failure.htm

A NOTE OF THANKS...



Thank you for your prayers, cards and phone calls during this difficult time after the death of my son.

Lorene Wilcox



Dear West Lake Christian Church,

The chorale sends a tremendous "Thank You" for the generous hospitality shown to the choir at Sunday's concert. Your continued support and enthusiasm in hosting our concerts is tremendously appreciated!

Please convey our deepest appreciation and gratitude to the ladies who, year after year, continue to provide such luscious refreshments after the concerts. The choir and, I'm sure all those who attend, look forward to their 'sugar' fix and after concert socializing.

Our humble thanks also goes out to Cindy Hoch, and Larry and Carlene Chubbuck for their tireless efforts to make sure the performance space was set-up and the sound regulated. Thank you, Ed Mock, in seeing that the publicity is extra special!

The West Lake family is very special to us and you've always helped immeasurably in making sure our performances are memorable.

Sincerely,

Michael Lindeman

Director, Greater Lake Area Chorale

Thanks to all of you who took an ornament from the Children's Christmas Tree. Due to your generosity it was a great success. All 44 children received gifts that will make their holiday happier.

God bless all of you.

Doris Yates and Judith Richardson, Outreach



Christian love and sympathy is extended to Lorene Wilcox and family upon the death of her son, William Allen Curtiss, on November 24, 2009.

Our deepest sympathy is extended to Tony Smith and family upon the death of Tony's wife, Mary, on December 14, 2009.

January Birthdays


- 2..... Norma Boydston
- 6..... Bobbie Aubuchon
- 8..... Barbara Anderson
- 11..... Dona Johnson
- 11..... David Ronkoski
- 14..... Otto Breit
- 17..... Kathy Kuni
- 17..... Jack Mabry
- 17..... Sandy Schaefer
- 19..... Gene Smith
- 20..... Bruce Adams
- 23..... Pat Stewart
- 26..... Mary Fiser
- 26..... Lynn MacIntyre
- 26..... Karen Storm
- 26..... Thelma Turner
- 28..... Nip Mohler
- 29..... Virginia Carlson
- 30..... Jim Koby
- 30..... Ron Rothove
- 30..... Bruce Schaefer

January Anniversaries

- 6..... Karl & Sharon King
- 6..... Bill & Clara Rosche
- 21..... Ben & Teddy Kinnaman
- 24..... Gerald & Marcia Troutwine
- 28..... Bob & Nancy Kellstrom

If your birthday or anniversary is not included, please notify the church office. Thank you.

JANUARY 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Sunday Morning Schedule</p> <p>9:00 a.m. Bible Study 101 9:15 a.m. Telling the Biblical Story Class 9:30 a.m. Joy Class, Parables Class & Children's Classes 10:30 a.m. Sanctuary Worship</p>					<p>1</p>  <p>The Office is Closed</p>	<p>2</p>
<p>3</p> <p>Grace Sunday</p>	<p>4</p> <p>9:30 Exercise 9:30 Prayer Ministry</p>	<p>5</p> <p>9:00 Musikgarten 6:00 Volleyball</p>	<p>6</p> <p>9:30 Exercise 4:30 Youth Rec. & Meal</p> 	<p>7</p> <p>9:00 Musikgarten 6:00 Volleyball</p>	<p>8</p> <p>9:30 Exercise</p>	<p>9</p>
<p>10</p> <p>WLCC 20th Anniversary Community for Christ Food Drive 11:30 Fellowship Dinner</p>	<p>11</p> <p>9:30 Exercise 9:30 Prayer Ministry 7:00 Board Meeting</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9:00 Musikgarten 11:30 CWF 6:00 Volleyball</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9:30 Exercise 4:30 Youth Rec. & Meal</p>	<p>14</p> <p>9:00 Mother's Day Out 9:00 Musikgarten 6:00 Volleyball</p>	<p>15</p> <p>9:30 Exercise</p>	<p>16</p>
<p>17</p> 	<p>18</p> <p>9:30 Exercise 9:30 Prayer Ministry 6:00 Stewardship</p>	<p>19</p> <p>6:00 Volleyball</p>	<p>20</p> <p>9:30 Exercise <i>Newsletter Deadline</i> 4:30 Youth Rec. & Meal 5:00 Choir</p>	<p>21</p> <p>6:00 Evangelism 6:00 Volleyball</p>	<p>22</p> <p>9:30 Exercise</p>	<p>23</p> 
<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>9:30 Exercise 9:30 Prayer Ministry 4:00 Cancer Support Group</p>	<p>26</p> <p>6:00 Volleyball</p>	<p>27</p> <p>9:30 Exercise 4:30 Youth Rec. & Meal 5:00 Choir</p>	<p>28</p> <p>9:00 Mother's Day Out 4:30 Education 6:00 Elders 6:00 Volleyball</p>	<p>29</p> <p>9:30 Exercise 6:00 Dominoes</p>	<p>30</p>
<p>31</p> <p>2:00 Laurie Care Center Worship</p> 	<p>If you do not see your event on this calendar, it is not on the church calendar.</p> <p>Please contact the church office to get your event scheduled. Thank you!</p>					

West Lake Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

936 Hwy. O

Laurie, MO 65037

(573) 374-0647

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Fax: 573-374-8195

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

MINISTRY TEAM

Jim Stovall, Interim Minister

Gwen Welch, Treasurer

Dona Johnson, Music Coordinator

Betty Greenley, Parish Nurse

Sandy White, Church Secretary

And God Said, “No”

I asked God to take away my pride,
And God said, “No.”
He said it was not for Him to take away
But for me to give up.

I asked God to make my handicapped child whole
And God said, “No.”
He said his spirit is whole,
His body is only temporary.

I asked God to grant me patience
And God said, “No.”
He said that patience is a byproduct of tribulation.
It isn't granted, it's earned.

I asked God to give me happiness,
And God said, “No.”
He said He gives blessings.
Happiness is up to me.

I asked God to spare me pain,
And God said, “No.”
He said suffering draws you apart from worldly
cares and brings you closer to Me.

I asked God to make my spirit grow,
And God said, “No.”
He said I must grow on my own.
But He will prune me to make me fruitful.

I asked God to help me love others
as much as He loves me.
And God said “Ah, finally you have the idea.”

-Claudia Minden Weiss

(contributed by Mary Cline)