

Christ Notes, January 26, 2012



Where is the wise man? Where is the scholar? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?

[1 Corinthians 1:20](#)

The Christian faith is preposterous. If we take a good look, we realize that Christians are called to believe and live some things that appear to be pretty irrational when viewed from the outside. What a ludicrous idea it is to love the people who don't love you, who are even enemies! How crazy is it to follow someone who was executed as a common criminal? And to believe that he came back to life? Completely nuts!

The teachings of Jesus are pretty hard to swallow, even for those of us who already believe. But who is really crazy here? Jesus taught us to love, even when love was the last thing we felt like doing. We have two very well known examples in Mohandas Gandhi and Martin Luther King, Jr. who show us that the way of love can be much more powerful than the way of coercion. Modern studies have shown that forgiveness can lead to physical health. As hard as they may be to practice, the lessons of our faith really can lead us to happier, healthier lives.

The Christian way of life probably appears insane to the rest of the world because we live in a completely different reality. (The very admission of that might be reason enough to put some of us away!) The reality of the kingdom of God stands in complete opposition to the "reality" experienced by the world we live in. The teachings of Christ direct us toward wholeness. Our fallen world leads us to practice the opposite of what is really in our best interest; to crave things that hurt us, to build division rather than community. Which reality would you rather accept? The one that is most visible and easy to follow or the one that is harder to see, but eternal?

All I can suggest is to own your insanity. Accept that following Jesus Christ might make the rest of the world look at you sideways, and enjoy that. Relish the bizarre and wonderful life we have in God.

Blessings,
Rev. Nancy

Administration

Ministry Fair

On Sunday, January 29, CUMC will have a Ministry Fair. This is a great opportunity to learn about the work of the church and to get involved! Displays will be placed around the church with information about various ministry groups. If you lead a committee or ministry area, get your displays ready and prepare to inform and recruit! If you are not involved in ministry at CUMC, join us on Sunday, Jan. 29th to find how you can be!

Sunday, January 29; Before and after worship; Sanctuary Building

Date of Sanctuary Clean Up Day: February 4

Our mission in the United Methodist Church is to make disciples for Jesus Christ. One of the most important ways we do this is through the hospitality we offer to those who are new to our church or our faith. Because our building is the first sign of hospitality that a visitor receives, it is an important part of our witness to maintain its appearance.

In an effort to show the greatest possible hospitality to our visitors and guests, we have scheduled a day to clean and organize some of the public areas of our sanctuary building. On February 4, items that are no longer needed in public areas will be moved to storage or disposed of. If you have any materials or property in the sanctuary building, you may wish to remove them before this date. If you are interested in volunteering for the Clean Up Day, please call or e-mail the church office.

February 4, 9:00am – 3:00pm, Sanctuary Bldg.

For a list of work areas, please [click here](#) or visit:

christumc-roswell.blogspot.com/2012/01/sanctuary-building-clean-up.html

Outreach

Christ UMC Blog

Christ United Methodist Church now has a blog! A blog, derived from “web log” is an easily-updatable website that shares writings and other materials, giving readers the opportunity to respond. Our blog will be used to share our Christ Notes devotions, Children’s Sunday School lessons, and other informative and inspirational materials. This is one more opportunity for our church to be present on the web and to reach others with the love of Christ! Check it out at www.christumc-roswell.blogspot.com.

Fellowship

On Sunday, February 12, a Valentine luncheon will be held to benefit the Murphy-Harpst Children's Center in Cedartown, Georgia. Soup and salad will be served in the Fellowship Hall immediately following church services. The cost per person will be \$5. Children 6 and under will be free.

Sunday, February 12, Fellowship Hall

Spiritual Development

Monday Night Bible Study

Join Tim and Lee Read as they lead us in “Looking at Luke”. The Gospel According to Luke has everything a book club could ask for – victors & villains, Beelzebub & beatitudes, Christmas & Easter, miracles & murder, conspiracy & confession, sacraments & sacrilege, parables & Pharisees, disciples & demons, redemption & resurrection. And it’s non-fiction! Make it your New Year’s resolution. All are welcome!

7:15-8:30 p.m. Fellowship Hall

Pastor Nancy is available for short term counseling. While she is often in the office, appointments are the best way to secure some time.

Just call the church office at 770-993-3945.

Children & Youth Ministry



Please check out the link below to view the Children's Lessons plans in addition to CUMC news. Thank you.

christumc-roswell.blogspot.com

Volunteer Hosts needed for Youth

Our UMYF (United Methodist Youth Fellowship) is in need of host families to offer their home as a location for our Sunday night activities. All that is required is a light meal and an open door. Please help support our youth on their journey to become disciples of Jesus Christ! If you are interested in hosting or would like more information, please contact

Todd Pierson at christumyf@att.net or call 404-217-4690.

Worship

Service of Gifts

"Now, it's YOUR turn!" to quote our fearless music director. A Service of Gifts is an opportunity for EVERYONE to offer their gifts to God in worship. Do you sing? Write poetry? Is drama your hidden talent? How about the visual arts; drawing or painting? Even if your gifts are of the "non-display" variety, let us know and we will find a way to use them in our Service of Gifts. Sign up by calling or e-mailing the office.

Sunday, February 19, 11:00am, Sanctuary

Scout Sunday is February 12. Join us to honor our Scouts!

Last week we received contributions of \$2,191.25

Floral Ministry

Altar Flowers are placed in celebration of our Family in Christ Church. The flowers and bud vases are gifts to the honorees to take home as a token of the love that we share every day but especially on our "special days".

We don't want to miss a single birthday, anniversary, in memory of, special recognition (job promotion, new job, new grandbaby, niece, special friend, thank you, etc.). You tell us what you want to celebrate! Please help us to not miss anyone!!!

Contact Marcia & Phil Moser at 770-516-4452 or moserma@bellsouth.net

Members/Friends Service Directory

In these hard economic times, we can help our brothers and sisters in the Church by utilizing their businesses for necessary services.

Joanne Rooks Mom's Table, a prepared meals company with locations at 1207 Canton St., Roswell. *View the menu at: www.MomsTableOnline.com .*

Mary Jane Warren Stone *Fine Art and Illustration*. Realist portraits of people, animals and places, and exhibits and illustration in support of educational and environmental concerns. *Please contact Mary Jane at 770-578-8881*

Chrissie Thead Christina's Interior Finishes. Her company offers color consultations, decorative painting and faux finishes for walls, ceilings, cabinets, mantles and furniture. www.christinasinteriorfinishes.com or 404-317-2090

John Clark private music instruction for piano, voice, and composition; classical, rock, and jazz styles; trains students to read music as well as play by ear. www.JohnClarkStudio.com or call 404-218-9150.

Steve Musker Private music lessons are available on trumpet, trombone, baritone and tuba. Teaching experience in both individual and group settings.
For information call 770-518-4499 for details

Maggie Franz Avon Representative *Contact Maggie at 678-939-2851 or email her at www.youravon.com/maggielfranz*

Kirk Smith Home Improvements Inc. Home Repairs, Renovations and Additions. *Call Kirk Smith for a free estimate Office # 770-565-0489 or Cell 404-787-4340*

Fez Saige Life/ Transition Coaching. RSVP using the contact form on the website: www.coach2accomplish.com or on the Facebook page event: @coach2accomplish.

If you have an announcement to submit to Christ Notes, send it to roswellchristumc@yahoo.com. Submissions should be no more than 100 words and may be subject to editing.