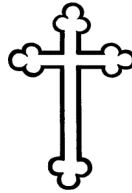




CROSS

May 1, 2010



CURRENTS

Volume XIII, Number 5

Seriously? He wants us to fish, but *not catch* anything?

When Jesus called us to follow him he promised he would teach us to fish for people. Is it even possible that Jesus wanted to teach us to fish, but did not want or expect us to “catch” any fish?

“Come with me. I'll make a new kind of fisherman out of you. I'll show you how to catch men and women instead of perch and bass.” (*The Message*)

Surely Christ not only wants us to “fish” for people, he wants us to “catch” them, too. As distasteful as it may be to some, God wants His church to grow in numbers — *not just in maturity*. Consider the alternatives: either God doesn't care whether the church grows, or he doesn't want the church to grow. Another way of saying that is God doesn't care if his lost sheep are found, or He doesn't want them found. Do we believe this?

Is it even possible that Jesus wanted to teach us to fish, but did not want or expect us to “catch” any fish?

There may be churches in places so hostile to the good news that they have little chance of leading any people to Christ. Johns Creek Christian Church is not one of those. ~RB

May is Stewardship Preparation Month

Coming Sunday Evenings in September

A 13-week biblically-based financial stewardship program on Sunday evenings. This program will help each of us better assess and set financial goals for our lives.

In preparation we are asking that you begin or continue to

- * pray daily that God will bless our service to Him
- * keep a financial journal for the month of May.



In this journal you should keep a written record of every expense that you make during the month. The large “rocks” will be easy to identify (mortgage payment, car payment, gasoline, Church offering, groceries, etc.). However, the interesting and possibly awakening part of this exercise will be when you identify things like dining out, cell phone charges, cable, clothes, and a variety of miscellaneous and variable expenses. This will only represent one month out of the year, but if done throughout the month the results might just surprise us.

God has blessed each of us with the gifts of time, professional skills, physical abilities, and financial resources. Let us put God first in our daily lives. Let us set aside regular time for prayer in our weekly schedule, and find ways to better financially support the ministries of our Church. If you have any questions about how to keep a financial journey or about the benefits of this exercise, please reach out to me or contact our Church office.

Peace and blessings to you,

Jon Blackwood, Treasurer

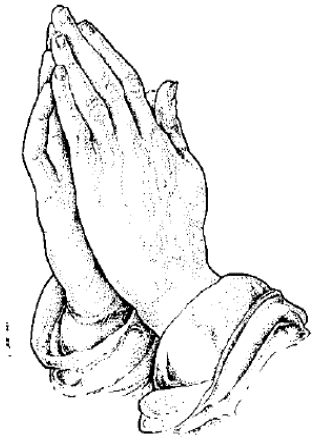
Mother's Day—Sunday, May 9

Join us as we recognize mothers and celebrate the love of God on Mother's Day, Sunday May 9.

Invest and Invite: *Mother's Day is another day when even those who do not go to church will welcome an invitation for worship.*

Youth Praise Band on Pentecost Sunday — May 23

On Pentecost Sunday we celebrate the coming of God's Holy Spirit upon all followers of Jesus Christ. It is often considered the birthday of the church. We are thrilled that our **Youth Praise Band** will help lead worship again on that day! Your encouragement of our youth has been a vital part of their growth in the faith. Way to go, JC3!



"To clasp the hands in prayer is the beginning of an uprising against the disorder of the world."

~Karl Barth

When we are in prayer we are in the sacred presence of God. We pray individually and corporately; we pray for each other, with each other, for others and for our larger community. We pray because we believe that God answers our prayers and because God transforms us in and through prayer.

If you have a prayer request you would like added to this list please add to your Connection Card on Sunday morning or contact the church office. Please indicate if "not for publication." To request prayer from our prayer team contact Ron Downing at 770.998.2793

Prayer Requests

Angie Jordan: Friend who's brother died in a car accident, he was 25

Louise Fitch: Peace and harmony in the Fitch Family

Wendy Barnhart: Nikki Rudd medication and illness and Trey Jerkins' ongoing medical tests

Amanda Jordan: Corruption

Rudd Family: continues prayers for Jennifer Ducote sister, Victoria Williams - issues while battling cancer, Lori Lemons - Job, family and health issues, Susan Faith Jenness - complications from surgery, Matthew (John's Brother) and Sarah Rudd - Birth of New Baby girl, Maggie Lu.

Jennifer Ducote: Same request for twin sister, Victoria Williams

Continuing Prayer Concerns

Julie Smith, Ava Bernardino, Madelyne Bernardino, Sydney McIntyre, Susan Faith Jenness, Logan Chesnut, Damon Randall, Marion and Iliana Guess, Kevin Foard, Sharon Davis, Lori Campbell, Carol Almond, Mark Koenig, Charlie Fowler, Victor Yanez,, Larry Miller, Doty Sims, Bob Miller, Spevak family, Olivia Wampler, Angie Crutcher, Heidi Jones, Louise Vestal, Joy-Lyn Trotti, Larry Ashmore, Jack & Emma Roberts, John Phillips, Dick Barth, Nancy Stinette, Dick Wasser, Maya Bishop, Marvin Hoffman, Fran Koenig, George Martin, Diane Teagarden, Becky Litz, Pete and Virginia Jones, Pauline Robinson, Margaret Lowry, Cristy McMillan, Donna Mertins, Terry Bergstrom, Kathryn Field, Betty Jenkins, Lee Gothels, Jo Pittman, Brenda Mathern, the Jacks family.

Those in the Military

Richard Sexton, Andrew Grant, Major Jared Clinger, Chris Barr, Joseph Carter, Kenny Birge, Danielle Crenshaw, Tony Dill, Lt. Col. Steve Simmons, Eric Mason, Dan Sulentic, Matt Ehlers, Sean Benson

Shhhhh...

Lucy Jenkins Stubbings is Sleeping!



Don't worry though. Big sister, Caro, is taking excellent care of her!

Meanwhile, we rejoice with Kyle and Beth Stubbings at the arrival this past month of precious little **Lucy Jenkins Stubbings.** Born March 9, 2010,

Lucy was 9 lbs. and 20 inches long. We are thrilled that mom, Lucy and the family are all doing well!

Bob Mills is Retiring

But we're not going to let him go without a proper sendoff. **Sunday, June 6th** is Bob's last Sunday as our Director of Music Ministries. We are planning a wonderful celebration of the friendship and musical gifts that Debbie and Bob have shared with JC3 for the past five years. Please plan to stay after worship for a reception honoring these two wonderful and talented friends.



On a happier note, Bob told us this week he "will not be a stranger," but will come back to share in worship with us from time to time.

We will miss you two! ~RB

HERO HEADQUARTERS™

VBS pre-registration is now OPEN! If you or someone you know has kids, this will be an EXCELLENT week of learning how to be a HERO for God! VBS dates are June 7-11 and cost is \$35 a person. If you would like to register please contact Kyle Marshall at kyle@johnscreekchristian.org or see the welcome table for registration cards!



If you want your kids to love God and live like it — you just can't beat Live B.I.G.!

May's B.I.G. Stuff!

B.I.G. Idea: We believe that each of us can serve God

Bible Verse: For we are God's servants, working together — 1 Corinthians 3:9

B.I.G. Theme: All people can serve God!

Invite some of your neighborhood kids to join you at Live B.I.G.!

What...who me?



For those of you that are my Facebook friends you know that almost every status the past few years has involved statements, mostly positive, about my two children. I do this without hesitation or concern for how it may be received. For me, they are one of the greatest gifts I have ever been given, so I want the world to know. Similarly, I want people to know about God's gift of Jesus in my life!

Ephesians 2:8 says: ***For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God.*** This is the greatest news anyone ever heard. Let's begin shouting it from the rooftops without hesitation or concern for how we are perceived. What...who me? Yes...if not me, then who?

Kimberly Jerkins,

Evangelism Ministry Lead

Outreach: Kid Addition

The Outreach Team is very excited about the many service projects JCCC will be participating in this year. For the next few months, we will focus on projects for Vacation Bible School and the Youth Mission Trip. The theme for Vacation Bible School this summer is "Hero Headquarters". The children will learn to be heroes who take action for God. Every day the kids will do a small service project that will help them remember to be heroes for God. One of the projects planned is called "Hope Soap", where they will wrap a bar of soap with a washcloth, tie it with ribbon and attach a nice note to the soap package. These will be delivered to a homeless shelter. You can help us out by donating individually wrapped bars of soap and new washcloths. Other projects for VBS are still being planned, so look for a wish list in the next few weeks for other donation opportunities.



KNOW|SWEAT

Later on this summer, the Youth Group will be going to Tennessee to participate in the program called Know Sweat. They will be assigned a project based on need in the community, and as soon as we know what items they will need for the trip, we will let you know.

Stay tuned for information about more exciting projects we have planned for the Fall and Advent season. If you would like to join the Outreach team or you have any service project ideas, please contact Erin Blackwood at erineblackwood@aol.com.

Preschool Corner

Fall Preschool Registration

Johns Creek Christian Preschool is now accepting registrations for the 2010-2011 school year. The Preschool offers classes for children age 20 months to 5 years.

Summer Camp Registration

The Preschool is also now offering various camps this summer for children age 3 years to Grade 3.

Summer Safari: June 14 - 18

Play Ball: June 21 - 25

USA: June 29 - July 1

Wild, Wild West: July 12 - 16

Luau Fun: July 19 - 23

Fantasy Fun: July 27 - 29



If you would like to tour the Preschool or to register, please call 770-418-1588.

Rev. Randy Barnhart, Senior Minister
Kyle Marshall, Minister to Children and Youth
Robert Mills, Director of Music Ministries

Return Service Requested

Sunday Schedule
9:30 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Gathering Time
10:45 AM Worship

OUR MISSION

*To Lead All People Into A Growing
Relationship With Jesus Christ*

Senior Minister

Randall Barnhart
randy@johnscreekchristian.org
678-576-8014

Youth Minister

Kyle Marshall
kyle@johnscreekchristian.org
404-333-9930

Choir Director

Bob Mills
rhills@comcast.net
770.676-0164

Moderator

Richard Jerkins
rjerkins@charter.net
678.546-8969

Chair of Elders

Allen Rogers
allenrogers33@comcast.net
770.886-0420

Chair of Deacons

Andrew Phillips
phil2673@bellsouth.net
770.781-2673

Ministry Team Leaders

Adult Discipleship:

Chair: Larry Goetz Phone: 678.377.0715
Email: larrygoetz@charter.net

Buildings & Grounds

Chair: Mike Green Phone: 770.888.5190
Email: mgreen3120@aol.com

Children and Youth:

Chair: Betsy Boggs Phone: 678.455.7083
Email: gbboggs03@comcast.net

Evangelism:

Chair: Kimberly Jerkins Phone: 678.315.0159
Email: kimberlyj@charter.net

Finance:

Chair: Ritchie Dickey Phone: 678.762.7891
Email: rdickey@lancafterpollard.com

Outreach:

Chair: Erin Blackwood Phone: 678.473.7772
Email: erineblackwood@aol.com

Preschool:

Chair: Amy Thomas Phone: 678-6411429
Email: amy.thomas1117@yahoo.com

Worship:

Chair: John Witkowski Phone: 678.339.0454
Email: jwitkowski@bellsouth.net