



BENEVA CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

THE GOOD NEWS

Minister: Luis Bernard

August 2005

Volume 35, Issue 8

Continuing the Ministry of Christ

By Pastor Luis Bernard

As I begin to engage in ministry here at Beneva Christian Church the words of the Apostle Paul to the Philippians come to mind. He was aware that the God who had started the good work in them would also continue to work with them until His plans for them had been achieved (Philippians 1:3-6). From this passage we can learn several spiritual principles.

First, Paul stresses that it is good to remember with joy the accomplishments of the past. We can all celebrate what Beneva Christian Church has accomplished and thank God for how far we have come. Indeed, lets us continue to do the work of Christ with the anticipation that one day we too shall hear the voice of our Lord who says to us, "well done you faithful servant".

In addition, the Apostle Paul sees Christians as partners in ministry. God is not only working in us but through us to bless others. This gospel of love and grace needs to be shared with others. In doing the work of ministry Christians face many obstacles. However, it is good to remember how God was with us and helped us to persevere and overcome.



Moreover, God still has plans for us. He is not done with us yet. I am excited about where He is taking us. We are at a point at Beneva Christian Church where God is starting a new work in us. We celebrate the past, live in the present, and continue to move forward in Him. Yes, God is with us. He always has been and always will be. We are his children and His Church. It is my hope that many will come to worship with us the living God.

Finally, remember to pray. Prayer increases our reliance on God. Prayer for the Church strengthens our congregation. Prayer for the minister empowers his ministry. Prayer for those who are still lost allows the Spirit of God to guide them so that they may find their way home. I as your pastor will pray for you. Together we will make Beneva Christian Church a vibrant place to perform ministry. See you on Sunday. †

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Letter to the Florida Region

By Duane Wyatt, Board Chairman

July 12, 2005

Reverend William Morrison
General Minister
Florida Region

Beneva Christian Church would like to thank you and the Florida Region for giving us the opportunity to work with Reverend James Moxley as our Interim Pastor.

Jim did an outstanding job in leading us through some very difficult times. He has shown us leadership, patience, guidance, love and understanding – always in a Christian manner.

If he would choose to do so, we recommend him highly to serve as an Interim Pastor for any Disciple of Christ church in the region.

Sincerely,
Duane A. Wyatt
Board Chairman
Beneva Christian Church †

Letter to Reverend Jim Moxley

By Duane Wyatt, Board Chairman

July 12, 2005

To: Pastor Jim Moxley

The family of Beneva would like to commend you officially for your outstanding service during your time as Interim Pastor. You have led us through some very difficult times and have shown us leadership, patience, guidance, love and understanding – always in a Christian manner.

We know that it is now time for you to move on and enjoy special hobbies, time with your family and anything else you and Phyllis choose to do.

Again, thanks for all you did for your Beneva family and may God bless you. We will always love you and consider you part of Beneva.

In Christian Love,
Duane Wyatt
Board Chairman †

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Board Report

July 12, 2005

Jim Moxley, Interim Minister

I was welcomed to Beneva Christian Church July 26, 2004 and the first week enjoyed the very active Vacation Bible School. I began going through what records I could find, and getting to know the people of Beneva Christian Church. Ever since that first day my impression of the congregation is that it is one of outstanding leadership and spiritual dedication. It has been my joy in ministry to work through these tough experiences with such a fine group of Christian people. Admittedly, we found ourselves embroiled in circumstances that occupied most of the energy of the congregation for seven months. Throughout this time the congregational members handled difficult meetings and complex issues with great Christian maturity.

In the last five months I have been pointing the leadership of Beneva to look beyond the little problems to the bigger opportunities that the little problems introduce. I feel you are moving well into your future. I have thoroughly enjoyed the active life of the varied age groups represented in the life of Beneva. You are a vibrant congregation! I have enjoyed creative worship and you have been very open and receptive to new forms of worship.

Phyllis and I will be glad to get back to retirement and doing many of the things in life we have postponed so long because of the long hours I have always worked. However, we will truly miss the people of this congregation. We would love to be members of this congregation, but the drive is too far.

We wish you well in your future ministry with your new minister. †

A Change In Name Fellowship Hall

You will notice that throughout this issue of the Good News that we refer to Fellowship Hall instead of Disciple Hall. This change came about at our last Board Meeting when it was suggested by the Elders that the name be changed to help make the purpose of the hall clear to everyone, especially to visitors and new people coming to our church. The Board discussed this matter and agreed that Fellowship Hall would be more descriptive name. We will also be changing the name plate on the door to reflect the new name. †

Sunday Nite Live Is Starting

August 14th at 5:30 pm
Children's Choir begins at 4:30 pm

It is hard to believe that summer is coming to a close already. The good news is that it is time for the youth groups of Beneva Christian Church to start up. Our first Sunday Nite Live will be August 14th at 5:30 pm, followed by snack supper at 7:00 pm for only \$2. We have a slight change this year on the break-down of groups.

<u>Group</u>	<u>Age (grade going into)</u>	<u>Sponsors</u>
Little Bits	3 years to 5 years	Teresa Dellit and TBA
Genesis	Kindergarten & 1st grade	Olevia & Greg Fulkert
Sonburst	2nd & 3rd grade	Robyn Brunner & Dawn Imperatore
Hot Shots	4th & 5th grade	Bob and Susan Evans
Chi Rho	6th, 7th, & 8th grade	Joy Byrd and Todd Dellit
CYF	9th, 10th, 11th, & 12th grade	Sandy & Russell Robbins
Meals	Nancy and Jerry Dennis and Melanie Bussiere	

Schedule

4:30 pm to 5:30 pm will be Children's Choir rehearsal

5:30 pm to 7:00 pm will be your Youth Groups

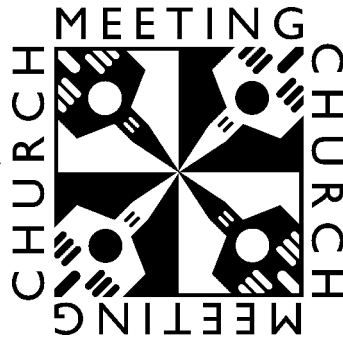
7:00 pm to 7:30 pm there will be a Snack Supper

We will need updated information on each of the youth attending the Sunday Nite Live program, so pick up the forms in the Narthex beginning the first Sunday in August or plan to stay for a few minutes on August 14th. If you have any questions please contact Corry Pruner at 371-1387. †

Cabinet Meeting

Tuesday, August 9th at 7:00 pm

We are at the beginning of an exciting new chapter in the life of our Beneva Christian Church family. And we need your help, and input, and guidance, to chart our course. Our new pastor, Luis Bernard, will be leading the Church Cabinet for the first time on Tuesday, August 9th at 7:00 pm in Fellowship Hall. If you are on the Cabinet, we need you there to help develop the future programs of our church. And, even if you are not on the Cabinet, please feel free, as always, to attend and share your ideas.



The Cabinet consists of the following people:

Pastor Bernard—Pastor
Sandra Edwards—Music Director
Florine Blake—Nurture
David Harlow—CMF
Lois Johnson—Healthcare Services Chair
Sara & Frank Metheny—Christian Education Chairs
Glenda Morgan—World Outreach
Emily & George Oberle—Worship & Vice Chair
Glenn Oneal—Property & CMF
Virginia Toye—CWF
Jane & Duane Wyatt—Worship Chair & Board Chair
Norma Wynn—Secretary

In Pastor Bernard's first sermon at Beneva he challenged us to be everything that Jesus is leading us to be in our corner of the world. Let us all give him the benefit and support of our best ideas for building God's Kingdom. †

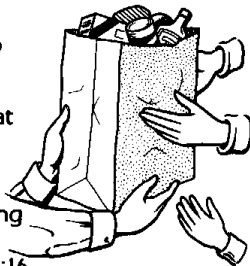
Food Pantry Update

By Mark Johnson

We distributed 1,669 lbs of food to 32 families in the month of June. Those who received these foods were appreciative and thankful to those who donate so generously.

We thank you all for allowing us an opportunity to help so many. †

Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.
-Hebrews 13:16



Week of Compassion Update

By Glenda Morgan, World Outreach Chair

Your Week of Compassion offerings combined with others who give generously to WOC continue to provide relief around the world. See below Johnny Wray's latest report:



Hurricane Emily, the fifth named storm of the season, hit the northeast coast of Mexico Wednesday morning with Category 3 force winds. Emily previously left a path of destruction across the Caribbean and over the Yucatan peninsula. Assessments are still preliminary, but some 7,000 homes have been reported damaged or destroyed across the Yucatan, and hundreds of fisheries and farms are also damaged. Week of Compassion is still responding to requests for assistance from Hurricane Dennis. We're now awaiting requests from our partners in response to Emily and will respond accordingly.

The central Saharan nation of Chad is struggling to cope with several hundred thousand Sudanese refugees who have fled the crisis in Darfur. Chad's already over-stretched capacities make it difficult to respond to the immense humanitarian needs of its own people, much less the influx of such a vast number of refugees. Nonetheless, it has opened its borders to them.

Action by Churches Together (ACT) partners have been requested to provide camp shelter to 20,000 new refugees, water and sanitation to 50,000 people in existing camps, and psycho-social care to up to 58,000 others. WOC has provided an emergency grant of \$6,000 to support the ACT appeal. Meanwhile, WOC has made commitments of \$70,000 toward a renewed appeal for the situation in Darfur and another \$50,000 for an appeal to assist refugees who are now able to return home in southern Sudan. Designated gifts are needed and welcomed and can be made to WOC and earmarked simply for Sudan. Such gifts will be directed in their entirety to relief/recovery efforts in Sudan. WOC continues to post updates and stories from the region on our website: www.weekofcompassion.org.

Partners in Zimbabwe have made an urgent appeal to their international church partners for assistance in responding to the staggering humanitarian needs that have resulted from the government's recent forced eviction policy. At least a half-million people have been affected and are in desperate need of just the basic essentials of life. Long-time Disciples and Church World Service partner in Zimbabwe, Christian Care, is assisting some 14,500 people with shelter, food, and much needed psycho-social

(Continued on page 5)

End Of Summer Fun Fling Ice Skating & Pizza Party

This is for children of all ages. On August 7th we will leave the Church at 12:00 noon for J. P. Igloo in Ellenton, and return at 3:45 pm. Everyone is invited to come skate and just *CHILL*. We will enjoy pizza and soda and a fun afternoon of fellowship.

Non-skaters are welcome to join us and the enjoy the *cool* rink, help watch the children, help put skates on , have pizza and a good time.



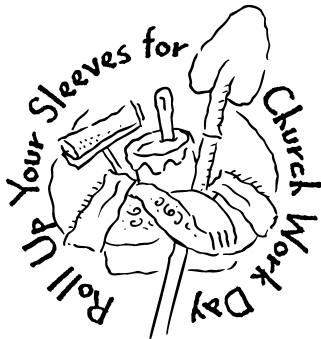
All youth group leaders please call your groups and invite them to come.

Cost is \$12 per person and includes skate rental and pizza.

For information contact Bob & Susan Evans at 921-5911 †

All-Church Work Day

Saturday, August 13th 8:00 am till noon



Come one come all! We need able-bodied helpers to do some light work on the grounds of the church. We will have work for all ages. †

Week of Compassion Update

(Continued from page 4)

care. On behalf of Disciples, Week of Compassion has provided an emergency grant of \$6000 from the Compassion Response Fund. WOC recently provided a grant of \$5000 for similar assistance to the Associated Churches of Christ, the historic Campbell-Stone church in Zimbabwe. †

Beneva Celebration

Worship Department
By George and Emily Oberle

First, we **celebrate** all who have been so very faithful in the support of Beneva the past year! You know who you are and how your leadership has contributed. This is a large number. All age groups have been represented in a common effort to maintain our church work.

Second, we **celebrate** a new era for Beneva under the leadership of Pastor Luis Bernard. Our church called him to serve as our senior pastor July 10. We **celebrate** Pastor Bernard and his wonderful family being a part of Beneva!

Third, we **celebrate** that Beneva Christian Church will be 35 years old September 6. However, since we want as many as possible of our "Winter Family" to help **celebrate**, we are planning a week of **celebration** from **Sunday October the 23rd through Sunday, October 30.**

Fourth, we **celebrate** our "Winter Church" families and anticipate their return. You are loved, appreciated and missed. Hurry back!

We **celebrate** that **Hugh and Lillian Moore** have agreed to co-chair and help coordinate the various activities during our week of **celebration**. We want this to be a church wide event culminating with the installation of Pastor Bernard. **Your ideas are encouraged.** †

Positions Available

Positions are available for people who are being called by God to minister to the youth of Beneva Christian Church. We are in need of adult sponsors for some of our youth groups for the 2005-2006 year. The only requirements for these positions are: a sense of humor, a young heart, a few hours a week that you are ready to share, and a Love of God that you want to pass on to the young people of our church.

We are also in need of adults to help prepare snack suppers once a month or so. If you believe God is calling you to either of these services please contact Corry Pruner at 371-1387. †

Worship & Wonder Schedule For August

7Wondering Day
14.....Parable of the Mustard Seed
21Parable of the Great Pearl
28.....Parable of the Leaven †

Welcome New Members

Please welcome the Bair family who joined Beneva on Sunday, July 3rd.

Ron & Tami Bair
Ronnie (son—6 years old)
6543 Bikini Way
Sarasota, FL 34231-5510
Phone: (941) 377-9262

Reception for Pastor Bernard August 14th for Lunch

We will all meet in Fellowship Hall for a pot-luck luncheon on Sunday, August 14th immediately following the traditional service for a reception for the Bernard family.

Please bring your favorite dish and take this opportunity to visit with Pastor Bernard, his wife Carmen, and their daughters Nanette, Natalie and Nicole. †

An Important Revelation

A woman, tired of being approached to give to so many charitable causes, decided not to give to any of them. Such action soon became a learning experience for her.

By not giving money for any cause she began to feel that she was not “paying her rent for her existence on Earth.” By not giving to a church or to other worthy operations such as The Salvation Army, the American Red Cross, The Cure for Cancer Fund, etc., she felt miserly and lonely.

She was not having meaningful fellowship with people who were striving to spread the Gospel, nor those waging fights against poverty, ignorance and various diseases such as AIDS. She wasn't even joining with others in assisting victims of hurricanes, earthquakes, droughts and other natural disasters.

An important revelation came to her: She was bringing guilt and worthlessness upon herself. As she put it, “Without giving, I was isolated. With giving, I have an opportunity to share with others ... by doing some good.” †

Lymphomas

(Part 1)

By Lois Johnson, Healthcare Services

Lymphomas are cancers — malignancies of the lymphatic system.

The lymphatic system carries a specialized type of white blood cells called lymphocytes through a network of tubular channels — lymph vessels to all parts of the body, including the bone marrow. Scattered throughout this network are collections of lymphocytes in lymph nodes. Cancerous lymphocytes — lymphoma cells can be confined to a single lymph node or can spread throughout the body to almost any organ. The two major types of lymphoma are Hodgkin's lymphoma (Hodgkin's disease) and non Hodgkin's lymphoma which has several sub-types.

Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma:

Some of these lymphomas progress slowly — over years— while others spread rapidly — over months. Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma is more common than Hodgkin's disease. In the United States about 50,000 new cases are diagnosed every year, and the number of new cases is increasing, especially among older people and those who have HIV infection (AIDS).

Although the cause of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma isn't known, evidence suggests a link to a still unidentified virus.

September Good News — symptoms, diagnosis and treatment of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. †

Reference — Merck Manual

Blood Pressure Check

Our Healthcare Services Department provides a health-giving service to Beneva Christian Church each first Sunday of the month by offering a blood pressure check.

Find our Beneva volunteer nurses in the CYF room located in the Education building (Little Disciples building) after the traditional church service.

We are grateful to the Healthcare Services Department for offering this service. †



Happy Hearts Eating-Out Schedule

Breakfast	Wednesday	9:00 am
August 3	Tasty Home Cookin	
August 10	Serving Spoon	
August 17	Demarco's	
August 24	Millie's	
August 31	First Watch	

Lunch	Sunday	12:00 pm
August 7	Lone Star	
August 14	Lone Star	
August 21	Demetrio's	
August 28	Steak & Ale	



Happy Hearts News

By Hazel Frazier

The Happy Hearts met July 14th for our pot luck dinner at 6:00 pm and our meeting at 7:00 pm. There were 18 members and three guests.

Twelve Happy Hearts and two guests enjoyed their trip to Alaska and returned July 28th at Tampa Airport where Jim Moxley met us and brought us back to Sarasota. Thank you Jim, we will miss you.

Our next pot luck dinner is August 11th at 6:00 pm in Fellowship Hall. †

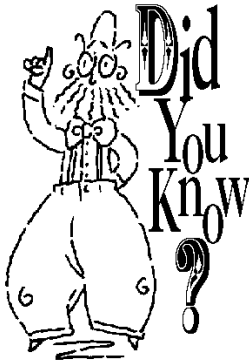


Aug 01	George & Emily Oberle
Aug 02	Jim & Joan Stevens
Aug 05	Jim & Darlene Huron
Aug 05	Dean & Joyce Hoover
Aug 08	Bob & Joyce McClain
Aug 14	Paul & Roxann Borchert
Aug 17	James & Myrna Wolf
Aug 17	Urban & Betty Pearson
Aug 19	Rick & Lisa Mooers
Aug 20	Charles & Bobbie Hartong
Aug 21	Luther & Florence Bollman
Aug 26	Larry & Joyce Brown
Aug 27	Gail & Berda Boggs
Aug 31	Bart & Jennie Peluso
Aug 31	John & Charlotte Green



Aug 01	Dean Gray
Aug 01	Jim Waugaman
Aug 03	Dawn Imperatore
Aug 03	Carol Bysina
Aug 03	Genevie Cueman
Aug 03	Dale Lux
Aug 04	Madison Byrd
Aug 05	Erin Ely
Aug 05	Joseph Gregory
Aug 05	Natalie Bernard
Aug 07	Mary Harlow
Aug 07	John Imperatore
Aug 09	Elsie McDonald
Aug 09	Becky Havener
Aug 12	Lynn Harris
Aug 12	Anne Barrett
Aug 12	Sandy Wilson
Aug 12	Jim Scott
Aug 13	Liz Meyers
Aug 17	Ashley Borchert
Aug 17	Janice Webster
Aug 18	Maxine Dennis
Aug 18	Joan Stevens
Aug 19	Marilyn Marvin
Aug 19	Lenora Holloway
Aug 20	Gail Brodkorb
Aug 21	Joe Bearden
Aug 21	Lucille Kerr
Aug 21	Ronnie Wise
Aug 22	Dortha Rogers
Aug 23	Harold Holbrook
Aug 25	Monika Trujillo
Aug 26	Lynn Thomson
Aug 29	Karrah Imperatore
Aug 29	Dale Pence
Aug 30	Rebecca Root
Aug 30	Berda Boggs
Aug 30	Marti Albritton
Aug 31	Calvin Coulter

If we have dates that are not correct, or if we don't have your special days listed, please notify the church office. †



How many times have we said (or heard others say) that kids just don't know how easy they have it today? We all have stories of

how much tougher we had it when we were kids, and I'm sure the kids of today will have similar stories for their kids. But when it comes to children of biblical times, they really did have it tougher.

Except for a prophetic vision that "the streets of the city shall be full of boys and girls playing" (Zech 8:5), the Bible never concerns itself with the joys of childhood. In fact, a typical view of children is "childhood and youth are vanity" (Ecc 11:10). Most often children were cited as valuable for preserving the inheritance of the family, the tribe, or the people—and this meant Sons. Daughters were less valued and far less frequently mentioned.

In fact, many times when "children" (or "sons" or "daughters") occurs in the Bible, adults are meant: "when Israel was a child" (Hos 11:1); "you are children of the Lord" (Deut 14:1); "Abraham's children" (John 8:39); the many "children of God," "children of Israel," "children of Benjamin," or the New Testament's "children of light." Occasionally it isn't clear whether a child or adult is intended, as when Jeremiah, speaking of his fury, chillingly threatened, "I will pour it out upon the children" (Jer 6:11).

Few examples of empathy for children exist in the Bible. Isaiah, who probably mentions children more often than any other author, comes closest: He draws the pathetic image of a child too

Interesting Bible Facts

By Jerry Dennis

innocent to know enough to cry when its parents and riches are "taken away before the king of Assyria" (Isa 8:4).

A general attitude of impatience with children is seen in the scenes where the disciples rebuked parents who tried to press their children on Jesus. Jesus' reply, "Suffer the little children to come unto me," would obviously not have been worth recording if His tolerance had been a prevalent attitude (Matt 19:13—14; Mark 10:13—14; Luke 18:15—16). The first "scene" that the leaders and children of our latest Vacation Bible School portrayed tried to demonstrate how unusual it was for Jesus to show love and concern for children. It would have been shocking to those present when Jesus said we had to become like children to enter God's Kingdom.

Lingering in childhood is a modern luxury. In biblical times people could not afford to be sentimental and lenient toward children. Children were expected to take their place in adult society as quickly as possible.

Almost nothing is said in the Bible about how children spent their time, and toys are never mentioned. However, in mounds at Gezer and elsewhere in Palestine, archaeologists have found small objects that may have been made for tombs or for ritualistic purposes but which probably also served as toys. Among these are pottery rattles, some in the shape of people or animals; whistles and musical instruments; and miniature houses and furniture. Clay horses and other animals, as well as dolls, have survived, and it is reasonable to assume that similar toys of wood or vegetable fibers existed. Although many types of game

boards have been found throughout the Fertile Crescent, the earliest dated to 5000 BC, relatively few have been unearthed in Palestine. The simplest of these are a series of squares scratched into a rock at Mizpah and on paving in Jerusalem, for which the movable pieces could have been pebbles. Other gaming pieces were modeled of clay. The most elaborate were carved of ivory. Dice were sometimes used to determine the moves. These games—similar to checkers and skittles—were popular among adults as well as children.

Probably much of children's entertainment, like that of adults, was outdoors and consisted of interacting with others rather than depending on toys or equipment. Storytelling was an art in biblical days, and riddles are mentioned twice (Judg 14:12; Ezek 17:2). Matthew (11:16—17) suggests that children played at adult activities such as dancing and mourning when they got together at the markets. Children would also have taken part in the dancing and singing at festivals.

Playing time was undoubtedly limited once a child grew beyond the toddler stage, because the society offered little leisure. Much of childhood must have been spent doing tasks alongside working adults: In the domestic scene painted by Jeremiah (7:18) the mother kneads dough, the father kindles the fire, and "the children gather wood."

Among the few laws protecting children was one that orphans should not be "afflicted" (Ex 22:22). It was a sign of virtue to "save the children of the needy" (Psa 72:4). The most important law specified that "every man shall be

(Continued on page 15)

Little Disciples Preschool

By Cindy McDowell, Director

Hello Everyone! Hope you're having a terrific summer. With just a few weeks of summer fun remaining, the preschool is getting ready for our 2005-2006 school year. It is always so exciting for me to watch the preschool wake up after our summer nap. During the week of August 15th you will find all of our preschool staff back and getting ready for our first days of school!

Returning once again on your Preschool staff is:

Cindy M. McDowell Director 16th year
Sandy Tromboni PreK Teacher 13th year
Paula Martin Aide 13th year
Diane Christian 3's Teacher 10th year
Roxann Borchert Aide 10th year
Teri Franco PreK Teacher 8th year
Kay Goodman 3 & PreK Teacher 8th year
Susan Kohut 2½ & PreK Teacher 8th year
Julie Howell 2½ & 3's Teacher 6th year
Shelly Snider 3 & PreK Teacher 3rd year
Tinna Gardana Aide 2nd year

Two Aide positions are open at present, as we have sent a few of our Aides on to the big schools. If you know of someone(s) who may be interested, please contact me at 924-9290.

We will be together with our students and their families at our OPEN HOUSES to kick-off our 2005-2006 school year on Wednesday, August 17th, & Thursday, August 18th. This is our opportunity to introduce the staff, meet the students and their families, see our class rosters and visit classrooms. Both evenings begin at 7:00 pm. Invitations were sent out near the end of July with additional information and the appropriate date for families to attend.

Attention all Preschool Parents: We will be looking for Parent Volunteers to help us in the mornings on our playground and in the classrooms. You will receive information at Open House (in your Preschool folder) showing all the ways we hope to involve you during the school year. We look forward to including YOU!

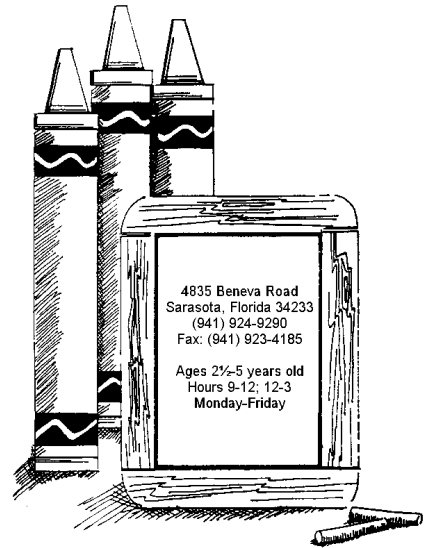
Did you know that Little Disciples Preschool keeps very active in community service? Last year we held a canned goods collection for the Food Pantry and we also stuffed 7 HUGE Christmas boxes to overflowing for children in Sarasota and neighboring communities ravaged by hurricanes. We are so blessed here at Little Disciples Preschool and it is our privilege to bring that same joy to our preschoolers as they discover how

gratifying it is to help others.

Summertime always finds me looking to accomplish a few extra projects at preschool and this summer has been no exception. Be sure to check out the bigger-than-ever bike path on the playground as well as our new outdoor theater!

As you near the building, you will see our new outdoor classroom in the alcove that we've fenced-in for safety as well as some landscaping improvements to the front of the education building (we are still putting finishing touches on many of these as I write this and I can hardly wait to see them myself!!)

Our preschool year begins Monday, August 22, 2005. Our public schools will open on August 8th. Please help us keep all students safe by buckling them up in the backseat, using appropriate car seats and booster seats and please DRIVE SAFELY. †



Thank God For Grandparents

A small boy walking with his grandfather was gently being tested by the elderly man.

"How far are we from home?" asked the grandfather.

"I don't know," the child answered.

"Well, where are you?"

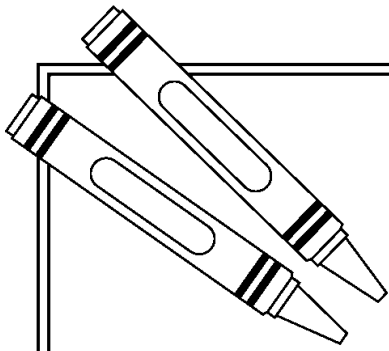
"I don't know."

"Looks to me like you are lost. Doesn't that worry you?"

"No, Grandpa," the boy responded, "I can't be lost. I'm with you."

Grandpa chuckled and smiled. Then he gently patted the boy on the head.

Like the boy who felt safe with his grandfather, we are not spiritually lost when we are with God, for God knows the way. †



Just for KIDS

Postcards from Paul

The Apostle Paul went on many journeys. He wrote many letters to his friends and to churches he had visited.



▶▶▶▶ Unscramble the letters to find some of the places Paul visited.

WORD BANK

ANTIOCH	CYPRUS	TARSUS	PERGA	CORINTH
ATHENS	EPHESUS	ROME	PHILIPPI	ICONIUM

G R E A P H I P L I P P I C H A N T I O
 _ _ _ □ _ ○ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ △ _ _ _ _
 R I O T C H N S E S H U E P Y U S C P R
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 M O N I C U R U S S A T
 _ _ _ _ _ ○ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _
 T H E N A S M E O R
 _ _ _ _ _ ⊕ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ △

What did Paul do on his journeys?

“ _____ the kingdom of God, and
 ○ ↑ △ ☆ ♥ ♾ ○ ⊕ □
 _____ those things which concern the
 △ ▽ ☆ ♥ ♾ ○ ⊕ □
 Lord Jesus Christ”

— Acts 28:31, KJV

Answers: PERGA, PHILIPPI, ANTIOCH, CORINTH, EPHESUS, CYPRUS, ICONIUM, TARSUS, ATHENS, ROME, PREACHING, TEACHING

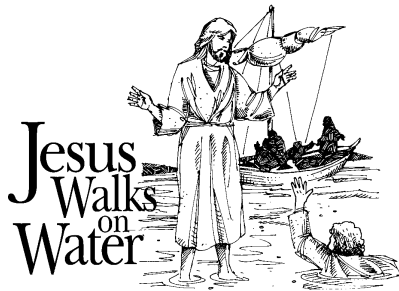
Lessons Learned From VBS

By Nancy & Jerry Dennis

Everyone who participated in this summer's Vacation Bible School was impressed and spiritually moved by the eight "scenes" that the leaders and children developed and portrayed depicting events in the life of Jesus. But after all the work and hectic week of activity, you sometimes wonder what lessons are learned and retained by the children. Well, we had a little "real life" demonstration that we would like to share.

Our granddaughter, Lucie, has participated in VBS since she was one and half years old (she is now three and a half). She still remembers "Beacon" the pelican from her first VBS and has a Beacon picture and stuffed toy in her room to this day. But soon after this last VBS, she was getting a fishing lesson from her dad at the lake behind her house. Her dad bought her a new little frog fishing lure which she loved. She was trying to cast the lure when it came off the line and flew across the lake, landing, very appropriately, on a lily pad. She was very upset and wanted to get her frog back, but her dad explained that there was no way to get it because it was in the middle of the lake.

The next morning Lucie was asking her mom if she would go get her frog. Mom said that she couldn't walk on water, and Lucie asked if they could just ask Jesus to go get it for her.



As many of you know, one of the scenes in VBS depicted the event of Jesus walking on the water, so as far as Lucie is concerned — lesson learned! †

Plain And Simple

How can we know that what Jesus has shown us of God is the truth; or how do we know when we look into the face of Jesus that we are looking into the face of God? The answer is so plain and simple that it is a marvel how intelligent men can manage to miss it as they do. Look at what Christ has done for the soul of man: That is your answer. Christianity is just Christ — nothing more and nothing less. It is a way of life, and He is that way. It is the truth about human destiny, and He is that truth.

—R.J. Campbell, The Call of Christ †

Gifts For Our Children

There are many gifts we can give to our children:

1. The gift of oneself as a very loving father or mother.
2. The gift of being available for counsel, guidance and encouragement.
3. The gift of a spiritual foundation by affirming God, praying with and for the children.
4. The gift of showing sympathy for the poor, handicapped, ill, unemployed, persecuted and others.
5. The gift of being an example in seeking justice for all, being completely fair in dealing with others and being truthful at all times.
6. The gift of being a good steward of time, talent and possessions.
7. The gift of showing how to keep debt to a minimum and savings to the maximum.
8. The gift of keeping one's life in balance so that no activity, such as work, prohibits family activities.
9. The gift of discipline in terms of eating, exercising, reading, doing home chores and worshipping together.
10. The gift of humor, enabling fun and joyfulness to be a prominent part of family life.



—Charles Ferrell †

Try A Small Gesture Of Courtesy

Studies published in the Journal of Applied Social Psychology show that your restaurant servers who leave a piece of candy with the check will get a bigger tip than those who do not. If two pieces of candy are left, the tip is even more.

Researchers aren't sure why candy equates to big tips. They have known that big smiles, squatting to eye level during the initial introduction and light touching of customers all result in bigger tips. Some speculate that offering "unexpected food treats" has the same effect because it seems to increase the "perceived friendliness" of the server.

The most current data suggest another reason, however. It involves the simple principle of reciprocity. When a customer receives something gratis, he or she is more likely to respond by giving a larger than expected tip in order to provide a "friendly gesture" in kind.

This is instructive for friendship evangelism. People respond, we're human, to even the smallest gestures of courtesy and kindness.

—Homiletics †

**YAF of
Florida**

YAF Retreat 2005
“God’s Calling”

When: August 5-7, 2005

Where: Christian Church Conference Center

**What: Retreat open to ALL YAF of Florida
(Graduated & Ages 18-25)**

**Registration begins at 6 PM August 5th
and retreat ends at 12 PM, August 7th**

Registration Form

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____
Church: _____

Meals: Regular or Vegetarian (Please Circle Choice)

Cost for the weekend: \$100 and must be received at the Conference Center by July 29th. There are scholarship monies available. **Please detach and mail to:**

**Christian Church Conference Center
6455 E. Hwy 40; Ocala, FL 34488**

Church Chatter

Pastor Bernard's New Address

Luis & Carmen Bernard
Nanette, Natalie & Nicole
5831 Girona Place
Sarasota, FL 34238-4723
Home Phone: (941) 929-7041
Cell Phone: (941) 735-5355
Email: pastor.bernard@lifeatbeneva.org

Other Changes of Address

Be sure to update your Directory

Ruth Martin
3000 Asten Gardens Dr Unit 323
Venice, FL 34292-6032
Phone: (941) 488-0439

Lois Johnson & Rick Manning
255 Tamiami Trl N Lot 58
Nokomis, FL 34275-2053
Phone: (941) 412-3934
Cell: (941) 374-1970

Jim & Phyllis Moxley
1035 Bayshore Ave.
Fort Myers, FL 33919-2605
Home Phone: (239) 415-3638
Cell Phone: (239) 994-1794

New Summer Address
Bob & Shirley Blanton
495 Carolina Village Cir
Franklin, NC 28734-1126
Phone: (828) 369-1635

New Members
Ron & Tami Bair
Ronnie (son—6 years old)
6543 Bikini Way
Sarasota, FL 34231-5510
Phone: (941) 377-9262

The Teacher Called Experience

The knowledge we gain from the teacher called *Experi-ence* is hard to forget and the most valuable kind of learning. The trouble is that the teacher called Experience gives us the test first and the lesson we needed to learn after the test. †

Let's remember these people in our prayers



Marjorie Hart, Barbara Taylor, Thelma McKahan, Liz Meyers, Berta Pasano, Betty Ward, Alice Gipe, Ruth Martin, Oscar Thomas, Carole & Dean Platt, Stan Litwiller, and Lisa Beetham. †

Thank You Note

Dear Friends of Beneva,

We want to thank you for all your wonderful expressions of sympathy for our family in the loss of our father, Harold Rabjohns.

God bless you!!
Carole Platt and Charles Rabjohns †

Thank You Wonderful Beneva Folks

We want to express our deepest appreciation for your kind words and generous gifts. You have been most appreciative of our service in the last year and we are now overwhelmed by your graciousness and generosity. We thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to serve together with you through many challenges in the Lord's work. Our prayers and good wishes go with you through the coming years as you rise to new opportunities and challenges with your new minister. May the Lord bless Beneva and Rev. Bernard and his family as you venture into the future together.

In His Service'
Jim and Phyllis Moxley †

True Wealth

On the topic of wealth, Dr. Norman Vincent Peale once said: "The man who lives for himself is a failure. Even if he gains much wealth, position or power, he is still a failure. The man who lives for others has achieved true success. A rich man who consecrates his wealth and his position to the good of humanity is a success. A poor man who gives of his service and his sympathy to others has achieved true success, even though material prosperity or outward honors never come to him." †

The Life of Beneva in August 2005

August 1 Monday
 Vision Rehearsal—Sanctuary 7:00 pm

August 3 Wednesday
 Happy Hearts Breakfast—Tasty Home 9:00 am
 Chimes Rehearsal—Sanctuary 6:00 pm

August 5 Friday
 Food Pantry Open—Fellowship Hall 3:00—5:00 pm

August 7 Sunday
 Contemporary Worship Service 9:00 am
 Time of Fellowship—Fellowship Hall 10:00 am
 Traditional Worship Service 10:30 am
 Children Worship & Wonder—Fellowship Hall 10:45 am
 Faith Seekers—Education Building 10:45 am
 Blood Pressure Check—CYF Room 11:30 am
 Happy Hearts Lunch—Lone Star 12:00 pm
 Ice Skating Pary—Leave church 12:00 noon

August 8 Monday
 Vision Rehearsal—Sanctuary 7:00 pm
 Worship Department Meeting—Fellowship Hall 7:00 pm

August 9 Tuesday
 Cabinet Meeting — Fellowship Hall 7:00 pm

August 10 Wednesday
 Happy Hearts Breakfast— Serving Spoon 9:00 am
 Chimes Rehearsal—Sanctuary 6:00 pm
 Choir Rehearsal Begins—Sanctuary 7:00 pm

August 11 Thursday
 Happy Hearts Pot Luck Supper—Fellowship Hall 6:00 pm

August 12 Friday
 Food Pantry Open—Fellowship Hall 3:00 pm—5:00 pm

August 13 Saturday
 All-Church Work Day 8:00 am to 12:00 noon
 Girl Scout—Fellowship Hall 1:00 pm

August 14 Sunday
 Contemporary Worship Service 9:00 am
 Time of Fellowship—Fellowship Hall 10:00 am
 Traditional Worship Service 10:30 am
 Children Worship & Wonder—Fellowship Hall 10:45 am
 Faith Seekers—Education Building 10:45 am
 Reception for Bernards (Pot-Luck Lunch)—Fell.Hall 11:30 am
 Happy Hearts Lunch— Longhorn 12:00 pm
 Children’s Choir Rehearsal 4:30 pm
 Sunday Nite Live Youth Groups 5:30—7:00 pm
 Sunday Nite Live Snack Supper 7:00—7:30 pm

August 15 Monday
 Friendship Knot Quilters Guild—Fellowship Hall 6:00 pm
 Vision Rehearsal—Sanctuary 7:00 pm

August 16 Tuesday
 Elder Meeting—Fellowship Hall 7:00 pm

August 17 Wednesday
 Happy Hearts Breakfast— Demarco’s 9:00 am
 Chimes Rehearsal—Sanctuary 6:00 pm
 Choir Rehearsal—Sanctuary 7:00 pm

August 19 Friday
 Food Pantry Open—Fellowship Hall 3:00 pm—5:00 pm

August 20 Saturday
 Girl Scouts—Fellowship Hall 1:00 pm

August 21 Sunday
 Contemporary Worship Service 9:00 am
 Time of Fellowship—Fellowship Hall 10:00 am
 Traditional Worship Service 10:30 am
 Children Worship & Wonder—Fellowship Hall 10:45 am
 Faith Seekers—Education Building 10:45 am
 Happy Hearts Lunch—Demetrio’s 12:00 pm
 Children’s Choir Rehearsal 4:30 pm
 Sunday Nite Live Youth Groups 5:30—7:00 pm
 Sunday Nite Live Snack Supper 7:00—7:30 pm

August 22 Monday
 Little Disciple Preschool Begins 9:00 am
 Vision Rehearsal—Sanctuary 7:00 pm

August 24 Wednesday
 Happy Hearts Breakfast— Millie’s 9:00 am
 Chimes Rehearsal—Sanctuary 6:00 pm
 Choir Rehearsal—Sanctuary 7:00 pm

August 26 Friday
 Food Pantry Open—Fellowship Hall 3:00 pm—5:00 pm

August 27 Saturday
 Girl Scouts—Fellowship Hall 1:00 pm

August 28 Sunday
 Contemporary Worship Service 9:00 am
 Time of Fellowship—Fellowship Hall 10:00 am
 Traditional Worship Service 10:30 am
 Children Worship & Wonder—Fellowship Hall 10:45 am
 Faith Seekers—Education Building 10:45 am
 Happy Hearts Lunch— Steak & Ale 12:00 pm
 Children’s Choir Rehearsal 4:30 pm
 Sunday Nite Live Youth Groups 5:30—7:00 pm
 Sunday Nite Live Snack Supper 7:00—7:30 pm

August 29 Monday
 Vision Rehearsal—Sanctuary 7:00 pm

August 31 Wednesday
 Happy Hearts Breakfast— First Watch 9:00 am
 Chimes Rehearsal—Sanctuary 6:00 pm
 Choir Rehearsal—Sanctuary 7:00 pm

Worship & Wonder Schedule For August

- 7 Wondering Day
- 14 Parable of the Mustard Seed
- 21 Parable of the Great Pearl
- 28 Parable of the Leaven ☩

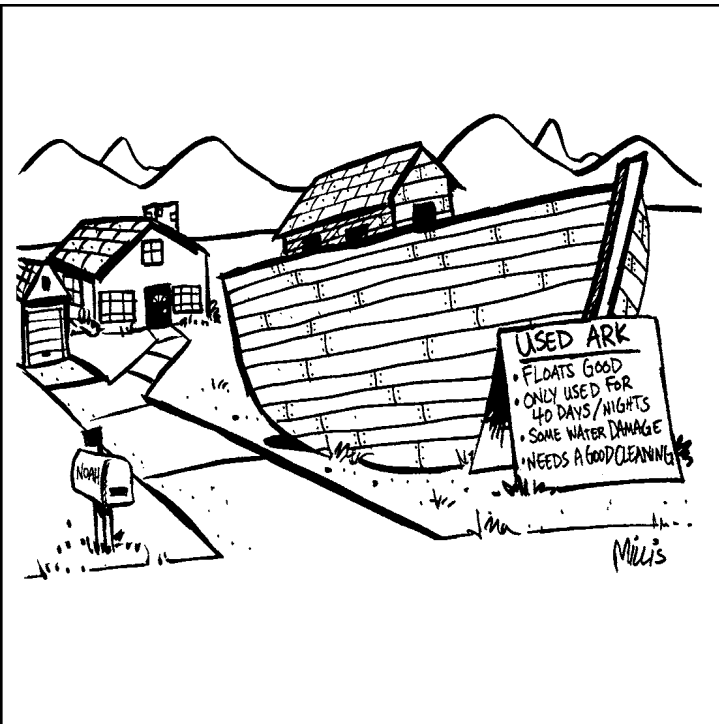
Interesting Bible Facts

(Continued from page 8)

put to death for his own sin” and that children should therefore not be made to suffer for the sins of their fathers (Deut 24:16). Amaziah was singled out as a good king because he obeyed this commandment—when he revenged his father’s death he killed adults only and spared the children (2 Chr 25:4). However, Amaziah seems to have been an exception, because battles for the crown usually resulted in the assassination of all royal contenders, even if they were mere infants. The execution of seven of Saul’s sons because their father had sinned is only one example of children being punished for wrongdoing of which they were innocent (2 Sam 21: 1—10).

This law of not visiting parental sin on children was not as effective as it might have been because of numerous exclusions. Children of slaves, for example, automatically became slaves at birth (Gen 14: 14; 15:3; etc.) Children not born of the legitimate wife often did not share the inheritance, even if they were the firstborn (Gen 21:10; Judg 11:2). In fact, children born of an incestuous or adulterous union were excluded from the congregation for ten generations (Deut 23:2). Finally, if a child’s father ran up debts and was unable to pay, his children could be enslaved by the creditors (2 Kings 4:1; Neh5:5; Isa 50:1). U

Reference—The Book of the Bible



September Good News



Deadline for articles sent to the church is August 23rd.

Articles may be sent directly to Nancy Dennis at nancydennis@verizon.net, or left in her inbox at the church office. †

Church Office Hours

Monday thru Friday

9:00 am-12:00 noon Office Open

Office Closed for Lunch 12:00 noon-1:00 pm

1:00 pm-4:00 pm Office Open

Phone: 924-8713

The office telephones will be covered every day at the above office hours. Our Minister, Luis Bernard, will be in the office at varying times according to his visitation schedules. Please let us know if you are going to the hospital and having surgical procedures. Pastor Bernard, the Elders, and other volunteers are available at any time. Please do not hesitate to call if needs arise.

Church email — churchoffice@lifeatbeneva.org

Pastor Luis Bernard — pastor.bernard@lifeatbeneva.org

Church Website — <http://www.lifeatbeneva.org>

Pastor Luis Bernard cell — (941) 735-5355

E-mail Prayer Chain



If you would like to be added to our e-mail prayer chain please send your request via email to: churchoffice@lifeatbeneva.org

August 2005						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

September 2005						
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4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

What Do Disciples Believe?

Like most Christians, Disciples affirm:

- ♦ Jesus Christ is the son of the Living God, and offers saving grace to all.
- ♦ All persons are God's children.

Beliefs and practices usually associated with Disciples include:

- ♦ *Open Communion.* The Lord's Supper, or Communion, is celebrated in weekly worship. It is open to all believers.
- ♦ *Diversity of opinion.* Each person is free to determine individual belief guided by the Bible, the Holy Spirit, study and prayer.
- ♦ *Baptism by immersion.* In baptism the old self-centered life is set aside, and a new life of trust in God is made possible. Although Disciples generally practice baptism by immersion, they honor other baptism traditions as well.
- ♦ *Importance of church unity.* All Christians should cooperate in ministry wherever possible, affirming each other as sisters and brothers in Christ.
- ♦ *The ministry of all believers.* Both ministers and lay persons lead worship, direct service opportunities and nurture spiritual growth.
- ♦ *Freedom of belief.* Disciples are called together around one essential of faith: belief in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. †



The chalice symbolizes the central place of communion in worship for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). The X-shaped cross of the disciple Andrew is a reminder of the ministry of each person and the importance of evangelism.

Discover . . . Spiritual growth

Every Disciples congregation meets weekly to worship God. In the warmth of God's presence and with the support of others, we grow in our understanding of God in ways that make a difference in our everyday lives.

Through worship that is both contemporary and traditional, we discover the joy of trusting and following Jesus.

Around the communion table, we acknowledge Christ's presence and remember the meal He shared with His followers. All believers are welcome at the Lord's table.

Whether you are a longtime follower of Jesus Christ, or curious about Christianity, the Christian Church can help you explore Christianity and learn about Christ. †



THE GOOD NEWS August 2005

BENEVA CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ)
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