



BENEVA CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

THE GOOD NEWS

Ministers: Jim Moxley and Donna Scott

January 2005

Volume 35, Issue 1

Why We Celebrate Epiphany Sunday January 2

By Jim Moxley

We will celebrate the visit of the wise men from the East to the Christ child in both worship services on January 2. This event is often overlooked after Christmas but is very significant to the entire world beyond the Hebrews. The star that guided the wise men was opening the door to all non-Jews that God was the God of all people.

Jesus came into to the world for all Jewish people and all non-Jewish people who would accept Him as the Son of God. For those who accepted Jesus as their Lord and committed their lives to follow the way and life of Jesus, He gave them eternal life. January 2 could truly be celebrated as "Life Sunday" for all of us as we recognize the importance of Jesus Christ in our lives.

Early Christians first began celebrating the death and resurrection of Jesus. This was the opening of eternal life and forgiveness for human sins. The birth of Jesus was at first less important to early Christians because there was no salvation act in the actual birth of Jesus. Gentiles were especially thankful that the God of the Hebrews was

opening life to them now and they were eager to become Christians.

The wise men were barely mentioned in later tradition and were reported to come from the East but the country was not identified. In Persia (which included portions of Iraq and Iran of today) wise men consulted star formations and gave advice to heathen leaders. They were

important and well-paid leaders among the rulers.

It is probable that they came from there but they may have come from a more distant country. We don't know how many actually came, but for these men of importance to leave their courts of power and influence to follow a new star was a great leap of faith for them. They risked all their position to make the journey and possibly even their lives from bandits along the way. A prophecy from Psalms mentioned that there would be kings bow down to the new Messiah, so when the story was told and retold the wise men became kings in some of the stories.

The importance to Christians today is that all of life changed for people of faith following Jesus Christ. Regardless of the traditions
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Epiphany

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An Episode from the Tree Sales Lot

By Duane Wyatt

One afternoon, a lady came in with her three daughters -- she and her daughters looked around for awhile and decided on a tree and also picked out a wreath. Then she came over to our cashier table while her daughters went with the tree to decide how much needed to be trimmed. We started talking about the busy season and



other general topics. I asked her if she had purchased a tree from Beneva Christian Church before, as she would then get 10% off. She said, "Oh yes! I have purchased trees from you for three or four years". She continued on saying that she had relocated to Sarasota 6 years ago with her daughters and not much else. She then told me how

they had received a lot of support at that time from our Food Pantry. By this time one of her daughters came back, and the mother said that this daughter was a teacher at Booker Elementary -- then pointed to another daughter and said she was a massage therapist. She then pointed to the third daughter and said she was in her second year of law school. She told me she had a special feeling for Beneva and would always buy her trees from us.

Needless to say, this lady and her three daughters also had an effect on me. This just reinforced to me how important it is for Christians to reach out to others. A lot of the time we won't see immediate results, but I'm sure Beneva outreach has had many more success of which we are totally unaware.

Each year it seems I get more from the Christmas Tree Sale than I put into it, and I know that is true for many of you also. †

Special dates

- New Year's Day, January 1, 2005
- Epiphany Sunday, January 2, 2005
- Epiphany, January 6, 2005
- Baptism of Jesus, January 9, 2005
- Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, January 18-25, 2005
- Martin L. King Jr. Day, January 17, 2005

Lucky The Pet Dog

By Donna Scott

I recently read a story of a family who was missing their pet dog. Signs were put out all over town with the pleas to help find the pet. The signs read "Lost dog with three legs, blind in left eye, missing right ear, tail broken and recently castrated. Answers to the name Lucky."

As we begin to make up our New Years' resolutions let us thank our Lord that we are often full of imperfections, but like the family looking for Lucky, we are loved. He keeps his heart and eyes open for the lost and the lonely, and rejoices when we answer His call.

May we be more like Him as we see others' imperfections as beauty, with hope, love, compassion, and forgiveness. †

Christmas Tree Sale Has New Leaders

All of the Christmas Trees were sold out early again this year. Russell Robbins has headed up this successful project for the last ten years and is retiring as of this year from the leadership of the sale. Stepping forward to continue the sale of trees are three dedicated leaders; Tom Byrd (and sons), Greg Fulkert, and Garland Poquette.

All of these leaders have experience with the project and will be able to continue the tradition. Be sure to say a word of thanks to Russell and all three of these people for Beneva. †

Huge Cast Presents Cantata At Beneva

Sandra Edwards pulled together a huge cast of people from Beneva that included the Chancel Choir, Hand Chimes Choir, Vision and Children's Choir to present a powerful cantata on Christmas Sunday, December 19.

The entire worship was integrated with the cantata, with communion being served to the congregation during the appropriate music and words. Our two ministers worked with Sandra in planning a totally integrated worship experience and Sandra coordinated the set and drama with great help from a dedicated crew. †

The Good News is published monthly by
Beneva Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
4835 Beneva Rd., Sarasota, FL 34233-2110.

Gifts Make Children Happy At Christmas

Thanks to the tireless work of Bessie Zauner, 39 children will have a happier Christmas. Bicycles will be distributed to eleven of them. This would not have been possible without the dedication of members of Beneva Christian Church.



Funds for these gifts came from Christmas tree sales and six people did the shopping with great care and love, then brought the gifts to the church for distribution. Robyn Bruner, Arlene Cueman, Olevia Fulkert, Phyllis Moxley, Mary Potter and Jane Oneal were the shoppers. †

Youth Share Leadership In Advent

What a special way to start Advent! The first Sunday of Advent our five youth groups gave us a meaningful and beautiful Youth Sunday. The youth have taken part with their adult leaders or parents to lead the lighting of the candles in the Advent wreath each week. This has been an effective way of sharing the true story of Immanuel that God is truly with us. The spirit of Christ we find in children is like discovering Jesus Christ anew. We are so proud and thankful for our great youth ministries and especially for the dedicated adults that provide leadership every week of the year.



The youth of Beneva Christian Church presented the annual Live Nativity as their gift to the community three nights, Dec. 22, 23 & 24 from 7:00 to 8:30 pm each evening. Cory Pruner headed up the project this year. Sets were erected on the front lawn for people to see as they drive by. For those who parked and came in they were escorted along a path so they could make their own journey to the manger to see Joseph, Mary and the child.

Youth were involved in the selling of Christmas trees and helped with the preparation and serving of the Breakfast with Santa that drew a large crowd of over 160 children and adults from the church and community. Bob and Susan Evans headed up this great project. †

Thanksgiving & Christmas Offerings

By Glenda Kelley, World Outreach Chair

The special offering for Thanksgiving and, by the time you read this, the Christmas special offering, have been received. These offerings were to support higher education and the ministry of our region in Florida. Thanks for your generosity in helping support the ministry here at Beneva and beyond our doors.



Our next special offering that will be emphasized is Week of Compassion. It is an ongoing ministry that you are encouraged to donate to at any time during the year, but we will emphasize it in January and February and send what we have collected at the end of February. First, in January we will learn about the Tools of Hope and Blanket Program and how it empowers people and brings hope for a better tomorrow. Ordinary things that we often take for granted like blankets, clean water, education, tents, garden tools, and seeds can make a world of difference for people devastated by tragedy.

In February, we will have a chili dinner in conjunction with the February Coffee House on February 25th. More details on that later, but plan to join your Beneva family for an evening of good food and musical entertainment and at the same time raise money for the Week of Compassion ministry. †

Fellowship Time

Thanks to those of you who hosted a Fellowship Time in Disciple Hall between the Contemporary and Traditional services in 2004. By doing so, you provided a valuable service to the members of Beneva. Volunteers are needed for this year. This can be done by individuals, couples or groups. Make 2005 a year of sharing your talents. Contact me if you would like to help. Shirley Blanton email at Sailor1954@aol.com or phone at 377-7894. †

Why We Celebrate Epiphany Sunday January 2

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that witnessed to a new and unique star whose identity and path were never duplicated in recorded history, our faith lives on that in some way God was announcing to the rest of the world that God was truly entering the world in a new form to reveal to us a powerful but compassionate, loving God. Let us make life anew with our Savior in this year of 2005. †

Christmas Tree/Wreath Sales

By Russell Robbins

To all who helped, I can't thank you enough for all the time and effort that you provided in making the tree/wreath sale a success again. There were so many people involved in various ways: set up, making food for the workers, selling, carrying, and wreath making. All of these jobs are important and the sale would not have been a success without each and every one of you. I especially want to thank Ruth Wolf who was responsible for calling people to cover the shifts. This is, no doubt, the hardest job of all.



This was our 10th year of selling Christmas trees and wreaths, and, as I indicated in the last newsletter, would be my last to coordinate it. I am very pleased to announce that we have had some volunteers come forward to continue and carry on the tradition next year.

The tree/wreath sale has been much more than a fundraiser. We have been able to help so many people, who otherwise would not have Christmas presents for their families. We have also been able to help our youth (and their parents) by paying half of the summer church camp fees. There are so many benefits that have come from the tree sales, not only for others, but also for those who have given of their time. It has been very rewarding to me to be a part of it and I am happy that the tradition will continue.

Again, thank you for all your help and allowing me the opportunity to serve these last 10 years. In case you were wondering, our net income this year was \$13,025.00. ☩

Food Pantry Needs

By Mark Johnson

We're pleased to announce that we served 71 families in November. We distributed 2,748 lbs of food to those in need, and we spent \$283.99. That was in a three week period.

It was a Happy Thanksgiving for many people thanks to the folks of Beneva Christian Church. All of those who contribute should be proud. The people on the receiving end of it all are grateful and they express it often. Thanks to you all from those your generosity has helped! ☩



FEED THE HUNGRY

Search Committee Report

By Fran Hardt, Search Committee Chair

The Search Committee is very happy to have received, from the Regional Office, fifteen (15) Relocation Forms to review as possible consideration for our new Minister. These are being reviewed as a group package by each Search Committee member. There are many pages to study and consider, which takes hours of prayer and concentration. No Committee meeting will be scheduled until each member has completed his/her review. ☩

Two - Two - Two Adult Classes in One

By Jerry Dennis

Did you know:

- ◆ That almost half (44%) of our New Testament is made up of letters?
- ◆ That all of the letters in the New Testament were written because of some congregational or personal problems that were occurring in the early church?
- ◆ That thousands of the theology books and articles that have been written about our Christian beliefs are based on the contents of these letters.
- ◆ That many of the earliest Christians did not want gentiles (people like you and me) to even know about Jesus?

We will discuss all of these subjects, and much more, in a new adult class that will begin on January 8, and January 9, 2005. Yes, that is on a Saturday and Sunday. Our Sunday Nite Live adult class will start up again on Sunday, January 9, at 6:00-7:15 pm in the Sanctuary. Our new subject series will be the Letters of the Apostle Paul. The subjects discussed in these letters will give us plenty of "current day" concerns to examine. Plus, these letters give us an excellent view into the life of the early church.



However, some of our Beneva adults have indicated that they can not attend on Sunday evening. So we are going to offer two chances to attend the class. We will offer the class on Saturday morning, 10:00 am in the Youth Room, beginning January 8. The same subjects will be discussed at both classes each week. So, if you can't make it to one, please attend the other. (We might even be able to arrange coffee and donuts at the Saturday morning class.) Hope to see you at one or the other. ☩

Children's Worship And Wonder

By Patricia Poquette

On January 2nd the children will be learning how to Talk with God. They will be learning that their worship center is a very special place. They will learn how to walk softly, and talk quietly so that we don't disturb others who are talking to God. We will learn that this is a special place to hear stories of God and the way we need to prepare.

Any parent who would like to sit in on this session is more than welcome. You will learn how the class is conducted and what your children are learning.

On January 9th the children will be learning Listening to God. They will be learning to walk slowly, speak softly, and how we greet one another. Any parent who would like to sit in on this session is more than welcome. You will be amazed at what your child is learning, and it gives the parents a chance to discuss with the children what they are learning.

On January 16th we will be learning the Story of the Light: Once there was someone who said such amazing things and did such wonderful things that people began to follow Him. But they didn't know who He was. So one day they simply had to ask Him. And he said, "I am.....the light." This is a very beautiful story and very spiritual, I would encourage parents to sit in on this story.

On January 23rd we will be learning The Good Shepard.

- ♦ I wonder if the sheep have names?....
- ♦ I wonder if the sheep are happy in this place?...
- ♦ I wonder how many sheep really could live in the place?.....
- ♦ I wonder if you have ever had to go through places of danger?....
- ♦ I wonder how the sheep feel with the Good Shepherd?.....
- ♦ I wonder how the Good Shepherd feels about the sheep?.....

On January 30th we will be learning about the Good Shepherd & the Lost Sheep

- ♦ I wonder if these sheep have names?.....
- ♦ I wonder if the sheep are happy in this place?.....
- ♦ I wonder how many sheep really could live in this place?.....
- ♦ I wonder if you have ever were lost and someone found you?.....
- ♦ I wonder if you have ever heard the Good Shepherd say your name?.....

Parents please feel free to sit in on any of these stories. You will be amazed at what your child is learning in Worship & Wonder. †

Storyteller Schedule for January 2005

The Worship and Wonder Storyteller Schedule for January is as follows:

January 2005

2nd Talking to God

9th Listening to God

16th .. Story of the Light

23rd .. The Good Shepherd

30th .. The Good Shepherd & the Lost Sheep

Be sure to get your children to the Worship and Wonder classes. And then discuss what they have learned. You will learn a lot from them. †

Genesis Youth Group

By Arlene Cushman

We may be small but we are mighty - especially in how much love we have! We've been learning all about God's love for us through our Bible stories and fun craft projects. Last Sunday we made our prayer gloves that help us to remember who and what to pray for. More fun on the horizon as Ms. Teresa joins us as co-sponsor! Yay! †

Interesting Bible Facts

By Jerry Dennis

Some of you may have heard me mention, in some of my classes, that our calendar for the Christian Era, or "Anno Domini" (Year of our Lord, or A.D.) is off by at least a few years, because we now know that King Herod, of the Christmas stories, died in 4 B.C. So, Jesus must have been born at least before 4 B.C. One other clue that may give us some idea of the year of Christ's birth is that the Wise Men were following "a star in the East".



We know that the Wise Men found Jesus sometime after His birth, because He was in a "house", and King Herod tried to kill Jesus by murdering all the male children in Bethlehem two years old or younger, according to the "time" he had gained from the Wise Man (by trickery). This means that our calendar may be off by 6 or 7 years. This is not too surprising, since the "Christian Era" was calculated in the 6th Century A.D. and backdated, as near as they could calculate, to the year Jesus was born. One way that many have used to estimate the actual year of

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Happy Hearts Eating-Out Schedule

Breakfast	Wednesday	9:00 am
January 5	Tasty Home Cookin	
January 12	Demarco's	
January 19	Millie's	
January 26	Serving Spoon	

Lunch	Sunday	12:00 pm
January 2	Bob Evans	
January 9	Longhorn	
January 16	Steak & Ale	
January 23	Demetrio's	
January 30	Red Lobster	



Happy Hearts News

By Roy Fahrbach

Happy Hearts enjoyed a very good dinner and a good time at our Christmas Party at Bill's (Tasty Home Cookin). Thanks to everyone that helped out. A special thanks to the Bollman's for the decorations, the tables looked great.

Remember January's Pot Luck Dinner will be on January 13, in Disciple Hall We will have installation of officers at that time. Hope to see you all then. We plan on being at the January meeting, but we can not leave Indiana until January 9th. Our 16 year old grandson, Cameron, is getting his Eagle Scout award on January 8th, and we are staying on for that celebration. †

Martha Circle

By Glenda Kelley

An Invitation to the Ladies of the Church

The January meeting for the Martha Circle will be January 6th at 7:15 pm in the Chi Rho Room in Disciple Hall. Jane Wyatt is leading us in our study theme of Body and Soul. We invite any woman of the church to join us and visit our group at any meeting. If you would like more information, call Glenda Kelley 922-0259 or Elsie McDonald 377-0744. †

Lydia Circle

By Hattie Coulter



The Lydia Circle will meet Tuesday, January 4th at 10:00 am in Disciple Hall. Come join us for fellowship, coffee, and sweets. †

Bifocal Bunch Events

RSVP to Shirley Blanton on all these events at 377-7894 or email to Sailor1954@aol.com.

Tuesday, January 11th, 9:00 am

Breakfast at First Watch on the South Trail.

Thursday, January 20.

Tour of Solomon's Castle (\$10 per person)

After the tour, we'll eat lunch there. Then it's on to visit the Rosa Winery. The church van leaves church at 10:40 am.

Friday, January 28, 7:00-9:00 pm

Coffee House in Disciple Hall at church.

Future Events:

Sunday, February 6.

Super Bowl Party at the home of Jerry and Mary Cares. More information next month.

Friday, February 18.

Concert by the Glen Draper Singers of North Carolina at Christ UMC in Venice at 7:00 pm. The church van leaves church at 6:00 pm. Cost \$10 per Person. †

C.W.F. Soup Luncheon



The Christian Womens Fellowship of Beneva will have a Soup Luncheon Saturday, January 22 in Disciple Hall at 12:00 noon. All women are invited to join us. All circles will be meeting together for a general meeting.

Please sign up so we will know how many to prepare for. Sign up sheets will be in Narthex and Disciple Hall. For more information call Sibyl Keller 377-3673 or Virginia Toye 922-6598. †

Naomi Circle

By Adaline Singleton

The Naomi Circle will meet in Disciple Hall on Thursday, January 6, at 12:00 noon. Bring a sack lunch! Co-Hostesses are Jane Oneal & Hazel Frazier. All women of the church are cordially invited to attend. Come and meet new and old friends! †



Jan 03 Bertha Stanley
 Jan 04 Jim Belt
 Jan 04 Joanie Abbot
 Jan 04 Kay Hollingsworth
 Jan 04 Jane Holbrook
 Jan 07 Eva Obermeit
 Jan 08 Walt Carroll
 Jan 09 Olevia Fulkert
 Jan 11 Brenda Root
 Jan 11 Maggie Sumney
 Jan 11 Bessie Zauner
 Jan 12 Jayson Brown
 Jan 14 Glenda Kelley
 Jan 14 Holly Fuqua
 Jan 14 Joanna Wood
 Jan 14 Joyce McClain
 Jan 15 Ceo Tucker
 Jan 15 Betty Pearson
 Jan 16 Ray Georges
 Jan 16 Wanda Rabjohns
 Jan 18 Pat Kline
 Jan 18 Nathan Byrd
 Jan 18 George VanEssen
 Jan 19 Don Pesano
 Jan 19 Edward Kelly
 Jan 20 Amber Murphy
 Jan 21 Jeff Blanton
 Jan 22 Bob McClain
 Jan 23 Vesta Stanley
 Jan 23 Troy York
 Jan 24 Urban Pearson
 Jan 24 Luther Bollman
 Jan 24 Bob Blanton
 Jan 24 Anne Belt
 Jan 24 Eva Walker
 Jan 26 Rea Davies
 Jan 27 Iris DuBois
 Jan 29 Morgan Bowen
 Jan 30 Carl Valvo
 Jan 31 John Green

Celebrating Their ANNIVERSARY

Jan 01 Dale & Frances Pence
 Jan 02 Robert & Phyllis Landreth
 Jan 11 Don & Patricia Weaver
 Jan 20 Charles & Wanda Rabjohns

Coming Soon To A Fellowship Hall Near You, It's COFFEE HOUSE

The Beneva Coffee House winter series (January, February & March) starts on Friday, January 28th, 2005. This is a two hour show starting at 7:00 pm. in Disciple Hall. Light refreshments will be available. Come out and join us for an evening of fun and fellowship.

Are you a singer, dancer, musician, poet, story-teller or humorist? If so, I need you to contact me. I know you're out there! This is your chance to share your talent with your Beneva friends. I can be reached at 377-7894 or Sailor1954@aol.com Y'all come. Bob Blanton †

E-mail From God?

One day God was looking down at Earth and saw all of the rascally behavior that was going on. He decided to send an angel down to Earth to check it out.

So He called one of His angels and sent the angel to Earth for a time. When he returned, he told God, "Yes, it is bad on Earth; 95% are misbehaving and only 5% are not."

God thought for a moment and said, "Maybe I had better send down a second angel to get another opinion." So God called another angel and sent him to Earth for a time too.

When the angel returned he went to God and said, "Yes, its true the Earth is in decline; 95% are misbehaving, but 5% are being good."

God was not pleased. So He decided to E-mail the 5% that were good, because He wanted to encourage them, give them a little something to help them keep going.

Do you know what the E-mail said?

Just wondering, I didn't get one either. †

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

Little Disciples Preschool

By Cindy McDowell, Director

Happy New Year from all of us! We hope your holidays were filled with love and laughter. We look forward to being together again and can hardly wait to see what adventures the New Year brings.

Our NAEYC Accreditation visit was held on Monday, November 22, and it was a WONDERFUL visit. Two validators came and spent the morning in 6 out of 7 classrooms, and then began their evaluation of the office. Before we knew it, the visit was done. They really enjoyed their time with us and had many wonderful comments regarding everything they observed. We now await the letter from Washington DC, and hope to have good news for you in our next article!

January is our midpoint in the School Year and is the time for our Parent/Teacher Conferences. These will be held the last 2 weeks of the month on a sign-up basis. This is the opportunity for our parents to meet with their child's teacher, to find out how they are doing, and to look toward goals for the remainder of the year.

We will also send out information at the end of January regarding Early Registration for the 2005-2006 School Year. Registration for our current and alumni families for the 2005-2006 School Year will then officially begin on February 16, 2005.

Teacher's Tidbits

By Mrs. Tromboni

Hi Everyone -- December was a very busy month for us. We made a "special" gift for our mommies and daddies, lots of crafts were happening, our fabulous Christmas concert, and of course, our traditional Tree Tour of our own Christmas trees. We will bring the New Year in with our Outer Space Unit. Beware; you may see a spaceship in the building. Mrs. Tromboni's class wishes all of you a Happy, Healthy and Safe New Year. †

Life Or Death? Or Life Or Life?

An oncologist was asked if he had seen a difference between Christian and nonreligious patients who were dying of cancer. The doctor replied that those who took their faith seriously didn't fear death as much as those who had little or no faith. For the Christians it was not a life or death matter, but a life or life situation.

The reason, of course, was that Christians saw their physical demise as merely preparation for the next life — eternal life with the Lord.

continued next column

Interesting Bible Facts

(Continued from page 5)

Jesus' birth is to study the "Star of Bethlehem".

The Star of Bethlehem, mentioned only by Matthew, has been explained as a meteor, a comet, and a nova, but one possible explanation is that it was an unusual conjunction of the planets. Once every 20 years, the orbits of Jupiter and Saturn cause them to appear aligned close together along a north/south axis -- a conjunction. But late in the year 7 B.C., this happened three times within 6 months, and each time it took place in the constellation Pisces, called the "House of the Hebrews" by ancient astrologers. This triple conjunction occurs only once every 120 years.

The Magi, who were astrologers, undoubtedly noticed the first conjunction in June, 7 B.C., with some interest. Because it happened in Pisces, a constellation associated with Israel, they probably wondered what bearing the conjunction had on the affairs of that nation. When, on September 27, the conjunction happened again, they may have begun preparations to go westward to Jerusalem. At first they moved away from the conjunction, for it had appeared in the eastern sky. This agrees with their statement to Herod: "We have seen His star in the east". As the seasons changed, however, the planets moved toward the west. If the Magi arrived in Jerusalem around December 10 they would have seen the conjunction a third time, but now it would be in the south/southwest, toward Bethlehem.

Shortly after the third conjunction in December, the planet Mars began moving closer to the pair of Jupiter and Saturn. By this time the planets had also moved close to the western horizon. The Magi may have thought that this final grouping of planets was a sign that they had reached their destination. This accords more closely with the time of year implied by Luke's statement that "the shepherds were guarding their flocks by night". During early spring the lambing season begins and the sheep are especially vulnerable to attacks by wild animals.

Beginning January 6th, we celebrate "Epiphany", the visit by the Wise Men. †

Life Or Death? Or Life Or Life?

According to the doctor, most Christian patients came to terms with their condition sooner than other patients did. That acceptance freed them to enjoy family members and close friends during the time that was left.

One sick man, facing death, said to his pastor, "I am well. I feel blessed and at peace. The cancer is in my body, but it isn't in my soul." †

Church Chatter

Thanks to all the participants in the cantata. It was a wonderful experience for everyone.

Sympathy to Bill & Alice Stevenson in the death of their daughter-in-law.

Sympathy to Florine Blake in the death of her granddaughter.

Tina Glosson, our summer intern, graduated from college in December. She has been accepted and will be attending Lexington Theological Seminary. We are so proud of Tina and are happy that Beneva Christian Church played a role in life. If you would like to send Tina a card, her address is: Tina Glosson, 503-1/2 N. Nicholls Street, Waycross, GA 31503.

Congratulations to George and Emily Oberle as they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary last month by renewing their wedding vows.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Our Known Ill

May Burfoot
Alice Gipe
Marlene Neff
Mary Yarman

Our Shut Ins

Kenneth Brown
Irene Carr
Marjorie Hart
Dorothy Miller
Harold Rabjohns
Barbara Taylor



Martin
Luther
King Jr.
Day

January 17, 2005

We must come to see that human progress never rolls in on wheels of inevitability. It comes through the tireless efforts and persistent work of [people] willing to be coworkers with God

—Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Count Your Blessings!

If you reduced the world's population down to 100 people, 57 (or 57 percent) would be Asians, 21 would be Europeans, 14 would be from the Western Hemisphere and eight from Africa.

Among those 100 people would be 52 females and 48 males. Seventy people would be nonwhite; 30 would be white. Seventy would be non-Christian; 30 would be Christian. Six people would possess 59 percent of the world's wealth, and those six would all be Americans.

Eighty people would live in substandard housing, 70 would be unable to read and 50 would suffer malnutrition. Only one person would be college-educated, and only one person would have a computer.

If you have food to eat, clothes to wear and a place to sleep tonight, you are richer than 70 percent of the world's people. Furthermore, if you're alive at this time next week, you won't be among the one million people who died during that time.

Think about your blessings as you start a new year in this most favored and wonderful nation. †

Little progress can be made by merely attempting to repress what is evil. Our great hope lies in developing what is good.

—Calvin Coolidge



<u>January 23</u>	<u>Sunday</u>
Contemporary Worship Service	9:00 am
Sunday Morning Bible Study—Disciple Hall	9:00 am
Time of Fellowship—Disciple Hall	10:00 am
Traditional Worship Service	10:30 am
Children Worship & Wonder—Disciple Hall	10:45 am
Faith Seekers—Education Building	10:45 am
Happy Hearts Lunch—Demetrio's	12:00 pm
Children Choir Rehearsal—Sanctuary	5:00 pm
<u>No Children Choir Rehearsal next Sunday</u>	
Sunday Nite Live	6:00 pm

<u>January 24</u>	<u>Monday</u>
Girl Scouts—Disciple Hall	6:00 pm
Vision Rehearsal—Sanctuary	7:00 pm

<u>January 26</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>
Bible Study—Disciple Hall	7:00 am
Happy Hearts Breakfast—Serving Spoon	9:00 am
Chimes Rehearsal—Sanctuary	6:00 pm
Choir Rehearsal—Sanctuary	7:00 pm

<u>January 27</u>	<u>Thursday</u>
Girl Scouts—Disciple Hall	3:30 pm

<u>January 28</u>	<u>Friday</u>
Food Pantry Open—Disciple Hall	3:00 pm—5:00 pm
Coffee House—Disciple Hall	7:00 pm

<u>January 29</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
Adult Bible Study—Youth Room	10:00 am
Wedding Rehearsal—Sanctuary	3:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Happy Heart—Van	9:00 am

<u>January 30</u>	<u>Sunday</u>
Contemporary Worship Service	9:00 am
Sunday Morning Bible Study—Disciple Hall	9:00 am
Time of Fellowship—Disciple Hall	10:00 am
Traditional Worship Service	10:30 am
Children Worship & Wonder—Disciple Hall	10:45 am
Faith Seekers—Education Building	10:45 am
Happy Hearts Lunch—Red Lobster	12:00 pm
Wedding—Sanctuary	3:00 pm
<u>No Children Choir Rehearsal</u>	
Sunday Nite Live	6:00 pm

<u>January 31</u>	<u>Monday</u>
Girl Scouts—Disciple Hall	6:00 pm
Cub Scouts—Seekers & Chi Rho Rooms	6:00 pm
Vision Rehearsal—Sanctuary	7:00 pm

January 2005						
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February 2005						
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27	28					

February Good News



Deadline for articles sent to the church is January 20th.

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

Church Office Hours

Monday thru Friday

8:30 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

Anna Ragone, our church secretary, will be in the office every day at the above office hours. Our Interim Minister, Jim Moxley, and our Licensed Minister, Donna Scott, will be in the office at varying times according to their visitation schedules. Please let us know if you are going to the hospital and having surgical procedures. Jim, Donna, the Elders, and other volunteers are available at any time. Please do not hesitate to call if needs arise.

- Church email — churchoffice@lfeatbeneva.org
- Jim Moxley email — jimmoxley@lfeatbeneva.org
- Donna Scott email — scottdd@lfeatbeneva.org
- Church Website — <http://www.lfeatbeneva.org>
- Jim Moxley home phone — 378-5370
- Jim Moxley cell phone — 350-7487

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@lfeatbeneva.org

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 January 2005

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