



CROSSING POINT

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Bowling Green First Christian Church
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Pike County Hospice Bereavement Support Program

This is a four week program designed for individuals and families whose lives have been touched by grief and loss. The program will begin on **Tuesday, October 4 at 7:00 p.m.** and will meet every Tuesday through the month of October. The program will be led by Rev. Al Boatman.



Dawn's Ditties

Not many folks like change. We grumble about change, we bemoan change, we whine about change; frankly we don't like change. We become creatures of habits. We like our furniture one way, we like our meals to be eaten at the same times and cooked the same way, and we want things to stay the same.

Harold Wilson, late Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, wrote, "He who rejects change is the architect of decay. The only human institution which rejects progress is the cemetery." That is such a very true statement. Once we are dead there is not much that we can change.

As a pastor, one of the phrases often heard is, "We have never done it that way before." Those are words that have made many a pastor cringe and recoil in shock, amazement and horror. That statement tells many things to the pastor about a group, committee or the congregations; they aren't willing to change, they don't want to change and if change is made will it rock the proverbial boat. We are not like this only in our churches and our community but in our own personal life. Change means disruption. Change means having to learn something in a new way. Change means not being as comfortable as we now are.

Some of us won't even change from our same pews in the church and heaven forbid that we swapped sides of the beds with our spouses or not sit in OUR chair to watch television. But we are called to change to move forward and not stay inert. Isaiah 43:19, "See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland."

It is said there are three types of people; those who let change happen, those who make change happen and those that wonder what happened when the change was made. What type of person are you? Let's delve deeper not only into just the physical change or environmental change but of change of our spirituality along with our relationship with the Savior, Jesus Christ.

If we do not grow and change our lives become stale, and stagnant. and not open to growth. If we do not grow in Christ we become dull and heavy, and our faith can become dormant. Even God shook up the world with his changes; creating the world, the flood, leading the Israelites to the promise land, creating a kingship for first Saul then for David and Solomon, giving prophecy and most of all bringing his Son into the world. Don't you think those were major changes for the world? Look into your own hearts; are your hearts open for change; to be moved by the Holy Spirit, to listen to the voice of God. Or are they sitting their blind and muffled and closed off from anything that is out of the ordinary?

Think of the prophets; what if they were not pliant and open to listening to God's very word touch their beings; what if the words they heard and the messages they received they chose not to share because they would incite change? Their words and prophecies would remake the world and people's reactions and their journeys.

A man shared this argument with a young woman one day. He said loudly and proudly, that he had never changed, he would never change, change was overrated and he was content to be as he was and that could be taken to the bank.

The question was given to him, "You say you are a Christian and that you accepted Jesus as your Savior."

The man nodded his head emphatically and crossed his arms.

The other person gently smiled and said, "Remember your scripture, "Therefore, if anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new." See my friend; to become a new creation we have to change, we have to become new."

The man bowed his head and began to weep, "I need to soften my heart, I need to change, I need to become a new creation in Christ."

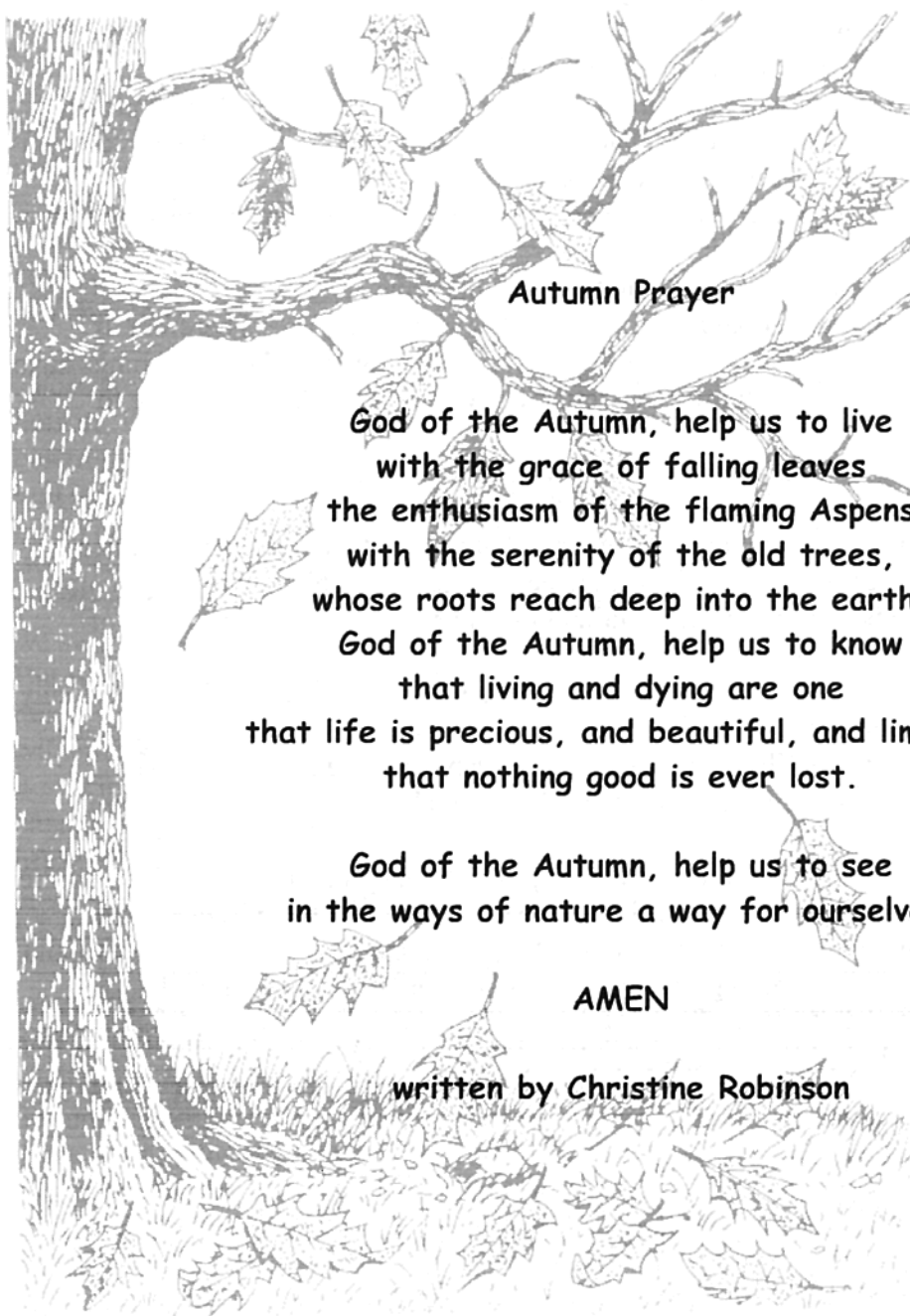
The man and the young pastor prayed together. That man did change; he was softer, more loving, and more open to the Holy Spirit. He began a senior ministry coupling seniors with young children. He began to preach about making changes and not being afraid of them. He was a transformed man.

If we don't open our hearts and allow changes, it is a sad commentary on life. If we stay the same and don't move forward or don't move backwards but just stay in the same place, we are not going anywhere. As Christians, as Christ servants, we are called to move forward; we are called to reach outward...we are called to make change. "Behold, I am doing a new thing."

Are you doing anything new? Or are you sitting by not changing one iota and letting the world pass you by? Are you figuratively sitting in the same pew and not moving around? Open your hearts to change, open your hearts to God, open your hearts to the Holy Spirit and don't be afraid to move, to change, to grow, and to be part of a faith community changing and shaping into something extra, something exciting. Don't be afraid of change, embrace change and celebrate the joy of changing into a child of God.

Blessings,

Dawn Marie



Autumn Prayer

God of the Autumn, help us to live
with the grace of falling leaves
the enthusiasm of the flaming Aspens
with the serenity of the old trees,
whose roots reach deep into the earth.
God of the Autumn, help us to know
that living and dying are one
that life is precious, and beautiful, and limited.
that nothing good is ever lost.

God of the Autumn, help us to see
in the ways of nature a way for ourselves.

AMEN

written by Christine Robinson



SPRING RETREAT

The retreat has been scheduled for April 21-22, 2012, beginning at noon on Saturday, April 21 and ending about 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 22. The theme is *Joy in the Morning!* If you can come earlier on Saturday, we will work on a service project at Rickman.

The Rickman Center has motel like rooms with twin beds and a full bath in each room. Most of the rooms sleep two people, although a very few sleep three. The cabins do not have a bathroom and you would need to use the shower house down the path for bathing and bathroom purposes.

Costs (includes bed and 4 meals)

Shared rooms: \$65 per person per day (plus a lodging tax)

Private rooms: \$80 per person per day (plus a lodging tax)

Cabin beds: \$44 per person per day (plus a lodging tax)

If you just want to come for the service project and share a meal, the cost is \$10 per meal per person.

Rebecca has registration forms which need to be filled out and turned in with a check for 20% of the total cost by October 16 if you plan on going.

Members of both churches are invited to participate.

Questions? See Sara Nordyke or Rebecca Glenn



A BIG thank you to both churches and several individuals that are making a pledge to help feed hungry children on the weekend. We recently changed our name from "Operation Backpack" to "Every Child Every Day" because we believe every child should be fed every day. Our plan is to begin sending food packages home with children by mid-October. This would not be possible without your generous support. THANK YOU!!! It's not too late to make a pledge - a hungry child would be very grateful.

If one first gives himself to the Lord, all other giving is easy. - Robert Harris



BG Men's Breakfast Group will meet **Sunday, October 2** at 7:30 a.m.

On **Sunday, October 2** we will celebrate **World Communion Sunday** with a joint NH/BG worship service at New Harmony Christian Church beginning at 10:45 a.m. We will enjoy a carry in and fellowship following the service.

Wednesday, October 5 will be New Harmony's monthly fundraiser at Crystal's. Bowling Green's fundraiser will be on **Wednesday, October 26**.

BG Ladies' Breakfast Club

The ladies will meet for breakfast at Crystal's on **Saturday, October 8** at 8:30 a.m.



NH Board Meeting

New Harmony will have a board meeting on **Sunday, October 9** at 8:00 a.m.

BG Board Meeting

Bowling Green will have a board meeting **Sunday, October 9** following worship services.

Pastor-Parish Meeting

There will be a Pastor-Parish meeting on **Wednesday, October 12** at 6:30 p.m. at BG.



Abba's Group (grades 6 – 12) will meet each Sunday at 3:00 p.m. and at 3:30 p.m.

Juniors Abba's Group (grades K-5) will meet. Both groups will meet at New Harmony Christian Church. The youth group will have a "Fall Festival" on **Sunday, October 16** at 3:00 p.m. There will be games, a hay ride and wiener roast. Everyone is invited!

NH CWF

New Harmony CWF will meet on **Wednesday, October 19** at 6:30 p.m.

BG & NH Bible Study

Bowling Green continues to meet on **Tuesdays** at the parsonage. New Harmony meets on **Thursdays** at New Harmony Christian Church. Both groups meet at 6:30 p.m.



BG Chili & Vegetable Soup Fundraiser

Bowling Green FCC will have their annual chili & vegetable soup fundraiser on **Friday, October 28**. Please watch the bulletin for more information. We will need lots of volunteers.

Hope Center item of the month is mac & cheese.



Tanner Ahart, Bob Baskett, Debbie Beckman, Melba Benn, Julie Bittle, Terrace Boudinier, Alta May Boyd, Frankie Branstetter, Nellie Branstetter, Tim Brehm, Jeff Brown, Ryan Collins, Brandy Cox, Lisa Crow, Betty Daffron, Anna Darnell, Brittney Darnell, Marlene Davenport, John Deters, Zandra Dowell, Maxine Ele, Scott Epperson, Doug Eschelmann, Brenda Eskew, Kim Fisher, Laura Fletcher, Alisha Foss, Ethel Fry, Don Fulsom, Edith Gates, Betty Gay, Pam Glaspie, Harold Hamm, Michael Hatfield, Leon Holcumbrink, Ronnie Kimbrel, Janette Kobe, Emily Lane, Charlene Lawson, Cody Leavell, Chris Lenorad, Joe Lewis, Carly Lovell, Harriet Litchfield, Abbi Lucas, Bertha Marshall, Richard McPike, Matthew Medlock, Cindy Mehler, Marilyn Millan, Karen Miller, Ansel Niemeyer, Roy Owens, Tom Owens, Jonathon Penn, Geraldine Price, Dana Reading, Betty Scherder, Nancy Schildmeier, Frank Scott, Lindell Scott, Darlene Sealy, Lucille Sellers, Sam Sherwood, Leanne Spengler, Dea Strand, Gloria Swon, Stephanie Terrill, Dillion Thomas, Bill Traynor, Gene Traynor, Mary Margaret Vogel, Don Watts, Brenda Wells,

Remember the Middle East, all the Washington Park Area, the earthquake victims in Japan, and the tornado victims in Joplin

Also remember our members who are traveling and the men and women of the armed forces. (Brian Long, Ben Rolls and Patrick Strand are all serving in the Middle East, Steven Lyle Hurd serving in Korea, and Levi Dorris serving onboard ship, unknown location)

Remember our loved ones who can no longer be here to worship with us: Richard Branstetter, Donna Pearl Butler, Dora Mae Clifton, Ruby Freeman, Betty Moore, and Josephine Worthington



to: the families of Mary Baskett, Billy Joe Hays, Ruby Parsons, Helen Bontz Rice, and Francis Schroeder



- 1 Steve Hammitt
Darryl Kuntz
Paiton Picton
- 4 Jeremy Baker
Nikki Barnes
- 5 Ryan Luebrecht
- 7 Steven Foutes
- 8 Michael Luebrecht
Sonny McCurdy
- 9 Debbie Fisher
- 10 Wayne Baker
- 11 Brandon Fockler
- 15 Wanda Holcumbrink
- 16 Debbie Bufford
- 24 Keith Crisman
Rebecca Glenn
- 29 Kaytlyn Flowers
- 4 Steve & Kimberly Hammitt
Cody & Olivia Leavell
- 8 Darryl and Ramona Kuntz
- 12 Richard and Phyllis LaBrier
Tom & Jessica Richard
- 15 Glen & Linda Downing
- 16 J.C. & Debbie Bufford
Brian & Lindsey Kraft
- 17 Edward & Bert Jennings
- 18 Robert & Dottie Morris

Please let the office know if there are any corrections or additions to this list. Thank you!

First Christian Church
P.O. Box 383
Bowling Green Missouri 63334

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Org
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. # 3
Bowling Green
MO. 63334



Bowling Green Worship: 10:45 a.m. Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.	New Harmony Worship: 9:00 a.m. Sunday school: 10:15 a.m.																						
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