



## OUR SECOND CENTURY TOGETHER

### **Jay's Corner - An October Musing**

God is about to do a **New Thing** at our church... and no, I'm not quite sure what that might be. But I know it will be unexpected and the unexpected many times is met with struggle. Numerous people resist innovations, new ideas and different methodologies because they do not fit into old and endeared concepts. Yet, God is always at work, not just to sustain the old, but to bring in the new. God never gives up on us and is always revamping life and its situations. To see those new opportunities and directions we need a different perspective or what might be called *-fresh eyes*.

Here's a parable about a dove that illustrates what happens when we are unable to see God's innovative work because of earlier and unchanging mind-sets.

In the beginning doves did not have wings. One poor dove was being constantly harassed by a lion. Every day the lion would run after the dove, and the dove would barely escape.

One day the dove prayed to God: "God, I'm a little dove. I can't outrun this lion every day. One of these days he's going to catch me. I need help. Please, God, help me."

Sure enough, God answered the little dove's prayer. The dove woke up the next morning and found she had wings. "Wow! Check these things out! Terrific!" With these wings she would get away from the lion; now she was feeling really confident and safe. As soon as she saw the lion, she called out to him, "Hey, here I am! Ha, Ha, I'm over here" She stood there jauntily, figuring that she would wait until the lion got very close so she could show him what she could now do with her wings. The lion charged after the poor dove, and when he was inches from her, the dove started running away.

But something strange happened. The dove tripped over her new wings. Instead of helping her run faster, the wings got in her way. The lion was on top of her now. And before she could pick herself up... well, it's sad story.

When the dove got to bird heaven, she complained to God, "I'm a little dove. The lion was harassing me. I prayed for you to help me, and you gave me wings. But instead of wings helping me run faster, they interfered with my speed."

God responded; "You foolish dove. I didn't give you wings to run. I gave you those wings to fly."

The dove was too fixated on her perspective to see that the wings could have opened her up to a completely new experience. She was just expecting to run faster.

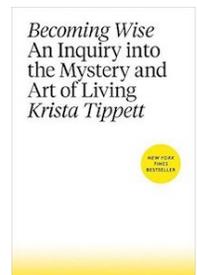
*My prayer: Lord, give us fresh eyes to see You at work in our lives and the life of Your church. Help us risk letting go. Give us the audacity to join You in the adventure. And give us the energy to hang on when the journey seems unsure. Amen.*

### **A Book Recommendation on ... Becoming Wise**

*(Insert from book)*

"Wisdom emerges through the raw materials of our lives—and a great puzzle about human life is this fact that things will *go wrong*. It is a promise. The things that we worry about are not the things that will go wrong. And when those things go wrong, we will suffer. At any given moment all kinds of people are suffering.

People who become wise are shaped by how they walk through that suffering. What happens to them, what goes wrong for them, and the growth that comes out of it—it becomes part of their wholeness on the other side. They take it in, they don't deny it, they don't avoid it; they let it be and they let it be part of their wholeness—and that's something like compassion, a gentleness, a tenderness. As they go through the ordinary and profound suffering of human life, they let that be a bond, part of their gift to the world. They are present to the suffering of others in a new way—because of the way they have inhabited their own suffering."



-Krista Tippett

# 11 Rules For Reaching A Good Old Age

1. It's time to use the money you saved up. Use it and enjoy it. Don't just keep it for those who may have no notion of the sacrifices you made to get it. Remember there is nothing more dangerous than a son or daughter-in-law with big ideas for your hard earned capital. Enjoy the present moment. The sand in the clock may run out at any moment.
2. Stop worrying about the financial situation of your children and grandchildren. You've taken care of them for many years, and you've taught them what you could. You gave them an education, food, shelter and support. The responsibility is now theirs to earn their way.
3. Keep a healthy life with moderate exercise (like walking every day), eat well and get your sleep. It's easy to become sick, and it gets harder to remain healthy. Keep in touch with your doctor, get tested even when you're feeling well. Stay informed.
4. Always buy the best, most beautiful items for your significant other. The key goal is to enjoy your money with your partner. One day one of you will miss the other, and the money will not provide any comfort then. Enjoy it together.
5. Don't stress over the little things. You've already overcome so much in your life. You have good memories and bad ones, but the important thing is the present. Don't let the past drag you down or the future frighten you.
6. Regardless of age, always keep love alive. Love your partner, love life, love your family, love your neighbor, your surroundings, your country. We are never old as long as we have intelligence and affection.
7. Be proud, both inside and out. Don't stop going to your hair salon or barber. Do your nails, go to the dermatologist and the dentist. Keep your perfumes and creams well stocked. When you are well-maintained on the outside, it seeps in, making you feel proud and strong on the inside.
8. Don't lose sight of fashion trends for your age, but keep your own sense of style. There's nothing sillier than an older person trying to wear the current fashion among youngsters. You've developed your own sense of what looks good on you - keep it and be proud of it. It's part of who you are.
9. Read newspapers, watch the news. Go online and read what people are saying. Make sure you have an active email account and try to use some of those social networks. You'll be surprised which old friends you'll meet. Keeping in touch with what is going on and with the people you know is important at any age.

10. Respect the younger generation and their opinions. They may not have the same viewpoints as ours, but they are the future and will take the world in their direction. Give advice, not criticism, and try to remind them of yesterday's wisdom that still applies today.
11. Never use the phrase: "In my time." Your time is now. As long as you're alive, you are part of this time. You have been younger, but you are still you now, having fun and enjoying life.

10 more rules next month

I AM PEACE  
I AM LOVE  
I AM STRONG  
I AM WORTHY  
I AM DECADENT  
I AM COMMUNITY  
I AM GIVING  
I AM LEARNING  
I AM LIVING WELL



## Deadline for the November Newsletter is

### October Birthdays

- 3 Craig Richardson
- 7 Larry Roberts
- 8 Maggie Joy Westbrook
- 12 Jim McCollough
- 19 Sandy White
- 23 Rod Baker
- 24 Clayton Moss
- 25 Eva Krahwinkel



### October Anniversaries

- 3 Clayton & Nancy Moss



### October FRF

Join us on Tuesday, October 18th at 7:00 p.m. for our next FRF at Jim 'N Nick's, located at 1190 Scenic Highway Lawrenceville, GA 30045

*Southern Kitchen*

**JIM 'N NICK'S BAR-B-Q**

## Youth Responsive Readers - October

October 2: Rafael Evatt-Machado  
October 30: Rafael Evatt-Machado



## Worship Helpers

- October 2: 10:50 Reader - Patricia Taylor  
Communion Meditation - Medie Still
- October 9: 10:50 Reader - Marilyn Parks  
Communion Meditation - Dorrie Toth
- October 16: 10:50 Reader - Jimmy Peeples  
Communion Meditation - Jay White
- October 23: 10:50 Reader - Mabel Simmons  
Communion Meditation - Anna Harrison
- October 30: 10:50 Reader - Marilyn Parks  
Communion Meditation - Jay White

## Family Promise Updates

Family Promise Sunday is October 16.

Family Promise is a national faith-based non-profit organization which mobilizes communities and existing resources to help homeless families regain their independence. First Christian Church is a support church for Family Promise of Gwinnett County.

Donations of laundry detergent are needed for the Salt Light Center and the Day Center. If you are able to donate detergent, please bring it to the Day Center at the back of our church property between the hours of 9:00 a.m. 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.



## October Elders/Deacons

### Serving at the Table

**Elders:** Patricia Taylor and Beth Thompson  
**Deacons:** Gen Ashby, Marilyn Parks

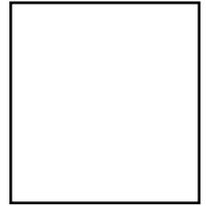
### Servant-Leaders

**Greeter:** Libby Ballew  
**Communion Preparation:** Mary Jo Alvord & Gen Ashby



## First Family News

First Christian Church  
(Disciples of Christ)  
3495 Sugarloaf Parkway  
Lawrenceville, GA 30044



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[lawrencevillefirstchristian.org](http://lawrencevillefirstchristian.org)

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

### LFCC Staff

**Pastor: Rev. Dr. Jay White**  
**Music Director: Kim Peoples**

### Joys and Concerns

We never cease in praying for the needs of: ... the Kersey family; Eileen Mc; Nancy W; Craig R; Alma F; Dorrie T's cousin, Robin; K.J.; Linda R's son, Bobby; Eva K's friend, Lois M; the Vogt and Klimshuk families; Linda R's cousin, Jacob; Rosie T's daughter; Jan T's friend, Steve, passed away; Karla J's cousin; Connie W's niece; Libby B's friend, Kelly S; Louise C's daughter, Lucy; Kaeden C; Lawrenceville Co-Op; Homebound Members: Louise C; Alma F; Betty H; Bessie K; Lenora L; Nettie P; Barbara & Bill P; Mildred P; Reba Thompson.



Christian Church  
(Disciples of Christ)  
In Georgia

## 167th Regional Assembly

November 11 - 12, 2016  
*Hosted by:*  
First Christian Church of Valdosta  
(Disciples of Christ)  
1905 North Patterson Street  
Valdosta, GA 31602

