



Snow Creek Christian Church

4970 Snow Creek Road
Martinsville Virginia, 24112

Phone 276-638-5272

www.snowcreekcc.com

Like us on facebook



August 2023

Reflections

Welcome to August everyone. I began this month in Louisville, Kentucky attending the (supposed-to-be) biannual General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Barb was gracious enough to let me get back in town before she published this month's newsletter so that I could give a *brief* report from the convention.

The major news was the focus on the Covenant Project. I cannot do this justice in such a short space, but this is a major initiative by the denomination to become more responsive to and more connected with its regions, congregations, and God. It involves, among other items, structural changes to the General Board; the General Assembly; and a review of the Design of the Christian Church, the document that sets up the structure of the denomination. Without getting too far into the details, the overall purpose of these administrative changes is to try to bring the disparate parts of the denomination, including our own congregation at Snow Creek Christian Church, closer together through a renewed commitment to covenant between ourselves, God, and the rest of God's church.

The second major order of business was to reelect our General Minister and President, Terri Hord Owens, to a second and final eight-year term. If I can say only one thing about Rev. Owens it is that she is a very talented preacher. Over the course of two days I listened to a lot of speakers discuss a lot of ideas. I can say without the

slightest hesitation that she was easily the most influential of any of them. This is the second time that I have heard her preach and what is most impressive about her sermons is the innate ability she has to challenge people in necessary ways without coming across as aggressive or accusatory. I will leave you with two of those challenges.

She began by challenging the denomination as a whole, from academics to lay people, to improve their biblical literacy. No covenant will be successful without God as its centerpiece and thus we as Disciples of Christ have a responsibility to study how God is trying to speak to us. This is meant to be done in community with each other and with God through prayer, worship, and mission, but covenant with God and each other requires intentional engagement with scripture. This was not a message that I heard much anywhere else at the Assembly, but Rev. Owens made it a point to begin her sermon on that note.

The second challenge, which she closed her sermon and essentially the Assembly with, was to "stay at the table". Living in covenant with others is not always pleasant. Coming to the table together and studying the scripture together means that we will disagree with each other, we will get on each other's nerves, we will mistreat each other. Her final plea was that we stay at the table; that we as congregations and as individuals not just get up and leave when we feel challenged or

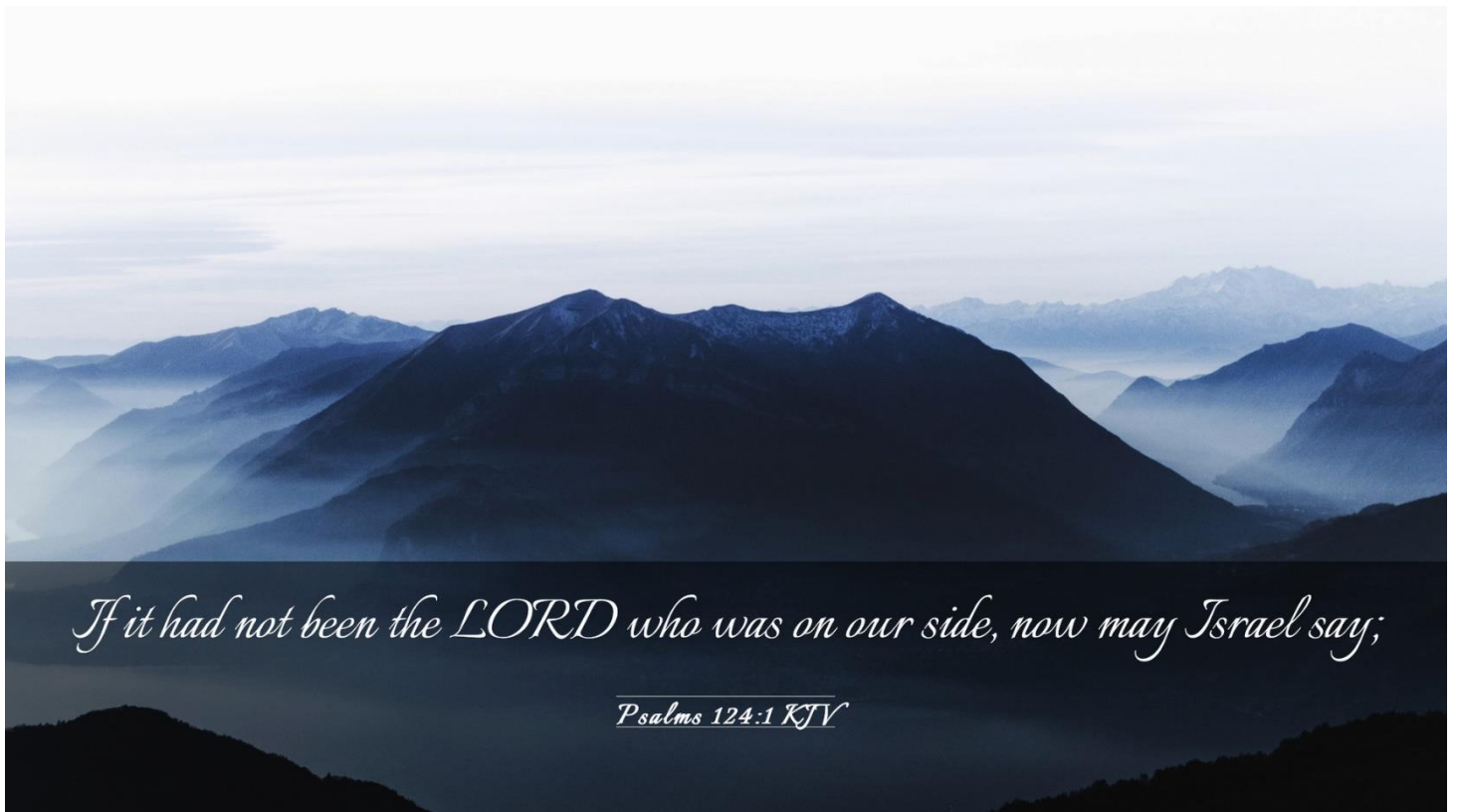
uncomfortable. Jesus does this with those who will desert him and even one who will betray him. Being in covenant with one another exposes us to these unpleasanties, but it is in that way that we will be tested and grow in our love for each other and our love for God.

In Louisville, these were the challenges that were laid out for the Disciples in their embrace of this new Covenant Project, but they are not so different from the challenges laid down by Christ to his original disciples in his own new covenant. This month, I invite you to come and to stay at the table

in covenant with God, each other, and the entire denomination as we explore ways that Snow Creek Christian Church can engage in meeting these challenges.

God be with you.

Scott



August Lectionary Readings

Sermon topic in *italics*

August 6 (10th Sunday after Pentecost)

- Genesis 32:22-31
- Psalm 17:1-7, 15
- Romans 9:1-5
- *Matthew 14:13-21*

August 20 (12th Sunday after Pentecost)

- Genesis 45:1-15
- Psalm 133
- Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32
- *Matthew 15:10-28*

August 13 (11th Sunday after Pentecost)

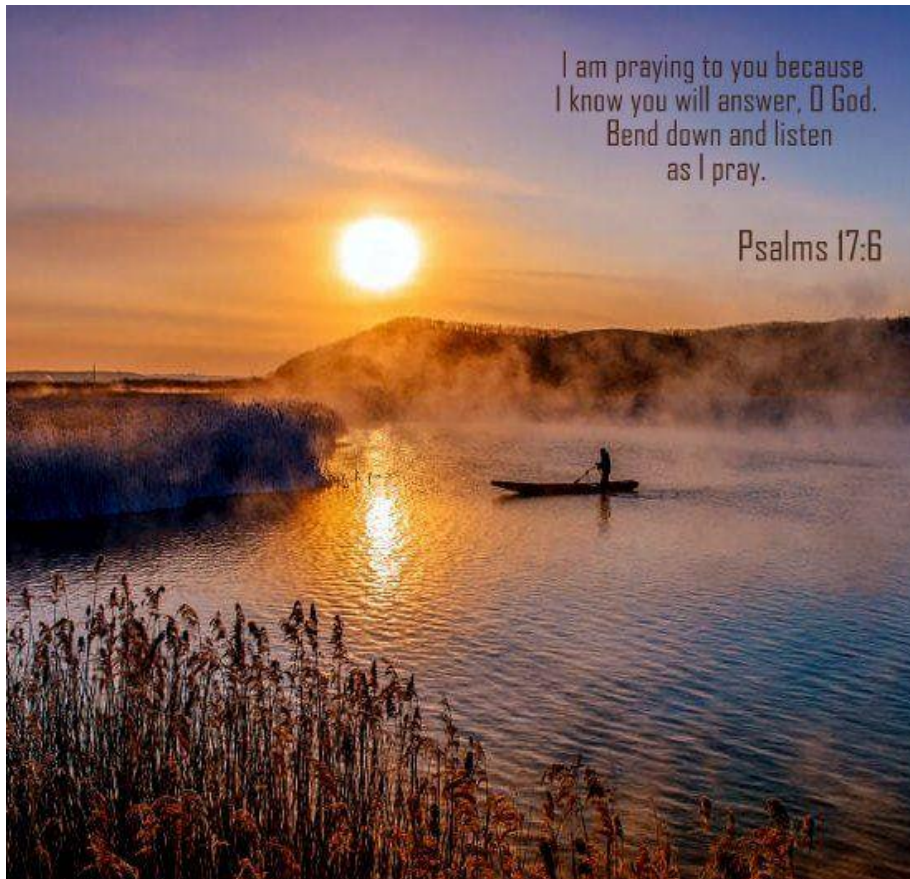
- Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28
- Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b
- Romans 10:5-15
- *Matthew 14:22-33*

August 27 (13th Sunday after Pentecost)

- Exodus 1:8-2:10
- Psalm 124
- *Romans 12:1-8*
- *Matthew 16:13-20*

Board Minutes

No board meeting was held in July and as such previous board minutes are not available



Homecoming

151 Years

Snow Creek Christian Church celebrated the 151th anniversary of the Church On July 9. We had a large crowd in attendance. The guest speaker, Minister Jim Compton, gave an inspiring message. The adult choir, children's choir, and Spiritualaires provided beautiful music. Following the service, the attendees enjoyed a pot luck meal in the social hall.





Certificates of achievement awards for “service to the Lord” were presented to Curtis Washburn and Wanda Damon. Congratulations and thank you for all you do for the Church.









New Members

Welcome new member Mike Smith. He is pictured with Minister Scott.
He is the son of Del and Barbara Smith.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Country Breakfast Buffet



Snow Creek
Christian Church

4970 Snow Creek Rd
Martinsville, VA

Saturday Oct 7th

from 7:00 - 10:00 AM



Adults \$10.00

Children 6 and under \$5.00

All proceeds will go to support the Back-Pack program at Snow Creek Elementary. Additional assistance is needed due to increase in enrollment

This will be a great opportunity to purchase raffle tickets for a chance to win one of *Ruby Mae Oakes* hand-made quilts

**Raffle tickets
for the quilt are \$1.00**

**Drawing for the quilt will
be held at 10:00 am
Oct 7**



LET'S CELEBRATE



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Pam Doyle
- 4 Kenny Beall
- 7 Westlee Martin
- 13 Taylee Amos
- 15 Beth Oliver
- 22 Ricky Norris
- 22 Patti Amos
- 24 Dean Arrington

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

- 5 Bill and Beth Oliver
- 10 Ken & Michele Beall

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 7 Jimmy Doyle
- 7 Susan Norton
- 8 Nancy Plybon
- 9 Betty Lou Mitchell
- 9 Susan Doyle
- 9 William Stowe
- 10 Jimmy Martin
- 12 Kevin Doyle
- 14 Phillip Coppins
- 17 Michele Turner
- 24 Morgan Washburn
- 25 Leon Washburn
- 26 Jacob Washburn
- 26 Bill Oliver
- 27 Andrew "Drew" Oliver

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 14 Terry & Tressi Mitchell
- 19 Lee & Molly Mitchell
- 23 Dean & Jane Arrington
- 27 Eddie & Jennifer Brown

If you have information for the newsletter on our church family, please email me at barbsmith@b2xonline.com or call me at 540 352 4535 or relay in person.

If you are currently not receiving a Newsletter by email and would like to receive one, please email me to add you to the email mailing list at barbsmith@b2xonline.com.