

The CPC e-Pistle

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KEN'S KORNER: Meister Eckhart, the noted Christian mystic, once observed that if the only prayer we offered was a simple "Thank you" to God, it would be enough. Gratitude has a marvelous way of showing us that we have a sufficiency of what we need. It puts our anxiety about what we do not have on the back burner for a while. When we take the time to give thanks for what we have (especially those gifts which have been overlooked or forgotten) we cannot help but experience a certain sense of wealth and satisfaction. Friends, family, color, fragrance, the earth, life itself are all blessings which we all too often take for granted. How can we not give thanks?

It is really very humbling when you give these gratuitous gifts due consideration. It puts our spirits back to square one, the beginning and foundation of our relationship with God. I submit to you that this is a good thing.

Ranier Maria Rilke once penned a short point which expressed this thought very well to my way of thinking:

"If the angel deigns to come/ it will be because you have convinced her/ not by tears, but by your humble resolve/ to be always beginning; to be a beginner."

I bid you peace!

Ken

THE CHURCH TRIUMPHANT With sadness in our hearts, yet joy in the promise of the resurrection, we announce the death of Ruling Elder Henry Barthe. Henry was a charter member of CPC, a leader in Savannah Presbytery, and the generous creator of our pulpit furniture. He blessed many lives with his wit, wisdom and whimsy. Funeral arrangements will be announced via eblast when they are available. We know that many of you will want to attend as Henry holds a special place in the heart and history of Christ Presbyterian Church. "Rest eternal grant unto him, O Lord, and may light perpetual shine upon him. May he rest in peace and rise in glory."

STORMING HEAVEN'S GATES Please pray for the following: The family of Henry Barthe; Elaine Mimbs; Ernie and Dorita D'Alto; "Sam" Sutherland; Cindy Wade; Kay Jensen; George Sweetman, a friend of Bonnie O'Leary; Kenneth Burnsey (neighbor of Rick and Cindy Wade), Tommy Williams (friend of Ken and Vicki McKenzie) and the Rev'd Dr. Heahwan Rim, our Synod Executive.

BE CAREFUL OUT THERE! Most of our area schools are opening for their fall semester this week. School busses, bicycles, and student-pedestrians will be out and about. Please pray for their safety and put shoes on your prayers by being alert during school hours.

MUSIC NOTES Our Choir is growing! If you have thought about joining our *note-worthy* group (sorry about the pun) this is a great time. Believe it or not, we are beginning to practice our Christmas music! Come and raise your voices and spirits as we prepare for the holiday seasons!

SHARE YOUR SENSATIONAL SUMMER! As we prepare to say farewell to this past summer, everyone is invited to send one or two of your favorite photos to share on our CPC Facebook page. These can be from vacations, family reunions, camps, whatever highlighted your summer. We are looking forward to your submissions! Please send photos to Vicki McKenzie at vicki.mckenzie@att.net. Come on now – don't be shy!!!

WHO ARE YOU? We often forget to wear our name badges during our times together on Sunday morning. Perhaps they are lying on the dresser at home or they may have been inadvertently misplaced. While many of us know each other, we need to remember that visitors and new members may need a little help. If you have lost your badge, please let Linda Renton (look for her name badge) know and arrangements will be made to craft a new one for you. If it is simply that you forget to take it off the rack in the Narthex, please make a special effort to find it and wear it on Sunday mornings. Of course, if you are new or a regular visitor, we are only too happy to supply one so that we can come to know you better! CPC is renowned for our warmth and hospitality. Let's keep up the good work!

DO YOU HAVE NOTEWORTHY NEWS? While the Editorial Staff of this august publication exercise the privilege of discernment in deciding what goes in this weekly missive, we invite you to share your important news with us. Examples might be graduations, awards, recognitions, etc. Please note that we try to limit ourselves to news about members and their immediate families.

KEEP THE CIRCLE UNBROKEN...AND GROWING! Do you know someone who might enjoy receiving this publication? **PLEASE** obtain their permission and then send us their e-mail information. We will happily add them to our list!

WORDS OF WISDOM “ There were times when I could not afford to sacrifice the bloom of the present moment to any work, whether of the head or hands. Sometimes, on a summer morning, when I had taken my accustomed bath, I sat in my sunny doorway from sunrise to noon, rapt in a reverie amidst the pines and hickories and sumachs, in undisturbed solitude and stillness, while the birds sang around. I grew in those seasons like corn in the night and they were far better than any work of the hands would have been. They were not time subtracted from my life, but so much over and above my usual allowance.”

-Henry David Thoreau