Church News



Putting your life under a microscope

When I was growing up I did not have lots of fancy toys, but I had all I needed to keep me occupied. I always had enough curiosity to find something to investigate even if it meant tearing it apart to see what was on the inside. There were no electronic devices around the house to consume my time by pressing buttons all day, but there were fields, barns and woods that contained all kinds of mysteries to be discov-

I recall one device that I had, though, that was of special interest to me — a little microscope. It came with two boxes of prepared slides that I could look at to observe some fascinating views. But better yet, I found that I could place all kinds of things under that magnifying instrument and bring into sight what I could not see otherwise. It might not have been as glorious as it seemed at the time, but it was amazing to a country boy whose world was quite small.

Little did I know that years down the road I would be employed in a field that allowed me to use microscopes



Pastor James Scarborough

Donalsonville Assembly of God

that were more complex and powerful. I worked for more than twenty years in the water and wastewater industries and one of my tasks was microscopic examinations of wastewater. A lot becomes visible in just one eyedropper of contaminated water when it is put under the magnification of a microscope; there are more things crawling around in there than the naked eye has access to.

During His time on earth, Christ was often under the watchful examination of His critics. Those critics were usually made up of corrupt religious leaders who, in their jealousy, sought ways to discredit and destroy Christ and His mission. Luke 11 gives this insight regarding their plot: "When Jesus left there, the Pharisees and the teachers of the law began to oppose Him fiercely and to besiege Him with questions, waiting to catch Him in something He might say" (verses 53-54, New International Version). Yet even in their close examination of His words and actions, they turned up no

fault in Him.

If put under that kind of scrutiny, none of us would be able to come through it with the flawlessness that Christ exhibited, yet we can follow His example and allow Him to help us become more like Him every day.

While under the microscope of His critics, Christ warned His followers to be aware of something that we need to be on our guard against today: hypocrisy. He told them to "Be on your guard against the yeast of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy" (Luke 12:1). Many of the Pharisees, or religious leaders of that day, were corrupt. They knew how to put on a most pious and impressive outer appearance, while their hearts were far from God. Christ could see through their hypocrisy; He could see that they were pretenders who lacked the genuine love of God in their hearts.

Every drop of water looks essentially the same to the naked eye, but when magnified and looked at deeply, even what appears to be clear and clean can be identified as what it really is - contaminated. Spiritual hypocrisy is much like that; it looks good on the outside, but inwardly it is full of the rottenness of sin. Thankfully there is a solution available to us: allowing Christ to work His purity into our lives so that we are genuine in our spiritual claims and not just religious pretenders.

Church Briefs

Lake Seminole Baptist Church has resumed services with many precautionary measures set in place. LSBC welcomes all to come worship with us! Sunday School begins at 9:45 a.m. and morning worship begins at 11:00; evening worship is at 6:00 p.m. Wednesdays we have prayer and Bible study starting at 7:00 p.m. Celebrate Recovery meets every Friday at 7:00 p.m.

News from church of Christ at Donalsonville, Marvin Alexander, Sr., Minister - Services are being held in-person, Facebook (Donalsonville church of Christ) and conference call: 1-917-900-1022 Conf. ID: 229-524-6087#. Services on Sunday: Sunday School 10:00 a.m, worship service 11:00 a.m. and Wednesday evening Bible study 7:30 p.m.

News from The First Church of the Nazarene, Pastor Scott Messer - Come and join us for worship and song: Sunday School is at 10 a.m, worship service is at 11 a.m., children's church is at 11 a.m. Come and bring the family. Wednesday morning ladies Bible study is at 9 a.m. Come and join us and we study the Bible. Our Wednesday evening Bible study begins at 6 p.m. The teens and Caravan also meet at 6 p.m. Our teens did an excellent performance on Good Friday evening and on Easter Sunday morning. Thanks to all who helped. Have a blessed and safe week.

Out on a Limb . . . By BO McLeod

They pay extra money for working after 40 hours, and for work with hazards in it, hazards other than the danger of just plain getting tried. Seems to me somebody ought to work up a schedule for paying extra money to anybody who has to work on Springtimey days, when the sun is shining, the birds are chirping, and there is reason to suspect that maybe the fish are biting.

Actually, that's about all that's left for us to strike about and over, and I guess it's a pretty good service to come up with something we haven't got.

Extra money for working on days that make you extra lazy doesn't seem anything but right, the more I think about it.

- - - 0 - - -Gov. Maddox has extended the deadline for having to pay penalties for purchasing an automobile license plate. Now you have until April 31, or so says the paper, and everybody knows they're always truth-

You greet something like this with mixed emotions. It's neighborly of the Governor to give folks more time to rake up the money, but after you've spent your time waiting in line, you wonder if it was time wasted.

Georgia's revenue collections are "leveling off at a high level," Commissioner Peyton Hawes says, announcing state revenue was up 10.3 percent in March, compared with a year ago.

This gives the state a \$57 million increase in revenue for the first three quarters of the fiscal year, a rise of 11.6 percent. That's a pretty

Seminole County Centennial Year, enjoy this selection of long time editor Bo McLeod's Out on a Limb, reprinted from the April 3, 1969 edition of the Donalsonville News

nice little tax increase, unless it's true like so many politicians say, \$57 million is not even a drop in the

If the bucket is so big that \$57 million does not make a pretty good drop, we need us another bucket, if it takes a change of politicians to get it.

Another by the way, some members of the General Assembly during its recent session, talked about fire ants like they had no idea what a fire ant is, the same way they talked about a lot of things, come to think of it.

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This is a lot of help, this advice by the "expert" who says that having a special checking account would be mighty handy in case of those unforeseen emergencies that come along so

regularly.

As a weekly celebration of the

Sure, and being fat would prevent your being slim, or vice versa; and being tall would prevent any problems of being short.

If you had a reserve checking account, there'd be darn few emergencies, expert, you know that.

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Here's consoling news: "Besides washing away those awful mental cobwebs, that early morning cup of coffee just might also provide a boost to the control of some cancer tumors."

You've been under treatment all the time, and didn't know it, I'll be'cha. And now you can tell the boss you have to take a coffee break for health reasons, claim the money you spend for it as a medical deduction, and all sorts of handy thing.

Weekly Devotion

from Alex Howell

".....forgive and you shall be forgiven." Luke

Have you ever heard someone say, "I can forgive but I cannot forget"? First, nowhere in the Bible does God tell us to forgive, then forget. It's not in there. Your enemy is adding something to make the whole deal a major problem.

God only tells us to forgive because Jesus has forgiven us a debt we can never repay. So let's forgive and allow God to do the rest.

When we really forgive, sometimes God makes us forget, but sometimes you still remember the incident because it was a major incident in

So forgive by faith, not by feelings. If we wait on feeling like it to forgive, it may never come. Allow God to remove the pain and bitterness, then you can look back on the incident and the pain will no longer be there and the sting will be gone and so will the bitterness.

Allow God to heal your wound, then you can live in forgiveness and completely free. A doctor told me that he once asked a patient, "Have you ever had any heart trouble"? They answered, "No, but it has been broken a few times".

It's happened to all of us, but if we allow Him, He will make it right — trust Him.

It's all part of us being resurrected with Him.

So why not make every day Resurrection Day.

Thank you for doing your part in helping to stop the spread of COVID-19

Public Health officials say watch out for **COVID-19 vaccine scams**

The Georgia Department of Health, along with Attorney General Chris Carr are again warning Georgians that scammers have been trying to exploit the vaccine rollout by calling, texting or emailing consumers asking for payment for the promise of getting the vaccine, scheduling an appointment or getting on the waiting list.

"Scam artists are attempting to take advantage of people's sense of urgency about getting the vaccine," said Attorney General Chris Carr. "Remember that the vaccine is free, and hang up on any caller who asks you for money or personal information related to the vaccine."

The Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division and the Georgia Department of Public Health offer the following tips to avoid falling for a Covid-19 vaccine scam: You can't pay to put your name on a list to get the vaccine.

That's a scam.

You can't buy a COVID-19 vaccination through the mail, online, or in stores. No one from a legitimate vaccine distribution site or insur-

ance company will call to ask for your Social Security number, bank account, or credit card number. That's a scam. The Department of Health will not call to verify your Social

Security number or Medicare, Medicaid or insurance ID over the phone.

Medicare will not call beneficiaries to offer COVID-19 related products, services, or benefit review.

All Georgians aged 16 and older are eligible for COVID vaccination. To find a vaccination location or to schedule an appointment, log on to dph.ga.gov/covid-vaccine or visit myvaccinegeorgia.com to schedule an appointment at a GEMA mass vaccination site. Vaccines are also available at pharmacies throughout the state and can be found using VaccineFinder.org. Because of high demand for vaccines, sites are booking up quickly. Georgians are urged to be patient and try again another day if no appointments are immediately available.



Your upcoming Special Services and Special Events

or call us at 229-524-2343

We reach more Seminole Countians than anyone else! **Submit your Church News to** news@donalsonvillenews.com

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