

Church News



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Looking for those hidden blessings every day

On most Sundays after church, we have our family over for lunch. There is always plenty of Nana's good cooking to nourish our bodies and an abundance of chatter going on with all those girls under one roof. And while I have to admit that all the noise can be a bit taxing at times, I am thankful that God blessed Gale and me with a good and loving family.



Pastor James Scarborough
Donalsonville Assembly of God

A couple of years ago during one of those Sunday afternoon meals, I suddenly realized that I had not heard anything out of Raegan (who was two at the time) for a while; her silence was a definite indicator that it would be a wise idea to see what she was in to. One of the older girls went to the adjoining room to see why she had become so quiet. She was found to be having a sweet time in the recliner - a really sweet time. Her older sister had won a box of chocolate candy at church and the little mischievous two years old located the sweet treats and helped herself to it. So there she sat, as happy as a lark with a ring of chocolate encircling her mouth. Addy was not

too happy about it, but Raegan was having the time of her life. A little searching while nobody was looking paid off—at least until she got caught!

When we grow accustomed to hearing bad news from so many angles every day, it is refreshing to experience something good even though it might be a small hidden thing that requires a little searching to find. If we are not careful we will give the bad news so much of our attention that we overlook many of

the hidden bright spots of life. It has been said that "If the birds only burst into song once a year, we'd all pay close attention. But because they are singing every morning, we scarcely bother to listen." How true! When we make it a regular practice to look for the hidden blessings of life, it will amaze us at what we will find. Psalm 34:10 states that "The lions may grow weak and hungry, but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing" (New International Version).

I recall being with a group of older people one day when I noticed a lady struggling greatly to get from one side

of the room to the other. It was a short distance, yet it took her a considerable amount of time and effort just to ambulate to her destination. In spite of the struggle, she was not wasting her time complaining about her circumstances. Instead, I believe she was grateful to have as much independence as she still had. Such an outlook required her to pay more attention to her abilities and less attention to her disabilities. What a great lesson in life that all of us can learn from!

That dear old struggling lady and so many other people like her bring to mind an old Gospel song that I grew up with in church entitled Count Your Blessings. The first stanza includes these words: "When upon life's billows you are tempest tossed, when you are discouraged thinking all is lost, count you many blessings name them one by one, and it will surprise you what the Lord hath done."

When we trust in the Lord He will allow us to have those times when His hidden goodness will be made real in our lives - often when we least expect it but when we most need it. Raegan did a little searching and she came up with something sweet and good. Try doing a little searching each day of life and see what sweet blessings from God you will find. As the psalm writer said, "those who seek the Lord lack no good thing."

This week's church briefs . . .

You could tell by the mood of the people that this was going to be a special service at **Reynolds Chapel UMC**. We were all happy to celebrate our earthly fathers and Pastor Jeff was the most excited with the title of his sermon being "When God Chooses a Father". The text was taken from 2nd Kings 10:30-31. We are so happy to be a child of the King, our heavenly Father. Just as we are loved and cared for by our fathers so are we loved and cared for by our Heavenly Father. As usual the music was wonderful. The choir opened with "Heavenly Father, I Appreciate You". Jeff and his mom sang "Dwelling in Me" and "Faded Screen Door". Pastor Jeff writes most of the songs that he and his mom sing. If you are in need of a big, warm family welcome, then come on down to 2676 Burke Road where the preaching always comes straight from the Bible. We will be so glad to have you come worship God in His house.

Messer - Bring your family and join us for worship each week. Sunday School is at 10 a.m., worship service and children's church begin at 11 a.m. Caravan children meet at 6p.m. on Wednesday. Teens also meet at 6 p.m. on Wednesday. Table Talk is each Wednesday at 6 p.m. Join us for a good meal and fellowship. The children enjoyed Vacation Bible School this week. Bring your children and family to continue learning about Jesus each Sunday. Three of our teenagers were in Kentucky this week on Work and Worship trip. Hope you have a blessed week.

This week brother Rusty Bradley will bring a message from James 5:7-12. This week during Sunday School, which starts at 9:45 a.m., we will be discussing, "Filled with the Spirit." The Point: The Holy Spirit enables us to live as fully devoted disciples. The Passage: Ephesians 5:8-21. The Men's Prayer Breakfast is held each Wednesday morning at Big Jim's at 8 a.m. We have a devotion, and time of prayer and fellowship. Each Wednesday night we have choir practice at 5:30 p.m. On Friday we host Celebrate Recovery. We start at 6 p.m. with a light meal and at 7 p.m. we have a testimony or a lesson, followed by small group. On July 12th we will be having a Church Council meeting followed by a Church Business meeting on the 13th. On July 16th we will be having our Manna Drop, so help us get the word out. July 17th through the 21st we will be having Vacation Bible School. We are having a group of brothers and sisters from New Mexico come and lead in this ministry. **Lake Seminole Baptist Church**, "A place for New Beginnings."

We would love to have you visit with us at **Corinth Free Will Baptist Church**. We are a small church, but a church that loves and cares about people. We invite you to visit with us this Sunday to see what we offer and if CFWBC is the church for you. Service begins at 9:00 a.m.; we are located on Ash Crossing Rd., Iron City. This Sunday the message is "It's Time to Move On." We get caught up in the past, what was, or what could have been. Instead we need to put the past behind us and move forward to where God is leading. We need to follow Christ instead of following the past. Hope to see you Sunday!

The First Church of the Nazarene, Pastor Scott and Cil

Attend the area church of your choice . . .

Antioch Freewill Baptist 604 Baldwin St., 229-524-8119	Hammock Springs Freewill Baptist 5969 Hebrew Rd., 229-524-2569	New Vision Christian Center 708 S. Wiley Ave., 229-612-9022
Assembly Of God 610 N. Tennille Ave., 229-524-5581	Henderson Avenue Church Of Christ 201 S. Henderson Ave., 229-524-6087	Oak City Missionary Baptist 2895 Bartow-Gibson Hwy., 229-524-1259
Church Of Faith Ministries 303 N. Wiley Ave., 229-793-4716	Incarnation Catholic 5541 GA 91, 229-243-9146	Oakview Church Of God 3595 Oakview Church Post Rd., 229-524-8427
Corinth Freewill Baptist 2543 Ash Crossing Rd., Iron City	Iron City Baptist 186 Williams St. N.E., Iron City, 229-774-2318	Reynolds Chapel United Methodist 2676 Burke Rd., 229-861-3262
Donalsonville Church Of Christ 5550 GA Hwy. 91, 229-524-5568	Lake Seminole Baptist 2990 Burke Rd., 229-861-3674	Salem Seminole Baptist 2785 Joel Poole Rd., 229-861-3370
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First Baptist 409 S. Woolfork Ave., 229-524-2166	Live Oak A.M.E. 402 Baldwin St., 229-524-2395	Speak The Word Deliverance Center 2703 GA 91, 229-524-1297
First Church Of The Nazarene 108 W. Crawford St., 229-524-2457	Newberry Community Church 5205 Newberry Church Rd., 229-524-8242	Spring Creek Baptist 2635 GA Hwy. 253, 229-861-3975
First Presbyterian 300 S. Tennille Ave., 229-524-5138	New Enterprise Freewill Baptist Enterprise Church Rd., Iron City	St. John Church of Seminole County 5906 St. Matthews St. John Church Rd.
Friendship United Methodist 201 E. Hwy. 84, 229-524-2328	New Hope Worship Assembly 5095 GA Hwy. 191, 229-524-8003	St. Matthew's Baptist 5674 St. Matthews St. John Church Rd., 229-524-6002
Galilee Missionary Baptist 8061 Ned Alday River Rd., 229-309-5536	New Life At Lake Seminole 2164 GA Hwy. 253, 229-861-3442	Trinity Crossroads Church 5996 Hebrew Rd., 229-524-2616

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