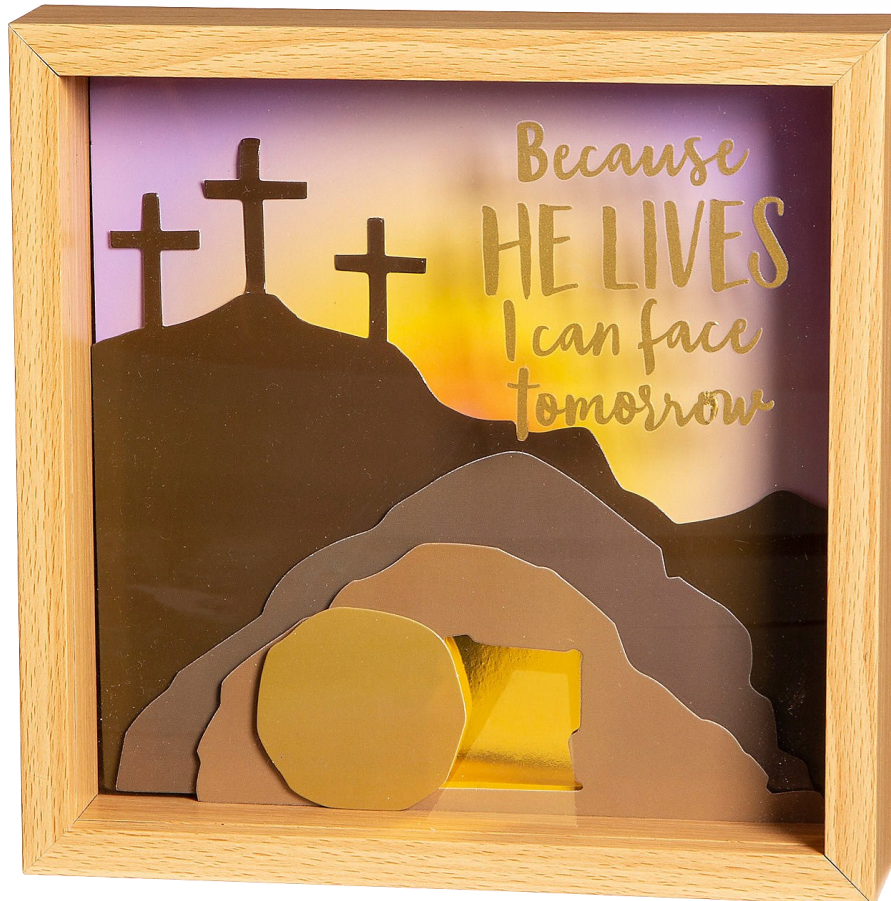


April, 2023

Glennville First Christian Church Newsletter



**“Easter is meant to be a symbol of
hope, renewal, and new life”**

-Janine di Giovanni

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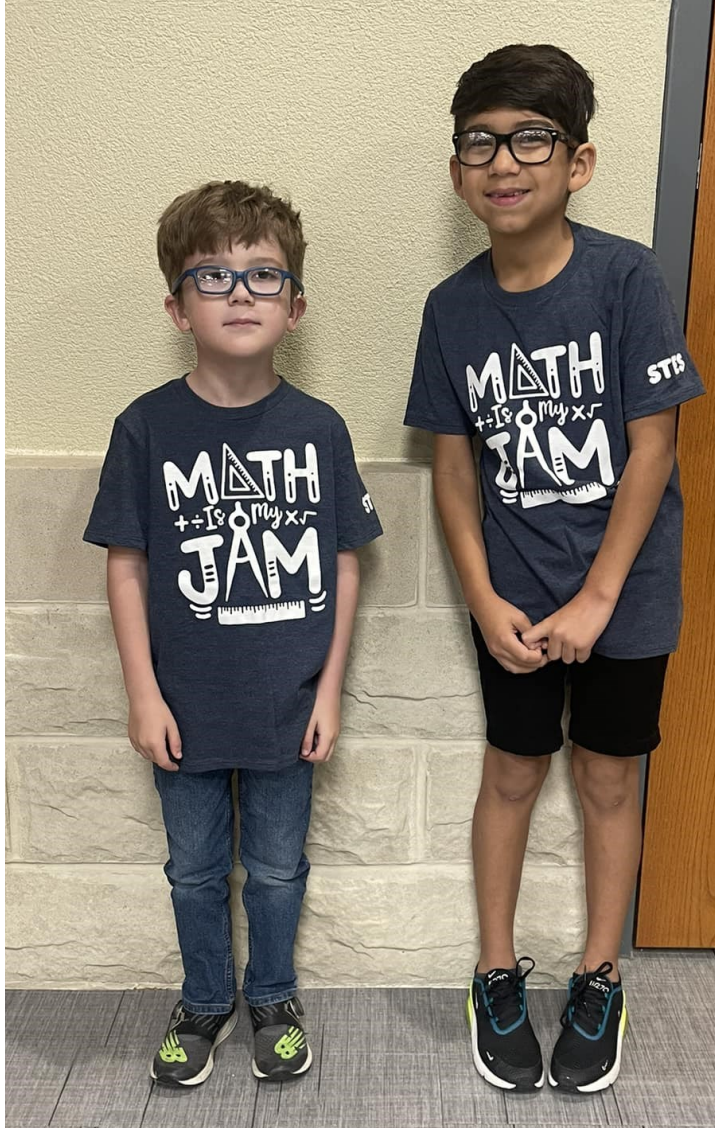
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Our Kids Shine Again!

Griffin Carlson



Jazeel Joya

Griffin and Jazeel competed in Math Mania on February 25th in Metter, Georgia. South Tattnall sent the top six math students from each grade to compete against North Tattnall, Claxton, and Metter.

We are so proud of these “Mathletes”!

* Please let me know when you have a son, daughter, grandchild, ...some young person who deserves a pat on the back, a hip-hip-hooray, or a way-to-go!! We'd love to celebrate whatever it is with you!

What would we do without our “Sound Booth Techies”?

Chloe Carlson and Adam Bland (missing Emmy Claire...don't worry I'll catch her another time!) have been sharing their technology talents to help us during worship services. They put the words up on the screen so we all sound like we know all of these songs by heart! They put the scriptures up there, so we don't have to find our glasses, search through pages, and miss entirely the whole sharing of the word! They also manage the sound, so, even those that may be hard of hearing can benefit from



the words of our pastor's sermon. It doesn't sound that hard, does it? Let me tell you, it is a lot trickier than you might think! You have to have rhythm, so you know when to change to the next set of words. You need to be ready for the chorus, or the “bridge”! You have to know which buttons do what, AND have quick reflexes to press them! You must remain calm, even when under stress! And when the pastor says...“Let's sing it again, but louder and with more feeling!”...you ADJUST! We thank these young people for being willing to take on this task! Feel free to poke your head in their booth at the back of the sanctuary to give your personal THANK YOU!

Christian Men's Fellowship Meets (CMF)

A group of about 25 hungry men met in Harrison Hall on Sunday, February 26th for a “man-sized” breakfast! Thank you to all who coaxed the chickens to donate eggs, brought the sausage, ground the grits, made the coffee, squeezed the oranges, did the cooking, CLEANED UP...but mostly thanks to all who came and joined in the prayer and fellowship. This is what it is all about, guys!

Neil Parker, Chairman

Camp Kicklighter

Camp Kicklighter Foundation had their first quarter meeting at Fordham's in Statesboro, GA on Tuesday, February 21, 2023.

Six churches developed the Christian camp for youth a hundred years ago on Shellman Bluff and have continually improved the property with dorms for boys and for girls, a chapel, and a dining room complete with a commercial kitchen.

Camps have been announced for:

CYF - 9th grade through 2023 graduate – June 4-9, 2023

Chi-Rho – Going into 6th , 7th or 8th - June 11-16, 2023

Junior– Going into 3rd, 4th or 5th - June 18-23, 2023

We only had 80 campers last year due to the Pandemic but anticipate a full camp this summer. The Board approved \$150 Tuition after much discussion about the increase cost of food, deciding to keep the cost the same as last year.

The Camp is open to everyone and provides daily ministry with Bible study, memory verses, worship songs, sport activities, pool time, scavenger hunt, and comfortable and clean sleeping quarters.

Registration begins April 1st. Please contact our Church Secretary, Megan Bergeron, for an application.

Respectfully submitted, *Bob Fischl*



Coming Up.....

Palm Sunday, April 2nd

Calling all little people (And the big people that bring them)! Easter Egg Hunt following the service. Lunch will be hamburgers and “tube steaks” (otherwise known as hotdogs!) Please bring desserts and/or side dishes (with something in them!) It will be a fun time for sure. A little warning...Last year some adults were caught stealing eggs from unsuspecting children. We will have surveillance cameras ready to catch these sneaky culprits this year!



We are looking to take a Road trip...

Have you ever wanted to visit these places? Now is your chance, and just think, you do not have to drive! Just sit back and enjoy movies and games on the ride up there and back. We are looking to fill up a 56 passenger bus on a three day trip to the Ark Encounter and Creation Museum. If you are interested please go to our website and sign up. There is also a sign up sheet in the hallway.

Hurry before the bus fills up!

Tentative Itinerary: May 31 - June 3
Wednesday - Travel to Knoxville, TN
Thursday - Ark Encounter
Friday - Creation Museum
Saturday - Travel Home

This sure made me think....

After Denver Taylor’s sermon on March 12th, it stuck with me when he talked about the fear of losing a loved one. It really hit me when a sweet lady privately shared how difficult it was to lose SEVERAL to cancer and death, in her family, and shared how she made it through all because of her faith. Her words sure helped. So many in our church have gone through struggles that we have yet to endure, or are going through right now! Please be willing to share your experiences with others, even when it is hard. You never know how you might be helping someone else get through the hardest time in their lives.

New Beginnings in Christ

NEW BEGINNINGS IN CHRIST is a Christ-Centered recovery home for men suffering from chemical dependency issues. As one of the few treatment centers in America made available at *NO COST* to the men, or their families, NBIC rejoices in what The Lord accomplishes through the kindness of those who support our ministry. Far beyond recovery itself, we regularly witness the miracles of saved marriages, children reunited with healthy Dads, and Mothers who are able to sleep at night knowing their sons are safe.



OUR STORY

23 years ago, God gave Donald Atkinson, a fully recovered alcoholic himself, the vision for NBIC when he became convicted of the need to provide families with a no-cost alternative to the price-intensive nature of traditional recovery homes.

NBIC has grown from just 5 men in 2004 to over 90 today. We have had the blessing to see over 2000 men come through the program and learn about the redemptive power, goodness, and love of God.

New Beginnings In Christ is a registered 501 (C) (3) non-profit charity that receives no state or federal funding whatsoever. NBIC is operated solely on the love, kindness and generosity of donors that appreciate and understand what God is doing here to save lives and make our communities safer. Donald and Joanna receive NO salary for their labors, graciously sacrificing their own lives in order to see men freed from the bondage of alcoholism and drug addiction.

Our church supports this group. They will be coming to GFCC on Sunday, April 16th, during our service, to share testimonies . We welcome the chance to learn more about this group and how we may be able to be a part of their “New Beginnings”. This is what active Christianity is all about! It is supposed to be a VERB...not a NOUN. We should be DOING, not just talking about doing! So, let’s make them feel welcome on Sunday, April 16th.

The Pastor's Pen...

“When you are Discouraged....”

Deuteronomy 1:21 - ...Fear not, neither be discouraged.

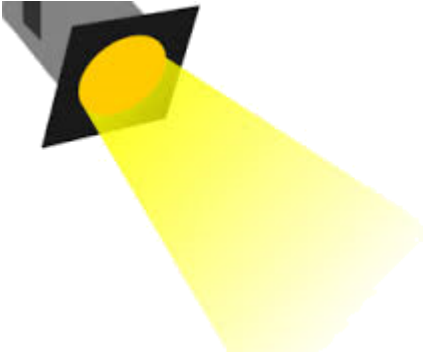
Have you ever thought of the words of the hymns that we sing in church? Many of our favorite hymns tell us what to do when we are discouraged. One old hymn I can think of when you're discouraged and you think that everything has been lost is, “Count your blessings, name them one by one.” Another hymn when you feel discouraged and these words should remind us... “His Eye Is on the Sparrow and I know he watches over me”. The hymn “What a friend I have in Jesus”, gives us sound advice in saying, we should never be discouraged or burdened for we can “take it to the Lord in prayer.” In the spiritual sense, the hymn “Revive us again”. So our hearts will be filled with thy love, and that “my soul may be rekindled with fire from above”.

So this month, if you get discouraged, remember to “Count your blessings and name them one by one” and at that moment in the presence of the Lord can change your attitude. Change it because “I know He watches over me”. Then you will realize you're more valuable than the sparrows in the sky, and that you can “Take it to the Lord in prayer” and let the Holy Spirit revive your soul again. So remember, Fear not, neither be discouraged.

*Yours in Christ,
Brother Stuart*



Spotlight on the Durdens



Danny and Amanda Durden met in Vidalia, GA, while Amanda was in her first teaching job there. They married in July of 1983 and will soon celebrate their 40th Wedding

Anniversary this July! They moved to Glennville due to Danny's Ft. Stewart job (and because housing was too expensive in Hinesville!) Amanda started teaching in Hinesville, as there was no choral program in Tattnall County Schools at that time.

Fate brought the Durdens to FCC by way of Sherrie Wasson! While opening an account at First Citizens Bank (now Cadence Bank), Sherrie invited Amanda and Danny to come visit our church in 1984. And from that point on, it's been a beautiful relationship! Amanda was asked to be the choir director and served for 18 years...and then became our pianist. Danny sang in the choir, helped with the youth program, played and coached church-league softball (back in the day) and served on various committees and boards over the years.

Danny now works part time for Kyle Durrence Chevrolet in Claxton. He has an older brother, Brian, who owns a pest control company in Vidalia and a younger



brother, Tracy, who has been on our prayer list for over 20 years due to suffering a traumatic brain injury in a car accident. Danny's mother, who is still an excellent cook, owned and operated The Snack Bar, a little restaurant in Vidalia, for many years. As a result, Danny is an expert dishwasher! (The cooking gene skipped him, however!) Danny's entire family are avid sports fans, from the Falcons to the Braves, to the Georgia Bulldogs. The whole family has been active in every sport possible. Danny's favorite hobby today is golf.

Amanda has 2 younger brothers. Mike, the youngest, is the orchestra and youth choir director in a church in Lawrenceville. Bill, the middle child, had a career with the GA State Patrol and is now Police Chief in Madison. All 3 were in the Band in school, since their father is a retired Band Director! Mike is a percussionist, Bill plays trumpet, and Amanda played clarinet. She claims that she wasn't very good (doubtful!). Besides being our FCC pianist, Amanda teaches piano. Amanda's mom was in her high school band, was a majorette, and also sang. The whole family grew up singing in church choirs, and her dad directed many of them. For many years he also directed a community chorus in Madison, and one of the highlights of Amanda's musical life was getting to direct that chorale in one song (Somewhere Over the Rainbow) in a concert about 10 years ago with BOTH of her parents singing in that group. What a musical family!!



Danny's Claim to Fame....

The Savannah Morning News did a feature article on him when he was in high school because he had a prosthetic leg and was Captain of the football team that year. (To be able to walk, Danny had to have the bottom part of his right leg removed when he was six years old due to a birth defect that prevented that leg from growing normally.) Talk about overcoming obstacles!

Amanda's Claim to Fame...

Amanda sang the National Anthem at an Atlanta Braves game twice while she was in college! It was "Morgan County Day" and she represented her home county. She sat in the dugout before the game. She is thankful that this was BEFORE cell phones and instant videos!



"We love and appreciate the members of Glennville First Christian Church. Unlike most Glennvillians, we are related to no one, but we definitely feel like a part of a family here"

Danny and Amanda

“Egg hunts are proof that children CAN find things, when they really want to”...said a parent somewhere!



Calendar of Events for April 2023

Sunday, April 2.....Easter Egg Hunt & Luncheon following Church. Please bring a dish to pass/or dessert

Sunday, April 9.....EASTER

Sunday, April 16....Testimonies by “New Beginnings in Christ”

Church Services

Sunday School at 9 a.m.

Sunday morning Worship at 10 a.m.

Wednesday Bible Study & Youth Mtg. at 6:30 –7:30 p.m.

Glennville First
Christian Church

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30427

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

“The resurrection gives my life meaning and direction and the opportunity to start over no matter what my circumstances.” - Robert Flatt