

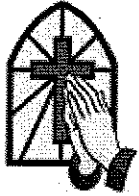
# SOUTH CHINA COMMUNITY CHURCH



Rev. James W. Ferrone, Pastor

August 2010

## **AUTUMN IS COMING**



How can we prepare? Pray every day, every place, and with everyone... 1) for direction for the future of our church; 2) that God will lead us and that we will let go and

let Him be in charge; 3) that we will understand the world has changed and the church will not grow unless we get excited about the gospel; 4) that we realize it is our calling to share our faith with others and that means we need to develop a closer relationship with our Lord; and 5) that there are countless people all around us who have no ties with any church and who know nothing of genuine Faith in Christ.

So pray for direction and listen quietly for answers. Expect God to answer in His time, not ours. Pray in your study groups, your flocks, your families, and by yourselves. Wait! Listen to God's leading! – *In Christ, Pastor Jim*

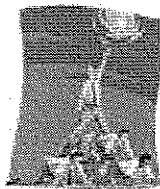
## **KOINONIA**

At the October 20<sup>th</sup> Koinonia, we will discuss the results of our prayers and find new directions for our church. In the meantime, please keep praying!

**Don't forget that on Sept 12 (the Sunday after Labor Day): Sunday school resumes and church services revert to 10:30 AM!**

## **Church Council News**

I'm sitting on the porch at church as people are gathered both inside and out for the Rummage Sale and



events come together. Sometimes well organized and sometimes more faith than planning, these events invariably succeed through the efforts and talents of a congregation that seems always ready to pitch in and get the job done.

The members of the Church Council are each working in their area of responsibility to get their jobs done. *Diane* is doing a great job of keeping communications open within the church and increasing community awareness of our church and its events. *Sheldon* has been working on plans to improve both the appearance and, more importantly, the safety of our parking lot. *Janet* has done the hard work of getting volunteers lined up to keep the Sunday school functioning as an exciting learning environment for our children. *Jack* is working to strengthen communications with the families that we are helping, so that we might be more aware of their specific needs. *Ron* continues to work to insure that our worship services are indeed a time of worship, inspiration and edification. I continue to oversee the church finances and am working to find the best returns on our investments and savings. Please continue to pray for our Council members and that God will provide direction for our church. – *God Bless You All, Carl Schroeder, President*

## **Pastoral Search Committee**

The search goes on. The Search Committee continues to meet, with the frequency of our meetings now being dictated by the responses we are receiving to the advertising we have placed in the print media and on Internet sites. The job description and application have also been placed on the church website.



Thus far, we have had 30+ initial responses and are beginning to receive applications. Many have included resumes, statements of faith and various other documents with the initial responses. The volume of paperwork to contend with, as well as the need to share all of this information with each of the committee members, is proving to be quite a challenge.

The Committee is just beginning to process and evaluate the applications that we have received. This process will be based on several factors, including the results of the Congregational Survey, committee members' overall impressions and the expectations of the applicant. The results of the Congregational Survey will be made available soon. We will not be distributing copies, but will make available reference copies for your perusal. Please continue to pray for each committee member and that God will guide us to the person that He wants to lead our church. - *God Bless You All, Carl Schroeder, Search Committee Chair*

**Communications & Outreach:**

We had a table set up at the China Community Days on August 7 and were able to distribute some of our new pamphlets, trinkets for children, and discuss with folks what our church has to offer, along with the things we are doing for Missions. It was a great opportunity to make our presence known a little more.

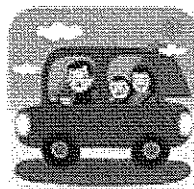
On August 8, we enjoyed the return of the singing group Good Time Sound (formerly Forever Plaid) and we had a very good turnout. Thanks Bernie, for setting that up.



Lisa Montagna has agreed to take over our website from Bruce Pagliaroli. (Thank you, Bruce, for all your hard work on getting the site set up; we hope you will stay involved.)

Lisa is very generously donating her time and creative talents in web design, administration, and maintenance. If anyone has ideas of what

they want on the site, please speak to Lisa or Diane. [www.southchinacommunitychurch.org](http://www.southchinacommunitychurch.org)



As a form of outreach, my husband and I are willing to pick up any children that you may know of who need a ride to/from Sunday school. If anyone else is willing to do that, please see me. I'm

hoping maybe a few more children will be in our Sunday school, so let's keep this endeavor in our prayers.

Thank you to everyone who helped with the Rummage Sale and BBQ on August 14. It was a huge success and could only have been done with God's blessing and the help of many hands. Here's my poem about it:



'Twas the night before the rummage sale and I  
couldn't sleep;  
All the stuffed toys were lined up – were there any  
sheep?

There were trinkets and baubles and glasses  
galore;  
I don't think in that room we could fit any more.

The cookies and tins were all set for the Cookie  
Walk;  
For the barbecue, the chickens would no longer  
squawk.

Lord, help us to see beyond all the busy-ness,  
That the money we raise will be used for Your  
business.

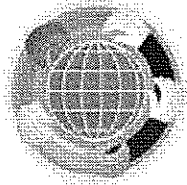
- *In Christ's service, Diane Rawson, Co-Chair*

**The Mission and Benevolence Committee**

met July 27, 2010. In attendance were Rosie Feihel, Glenna Jordan, Linda Rodrigue, Marge Kurtzman, and Jack Kurtzman. Glenna and Linda have been chairpersons of this Committee, and Rosie and Marge have been on the Committee for over ten years. It was an excellent meeting which

focused on current outreach, future goals, and the needs of church families.

We believe our outreach to be concentric, beginning with an inner circle of our congregation, followed by an intermediate circle of our community, with the outer circle being worldwide missions. At the center of this circle is Christ, Who commands us "as you would that men should do to you, do ye also to them" (Luke 6:31). This is known as the "Golden Rule" or "do unto others as you would they do unto you." Each of us have needed some kind of help in this journey we call life. Let us be ready to help others in those circles as we keep our focus on the center. If anyone is interested in joining this committee, please contact me. Enjoy the summer and remember on these very hot days that winter will return.  
- Jack Kurtzman, Chairman



### **FINANCE COMMITTEE:**

Our church finances continue to remain healthy. The checking balance was somewhat depleted by the purchase of this season's fuel oil. Due to the volatility of oil prices and prediction that prices will only rise, we decided to take advantage of a pre-buy offer. Only time will tell whether it was a wise decision. At least we can look forward to ten months without a fuel payment. We were also able to keep the total expenditure within the limits of the budget.

As I'm sure you all know, interest rates being offered for savings investments are at historic lows. We recently cashed out two CDs that were originally paying over four percent. Our hope was that by going out with the two combined that the higher investment amount would yield a higher interest rate. Much to our dismay, even the \$25K investment amount would qualify for only a fraction of a percent. For the time being, we have placed the funds in the savings account and will continue to monitor CD rates.

Thank you for your continued generosity and commitment to the finances of our church. Please join me in praising God that we are in a

position that many churches are struggling to attain. - God Bless, Carl Schroeder, Chair

### **BUILDING & GROUNDS COMMITTEE:**

The Building & Grounds Committee will continue plans for the inside of the sanctuary, but all construction has been put on hold to address safety and upgrading of our parking area.

We have received three different quotes for the parking lot from two paving companies. The Church Council has reviewed these quotes and selected Bard Paving. This recommendation was approved by the membership on August 22 and a motion to use the \$2000 generated from the August Rummage Sale & BBQ to help fund the project was passed. This work is long overdue and the prospect of getting it done is exciting and very satisfying.



"Teach a child to love  
Before someone  
Teaches him to hate"

- Sheldon Goodine, Chairman



A fifth grade teacher in a Christian school asked her class to look at TV commercials and see if they could use them in some way to communicate ideas about God. Here are some of the results:

*God is like* **BAYER ASPIRIN. He works miracles.**

*God is like* **a FORD. He's got a better idea.**

*God is like* **COKE. He's the real thing.**

*God is like* **HALLMARK CARDS. He cares enough to send His very best.**

*God is like* **TIDE. He gets the stains out that others leave behind.**

*God is like* **GENERAL ELECTRIC. He brings good things to life.**

God is like SEARS. He has everything.

God is like ALKA-SELTZER. Try Him, you'll like Him.

God is like SCOTCH TAPE. You can't see Him, but you know He's there.

God is like DELTA. He's ready when you are.

God is like ALLSTATE. You're in good hands with Him.

God is like VO-5 Hair Spray. He holds through all kinds of weather.

God is like DIAL SOAP. Aren't you glad you have Him? Don't you wish everybody did?

God is like the U.S. POST OFFICE. Neither rain, nor snow, nor sleet nor ice will keep Him from His appointed destination.

God is like Chevrolet. The heart beat of America.

God is like Maxwell House. Good to the very last drop.

God is like Bounty. He is the quicker picker upper...can handle the tough jobs...and He won't fall apart on you.

### Noah's Ark

All I need to know, I learned from Noah's Ark:

- #1: Don't miss the boat.
- #2: Remember that we are all in the same boat!
- #3: Plan ahead. It wasn't raining when Noah built the Ark.
- #4: Stay fit. When you're 60 years old, someone may ask you to do something really big.
- #5: Don't listen to critics; just get on with the job that needs to be done.
- #6: Build your future on high ground.
- #7: For safety's sake, travel in pairs.
- #8: Speed isn't always an advantage. The snails were on board with the cheetahs.
- #9: When you're stressed, float awhile.
- #10: Remember, the Ark was built by amateurs; the Titanic by professionals.
- #11: No matter the storm, when you are with God, there's always a rainbow waiting.

### **FLORIDA BUMPER STICKERS:**

I'm retired. I was tired yesterday and I'm tired again today.

I'm in the initial stages of my golden years: SS, CD's, IRA's, AARP...

We got married for better or worse. He couldn't do any better, I couldn't do any worse.

I was always taught to respect my elders. Now I don't have anyone to respect.

I asked my wife if old men wear boxers or briefs. She said 'Depends.'

I'm so old...I don't buy green bananas.

That snap, crackle, pop in the morning... it's not my Rice Krispies.

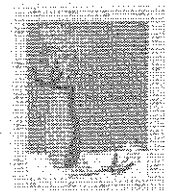
Sometimes I wake up Grumpy...and some days I let him sleep.

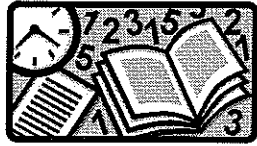
I'm not old.... I'm chronologically challenged.

**Best Wishes for a Speedy Recovery....** to Nori Dillenbeck, who was recently discharged from the hospital following an apparent seizure.



**Deepest Sympathy....**to the family of Marie Nye, who passed away unexpectedly following hip surgery.





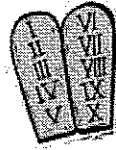
## Calendar of Events

- † COMMUNION SERVICES  
SEPT 5 – OCT 3 – NOV 7
- † MEN'S BREAKFAST - MEMORIAL HALL, 8AM  
2<sup>ND</sup> SATURDAYS: SEPT 11 – OCT 9 – NOV 13
- † WOMEN'S STUDY GROUP A – 11AM  
2<sup>ND</sup> & 4<sup>TH</sup> THURSDAYS: SEPT 9 & 23 – OCT 14 & 28 – NOV 11 & 25
- WOMEN'S STUDY GROUP B – 6PM  
EVERY OTHER SUNDAY: RESUMES SEPT 12
- † CHURCH COUNCIL MEETINGS, 6:30PM  
2<sup>ND</sup> WEDNESDAYS: SEPT 8 – OCT 13 – NOV 10
- † KOINONIA (FAMILY NIGHT), 6:30PM  
3<sup>RD</sup> WED: SEPT 15 – OCT 20 – NOV 17
- † SEPTEMBER 12 – SUNDAY SCHOOL  
RESUMES & SUNDAY SERVICES REVERT TO THE 'WINTER HOURS' OF 10:30
- † **DEADLINE FOR NEXT NEWSLETTER: NOVEMBER 7**

To get something you never had, you have to do something you never did. When God takes something from your grasp, He's not punishing you, but merely opening your hands to receive something better. **The will of God will never take you where the Grace of God will not protect you.**

There comes a point in your life when you realize Who matters, who never did, who won't anymore... And Who always will. Don't worry about people from your past: there's a reason why they didn't make it to your future.

## DID YOU KNOW...



As you walk up the steps to the building which houses the U.S. Supreme Court, you can see near the top of the building a row of the world's law givers and each one is facing one in the middle who is facing forward with a full frontal view ... it is Moses holding the Ten Commandments. As you enter the courtroom, the two huge oak doors have the Ten Commandments engraved on each lower portion of each door. Inside the courtroom, you can see on the wall - right above where the judges sit - a display of the Ten Commandments. There are Bible verses etched in stone all over the Federal Buildings and monuments in Washington, D.C.

James Madison, the 4th President and 'Father of Our Constitution,' made the statement: "*We have staked the whole of all our political institutions upon the capacity of mankind for self-government, upon the capacity of each and all of us to govern ourselves, to control ourselves, to sustain ourselves according to the Ten Commandments of God.*"

Every session of Congress begins with a prayer by a paid preacher, whose salary has been paid by the taxpayers since 1777.

Fifty-two of the 55 founders of the Constitution were members of established orthodox churches in the colonies.

Thomas Jefferson worried that the courts would overstep their authority and instead of interpreting the law, would begin making law an oligarchy the rule of few over many. How then, have we gotten to the point that everything we have done for 232 years in this country is now suddenly wrong and unconstitutional?

It is said that 86% of Americans believe in God. It is very hard to understand why there is such a mess about having the Ten Commandments on display or 'In God We Trust' on our money and having God in the Pledge of Allegiance...

*“Time spent alone with God is not wasted. It changes us; it changes our surroundings; and every Christian who would live the life that counts, and who would have power for service must take time to pray.”*

*“The great freight and passenger trains are never too busy to stop for fuel. No matter how congested the yards may be, no matter how crowded the schedules are, no matter how many things demand the attention of the trainmen, those trains always stop for fuel.”*

- M.E. Andross



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