



# First Christian Church, Jenks, Oklahoma

Volume 9 Issue 4

Weekly Newsletter

January 31, 2010

## Women's Corner

Due to pending bad weather, I am going to cancel the Ladies Bible Study this week.

Check the newsletter for a rescheduled date in February.

Greetings,

I love the Bible story about Peter walking on the water with Jesus (Matt. 14:22-33). This story teaches us a lot. Today I want to focus on how Jesus teaches us to deal with the spirit of fear in the story.

After feeding the 5 thousand, Jesus sends his disciples ahead of him in a boat to cross the Sea of Galilee. Several hours later in the night, the disciples encounter a storm. Jesus comes to them, walking on the water. This terrifies the disciples and they think they are seeing a ghost. Jesus, who has been praying, appears in the dark in the middle of the storm to all twelve disciples. Only one disciple chose to get out of the boat. Jesus tells them to "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid."

This story so truly describes the emotions we have when storms arise in our life. What is most interesting about this story is we miss the instructions Jesus gives us because we are so focused on the fact that Peter may drown. When trouble comes ... don't get fearful, regroup, YOUR GOD will show up!!! No matter what situation your in, YOUR GOD is on watch. Don't let fear grip you like the eleven disciples who stayed in the boat. Fear will make you miss the blessing of God. This year refuse to let fear keep you in the boat.

In His Love,

Melissa

## Serving Schedule

(January 31)

Elder- Pam Newburn

Deacons- Joe Steinberg, Heather Jones, Jordan Lindsey

Greeters- Cam Lindsey

Lay Leader- Chris Harrison

Scripture Reader- Carrie Parsons

WOW- Alice Lyons and Martha Rongey

Acolytes- James Hengst, Ryan Lindsey

Sponsor-Pam Newburn

## The Old Phone

When I was quite young, my father had one of the first telephones in our neighborhood. I remember the polished, old case fastened to the wall. The shiny receiver hung on the side of the box. I was too little to reach the telephone, but used to listen with fascination when my mother talked to it.

Then I discovered that somewhere inside the wonderful device lived an amazing person. Her name was 'Information Please' and there was nothing she did not know. Information Please could supply anyone's number and the correct time. My personal experience with the genie-in-a-bottle came one day while my mother was visiting a neighbor. Amusing myself at the

tool bench in the basement, I whacked my finger with a hammer, the pain was terrible, but there seemed no point in crying because there was no one home to give sympathy.

I walked around the house sucking my throbbing finger, finally arriving at the stairway. The telephone! Quickly, I ran for the footstool in the parlor and dragged it to the landing. Climbing up, I unhooked the receiver in the parlor and held it to my ear. 'Information, please' I said into the mouthpiece just above my head. A click or two and a small clear voice spoke into my ear.

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## PRAYER REQUEST

**Prayer Requests** - Prayers for Cam and Jordan as Adam and Tina await their soon to be born child; prayers that Adam's child is born before he is deployed and prayers for Adam as he prepares for deployment; prayers for Billie Avey as she prepares for chemo treatment; prayers for Dee Cowan as she has major back surgery; Barrie's 90 year old friend Bob who will have hip replacement; prayers for Wayne (Barrie's co-worker) as he recovers from hip replacement; two business associates of Cam asked for prayers for their children Brent Hammonds' young son in the hospital and Andi Webb in hospital after car accident with little brain waves; prayers for the people in Haiti and those going to help; prayers for Pam Newburn's friend, Laura Lane whose breast cancer has spread into her lungs.

**Ongoing concerns** - Grandma Jerry; Gail Lundsford's son and Martha's brother Rick and his wife Mary Jane; Jerry Irwin recovering from fall; Linda Potts' son having severe medical problems; Charlie Lyons' friend's dad, Les, has advanced stages of cancer; those having financial difficulties; and those dealing with unemployment - Tony Rongey, Heather Jones; those with assorted health and other issues: Georgia's sister Jeanne has moved into skilled nursing unit; Shannon Taylor; Connie Ginn; Jenifer Nixon; Gerry Gentis; Sue Gentis; Harry Avey; Dean and Lee McDaniel; Connie Ginn's son; Melody Terry's niece; Lyneet Sweet; Pam Harrison's parents; Larry Cown's father..

**Joys** - always the joy for the special music being shared each Sunday during service and the 1st Saturday performances from Our Master's Voice and guests.



## The Old Phone

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'Information.'  
'I hurt my finger...' I wailed into the phone, the tears came readily enough now that I had an audience.  
'Isn't your mother home?' came the question.  
'Nobody's home but me,' I blubbered.  
'Are you bleeding?' the voice asked.  
'No,' I replied. 'I hit my finger with the hammer and it hurts.'  
'Can you open the icebox?' she asked.  
I said I could.  
'Then chip off a little bit of ice and hold it to your finger,' said the voice.

After that, I called 'Information Please' for everything. I asked her for help with my geography, and she told me where Philadelphia was. She helped me with my math. She told me my pet chipmunk that I had caught in the park just the day before, would eat fruit and nuts.  
Then, there was the time Petey, our pet canary, died.. I called, 'Information Please' and told her the sad story. She listened, and then said things grown-ups say to soothe a child. But I was not consoled. I asked her, 'Why is it that birds should sing so beautifully and bring joy to all families, only to end up as a heap of feathers on the bottom of a cage?' She must have sensed my deep concern, for she said quietly, 'Gene, always remember that there are other worlds to sing in.' Somehow I felt better.  
Another day I was on the telephone and called, 'Information Please.' 'Information,' said in the now familiar voice.  
'How do I spell fix?' I asked.  
All this took place in a small town in Oklahoma. When I was nine years old, we moved across the country to Boston. I missed my friend very much. 'Information Please' belonged in that old wooden box back home and I somehow never thought of trying the shiny new phone that sat on the table in the hall. As I grew into my teens, the memories of those childhood conversations never really left me. Often, in moments of doubt and perplexity I would recall the serene sense of security I had then. I appreciated now how patient, understanding, and kind she was to have spent her time on a little boy.  
A few years later, on my way west to college, my plane put down in Seattle. I had about a half-hour or so

between planes. I spent 15 minutes or so on the phone with my sister, who lived there now. Then without thinking what I was doing, I dialed my hometown operator and said, 'Information Please.'  
Miraculously, I heard the small, clear voice I knew so well. 'Information.'  
I hadn't planned this, but I heard myself saying, 'Could you please tell me how to spell fix?'  
There was a long pause. Then came the soft spoken answer, 'I guess your finger must have healed by now.'  
I laughed, 'So it's really you,' I said. 'I wonder if you have any idea how much you meant to me during that time?'  
I wonder,' she said, 'if you know how much your calls meant to me. I never had any children and I used to look forward to your calls.'  
I told her how often I had thought of her over the years and I asked if I could call her again when I came back to visit my sister.  
'Please do,' she said. 'Just ask for Sally.'  
Three months later I was back in Seattle a different voice answered, 'Information.' I asked for Sally.  
'Are you a friend?' she said.  
'Yes, a very old friend,' I answered.  
'I'm sorry to have to tell you this,' she said. 'Sally had been working part-time the last few years because she was sick. She died five weeks ago.' Before I could hang up she said, 'Wait a minute, did you say your name was Gene?'  
'Yes,' I answered.  
'Well, Sally left a message for you. She wrote it down in case you called.  
Let me read it to you.' The note said, 'Tell him there are other worlds to sing in. He'll know what I mean.'  
I thanked her and hung up. I knew what Sally meant.  
Never underestimate the impression you may make on others.  
Whose life have you touched today?  
Lifting you on eagle's wings. May you find the joy and peace you long for.

Life is a journey . NOT a guided tour.

**First Christian Church  
(Disciples of Christ)  
Jenks, Oklahoma**

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**Sunday Activates:**  
9:45 AM Sunday School  
10:45 AM Morning Worship

**Monthly Events:**  
Gospel Music Night first Saturday of every  
month at 7 PM  
2nd and 4th Wednesday Prayer Group 6:30  
PM

Visit us on the web:  
[www.fccjenksok.com](http://www.fccjenksok.com)



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