



Mar/Apr 2011

March and April
Sunday School — 9am
Worship — 10am
After service Social Hour

BIBLE STUDY
Wednesdays 9:30-11am

LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS
Wednesday evenings :
March; 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th & April; 6th, 13th, 20th
Meal 6:30 Study 7-8

CHURCH CLEANUP
Saturday, April 9 -Rain date April 16

DWF RETREAT
Saturday, April 30 - 9am -- 3pm

MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE
7pm at the Methodist Church
Rev. Lisa Smith preaching

PALM SUNDAY
April 17

EASTER SUNDAY
April 24
Sunrise Service 6:15 Anglican Church
Rev. David Hodsdon preaching
HCC Easter Worship Service 10am



Apology The newsletter is very late due to family emergencies that took me out of town and away from my computer. I'm sorry if I missed a news item and I hope this has not caused any inconvenience. -Teresa

THE PASTOR'S PAGE

Spring, Lent, Easter and Future Planning

March 9th is the beginning of Lent, March 13th is the beginning of Daylight Savings time, March 20th Spring begins, and April 24th brings Easter, and the DWF retreat is on the 30th! These next 2 months will fly by! And yet, as a result of our Sunday School class focusing



on the Disciples history and structure, some of us have become inspired to become more involved with our denomination's offerings. So as we go through the aforementioned beginnings and the buds stirring from their long winter sleep, we may also be awakening into a new awareness, contacting those services of the General Ministries which may guide us into a transformation, which is one of the Four Priorities that the church adopted at the 2001 General Assembly, to have 1,000 transformed congregations by 2020! Could we be one of them?

Meanwhile – we want to plan a spring church clean-up! All kinds of limbs have fallen due to the heaven snow and ice, the ground has been torn up, and we want the church to be in its best shape for Easter! So we are planning on April 9th being that day! Please mark it on your calendar! If it is a very bad rainy icky day, we plan on trying it the next Saturday, the 16th. So if you would kindly put both Saturdays on your calendar just in case that would be lovely.

We do have a great deal of organization needed for the Property committee and are still without a chairperson. Please someone pray on this and see if you are willing to head up this vital committee.

In closing I give you these words from the Rev. Holly McKissick, the founding pastor of Saint Andrew Christian Church in Olathe, Kansas.

She is a contributing religion writer for the Kansas City Star and a dynamic featured speaker. Beyond her ability to tell a powerful story, Holly is deeply insightful — adept at understanding and communicating the context of a situation.

"Resist!

That call runs throughout the scripture, from the midwives who resisted Pharaoh's command to kill the baby boys, to Jesus who resisted the devil's temptation.

Resist. It's an active word. It takes practice, effort.

If our goal is to be different people come Easter Sunday than we are on Ash Wednesday, we must take time, step back, and evaluate our patterns. We must exert active effort, engage in intentional practice, and participate in a supportive community.

If you want to land somewhere different?

Pause...hold... RESIST."

— excerpt from Fellowship of Prayer 2011

Blessings, Pastor Lisa



The next church Board Meeting is on Tuesday May 11 at 7pm

The Plate

There is a special story that goes with this plate. Stay tuned. IF you can't wait, ask Martha Cooley.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

NOTE: Elders also serve as Worship Leaders

ELDERS

Date: SERVICE 10 AM

Mar 13	Pat Griffith
Mar 20	Sharron Smith
Mar 27	Randy Loy
Apr 3	Frank Roys
Apr 10	Steve Smith
Apr 17	Beth Sweeney
Apr 24	Stacey Wilson
May 1	Debbie Blair



*If you cannot serve,
please trade with someone.*

DEACONATE

Date: SERVICE 10 AM

Mar 13	Pierrette McIntire & Gail Knott
Mar 20	Chuck McIntire & Walt Moore
Mar 27	DeBrean Loy & Sharon Duke
Apr 3	Paul & Becky DeLameter
Apr 10	Sandy Law & Frank Hearl
Apr 17	Grace Duke & Scott Stickerod
Apr 24	Martha Cooley & Barb Dangler
May 1	Pat Bush & Gail Knott

NOTE: Deacons prepare and clean-up communion, and check pews.

LITURGISTS

Date: SERVICE 10 AM

Mar 13	Larry Seaman
Mar 20	Kelly DeLameter
Mar 27	Frank Hearl
Apr 3	Hugh Howard
Apr 10	Sharon Duke
Apr 17	Gail Howard
Apr 4	Bob Turman
May 1	Debbie Blair



The scripture lessons are found in the bulletin insert. For an advanced copy please contact the pastor.



March Birthdays

3/8-Jessica Moore
3/11- Allison Smith
3/14 -Donald Burdette
3/16 -Meghan Blair
3/19 -Melinda Kline
3/24 -Brenna Metz
3/28 -Dana Reitman
3/29 -Theresa Roys

March Anniversaries

3/25 Larry & Janice Seaman

Please say a prayer for these special people on their special day.

April Birthdays

4/3 Sharron Smith
4/15 Pat Griffith
4/16 Christopher Metz
4/17 Carter Reitman
4/18 Ann Covell
4/22 Norman Horman
4/23 Betty Burdette

April Anniversary

4/25 Mark & Ginny Pierson



***News from the Pews,
January/ February 2011***

Megan Blair is back in school at Northeastern after Christmas break at home; she enjoyed sledding in the snow during the Boston storms. Ben is interviewing at Yale and other colleges, and he was accepted to North Eastern University and offered an \$80,000 dean's scholarship. Ben visited Megan at Northeastern. Debbie and Andy have both successfully completed big projects at work. Meghan also spent some time with her Grandmother in Florida.



The Dukes went to St. Mary's to return daughter Sarah to college.

The Sweeneys had a good visit with their daughter, Shannon.

Hillary Benson Varnadore, Frederick County sustainability director, had an article recently in the Green supplement to the Frederick News Post. (Hillary and her parents, Kathy and Dan, were long-time members of HCC)

Kelly DeLameter auditioned at Julliard and has been on the college tour circuit including JMU, Syracuse. He has already been accepted at the Boston Conservatory. Most recently he was accepted at the U. of North Carolina School for the Arts.

Sarah Pope now has a job with the U. of Md Health and Homeland Security Agency. She has a new apartment and room mate and is looking forward to a visit from her parents the weekend of 1/30

It was nice to have the Ayers children in church with their grandparents, Eddie and Debbie Flook, on 1/23. Angela Flook had a successful trip to take her students to all-state. The Flooks are looking forward to a Disney Cruise with their whole family. In March they are taking the whole family on a Disney Cruise.

Berneice Eby's daughter Debra went to Ghana to work. She has now returned safely and has amazing stories to tell about her wonderful experience.

Pierette and Chuck McIntire had a wonderful skiing vacation in Utah.

Sandy Law is thrilled to report that daughter Hayley and husband Brian welcomed another precious daughter into their family on February 1, 2011, during a Chicago blizzard. Paige Cora Hosey, 6 pounds 3 ounces and 19 inches, is a very healthy, alert and beautiful baby girl. She looks quite a bit like her "big" sister, Neve Addison Hosey, 17 months. Hayley, Brian, Paige, and grandma are tired, but feeling great!

Hugh and Gail Howard have had a couple of trips to Virginia to visit son Charles, his wife, Kafi, and new granddaughter Chloe.

Frank and Teresa Hearl continue to be busy travelers; both to San Diego. Now they're looking forward to a trip to Hawaii.

DWF met January 16 to plan the year's activities. The decision was made to have a catalog auction for a fund raiser this year. The women's retreat will be April 30.

Frank and Theresa Roys recently went to Virginia for a concert by the Masanutten Brass Band, one of the top five in the US; their son Kevin is a member of the band.

Steven and David Smith visited relatives and friends in Virginia; they love their time in the country there.

Pat Bush's granddaughter Ella just turned one on February 12. She now walks around with a brush and dust pan "cleaning!" She also has learned to dance by watching Nickelodeon. Pat enjoys her company!

Sharron and Bill Smith visited son Kevin and family in Richlands, NC to celebrate granddaughter Allie's 3rd birthday. They then left to spend 6 weeks at their second home in Seattle.

Lee Ann Turman, daughter of Sharon and Bob, is now a member of the Naval Reserve and is on assignment in Korea.

Pastor Lisa has received a lovely stole made for her by Carolyn Manning as a 20th ordination gift.

We rejoice in your successes and pray for your challenges. Please share. Please send congregational news before the end of April to ssmith@hood.edu; pictures encouraged. Thanks-Sharron Smith



DWF NEWS

The current issue of the Just Women magazine is available on the table outside the Upper Room.

For all things Disciples Women check this website.

www.discipleswomen.org

Exciting things are in the process of implementation as we look to update the way we do our Fall Bazaar on Saturday, October 15.

We will continue to have our annual Yard Sale but plan to have a Catalog Auction in conjunction with the sale. The catalogs will be made available prior to the yard sale for distribution to the congregation, friends, family, and other churches and organizations as we are able. This catalog will contain handcrafted items, services you would be able to offer, baked goods or other food items etc. What is something you could do for someone else? (child care, handyman work, housecleaning, tax-preparation, a special theme basket, a special baked item). Are you a knitter or crafter? Use your imagination and think of your unique skills. You decide the starting bid then the bidding begins. The highest bidder will be notified of their win. We encourage everyone to think of a way to participate and sign up forms are available in the church vestibule. Take a look at the mock up of the catalog so far to stimulate your ideas.

This winter we voted to subsidize new bedspreads for some of the beds at Hope Alive and to provide a 24 count pack of paper towels to them each month for the coming year. Barb Dangler, our representative there, will purchase and deliver them for us. We continue to support the Scholarship Fund, Camp Starfish, the Malawai Project, and other special needs as they arise.

HCC's Disciple Women's Retreat will be held on Saturday the 30th of April from 9:00am to 3:00pm at the Schoolhouse facility at the New Market United Methodist Church. We have used this venue in the past and it lends itself nicely to the needs of our group. Our speakers will be Kathryn (Kitty) Shaver and Rev. Sean David Boyd on the East African Education Initiative. They come to us from Mt. Rainier Christian Church and will emphasize their spiritual journey and events that led them to embrace this project. Mark your calendar for this time of fellowship and spiritual growth for just us gals.

We have been discussing projects we might sponsor to attract families in our community and surrounding area to Hyattstown Christian Church. Ideas presented were a Trick or Trunk Party for community children, a day of childcare for parents to do Holiday shopping and the possibility of church signs at the entrance to the town at either end of Rt. 355

JUNE 3-5 2011...dates for The Regional Disciple Women's Retreat at Bethany Beach Conference Center. This 3 day event is a wonderful opportunity to gather with other women in our Region for study, worship and fellowship at the ocean. Find out what other groups are doing and make some new friends. Registration forms are available at the Christian Church Capital Area web-site under Camp and Conference Program.

For interesting information about the International Disciple Women's Ministries go to www.discipleswomen.org From there you can download their newsletter "Disciple Women's Voices." We also have copies of Disciple Women Magazine available on the table outside of the Upper Room.

Janice Seaman and Pat Griffith
Co-Chairs DWF

DATES TO REMEMBER

April 30 * 9am -- 3pm * Saturday --- DWF Retreat
in New Market

June 3-5 * Fri-Sun --- Regional Women's Retreat
at Bethany Beach

October 15 *Saturday --- Fall Bazaar at HCC
(What will you add to the catalog?)

Don't forget your Secret Sister.
Keep her in your prayers.



Opportunities For Service

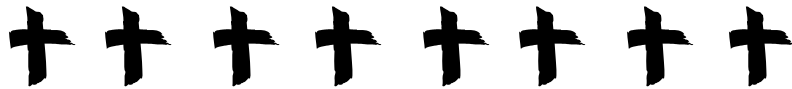
SPARE CHANGE MINISTRY:

Reminder that we are asking our congregation to donate their spare change each Sunday (the jar at the front of the sanctuary). We are now collecting for **Share the Light** for improvements to Merry Mac and Bethany.



Bulletin Help!

Would someone please volunteer to help Pastor Lisa with the Bulletin on Wednesdays or Thursdays? You need minimal computer knowledge to change a few things on the template. She'll work with you as long as needed and there will be written instructions as well.



Hope Alive

There is a list of needed items for Hope Alive by the front door as well as a box to leave your items. Please see Barb Dangler if you have any questions or would like more information about the facility.

If you would like to "adopt" a consumable item during the year, or to give a month's worth, please contact Missy Miller at mmiller@hopealiveministries.org

YOU CAN HELP!

Food Pantry

Frederick's Food Pantry is where we Feed the Hungry. Supplies are still low, and there is a big need this time of the year. There is a box by the front door of the church for donations of non-perishable items. Barb Dangler generously takes these supplies to the Food Bank for our congregation on a regular basis. Thank you Barb!

MISSION OUTREACH COMMITTEE



We have received the dates for our opportunity to serve at the Frederick Rescue Mission.

Our “Feed the Hungry” Soup Kitchen dates for 2011 are:

March 12

May 14

July 9

Oct 8

Dec 10

All dates are on the
2nd Saturday of the month.

**Come on Saturday
at 4:30pm to serve,
come to the back door
of the Frederick Rescue
Mission**

At the Frederick Rescue Mission on All Saints St. we are known as the “Lasagna church” to those who come for a meal. (Others serve lasagna, but we did it first.) Serving at this meal gives us a greater appreciation for the many physical blessings we have, and helps some of our hungry neighbors. Join us to gain a new perspective. For more info call Barb Dangler 301-668-4194 or Pat Griffith (301) 972-1316

The Food pantry is also housed here. Donate when you can.

Disciples Men’s Breakfast on Saturday Morning

What is Men’s Breakfast? We meet, we eat, and talk. That’s fellowship! Men’s Breakfast meets the Saturday morning the week before Feed the Hungry.. This year that is the first Saturday of these months.

Cooking 7:30a.m. Eating & Fellowship 8 -9 am

Dates for 2011 :

March 5

May 7

July 2

Oct 1

Dec 3



CCCA REGIONAL RETREATS and EVENTS for 2011

MM-Merry Mac BB-Bethany Beach

Spring Retreats and Events:

MM TBD Opening Work DAY
BB April 1-3 Opening Work Weekend
MM April 8-10 CYF Spring Retreat
MM April 29-May 1 Chi Rho Spring Retreat
BB May 13-15 Stole Camp
MM May 13-15 Discovery Camp (families w/ little kids)
BB May 15-18 Senior Adult Spring Conference
BB May 27-30 College Age Retreat

Summer Camps, Conferences, Retreats, and Events:

BB June 3-5 Regional Women's Retreat (Sponsored by CCCA DWF)
BB June 16-19 Young Adult Conference (YAC)
MM June 24-26 Pioneer Camp
MM June 26-July 2 Chi Rho Camp 1
BB June 26-July 2 CYF Conference 1
BB July 3-9 Family Camp 1
MM July 3-9 Junior Camp 1
MM July 17-23 Chi Rho Camp 2 (service)
MM July 24-30 Junior Camp 2
MM July 31 -August 6 Created 2B Me (rising 9th graders only)
BB July 31 -August 6 CYF Conference 2
MM August 7-10 **Camp Starfish (Sponsored by Hyattstown CC)**
BB August 7-13 Family Camp 2
MM August 13 Annual Corn Roast
BB August 25-28 Footprints
BB September 6-9 Senior's Fall Conference

Fall Retreats and Events:

MM September 16-18 YAC Fall Retreat
MM September 30-Oct. 2 CYF Fall Retreat
MM October 14-16 Chi Rho Fall Retreat
BB Oct. TBD Closing weekend

Hyattstown Christian Church:

BB September 16-18 HCC Fall Retreat

National DOC:

Nashville, TN July 9-13 General Assembly

THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE & WORSHIP COMMITTEE

SUNDAY SCHOOL



Sunday School News

Sunday School continues to be successful, with attendance between 8-18 weekly. Recent studies have included a study of the structure of the Disciples Church, from local to regional and world levels. It has been quite enlightening and informative! Thanks to Steven Smith, Pat Bush, Lisa Smith, Hugh Howard, and Randy Loys for their contributions!

Upcoming events

Our next 3 week series begins Sunday, March 13th, with a look at confession, led by our own Frank Roys. This promises to be quite an engaging series, with surprises in store! Come and join us for the next 3 weeks at 8:45 – coffee and (often) snacks available!

March 13th – 27th – Confession Series (Frank Roys)

April 3rd – 17th – Easter Series (Passover, etc)

April 24th – Easter Sunday – No Sunday School

April 31st – May 14th – Organization of the Bible, the

Apocrypha and the Dead Sea Scrolls

May 22st – Closing Breakfast/Evaluation

As we close this year, we are looking ahead to next year and are open to suggestions, curriculum possibilities, and volunteers to help us continue this worthwhile endeavor. Let Becky DeLameter, Gail Howard or Sharon Duke know if you have any ideas or are willing to participate!



If someone you know is in need of prayer or spiritual care please call Rev Lisa Smith or an Elder. We cannot help if we do not know of a need or concern.





Dear Friends and Family,

I am part of the Lockheed Martin team working to help women and men that are battling breast cancer by walking in the Avon Walk for Breast Cancer the first weekend in May 2011. I will walk between 26 and 39 miles over two days in Washington DC. This is my seventh walk and each year you have been so

generous in your support to this important cause. I personally have been touched by breast cancer - my mother-in-law, my aunt, and cousin are all survivors. I have also experienced the loss of two co-workers and dedicated my walks in 2008 and 2010 in their memory. Sheila Koval - Koval's Crusader's for a Cure, Bernie Pindell - Bernie's Bosom Buddies. These events were highly emotional and you supported them with your usual generosity. Thank you!

This year, I have handed the captain responsibility over to Gil Gonzalez who has been on the teams with me for most of the years I have walked. I thank him for doing this as I have been unable to commit to being the captain this year. But I will still walk! Right now, one of my co-workers is struggling because her sister is suffering from this disease. Every 3 minutes, someone is diagnosed with this disease. Please help us with a donation - my goal this year is \$5000. We all must raise at least \$1800 to participate.

Times are difficult so anything you can give is highly appreciated. Avon works to reduce overhead so that the majority of the money goes directly to the cause, helping the less fortunate get treatment (both preventive and ongoing). Much of the money goes to the local area where the walk is held.

Thank you again - you can donate by clicking on the link below. If you prefer not to donate online, let me know and I can take a check.

I have lots of training to do coming up and I will keep you updated on the progress and fundraising on my website!

Sincerely,

Debbie Blair

[Click here to visit my personal page.](#)

If the text above does not appear as a clickable link, you can visit the web address:

http://info.avonfoundation.org/site/TR?px=1565676&pg=personal&fr_id=2010&et=Wvr4Ybb3Sxlk98JmecCADw..&s_tafld=537929

Hello to All,



I Hope this short note finds you all well. It's that time of year again to hear my plea for your support in another Avon Walk for Breast Cancer. On the weekend of



April 30th- May 1, I will participate in my sixth Avon Walk for Breast Cancer in Washington DC. With our economy still in state it is, I know it may be difficult for some of you this year to monetarily support me in my walk. Therefore I have kept my goal at the minimum required (\$ 1,800.) to participate in this walk. Any amount of donation would certainly be appreciated, if you are able to help. Cancer is affecting too many lives and we need to help find a cure. I plan to start training this weekend for the walk. I want to thank you again for both your financial and moral support in the past years and in "2011". It means more to me than I can convey in a letter. With your donations and God giving me the good health to walk, we can touch the lives of so many people who need our help. God's Love to You,

Debbie Flook

[Click here to visit my personal page.](#)

If the text above does not appear as a clickable link, you can visit the web address:

http://info.avonfoundation.org/site/TR?px=5406729&pg=personal&fr_id=2010&et=og7AosCm7MbDLZmiFo1jSQ.&s_tafId=504953

Give and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you. — Luke 6:38



People in the pews



Christmas Time



Humorous note:
This year our angel
on the right decided
to sing straight to
the heavens, and we
let her sing like that
all through Advent!

Announcements & Activities



THEOLOGICAL REFLECTIONS GROUP AKA BIBLE STUDY MEETS IN THE UPPER ROOM.

For those of us with time on **Wednesday mornings**, the Theological Reflections Group (aka Bible Study) with Pastor Lisa continues from **9:30 to 11:00** in our beautiful Upper Room. We are studying Philippians.

Hi there! I'm Teresa the editor and I would love to have your input. If



you have an article on something everyone in the congregation would find of value, let me know. I can't include everything, but I look at everything. I love getting pictures. If you know of anyone not receiving the newsletter who would like to be added to our email list or our mailing list, please let me know. -Teresa Hearl
Email; TKHEARL@comcast.net



Contact information for
Rev. Lisa Kay Comingore Smith
Cell phone: **240-529-8004**
Church phone: **301-831-8184**
Email: hytcc@comcast.net

DISCIPLES WEB SITES TO REMEMBER:

Hyattstown Christian Church: www.hyattstownchristianchurch.org

Christian Church Capital Area Disciples of Christ:

www.cccadisciples.org

Disciple of Christ National website:

www.disciples.org

**Useful Information
Hyattstown Christian
Church**

Office: (301) 831-8184
Pastor: Rev Lisa Smith
240-529-8004
Email: hytcc@comcast.net

Board Chair:
Hugh Howard (301) 831-8643
Vice-Chair:
Andy Blair (301) 216-2746
Board Secy:
Steve Smith (240) 529 - 6337
Trustees Chair:
Eddie Flook (301) 695-2678
Treasurer:
Pierrette McIntire (301) 607-4242
Financial Secy:
Beth Sweeney (301) 865 - 9238
Education Chair:

Becky DeLameter (717) 332-3213
**Evangelism/Community Building
Chair:**
Debbie Blair (301) 535 - 2483
Mission/Outreach Co-Chair:
Pat Griffith (301) 972-1316
& Barb Dangler (301) 668-4194
Music:
Frank Roys (240) 357 - 0989
Property Chair:
Walt Moore (301) 414 - 5493
Public Relations Chair:
Teresa Hearl (301) 682-7360
Newsletter: SEND NEWS!!
Tkhearl@comcast.net
News in the Pews-
Sharron Smith ssmith@hood.edu
Stewardship Chair:
Beth Sweeney (301) 865 - 9238
Worship Chair:
Gail Howard (301) 831 - 8643



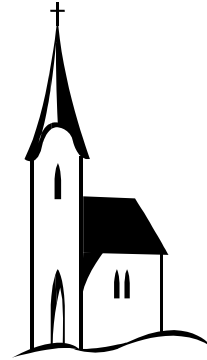
OUR ELDERS

For Disciples, the ministry of the laity has always been central to who we are. Since the beginning Elders have presided at the Lord's Supper, visited the sick or those in special need, and offered oversight to the work and life of the congregation. Elders often assist the pastor. If there is a spiritual need, please don't hesitate to call. If we don't have the answer, we will find someone who does.

Board Chair:
Hugh Howard 301-831-8643 Frank Roys 240-357-0989
Robin Davis 301-865-5285 Janice Seaman 301-228-2357
Bill Duke 301-329-2460 Sharron Smith 301-699-0135
Pat Griffith 301-972-1316 Steve Smith 240-529-6337
Gail Howard 301-831-8643 Bob Turman 301-620-7570
Randy Loy 301-829-4593 Stacey Wilson 301-253-1807
Chris Moore 301-414-5493 Beth Sweeney 301-865-9238

Hyattstown Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Rev. Lisa Kay Comingore Smith
26012 Frederick Rd
Hyattstown MD 20871
Phone: 301-831-8184



Here are a few cute items from an email titled "**Holy Humor.**" No author was listed.

.....
There was a very gracious lady who was mailing an old family Bible to her brother in another part of the country.

"Is there anything breakable in here?" asked the postal clerk.

"Only the Ten Commandments. " answered the lady.

.....
"Somebody has said there are only two kinds of people in the world.

There are those who wake up in the morning and say, "Good morning, Lord,"

And there are those who wake up in the morning and say, "Good Lord, it' s morning."

.....
A minister parked his car in a no-parking zone in a large city because he was short of time and couldn't find a space with a meter. Then he put a note under the windshield wiper that read: "I have circled the block 10 times. If I don't park here, I'll miss my appointment. Forgive us our trespasses." When he returned, he found a citation from a police officer along with this note "I've circled this block for 10 years. If I don't give you a ticket I'll lose my job. Lead us not into temptation."

.....
While driving in Pennsylvania , a family caught up to an Amish carriage. The owner of the carriage obviously had a sense of humor, because attached to the back of the carriage was a hand printed sign... "Energy efficient vehicle: Runs on oats and grass. Caution: Do not step in exhaust."

.....
A Sunday School teacher began her lesson with a question, "Boys and girls, what do we know about God?"

A hand shot up in the air. "He is an artist!" said the kindergarten boy.

"Really? How do you know?" the teacher asked.

"You know - Our Father, who does art in Heaven... "

.....
A minister waited in line to have his car filled with gas just before a long holiday weekend.

The attendant worked quickly, but there were many cars ahead of him.

Finally, the attendant motioned him toward a vacant pump.

"Reverend," said the young man, "I'm so sorry about the delay.

It seems as if everyone waits until the last minute to get ready for a long trip."

The minister chuckled, "I know what you mean. It's the same in my business."