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Darl W. Brooks -17th Annual Memorial Golf Outing

Darl W. Brooks was a very intelligent little boy who knew his multiplication tables through 12 X 12 at the age of four. One of his four-year old birthday gifts was a chess board, and within one month of learning the game of chess, he could beat anyone who challenged him. He had a way of determining strategies that were simply amazing. Whether it was a chess board, a Rubik's cube, a pool shot, a card game, or a mathematical puzzle, Darl could figure it out.

Needless to say, he began kindergarten at the age of four. Darl excelled in the classroom and in anything that involved mathematics. During his senior year of high school, he finished third out of over 29,000 students in the State of Ohio on the USA Math Olympiad Test. Thirty years ago, in 1982,

Darl graduated from Triway High School with a 3.905 GPA.

After high school, Darl attended Miami University (in Oxford, Ohio), and within four years he earned two bachelor's science degrees. After his college graduation, he was employed as an actuary at nationwide Insurance Company in Columbus, Ohio. In March 1996, Darl's mathematical journey and his life tragically ended when he was killed in an automobile accident.

Through the remarkable support of Darl's family, friends, and colleagues, a memorial scholarship was set up to recognize a Wayne County high school senior that is an outstanding advanced math student.

The Golf Outing is held on the

second Saturday of August each year. This year it will be on August 11. The event is held at the Pines Golf Club in Orrville, Ohio. This will be a 4 person scramble and the tee times will begin at 10:00 AM. The cost per person is \$60.00 which includes greens fees, riding cart, prizes and dinner following in the pavilion. The dinner is a choice of New York Strip Steak or Boneless Chicken. If you would like to attend the dinner only it is a cost of \$25.00.

For more information or a flyer see the First Church of God bulletin board, or contact Dana and Virginia Brooks.

Applications are to be turned in by August 1, 2012.



THE FIRST CHURCH OF GOD
 WILL BE A CHRIST-CENTERED, COMPASSIONATE FAMILY
 OF BELIEVERS MAKING DISCIPLES FOR JESUS CHRIST.

The Informer

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2

AUGUST

Pastor OJ Thompson celebrates 70 Years of Ministry

Pastor O.J. Thompson was honored at the Great Lakes Conference sessions on June 8, 2012 for 70 years of Ministry Service.

Pastor OJ entered Findlay College in 1940 and graduated in 1948. He received his first Annual License in 1942 when he accepted the pastorate of the Colton Church of God. In 1943 he was drafted into the military where he served for 35 months. Upon discharge in 1946 he received a call to the Cleveland Mission Church. Through-

out his ministry he served the: Ney and Union Chapel Churches, Bloom Center church, Lima church, and Smithville church. He served the following Churches of God churches as an interim pastor: Wharton, Wooster, Zion, and Mendon.

He served the community in many ways while serving as a pastor. He was elected to terms for the Smithville Water Board, Village Council, and Served as the Mayor. He was the elementary principle in

Smithville for many years.

He has received many awards, and has several collections. The most notable of which are 4,214 elephants, and 208 Bibles dating back to 1843.

His highest claim to fame is his relationship with Jesus Christ, his lovely wife Beverly, and their family.

Taking Time to Be Wrong

Agreeing with others, especially when they are pointing out your faults, is not easy, but it can play a crucial role in peacemaking. When you are talking with another person, first listen for the truth, resisting the temptation to defend yourself, blame others, or focus on points of disagreement. Ask yourself, "Is there any truth in what he or she is saying?" If your answer is "yes," acknowledge what is true and identify your common ground before moving to your differences. Doing so is a sign of wisdom and spiritual maturity. "Let a righteous man strike me--it is a kindness; let him rebuke me--it is oil on my head. My head will not refuse it" (Ps. 141:5). "He who listens to a life-giving rebuke will be at home among the wise" (Prov. 15:31; cf. 15:5; 17:10; 25:12). By agreeing with

the other person whenever possible, you can resolve certain issues easily and then focus profitably on matters that deserve further discussion.

Think back to arguments you've had. Can you recall a single instance when quickly defending yourself from the criticism of another brought peace? In contrast to a quick defense, James exhorts us to be "quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry" (Jas. 1:19). Consider the beginning of Proverbs 15:31: "He who listens to a life-giving rebuke..." Simply put, listening requires time--and reflection on what's been said. You have literally nothing (except pride) to lose and everything to gain by listening and not responding quickly when someone points out what they

believe to be a fault of yours.

The next time someone brings a rebuke your way, restrain yourself from offering your verdict on their rebuke--whether that verdict be positive or negative--until you've had time to check in with the Lord about it. Tell the other person, "That's hard for me to hear, but I know I need to be quick to listen and slow to speak. I'd like some time to think deeply about what you've said." If it turns out that you still disagree with the other person, at least you'll both have the benefit of knowing that you're not responding at the jerk of a knee.



First Church of God booth at Wayne County Fair

The First Church of God has the opportunity to have a booth at the Wayne County Fair this year. Currently we are looking for several people to serve on a Committee to put this together.

This committee will be putting together a schedule of things that they decide to offer at the fair as well as the coordinating of people to serve at the booth.

We will need volunteers to serve at the booth from 10:00 AM until 10:00 PM from Saturday through Thursday (Sunday is 11:00 AM through 10:00 PM).

If you are interested in serving on the committee or volunteering to serve at the booth, please, get in touch with Pastor Arnie.

We are really excited to be part of the Fair. It is our

desire to get the message out to the community that we are part of this community and that we have something to offer.

Camp Otyokwah Update

What a summer for Camp Otyokwah. It started with finding out that the roof on Hopewell Hall had construction mistakes in the rafters. We are happy to say that this problem was repaired, but not until about the 2nd week of July. Needless to say that our Camps had to do without Hopewell Hall and air conditioning.

Each week did what it had to in order to keep the campers and staff cool. Camp went very well as you can see by going to Camp Otyokwah's facebook page or searching for videos on YouTube.

This year The First Church of God sent about 26 kids to Camp

Otyokwah.

All the feedback I received (Pastor Arnie) about Camp O was awesome (except for Hopewell Hall being unavailable). Everyone I talked to was looking forward to going again next year.



Where
Friend
meets
Friend



Camping Extravaganza

On Friday and Saturday, September 21 and 22, the First Church of God will be hosting a Camping Extravaganza at the Plume Crazy Campground.

Plume Crazy Campground is owned and operated by Roger and Jolene Rehm. It is located behind their home at 8799 East Lincolnway in Orrville, Ohio (a map to Plume Crazy Campground is available upon request).

Camping is free including electrical hookup. Firewood is provided and a community fire will be offered.

There will be a potluck supper on Friday and Saturday evening if you are interested. On Saturday afternoon there will be games for children of all ages (yes adults are kids to). There will be water based games, skill games, and a zip line for



the courageous. An outdoor movie will be presented after dark on Saturday night.

Everyone is invited, and all are welcome. There will be those that wish to camp, as well as those who only come for the day. Come on out and join in the fun, fellowship, and excitement.

Set your calendars for Friday and Saturday September 21-22.



First Church of God Softball Team



Another season of Church Softball is drawing to a close. Currently we are 2 wins and 8 losses. Our goal was to win 4 games this year and we need to win our last 2 games to accomplish this goal. Then will come the end of the season tournament. Who knows where we will end up, but we have a great bunch of guys who love to play the game. We will let you know how we end up. Come on out and watch us play at the Four-square softball field behind Ryan's Restaurant.