

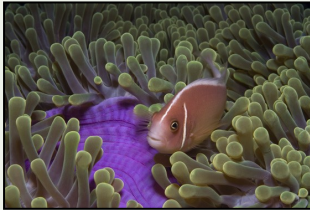


Christ Community Church
Orlando, Florida

*October
2011*

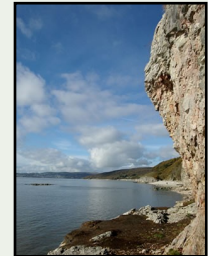
"the waters that were gathered together God called Seas"

I MUST go down to the seas again, to the lonely sea and the sky,
And all I ask is a tall ship and a star to steer her by,
And the wheel's kick and the wind's song and the white sail's shaking,
And a gray mist on the sea's face, and a gray dawn breaking. (John Masefield)



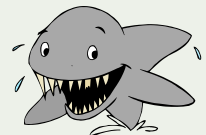
I received an email containing a video taken in the depths of the ocean. There were some amazing pictures; fish I could never put a name to, fish I would not like to meet, coral reefs, and the colors – unimaginable. It was wonderful and started me thinking about the sea and water in general.

In my teens, I lived by the sea. It was a tidal bay on the west coast of England. So we did not swim in the sea or the ocean; we went in the tide! At low tide there was no sign of the sea but we knew the channels of the rivers that drained into the bay. At weekends or in the evening, after school, I would meet up with my friends and we would go 'in the tide.' We did not go where the tourists were, on the beach, but way out in the bay. If the tide was out we would swim in the channels. Today there are warning signs and bathing is forbidden in these places as it is said to be dangerous. But how we enjoyed it.



Now that we live in Orlando, as most of you know, we are frequent visitors to SeaWorld. We know all the exhibits and think of the whales, dolphins, manatees and, of course, alligators as our friends. The shows are amazing and, I am told, the roller coasters exciting. I don't roller coast. I can see no pleasure whatsoever in being turned upside down and shaken around. Jacob and Samuel thought differently and really enjoyed the 'Shamu Express'.

Earlier in the year, my Father's Day present was the "Shark Dive". This allowed me to go in a cage in the shark tank and see the sharks close-up. Just imagine being just a few inches from a ten-foot shark. Now to me, that is exciting. Actually, the sharks did not seem all that interested, but I had been warned not to put my hands through the bars of the cage!



At the beginning of creation God separated the water in the atmosphere from the water on the earth and contained the water on the earth by making dry land and sea. Right from the beginning, God organized his creation for the benefit of the creatures that would inhabit the land and the seas. The sea-stories, in the Bible, are exciting but they present the sea as man's enemy. The story of the Flood and Noah's ark is a story about judgment – God's judgment on a sinful world. Jonah disobeyed God and tried to go the opposite direction to that which God had commanded him. He boarded a ship and tried to get right away, but ran into a storm, was thrown overboard by the sailors and swallowed by a great fish. Jesus' disciples, some of them fishermen who were used to the sea, were terrified in a storm on the Sea of Galilee. Jesus was fast asleep, so in their terror, thinking they were going to drown they woke him up. Jesus calmed the storm. Paul, being taken to Rome as a prisoner to stand trial before the Roman Emperor ran into a storm. Paul had warned those guarding him that it was too late in the year to be sailing. They did not listen to him and the ship was wrecked, though all the crew and passengers – 276 of them – came safely to land.

Continued on Page 2

Continued from Page 1

Although the sea stories are stories of judgment, they are also stories of salvation. Noah and his family were saved in the ark. The fish spat out Jonah and he went and preached in Nineveh where the people repented and turned to the Lord. Jesus spoke to the wind and the waves, "Peace, be still." And there was a great calm. The 'storm' in the hearts of the disciples was also calmed and they began to realize who Jesus is. Here is more than just a man, for the wind and the sea obey him. God sent his angel to stand by Paul, in the storm, and reassure him. Paul encouraged the others on the ship and not a life was lost.

The Cross is God's judgment on sin. Without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness for sin. Christ's blood was shed, he gave his life for the sin of the world. The cross is not just about judgment anymore than the sea-stories are. The cross is the place of salvation, for all who accept the Savior's sacrifice find salvation. We need to come in repentance and faith; repentance for our sin which must come under the just judgment of God. Having repented we accept by faith that Christ has died in our place, so we are safe – saved. Do you have this certainty in your life? It may have needed a storm to bring us to the point, like the disciples in the boat, where we cry out, "Save us, Lord, we are perishing!" And he does.



Will your anchor hold in the storms of life,
When the clouds unfold their wings of strife?
When the strong tides lift and the cables strain,
Will your anchor drift, or firm remain?

*We have an anchor that keeps the soul
Steadfast and sure while the billows roll,
Fastened to the Rock which cannot move,
Grounded firm and deep in the Savior's love.* (Priscilla J. Owens)

OCTOBER SERMONS

"GREAT THINGS HE HAS TAUGHT US—GREAT THINGS HE HAS DONE"

Sunday, October 2 - Feeding the Five Thousand—John 6:1-15

Sunday, October 9 - The Good Samaritan—Luke 10:25-37

Sunday, October 16 - Raising of Jairus' Daughter—5:21-43

Sunday, October 23 - The Wicked Tenants—Matthew 21:33-46

Sunday, October 30 - Jesus Stills a Storm—Mark 4:35-41

INNOCENCE IS PRICELESS

One Sunday morning, the pastor noticed little Alex standing in the foyer of the church staring up at a large plaque. It was covered with names and small American flags mounted on either side of it. The six-year old had been staring at the plaque for some time, so the pastor walked up, stood beside the little boy, and said quietly, 'Good morning Alex.'



'Good morning Pastor,' he replied, still focused on the plaque. 'Pastor, what is this?'
The pastor said, 'Well son, it's a memorial to all the young men and women who died in the service.'

Soberly, they just stood together, staring at the large plaque. Finally, little Alex's voice, barely audible and trembling with fear asked,

'Which service, the 8:00 or the 10:30?'



Continuing...

CHRIST COMMUNITY SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

The aim of CCST is to provide an opportunity to study Biblical topics, theology and church history in greater depth than is possible in our regular church Bible studies.

HERESIES AND CULTS

Each session
6:30 PM – 8:00 PM

Tuesday October 4 – Medieval “Protestants”

Tuesday October 11 – Unitarians

Tuesday October 18 – Present day cults
(1) Jehovah’s Witnesses

Tuesday October 25 – Present day cults
(2) Mormons

*The format will give opportunity for interaction
or you can just listen!*

The Lord hath yet more light and truth to break forth from his word.



October 2011 Newsletter

VISIT US ON THE WEB www.orlandoccc.org

Christ Community Church

5425 South Apopka Vineland Road
Orlando, FL 32819-3807
407-909-9495

Rev. Dr. John Tattersall, Minister
preacherjohnl@orlandoccc.org

Janell Newton, Church Administrator
cccorlando@yahoo.com

Debbie Pinto, Director of Music
deborahpinto@comcast.net

Charlie Steele, Church Treasurer
csteele1@cfl.rr.com



Sundays
10:00 a.m. Sunday School, 11:00 a.m. Worship Service
Wednesdays
6:00 p.m. Pot Luck Dinner, 7:00 p.m. Bible Study

COUNCIL NEWS & ACTIVITIES

- The **CCC School of Theology** is continuing this month (see page 3 for details).
- Thursday, **October 6**, the Land Use Committee will meet at 2:30pm.
- The next Council Meeting is scheduled for Monday, **October 10** at 6:30pm. All are welcome to attend.
- **Missions** is asking each church family to contribute selected items each week for the *Holiday Harvest Food Drive*.
- The **Stewardship Dinner and a Concert** will be held on Saturday, **November 5**, beginning at 5:30pm.
- Council has approved a children’s music class to be held in the Fellowship Hall on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10 to 11:30am. *Mini Music Makers* teaches children (birth to age 5) and their families basic music skills. If you know someone who is interested in participating in this class, please contact Susan Williams, 321-695-4309 or LFIXTER@hotmail.com.



Janell Newton
Church Council Secretary

