

*Be exalted, O God, above the highest heavens.
May your glory shine over all the earth.
Psalm 108:5 (NLT)*

MARCH

2015

SERVING THIS MONTH

ELDERS

Mick Arnold, Jack Dale

ELDER ALTERNATES

Allen Anderson, George Walden

DEACONS/USHERS

John Kim (D/U), Jared Robinson (D/U),
Graham Anderson (D), Tony Legard (D)
*(An usher needs to be responsible for
locking foyer door after service starts.)*

JUNIOR DEACON

Ethan Henkel

DEACONESSES/JR DEACONESSES

Marla Henkel, Tammy Henkel

*If you cannot serve during your scheduled
month, please contact another server
to see about switching with you.*

*If you know of a shut-in desiring
communion be taken to them, please
call Jean Brannon at 276-669-7311.*

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

TUES., MAR. 10TH • 6:30PM

LADIES TUESDAY TIME-OUT

It's time once again for a "time out!" Could you use a break? Here's your chance for some time out of the house!

We'll meet in the church library, unless I have an urge for a dessert at Blackbird Bakery. :-). If that happens, I will announce it the Sunday before! I look forward to seeing you!

SAT., MAR. 14TH • 8:30AM

MEN'S CONNECT BREAKFAST

Church Library



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
311 SPENCER STREET {ON THE MLK JR. BLVD.} • BRISTOL, VA 24201
276-669-2014 • FIRSTCHRISTIAN@BNU.NET



DOES ANYBODY REALLY CARE?

I think I could safely say that question has probably come from everyone's mouth or mind at one time or other in their lifetime. Sad to say, the truth be known, the words "I care" may be spoken to us in stormy circumstances of our lives but are not truthfully lived out. Disappointing, but true.

Peter wrote to the Jewish believers who were struggling in the midst of persecution. He encouraged them to conduct themselves in such a way that their character and conduct would be above reproach as they represented Christ.

Peter left them with a message they could count on:

"God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble." Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, casting all your care upon Him, for HE CARES FOR YOU (*1 Peter 5:5b-7 NKJV, emphasis mine*).

Tuck that message deep in your heart! It will be with you everywhere you go.



We join together to express our love to George Walden, his daughters Sharon and Shelly, and families during the sickness and death, February 9th, of our sweet Iler Walden. We already miss seeing Iler in service. She loved her church, and made every effort, above and beyond, to be there.

We also share our love and sympathy with our Shirley Jackson at the unexpected death of her brother Frankie Patrick, Saltville, VA, on January 9th. Please pray for Shirley as she ministers in caring for other family members who are struggling with sickness. We miss Shirley when she isn't able to be with us.

EVEN YOUR FLAWS CAN BRING GLORY TO GOD

BY RICK WARREN

"Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous—how well I know it." (Psalm 139:14 NLT)

When people are hurting, they need simple truth, not simplistic truth. It's not enough to tell someone to pray, read the Bible, or go to church. You have to help them know how to make changes in their lives.

And we can't make changes in our lives until we understand our identity. You cannot become all that God created you to be until you embrace your identity—the unmistakably unique and flawed you that God made for a purpose.

You are wonderfully complex (Psalm 139:14). To fulfill God's purpose for you, you have to look at every dimension of your life and understand five factors that influence your identity. Then, you have to make the most of what you've been given. We

may have all been given different parents, pains, problems, and potential, but we will all be held accountable one day for what we did with those factors.

It's like a game of five-card stud: You don't get to mix your cards. You don't get to choose your cards. You have to play the hand you're dealt.

The first factor that makes you who you are is your chemistry. This is your DNA, your genes, your hormones, your chemical makeup. Some of you were born with hypersensitivity; others have an extremely high tolerance for pain. Some of you have a low energy level; others are bouncing off the walls. Some of you have backs that are prone to fail you, weak eyesight, or brittle bones. Some of you have low levels of oxytocin, a hormone that affects how we relate to other people.

No flaw is sinful or shameful—it's the way God wired you! I bought a pair of distressed

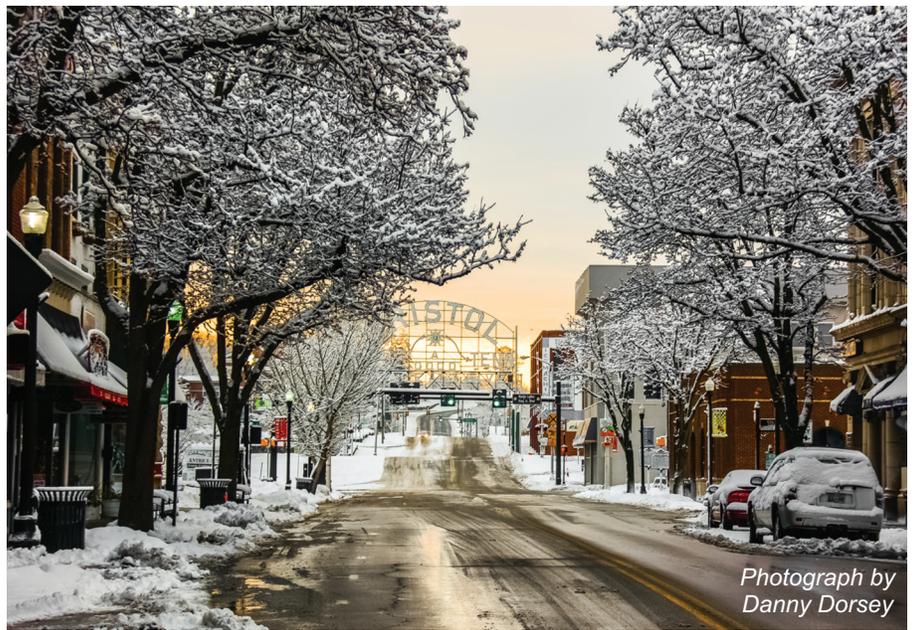
jeans once that had a tag that read: "These jeans have intentional flaws in order to make them unique." Your "genes" are the same way: They have flaws that make you unique. Those flaws are part of your custom design, and God planned them for his purpose and glory.

You will never be able to make a change in your life or fulfill God's purpose for your life until you understand that you are wonderfully complex and uniquely flawed for God's glory. The question then, is this: What will you do with the hand you're dealt?

Talk It Over

- What are the flaws that make you unique?
- How can you use those flaws to bring God glory?

MARCH 2015



Photograph by
Danny Dorsey

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR FCC

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 9:45 – Sunday School 10:50 – Worship Service 11:15 – Children’s Church <i>No evening services.</i>	2	3	4 6:30 – Midweek Services Adults / Children	5	6	7
8 9:45 – Sunday School 10:50 – Worship Service 11:15 – Children’s Church Family & Kids CONNECT 6:00 pm	9 1:00-4:00 – Food Pantry 7:00 – Board Meeting <i>(All church members are invited to attend board meetings)</i>	10 6:30 – Ladies Time-Out	11 6:30 – Midweek Services Adults / Children	12	13  Meals on Wheels <i>We deliver smiles™</i> 10:00 – Meals on Wheels	14 8:30 – Men’s Breakfast
1 9:45 – Sunday School 10:50 – Worship Service 11:15 – Children’s Church <i>No evening services.</i>	16	17	18 6:30 – Midweek Services Adults / Children	19  Newsletter Info Due <i>on Margie’s Desk by today</i>	20	21
1 9:45 – Sunday School 10:50 – Worship Service 11:15 – Children’s Church <i>No evening services.</i>	23	24	25 6:30 – Midweek Services Adults / Children	26	27	28
1 9:45 – Sunday School 10:50 – Worship Service 11:15 – Children’s Church <i>No evening services.</i>	30  Haven of Rest 7:30 pm	31				

Margie is in the church office from 8:30-12:30, Tuesday thru Thursday.

Please have items for April’s newsletter to Margie, Pastor Herb, or Judy by March 19th.

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
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