

**NEWS FROM FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DOC)**  
**NOVEMBER 2016**  
**PRAYER REQUESTS**

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Ira Black, Allison (being bullied at school), Kenneth Chatto, Erin Washington, Brooks Palmer, Jack Gilbert, Connie Santee, Nancy Shelley, Jim Bailey, Dave Defrehn, Ray Cook, Dale Underwood, Sue Ray, Cheryl Carrington, Linda Markham, Marge Posten, Tom Bodie, Hal Coar, Margie Jo Wallace, Wanda Doleshall, John Roth and family, Jeff Henson, James L., Andre McCartney, Steve Lyons, Sabrina, Dorothea, Selma Devich, Pat & Charles Brackett, Robert, Charlie, Jean Hunt, Nancy Tappe, Charlie, Chuck & Ida Bassi, Nicole Brackett (Ray Cook's granddaughter-in-law), Mike Kler, Connie Moomjy, Clara Benfield, Sally Clayton, Dot Rucker, Zack and Paige Herron (Campus Ministries in Philippines), upcoming 2016 elections and always remember to pray for your Church Family, Pastor Sotello and Dee Long, our Christian brothers and sisters who are traveling, all those in our public safety services, military services and our country's leaders.

**CHRIST IS OUR HOPE!**

We are dying every day, yet we dare to defy death and live. Why? It is because we have hope in this life and beyond in Jesus, the Christ.

The simple story of our hope is that God made us as God's eternal family. We broke our relationship with God and were without hope because of sin. The wage of sin is death. And our sin debt was too great for us to pay, but God loved us too much to leave us. God made a divine way for us to be restored through the compassionate offering of God's only Son, Jesus, to pay the debt the way we could not pay it.

The songwriter put it best in the wonderful hymn with these words,

*"My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus blood and righteousness. I dare not trust the sweetest frame but wholly lean on Jesus name. On Christ the solid rock I stand all other ground is sinking sand. All other ground is sinking sand!"*

**The 13<sup>th</sup> South Carolina Regional Conference**

The Regional Conference saw over 200 folks gather at First Christian Church in Columbia to give witness to our love for God and one another! We were headlined by Pastor Cynthia L Hale, from the Ray of Hope Christian Church, Decatur, GA. The praise and worship was awesome as the whole gathering focused on the theme, "Believe!"

On Friday morning, we had Pastor Michael Simmons set the tone preaching the morning worship and Pastor Alex Ruth of teach about leadership helping prepare us for our Mission Gathering.

There was an engaging forum and dialogue with nine outstanding guests who shared with us on topics including Global Ministry, Affordable Care, South Carolina Christian Action, Insurance Board, Pastoral Leadership, Congregational Support, Disciples Church Extension, Compassion and Justice. It was so rich with dialogue that the gathering asked for more time! Our facilitator had to reluctantly cut it off so folks could have plenty of time to get lunch and do other preparations or sightseeing so they could return for the evening worship.

**Forgiveness to New Life Update**

The "Forgiveness to New Life" walk is a mission rallying various communities' in a spirit of unity to rebuild Glover Grove Missionary Baptist Church from the ashes ravaged by fire!

The walk/pilgrimage has been rescheduled for November 13<sup>th</sup> to November 20<sup>th</sup>. We are planning for members and friends to participate in a segment of the last mile of the walk on November 20<sup>th</sup> as we approach Glover Grove Missionary Baptist Church where the walk will conclude with a service of celebration.

God's Love,  
Sotello

## **CHURCH DECORATING FOR ADVENT**

We will be decorating the church for Advent on Saturday, November 26<sup>th</sup>. The men will be cooking breakfast. Bring your decorating skills and your appetite.

## **HELP THE CUMBEE CENTER**

You can support The Cumbee Center, which helps abused women and children, by linking your Kroger card to this organization. Kroger will then donate a percentage of your purchases to the Center. To enroll visit [www.kroger.com/communityrewards](http://www.kroger.com/communityrewards); scroll down to find your location and click "enroll now"; sign in to your online Kroger account, or create a new account; find organization by entering "Cumbee Center's Community Rewards Number 31253; click "save".

## **DWF NEWS**

The Fall Retreat has been postponed due to Hurricane Matthew. Instead, we will have a one day event on Saturday, November 12, at the Path of Life CC, 1314 Leesburg Rd., Columbia, SC 29209. The program will begin at 10am.

On November 10<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 there will be a showing of the Susan Hale video. Everyone is invited to attend.

## **EMERGENCY PROVISIONS**

There's a wheelchair in the cry room which can be used to evacuate people in an emergency or to help those with less mobility.

There are protein and sugary drinks in the refrigerator for anyone who needs them, including members of our congregation who have diabetes.

## **HELP WANTED!**

Beginning January 1, 2017, the Church is in need of a volunteer to write the weekly bulletins. If you're interested, please see Margaret Logan.

## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

Tai Chi in Fellowship Hall, Fridays at 9-10 AM and Thursdays at 5:30 PM  
Choir Practice, Thursdays at 4 PM in Sanctuary  
DWF Meeting, Thursday, November 3rd 10am in Fellowship Hall  
FCC Elders/Deacons Meeting, Tuesday, November 8<sup>th</sup> 5:15pm in Pastor's Office  
FCC Board Meeting, Tuesday November 8<sup>th</sup> in Fellowship Hall  
DMF Meeting, Saturday, November 12<sup>th</sup> 8am location to be announced  
Carry In, November 20<sup>th</sup> following Worship Service in Fellowship Hall  
Church Decorating, Saturday November 26<sup>th</sup> 8am in Fellowship Hall  
ACTS is requesting donations of tuna for the month of November