



NEWS FROM FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DOC)

July 1, 2019

PLEASE PRAY FOR: *The Family of Bill Carroll, the Family of Meg Atkinson, the Family of Robert Wecker, Michael Simmons, Rod Apple, Lisa Wahlmeier, Caleb Brown, Karen Disendorff, Sue Wisz, Jerry Smith, Robin Brooks, and those affected by violence, and natural disasters.*

CONTINUING PRAYERS FOR:

Roy Walden, Linda Cheadle, Wanda Doleshall, Connie Moomjy, Clara Benfield, Jewel Jones, Millie Clarke, Dan McElvoy, Sally Clayton, Hal Guyon, Pastor Juan Rodriquez, our Regional Church, Francisco Catlan, Pastor Keith Weekley, Chuck & Ida Bassi, Eliza Husser Cave, Selma Devich, Dr. Walter Allen, Neal Mitchell, Pam Owen, Anna Weekley, Connie Santee, Kenneth & Joanna Chatto, Sabrina, for our Country, those in public service, and those in military service.

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR IRENE

It is wonderful to be back with you in person! You stayed in my heart and in my prayers while I was away. I had fun sending the many postcards along the way and sharing our journey as it unfolded. Thank you again for allowing us to take that “bucket list” trip while serving as your Pastor.

One of the things I love most about our church is the “buzz” of fellowship and activity that takes place before and after the 11am church service. People intentionally coming early enough to interact with each other, sharing hugs and conversations, laughter and concerns. After church, it is the same “buzz” – people lingering and enjoying each other’s company. To me, those connections are indications of a healthy church – one where we share our faith in Jesus Christ and our love for each other. May God continue to bless us as a church. And don’t forget to invite someone new!

COMMUNION BREAD BAKER NEEDED

As you know, our Sunday morning Communion Service has, for the last 14 years, been using home baked Communion bread. As the baker, I have always found this to be a spiritual task, deeply rooted in my past as a Disciple of Christ.

Depending on the quantity made, I usually only prepare the bread about 4 times a year.

I would like to pass this task on to someone who would happily like to do the baking. I will be very happy to demonstrate how I prepare the bread and who knows, there may be even a better way. Please contact me, Caroline Hale, at 803-642-6363 or my cell phone 571-239-3449. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The Albritton family will be gone July 18th through the 25th to attend the General Assembly of the Christian Church(DOC) in Des Moines Iowa. The theme is “Abide in Me” John 15: 1-5. The website describes the event as:

Worship that lifts your soul.

Stories that touch your heart.

Educational resources to assist your congregation in ministry.

Conversations that stretch you mind.

Messages that call you to action.

Connections that remind you that God’s family is bigger than a local congregation.

We will miss you, but hope you will have a safe and enjoyable trip.

DWF TEA

The DWF Women’s Tea will be Thursday July 11th from 2:00-4:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Please RSVP to Pam Owen and bring a tea cup and a story about your cup to share.

LYDIA PROJECT

The DWF is collecting items for the Lydia Project. The Lydia Project supplies housing and assistance for women dealing with cancer. The items needed most often are: lotion (purse size, *no hotel samples, please*), tissues, pens, notecards (cheerful), 2 ply toilet paper, cleanser, trash bags, laundry detergent, gift cards for food, bottled water, Swiffer wet mop refills, and disposable gloves (large). Snacks are also welcome.

FAMILY PROMISE OF AIKEN COUNTY

Help bring Family Promise to Aiken County!

The next community meeting will be held Thursday, July 11th at First Presbyterian Church, 224 Barnwell Ave NW, Aiken. There will be an information session at 6:30 for people interested in learning more about Family Promise – a collaborative ministry serving children and their families in periods of temporary homelessness. A general meeting will follow at 7pm with updates of the newly formed work groups. There is still room for you to become involved! For more information about Family Promise, please check out the website of the well-established program in Columbia – Family Promise of the Midlands. The link is <https://www.familypromisemidlands.org/>. Their website contains several great videos under the “Media” link – including one that was aired on the Today show earlier this year.

SAVE THE DATE!

Make your plans now to attend the South Carolina Disciples Regional Church conference this fall! The meeting will be held at New Galilee Christian Church, Holly Hill on Friday and Saturday, October 4th & 5th. Interim Pastor Juan Rodriquez will be leading us as we continue the “Setting Direction – Pushing to Purpose” re-discovering and reclaiming our identity as Disciples of Christ congregations in South Carolina. Registration forms are in the Narthex. Early Registration (\$50) applies to all registrations postmarked by August 20th. There is a Senior Citizens rate of \$40 postmarked anytime! It would be great to have a good representation from First Christian Aiken at this meeting. Please consider attending!

MEMBERSHIP IDEAS NEEDED

If you have a great idea for a fellowship event please let Paul Wilson know.

WORDS OF THANKS:

Bryan and Caroline for filling in for Frances while she was out of the office
Paul Wilson for organizing our picnic
June Wilson for working on our church grounds
Elsie Smith for taking care of the Japanese Maple tree

ACTS DONATIONS for the month of July are Grits, Oatmeal and Cereal.
Please leave your donations in the Church Office. Thank you for your support!

THIS MONTH IN SERVICE

Our Deacons are Robin Brooks and Paul Owen
Our Elders are Don Pruett and Ida Bassi

DATES TO REMEMBER

July 9 Elders Meeting 4:45pm, Church Office
Board Meeting 6:00 pm , Fellowship Hall
July 11 DWF 10:00am, Fellowship Hall
July 13 DMF 8:00 am , Fellowship Hall
DWF Tea 2-4 pm, Fellowship Hall
July 14 Carry-In, following Worship Service, Fellowship Hall
July 20 Trash & Treasures Sale, 9:00 am Classroom 3
July 20-24 General Assembly in Des Moines Iowa

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Thursday:	Choir Practice	4:00 pm in the Sanctuary
Sunday:	Sunday School	9:30 in the Fellowship Hall
	Worship Service:	11:00 in the Sanctuary

(No crafting class in July)

CONTACT US:

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
900 Kerr Drive SW
Aiken, SC 29803-5394

Email: firstchristianaiken@atlanticbb.net

Website: www.firstchristian-aiken.org

Church Office: 803 648-4523

Pastor's Cell Phone: 803 394-6282