



**NEWS FROM FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DOC)**  
**December 2, 2019**

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:**

*Jean Arnold, Linda Davis, Susan Kantor, Lucy and Paul Jones, Claire Creech, Curtis and Shelvia Beard, Karen Cooksey, Juma Smith, Rhoda, Milfred Foreman, Curtis's Beard's mother, Terri and Tate Shiver, Jerry Corley, Greg Calhoun, Demorris, Earnestine Goggans, those impacted by continuing violence, those recovering from surgery.*

**CONTINUING PRAYERS FOR:**

*Wanda Doleshall, Chuck & Ida Bassi, Eliza Husser Cave, Susan Poster Ullmann, Linda Cheadle, Selma Devich, Millie Clarke, Robin Brooks, Connie Moomjy, Dan McElvoy, Sally Clayton, our Regional Church, Dr. Walter Allen, Neal Mitchell, Pam Owen, Connie Santee, Kenneth & Joanna Chatto, Sabrina, those in public service, military service and for our Country.*

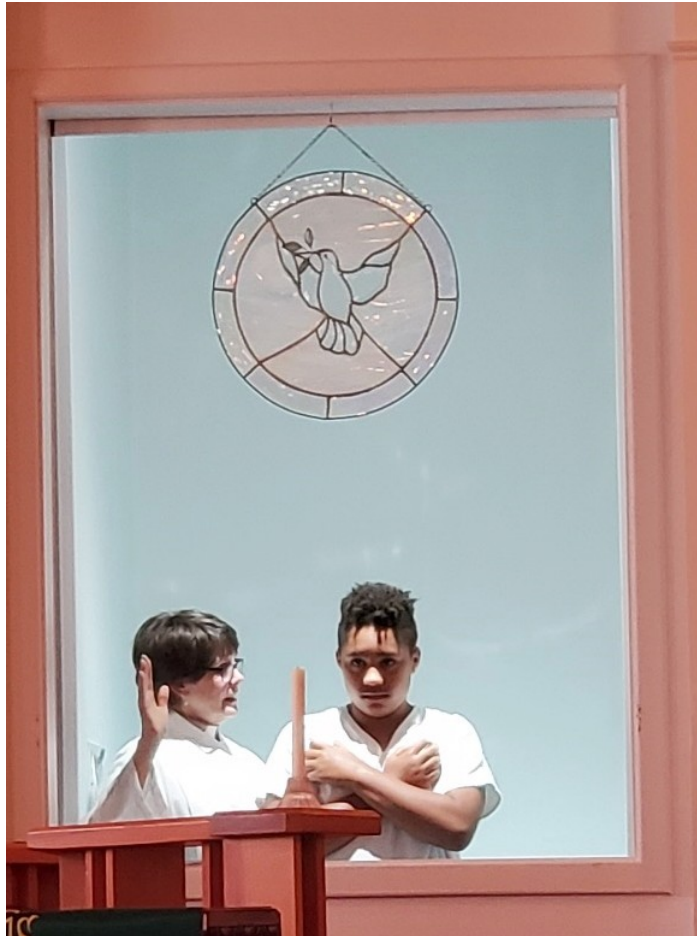
**MESSAGE FROM PASTOR IRENE**

The Christmas spirit is alive and well at First Christian Church Aiken! The sanctuary, fellowship hall and grounds are decorated, the new sign looks welcoming and our Christmas Eve service sign is hanging on the post inviting the community to worship with us. Advent is under way, our Christmas carry-in is December 8<sup>th</sup>, and as a special treat this year, the choir will present a Christmas Cantata during our worship on December 22<sup>nd</sup>! All of these are signs of life as a body of Christ. Thank you for making this your church home! Merry Christmas!

## **CHRISTMAS SPECIAL OFFERING**

Sunday, December 15, 2019, you will have the opportunity to give to this Special Day Christmas Offering, which supports the regional ministries in 32 regions of the Christian Church, Disciples of Christ, across the United States. Regional ministries are where ministers are nurtured and congregations are provided the opportunities for work and worship. Regions also play a critical role in the preparation and authorization of ministerial ordination, both are key to church leadership and development. Regions partner with congregations to support the work required to call a new minister.

Donations for this Christmas Offering will support the region in which the donation was made and the work they do to help the churches within that region. In other words, our region will be supported by your donation. Thank you.



## **WELCOME JOEY TO THE FAMILY OF GOD AND FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)**

### **ADVENT BOOK STUDY**

Pastor Irene will lead a book / Bible study on Charles Dicken's *A Christmas Carol* during Advent. The group will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 4:30 on Dec 8<sup>th</sup>, and at 4:00 pm on Dec 15 and Dec 22. Nine people joined in the book study for the first session – feel free to come join the study.

## **GOOD-BYE AND GOD SPEED TO THE OWEN'S**

It is with a mixture of sadness for us and celebration for them that we say good-bye and God-speed to two dear members, Pam and

Paul Owen, as they move to Florida to be nearer to their family. They have added so much to our congregation as they have shared their gifts and their presence with us. We will have a time at the close of the worship service on their last Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, to thank God for them and to ask God's blessings on their move.



## **WORD OF THANKS**

Don Pruett, seen here planting a Confederate rose.

Scott Finfrock for his faithful service in the sound room and keeping the worship leaders with microphones

Buzzy Cheadle, Don Pruett, Judee Mitchell, and Millie Clark for preparing the baptistry and for assisting and cleaning up after the baptism

June Wilson and Elsie Smith for keeping our outside planters filled and watered

For all those who helped decorate the church, and for Buzzy Cheadle and the men who cooked breakfast for the group.

For Paul and Pam Owen for all they have done for our church.

For Natalie Lawrence, her beautiful music and choir leadership.

## **OUR VISIT TO ACTS**

On Monday November 25 Pastor Irene and Frances were invited to tour ACTS.

ACTS has been serving the community for a long a time, and it is easy to forget all the services they provide and the expertise with which they provide them. We learned that items for sale in the gift shop are all things not currently needed for families, and that supplies for people in need are pre-packaged and ready to go with little or no notice.

ACTS provides more than food and clothing, they can also assist with medical needs, utility assistance, childcare, bicycles and a car ministry. Last year ACTS provided services to more than 8,000 people. Using the information on poverty from the US census that is the equivalent of every person at the poverty level who lives in the City of Aiken.

Your gifts to ACTS are much needed, and much appreciated by all.

**ACTS DONATIONS** for the month of December is Canned Beans and Pork, or Beans. Please leave your donations in the Church Office. Thank you for your support! On our recent visit to ACTS we learned to consider also the foods that might go with our specific donations, such as jelly when our month is peanut butter or syrup if our month is pancake mix. Children's clothing, particularly for teenage boys, is also particularly welcome as donations.

For your convenience, a list of the ACTS donations for 2020 is attached.

### **THIS MONTH IN SERVICE**

Our Deacons this month are Millie Clarke and Earnestine Goggans  
Our Elders are Jim Mitchell and Buzzy Cheadle

### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

December 5	DWF/Tri Development Party 9:00am, Fellowship Hall
December 8	Carry-In, following Worship Service, Fellowship Hall Advent Study 4:30 pm, Fellowship Hall
December 10	Board Meeting 6:00 pm, Fellowship Hall
December 14	DWM 8:00 am Fellowship Hall
December 15	Advent Study 4:00 pm, Fellowship Hall
December 21	Trash & Treasures Sale, 9:00 am Room 3
December 22	Advent Study 4:00 pm, Fellowship Hall
December 24	Christmas Eve Service, 5:30 pm Sanctuary

### **WEEKLY ACTIVITIES**

Monday	Crafting	12:30 pm in the Library
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

### **CONTACT US:**

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**Church Office:** 803 648-4523

# Donations for Acts 2020

January:	Peanut Butter
February:	Shaving Cream/Razors
March:	Pasta Sauce
April:	Canned Tuna/Salmon
May:	Jelly
June:	Rice
July:	Peanut Butter
August:	Mac and Cheese
September:	Canned Vegetables
October:	Canned Tuna Salmon
November:	Beef Stew, Canned Meat, Complete meal
December:	Cleaning Products ex. 409, Glass Cleaner, Pine sol