



## **NEWS FROM FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DOC)**

**April 1, 2021**

### **PLEASE PRAY FOR:**

*Richard and Bobby Barnes, Chuck Spilman, , James, Chaplain Sam Boone, Connie Bereridge, Dave and Victoria, Jennifer, Martha Albritton, Carol Kettel, for those in law enforcement, for distribution of the vaccine and for God's peace and healing.*

**CONTINUING PRAYERS FOR:** *Wanda Doleshall, Dan McAvoy, Paul & Pam Owen, Robin Brooks, Linda Cheadle, Sabrina, Susan Poster Ullmann, Millie Clarke, Eliza Husser Cave, Sally Clayton, Connie Moomjy, our Regional Church, Dr. Walter Allen, Connie Santee, Kenneth Chatto, those in public service, military service and for our Country and all victims of the corona virus.*

### **HOLY WEEK WORSHIP:**

Thursday, April 1	Maundy Thursday Communion Service (In-person and Facebook) 6pm
Friday, April 2	Good Friday Service (In-person and Facebook) 12n
Sunday, April 4	Easter Sunday Garden Service (in-person and Facebook) 8am Easter Sunday Traditional Service (in-person and Facebook) 11am



### **FLOWERS FOR OUR CROSS**

**EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL  
4, 2021**

Following our Easter Sunday Worship Service, we will be decorating our outside cross with fresh flowers, to celebrate Christ's resurrection. Everyone

is asked to bring some fresh flowers which you can place on the cross. This has been an Easter tradition at FCC for several years. Containers with water will be located by each entrance door, where you can leave your flowers during the Worship Service. Thank you for your participation in this event as we demonstrate our joy to passing traffic and neighbors.



### Pastor's Note:

Last March, much of everything we knew as normal regarding church life and worship came to a sudden stop. We were forced, along with churches across the country, to adapt. Armed with my iPhone, which thankfully had an unlimited data plan, coupled with Scott and Frances' expertise about Facebook, we moved seamlessly to having on-line worship. However, not all of our church members had the internet, or felt comfortable using it. So, joining in the path of the Sunday School class, we added a teleconference worship service at 12:15 following the 11am Facebook service. Who knew that would last a full year! But now that the season of the teleconference worship has run its course due to vaccinations and a return to in-person worship, I want to pause and reflect on what that meant to me. With eight regular teleconference worshipers, and three of four others joining from time to time, and a record 23 on our Good Friday service last year, the teleconference "church" group took on a life of its own. Jim and Eliza alternated the Communion prayers for the Bread and Cup, others shared in the reading of scripture, and worship continued. The interactions were helpful to me, especially during the time of no in-person worship, because the telephone offered interaction that Facebook live lacks. After Jim's death, his absence was keenly felt when we longed to hear him do the communion prayers that had helped us maintain a "normal" feel. Thankfully, Eliza carried the load and combined the Bread and Cup prayers, and we continued to worship together as we also grieved Jim's loss. As church reopened, and more people came back, our numbers dwindled only to surge again in January when we closed for the second time. In February, vaccinations were a reality for the attendees, and in March we brought the teleconference worship to a close - either for now, or forever. But I learned that worship can happen in many ways - and the telephone is as good as any other way! I think about Clara Benfield and Sally Clayton, and wish this had been a lesson I had not needed a pandemic emergency to teach me. I pray the lessons we have learned in this pandemic will continue to inform us - make us stronger - and make us creative in using the untapped resources around us. Thank you for walking this journey together as the loving church with Jesus at heart!

## **FINAL TALLY FOR WEEK OF COMPASSION OFFERING**

Thanks to all who gave this year to the Disciple Mission Week of Compassion Offering Your gifts totaled \$1411.73. Your participation and gifts were a true testament to the theme of "Let Love Flow". Thank you so very much for your generosity and the love shown.

## **CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DOC) EASTER SPECIAL DAY DISCIPLES MISSION FUND OFFERING**

On Easter Sunday, April 4, 2021, you will have the opportunity to participate in a Disciple Million Fund Easter Offering. Money collected through this offering will be used by the general ministries of the Christian Church, Disciples of Christ, across the United States, Canada and around the world.

By giving of our fruits to tend to our church's ministries, we can care for, nurture and help "more people, from our doorsteps to the ends of the earth." Please consider your participation. Thank you.

**ACTS DONATION FOR APRIL IS:** Canned Fruit

## **WORD OF THANKS**

Natalie, Frances and Scott for making the crosses  
June for making the vestments, wreaths and planting pansies.  
The Lenten Study group for the paper quilt.  
Elsie Smith for the picnic table  
Ida, Charlotte and Emma Grace for cleaning Rm 3  
Caroline Hale for ordering the palms

## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

April 3	DWF	11:00 am Fellowship
April 4	Garden Service	8:00 am Garden
April 19	DMF	8:00 am Fellowship
April 13	Board Meeting	6:00 pm Zoom
April 17	Trash and Treasure	9:00 am Classroom 3

## **CONTACT US:**

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