

NEWS FROM FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DOC)

September 30, 2015

PRAYER REQUEST

Syrian Refugees, The Twelfth Annual Regional Conference being hosted by Poplar Hill Christian Church, Linda Cheadle, Chuck and Ida Bassi, Ray Cook, Terry Bentley Family, Clara Benfield and her daughter Vickie Rishel, Sean Patrick Cheadle (Job Corps Trainee), Pat Bailey, Danny Hayes, Kevin Dunphy, Rachael Dry Family, Rachel Lott, Leosh Family, Denise Peters (Paul Wilson's Sister), Paul and Pam Vanderowen, Brittany Riley (working in Saudi Arabia), Lynn Robinson, Joan Stuckart, Dottie Nicewarner, Richard Rainwater, Richard Penix, Nicole Brackett (Ray Cook's granddaughter-in-law), Leslie Sandefur, Dot Rucker, Jamie Brame, Roger Robbins, Mike Kler, Zack and Paige Herron (Campus Ministries-Philippines), Jennifer Collins, Bob Patchan, Jill Malone, Susan and Michael Wargo, Connie Moomjy, Glover Grove Pheonix Project 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.

A Reflection From The Visit Of Pope Francis

The captivating and historic visit to the United States of St Francis, the Pope of the Catholic Church, has ended and left a mark that cannot be erased! The coverage of the Pope's visit gave witness to the centrality of cultivating our spirituality and centering of ourselves in God through prayer and grounding reflection on scripture or the WORD - so that the living Word nourishes us for service.

Recall the rhythm of the Pope's activity. His schedule set Mass at the pinnacle of his ministry and everything else flowed from there. On Saturday, for example, he began the day with Mass in Philly, at the Cathedral Basilica of St Peter, followed by participating in a late-afternoon speech on religious freedom and immigration at Independence Hall, where the Founding Fathers signed the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution. He spoke from the lectern Abraham Lincoln used to deliver the "Gettysburg Address".

The Pope was the main attraction at the World Meeting of Families, a conference for more than 18,000 people from around the world. The weekend included a Saturday night vigil and concluded with an outdoor Mass Sunday evening for 1 million people, on the broad Benjamin Franklin Parkway.

Commentators are amazed how this "the 78-year-old Argentine" holds up with such an arduous schedule. To quote the Huffington Post, *"His secret, said Vatican officials, is simple: a strict regimen of sleeping, naps, prayer and meditation."* He fortifies the man on the inside or in other words, he builds up his spirit through prayer and invites others to pray for him! He exercises a rule of life for his spirit, soul and body. This is insightful and helpful for our call to service.

The message at worship on Sunday, September 27th shared in depth about this from the subject: "God is committed to working through you!"

Disciplines of sleep, prayer, naps, meditation and physical activity are significant empowerments that mark the life of the Pope. He attends to his whole humanity with a humility cultivated in Godly reverence. Watching his visit gives witness to a colleague's comment that "something happens to us when we center ourselves in the Word of God, listening for God's voice, responding to God's call, which makes what would be impossible to the outside world possible to us as people of faith."

Fifty Years
1965 – 1991 – 2015

As some of you know, Millie Clarke recently traveled to Great Lakes, IL, site of Navy Recruit Training. She was honored and privileged to witness her grandson, Kiel Lamb, graduate from Boot Camp. In 1991, Millie traveled to San Antonio, TX, to witness her daughter Cathy, graduate from Air Force Recruit Training. Fifty years earlier, Millie began her Boot Camp in the Navy at Bainbridge, MD. She was then transferred to Great Lakes, IL, for Corps School (Medic) training. How fast time travels.

Millie was able to share her Fifty Year story the night before the graduation, at a Meet and Greet reception, where all Veterans were honored. Millie asks us to please remember all our service men and women in your prayers with special mention of her grandson Kiel.

Testimony Of Appreciation

On Sunday, September 20th, our Congregation was honored to have Michael speak to us, following the Sermon. Michael wanted to express his sincere appreciation to our Church for allowing the Aiken Central Group, of the Alcoholics Anonymous, to meet in our Disciple House. This group and their meetings have had a lasting and positive impact upon him and his life. All those present, who heard Michael speak, were moved by his words and many gained insight into the importance of the AA Program. Thank you Michael!

Trash And Treasures Sale

The DWF wants to thank everyone who donated and/or helped with the sale. It was a lot of work with a very successful result. The sale yielded about \$1500 which will be directed to missions. THANKS AGAIN!

Thank You

During the long, hot and often rainless summer, our plants were able to survive because Joanne Caldwell and Elsie Smith expended much energy and time watering. Thank you ladies!

Reminders

Always be mindful that God wants us to be in prayer and be aware how important our communication with Him is to us individually and as a community of God's people. Within your prayer time, remember to pray for our Church daily at whatever time works for you.

On Sunday, October 4th, there is an opportunity to give a special offering to the Reconciliation Ministry of the Christian Church, Disciples of Christ. Matthew 5:23-24 is the basis for the Christian concept of "**Move Together, Heal Together, Bound Together.**"

Dates To Remember

Regional Conference Friday-Sunday, October 1-4, Poplar Hill Christian Church, Cross, SC
DWF Thursday, October 8, at 5:15 PM in Fellowship Hall
DMF Saturday, October 10, 8 AM in Fellowship Hall
Carry-In Meal on Sunday, October 11, following the Worship Service
Board Meeting Tuesday, October 13, 6 PM in Fellowship Hall
DMF Regional Meeting, October 15, 7 PM at Central Christian Church
Christmount Week, October 20-23, 2015 – “Living Your Passion Inside Out”
Choir Practice at 3 PM in Sanctuary on Thursdays
Tai Chi in Fellowship Hall on Thursdays at 5:30 PM
(except the second Thursday of October)

ACTS is requesting donations of canned fruit for the month of October. Please leave your donation in the Church Office. Thank you for your support.