

NEWS FROM FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DOC)
DECEMBER 2016
PRAYER REQUESTS

David Cook (Ray Cook's brother), Francesco Cristofaro, Rick Spleth, Kenneth Chatto, Erin Washington, Jack Gilbert, Connie Santee, Nancy Shelley, Jim Bailey, Dave Defrehn, Charlie, Brooks Palmer, 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, Steve Lyons, Sabrina, Dorothea, Selma Devich, Pat & Charles Brackett, Robert, Jean Hunt, Nancy Tappe, 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), 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 and our military services and our country's leaders.

THE WHISPER OF CHRISTMAS

“There is no evidence of any kind regarding the date of Jesus' birth. His nativity began to be celebrated on December 25th in Rome during the early part of the fourth century (AD 336) as a Christian counterpart to the pagan festival, popular among the worshipers of Mithras, called *Sol Invictus*, the *Unconquerable Sun*. At the very moment when the days are the shortest and darkness seems to have conquered light, the sun passes its nadir. Days grow longer, and although the cold will only increase for quite a long time, the ultimate conquest of winter is sure. This astronomical process is a parable of the career of the Incarnate One. At the moment when history is (gloomiest), and in the least expected and obvious place, the Son of God is born . . .

Proclamation 2 – Frederich Borsch & David Napier

Remember this advent season is all about Christ! Join in keeping Christ in Christmas as we spend time with loved ones and share our gifts of love!

CHURCH HUMOR: THE HAND OF GOD

Little Philip was walking home in the rain with his mother following Sunday worship. It finally stopped raining as they rounded the corner, where to their surprise and delight appeared a vivid double rainbow in the sky. “Doesn't it look like an artist painted this rainbow?”, his mother exclaimed. “I bet God painted this just for you!”. “Yes,” replied Philip, “God did it, and he did it left handed.” Confused, his mother asked him, “What makes you say God did it with his left hand.” “Well”, said Philip, “we learned in Sunday School that Jesus sits on God's right hand.”

God's Love,

Sotello

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

At the congregational meeting held on November 6, 2016 the Congregation approved next year's budget and elected the following officers for 2017:

Board Chair	John Roth
Vice Chair	Buzz Cheadle
Secretary	Susan Poster Ullmann
Church Clerk	Caroline Hale
Financial Secretary	Caroline Hale
Treasurer	Jim Mitchell

Trustees	Buzz Cheadle, Don Pruett, John Roth
Elders	Ida Bassi, Buzz Cheadle, Jim Mitchell, Don Pruett, John Roth
Diaconate	Robin Brooks, Millie Clark, Frances Finfrock, Scott Finfrock, Lucy Ready, Elsie Smith

DWF NEWS

The annual Tri-Development Christmas Party will be held on Thursday, December 8th at 12pm in Fellowship Hall. The Christmas Gift-a-Way will be held on Saturday, December 10th from 9am-12pm in classroom 3. Donations will be accepted for the Gift-a-Way.

CHRISTMAS OFFERING

This year's offering will be given on December 18th. The monies raised from this offering help support various ministries in our region, including revitalizing existing congregations, programs for children, ordaining new pastors and providing resources for congregations. Please be a little more generous on this day, as 10% of all money raised through this offering will go to support these programs.

CONGREGATIONAL UPDATES

Please note correct spelling of **Earnestine Goggans's** name and her correct email address:
ecgoggans1@gmail.com

DATES TO REMEMBER

Tai Chi in Fellowship Hall, Thursdays at 5:30 PM (due to low attendance Tai Chi will only be held once a week until further notice)
Choir Practice, Thursdays at 4 PM in Sanctuary
Cropping Group every Thursday except December 1st at 10am in classroom 1
DWF Meeting, Thursday, December 1st at 10am in Fellowship Hall
Joseph Cobb will be our guest minister on December 4th
Tri-Development Christmas Party, Thursday, December 8th at 12pm in Fellowship Hall
Christmas Give-a-Way, Saturday, December 10th 9am-12pm in Classroom 3
DMF Meeting, Saturday, December 10th at 8am in Fellowship Hall
FCC Elders/Deacons Meeting, Tuesday, December 13th at 5:15pm in Pastor's Office
FCC Board Meeting, Tuesday, December 13th at 6pm in Fellowship Hall
Carry In, December 11th following Worship Service in Fellowship Hall
Christmas Eve Service, Saturday, December 24 at 7pm in Sanctuary
ACTS is requesting donations of canned vegetables for the month of December