

**NEWS FROM FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DOC)**  
**JANUARY 1, 2017**  
**PRAYER REQUESTS**

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The Family of David Cook (Ray Cook's brother), Natalie Lawrence's Father, Susan Poster Ullmann, Alan Harrus (Capital Area DOC), Family of Sheri, Cheray Newsome, Maya Cummings, Sue Ellis, Freddie Chapman, Francesco Cristofaro, Kenneth Chatto, Connie Santee, Brooks Palmer, Ray Cook, Linda Markham, Wanda Doleshall, John Roth and family, Sabrina, Jean Hunt, Chuck & Ida Bassi, Connie Moomjy, Clara Benfield, Sally Clayton, Dot Rucker, 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.

**VERY IMPORTANT MESSAGE**

**We will be holding an all church Congregational Planning Workshop on Saturday, January 28, beginning at 9:00 am. Everyone is encouraged to attend as we seek together to follow the Spirit's guidance and direction as a church. Come ready to pray, listen, question, and engage in the dialogue about where we see God leading us as Christ's church in the coming year.**

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

**Let this be our theme for the New Year to "Praise God and Do Good to Others!" The theme is based on Hebrews 13:15-16.**

"Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased." NIV

I share with you the following general church **Mission Priority**:

*The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), called by Christ and following the powerful leading of the Spirit, participates in God's mission for wholeness. Together with global and ecumenical ministry partners, we seek to equip spiritual leaders, grounded in Scripture and centered on Christ, for the sake of the whole church and all God's world.*

*For this moment in time, **we encourage the church to focus on the lives of children, youth, and young adults**, whose witness, gifts, and leadership we gratefully receive.*

*With this priority, Disciples continue to call for intentional and collaborative efforts to:*

- Provide compassionate protection and care for the vulnerable;*
- Create inclusive, learning communities of healing and transformation; and*
- Resist racism and other forms of injustice, affirming fullness of life for all God's people.*

Looking forward to seeing you and sharing God's love in the New Year!!!

Pastor Sotello

## **HONORED RECOGNITION**

Minister Joseph Cobb, who has recently been a guest preacher at our church on several occasions, was honored on December 10<sup>th</sup>. This honor was for his dedicated work to Kingdom Building and was bestowed by the National Body of Christ Ministries in Partnership with the International Bible Institute and School of the Great Commission. Along with 24 other Senior Pastors, Church Leaders, Community Leaders and Community Activists, Minister Cobb was conferred with an Honorary Doctorate Degree.

## **SOUPER BOWL OF CARING**

**FEBRUARY 5, 2017**

You will have an opportunity to donate to the SOUPER BOWL OF CARING on Super Bowl Sunday. The donations will be given to Golden Harvest Food Bank in order to help feed those in need in our community. Golden Harvest works with ACTS here in Aiken to accomplish this goal locally. Please give generously.

## **CONGREGATIONAL BREAKFAST**

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 7<sup>TH</sup> AT 8 AM**

The first Saturday of January, the DMF will be serving breakfast in the Fellowship Hall. Following the breakfast we will all pitch in to take the Christmas decorations down. **The food is good and all help is appreciated!**

## **TAI CHI CLASS SCHEDULE CHANGE**

The revised Tai Chi class schedule has classes occurring weekly on Thursdays in the Fellowship Hall at our Church. The Beginners Class meets at 4:30pm and the Intermediate Class meets at 5:30 pm.

## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

DWF Meeting, Thursday, January 5<sup>th</sup>, at 10am in Fellowship Hall  
Crafting Group meets every Thursday at 10am in Classroom 1  
Choir Practice, Thursdays at 3 pm in Sanctuary  
Tai Chi in Fellowship Hall, Thursdays at 4:30 pm and 5:30 pm  
Congregational Breakfast, Saturday, January 7<sup>th</sup> at 8 am in Fellowship Hall  
Carry In, January 8<sup>th</sup> following Worship Service in Fellowship Hall  
FCC Elders Meeting, Tuesday, January 10<sup>th</sup> at 5:15pm in Pastor's Office  
FCC Board Meeting, Tuesday, January 10<sup>th</sup> at 6pm in Fellowship Hall  
Congregational Planning Workshop, Saturday, January 28<sup>th</sup> at 9 am

ACTS donations for the month of January have not been identified. Please feel free to donate any nonperishable food items. Please leave your donations in the Church Office.

Thank you for your support!