

## NEWS FROM FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DOC)

APRIL 1, 2017

### PRAYER REQUESTS

The Family of Dot Rucker, Family of Alma (Pug) Turner, Andrea Lutz, Shan Ochrenyk, Susan Poster Ullmann, Edna & Wayne Deweese, Melissa Rearden, The Lee Family, Natalie Lawrence and Family, Gustafson Family, Elizabeth Hughes, John Roth and Family, Margaret Logan, Helen Ozment, Newman Family, Virginia Samuel, Tonya & Kenneth Hillman, Inderrien Family, Mary Ann Mitchell, Mildred Ellis, Shelby Carter, Kenneth and Joanna Chatto, Michael & Carla, Tom Bodie, Gary Phillips, Rita Fernandez, Ray Cook, Wanda Doleshall, Chuck and Ida Bassi, Connie Moomjy, Clara Benfield, Sally Clayton, 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.

### New Members and Home Sweet Home!

*“Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were **added** to them. And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers” (Acts 2:41-42).*

We praise God for adding Paul and Pam Owen as the newest members of our church family, as they came forward during the invitation on Sunday March 26<sup>th</sup>. They along with Paula Jones, who joined our local expression of the Body of Christ on January 17, will participate in a New Member Orientation. We will study select scriptures from the Bible along with the book, *A Handbook for Today's Disciples*.

Dee and I thank God for your prayers as mom Mitchell was released from rehab on Friday March 24<sup>th</sup> to go home. Now our prayers are for God's grace to help her adjust and continue to be strengthened and supported at home! There's no place like home. Speaking of home, our Lord promises us an eternal home! A loving memorial service remembering the life of our beloved Dorothy “Dot” Rucker, was held on Thursday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>. She is dwelling in the glorious presence of God who has a holy city prepared for His people to live with Him. The revelation given to John tells us about a new heaven and a new earth. *“Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. Then I, John, saw the holy city, **New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, ‘Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God’**” (Revelation 21:1-3).*

Thank God for such a blessed hope in his word.

Pastor Long

### DOROTHY VAIL RUCKER

Dot Rucker went home to be with her Lord and Savior on March 20, 2017. Dot was such a ray of sunshine, bringing warmth into our hearts and light into her family and friends' lives. We will miss Dot but we will always remember her.

## **EASTER OFFERING TO BE COLLECTED ON SUNDAY, APRIL 9, 2017**

On Palm Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, we will be designating a minimum of 10% of our total offering to the Easter Offering for the Disciples Mission Fund. For this reason, you may want to consider adding a little extra to your regular offering or give separately to the Easter Offering, designating your offering for this purpose. The Disciple Mission Fund supports Global Ministries, National Benevolent Association, Disciples Home Missions, Central Pastoral Office for Hispanic Ministries, North American Pacific/Asian Disciples and National Convocation, Center for Faith and Giving and Communication Ministries, Council on Christian Unity and the Disciples of Christ Historical Society. Your worship bulletin on April 9<sup>th</sup> will contain a flyer with more information. Please feel free to ask Pastor Long for more details if needed.

## **CARRY IN – SUNDAY, APRIL 9, 2017**

The Disciple Women Fellowship will be having a Baby Picture Contest in association with the Carry In. EVERYONE is encouraged to submit to Susan Poster Ullmann, or leave in the office, a baby picture which is not identified as to its' ownership. The contest is to see who can identify the most pictures. It is a lot of fun as some of us do not favor, in looks, our pictures!

## **MAY CARRY IN – CHANGE OF DATE**

The May Carry In will be held on Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup> as Mother's Day falls on our regular second Sunday date. Please mark your calendars with this change.

## **OLDE ANTIOCH DAY – SUNDAY, April 23, 2017**

The Annual Old Antioch Day will be held on Sunday, April 23, 2017, at 4 PM in Allendale, SC. Antioch Christian Church was organized in 1833 and was the second Christian Church (DOC) founded in South Carolina, with the first baptism taking place on February 24, 1838. Since the 1970's, a yearly special service has occurred at the site each year, on the Sunday following Easter. A dinner follows the service. If you are interested in more details, please contact Jim Mitchell.

## **DISCIPLE MENS' DISTRICT 3 MEETING AT OUR CHURCH** **Thursday, April 20, 2017, at 7 PM**

The District 3 DMF will be meeting at our Church for fellowship and food. Buzzy and his helpers will be providing the nourishment. ALL MEN should attend as you will be representing our Church as the Host Church and have an opportunity to meet other Disciple men from our area.

## **FLOWERS FOR THE CROSS ON EASTER SUNDAY**

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 door where you can leave your flowers during the Worship Service. Thank you for your participation in this event.

## **LET THE GAMES BEGIN!**

**Wednesday, May 10, 2017**

We are planning a Game Night and your help is needed. Do you have a favorite game? Are you willing to facilitate a game table? Perhaps you are gifted at cards, Trivia, Mexican Train or Mahjong. Stop by the Fellowship Hall and on the kitchen counter you will find a sign-up sheet. The sheet will contain information that will greatly help in the planning of Game Night. Thank you for your help.

## **WEEK OF COMPASSION OFFERINGS**

As of Sunday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, the Week of Compassion Offerings, which were collected in the "You Are Here" offering boxes, have totaled \$238.05. THANK YOU to everyone for your generosity on behalf of this ministry. We can't be there to offer our help in times of need, but we have shown our support through our Week of Compassion Offerings.

## **TAI CHI CLASS SCHEDULE**

There will be no Tai Chi classes taught at First Christian Church through the month of April, 2017. The instructor is travelling during this time.

## **PRAYER LIST**

Submissions to the Prayer List will remain on the list for one month unless the Church Secretary, Caroline Hale, is notified that an entry should continue. This policy is necessary because in some incidents we never hear back as to when someone needs to be removed. Thank you for your help in this regard.

## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

DWF Meeting, Thursday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, at 10am in Fellowship Hall

DMF Meeting, Saturday April 8<sup>th</sup> at 8am in Fellowship Hall

Carry In, Saturday April 9<sup>th</sup> following Worship Service in Fellowship Hall

Baby Photo Contest, April 9<sup>th</sup> during Carry In

Elders Meeting, April 11<sup>th</sup> at 5:15pm in Pastor's Office

Board Meeting, April 11<sup>th</sup> at 6pm in Fellowship Hall

DMF District 3 Mens' Meeting, April 20<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in our Church

Crafting Group meets every Thursday at 10am in Classroom 1

Choir Practice, Thursdays at 4 pm in Sanctuary

ACTS donation for the month of April is Toothpaste. Please leave your donations in the Church Office. Thank you for your support!