

**NEWS FROM FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DOC)**  
**MAY 1, 2018**

**PRAYER REQUESTS:** Cindy Whaley, Anna Weekley, Diane Warren, Elizabeth Mathers, Mildred Ellis, Maria Keitzas, Allene W. Riley, Family of John Roth, Family of Ed Baria, Family of Barry Lambert, Liana, Chris Henderson, Marilyn and Bob Sullivan, Artesia Dickson, Patricia Long, Debra Barnham, Patricia Masters, Pam and Sean Huet, Jennifer Steele, Jan Mathers Jenkins, Genny and George Fansmith, Jim and Jane Williams Also encouragement for those in need.

**CONTINUING PRAYERS FOR:** Dr. Walter Allen, Jewel Jones, Neal Mitchell, Wanda Doleshall, Kenneth & Joanna Chatto, Sandy Gullickson, Sabrina, Ray Cook, Millie Clarke, Connie Santee, Eliza Husser Cave, Bill Carroll, Chuck & Ida Bassi, Connie Moomjy, Clara Benfield, Sally Clayton, Pastor Keith Weekley, Pam Owen, and those seeking employment, our public safety services, military services and our country's leaders. and those seeking employment, our public safety services, military services and our country's leaders.

**FROM THE PASTOR...**

I have been remiss in thanking you.

Thank you for all the prayers and expressions of sympathy in the losses I have experienced over the past two or so months. You were so kind when I had to have our dog put to sleep because of her metastatic breast cancer. I was with her at the end of her life as she looked to me to end her pain.

I lost my sister, Linda, a beautiful, sweet Christian woman who had only love for everybody she met. Ed, her husband passed three weeks later. Then, three days after Ed passed, my oldest nephew, Barry Lambert died of complications of colon cancer. It was too much, too soon, but you were so supportive. Buzzy told me there is a cloud over me right now and I certainly feel it is true, but you are the rays of God's sunshine that bring joy to my heart. Thank you!

Then you went out of your way to wish me a happy birthday on April 15, with a cake, good wishes, so many cards, gifts, even money. Thank you!

There is no doubt that I feel so very loved, and I should. You may grow weary of my saying so, but you are the greatest, most loving church I have been blessed to serve and I love you so much!

Thank you for being who you are. God is pleased!

Pastor Keith Weekley

**MAY CARRY IN – CHANGE OF DATE**

The May Carry In will be held on the third Sunday of May, May 20<sup>th</sup>. This change is because Mother's Day falls on our regular second Sunday date. Please mark your calendars with this change.

**TRASH & TREASURES BOUTIQUE**

Our April sale netted \$34. Our next sale will be Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup> from 9am-2pm. We are in need of volunteers to help with the sale. Please see Susan or Judee Mitchell if you are interested in helping us. Donations are still being accepted in classroom 3. If you leave donations, please price them. There are price tags available in classroom 3.

## HAVE A LISTEN: PAGENTRY, HISTORY AND CHRISTIAN

On Wednesday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, Pastor Weekley, Caroline Hale, Margaret Logan and Bryan Riley visited Clara Benfield in her home on Parrot Street in Aiken, South Carolina. As I share this wonderful experience with you, I must say Mrs. Benfield has a fabulous sense of humor and an amazing ability to recall experiences from her youth to senior adulthood. We were entertained, gained some knowledge of historical significance and had communion. Provided are photos of Pastor Weekley serving communion to Mrs. Benfield. Upon completion of communion and prayer an alluring fellowship followed.



Pastor Serving Communion Bread to Mrs. Benfield



Pastor Serving Communion Wine to Mrs. Benfield



Pictured in upper right corner: Sisters Virginia (left) and Clare (right)

## **PENTECOST SPECIAL OFFERING 2018**

**MAY 20, 2018**

### **“Planting churches can help change the world”**

“Planting a church can make a huge and lasting impression in the community ‘By empowering the oppressed, praying for the disenfranchised, caring for the poor and promoting hope in a fragmented world, the church can literally help change the world,’ he adds.

Each year, half of the Pentecost Offering is designated to the local Christian Disciples Region/Area in an effort to start and sustain new churches. The other half is used by Hope Partnership to support the recruitment, assessment, training and coaching of new church leaders at events like Leadership Academy.

Disciples are on course to starting 1,000 new churches by 2020. For additional information, visit [www.hopepmt.org](http://www.hopepmt.org).”

During our Worship Service on May 20<sup>th</sup>, you will have the opportunity to donate to the Pentecost Offering, using the offering envelope that you can find in your bulletin. More information will accompany the bulletin through an inserted flyer.

Thank you for your consideration in this regard.

### **A THANK YOU FROM CAROLINE HALE**

As Christians we are asked to serve our Church with the talent we each possess, which is why I volunteered as Church Secretary. I appreciate the card and gift I received recently. As the Church Secretary, I believed that that position would be the best use of the talents I had been given. My tenure served as a learning experience for me, especially when it came to the use of the computer. But, with the help of many patient individuals, I began to feel comfortable with this task, although never achieving the status of complete competency. It was my pleasure and enjoyment to work with the Congregation and Ministerial staff over the years. Thank you to each of you for your patience and understanding in dealing with the Church Office as we all try to do the work of First Christian Church.

### **ANGELS AMONG US**

I participated in this annual fundraiser on April 28<sup>th</sup> to help raise money to find a cure for glioblastoma, a stage 4 brain cancer. I was diagnosed with this disease on October 1, 2006 and underwent surgery, radiation and chemotherapy. My co-captain, Jodi Novak, and I, raised money for our team, “ Because Gray Matters”. We raised \$9,958 this year, and the grand total for the event set another record of \$2,305,370! All the proceeds go to the Preston Robert Tisch Brain Tumor Center at Duke. Robin Brooks and my dog, Sukie, also traveled to Duke to participate. The researchers at Duke are closer than ever to finding a cure as they are seeking FDA approval that increases the survival rate for this dreadful disease by 400%. Currently, the survival rate is less than 5%. Thanks to everyone that donated money to this worthwhile cause.

Susan Poster Ullmann

### **BOOK SIGNING**

“Powers Beyond” is the title of a novel by Charles Brakett that every Christian will want to read. The story focuses on a young man who has powers beyond our capability because of surgeries that were done to save his life following an auto accident. The young man is not a Christian as the story begins, but he is in love with a young lady who will not marry him because of this. The novel contains suspense, intrigue, espionage, as well as other mysteries. It is a Christian fantasy and science fiction story rolled into one!

The author will be at the Aiken County Museum (Banksia) on June 9 for a book signing.

## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

Elders Meeting, Tuesday, May 8th at 5pm at the church  
Board Meeting, May 8th at 6pm in Fellowship Hall  
DMF Meeting, Saturday, May 12<sup>th</sup> at 8am in Fellowship Hall  
Trash & Treasures Boutique, Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup> from 9am-2pm in Classroom 3  
Carry-In, Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup> following the Worship Service  
Baby Picture Contest, May 20<sup>th</sup> during carry-in  
DWF Meeting, Thursday, May 24<sup>th</sup> at 10am in Fellowship Hall  
Crafting Group meets every Monday at 10am in Classroom 1  
Choir Practice, Thursdays at 4 pm in Sanctuary  
Tai Chi, Thursdays, beginners class 3pm and advanced class 5:30pm in Fellowship Hall

ACTS donation for the month of May is pasta sauce.  
Please leave your donations in the Church Office. Thank you for your support!