



**NEWS FROM FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DOC)**  
**February 1, 2019**

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:**

*Linda Cheadle, Family of Kathy Baldus, Nancy Sheale, Francisco Catlan, Floor 7 NE wing, Maria Henley, Susan Poster Ullmann, Joanna Chatto, Dan McElvoy, Jim and Judee Mitchell, Hay Guyon, Children of New York, Women of Rowanda and for our Country.*

**CONTINUING PRAYERS FOR:**

*Pastor Keith Weekley, Chuck & Ida Bassi, Eliza Husser Cave, Sally Clayton, Clara Benfield, Millie Clarke, Roger Ozmet, Selma Devich, Dr. Walter Allen, Neal Mitchell, Bill Carroll, Pam Owen, Anna Weekley, Connie Santee, Jewel Jones, Wanda Doleshall, Kenneth & Joanna Chatto, Ray Cook, Sabrina, Connie Moomjy, those in public service, military service and those traveling.*

**MESSAGE FROM PASTOR IRENE**

January was a wonderful month filled with good worship and new life. We began with Epiphany and the visit from the Wise Ones to the Christ Child.

Much thanks to Charlotte Chatto, Paul Wilson and Joey Albritton – and to Judee Mitchell for the wonderful costumes. Also thanks to everyone who brought their gifts of soup for ACTS. We enjoyed a chili themed carry-in. We also installed our church leaders for this calendar year, and ended that day of worship with a blessing of the hands service to celebrate the gifts the Holy Spirit gives to each one of us.

In February, we will continue exploring the Apostle Paul's teachings to the church at Corinth and what those teachings mean for our congregation today. We are the body of Christ – come bring your gifts as we worship and serve the Living Christ as his Disciples.

## **A VERY BIG “THANK YOU”**

We have been very blessed for a long time to have Scott Finfrock so graciously agree to be present each Sunday, acting as our sound person during our Worship Service. Scott not only so expertly does the best with the equipment we have available but also records the Worship Service for our Website. Please stop by the sound room, at the back of the Sanctuary, and personally thank Scott for the time and effort he shares with us.

## **THE SUCCESS OF OUR MONTHLY CARRY-INS**

Have you ever wondered how our monthly Carry-Ins seem to be presented and run so smoothly? The Elders and Deacons who are serving during each month are responsible for that month's Carry-In. The preparation includes table arranging, decorations if desired, making of tea and clean-up.

There is also one very important fact I have not mentioned. Millie Clarke has for many years, when she is available, taken on the task of receiving, arranging and presenting the food and helping with the clean-up. Her help in this capacity has been greatly appreciated and we really miss her when she is not available. THANK YOU MILLIE, for your service to our Church in this capacity!



## **ROYALTY VISITS AIKEN**

On January 6<sup>th</sup> we were visited by three kings bearing gifts. Epiphany and the kings inspire us to give as well. Our gifts of soup were taken to ACTs for those in need.

**“MORE THAN WE CAN IMAGINE”**  
**Ephesians 3:14-21**  
**WEEK OF COMPASSION OFFERING**

The Christian Church (DOC) has designated February 17-24 as this year’s Special Offering for Week Of Compassion, with the theme “More than we can Imagine!” The scripture “Ephesians 3:20, reminds us that we are not alone in our imagining a better world for all God’s children, for it is God’s imagination that fuels and empowers ours! You see, God imagines a world where:

No one is left the ravages of natural disaster along...

God can work through all events to bring new life, new hope,  
and even more resilience;

Clean and abundant water and ample sanitation...

Work brings security from hunger and the land is treated with respect;

Families displaced from their homes are able to build new lives;

Women are no longer subject to discrimination and gender-based  
violence.”

“Week of Compassion works through a remarkable network of church partner organizations and partnerships that insures that our response to humanitarian needs in the world is efficient, effective and faithful. Through these partnerships, Disciples are able to join a tapestry of caring that brings help and hope to hurting people in every corner of the world.”

We hope you will use the blessing boxes, which were first available on January 20<sup>th</sup>, to recognize blessings in your life and honor them with a donation to your box. We are asking you to return your box during the Worship Service on Sunday, February 24<sup>th</sup>. These donations will be our Church’s Week of Compassion Offering for 2019. Your total offering can be given in the form of a check or cash which you can identify with your name if you wish. Thank you and if you have any questions, please ask Caroline Hale.

**NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY UPDATE**

We are on our seventh proof of the directory, hopefully that will be our lucky number and they will be here soon. Pat Wilson has a new cell phone number, which will be in the new directory.

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS WHICH WEEKLY STUDIES THE BIBLE**

On the average, each Sunday morning, about ten to fourteen of us gather at 9:30 AM for the purpose of learning more about the Bible, Jesus and how we can hopefully become better Christians in our individual lives. We have a study guide for each lesson and a teacher (or facilitator as some want to be called) who shares with us the lesson material and leads the discussions. Discussions are insightful and lively.

Our Class takes up a collection which in 2018 totaled \$1417.00 for the year. The Class has decided that this money would go to organizations which are helping our society. During 2018, one half of the money collected was designated for distribution to Southeaster Children's Home in Duncan, SC, and the other half went to Aiken County Senior Services which distributes and serves meals on wheels to seniors in need of such support.

Please think about joining us on Sunday. We would love to have you!

### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

February 3 DWF 10:00 AM Fellowship Hall  
February 9 DMF 8:00 AM Fellowship Hall  
February 10 Carry-In, following Worship Service  
February 12 Board Meeting 6:00 PM Fellowship Hall  
February 16 Trash & Treasures Sale, 9:00 AM Classroom 3  
February 24 Special Offering: Blessing Boxes for Week of Compassion

### **WEEKLY ACTIVITIES**

Mondays:     Crafting, 12:00 to 1:30 in the Library  
Thursday:    Tai Chi Beginning 3:00 in the Fellowship Hall  
                  Choir Practice 4 pm in the Sanctuary  
Sunday:      Sunday School 9:30 in the Fellowship Hall  
                  Worship Service: 11:00 in the Sanctuary

**ACTS DONATION** for the month of February is Toothpaste/Toothbrush  
Please leave your donations in the Church Office. Thank you for your support!

### **THIS MONTH IN SERVICE**

Deacons are Scott and Frances Finfrock  
Elders are Jim Mitchell and Ida Bassi