



NEWS FROM FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DOC)

July 3, 2020

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Nancy Hale Family, Mekelle Turner, the Family of Amy Whaley, Marilyn, Susan Cheadle, Althea, Cindy Whaley Jim Mitchell, Kathy Campbell, Ernie and Allison Sizemore, Carol Kettel, for all church families and ministries of all churches across the world, for all law enforcement personnel who are doing their job, We lift prayer to understand our needs and differences and strength to get through challenges.

CONTINUING PRAYERS FOR:

Chuck & Ida Bassi, Wanda Doleshall, Selma Devich, Millie Clarke, Eliza Husser Cave, Joann Caldwell, Sally Clayton, Dan McAvoy, Connie Moomjy Susan Poster Ullmann, Linda Cheadle, Robin Brooks, our Regional Church, Dr. Walter Allen, Pam Owen, Connie Santee, Kenneth & Joanna Chatto, Sabrina, those in public service, military service and for our Country and all victims of the corona virus.

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR IRENE

Here it is July and the Covid-19 is not only still with us, but more rampant than ever! I continue to pray for each one of you and the daily steps you are taking to stay safe. We will continue to offer home worship options such as the Facebook live and the teleconference worship, while also still providing a safe space and safe worship practices for those of you who chose to worship in the sanctuary. Our new Regional Minister, Dr. Dara Cobb-Lewis, worshipped with us this past Sunday via Facebook live. She has also started having monthly Pastor's meetings via Zoom on the first Tuesday evening of each month. I am excited for her call to our Regional Church and the energy and support she brings to the Region at this time. Your involvement and membership in First Christian Church Aiken also makes you an automatic member of the Regional Church of South Carolina. I pray that added layer of "membership" keeps all of us connected to the church as larger than ourselves, and mindful of the ways we are called to live out our faith and church identity in relationship with others.

TEN YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHURCH REMODEL

This month is the ten year anniversary of the Dedication of the newly remodeled Sanctuary, Prayer Room and Fellowship Hall. In normal times, we would have a special recognition and gathering to celebrate this occasion together the way we normally celebrate anniversaries – with food and in-person fellowship. We will incorporate a special recognition and thank you during our worship service on July 19th – and have to let the food and fellowship wait for safer times. If you have memories of the renovation process, the Dedication or of use_of the new space, please call or email me and I can incorporate your memories into our celebration on July 19th.



OUTDOOR VESPER SERVICE

Our next outdoor Vesper service will be held on Thursday, July 23rd at 6pm (weather permitting). Our first one was well attended and we enjoyed excellent weather (especially for late June in South Carolina!). Bring a lawn chair and a mask and any prayer requests and join us.

OOPS

Please let one of the Deacons, Caroline or the office know if there is are any spills in the sanctuary. Caroline has a cleaner that really works.

If you purchased Tuna at Walmart in April you may have left a foot care product behind. It is on the desk in the office.

FAMILY PROMISE UPDATE

Family Promise of Aiken County is following the national Family Promise organization in a change in direction necessitated by the Covid-19. Rather than have families housed in congregations as was the original and very successful plan, Family Promise affiliates are changing to more of a case-manager role and helping families with temporary traditional housing in motels. The Family Promise of Aiken County is expanding its Board of Directors and working hard with fund raising and resource management to be able to begin accepting families within the next six months. After much prayer and discernment, I have resigned as Board Secretary effective June 30, 2020. I will continue to support Family Promise and encourage interested church members to stay involved; however felt the shift in focus and the expansion of the Board was an excellent time for me to let that go. I have enjoyed getting to know the other Board members and being involved in Family Promise. Thank you for allowing me that opportunity.

ACTS SEEKING VOLUNTEERS

ACTS is seeking volunteers for the following positions. Those who wish to volunteer should be willing to wear a mask, and they prefer volunteers who are not in high risk groups. These are the areas where volunteers are needed.

1. Help with **Food Pantry**
 - *Place orders for food*
 - *Keep inventory at proper levels*
 - *Assure paperwork is documented*
2. Volunteers for **Food Pick-up**
3. Volunteers for **Furniture Pick-up**
4. Volunteers in the **Graniteville Resale Store**

Please call 803-649-3800 for more information or to receive a volunteer application. Or you may access applications on the ACTS website at www.actsofaiken.org.

WORD OF THANKS

Jim Mitchell for his work as Treasurer, Elder and many years of service to the church.

Bryan Riley for willingness to always be helpful when asked.

The DWF for their missions work.

Earnestine Goggans for her work as Deacon.

ACTS DONATION for the month of July is Peanut Butter.

CANCELLATIONS:

Until further notice the following are canceled:

Monday Crafting

Thursday Choir

Carry In

COMMUNION KIT REFILLS

Communion Refill kits are available from 1-2 on the last Sunday of the month. They will also be available during the Vesper services at 6:00 pm on the last Thursday of the month.

DATES TO REMEMBER

July 4	postponed DWF
July 12	canceled: Carry In
July 14	Board Meeting 6:00 pm phone conference
July 18	Trash & Treasures Sale 9:00 am Room 3
July 19	cancelled: Deacon meeting
July 30	Vesper Service 6:00 PM Garden

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