



NEWS FROM FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DOC)
December 5, 2021

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Family of Ruth Causey, Lauri Caldwell, Kimoko Malone, Donna Shane, Kay Malone, Barbara Williams, Anne Harmon, Sue Ellis, Elsie Smith, Penny Slayton, Austin Moede, Pitza Steller, and for those facing natural disasters of flooding and fire, for those in the medical profession, and for the victims of criminal violence.

CONTINUING PRAYERS FOR:

Paul & Pam Owen, Susan Poster Ullmann, Kenneth Chatto, Dan McAvoy, Millie Clarke, Carlie Beth, Martha Albritton, Carol Kettel, Sally Clayton, Linda Cheadle, Connie Moomjy, Wanda Doleshall, Robin Brooks, Sabrina, Eliza Husser Cave, Dr. Walter Allen, Connie Santee, our Regional Church, those in public service, military service for our Country and all victims of the corona virus.

Pastor's Note:

We began the four weeks of Advent with last Sunday's service. Advent is a time of reflection, remembering and also anticipating the future of what God has planned for each of us, and for our congregation. Please join us for Advent worship, and for the special services that are rich parts of the Advent / Christmas season. All services are held in person and also streamed on Facebook live.

Christmas Eve Reception returns! Pastor Irene, Ed and Joey invite you to join them in a time of fellowship and food as they host their second Christmas Eve reception prior to the Candelight service. The reception will be in the Fellowship Hall, beginning at 4:00 pm on Friday, December 24th. The first one was held in 2019 in our pre-Covid times and was a time of fun, good food (and punch!) and fellowship. Come join us again this year – feel free to invite a friend or bring family.

Blue Christmas Worship Service - Holidays bring about certain times and memories of joy; however they also can be times of sadness, grief and change. The Blue Christmas service, held near the shortest day of the year, gives voice in worship to the difficulties that are also part of the holidays. This is also an opportunity to invite friends, family and co-workers who might benefit from this type of worship.

DISCIPLES MISSION FUND CHRISTMAS OFFERING
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2021

This year's DMF Christmas Offering will be collected on Sunday, December 19th. The theme is "Imagine God's Love Revealed". This special day offering is to support the ministries of our regions, in the following areas:

- Connect congregations to each other
- Foster faith development
- Gather Disciples in camps, conferences and assemblies
- Nurture the development of a new generation of pastors
- Assist churches in calling new ministers
- Interpret the global mission of the Church
- Represent the Church in ecumenical gatherings
- Counsel and pray with those who are troubled of spirit
- Lead the Church to address racism
- Inspire leaders to experiment and create
- Witness to the power of God to make things new

The Christmas Special Day Offering supports all of these and many other ministries of our regions. Please consider your support of this offering. Thank you.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

For many years now Millie Clarke has been managing our card ministry. She sends out birthday cards, anniversary cards and cards for anyone who may need one. Unfortunately Millie will be leaving for her new home in January so we are in need of a new person to do the card ministry. Please contact the office if you are interested.

REMEMBERING JEAN

Jean Arnold passed away on November 14th, just six weeks after she moved to an Assisted Living in Nashville. Her son, Tony, wrote an obituary for us to use when the church held a Memorial Service for Jean on Wednesday, December 1st. Since the obituary was not published in the newspaper, we have included as an attachment to this newsletter for those of you who were unable to attend the service. Tony also wrote a beautiful tribute to Jean, which was read at the service. Copies of his letter will be available in the Fellowship Hall for anyone who would like to read it. The service is also recorded on Facebook and is still accessible.

SPECIAL HOLIDAY SERVICES

Sundays at 11am – Advent Worship Service

Sunday, December 19 – 3:00 pm – Blue Christmas Worship Service

Friday, December 24 – 5:30 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

THANKSGIVING OFFERING: DISCIPLES MISSION FUND

Our Congregation's Thanksgiving Offering to support the Christian Church's Colleges, Universities, Seminaries and Divinity Houses totaled \$280.00. THANK YOU to all who supported this offering. Your generosity is appreciated.



WORD OF THANKS

For Pastor Irene and Ed Albritton, June and Mike Wilson, Buzzy Cheadle, Natalie Lawrence and all those who set up our Christmas Decorations.

Buzzy Cheadle for the Thanksgiving meal.

Those who brought desserts for the auction.

Millie for her long service in the card ministry

OUR ACTS DONATION FOR December is: Pasta Sauce

DATES TO REMEMBER

December 4	DWF	11:00 am Fellowship
December 14	Board Meeting	6:00 pm Fellowship/Walk through
December 18	Trash and Treasure	9:00 am Classroom 3
December 19	Blue Christmas	3:00 pm Sanctuary
	Christmas Offering	
December 24	Christmas Eve Reception	4:00 pm Fellowship Hall
	Christmas Candlelight	5:30 pm Sanctuary

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Melba Jean Smith Arnold was born on November 3, 1935 in McMinnville, TN. and passed away on Sunday, November 14, 2021 in Nashville, TN. She is survived by her sons Anthony W. Arnold and Robert Steven Arnold, her beloved granddaughter Maria Tesla Arnold and her brother Wayne (Swanie) Smith. She was a devoted daughter and lovingly cared for both parents in their final years. Jean's family moved to Nashville, TN where she attended David Lipscomb High School and graduated from Lipscomb College. It was during this time she met and married Edmond (Eddy) Arnold. Jean was athletic in high school and college. She was an accomplished tennis player into her 50's and then took up golf. She also loved music, both playing the piano and singing in local choruses, including the choir at First Christian Aiken. Jean worked as a professional secretary and became active in the Nashville and Tennessee chapters of National Secretary Associations serving as an officer. She was proud of being crowned Secretary of the Year during this time. She developed a close circle of girlfriends that lasted their whole lives. She had a long career at Estes-Taylor rising from a secretarial role to Vice President and getting her Realtors license along the way. She left Estes-Taylor and started her own property investment and management company. When she started her own business, she also attended graduate school at night earning an MBA. After a period of semi-retirement, she moved to Aiken SC where lived until recently. She was an active member of First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Aiken SC. She loved her Cedar Creek community and her church, golf, and canasta friends. A memorial service was held on Wednesday, December 1st at 11:15 am at First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Aiken, SC.