



First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
December Newsletter

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NEWS FROM FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DOC)
January 1, 2023

Pastor's Note

In the Christmas Day sermon, I quoted a few lines from John Lennon's song "So This Is Christmas". Two of the lines were even more applicable as we begin a new year. The lines are "*another year over and a new one's just begun.*" We have finished 2022 and now have the gift and the opportunity to begin 2023. My prayer for each of you, and for us as a congregation, is that we will bring the joy of Christmas and our love for Christ, and for serving Christ, into this new year of 2023 as we be the church together - for each other, for our communities where we live, and for ourselves. Our own continued faith development as well as our connections to God and others are important parts of our health and well-being. I look forward to walking this journey with you as we continue to deepen our faith and keep it visible. Happy New Year and thank you for being an important part of First Christian Aiken!

Special Services for January

January 1st - New Year's Day What better way to begin the gift of a new year than to include Sunday worship in your New Year's Day plans.

January 8th - Epiphany Sunday As, we celebrate the Wise Men bringing their gifts to Jesus, we also have an opportunity to bring our gifts to share with ACTS and with Walking Tall Ministries. Please bring any of the following items which will be presented as part of the worship service. For ACTS, items needed include peanut butter, jelly, and pancake syrup. For Walking Tall, items needed include boxes of plastic spoons and forks, cans of Vienna sausage, and divided paper plates.

January 15th - Laity Sunday Within the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Laity Sunday is a special time when the lay people of the church often pause to consider their varied gifts for ministry, inside and outside the walls of the church building. Come celebrate the special role YOU have in the work of our church and our community. We will also have our annual installation of new Officers, Elders and Deacons. Also it is a perfect time to write a note of

thanks to the lay leaders in our church, letting them know how much you appreciate their ministry to our congregation.

Moving forward?

During the Covid shut downs, we made many changes to our worship time and protocols. One change was to email the bulletin out each week. We are re-evaluating that, and other than sending them to the Facebook part of our congregation, wondered if it was still helpful to email it weekly to the congregation as a whole. Please let Lynn or Pastor Irene know of your preference.

We are also updating our emergency profile information. We are asking you to update and complete this form which will be kept in the Church Office. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Irene. Thank you. **(See the attached separate document to fill out).**

Coming in January 2023!

January 14th - Breakfast at 9 am followed by taking down Christmas decorations.

Creation of New Church Directory

We will begin working on a new Church Directory in January 2023. This new directory will be in digital form but will still be available for those who do not access to a computer. The company we have worked with in the past is no longer doing church directories.

We will be setting up appointments for you to come to the Church to have your picture taken, or if you have a favorite photo of yourself, it can be submitted and a picture of the picture can be used for the new directory.

It will also be necessary to confirm your information, such as name, address, phone numbers, birthday and anniversary dates in order to have current and correct information for use in the new directory, (please print enclosed sheet and return to the Church).

We hope everyone will be available to help with this as it is an important tool that we use to stay in touch with each other. **(See the attached document for you to fill out).**

Church Social

Be on the lookout for information about our January church social. Paul Wilson does an excellent job getting us together - hope you can attend what he plans for January.

DWE

January 7th - Meeting at 10 am - Fellowship Hall

January 21 - Trash to Treasure

Disciple Mission Fund Christmas Offering

The Christmas Offering which was collected on December 18th provided a total of \$237.00. This money will go to the South Carolina Region which provides services for the Disciple of Christ churches in our state. Thank you for the support shown by all who participated in this offering.



Happy Birthday to:

Janet Morris - January 2nd
Carol Kettel - January 4th
Jo Mariea - January 15th
Buzzy Cheadle - January 17th
Wes Henderson - January 17th
Maxine Pemberton - January 22nd
Woody Malone - January 23rd
San Cave-Riley - January 26th

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Teena Muzall, Jim Dumphy, Tom Moomjy, Caroline Hale, Dan McAlroy, Chuck Johnston, Elaine Johnston, Laura Kraft, Vicki Benfield Rishell, Penny Slaton, Chris Schuler, Fran Richards, Maxine Pemberton, Donald Yacovetta, Mary Anne Turner, Bryan Malone, Tatyana Yatsenko, Ella Shakibatabar, Chuck Spearman, Austin and Sharon Moede, Karen Porter, General Minister Teri Hord Owens, Regional Moderator, Freddie Lawton and SC DOC Region, and those impacted by gun violence, for the Ukraine, those experiencing effects winter storms and other natural disasters.

CONTINUING PRAYERS FOR:

Paul & Pam Owen, Wanda & Jerry Doleshall, Elsie Smith, Eliza Husser Cave, Millie Clark, Pastor Irene, Dan McAvoy, Kenneth Chatto, Linda Cheadle, Susan Poster Ullmann, Martha Albritton, Carol Kettel, Connie Moomjy, Robin Brooks, Sabrina, Dr. Walter Allen, Connie Santee, our Regional Church, those in public & military service, for our Country and all victims of natural disasters.

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