



First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
October Newsletter

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

Pastor's Note

The South Carolina Regional Church conference is now history. It was an exciting conference filled with good worship, small groups and great food. The DOC is set up with three levels of membership - the local congregation, the regional church and the national church, and each level of membership is an integral part of the others. Please pray for Rev. Dr. Freddie Lawton and his wife Virge as they move into this new role of leadership for our regional church.

Trying One More Time.....

I want to bring up the carry-in discussion one more time since Thanksgiving is coming soon. The response has been almost non-existent so before deciding people aren't interested, I wanted to double check. I wonder if there was some confusion when the copies of the "how to" from previous carry-in protocols got distributed, possibly giving the impression we were bringing back the older ways. These were meant simply to be an example of how things used to work, and not meant as a requirement of how things have to be. In fact, as good as that system might have been, it won't work anymore. Those rules were created when the church had 80 people and a core group of worker-bees, like Millie Clarke and Elsie Smith, who are no longer able to help. Now, on a good day, we have around 25 people and not all of those will participate in an after-church meal. The goal of last month's Pastor's Note in the newsletter about carrying on was to assess interest and to invite creativity and new life. The Bible talks about not trying to

put new wine into old wineskins. The goal is FELLOWSHIP and sharing a meal together. How it gets done will vary depending on the occasion and who has volunteered to help on that day. The next occasion for "an after church eat-in" would be November 19th for Thanksgiving. If you would like to attend, please tear off the attached 'vote' and place it in the "Carry- In Jar" by October 22nd. The jars will be near the bulletins. Thank you.

Carry In or Carry On Vote

(Please place in "Carry In" Jar next to bulletins by Oct 22)

Name: _____

_____ No, I am not interested in attending meals after church.

_____ Yes, I would like to have meals together after church (circle one or both);
every other month on special occasions

If answered yes, circle your preference:

having a shared covered dish

having a catered meal

If answered yes, circle your preference:

helping with set up

helping with clean up

Bible Readers for October

October 1 - Ed Albritton
October 8 - Judee Mitchell
October 15 - Lynn Malone
October 22 - San Riley
October 29 - Brian Myers

Save these dates in October:

Sunday, October 1 - World Communion
Tuesday, October 10 - Board Meeting - 6 pm
Friday, October 20 - Family "Chili Night" (sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall)
Saturday, October 21 - DWF - Trash to Treasure 9am to 1pm

Coming in November

All Saint's Day Remembrance

On Sunday, November 5th, we will have our annual All Saints Day service. During the service, we will remember loved ones who have died since November 2022. If you have someone dear to you who died during the year whom you would like honored and remembered, please send their name to the church office by Wednesday, November 1st.

OUR CHURCH'S RECONCILIATION SPECIAL OFFERING FOR DISCIPLE MISSION FUND 2023

A BIG THANK YOU to all who participated in this Reconciliation Offering. Our total offering amount to date is \$305.00. Your generosity and support is greatly appreciated!

Your giving promotes programs that provide anti-racism and pro-reconciliation education and resources that fund the Church's efforts to promote healing, relationship and restoration in the whole family of God. We recognize that in spite of our differences, as believers of God, our beliefs in God unify us. He is present in all of us.

Looking for additional ways to serve?

1. **The DWF** sponsored monthly Trash to Treasure sale is held on the 3rd Saturday of each month. Volunteers are appreciated to help staff the sale and/or to help keep Room 3 clean and ready with new donations. Please check with Ida or Judee on ways you are able to help out. The monthly sale proceeds go directly to support various local charities whose missions we support.
2. **ACTS** relies on volunteers to help them bring their mission to action. A current listing of volunteer needs can be found on their website www.actsofaiken.org by clicking the “Volunteer” link or call 803-649-3800.
3. **Walking Tall Ministries** serves the homeless population in the Gloverville area. They rely on volunteers to prepare food and lunch packs as well as other tasks. Their number is 803-226-6579 and their website is www.walkingtallministries.unaux.com.
4. **Walking Tall** supplies about 280 sandwiches a week through their meal distribution program. These sandwiches are provided by volunteers. We would like to host a “sandwich making party” at the church for anyone who would like a good time making sandwiches. At this point we are soliciting interest – if you’d like to participate, please let Irene or June know. Once we have determined level of interest, we can schedule the date and organize the experience.

DWF News – next Trash to Treasure – October 21, 9am to 1pm.

In the month of August we collected \$30.90 from the Trash and Treasure Sale. We did not deposit the funds until after our September Sale.

We had a wonderful donation made from friends of the church which contributed to our September Sale earning \$334.65. Many thanks, to Murray and Pitza Stellar for their donation to the September sales.

A total of \$365.55 was deposited. Thank you, to Caroline, Paulette, April, Paula, and Laura for volunteering on Saturday.

We will be looking at our donation list and will decide on contributions to remaining six charities we have left this year to fund.

We would like to thank the congregation for their contributions to the Trash & Treasure Sales

Creation of New Church Directory

The Church directory is still a work in progress. Hopefully, we will have an update in the near future.

Missions Opportunity

New information regarding ACTS can be found in the Fellowship Hall, including volunteer applications take a minute to look.

To make it easier to donate to **ACTS** and **Walking Tall Ministries**, we will be placing a basket for each ministry in the Sanctuary. These baskets will also be gentle reminders of our on-going commitment and connection to these two local ministries. We also have Walking Tall donation jar in the Fellowship Hall for weekly bread and bottled water.

ACTs donation for October: Cereal

Walking Tall donation for October: Donation jar for bread and water, Vienna Sausages; also an on-going need for 39 gallon trash bags



Happy Birthday to:

Shan AI Boening - October 2

Tom Williams - October 11

Lisa Wahlmeier - October 14

Christian Boening - October 29

Tatyana Yatsenko - October 29

Elsie Smith - October 30

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

The Family of Donna "Jo" Marie (her obituary is below), Liz Unzicker, Jesse Vega, Peggy Ann Carter, The Family of Arlinda Albritton, Sharon Finn, Ida Bassi, Brenda Wilson, Paul and Pat Wilson, Marilyn Blanchard, Pitzza and Murray Stellar, Laurie Green, Kelley Jones, those impacted by fires, weather ,gun violence, for the Ukraine, those experiencing effects of tornadoes, winter storms and other natural disasters.

CONTINUING PRAYERS FOR: *Shirley Wahler, Mickie Fink, Laurie Green, Denise Peters, Liz Unzicker, Kelley Jones, Bryan Malone, Susan Poster Ullmann, Pastor Irene, Millie Clarke, Martha Albritton, Carol Kettel, Linda Cheadle, Tom and Connie Moomjy, Wanda & Jerry Doleshall, Robin Brooks, Sabrina, Eliza Husser Cave, Dr. Walter Allen, Elsie Smith, Connie Santee, Austin and Sharon Moede, Tatyana Yatsenko, Ella Shakibatabar our Regional Church, those in public service, military service and for our Country.*

Donna Jo Mariea, age 80, of Aiken, South Carolina passed away on Saturday, September 16, 2023 with her daughter by her side.

She was born on January 15, 1943 in Springfield, Illinois to her late parents, Bernard Gordon Browning and Alice Jean Calvert Browning.

Donna Jo had a great love for her horses, her dogs and her cat. She enjoyed riding horses, along with watching and playing polo. She also enjoyed playing bridge with friends and family. She was a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution. She attended the First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). In her younger years, she lived in Fulton, Missouri. She graduated from William Woods University in 1963 with a degree in Equestrian Science. From there, she raised a family, divorced and remarried. She went back to college to obtain a nursing degree. She became a registered nurse. She devoted her skill in nursing in Fulton, Missouri, by serving the community in the local hospital and local school district. She gave her daughter a wedding fit for royalty, in England. She traveled the world and made friends wherever she went. She owned and operated a Bed and Breakfast in Rappahannock County, Virginia. After that, she retired to Aiken, South Carolina.

She is survived by her daughter, Andrea Elizabeth Barlow; son-in-law, Austin Neil Barlow; her son, Calvert Lewis Clark; and two granddaughters, Camaron Calvert Clark and Daniela Calvert Clark. She was preceded in death by her husband, Donald James Mariea, Jr.

She made a lasting impression wherever she went, and will be loved, remembered and missed by many who knew her during her life. In lieu of flowers, you may donate in her name and memory, Donna Jo Mariea, to the Daughters of the American Revolution. Please use the link below for your donation.

<https://www.dar.org/giving/support-special-iniative/nsdar-general-fund-area-greatest-need>

Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at www.caughmanlexington.com for the Mariea family.

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