



The Chalice

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
4 N. Main Street
Watkinsville, GA 30677

706-769-5966

<http://fccwatkinsville.org>



Heart Shapes – October, 2017

Since arriving here, I have experienced the kindness of strangers, the challenges of kin and the support of all in this path known as ‘calling’ to ministry. The good part is that I can truly say, and believe, that the blessings of congregation and relationship far outshine the challenges of change and call. Sometimes I stop in the middle of my day (or night!) and count the many blessings that I have received by being the minister of FCCW. Most times, I pray that I can meet the challenges and the opportunities as Minister of FCCW.

In December, 2013, I entered your life as Interim Minister. Some of you may have hesitated and some of you may have questioned the wisdom of choice. But in good, polite southern courtesy, most of you smiled and said, “Wait and see.” And so, WE began! Chicken Mull was the first point of entry and then Advent, Christmas Eve, and a new year – 2014. By September, 2014, you had asked and voted on calling a full time, second-half-of-life, female minister who was also a ‘home town girl.’

This was OUR beginning as minister and congregation. It is part of our ongoing story that we tell one another and to others along the path. Within the public story of beginnings, we also share the smaller, yet significant stories of time of sadness, anger, success and disappointments.

One of my blessings is when we have opportunity to ‘visit’ with one another. It may be when you choose to ‘drop in’ at the office or I come to your home or hospital room. You have honored me with telling me about your life and the people who are important to you. It is a miracle of trust and release to share the tender places and to listen to your hearts.

One of my blessings is when we have the opportunity to work together on behalf of others in our community. We work together at ACTS, First Friday events, Senior Boxes, funeral meals in support of families, sharing at the Fall Festival, at the lakeside with the youth and the hard, rewarding work of the Chicken Mull. In all ways, we come together in Christ name to use our time, talents and resources for others. When we work together, sharing the load, and focused on the needs of others, the miracle of healing and hope become actions of grace.

One of my blessings is when we have the opportunity to learn together. Bible Studies and Sunday School curriculums and VBS are the tools we use to bring us to the table of questions and discussions. Our board work and our committee

are also the arenas of learning and growing into faith filled witnesses to God's transformative love. Our faith is deepened and developed when we ask the difficult questions or hear a disruptive answer.

One of my blessings is knowing that our congregation is connected to so many others on the path of faith. We may appear different to each other at times. Yet, our common direction of listening to our Creator and responding in love weaves us together in a tapestry of multi-color and multi-beauty. We are one strand of color woven together with other Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) ministries, local and global. We are one strand woven together with other hues of community, faiths, peoples, histories. Together we are indeed stronger than we are separated and isolated.

The blessings continue into the beginning of our fourth year together as minister and congregation, as witnesses to God's covenant with us, as lifelong learners along the path of faith development. I look forward to the next list of blessings with you.

Peace for today, Sheila



FCCW WWW Dinner Group is meeting and eating again!! Come and join in the conversation and table sharing on **Tuesday, October 17 at 6:00 PM**. We are meeting at **FATZ** restaurant on the eastside.

All are welcome to this dutch-treat meal.

Reservations are not required.

Watkinsville Wise & Wonderful Dinner Group welcomes all!

A thank you note from the Culp family.

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for the outpouring of prayers, phone calls, cards, flower, food and many, many visits. Some of our most precious times were the visits in the hospital after hours when we needed a prayer or words of comfort.

Kenneth was proud to be a member of First Christian Church – Watkinsville. You truly kept us covered!

We love you and thank you.

Linda, Kade and Ken Culp and Family



Myrtice Kilpatrick Memorial

Wonderful outpouring of love for this sweet lady!

There is a total of \$4299.00 that has been donated to our church.

The Kilpatrick family asked that these funds be used to update Rosa's Classroom and upstairs bathrooms. The board approved and a committee will be working with property to start work in near future.

Thank you for the donations!

Disciple Women Group

Our group met on September 25th with good attendance and great refreshments! We had many cards go out from group and many prayer concerns.

Lots of business came before the group:

Love gift of \$50 to the Lovein family for baby gift.

\$50 memorial gift in memory of Carol Toney.

Plans for booth at Fall Festival

Plans for our chili supper and silent auction on Oct 29th at 6:00. Encouragement for inviting family and friends outside of church.

Nominating report states all officers will keep present positions one more year:

Pam Crawford, Pres

Susan Hansford, V Pres

Pam Gunter, Sec

Cathy Moorehead, Treas

Wonderful program was shared by the members attending Fall Retreat. Seven attended. We appreciated Sheila attended both as clergy and one of us!

Next meeting October 23 at 6:30

Hostesses Pam Gunter and Nancy Watkins

Program Maria Turnbull

All women of church are welcome and encouraged to attend!



**Carol Smith Toney
1940-2017**

She Will Be Remembered

She has achieved success who has lived well,
laughed often and loved much;
Who has gained the respect of intelligent people
and the love of little children;
Who has filled her niche and accomplished her
task;
Who has left the world better than she found it;
Who looked for the best in others
and gave the best she had;
Whose life was an inspiration;
Whose memory is a benediction.

Adapted from Robert Louis Stevenson
By Cathy Moorehead



FCCW Disciple Women attending the Annual GA Region Disciples Women Ministries retreat in September. Looking forward to the Spring event on March 17, 2018, hosted at Camp Christian.

Wednesday Night Community Supper and Study Groups continues weekly through November 8. The meals have been arranged through various local restaurants featuring delicious meals.

The study has focused on the Parables of Jesus and lively discussion for all ages.

On Wednesday, November 8, our FCCW children and teens and their parents will prepare a delicious meal and a night of bible trivia. Come and join us!



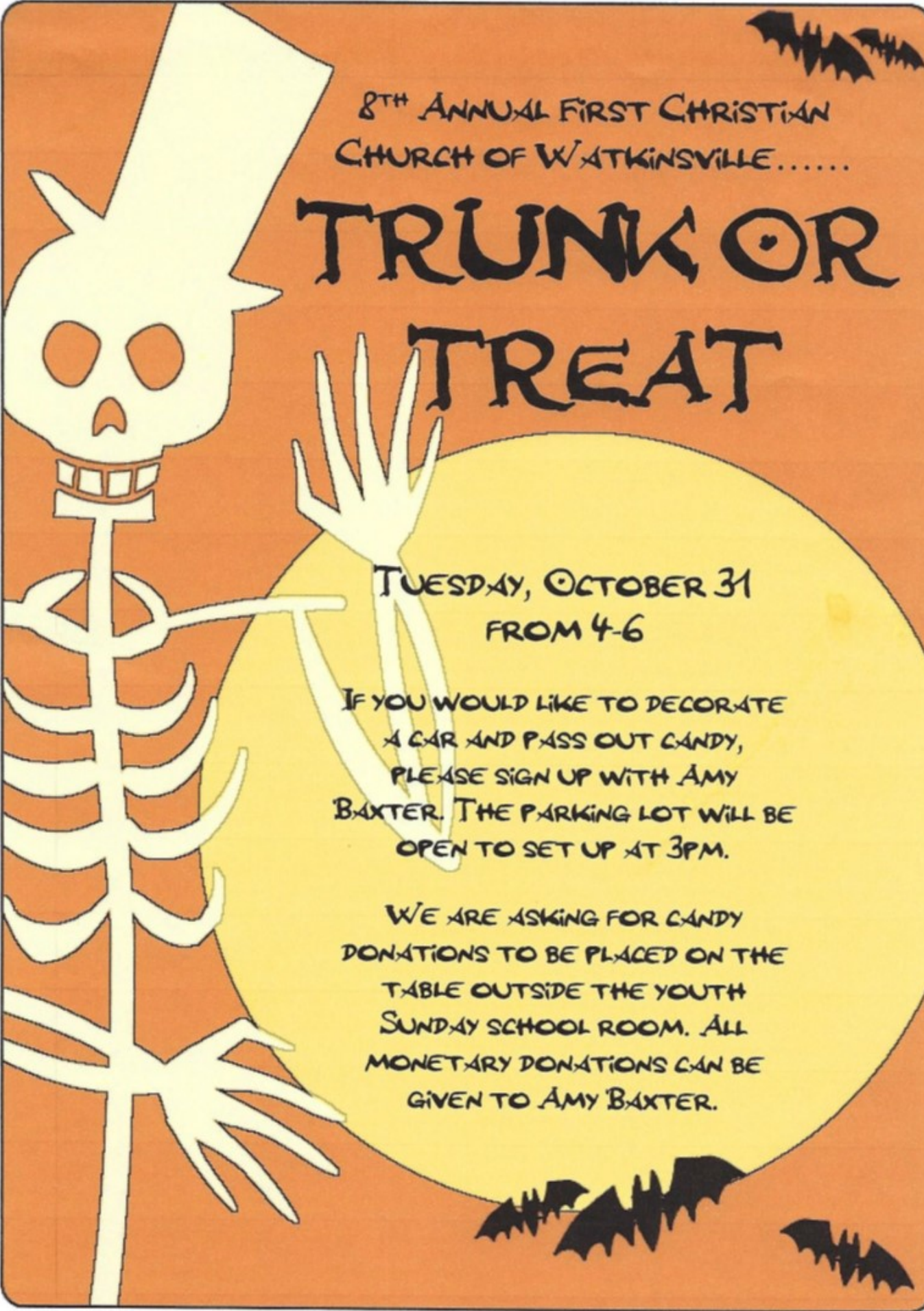


FCCW Monday Study Group – lifelong learners who enjoy our time with each other and with bible study. Currently studying the book of Samuel. Our group meets most Mondays at 2:00 PM at the church. All are welcome to join in!

Front row (L-R)– Seymour Adams, Susan Hansford, Pam Gunter
 Second row (L-R)-Mary Hansford, Nancy Watkins, Julie Blaske – visiting from MN, Gina Hansford, Beverly Bargfrede, Bob Bargfrede, Marsha Burgess, Sheila Hunter, Mary Lillie Watson.

Announcements: (October is a busy month - please add these dates to your calendar)

- October is Minister Appreciation Month
- October 21st - Oconee Fall Festival - The Disciple Women will be at Booth #116 with coffee, hot cocoa, biscuits and water.
- October 23rd at 6:30 pm - Next Disciple Women's Meeting in Fellowship Hall. Great food, fun, and fellowship, program, devotional and news!
 Hostess - Pam Gunter and Nancy Watkins
 Program - Maria Turnbull
 Come join us!
- October 29th at 6:00 pm - Disciple Women's Chili Supper and Silent Auction
 Chili, pasta and fixings, cole slaw, crackers, cookies and brownies
 Silent Auction featuring some great items. Please join us and invite your friends.
- October 31st, 4:00 - 6:00 pm - Trunk or Treat (see flyer on next page)
 Contact Amy Baxter if you are interested in decorating a car
 Donations of candy and/or money are appreciated



8TH ANNUAL FIRST CHRISTIAN
CHURCH OF WATKINSVILLE.....

TRUNK OR TREAT

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31
FROM 4-6

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO DECORATE
A CAR AND PASS OUT CANDY,
PLEASE SIGN UP WITH AMY
BAXTER. THE PARKING LOT WILL BE
OPEN TO SET UP AT 3PM.

WE ARE ASKING FOR CANDY
DONATIONS TO BE PLACED ON THE
TABLE OUTSIDE THE YOUTH
SUNDAY SCHOOL ROOM. ALL
MONETARY DONATIONS CAN BE
GIVEN TO AMY BAXTER.

Report from the Constitution Review Committee:

First, a belated but sincere thanks to those who gave the committee input in June as we began our work. Although the reports were requested with a very short deadline the review committee finds them to be comprehensive, thoughtful and of high quality. We are grateful to those who worked to compile the survey reports and we acknowledge the time and effort spent on the task.

The Constitution Review Committee continues to work. Our meetings are typically two hours in length with our most recent sessions held on Sept. 20 and Oct. 11. The committee's charge is to make recommendations to the board for revisions to make it easier to use our constitution. We aim to reduce unnecessary repetition, eliminate any inconsistencies and contradictions and make sure that the language reflects actual, current practices.

Please be assured the committee is striving to make our guiding document as clear and effective as it needs to be to facilitate use. Our current effort does not imply criticism of all the work done toward improvement over the years. Nothing we hope to present for board consideration will materially change the mission of our church nor its practices. While this work is underway, and before a draft is submitted to the board for recommended changes, the existing document will continue to serve as it has for so many fruitful years.

As a reminder, the committee members are Rosa Hall, Joan Mann, Cathy Milligan, B.C. Wang, Ray Watson and Pastor Sheila Hunter. Approach any of us for additional information or to offer a suggestion.

CMF Report

The CMF will meet on November 5 at 8:00 am to finalize the plans for the Annual Chicken Mull. Please make plans to be a part of the Mull activity. The Mull will be held on December 2, which is the same day as the Watkinsville Christmas Parade.

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT THIS MONTH - - -

*****Our "TO THE TABLE" FOOD DRIVE FOR ACTS collected 301 items and \$210.00 in funds.

*****Reconciliation Offering Giving was \$387.00

*****Week of Compassion Funds received in Amount of \$5100.00 for Hurricane Relief (\$5K for Harvey).

Blessings to all!!!

The Outreach Committee



NORTH OCONEE ROTARY CLUB IS COLLECTING THE FOLLOWING FOR CRUTCHES 4 AFRICA*:

- CRUTCHES
- CANES
- WHEELCHAIRS
- BABY JOGGING STROLLERS
- BICYCLE TRAILERS
- WALKERS WITH FOLDING SEAT**

DROP OFF AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS

by November 4, 2017:

State Farm (Attn Danny Dyer) 47 Greensboro Hwy, Watkinsville, GA 30677

Oconee Chamber of Commerce 55 Nancy Dr, Watkinsville, GA 30677

Keller Williams Greater Athens (Attn Laura Leiden) 1361 Jennings Mill Rd. Ste 101 Watkinsville, GA

Questions? Need us to pick up? Email: ILoveOconee@gmail.com

*Crutches 4 Africa will ship and disseminate donations in Africa

**Crutches 4 Africa is blessed with too many standard walkers right now, they still do accept walkers with a fold down seat



FCCW Community Connections through First Friday event in October. The train rides, the bouncy house and the playground invites children, teens and their parents and grandparents to come and stay for a while. The relaxed atmosphere and welcoming spirit of our volunteers makes for a perfect evening for a perfect fall day. FCCW Outreach and Evangelism/Membership Committees work together to sponsor this community event. October was the last First Friday 2017. December 1 features the lighting of the Christmas tree. FCCW will participate in our annual caroling about town at 6:00 PM. First Friday – 2018 will begin in April! Plan to join in the fun and community!!