



The Chalice

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

706-769-5966

<http://fccwatkinsville.org>

Heart Shapes – September 2018

The Shape of Healing

Praise the Lord/How good it is to sing praises to our God;/for he is gracious, and a song of praise is fitting./ The Lord builds up Jerusalem;/he gathers the outcasts of Israel./He heals the brokenhearted,/and binds up their wounds. Psalm 147: 1-3

This time of year for me is a bittersweet. I love the fall season of change that happens before our eyes. When the Chinese Pastiche tree becomes brilliant red, we know that fall is here. Day by day we see the change happening and we wait for it in anticipation for the coolness, the beauty, the new activities that seasonal change brings us. We praise God in the quiet moments for the beauty and the change to new opportunities and possibilities.

Fall is also a time of remembering and marking my parent's lives. They each celebrated birthdays in the fall – Mom on September 30 and Dad's on October 15. Their birthdays also highlight their death dates. Mom died on September 29, 2016 and Dad died on August 25, 2010. Each of my parents died from complications of old age. Both parents had reached their 80's, which gave us time as their children to 'grow up', start to mature and transition into caregivers for their needs. Their children, grandchildren, and great grands were blessed by the good fortune of sharing their lives for a long time.

This time was a precious journey of learning, adapting, changing into the adults that they had hoped they had raised. If you look at those last family photos, you will see smiling, elderly, declining parents surrounded by stressed out, sad eyed adult children who were trying to meet their expectations. I think we did a good job but not without moments of emotional challenges, time crunches and doubts, mistrust and anger when things did go as planned.

Our hearts were broke. We were wounded deeply as we learned to accept that which could not be changed. It was and still is a time of being broken open. Our strengths and challenges as a family were exposed to us and sometimes to others. We were and are vulnerable as we moved into the changes in our family life and through our grief.

Every fall, we remember the anniversary of their birthdays and their 'heavenly birthdays' as we are reminded that they are gone from daily connections. They did not want to go and we did not want to let them leave. Nevertheless, it was their season to leave for a different place of beauty and peace.

I share this story, not to stir up difficult emotions and memories of your own. My story is not unique nor different from others. I share because I am a part of a community of people called the church. It is within the community of faith, more so than any other place of gathering, that we can bring the wounded places of our hearts. Together, we can find a way of healing the wounds

from the inside out. The deep places are tender yet when shared are released to the care of others. The healing starts with sharing the loss, the hurt, the anger, the memories.

Dr. Mary Donovan Turner writes, "It is to a healing God that the psalmist often prayed. They had a deep and abiding understanding of a God who could somehow touch their lives, perhaps bring relief from pain, from disease, for the profound ache that comes from being ostracized. God could bring comfort to the lonely and the outcast. Those with broken hearts? God would heal them."

Let us join, in one voice, and pray and sing and see the healing of God, the Healer, who is changing us:

Praise the Lord/How good it is to sing praises to our God;/for he is gracious, and a song of praise is fitting./ The Lord builds up Jerusalem;/he gathers the outcasts of Israel./He heals the brokenhearted,/and binds up their wounds. Psalm 147: 1-3

Peace for today,
Sheila



Church Calendar

Thursday, September 20

12:00 pm - Community Luncheon -
Briarwood Baptist Church

Sunday, September 23

8:30 am - Elders Meeting
10:00 am - Sunday School
11:00 am - Worship
12:15 - 1:30 - Lunch & Learn for IHN
5:30 - 7:00 pm - Youth Group (6th - 12th)

Monday, September 24

2:00 pm - Bible Study
5:00 pm - TOPS
6:30 pm - Disciple Women's Meeting

Tuesday, September 25

2:00 pm - Support Group
6:00 pm - Outreach Committee Meeting

Wednesday, September 26

2:00 - 5:00 pm - Constitution Revision Committee
5:45 pm - Wednesday Night Program
(Spaghetti Supper by Youth)

Thursday, September 27

IHN Volunteers Overnight

Friday, September 28 - Sunday, September 30

Disciple Women's Retreat - Toccoa

Saturday, September 29

IHN Volunteers Overnight

Sunday, September 30

10:00 am - Sunday School
11:00 am - Worship (Change for Change)
(Reconciliation Offering)
5:30 - 7:00 pm - Youth Group (6th - 12th)

Monday, October 1

2:00 pm - Bible Study
5:00 pm - TOPS

Tuesday, October 2

8:45 am - 1:15 pm - A.C.T.S Volunteers
5:00 - 9:00 pm - Pilot Club
5:30 pm - Stewardship Committee

Wednesday, October 3

5:45 pm - Wednesday Night Program (Soup)
7:00 pm - Choir

Saturday, October 6

10:00 am - 12:00 pm - First Saturday

Sunday, October 7

World Communion Sunday

10:00 am - Sunday School
11:00 am - Worship (Reconciliation Offering)

Monday, October 8

2:00 pm - Bible Study
5:00 pm - TOPS

Tuesday, October 9

2:00 pm - Support Group
5:00 pm - Property Committee Meeting
6:00 pm - Stewardship Committee Meeting

Wednesday, October 10

5:45 pm - Wednesday Night Program
7:00 pm - Choir

Thursday, October 11

6:00 pm - WWW Dinner Group - The Redd House

Sunday, October 14

8:00 am - CMF Breakfast and Meeting
 10:00 am - Sunday School
 11:00 am - Worship
 5:30 - 7:00 pm - Youth Group
 6:00 pm - Board Meeting

Monday, October 15

2:00 pm - Bible Study
 5:00 pm - TOPS

Tuesday, October 16

6:00 pm - Youth Committee Meeting

Wednesday, October 17

5:45 pm - Wednesday Night Program
 7:00 pm - Choir

Thursday, October 18

12:00 pm - Community Luncheon - Union Christian Church

Friday, October 19

4:30 pm - Friends Forever

Saturday, October 20

Fall Festival

Sunday, October 21

10:00 am - Sunday School
 11:00 am - Worship
 5:30 - 7:00 pm - Youth Group

Monday, October 22

2:00 pm - Bible Study
 5:00 pm - TOPS

Tuesday, October 23

2:00 pm - Support
 6:00 pm - Outreach Committee Meeting

Wednesday, October 24

5:45 pm - Wednesday Night Program
 7:00 pm - Choir

Sunday, October 28

8:30 am - Elders Meeting
 10:00 am - Sunday School
 11:00 am - Worship
 5:30 - 7:00 pm - Youth Group

Monday, October 29

2:00 pm - Bible Study
 5:00 pm - TOPS
 6:30 pm - Disciple Women's Meeting

Wednesday, October 31

3:30 pm - Trunk or Treat
 6:00 pm - Octoberfest Meal (Brats, Hot Dogs)

Disciple Women

Disciple Women met with seventeen ladies present!! Wonderful refreshments provided by Ann, Sandra, Cathy and Joan and great fellowship.

* Pam thanked the ones who helped with kitchen renovations. It is now a joy to work in clean, new brightly lit kitchen!!

* DW group hosted the First Saturday event on September 1st

* DW hosted bridal shower for Rebecca Greenwall.

* It was voted to fill 25 Christmas stockings for ACTS clients.

* Launched our annual Blanket Project church wide! Over \$600 to date and this will provide 60 blankets!

* ACTS closet gals! Great group of our ladies who volunteer almost weekly!

* Fall Retreat...seven members attending retreat September 26-28.

* Program given by Faye Beth on Memories. Her memories of growing up in Disciple Churches.

This was echoed by many others.

Next meeting, Monday Sept 24 at 6:30.

Hostesses will be Sheila and Faye Beth and Rosa will have program.

Pam Crawford,
President



Rebecca Greenwall's bridal shower.

Property

Sheets have been posted on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall and on the bulletin board next to Sheila's office for supplies that are needed in the Fellowship Hall and Bathrooms.

When you see that an item needs to be ordered, please check this on the sheet posted.

Supplies will be purchased once a month by Property.

Thank you for your help in keeping us informed of items that are needed.

“First Saturday” in September, 2018 brought fun and friendship to our neighbors and friends. FCCW Outreach Committee, Evangelism/Membership Committee and our Disciples Women group welcomed the families to a relaxing, fun morning with a bouncy house, face painting, sidewalk chalk, the playground, hotdogs and chips. Adult and teen volunteers set up and clean to create an inviting presence for the community. ‘Kona Ice’ by Julie Rehberg offers shaved ice drinks from her food truck with a percentage of sales donated to the FCCW.

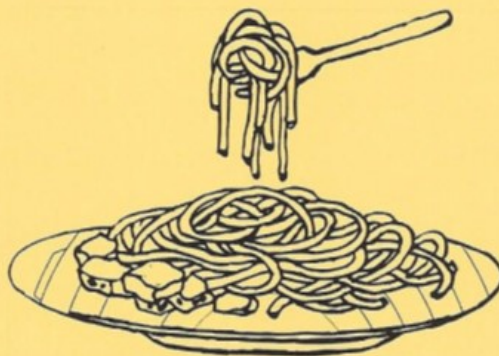
The next “First Saturday” is October 6, 10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon. And the theme is “Scarecrows!!” Come and create a scarecrow for competition in the community.



Church at the Lake

FCCW families and volunteers enjoyed “Church at the Lake” at Clarke Hill. A group of 47 children, teens and adults enjoyed Sunday, August 26 for a day of worship, water fun and friendship. Pam and Larry Gunter host this annual event organized by Amy Baxter, Director of Children and Teens Programs. It was a great day for every one!





Spaghetti Dinner

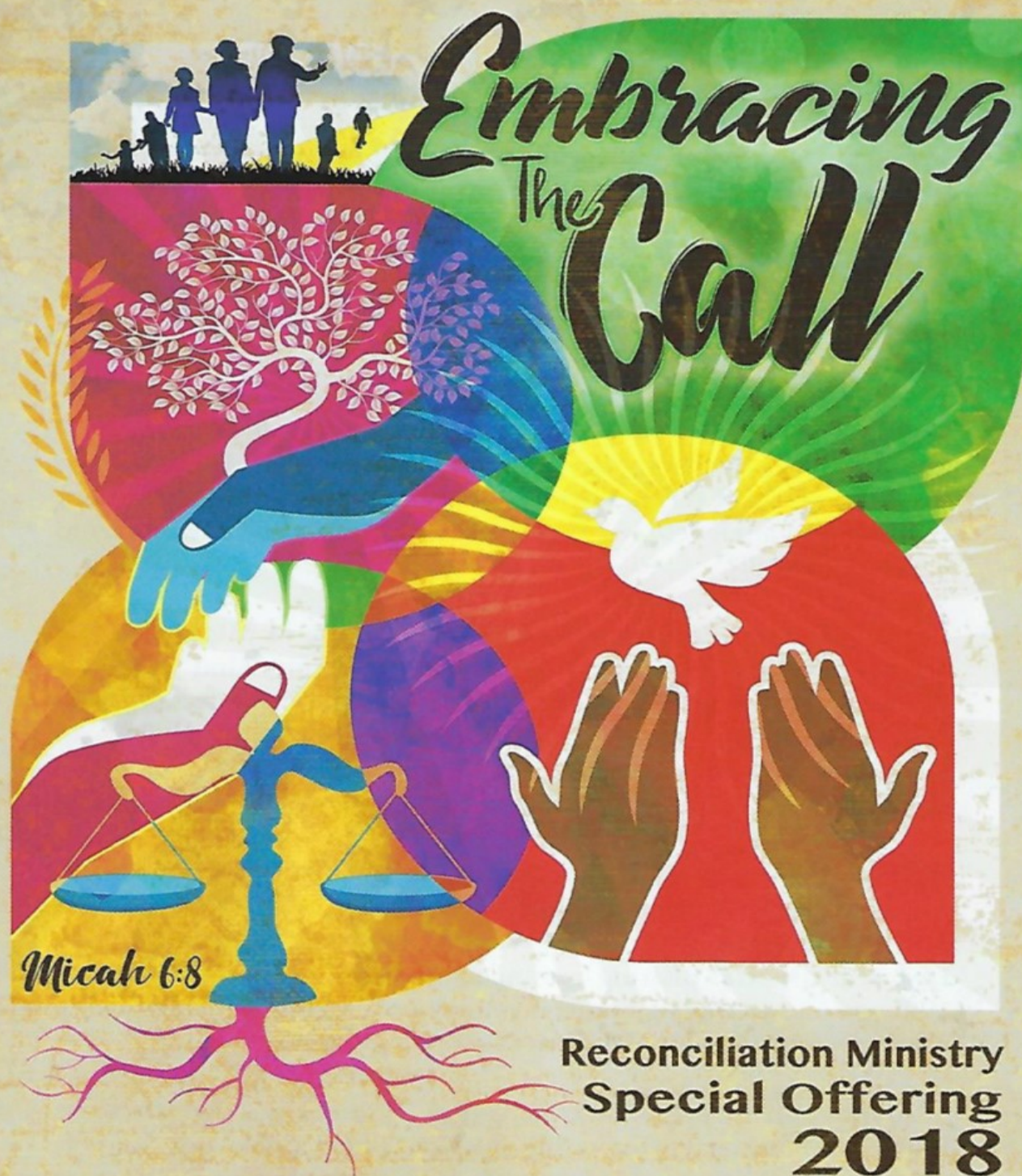
Sponsored by FCCW Youth

Wednesday, September 26

5:45 pm

**Donations will benefit Youth
Christmas outreach project**

“It will be noodle-tastic”



September 30th & October 7th



www.reconciliationministry.org



Human Trafficking Awareness Forum

Education ♦ Advocacy ♦ Resources

I JUST DIDN'T KNOW..... DID YOU?

Help us **STOP** Human Trafficking

Thursday, October 25, 2018

Oconee County Civic Center, Watkinsville, GA 30677
PM. Free. Open to the Public.

Speakers:

- Representative Deborah Gonzalez, *Setting the Context*
- Senator Renee Unterman, *Georgia's Safe Harbor Act*
- Lt. Deanna Smith, *Oconee County Sheriff's Office*
- Courtney, *Survivor of Trafficking*

Table Discussion: Using Reflective Structured Dialogue

Community Resources: Organizations helping victims

Food will be available for purchase before the event

Co-sponsored by Oconee County Sheriff's Office

Partially funded by Rotary District 6910 Grant

