



The Chalice

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
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Watkinsville, GA 30677

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Heart Shapes March 2019

The Shape of Shifting

I have just finished sending the last few photos with captions of the February FCCW events and programs to a Rosa. I appreciate Rosa Hall taking on the editing and composing of the newsletter. She volunteers and does a great job. Rosa is also very patient with this minister! *The Chalice* newsletter is a good record of our history of activity, as well as, the promotion of upcoming dates and opportunities that FCCW offers. It also includes information about the larger work at the Region and General church, and most importantly local and global missions.

Last month, I wrote, "February is a month that is short but powerful." And it was! In 28 days, FCCW engaged in opportunities for fellowship, for learning, for service to others, for care for us and for making a difference both local and globally. We invited people into our building, went out in service to others, engaged in powerful faith-enhanced experiences, visited the sick and homebound, challenged ourselves with new information and responded to the needs of others.

We are busy but with purpose. "Many hands make light work" as the saying goes. I would add that a sense of purpose, call, intention and positive thinking makes the work lighter and vibrant. It is within our calling as a Christian community to approach all that we do with a sense of hope rooted in love. It is not always easy, but it is always possible as we listen openly and care deeply for each other.

What we do also reflects who we are and what we value. When we say, "all are welcome" we are also saying that we are willing to include those that are seeking community, family, relationship with one another and with God.

Lent is a time of shifting things around. Each of us can change some of our schedule of 'doing' to allow time to 'be.' In shifting, we find a way to open to where the Holy Spirit would direct while asking us to allow something different to be made possible. Here is a little verse I have started to read every morning as I pray for the day ahead. It is my intention and prayer that I allow the leading of the Holy Spirit to open me to something unrevealed.

Shifting

As you are shifting, you will begin to realize that you are not the same person you used to be.

The things you used to tolerate have become intolerable. When you once remained quiet, you are now speaking your truth. When you once battled and argued, you are now choosing to remain silent. You are beginning to understand the value of your voice and there are some situations that no longer deserve your time, energy, and focus.

Peace for today,
Sheila

Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN)

Congratulations to Robyn who officially "graduated" from IHN this morning by moving into her new home! It took her awhile to find a place, but thanks to Habitat for Humanity, this one is a perfect fit!

Thanks to our five incredible volunteers who helped her move in! Robyn and Gabe now have a home to call their own! Early this morning three trucks, a trailer, and a van first loaded up at the Day Center, then caravanned to our storage facility for Robyn to select furniture and other household items, and finally drove to her new home where the volunteers helped her settle in. Moving is always quite a process, made even more difficult by having to rely on others for the common household items we use every day as a normal part of our lives. We certainly could not accomplish move-ins without the help of willing volunteers who have strong backs!

Many who donate in-kind items (new or used) don't often see how their donations help our families after they find a home. We should have another family moving into her own place very soon! If you know of good quality household items (furniture, kitchen items, linens, etc.) that could be donated, please give us a call! We can even come pick them up!

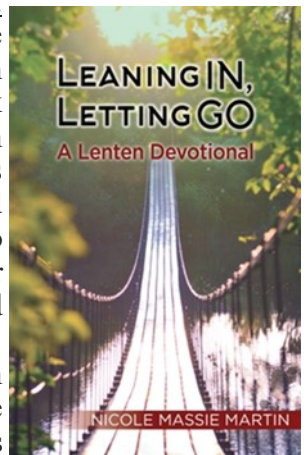
We should have another family moving into a transitional apartment very soon thanks to an ongoing partnership with Habitat for Humanity. We have partnered with Habitat for this home for those who might need a longer term to get back on solid footing. If you have volunteers who would like to help with the next move, please let us know.



Christian Education

This year for our Lenten season we will use the devotion book Leaning In, Letting Go by Nicole Massie Martin. Each family will receive a book to use during the Lenten season of 40 days plus weekends. We are invited to allow space for God to speak and move in our thoughts, our hearts and our lives.

The Lenten devotion book, as well as, the Advent devotion book, is provided through your tithes/offerings to the church budget that supports the Christian Education programs. May our spiritual journey from Ash Wednesday to Resurrection Sunday enliven our faith and our identity as Christians.



On the Corner at FCCW - Wednesday Community Suppers & Study - Epiphany and Lent!

The Epiphany Wednesday Community Suppers & Study hosted a variety of food, friends and programs. The food has been tasty and nourishing for our fellowship and learning.



We have heard from OARC with Linda Schroeder who spoke on the support of children and teens with Food for Kids program and the Oconee Mentor program on January 30. FCCW Outreach Committee helps us to support each of these significant services with your offerings to special requests of "Change for Change" Fifth Sundays, Sponsorship of a family through the Food for Kids -Summer program, and other donations you share with OARC.



(cont. on p. 3)

For fun, we heard Bella Mingledorf sing with her granddaddy, "Big Daddy" James Hunter on February 13. It was her first public appearance and her granddaddy was so proud! And the songs they sung touched our hearts on Valentine week and made us giggle at the rendition about the "squirrel and church!"



On February 20, Patty Dawson Clarke and Kelly Holmes Hansford spoke on our shared experience of caring for homeless families through the Interfaith Hospitality Network ministry. Patty and Kelly coordinate the host site at Union CC and FCCW with Ashford Methodist are support congregations. Each of the three congregations share the building and meals one week each quarter. Our next time to volunteer is March 7 and March 9. Please see FCCW co-coordinators, Marsha Burgess and June Elder, for details and to sign up!

And on February 27, Tina Kukanza, a local lawyer, will speak on aspects of legacy giving and estate planning. Being good stewards of the gifts granted to our care.

Starting the Lenten season and continuing into Easter, we welcome Jimmy Christopher to be our guide and leader. Jimmy's topic is a survey of the New Testament with the title, "From the Spoken Word to the Written Word." Jimmy will lead us with his research and teaching ability through the development of the New Testament. Jimmy will lead us on: March 13, 20, 27, April 10, 24, May 1, 8. Please invite your friends and family to attend this Lenten thru Easter time of learning.



Community Luncheon at FCCW

The FCCW Youth Group helped to set up, decorate the Fellowship Hall for the hosting of the February Community Luncheon and Bingo. A great time for community to gather at FCCW. We had an abundance of volunteers to help, food to share, prizes for Bingo! And friends at the table! Thank you to our best Bingo calling expert, Susan Hansford, that made it fun!! Thank you to FCCW Volunteers and those who donated prizes. We want to organize another Bingo day in the next 4-6 weeks. Do we have people who would form a TEAM to host? Please let Sheila know your passion for a mission project!



Financial Report January 2019

By Kathy Reising for David Conine, Treasurer

JANUARY CONTRIBUTIONS	YTD CONTRIBUTIONS	YTD BUDGETED CONTRIBUTIONS
\$ 16,908	\$16,908	\$14,158

JANUARY EXPENSES	YTD EXPENSES	YTD BUDGETED EXPENSES
\$ 16,179	\$16,179	\$16,740

YTD CONTRIBUTIONS VS BUDGET	\$2,750
YTD EXPENSES VS BUDGET	\$ (562)
YTD CONTRIBUTIONS MINUS EXPENSES	\$ 729

GENERAL FUNDS	\$ 20,753
DESIGNATED FUNDS	\$ 50,006
SAVINGS GENERAL FUNDS	\$127,912
ENDOWMENT FUNDS	\$105,172



FCCW Youth Group – busy on Sunday Nights – 4:00 – 6:00 PM!!

The Youth Group (6th – 12th) prepared for their annual trip to the Region of GA Youth Assembly, Epworth by the Sea on February 22-24, 2019.

“A Drop in the Ocean” is the theme for the event and the theme for a banner that represents our group. It hung in the worship arena along with each of the other banners from Youth Groups from around GA. This faith-changing opportunity featured experiences of worship, interest groups, music, prayer, service to others and the experience of ‘church!’ Thank you to your tithes and offerings that support the church budget in Youth programming, our youth are able to attend this special time of faith and learning.



Please pray for inspired faith for those who attended: 6th graders: Max Patrick, Matthew Smith, Chandler Bays; 9th graders: Emma Baxter, Harrison Bennett, Emma Claire Thompson, Lucy Hunt, Payslee Bettis, Kinsey Patrick, Garrett Clark; 10th graders: Gregory Bays, Noah Smith; adult chaperones: Bill Hunt, Jack Patrick, Kristen Bays, Amy Baxter. Also, Sheila Hunter, Carrie Norris and Jackie Byrd (from Union Christian) are Regional Co-Directors of the event.



This event is made possible by the generosity of sharing of time, talent and treasure! The faith-shaping weekend is the results of many working parts: the vision and investment of the Region of GA plus the willingness of adult chaperones who give a weekend plus the leadership of the Youth Advisory Committee (YAC) plus the financial happen for over 150 people.

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FCCW Youth attending Youth Assembly gives opportunity to connect with friends made during the summer at Camp Christian! Small group discussions at Saturday morning keynote with Lucy and camp friend.



FCCW is appreciative of the four adult chaperones who attended with our 12 youth. Thank you to Bill Hunt, Jack Patrick, Amy Baxter, Kristen Bays.



FCCW is proud of our twelve youth members who attended: 6th graders – Max Patrick, Matthew Smith, Chandler Bays; 9th graders – Emma Claire Thompson, Emma Baxter, Garrett Clark, Payslee Bettis, Lucy Hunt, Kinsey Patrick, Harrison Bennett; 10th graders – Gregory Bays, Noah Smith.

FCCW supports our youth members to attend with our stewardship giving of tithes and offerings under the Youth programming portion of our annual budget. A word of thanks for the wisdom of sharing and giving!

FCCW is thankful for the leadership of Carrie Norris and Jackie Bryd, who serve as Region Co-Directors of Youth and the year-long work. They work with a team of teens and adults on YAC to plan and implement this weekend event.

FCCW adult volunteer, Sarah Greenwall, guides the making of communion bread in the interest group called “Food.” Sixteen kids engaged in the conversation about the significance of food and church and the theological symbolism of bread at the table. No kitchen? No problem! We got creative and made three different recipes of bread with bread making machines! Two of the three recipes provided communion bread for Sunday morning worship.

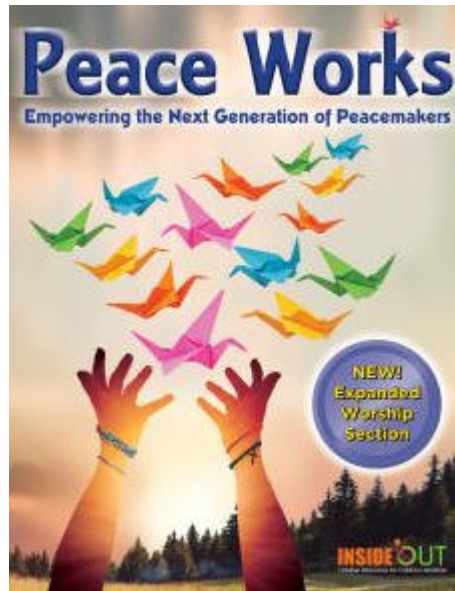


FCCW congratulates Harrison Bennett and Emma Baxter who have volunteered to be on the YAC team!

The theme this year was “A Drop in the Ocean”- many drops make up the powerful whole!



2019 Summer Camping Ministry



OUR THEME: PEACE WORKS Empowering the Next Generation of Peacemakers

We are excited for the camp 2019 summer season to begin. **Please note that due to unforeseen circumstances we will not be able to offer a JUNIOR CAMP June 3-7.**

JUNIOR CAMP will be held July 15-19 and we hope our Junior Campers will be able to attend that week.

When you come to camp, please to do not bring food from home. If you have special food needs please contact us at least 3 weeks prior to your camp. Thanks for not sending any food, candy, etc. to a camper in the mail. Campers cannot have food items in cabins or in Woodland.

If you have any questions about the camping program please contact us at campoffice@gadisciples.org. Marilyn Parks and Pam Van Dusen, Co-Directors of the Regional Camping Program.

Disciple Women

The Disciple Women met on February 25. Merry Howard, Directory of the Oconee County Senior Center was the speaker. She encouraged everyone 55 years old and up to attend the various activities offered by the Senior Center.

Several of our members regularly attend activities and stressed how much fun they had.

The women are sponsoring a 'Wine' basket to be auctioned at the annual Camp Christian Gala on March 16.

Disciples Women's Spring Conference will be held on March 9, 2019 at Sandersville First Christian Church with speaker Rev. Lainie Jenkins. Please contact Ann Smith if you plan to attend.



Grayson Bennett Taylor with his big brother, Caden, 4 years old. Grayson is the son of Dustin & Kristen Taylor and the grandson of Max & Joan Taylor. Grayson weighs 8 lbs. and 2 ozs. He is 21 inches long.

March

Oconee County
Senior Center
3500 B Hog Mountain Rd.
Watkinsville, GA

St. Patrick's Day



MAY YOUR TROUBLES BE LESS AND YOUR BLESSINGS BE MORE AND NOTHING BUT HAPPINESS COME THROUGH YOUR DOOR.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
4 9:00 am Bridge 10:00 am Exercise Class 11:00 am Line Dancing 12:30 pm Bridge 1:00 pm Wellness group	5 8:30 am Senior Fit 10:15 am Arts & Crafts 10:45 am Chair Zumba 1:00 pm Canasta/Games	6 8:30 am Yoga 9:00 am Bridge 9:00 am Texas Hold'em 10:30 am <i>Leadership of Oconee presents Iphone 101</i> 12:30 pm Cards/Games	7 8:30 am Senior Fit 9:00 am Bridge 10:15 am Creative Bouquets 10:45 am Chair Zumba 1:00 pm Computer Class	1 ClearCaption Phones Presentation and Coverall OCSC sponsored BINGO 11 am
11 9:00 am Bridge 10:00 am Exercise Class 11:00 am Line Dancing 12:30 pm Bridge 1:00 pm Wellness group	12 8:30 am Senior Fit 10:15 am Arts & Crafts 10:45 am Chair Zumba 1:00 pm Canasta/Games	13 8:30 am Yoga 9:00 am Bridge 9:00 am Texas Hold'em 10:30 am <i>Assist. Devices Pres.</i> 12:30 pm Cards/Games	14 8:30 am Senior Fit 9:00 am Bridge <i>Irish Dancers to Perform 10:15am</i> 10:45 am Chair Zumba 1:00 pm Computer Class	15 WEAR GREEN Iris Place Coverall BINGO 11am Bring 2 Prizes
18 9:00 am Bridge 10:00 am Exercise Class 11:00 am Line Dancing 12:30 pm Bridge 1:00 pm Wellness group	19 8:30 am Senior Fit 10:15 am Arts & Crafts 10:45 am Chair Zumba 1:00 pm Canasta/Games	20 8:30 am Yoga 9:00 am Bridge 9:00 am Texas Hold'em 10:30 am <i>Armchair Travel Scotland/Ireland</i> 12:30 pm Cards/Games	21 8:30 am Senior Fit 9:00 am Bridge 10:30 am <i>Tai Chi</i> 11:00 am Chair Zumba 1:00 pm Computer Class	22 BINGO 11am Bring 2 Prizes
25 9:00 am Bridge 10:00 am Exercise Class 11:00 am Line Dancing 12:30 pm Bridge 1:00 pm Wellness group	26 8:30 am Senior Fit 10:15 am Arts & Crafts 10:45 am Chair Zumba 1:00 pm Canasta/Games	27 8:30 am Yoga 9:00 am Bridge 9:00 am Texas Hold'em 10:45 am <i>Music w/ Amanda</i> 12:30 pm Cards/Games	28 8:30 am Senior Fit 9:00 am Bridge 10:15 am Creative Bouquets 10:45 am Chair Zumba 1:00 pm Computer Class	29 BINGO 11am Bring 2 Prizes



JOIN US FOR THE CAMP CHRISTIAN GALA "PEACE, LOVE, CAMP" on March 16, 2019 at the camp in Gordon. Please help us make this event a success.

Camp Christian is our year-round conference center with a focus on summer camps for children and youth in our denomination. One of the camps we sponsor in addition to the camps for our youth and children is CAMP OASIS-A Safe Place to Make Friends and Share Gifts. This camp is for elementary age children living in the Gordon, GA (Wilkinson County) area who would not have the opportunity to attend a camp otherwise.

When: Saturday, March 16, 2019 Registration begins at 10:00am in Woodland
Where: Camp Christian Conference Center

10:45am Appetizers & Silent Auction in Peachtree

12:30 pm Meal prepared by Chefs, Jim & Marilyn Torbert

Live Auction featuring Earl Shaw, our blast from the past camp counselor and some of his former campers

How Can You Be Involved?

- Sign up to come-only \$35 per person (includes meal)!
- Donate an item for the auction!
- Be a sponsor-\$200+ receives special recognition in the GALA program

Suggestions for items to donate: Original artwork, jewelry, Theme Baskets are very popular, unique ornaments, wood work items, electronics, sports equipment, arts and crafts, event tickets, Weekend Get Away or be creative and use your imagination

Attire: Wear your favorite bright colored shirts/blouses, tie-dyed shirts or whatever you choose.

If you have questions contact Marilyn Parks or Pam Van Dusen at campoffice@gadisciples.org

Ash Wednesday



Wednesday, March

6

**7:00 PM - Communion
Service & Imposition of
Ashes in the Sanctuary.
5:45 PM - The Pancake
Supper donations for Relay
for Life in the Fellowship**

Ash Wednesday marks the official start of the 40-day Lenten season and is hallmarked by the placing of ashes on the foreheads of parishioners while saying the ancient words from Scripture, *"You are dust and to dust you shall return"* (Genesis 3:19).

Traditionally made by the burning of the palm leaves from the previous Palm Sunday, the ashes symbolize our mortality as well as our sorrow over our sins. The practice harkens back to Old Testament days when God's people wore sackcloth and ashes to visually show to God and those around them the depth of their repentance for their wayward behavior. The prophet Jeremiah called for repentance by saying: *"O daughter of my people, gird on sackcloth, roll in the ashes"* (Jer 6:26).

Today wearing ashes on our heads in the shape of a cross becomes a reminder to us and a witness to others who see us wearing these ashen crosses that we firmly believe that though we will one day die, we know we will one day be made alive again forevermore, forgiven and free through the precious cross of Christ.

**WEDNESDAY (not Tuesday!) March 6, 2019
5:30 PM – 6:45 PM – FCCW Fellowship Hall
Donations for Relay for Life Oconee 2019**



Our Property Committee continues to maintain and therefore, improving our facility. Please be aware that this month, they have:

****Repaired the outside sign lights – it now shines! See the photo where our Friends Forever group completed the sign with a “love” message that they created on their own!**

****Replaced light bulbs in the baptister**



****Replaced and repaired the light fixture in the nursery**

****Replaced and repaired the seats of the swings on playground**

****Picture hanging in the minister's office – the little pink hammer came in handy!**

****Inventoried**



and purchased needed supplies in kitchen

****Met with a sound design company to begin assessing needs for the sound improvement in our Sanctuary**

Thank you to our Property Committee who oversees and guides the maintenance, improvement of our facilities in the ministry of hospitality and presence.

The FCCW Youth Group leads our congregation's effort on Relay for Life-Oconee on April 26. Lexie Pritchard is church rep to the county organization. The Youth Group is asking for your participation:

Plan to attend the Opening Ceremonies on Friday, April 26 at Oconee Middle School at 6:00 PM – 12:00 Midnight. Wear your FCCW T-shirts and walk a lap with the survivors and as a team.

Purchase a Luminary “in Memory” or “in Honor” of loved one who battled cancer. Luminary signup sheets are available now for your requests and donations. Checks made to: FCCW and identified as “Relay Luminaries”. The luminaries will be used outside our church on Ash Wednesday night (March 6) and then again on Maundy Thursday (April 18) and then at the Relay for Life Event on April 26 at the Oconee Middle School.

Luminaries for Relay for Life-Oconee on April 26, 2019

Please request your luminary and donate \$10.00 per luminary for Relay for Life-Oconee event.

Sign your name and phone number:

Number of Luminaries requested:

Amount of money you will included here. \$10.00 per Luminary.

Total: _____

Luminary “In Memory”

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Luminary “In Honor”

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

FCCW Calendar for March

Saturday, March 2

5:00 pm - Young Adults - Bowling

Sunday, March 3

10:00 am - Sunday School

11:00 am - Worship

4:00 - 6:00 pm - Youth Group

Monday, March 4

2:00 pm - Bible Study

5:00 pm - TOPS

6:00 pm - Worship Committee

Tuesday, March 5

5:30 - 9:00 pm - Pilot Club

Wednesday, March 6

1:00 - 4:00 pm - Constitution Revision Committee

5:45 pm - Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper

7:00 pm - Ash Wednesday Service

Thursday, March 7

6:30 - 7:30 pm - VBS/Christian Ed Meeting

IHN - FCCW night

Friday, March 8

4:00 - 7:00 pm - Friends Forever

Saturday, March 9

DW in Sandersville

IHN - FCCW night

(Time Change tonight - spring forward 1 hr.)

Sunday, March 10

8:00 am - CMF Breakfast and Meeting

10:00 am - Sunday School

11:00 am - Worship

4:00 - 6:00 pm - Youth Group

6:00 pm - Board Meeting

Monday, March 11

2:00 pm - Bible Study

5:00 pm - TOPS

Tuesday, March 12

(Elaine - vacation)

7:00 pm - Stewardship & Finance Committee

Wednesday, March 13

(Elaine - vacation)

5:45 pm - Community Supper & Study (Jimmy Christopher #1)

7:00 pm - Choir

Thursday, March 14

(Elaine - vacation)

Friday, March 15

5:30 - 7:00 pm - Holland Rehearsal

Saturday, March 16

10:00 am - 4:00 pm - Holland Wedding

Camp Christian Gala

Sunday, March 17

10:00 am - Sunday School

11:00 am - Worship 4:00 - 6:00 pm - Youth Group

Monday, March 18

2:00 pm - Bible Study

5:00 pm - TOPS

Wednesday, March 20

5:45 pm - Community Supper & Study (Jimmy Christopher #2)

7:00 pm - Choir

Thursday, March 21

12:00 pm - Community Lunch - Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

Saturday, March 23

DW Conference - Peachtree

Sunday, March 24

8:30 am - Elders Meeting

10:00 am - Sunday School

11:00 am - Worship

4:00 - 6:00 pm - Youth Group

Monday, March 25

2:00 pm - Bible Study

5:00 pm - TOPS

6:30 pm - Disciple Women's Meeting

Wednesday, March 27

10:00 am - ACTS @ Rays

5:45 pm - Community Supper & Study (Jimmy Christopher #3)

7:00 pm - Choir

Sunday, March 31

10:00 am - Sunday School

11:00 am - Worship (Change for Change)