



# The Chalice

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

706-769-5966

<http://fccwatkinsville.org>

Dear Church,

If you see one of the Search Committee members, please take a moment to tell them "Thank You!" They have been hard at work these last few months on the congregational profile for First Christian Church. The Congregational Profile is an 8-page document consisting of 17 sections to help a church describe itself and its hopes, its vision for the future. To date, the Search Committee has finished most of the first nine sections. The remaining sections require input from the congregation at large.

To that end, we will gather on Sunday Morning, September 15th, for a Church Chat and Worship (breakfast too). While we will not "complete" the profile at that gathering, it will get us very close. On that day we will consider several questions from the "Congregational Discernment" section of the profile, including these:

- What has God uniquely called you to be and do as a congregation (both now, and looking to the future)?
- Describe the Spiritual Disciplines that are regularly practiced throughout this congregation.
- Describe your sense of God's covenantal call to be a part of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and broader ecumenical/interfaith ministries.
- What are the gifts and resources you have within the congregation to respond to ministry opportunities you see in your context?
- Describe the congregation's strengths and growing edges.
- How is this congregation relevant to the needs of (a) the local community, (b) Disciples mission, (c) the world?
- How does this congregation bear witness in tangible ways to God's healing, welcoming, reconciling presence in a broken world?

Take some time to think about these questions in preparation for our gathering. Even with forethought, this is a lot to discuss. In the midst of our chatting, we will sing, pray, give thanks and read scripture, celebrate and share communion. We will worship!

**We will serve breakfast at 9:30. Come fix a plate and get settled in!**

**We will "Chat" and Worship from 10:00 until Noon** on Sunday the 15th. I look forward to sharing this particular sabbath morning with you all.

This gathering is vital to preparing the Congregational Profile. There are other sections and questions the Search Committee will ask the congregation to respond to by survey, and some questions the Search Committee will need to "write up" from the gathered thoughts of the congregation. Our gathering on September 15th will help make that possible. Until then, peace be with you, Church!

See you Sunday,  
Pastor Alan



**Sunday, Sept. 15**  
**Fellowship Hall**  
**10:00-12:00**

**WHOLE CHURCH  
CHAT & WORSHIP**

**We will gather in the Fellowship Hall to**  
**Share a Meal**  
**Share Worship**  
**Share Questions and Conversation**  
**for our Church Profile.**  
**Come add your voice.**

 **First Christian Church**  
Watkinsville, Georgia

# News from ACTS

# July 2024

**Distribution Center: 130 East Thompson St., Bogart 30622 770-725-2330**

**For more info or help:**

**Randy Dawson, 706-540-3695 or Dennis Clarke 706-206-6250**

*If a brother or sister is ill-clad and in lack of daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and filled," without giving them the things needed for the body, what does it profit? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead. James 2:15-17*

## Food Distribution, January – March, 2024

<u>Month</u>	<u>Families, including</u>	<u>New Families</u>	<u>Individuals</u>
January	139	4	557
February	157	6	497
March	149	12	453

## Current Needs at ACTS

Believe it or not, school will be starting soon, so ACTS needs school supplies to distribute to its clients. Pens, pencils, packages of lined paper, notebooks, and anything else that students need are welcome donations. T-shirts and other items of comfortable clothing are also needed. And, of course, donations of all types of food are always welcomed.

## Volunteer Schedule

### Tuesdays

July 2 Rays Methodist  
July 9 Oconee Presbyterian  
July 16 Faith Presbyterian  
Watkinsville 1<sup>st</sup> Baptist  
July 22 Friendship Presbyterian  
July 30 New Life Apostolic

### Fridays

July 5 Watkinsville 1<sup>st</sup> Methodist  
July 12 Prince Ave. Baptist  
July 19 Oconee Fellowship Presbyterian  
July 26 Ashford Methodist  
Bogart Methodist

## Volunteer Schedule, continued

### Tuesdays

Aug. 6   Watkinsville 1<sup>st</sup> Christian  
          St. Philothea  
Aug. 13   Latter Day Saints  
Aug. 20   Grace Fellowship  
Aug. 27   Mars Hill Baptist

### Fridays

Aug. 2   Briarwood Baptist  
Aug. 9   Antioch Christian  
          Hebron Christian  
Aug. 16   Oconee Fellowship Presbyterian  
Aug. 23   Union Christian

## Spotlight on Our ACTS Co-Chairmen: Randy Dawson and Dennis Clarke

Randy started volunteering in 2012 and was elected to the Board of Directors in 2014. Dennis began volunteering with Briarwood Baptist Church in 2015. They joined forces and became Co-Chairmen in 2017.

Dennis and Randy's responsibilities are many and varied. They are highly visible on ACTS open days, verifying client eligibility and overseeing all aspects of the day-to-day operation. But they also work behind the scenes, coordinating with the Oconee County School System's annual Can-a-thon and other special events such as the turkey and ham distributions at Thanksgiving and Christmas. Randy and Dennis also assist the ACTS Treasurer in monitoring and managing financial resources and expenses. One of their main jobs is maintaining the food supply by purchasing food and coordinating the delivery of food from Trader Joe's and B&T Food Fresh Market.

Dennis' career was in public education. He feels that serving as principal of 3 high schools was good preparation for serving as Co-Chairman of ACTS. Except for 2 years, Dennis has lived in Oconee County since 1975. For this reason, he feels comfortable interacting with the clients at ACTS.

Randy became familiar with ACTS when his father was a volunteer. He feels that nothing in his career prepared him to be ACTS Co-Chairman, but that he was called by God to help neighbors in need.

Dennis and Randy are both proud to be part of ACTS, a truly unique organization that is made possible by the caring people of Oconee County. ACTS has only one paid employee, a long-time volunteer who also cleans the building. All the other work is done willingly by volunteers who are supported by churches and county and school officials. God continues to bless all of us in this effort.

**Disciple Women Report**  
**Pam Crawford, President**

Our group met on August 26th with nine members present. We missed several of our regulars. Our group continues with our pledges to Disciple Missions, Camp Christian, Disciple Women of Ga and voted to reinstate Oconee Senior Center each month!

We also gave food gift certificates to two of our church families due to illnesses, gift certificate to the Wagners and the Hensons for weddings!

Our September Project will be to support the Blanket Project with Church World Service! We will be sending \$100. These blankets are given out in times of need.

Our program presented in the form of role play on Women of the Bible by Barbara Powell. Great program and we learned things we didn't know!

Our group will also set a day and time to clear out the closet items from the church annex. Rosa in charge. Let her know if you can help!

It always amazes me what a dozen women of this church can do!

Next meeting is September 23. All women of the church are invited.



**Worship Committee**  
**Mary Lillie Watson, Chair**

The committee met August 21 and decided on the following items.

We need to purchase a speaker for the choir. This will enable them to hear what the congregation is hearing.

The router downstairs must be replaced. It is not compatible with the new camera in the sanctuary.

We will have many kinds of bread for World Communion Day on 10/6/24.

Trunk or Treat will be 10/31/24.

Advent starts December 1st. We will be having the Hanging of the Green on that Sunday.

Josh would like to plan some Advent caroling.

December the 22nd will be the date for the choir cantata.

Our Christmas Eve service will be at 11:00 Tuesday December 24th.

We discussed a hymn sing in January. And maybe do this with Ashford Methodist.

# Financial Report July 2024

By Kathy Reising for Gina Hansford, Treasurer

JULY CONTRIBUTIONS \$8,482	2024 YTD CONTRIBUTIONS \$84,076	2024 BUDGETED CONTRIBUTIONS \$112,002
JULY EXPENSES \$13,816	2024 YTD EXPENSES \$96,742	2024 BUDGETED EXPENSES \$108,933

2024 YTD CONTRIBUTIONS MINUS EXPENSES \$ -12,667

2024 CONTRIBUTIONS VS BUDGET \$ -34,326 (UNDER) EXCLUDES CMF  
2024 EXPENSES VS BUDGET \$ -12,191 (UNDER)



## YEAR TO DATE (30 SUNDAYS)

WEEKLY CONTRIBUTIONS BUDGET	\$3,733
AVERAGE WEEKLY CONTRIBUTIONS ACTUAL	<u>\$2,803</u>
AVERAGE WEEKLY SHORTAGE PER BUDGET	\$(930)

	JULY 31, 2024	DEC 31, 2023	CHANGE IN ACCOUNT
GENERAL FUNDS	\$34,546	\$42,796	\$ -8,250 (-19%)
DESIGNATED FUNDS	\$32,821	\$34,412	\$ -1,591 (-5%)
STATEMENTS, AS OF	JUNE 30, 2024	DEC 31, 2023	
SAVINGS GENERAL FUNDS	\$230,664	\$203,861	\$26,803 13%
ENDOWMENT FUNDS	\$229,208	\$207,105	\$22,103 11%

## ITEMS OF NOTE:

### SPECIAL OFFERINGS AND DONATIONS YEAR TO DATE 7-31-24

#### CAMP CHRISTIAN 60 FOR 60

FAMILY PROMISE \$375.00

- 1) DMF – CHRISTMAS OFFERING
- 2) DMF – WEEK OF COMPASSION \$542.50
- 3) DMF – EASTER OFFERING \$305.00
- 4) DMF – PENTECOST \$225.00
- 5) DMF – RECONCILIATION
- 6) DMF – THANKSGIVING
- 7) CHANGE FOR CHANGE \$120

**Outreach Committee August 2024**  
**Barbara Powell, Chair**

The Outreach Committee continues its work with the Meal Ministry now serving approximately 28 per week. Motions are in place to contact several other entities in the community for possible need.

Volunteers are needed to participate at “The Table” at the Campus Ministry at UGA. Our designated date is September 17. We will be helping to serve students and help with clean up. If you can volunteer contact Barbara Powell or text 706-207-0625.

Join  
FCCW at  
**THE TABLE**  
**TUES.**  
**SEPT. 17TH**  
**AND/OR**  
**OCT. 22ND**

as we volunteer to help feed  
the students. and stay for  
the service if you want!

*They have kitchen  
managers available  
to plan and lead prep  
volunteers would be  
assisting, serving, helping,  
and clean up and all  
that alongside students.*

**LET BARBARA KNOW  
IF YOU PLAN TO BE  
THERE SO I CAN LET  
THEM KNOW.**



**COME JOIN US!**

## Homecoming 2024

FCCW members enjoyed Homecoming on August 8. We began the morning with Sunday school, followed by a Front Porch Welcome to our guest speaker Haley Lerner, The Table Campus Ministry, during our worship service. The festivities continued with a potluck dinner and a welcome table for Josh and Marie Wagner on their recent marriage.





## CALENDAR – SEPTEMBER 2024

### Sunday, September 1

10:00 am – Sunday School  
11:00 am – Worship  
Elder: Mary Lillie Watson

### Monday, September 2 – Labor Day

Office Closed  
No CMF Meeting

### Wednesday, September 4

5:30 pm – Meal Ministry  
7:00 pm - Choir

### Sunday, September 8

10:00 am – Sunday School  
11:00 am – Worship  
Elder: Bill Hunt

### Monday, September 9

6:30 pm – Board Meeting

### Wednesday, September 11

5:30 pm – Meal Ministry  
7:00 pm - Choir

### Sunday, September 15

**9:30 am - Breakfast**  
**10:00 am – 12:00 – Chat & Worship**  
Elder: Ann Smith

### Wednesday, September 18

5:30 pm – Meal Ministry  
7:00 pm – Choir

### Sunday, September 22

10:00 am – Sunday School  
11:00 am – Worship  
Elder: Rosa Hall

### Monday, September 23

6:30 pm – Disciple Women’s Meeting

### Wednesday, September 25

5:30 pm – Meal Ministry  
7:00 pm – Choir

### Friday, September 27

1:00 pm – Outreach Committee

### Sunday, September 29

#### **(Change for Change)**

10:00 am – Sunday School  
11:00 am – Worship  
Elder: Mary Lillie Watson

## **WFCC Board Meeting – July 8, 2024**

**Members Present**, Rosa Hall, Leo Baker, Barbara Powell, Roger Smith, Mary Lillie Watson, Steve Hansford, Pam Crawford, Tommy Branch, Kathy Reising, Gina Hansford, and Interim Minister Alan Cloar.

Also present was Elaine McTyre, representing the Property Committee.

**Call to Order**: Chair Rosa Hall called the meeting to order and provided an opening prayer.

**Agenda Approval**: On motion by Gina Hansford and second by Pam Crawford, the July 8, 2024 Agenda was approved as submitted.

**Prayer Concerns**: Prayer concerns were shared and uplifted in prayer.

**Treasurer's Report**: By consensus, the June 30, 2024 Financial Report was approved as submitted.

### **Old Business:**

**PARKING AGREEMENT WITH CITY OF WATKINSVILLE** – Chair Rosa Hall reported that the City of Watkinsville has made an offer of \$2,280 a year to lease the front parking lot from the church. On motion by Steve Hansford and second by Kathy Reising, the Board voted unanimously to counter-offer with \$4,560 (\$20 per space for 12 months.)

**ANNEX REPAIRS** – It was reported that if we intend to rent out the church annex, there are several repairs that will have to be made. The CMF will determine what repairs are needed.

### **Committee Reports:**

**OUTREACH** – Barbara Powell announced that the Outreach Committee is sponsoring a Hot Dog Bar and Bingo on July 23<sup>rd</sup>. Proceeds are to benefit the Meal Ministry. She also reported “Change for Change” raised \$120 to go towards Relay for Life.

**WORSHIP** – Mary Lillie Watson reported that Josh Wagner will be on vacation for the next 3 weeks for his wedding. She said the Worship Committee has discussed singing more familiar songs during Sunday services, as well as the August 11, 2024 Homecoming. She noted that a new camera has been purchased for the Sanctuary.

**DEACONS** – Kathy Reising said Deacons have been scheduled through July and Marsha Lee has volunteered to coordinate meals for those in need.

**CMF** – Steve Hansford said that by September, the CMF will have determined whether to continue the annual chicken mull.

**Minister's Report**: Pastor Alan asked that we focus on all relationships the church is a part of.

**Calendar**: Rosa Hall requested all calendar dates be turned in to Elaine McTyre as soon as possible. Rosa also needs information turned in to her for the Chalice.

**Devotion and Communion**: Mary Lillie Watson provided the devotion and Communion.

**Adjournment**: The meeting was adjourned.  
Submitted by Gina Hansford, Board Secretary