



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DOC)

July-August, 2021

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My thoughts of thankfulness this month turned to a couple of committee chair persons. We may overlook their role in the congregation when all is going well. However, when they are gone or when we need them, we realize how much we depend upon them.

The first person I want to mention is Wanda Gordon. Her passing left a big hole in this congregation as she was first and foremost a faithful member of disciple churches in a couple places. In Sebring, she was an elder, served as financial secretary and worked diligently in the office doing more than just the tasks of counting. As an elder she served faithfully every time she could. She Was also the

chairman of our outreach committee. It was Wanda Gordon that gave the church a reputation in the community with our giving of the Shoebox Ministry. She organized, collected, filled, and mailed over 100 shoeboxes to that ministry worldwide. She reminded us of our local and national outreach mission that we have as a congregation.

The next person is one who previously served as the chair of the Worship Committee. The Worship Committee is central to our existence using our own contemporary/traditional style of worship. I am of course referring to Linda Ellis who continues to serve even though she's in Michigan. That's what we find in the rethinking of paradigms today; that she can serve as an elder and be a worshiping member of the congregation miles away, and she is doing just that. She also served as an office manager, choir member, as well as participating in many groups and recently as chair of the board as well as other officer positions throughout the years.

Ann Holly succeeded Linda as the chair of the Worship Committee and has been very challenged but doing a tremendous job as the worship chair. The challenge has been to provide a worship service atmosphere in the midst of Covid while making plans for a safe return to the sanctuary. She has reached out and included others in the bell choir as well as involve them in our worship service in creative ways. She has been a part of the congregation for many years, giving valuable service in so many ways to the choir, the board, within various groups, and now as the worship chair.

We are so grateful for the service of each of these three women and as a pastor of First Christian Church of Sebring, Florida I am ever so grateful that they used their gifts here among our congregation to enrich us in our worship and service to both our community and the world!

Pastors Projected July Office Days: 6, 7, 21, 22, 27, 28.

Pastors Projected August Office Days: 2, 10, 11, 16, 23, 30. Vacation July 11-17.

CHOIR NEWS

(July/August 2021)



As we move into the end of summer lets everyone keep the practice up of being safe and respecting each other. I still wear my mask coming and going but since I've had my shots, I take it off at the piano. My glasses fog up and I can't see with it!! I appreciate everyone that still wears a mask. I have a faithful few in the choir and I appreciate each and every one of them. They are doing a wonderful job. I hope you have been enjoying the anthems they provide each week. Keep up the good work everyone!!!

Keep in Tune,

A JOYFUL NOISE

I have heard from very few in the chime choir as to whether they want to try and start back doing something. I was thinking about August, but I need a response from each of you. I have music for a quintet....new music and several pieces so we can start there. It will be slow, but we have no rush so it will be Monday nights as usual at 6:30 p.m. Please chime members, let me know how you feel so we can confirm a date to begin! Thank you!

For Whom the Bell Tolls,
Jaquae

Brothers and Sisters:

As you recall, our congregation adopted our annual church budget earlier this year. Since that time the church has suffered problems with some of its air conditioning units. Except for some funds designated in the property budget for repairs, these unforeseen major expenses were not included in the adopted budget. We recently had to replace the air conditioning unit for the kitchen at a cost of \$4200. We had \$400 in funds that had been contributed and designated for air conditioning expenses, leaving a balance of \$3800. Two members of the congregation have contributed \$500 each toward this expense, leaving a balance of \$2800. In the past, you have been generous and contributed to our roof repairs, kitchen remodel, lights, and other necessary building projects that have made our church building comfortable and welcoming. You have been faithful in your giving, especially during these unusual, pandemic times. Please consider giving an extra amount now designated for our air conditioning expenses.

Bill Hine, Finance Committee Chairman



BIRTHDAYS

July 7 Linda Lussier
 15 Todd Martin
 21 Michelle Johns
 21 Kay Duball

 Aug. 7 Annakirk Ramkisson
 8 Lois Hammel
 10 Diane Maxson
 20 Carol Chandler
 22 Sandra Laufer
 23 Lynn Warman
 24 Shirley Misechok

ANNIVERARIES

July 4 David & Janet McCord
 5 Johnny & Helen Kelly
 7 Alan & Kathy Brown
 11 Gary & Pauline Kincaid
 21 Hal & Lois Hammel

 Aug. 1 Bill & Carolyn Hineline
 4 Ron & Peggy Davis
 7 Don & Barbara Tiemens
 24 Gordon & Jane Walkington



The school supplies will be on sale. In honor of Wanda Gordon's pet project, start looking for items that can be included in the Shoe Boxes for Christmas.

The church has been friends with several charitable organizations; i.e., New Testament Church and Food Pantry. Let's get back in the groove of showing our support for these and other projects by bringing items to be shared.

Not once in
the bible does it
say Worry about it,
Stress over it, or, Figure it out.
But over and over it clearly says
Trust God



NEW OFFICE MANAGER

Pat Rhodes has been hired as our officer manager. Pat has extensive experience in a position of this type. She will be training with Helen and taking over with Helen's departure. Pat and her husband Bob are members of this congregation and we welcome her in her new capacity.

B I B L E

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

When in sorrow.....	John 14
When man fails you.....	Psalms 27
When you have sinned.....	Psalms 51
When you have worry.....	Matthew 6:19-34
When you are in danger.....	Psalms 91
When God seems far away.....	Psalms 139
When your faith needs stirring.....	Hebrews 11
When you are lonely and fearful	Psalms 23
When you grow bitter and critical.....	1 Cor. 13
When you feel down and out.....	Roman 8:31-37
When you want peace and rest.....	Matthew 11:25-30
When the world seems bigger than God.....	Psalms 90
When you want Christian assurance.....	Romans 8:1-30
When you leave home for labor or travel	Psalms 121
When your prayers grow narrow and selfish	Psalms 67
When you want courage for a task	Joshua 1
To get along with your fellowman.....	Romans 12
For a great intervention or opportunity.....	Isaiah 55
For Paul's secret to happiness	Col. 3:12-17
If you want to be fruitful.....	John 15
If your pocketbook is empty.....	Psalms 37
If you're losing confidence in people	1 Cor. 13
If people seem unkind.....	John 15
If discouraged about your work.....	Psalms 126
Find the world growing small and yourself great.....	Psalms 19

AVAILABLE 24/7 | PHONE SERVICE NOT REQUIRED
DIRECT PETITIONS HEAVENWARD

HERE I AM LORD, USE ME!

With some holes needing to be filled with the absence of Johnny and Helen Kelly, please pray and look for ways **YOU** can help out. Helen graciously has been preparing the communion each Sunday. Will you volunteer to accept this responsibility, maybe a month at a time? Acolytes are also needed to light the candles before and extinguish after the service. Johnny has been posting the song pages on the bulletin board. Who will do this now? Help is going to be needed for the media and sound system. Would you be willing to be trained for this work? It may not be every Sunday job if everyone pitches in. The offering has been collected and counted by Helen. It is best if 2 people do this for accuracy. See Larry Andrews if you are willing to help in this capacity. Are you willing to accept responsibility one Sunday at a time? It is best if different people do it rather than one person or persons on a regular basis. There are bound to be other duties to be done that we did not realize this couple have been doing. This is YOUR church. Be an active member.



AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL”—

May it always stay that way---
But keep “OLD GLORY” flying

There’s a price that we must pay...
For everything worth having demands work and sacrifice,

And FREEDOM is a GIFT from God
That commands the HIGHEST PRICE...
For our wealth and progress are worthless as can be
Without the FAITH that made us great
And kept OUR COUNTRY FREE...

Nor can our nation hope to live unto itself alone,
For the problems of our neighbors must today become our own...
And while it’s hard to understand the complexities of war,
Each one of us must realize that we have fought for
The principles of freedom and the decency of man,
We’re committed to God’s Plan...

And the LAND OF LIBERTY

And as a great God-fearing nation we must protect our honor
And fulfill our obligation...

So in these times of crisis let us offer no resistance
In giving help to those who need our strength and our assistance...

And “THE STARS AND STRIPES FOREVER:

Will remain a symbol of a rich and mighty nation
Built on FAITH and TRUTH and LOVE.

Adapted from Helen Steiner Rice