

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DOC)

May, 2022

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I hope that you had a marvelous Easter Sunday. I love Easter as it comes at such a glorious time of year...spring, and spring brings about a newness of life that is abundant right now. At this time of year, we have the opportunity of viewing rebirth each day as the flowers pop their heads up to say hello, as we see the sun shining for a longer period of time each day, as the chicks burst forth from their eggs, even new baby animals are being born and new human babies are finding their way into our world. Life just seems to restart. It is a time when everything seems possible again. Hope is renewed, joy is abundant, and the outlook of the world is aglow with transformation. But it is also a time of busyness and not necessarily the bad hurry and worry type of busyness but a time when we just seem to be moving faster and faster. I mean after all, if you are like me there are days you are on a dead run.

Now I must tell you that there was a time in my life that I enjoyed a good run. It gave me a stronger body and a more active mind. It was a time when I could really think and just pray with each step as I looked out and saw the beauty that was before me, but have you thought about running lately? I mean the kind of running that we all do each and every day as we put more and more into our already overflowing schedules.

With all that busyness have you found yourself running toward Jesus or away from him? Can you picture yourself running with Mary to see the empty tomb? It is a likely question that we would prefer not to ask ourselves, but we must take time to think about what we are running for and to whom we are running. In Hebrews, chapter 12 we are encouraged to strip off all that weights us down and hinders our progress and then and only then will we be able to run the race with endurance, the race that God has set before us. When we learn to run towards Jesus, towards all that He offers us, we will find a rebirth in our own self. You will truly be free to run the race of endurance and succeed.

These next few months may lead us to a melancholy or lackadaisical attitude. After all, there are few major holidays to celebrate. Many snowbirds have returned to their northern home. Summer is soon upon us, and that depressive heat and humidity occasionally drags us down. As school gets close to that big summer break and families leave on vacations near and far, we still have with us the mystery of the Eucharist and the empty tomb. Our LORD LIVES! Let us continue to run the good race of rebirth, hope, and faith with Mary and the early disciples as we, the Disciples of today, bring alive the Gospel of Good News.

Pastor's May projected office days: 3, 4, 10, 17, 24, 25.

Rich's Corner

Many thanks to everyone who had a part in making our candle lit Maundy Thursday service a great success. Gordon Walkington's warmed up green pepper soup and Teresa Williams' lentil and potato soup hit the spot. No one went away hungry. Rev.

Peggy Davis led us in a moving spiritual experience which included not only the traditional passing of the bread and wine, but also the anointing of one another with sunflower oil in honor of Ukraine. Peggy pointed out that embattled Ukraine has in the past provided the world with a large portion of sunflower seeds and oils.

Thanks to Ann Holly and Prilli Andrews who were responsible for the coordination and leg work involved in the beautiful arrangement of lilies and tulips in the Sanctuary on Easter morning.

Twelve DOC men enjoyed a "Last Breakfast" on the eighth which featured Rich's yummy sausage gravy and biscuits. The biscuits were a BIT brown on the bottom, but the gravy made up for it. This will be the last breakfast until we all get back together in the fall. So long to all our Snowbird brothers. Do not forget to stay in touch with your prayer partners.

We recently had difficulties with our irrigation system. It was discovered that when the new sign was installed, the wires controlling three of the stations had been accidentally cut. The repairs have been made and our lawn is receiving much needed water once again. The cost of repairs was covered by funds from the DOC men's account.

Rich



CHOIR NEWS

May is the month for Mother's Day and Memorial Day. So, the choir will be bringing back a couple of old hymns we all love. Be listening for "In the Garden" and "Victory in Jesus." It is fun to sing the old hymns, and of course you are always welcome to sing along with us. See you on Sunday!

Keep in Tune,
Jaquae



A JOYFUL NOISE

For now, the chimes are on hold. We need more people so if you are thinking about joining us, please give me a call. I would love to hear from you! They say all good things are worth waiting for!

For Whom the Bell Tolls,
Jaquae



BOOK CLUB

This month we are reading “The Bishop's Daughter” by Wanda E. Brunstetter. This is the third book in the *Daughters of Lancaster County* series. This book starts out with Jimmy Scott. He is trying to understand where God is when bad things happen to him. He is having a hard time forgiving the only father he's ever known for the lies he's told him his whole life. He is also working hard to learn about the Amish life and to hopefully reunite with the family he never knew about or had a chance to love. He meets Leona Weaver, the bishop's daughter, and falls in love with her, but she has challenges and problems of her own. Is there any way for an “outsider” to be welcomed into this new life he is searching? This is the conclusion of the trilogy we have been reading. You will not want to miss it!

There has not been a decision for our book choice in June yet. Any suggestions? We would love to have you join us. Picking a book is a group decision, so individual input is valued!

We are changing the way we do Book Club. From now on we meet once a month, on the first Monday at 3:00 pm. Please read the entire book before you come. Be prepared to ask questions for all of us to answer. We are all leading the book from now on, and all will participate as much as we can. Please order your book from Amazon, or wherever you buy your books.

Our next meeting is Monday, May 2nd, at 3:00 pm in the church library.

Submitted by Jaquae L. Sands, 382-3428



- Take time to work,
It is the price of success.
- Take time to think,
It is the source of power.
- Take time to play,
It is the secret of perpetual youth.
- Take time to be friendly,
It is the road to happiness.
- Take time to love and be loved,
It is the privilege of the gods.
- Take time to share,
Life is too short to be selfish.
- Take time to laugh,
Laughter is the music of the soul.

In the merry month of May
In a morn by break of day

1440 minutes making hours, She
is a true 24

Creating lives as precious as Gold
A motherhood only a woman can hold
Remembering and thanking each day
A day dedicated to all Moms of the world
Tribune for sacrificing themselves every way

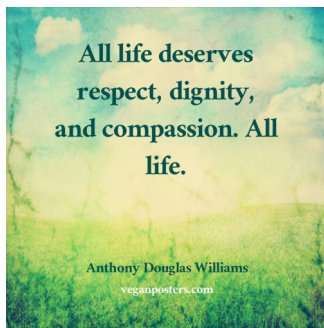
“Shining **GOLD**”

A Mother mentors
To overcome strife in life
Flexibility

Daughters needs Mothers
A footprint lays beside mine
A Support system

This day dedicated all Moms of the world
Making her as the Queen for a day
Thanking her presence in every way





The tired looking man in well-worn clothes stood at the intersection wearing a large sign that read, “Have Family, Will Work for Food.” I had passed him many times as I drove around town, yet somehow, I never got around to offering help to this fellow traveler as I went about my busy week. One day as I was going past the same intersection, I saw him once again steadfastly standing there. The traffic had stopped for the red light, and in the lane to my left a woman quickly got out of her car with two full bags of groceries which she promptly handed to the man. They exchanged a few words before the light changed, and she jumped back in her car and drove away. The man’s face lit up; his weariness lifted by this unknown woman’s kindness. Carefully hugging the groceries, he slowly walked away from the crossroad; his radiant smile said it all.

In a fraction of a moment’s time his life had been changed—and hers, and mine and everyone else who sat in their cars and witnessed the exchange. The traffic still flowed, everything was the same, yet it was so very *different*.



Here are five interesting facts about Memorial Day:

- Memorial Day began as Decoration Day. ...
- Decoration Day only recognized fallen soldiers of the Civil War until World War I. ...
- Memorial Day was not an official holiday until 1968. ...
- Memorial Day is one of the few days’ flags are ordered to fly at half-staff then full staff.

The "Memorial" in Memorial Day has been ignored by too many of us who are beneficiaries of those who have sacrificed their lives for our freedom and liberty. Often, we do not observe the day as it should be, a day where we actively remember those Americans including our ancestors, family members, loved one’s neighbors and friends who have paid the price for the blessings of liberty.

Five things not to do on Memorial Day

- Don't wish anyone a “Happy Memorial Day” There are dozens of ways you can honor America's fallen this Memorial Day. ...
- Don't thank the current troops. ...
- Don't disregard its importance. ...
- Don't forget it exists. ...
- Don't let politics keep you from rendering respect.

Days to Remember

May	1	May Day
	5	National Day of Prayer
	8	Mother’s Day
	16	Do Something for your Neighbor Day
	30	Memorial Day

MAY BIRTHDAYS

22nd - Larry Andrews
28th - Ron Colwell
28th - Carol Breckenridge



OUTREACH

By: Sue Cowell



A new list of needs has been received from our friends, The New Testament Church. Drink Mixes, Canned Chicken, Stuffing Mix, Butter, Mac & Cheese, Toothbrushes, Deodorant, Large Shampoo Bottles, Wash Clothes.

You may remember hearing previously that the location had been vandalized. The community refrigerator was one of the items damaged. The seals have been broken so must be replaced by a used or new one. Fifty families are served by this refrigerator.

Total meals:	3473	Total Food Baskets	39
Total Housing:	72	Total Outreach	12 Families Assisted

Let us continue to support this organization by donating to our gathering of supplies. Items may be put in the mission box in the hallway during the month and on the last Sunday, these items are dedicated to the Lord's service. Money donations are always welcome too.

Worship/Education/Fellowship Committee



April was an astounding month as we basked in the spirit of the Holy Week. Thanks to the efforts of Reverends Peggy Davis and Rich Campton and the volunteers led by Richard Neff, over twenty of us enjoyed a simple, but delicious supper of soup and bread.

Easter Sunday's altar was banked with a variety of fresh blossoms. Thanks to all who donated money for flowers; I hope you continue to enjoy your plants. Good luck with bringing them forth next year. Mother's Day is upcoming, and I hope everyone has shared a memory or tribute to "Mom," Aunt, Grandmother and/or some other nurturing lady in your life. While you are in this nostalgic mood, please do this same for the men in your life. Deadline for bulletin entries is June 12th since Father's Day is June 19th.

May 15th calls for our third Sunday potluck. Please round out the meal with tasty treats from your own kitchens. Don't forget to sign up. Our meals have been outstanding; thanks to all who participated and attended. Ideas for this summer's get togethers are welcome. Summertime meals say picnic to me, although our summer temperatures say to have it in air-conditioning!

Pastor Alan will be away the last of May. He has a grandson graduating from high school; a "See America" trip is planned for other grandchildren. He does have another family - besides our church family! Rev. Rob Mason will be with us on May 22 and the elders are conducting the service on May 29th.

Travel mercies were extended to our snowbirds who have escaped our summer's heat. Now is the time for our locals to think of get-aways. Safe journeys and blessings to all!

Ann