

BLANKET SUNDAY

Our Mission focus for October will be Blanket Sunday. How many blankets do you have? The answer is probably "quite a few." If you ask a homeless person in Goldsboro, refugees fleeing war, or victims of hurricanes, tornadoes, floods or wildfires, the answer you get would be much different. Blankets to those in crisis can mean warmth, shelter, privacy, or a bed. With a donation of \$10.00 you can provide a blanket that is desperately needed. Sometimes what people need to recover from disasters and displacements are tools and skills to build sustainable lives and communities. The tools help build wells or earthen dams. Our Church World Service Blanket Sunday will be observed on the Oct. 27, 2019.

MEMORIALS

A gift was given to the Memorial Fund in memory of A.W. Griffin by Mrs. Judy Williford.

A gift was given to the Music Fund in memory of A.W. Griffin by Mr. & Mrs. John Selzer.

A gift was given to the Renovation Fund in memory of A.W. Griffin by Mr. & Mrs. Walter Cannon.

A gift was given to Current Expense in memory of A.W. Griffin by Mr. & Mrs. Willie Rogers.

**GIFTS GIVEN TO THE MUSIC
ENDOWMENT FUND BY THE
FOLLOWING:**

In memory of A.W. Griffin by Ms. Cheryl Griffin.

In memory of A.W. Griffin by Jim Adams.

In memory of A.W. Griffin by Mr. & Mrs. Charles Norwood.

In memory of A.W. Griffin by Ms. Tracy W. Mayo.

In memory of A.W. Griffin by Dr. & Mrs. M.G. Delbridge.

In memory of A.W. Griffin by Mr. & Mrs. William Smith.

In memory of A.W. Griffin by William B. Hayes.

In memory of A.W. Griffin by Mr. & Mrs. C. Loyd Godley, Jr.

In memory of A.W. Griffin by Mr. & Mrs. James H. Kyle III.

In memory of A.W. Griffin by Mr. & Mrs. Ronnie Thompson.

SEPTEMBER GIVING

September 1 st	\$2,480.01
September 8 th	\$3,159.36
September 15 th	\$1,585.70
September 22 nd	\$2,527.00
Reconciliation Offering	\$ 180.00
United Church Ministries	\$ 100.00



IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

John & Eloise Kleinert	Abby Martinez
Grace Price	Bradley King
Jodi Hudson	Mary Ethel Lewis
Lorraine Loch	Teenie Wilson
Joe Ben Sauls	Kathy Spain
June Anderson	Willie/Faye Rogers
John & Becky Selzer	Ray Price
Laura Price	Lee Summerlin
Gary Bartlett	Vickie Howell
Ben Loch	Linda Hilburn
Val Watkins (Brantley's sister-in-law)	
the Spain's great granddaughter, Katie Molly McEldowney (Sharon Jones' daughter) and her brother David Reynolds	
Robert Strader (June Anderson's son-in-law)	
Linda Uzzell (Lou Rose's mother)	

Our Christian Sympathy is extended to Bill Smith and his family in the loss of his brother and to Lorraine Loch and her family in the loss of her brother.



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Beth Daughtry – 1
Becky West – 4
Matt Cowley – 7
Kelly Mallard – 8
Judy Williford – 12
Mary Frances Felzer – 16
Ronnie Thompson – 20
Elliot Hicks – 25
Joe Ben Sauls – 26
Carolyn McCullough – 29



On Oct. 6, we will celebrate our 107th Homecoming. Rev. J. O. Williams, our good friend and retired NC Regional Minister, will be our guest speaker. A potluck luncheon will follow our morning worship service. Please plan to attend our Homecoming event this year and **bring a couple of your favorite dishes to share.** *This year we will have special entertainment provided by our own local "Hit Men" who will be singing our favorite songs. Spread the word to family and friends. Join us for good food, fun, fellowship and entertainment! See you then!*

OCTOBER SERVING SCHEDULE

Elders:

October 6th Mary Bartlett/Dennis Isenhower

October 13th Brantley Watkins/Ronnie Thompson

October 20th Cheryl Griffin/Sharon Jones

October 27th Sandra Bell/Mary Anne Cowley

Deacons:

Lynne Herbst, Ray Price, Jay Rose, and John Selzer

Homebound Communion:

October 6th Mary Bartlett/Lynne Herbst

October 13th Ronnie Thompson/Jay Rose

October 20th Cheryl Griffin/Ray Price

October 27th Sandra Bell/John Selzer

Deacon of the Day:

October 6th Jay Rose

October 13th Ray Price

October 20th John Selzer

October 27th Lynne Herbst

CD Ministry

Oct. 6th Mary Bartlett

Oct. 13th Ronnie Thompson

Oct. 20th Sharon Jones

Oct. 27th Sandra Bell

Elders reading the Lessons

Oct. 6th Dennis Isenhower

Oct. 13th Brantley Watkins

Oct. 20th Cheryl Griffin

Oct. 27th Mary Anne Cowley

Preparing Communion

Cathy Loch & Mary Jane Rose



FALL ENRICHMENT SERIES IN OCTOBER

Join us at 6:00 PM for a light meal followed by a short program from 6:45 to 7:30 on Thursdays, Oct. 10, Oct. 17, and Oct. 24. On those dates we will have community resource persons come to present on a variety of topics. An Options Counselor from the Senior Center will share information to help us assist people over the age of 60 (and also share resources for caregivers), and a therapist/counselor will give helpful information about facing change and transition, handling stress, and managing conflict. We will also have another speaker share other community resources. Come join us!

STEWARDSHIP/CONSECRATION

SUNDAY OCT. 20

Enclosed with the newsletter is our stewardship letter. Consecration Sunday is October 20. Our stewardship theme for this year is "Found Faithful in Little, with Much, with All" and is based on I Corinthians 4:1-2. On Oct. 20, as an act of worship, we will offer our Estimates of Giving for 2020. A prepared lunch will be served.



NOVEMBER CHURCH FUNDRAISER NOV. 2

Our church BBQ, Bake Sale, and Christmas Attic Fundraiser is set for November 2. Please sell tickets! Volunteer your time cooking, serving, cleaning up, or at the Bake Sale and the Christmas Attic. Advanced donations for the purchase of the pigs are being collected now. First Christian has a reputation for serving delicious BBQ. Spread the word!



**BAKE
SALE**



CHILDREN AND YOUTH

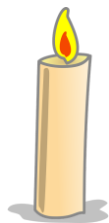
CHILDREN'S FALL FESTIVAL OCT. 26

On Saturday, October 26, from 5:30 to 7:00 PM, we will have games and food for children and youth and anyone who wants to help or join the fun. Wear a costume if you want to! ***See Andrew for details or to sign up as a parent or adult to run an activity table or booth. Also remember to leave some candy for this event on the table in the hallway.***



FALL YOUTH RETREAT CHI RHO AT CAMP CAROLINE OCT. 4-6

Regional Chi Rho, grades 6, 7, and 8, is planning an October retreat at Camp Caroline. Jackson and William Rose will be participating. See Penny if you would like to register.



LIGHT A CANDLE FOR CHILDREN

You are invited to pick a day to light a candle and pray at home for children through October 20. Our youth selected Saturday, Sept. 28, to light a candle and have a devotion and also prepare our meals for Last Saturday Supper.



MEETINGS



NOMINATING MEETS OCTOBER 1

The Nominating Committee will meet in the Conference Room on Oct. 1 at 6:00 PM.

MINISTER SEARCH TASK GROUP MEETS OCTOBER 2

The Minister Search and Call will meet Wed., Oct. 2, at 7:00 PM in the Conference Room

OCTOBER DWM/ CWF MEETINGS

Group 1: Oct. 7, 10:00 AM Conference Room

Group 2: Oct. 1st, 10:00 AM Conference Room

Group 4: Oct. 1st, 2:00 PM Parlor

CMF DINNER MEETING OCT. 14

This month's men's dinner is Monday, October 14, at 6:00 PM.

ELDERS MEET OCTOBER 29

Elders will meet on Tuesday, Oct. 29, at 7:00 PM in the Conference Room.

STEWARDSHIP MEETS NOV. 5

The Stewardship Committee will meet on Tuesday, Nov. 5, at 7:00 PM to prepare the 2020 budget.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: NOVEMBER 12

We will have our next Board Meeting on Tuesday, November 12, at 7:00 PM.

REGIONAL NEWSLETTER

A copy of the most recent copy of the NC regional newsletter will be available for you to see in a notebook in the narthex if you are interested. If you will leave your email on the inside cover of the notebook containing the newsletter, it will be emailed to you. A digital copy is also being emailed out to those who receive our newsletter by email.

PENTECOST CHALLENGE FOR OCTOBER

“Moving from Good to Great”

The fifth discipline for the month of October is *Holiness*. The following excerpts are taken from David Jeremiah's *Turning Points, May 2019*:

“The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimate that some 48 million Americans are sickened by contaminated food. Recalls of hazardous meat and poultry rose 83% from 2013 to 2017, and one in six Americans get sick every year from eating unsafe food.”

What does this have to do with *holiness*? We can also be sick spiritually as well. “Sinful habits are the contaminants of the soul, and many Christians are spiritually unwell because of sinful patterns that have crept into their diets. We live in a polluted world with immoral filth, but to be effective and productive, we must always strive to reflect the *holiness* of God.”

In *The God You May Not Know*, Jeremiah writes, “When you read through the Bible beginning to end, you’re constantly reminded – it seems like in every other chapter – that we are dealing with a *holy* God and that His *holiness* is stunningly beautiful.”

“When we say God is *holy*, we mean He is separate from all else in creation and absolutely pure. There is no taint of evil in His nature, not a splinter, nor a shred. Nothing unholy can exist in His presence, which is why Jesus died for us.” Therefore, “we must guard ourselves against anything that would defile our conscience, hinder our fellowship with God, or damage our testimony for Him. According to Romans 12:1, ‘I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, *holy*, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.’” Sharon Jones, Community/Evangelism Chair



MINISTER SEARCH TASK GROUP

The Minister Search Task Group has been working. Following the guide book “Seeking a Pastor” from the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), the Task Group has prepared our Congregational Profile, descriptive statement, and minister job description. These documents were submitted to the Regional Minister who subsequently posted them on the national Search and Call website. The Regional Minister then provided several minister profiles for prospective candidates from the national Search and Call database. The Task Group has reviewed the profiles received and prepared a “short list” of candidates. We are working to finalize a few more details prior to making initial contacts with potential candidates which we are hoping to begin in the very near future. We will periodically provide you reports on our progress. In the meantime, we seek your support and prayers as we continue this work vital to the future of our church. We ask you also to respect and help us maintain confidentiality regarding the candidates.

OCTOBER LECTIONARY STUDY

October 6th, 2019

Proper 22 (27) • Green

Lamentations 1:1-6

Lamentations 3:19-26

Psalms 137

Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

Psalms 37:1-9

2 Timothy 1:1-14

Luke 17:5-10

October 13th, 2019

Proper 23 (28) • Green

Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7

Psalms 66:1-12

2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c

Psalms 111

2 Timothy 2:8-15

Luke 17:11-19

October 20th, 2019

Proper 24 (29) • Green

Jeremiah 31:27-34

Psalms 119:97-104

Genesis 32:22-31

Psalms 121

2 Timothy 3:14-4:5

Luke 18:1-8

October 27th, 2019

Proper 25 (30) • Green

Joel 2:23-32

Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22

Psalms 84:1-7

2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Luke 18:9-14

*Thank
You*

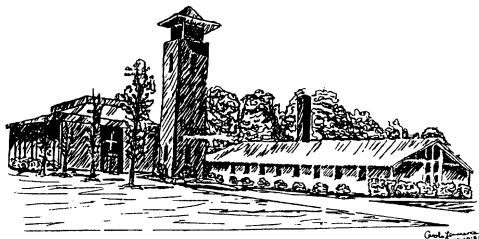
Dear First Christian Church Family,

We are so grateful for the lifetime of "home" you were to our husband and father, AW Griffin. He dearly loved First Christian Church, and all of you! As his health declined, and he moved to the Carolina Inn in Fayetteville, we appreciate the connection you kept with him through cards, calls, and visits, and the many prayers lifted up for him. Thank you for all the love you have shown us upon his passing, and your kind expressions of sympathy. Thanks to the church staff for the beautiful celebration of life service, to the women of the church for the wonderful reception following, and to all who took part in sprucing up the facility and grounds prior to both. Thanks to all who helped prepare the service bulletin, served as ushers and greeters, or assisted in any capacity to make the day so special. We are truly humbled and thankful. We cherish your continued prayers as we continue life without him.

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love.

The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

May God bless you,
The family of Alfred Wilson Griffin, Jr



**First Christian Church
1609 East Ash Street
Goldsboro, North Carolina 27530
OCTOBER 2019**

Amazon Smile

When you shop on Amazon, go to smile.amazon.com/ch/56-0585248 and 5% of your purchase will be donated to the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). It could make a real difference!

Barton College Religious Lecture Series

The next lecture in the "Light of Life" Series will take place on Oct. 1, at 7:00 PM in the Barton College Chapel. The guest speaker is Dr. Bonnie McLemore.

CONGREGATIONAL TRANSFORMATION

After leading the region in 70 days of prayer meditations on the Book of Acts, Bishop Valerie Melvin is spearheading a regional online class to equip congregations with the 5 most important components to help churches thrive. These 7 classes will take place Nov. 3 through Nov. 10 from 6:30 to 8:00 PM. Registration will begin Oct. 15 and there will be a modest fee for materials of \$20. Make plans to sign up!



Looking Ahead – Leave any items for our Samaritan Purse boxes in the Youth Room across from Fellowship Hall. Youth will assemble these items in boxes on Nov. 10 between 4:30 and 5:30.