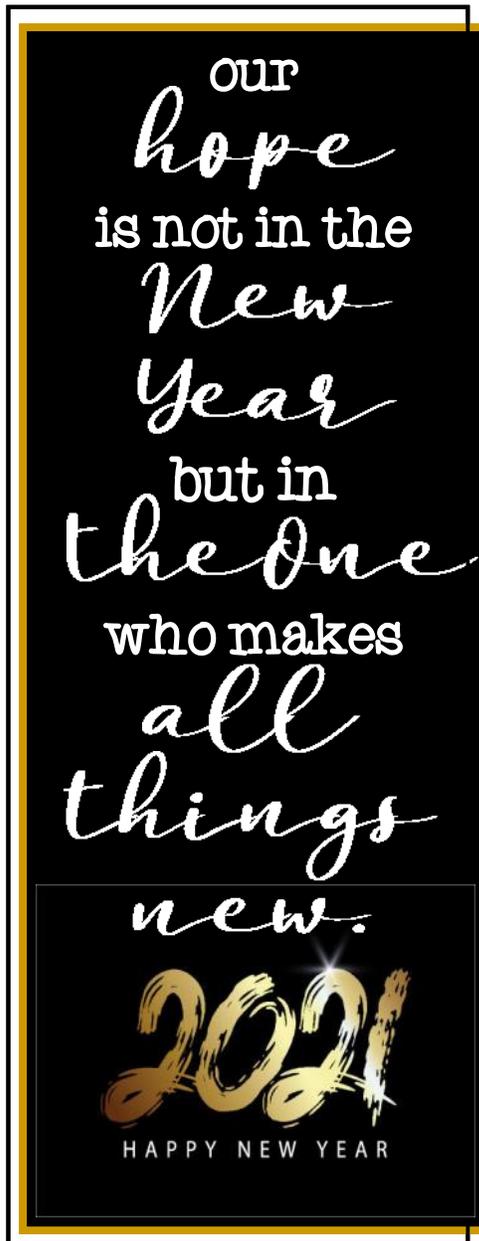


The Christian Caller

fccfarmville.org

Morgan's Moment



This time of year always seems to conjure in us a desire to look back, assess, and make lists of one kind or another. Indeed, the end of the year is a good time to consider what we have done in the last twelve months. And, I think this year that desire is heightened for me, since the pandemic has put so much of our activity on hold. So, I recently put pen to paper to try and make a good accounting of what we have done here at First Christian Church, Farmville since January 1, 2020. My list, while it may not be exhaustive, includes the following.

- We have learned a great deal about how to create and utilize online worship services. (And my deep gratitude is extended to B.J., Penny, and Kim for all they do each week to make that happen!)
- We have had a significant impact through food related projects, including:
 - ◊ Farmville Benevolent Ministries, providing food and financial assistance for those who need it in Farmville.
 - ◊ Starting our own food ministry, by partnering with Pitt County Council on Aging and their home delivered meals drivers.
 - ◊ Becoming an official distribution center for the Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina.
 - ◊ Providing funding to get people moved off the waiting list for Meals on Wheels.
- Our Property and Grounds Committee has taken care of our building and grounds, adding a new tankless hot water heater for our kitchen, (after the old one gave up the ghost) a new back door on the sanctuary, and various other significant repairs and improvements.
- Our landscaping elves have planted shrubs and flowers and seeded the lawn.
- Our Christian Education Ministry Team organized and implemented an event for children and youth out at The Refuge in October.
- The Membership and Evangelism Ministry Team has reminded all of us multiple times, with visits and gifts, that we are loved and valued.
- Our Outreach Ministry Team has, in addition to the food related projects, sponsored and led our involvement in this year's CROP Walk.
- We implemented our annual stewardship campaign completely online.
- We prayed for Farmville's schools and school children.
- Christian Men's Fellowship has provided home improvement and built wheelchair ramps for homes in Farmville that needed them.
- Disciples Women's Ministries has carried on, providing fellowship and leadership in our congregation.
- We have learned how to breath, talk, work, have meetings, and recognize each other in the grocery store while wearing masks.
- We have persevered under the weight of a pandemic, harkening to the same words the angels spoke to Mary and Joseph – "fear not!"
- We implemented and enjoyed a new event/activity – birthday parades!
- We have laid to rest a number of beloved family members, and have done the hard work that comes with bereavement and loss. And, we have remembered God's promise of resurrection, and have recommended to each



other, friends, loved ones, and this community an experience of the risen Christ.

- We have supported the work of the North Carolina Region of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), which includes the ministry taking place at Camp Caroline.
- A family of squirrels that moved into the sanctuary attic has been relocated.
- Our membership has grown, thanks to the recent addition to the Walker family. Bennett David Walker was born November 30. (Josh and Marah, keep up the good work!)

And, we have done all this during a year that has been thoroughly soaked with the weight of a pandemic that, by all accounts, has prevented us from doing many things we normally do. Especially in light of that fact, I'd say we have done right well.

Oh yes, FCC has also done one additional thing. This year this congregation called, welcomed, and installed a new minister! I don't know about you, but for Kathy and me that one is at the top of the list. What a joyous year it has been for us to be connected to First Christian Church, to begin getting to know this congregation and all its members and friends. Today, I am grateful for that, for you, for all we have done this year, and for all that awaits us in the year ahead.

Grace and peace and Christmas lists,
Morgan

OUTREACH

There is some exciting news to share!

A couple of weeks ago I applied for funds from the Federal CARES Act by Livingstone College and the NC Department of Health and Human Resources, Office of Minority Health. The program was an invitation to apply to be reimbursed for money spent during a specific time period on alleviating food insecurities resulting from the COVID crisis. As you know, since early March FCC has been giving out bags of groceries weekly to seniors who are Home Delivered Meals clients (Pitt County Council on Aging).

Wednesday we were notified that First Christian Church has been awarded \$2,702.91! The money is meant to continue our mission. Basically, we get to buy groceries TWICE with money that was so generously donated in 2020. How exciting is that!??

MANY thanks to Bishop Melvin, our Regional Minister because I would not have known about this opportunity if she hadn't mentioned it in the Regional Update I read just a few days before the deadline. (Moral of the story: always read the Regional Updates)

And thank you to everyone who has helped to support this important mission during the past year. Your generosity then is being doubled now!

Gratefully, Kim Griffiths

Congregational Meeting

Nov 29, 2020

Special email meeting held due to the pandemic.

Motion to suspend normal meeting rules for this one meeting—approved.

Motion from the Trustees to approve the proposed 2021 Budget—approved.

Motion from the Nominating Committee to approve the slate of Board Members for 2021—approved.

Next General Board meeting—Jan 10

In Our Prayers

Prayer needs: Catherine Allen, Grady Bailey, Jimmy Cowan, Gene Eason, Carolyn Hawke, Shirley Meeks, Myrtle Sugg, Connie Wooten.

FAMILY OF: Ann Byrd

Homebound: Mabel Bowen, Marie Cowan, Annie Gurganus, Janie Joyner, Joyce Letchworth

In service to our country: David Groseclose, Jake Nicholson

THANK YOU

Thank you to the members of First Christian Church for your service on Sat, Dec 19th. The Salvation Army appreciates your willingness to give of your time and energy to 'ring the bell' as a way to make others aware of the needs of people in your community.

May God bless you and your families!
~Frankie Moyer



The church office will be closed for the holidays from Thurs Dec 24 through Mon Dec 28, and Thurs Dec 31 through Sun Jan 3.

In a pastoral emergency, please call Morgan's cell phone (252-289-0303) or one of the Dec Elders: Lou Ann Wiley (252-412-4971), Bert Smith (252-717-3861).

January Birthdays

Tammy Bridges	Jan 4
Skyla Marie Watson	Jan 4
Catherine Allen	Jan 8
Jack Albritton	Jan 14
John Thomas Briley	Jan 19
Mary Wesley Craft	Jan 25
Jeff Moore	Jan 28

January Anniversaries

Paul & Dottie Bryant Jan 3