

The Caller

Newsletter of the
First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)

2026 Arrants St. ‡ Selma, CA 93662

MAY 2021
Edition LXV, No.5

*'Commit your work to the Lord,
and your plans will be established.'*
Proverbs 16:3

OUR MISSION IS...

...to grow our faith in Christ and share it with others,
to connect people to God and to each other through love, and
to create hope by providing opportunities for people to serve.



CHURCH HOURS:
MON. - THURS.: 9 AM - 12 PM

PHONE:
559-896-2691

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Pastor: fccselmapastor@yahoo.com
Youth: fccselmayya@yahoo.com

WEBSITE:
www.selmadisciples.com

Prayer Chain:
Jennifer Earle 559-896-2358
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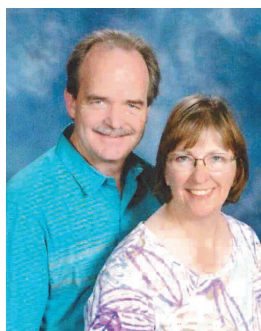
STAMP

A note of farewell:

It is with very mixed emotions that Diane and I announce that we will be moving to the Denver, Colorado area in a few months. We have purchased a home in Englewood, and will be just a short 6 minute drive to the home of our daughter Mandy and her husband Nick, and soon-to-arrive grandson. This late-in-life adventure will allow us to be more involved in our children's and grandchild (ren?)'s lives, and to be closer to family as we enter the latter years of our lives. It is going to be very difficult to leave this wonderful church family, a congregation that we have been a part of longer than any church we have attended (24 years). This church is made up of so many generous people who give of their time, skills, abilities, gifts, and financial resources to make God known in Selma and beyond; you walk the talk, and have truly been Christ's hands and feet. The great friendships we have made will hopefully continue, and you are always welcome to visit. Now we are getting the house on Joy St. ready to sell, and plan to leave on or soon after June 19. And yes, we know, the snow gear and the cold weather clothes are going to have to come out of storage!

Thanks for being a wonderful church family, and we will miss you!!

Dave & Diane Highbaugh



WOMEN'S MINISTRY

PLEASE JOIN US

Esther Group

Saturday, May 8th @ 9:30 AM

Jennifer Earle's home (1327 Peach, Selma)

Miriam Group

Tuesday, May 11th @ 9:30 AM

Vonnie Murray's home (12475 S. Fowler, Selma)



Special Pentecost Offering

May 16th & 23rd



Next Board Meeting
Sunday, May 16th
After Worship

SCRIPTURES FOR MAY

BOOK & VERSE

02: John 15:1-8 *The Message*
09: John 15:9-17 *The Message*
16: John 17:6-19 *The Message*
23: John 15:26-27, 16b-15 *The Message*
30: John 20:24-29, Philippians 1:3-11

PRESIDERS

Karen Blanchard
Kathleen Schales
Dave Highbaugh
Janice Baker
Alfred Duran



SUBMISSION DEADLINES

Newsletter:

16th of the month @ 10:00 AM

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

CHURCH STAFF

MINISTERS The Congregation
SENIOR PASTOR Rev. Maria Tafoya
Minister of Evangelism and Outreach..... Rev. Chad Thompson
Minister of Youth/Young Adults Leah Torosian
Minister of Music Jordan Williams
Choir Director..... Kenneshae Murray
Child Care OPEN
Chair of the Congregation (2021) John Terry
Chair of the Elders (2021) Leah Torosian
Administrative Assistant..... Dee Anne Douville
Custodian Omar Ruiz
Communications Coordinator..... Jason Torosian

PRAYER REQUESTS AND GRATITUDE

PRAYERS FOR:

Cameron Wells' uncle, Rick Whitaker, who had a heart attack.

Derrick Wells, MD was a General Practitioner here in Selma for many years. He and his family moved to Texas. **Derrick** is in the hospital in serious but stable condition with a brain bleed. They have ruled out a stroke, but don't know where the bleed is coming from. Pray that God will be with the **Doctors, Derrick and his whole family** in the hours and days ahead.

Traveling mercies for **Marybeth Muro** as she drives her **Mom** and two dogs in a U-Haul to Montana to live with her. Marybeth is nervous about driving the big U-Haul and has been dealing with back problems herself. Please keep them in your prayers,
Janice Baker

GRATITUDE FOR:

Thank you for all the thoughts and prayers for my brother, **Carsten Jensen**, who unfortunately passed away April 3 due to complications of Parkinson's and Covid.

Thank you again with all my heart.

Liz Thornburg Martinez

On behalf of **Gary and myself**, thank you deeply for all the heart felt love, cards, prayers and Facebook condolences for Gary's father,

Owen Schales.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Schales

First Christian's Food Pantry served 316 people during the month of **April**. Thank you to **ALL** who help make this food pantry possible.



01: Diane Woolwine
03: Alex & Patrice Dmitriev '97
07: Bonnie Murray
12: Gary Schales
19: Anna Armstrong
22: Tiffany Piper
28: Dorothy Babiarz
29: Sarah Dmitriev; Caden Linhoff

BOARD MEETING FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH, SELMA APRIL 18, 2021

Present were John Terry, Dave Highbaugh, Kenneshae Murray, Jane Ono, Jordan Williams, Chad Thompson, Jennifer Earle, Kathleen Schales, Alan Langstraat, Vonnie Murray, Teresa Keck.

Meeting began at 11:47 am with lighting of the Christ candle. Chairman John Terry read Matthew 6:33 and the church Mission Statement, then offered opening prayer.

A. Minutes of March 21 meeting corrected by Teresa as follows: last sentence of Pastor's Report should read, "AA asked permission to change their meeting time to 6:30 pm on Fridays." Consent Agenda with corrected minutes approved after motion by Dave, seconded by Alan.

B. TEAM REPORTS: Spiritual Growth Team organized Easter Service, will meet next Sunday after church.

C. FINANCE REPORT: PPP Loan received. Bank balances in black.

No Pastor's Report.

No Youth and Young Adults report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Library renovation-- Kathleen suggested that area be renamed Hospitality Lounge. She hopes to install small refrigerator, replace carpet with area rugs on hardwood, have open house when work completed.
2. Congregational survey tabled.
3. Tahoe Joe's Fundraiser-- Jennifer reported most of tickets sold, money received for 80. Remaining tickets and money due next Sunday.
4. Church Clean-up Day completed. Another day may be needed to do outdoor work.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Thompson/Huntsman Property-- Hector Hernandez has expressed interest in purchasing 4 parcels for family homes. Alan moved that we encourage Hector to pursue plan to purchase 4 parcels on back half of property. Motion seconded by Jennifer and approved by board.
2. P C Iglesias would like to meet on Thursdays. Approved by board.
3. Jordan moved to relocate Choir Loft pews to downstairs area. Seconded by Chad and approved by board.
4. Staff Evaluations will be done in two parts: (1) self evaluation and (2) face to face evaluation by committee consisting of Leah, John, Jordan and Dave.
5. Delegates to Annual Gathering on April 24 on Zoom will be Jennifer and John.
6. Education-- Kathleen is willing to lead an Education Team and organize program of Bible Study for all ages, camp, Sunday School and Children's Church. Jennifer will check by-laws concerning Education Team.
7. Dave noted that CDC website shows no prohibition on singing through masks. Jennifer and John suggested singing one song during service, possibly printing words on bulletin.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday 4/25, 11:45 am, Spiritual Growth meeting.

Thursday 4/29, 11:00 am-9:00 pm, Tahoe Joe's fundraiser.

NEXT MEETING May 16 at 11:45 am.

Chad said closing prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 12:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Teresa Keck, board secretary

MUSIC MINION



The newness of things

As you all know, we've returned to in-person worship as of Easter Sunday. It surely is a joy to be back with those who have been able to join us. It also is a joy that we've still been able to offer an online option for those who have to remain home for a myriad of reasons (not to mention, a few of our worshipers live out-of-state!). For those of you who have

worshiped with us via the live stream since Easter know that we've had a rough start once we got back inside. I've had a good amount of frustration with the sound issues we've experienced the first two weeks of being back inside for worship. I've even felt disappointment because if there are issues with getting a decent quality stream out to members and visitors at home, then I, myself, will have issues with my own experience participating and serving in worship.

I remind myself after some time, though, that new things will never be close to perfect the first time. It might be a mess, and if so, we have the chance to clean it up again and again and the chance to keep it tidy.

There has definitely been a learning curve! And I love the grace and understanding that flows from the people of this faith community. Thank you for the chances to clean up the "messes" we encounter during our journeys together.

God's Abundant Grace to You All,
Jordan Williams

"What's new is often messy."
~Rev. Nadia Bolz-Webber, Lutheran Pastor

Camp Tam Early Bird Special!

2021 Camp Dates:
Junior (Entering 4th-6th Grade): July 18-24
Jr. High (Entering 7th-9th Grade): July 25-31
Sr. High (Entering 10th Grade-2021 HS Graduate: Aug. 1-7)

Register online at
CAMPTAM.COM

Early Bird Pricing:
\$250/ Camper

Space is Limited! Register now!
Price increases May 15!

CCNC-N 2021 CAMP AT CGC

Early Bird Pricing thru May 25:
\$380/ Junior Camper
\$400/ Chi Rho & CYF Camper

Camp Dates:

- June 22 - June 26 **Junior Camp** (Entering 4th, 5th, and 6th grades)
- June 22 - June 26 **Chi Rho Camp** (Entering 7th, 8th, and 9th grades)
- June 26 - June 28 **JOY Camp** (Entering K-3rd grade with adult)
- June 29 - July 3 **CYF Camp** (Entering 10th, 11th, 12th grades & 2021 graduates)
- August 5 - 8 **Young Adult/Adult Camp**

REGISTRATION PACKETS & SCHOLARSHIP APPS ONLINE AT:
https://ccncn.org/Outdoor_Ministries.php



Staff applications for Tamarack:
bigredchurch.org/camptam/

Staff applications for Camp at CGC online at:
https://ccncn.org/Outdoor_Ministries.php