

THE DISCIPLE



First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

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May 2026

Rev. Daphne Gascot Arias, Minister

Carol Clifford, Editor

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*“Called to be the presence of  
Christ in our community”*

# *Karen's Korner*



Wow! May is here and that brings our Women's Tea! I hope all the ladies are planning to attend! It should be a fun occasion with Leslie Goddard returning to portray Audrey Hepburn! We will also have great fellowship, yummy tea and other goodies, and a fun raffle for baskets! We will also enjoy the wonderful service of the men of our congregation!

As we get into May, we will also have another board meeting. Rev Daphne, Co-Chair Karen C and I met after the leadership meeting and outlined an idea to follow the Green Chalice and make our Church more ecological. Ideas include replacing the water fountain with a water filter to try to reduce the need for water bottles, getting an evaluation of our yard for less invasive plants, expanding support for Free-Trade products, and working to replace other harmful plastic. We will discuss at the next board meeting but would appreciate any feedback.

We are also evaluating how we can coordinate with global ministries for mission work since we no longer have the Belarus ministry. Stay tuned for more information.

Adult Sunday school is continuing Sunday mornings at 9:30 am. We are continuing our study of Men of the Bible. It is an interesting study with lively discussion. Join us before we break for the summer.

Our Game Night was very successful in April with good attendance and lots of fun! We hope to set up another fun social outing in the summer. Again, all ideas are welcome!

Monday Intercessory Prayer (MIP) is meeting all Mondays in May except Monday May 25<sup>th</sup> when we are taking a break for Memorial Day. We have a faithful group and many answered prayers! Please consider joining us on Mondays from 6-7 pm by calling 607-374-1123 and entering code 390193 at the prompt. It is a peaceful time, during which we share our joys and concerns for personal needs, our church, our community,


our nation, and the world. Also, please continue to share your prayer concerns.

Finally, we have been asked and accepted the opportunity to be a host for the virtual Disciples general assembly July 10<sup>th</sup> and July 11<sup>th</sup>. We will be evaluated and if accepted we will be a host. We would provide online access to the assembly for those in the area wishing to attend. Please consider signing up and attending. It is a great opportunity to easily attend a General Assembly. To host, we will need people to attend to welcome guests, help with the projection of the assembly, provide a continental breakfast and snacks and coordinate box lunches. There is a sign-up sheet to let us know who can help. Please prayerfully consider joining us!

Faithfully yours,

Karen

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## *Women's Tea ...*

Tea ticket sales opened on Sunday, April 10th. More than 30% of our allotted tickets have now been sold.



Don't miss out!

Before Sue left for her trip, she put out three sign-up sheets pertaining to our upcoming Tea:

1. Sign up to bring tea sandwiches
2. Sign up to bring desserts.
3. Sign up to help set up Fellowship Hall on Thursday, May 21 at 1 pm.

Many helping hands will create a beautiful Tea Room for Saturday, May 23!

# PROPERTY REPORT



We haven't had much going on. We have had the regular maintenance checks for the season and Joe has been doing a great job of keeping our building in good shape. Dan and I are going to look into updating the monument sign to include more information. If you are interested, another project we could look into is doing some gardening around the building. If anyone has any suggestions, let Dan or me know.

Have a good spring,  
Barb and Dan

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## MAY IS MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS



Mental Health Awareness Month, held every May since 1949, aims to reduce stigma, educate the public, and promote support for mental health conditions. It highlights that mental health is essential to overall wellness, encourages open conversations, and advocates for early intervention, access to treatment, and recovery resources.

### Key purposes and objectives include:

- **Reducing Stigma:** Fostering understanding and acceptance to eliminate the shame often associated with seeking mental health care.
- **Education and Awareness:** Providing information about mental illnesses, warning signs, and the importance of mental wellness.
- **Promoting Resources:** Highlighting available treatments and services, ensuring people know where to turn for help.
- **Encouraging Conversations:** Normalizing discussions about mental health to ensure people know they are not alone.
- **Supporting Recovery:** Celebrating individuals who have recovered or are in recovery, highlighting that recovery is possible.

# FISH Pantry



The Pantry is starting to run low on items because there has been a 9.2% increase in families, and an increase of 11% of seniors requesting/needing help. It would be great if we could help to put items on the shelves for them.

Here are some suggestions:

- Canned Fruit
- Cereal – Cheerios (plain) or any other dry cereal
- Canned Chicken

We know that in these difficult times, it's hard to keep our own shelves filled, but if each of us only does a little bit, it means a lot to those who receive your donations.

Another way that we can support the Pantry... The postal carriers will be sending a postcard asking for donations for the FISH Pantry early in May. This would be another way to help fill the shelves. The post office picks up the items at your home to deliver to the Pantry.

The Pantry thanks you for any help you can give, and I thank you. It is truly a blessing for those we are serving.

Thank you,  
Barb



"Mothering is the gospel lived out as you hold your child's heart in beauty, prayer, and patience. It's not the big decision, but the little ones, trusting God through it all." Elizabeth Dawn

# *Did you know...?* By: Bobbie Dean



## More interesting facts about **Puerto Rico**:

\*Puerto Rico is a commonwealth of the United States. Spain ceded it to the U.S. under the 1898 Treaty of Paris, which ended the Spanish-American War. Puerto Rico officially became an unincorporated territory of the U.S. in 1917 with the Jones Shafroth Act, which granted Puerto Ricans U.S. citizenship.

\*One of the most famous natural attractions on the island is El Yunque National Forest, the only rainforest in the U.S. National Forest Service. It's full of wonders around every corner, including striking waterfalls, natural pools, hiking trails, and an abundance of wildlife.

\*The island is home to some of the most beautiful beaches in the world, like Playa Flamenco, which is consistently ranked among the best in the Caribbean and the world.

\*You've probably already heard of Puerto Rico's most popular native animal, the coquí. These tiny frogs (typically measuring 1.3 - 1.6 inches in length) are known for their distinctive call, which can be heard throughout Puerto Rico at night as they search for insects in the trees.

\*The piña colada is the national drink of Puerto Rico, and it was invented right on the island. While the exact origin is hotly debated, most accounts agree on the fact that it was created in San Juan.

\*Casa Bacardi, located in Cataño, is the largest rum distillery in the world, producing more than 100,000 liters of rum daily.

\*The national dish is arroz con gandules, rice with pigeon peas. While it is typically consumed on Christmas Eve, you can find it at restaurants year-round. Pigeon peas give the dish a distinctive crunch, and the flavor is elevated by sofrito and salted pork.

# Church Chuckles

By Bobbie Dean



A devout Christian prays that God will hear his prayers. Sure enough, one night God appears and asks the man what he wants. The man says, "I want peace on earth and also a few million dollars." There's a silence of a few moments and finally God says, "Peace on earth is kind of tough. Maybe you could wish for something else?" And the man thinks for a few seconds too, then says, "Okay. Make it so my wife understands me." And God says, "You want the million dollars first or peace on earth first?"

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## MAY BIRTHDAYS



|        |                           |
|--------|---------------------------|
| May 8  | Alan Chandler             |
| May 8  | May Peterson              |
| May 11 | Martha Anderson           |
| May 12 | William Johns             |
| May 13 | Kelly Caposieno           |
| May 16 | Terri Owens               |
| May 16 | Alan Peterson             |
| May 17 | Ka'Lanie Pinrock          |
| May 18 | Margie Zuger              |
| May 19 | Dan Johns                 |
| May 19 | Marja Sanchez             |
| May 20 | Yael Marie Morales Gascot |
| May 21 | Elizandro Sanchez         |
| May 25 | Porscha Thispen           |
| May 29 | Sara Hamilton             |
| May 31 | B. J. Barlow              |
| May 31 | Jaxson Shaffer            |



# SERVING SCHEDULE

## ELDERS

Lectern

Table

|        |              |              |
|--------|--------------|--------------|
| May 3  | Bar Bates    | Daphne Hayes |
| May 10 | Karen Johns  | Bill Cook    |
| May 17 | Sue Huizinga | Barb Bates   |
| May 24 | Bill Cook    | Becky Daigle |
| May 31 | Daphne Hayes | Bob Reese    |

## DEACONS

Prep and Serve

Serve

|        |               |                 |
|--------|---------------|-----------------|
| May 3  | Gail Reese    | Galilee Flores  |
| May 10 | Larry Carley  | Lisa Johnson    |
| May 17 | Jeff Igel     | Galilee Flores  |
| May 24 | Dave Kijowski | Kristi Kijowski |
| May 31 | Gail Reese    | Eli Scanchez    |

