

CONNECTION 2023

- MISSION STATEMENT -

To grow our faith in Christ and share it with others;
connect to God and to others through love;
create hope by serving others.

- VISION STATEMENT -

To be a faithful community called to
love, connect, equip, and serve.

- CORE VALUES -

Love
Inclusion
Creativity

CHURCH LEADERS & STAFF

MINISTERS	The Congregation
SENIOR PASTOR.....	Rev. Chad Thompson
Minister of Youth & Young Adults	Chad Thompson
Minister of Music	Jordan Williams
Organist.....	Anthony Imperatrice
Chair of the Congregation (2023)	Jane Ono
Chair of the Elders (2023)	Charlotte Thompson
Administrative Assistant	Cora Fluker-Pulley
Communications Coordinator	Cora Fluker-Pulley
Custodian	Josiah Thompson
Child Care.....	(Open)

THE PASTOR'S CORNER

Dear Church Family,

One of my favorite stories from Exodus is Moses and the burning bush. Moses is minding his own business when he sees a bush that is burning but is not burned up. Curiosity gets the best of him, and he decides to go check this out.

As he gets closer, God calls to Moses and tells him to take off his sandals because he is standing on holy ground. God informs Moses that he has heard the cry of his people and now is sending Moses to free them. The first thing out of Moses' mouth is a question, "Are you sure you have the right person?" When we look at our own lives, don't we ask the same question? "God, are you sure you have the right person? I'm not good enough. I don't have the training or the skills. What if people don't believe me? What if I'm not able to speak the right words?"

In this story there is one line that resonates with me, and I think all of us when we ask these questions. "I will be with you!" What amazing words spoken by God to Moses and to us as well. God will be with us through the hard times, through our moments of weakness, through our moments of questioning, and through our everyday routine. Later God answers Moses' question about who is sending him. "I AM WHO I AM, I AM has sent you (Exodus 3:14). We all have doubts; we all have questions just as Moses did. May we hear the words of I AM, "I will be with you." I will be with you through the good times and through the bad times, through the times of doubt and questioning. Never forget that as we walk through life God is with us, and may we be the light bringers who point people to I AM.

Pastor Chad

Dear Church Family,

July 2023



I've been in a few meetings lately where we've been told to "dream big!" If money were no issue, what would we want to do? We talked about outreach programs we want to happen in the church, and how to make the church building more accessible, both physically (think handicap ramps and elevators) and spiritually/emotionally (are we a safe place for everyone?). Are we a church who helps the community around them? Do we offer practical solutions to their basic problems? Or are we one of those who just prays for people and sends them on their way? Do we say "God will take care of you" and send them away, OR do we say "God will take care of you" and send them away with a bag of food, some clean clothes, and an invitation to join us for church on Sunday?

In Matthew 25, Jesus talks to the people and tells them that when they help those in need, they are actually helping Him. When we take care of God's creations, we are blessing God as well.

May we be blessings to all!

In Christ's Service,

Charlotte Thompson, youth/young adult sponsor

Calendar:

July 2 & 16: regular meetings, 7pm at the Langstraat/Thompson home

Day at the ocean: TBD

July 6, 13, & 20: Chi Rho & CYF, 3:30pm

July 29-Aug 1: General Assembly, Louisville, Kentucky.

BOARD MEETING
FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF SELMA
May 21, 2023

Present were Jane Ono, Yolanda Gonzalez, Jennifer Earle, Michael Gutierrez, Chad Thompson, Jessica Williams, Andrew Guzman, Marsha Staley, Kathleen Schales, Laurie Fitzgerald, Jordan Williams, Teresa Keck.

Jane opened the meeting at 11:53 a.m. by lighting the Christ Candle. All read the Mission and Vision Statements aloud. Jane read scriptures and prayed.

Minutes of the April Board Meeting were approved on motion by Jennifer and second by Marsha.

MINISTRY TEAM REPORTS

1. COMMUNICATION--- no report
2. Education --- Kathleen reported progress. There will be a presentation on graduation Sunday, June 11.
3. Fellowship and Spiritual Growth --- Pentecost moved to June 4 because of Memorial Day.
4. Property --- someone broke a sprinkler head which has been repaired.

The Duncan family has donated \$10,000 to property upkeep. Jennifer moved we tithe 10 percent of that to Extending Hands Ministry. Seconded by Kathleen and approved by Board.

5. Stewardship and Outreach --- Taco Night on Tuesday, May 23; proceeds to go to camp scholarships.

6. Technology --- still want to find a trainee. New computer is being built. Jordan is keeping a Master Schedule of events.

FINANCE REPORT

Jennifer discussed printed report.

Marsha moved we discontinue donating to BBNBTL and donate instead to pantry funds. Seconded by Yolanda and approved.

PASTOR'S REPORT

Meetings, visitations, counseling proceeding.

Grief Support/Caretakers Support Group will start Tuesday, July 11.

YOUTH/YOUNG ADULTS

Chad has asked Leah and Charlotte to help him in planning.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Reinvigorating Church continues.
 2. Projects --- Michael doing video.
 3. AB-507 --- still waiting for number.
 4. Lifegroups --- have several going. Chad working on Pastor's (Baptismal) Class.
 5. Accessibility Talks --- fixing current building would entail bringing everything up to code.
- Suggested Task Force to explore options --- Chad, Leah, Yolanda, Jordan, Jennifer.

NEW BUSINESS

Updating By-laws --- Jennifer will help Chad look over previously made suggestions.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Gary Ono has surgery Tuesday.

Jordan's mom Vivian

Charlotte --- shoulder pain.

Kathleen --- settling her mom's affairs.

Yolanda --- sister-in-law 's mom died .

Next Board Meeting on June 25.

Chad closed with prayer at 1:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Teresa Keck, Board Secretary



2023 OUTREACH GOALS

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:

Bringing Broken Neighborhoods Back to Life, Christian Café, Selma Cares, Second Chance Animal Shelter, Food Pantry

\$2,521.59 raised out of \$2,500.00

DESIGNATED FUNDS

Special funds (not a part of budgeted giving) that give a "boost" to certain ministries of the church:

Camp Scholarships

\$1683.25 raised out of \$1,500.00

Community Church Choir

\$454.49 raised out of \$500.00

Music Ministry

\$213.35 raised out of \$250.00

Organ

\$500.00 raised out of \$500.00

Youth & Young Adult

\$200.23 raised out of \$500.00

PRAYER REQUESTS, PRAISES, & GRATITUDE

PRAYER CHAIN: *Please send prayer requests and praises to Jennifer Earle, 559-896-2358 or jen4earle@gmail.com*

PRAYER REQUESTS:

PRAISES & GRATITUDE:

First Christian's Food Pantry serving people in need every month.

Gary Ono as he continues to recuperate at home.

Extending Hands Ministries as they prepare for a mission trip to Mexico in August. They are collecting toys and children's clothes.

Thank you so much for your faithful and generous support!
(Funds updated as of 6/30/2023 and do not include expenses incurred.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Elder Meeting - Sunday, July 2nd after worship
Spiritual Growth - No meeting this month
Board Meeting - Sunday, July 16th after worship

Men's Ministry will be meeting for breakfast July 15th @ 9am at McCoy's!

Esther Group & Miriam Group are on hiatus for the summer!
See you in September!

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sunday:Worship Service..... 10:30am
.....Iglesia DC..... 4:30pm & 6pm
.....Young Adult Group (1st & 3rd Sundays) .. 7pm

Monday:Iglesia DC Food Distribution..... 3pm
.....Narcotics Anonymous..... 7pm

Tuesday: (No activities).....

Wednesday:Choir Rehearsal (intermittently) 7pm

Thursday:.....Chi Rho/CYF 3:30pm
.....Iglesia DC..... 6pm

Friday:Iglesia DC Food Distribution..... 3pm
.....Alcoholics Anonymous 7pm

Saturday:.....Community Choir (intermittently) 10am

GIVING TO FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Thank you for financially supporting God's work in the various ways below!

MAIL

2026 Arrants St., Selma, CA 93662

"BILL PAY"

through online banking

IN WORSHIP

There is an offering box in the Narthex when you come through the main entrance.

MOBILE APPS

(download one or both at the Google Play Store or the Apple Store)

(General Fund only →)



SCAN TO GIVE!

◀ ◀ ◀ PayPal

Givelify ▶ ▶ ▶



(← Can designate giving)

EXTRA WAYS TO SUPPORT THE CHURCH

Facebook Donate

www.facebook.com/selmadisciples

Donating Supplies


The church is always in need of stamps, printer paper, face masks, paper towels, and toilet paper.

Contact the church office to see what is currently needed.

Thank you for your help in making the administration ministry successful in its work.



JULY 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 Elder Meeting	3	4	5	6	7	8 No Esther Group
9 No Spiritual Growth	10 Extending Hands Ministry Food Pantry 8a	11 No Miriam Group	12	13	14	15 Men's Ministry @McCoys 9a
16 Board Meeting	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24 Extending Hands Ministry Food Pantry 8a	25	26	27	28	29 General Assembly Starts
30	31	1 General Assembly Ends	2	3	4	

JULY

- 02: Jasmin Soto
- 04: Gene Duncan
- 07: Sayd Guzman
- 08: Johnathan Carrillo

(Adopt-A-Cop) SPD name: mail to C/O Selma Police Department 2055 Third St. Selma, CA 93662

- 09: John Arevalo
- 14: Geneva Torrez
- 15: Michelle Ritchie
- 20: Marcus Arevalo
- 21: Leah Torosian
- 24: Ashley Petree
- 30: Virgie Cortez



SERVING IN JULY 2023



<u>PRESIDER</u>	<u>SCRIPTURE</u>
2. Abel Sandoval	Psalm 13
9. Jessica Williams	Matt. 11:16-19; 25-30
16. Leah Torosian	Psalm 119:105-112
23. Mikayla	Genesis 28:10-19a
30. Janice Baker	Matt: 13:31-33; 44-52

COMMUNION ELDER & OFFERTORY

2. Jane Ono	Jennifer Earle
9. Charlotte Thompson	Jane Ono
16. Jennifer Earle	Jordan Williams
23. Alan Langstraat	TBA
30. Leah Torosian	TBA

THE LORD'S SUPPER



JUNIOR WORSHIP TIME LEADERS



JUNE 2023 ATTENDANCE (IN-PERSON)

4. 51 (Pentecost)	18. 36	25. 22
11. 48	19. 51	

THE CALLER

NEWSLETTER OF THE
FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)



EDITION #LXVII
July 2023

First Christian Church
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www.selmadisciples.com
www.facebook.com/selmadisciples
www.youtube.com/selmadisciples

Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.

Hebrews 10:24-25 (NLT)



TO:
«First Name» «Last Name»
«Address»
«City, State, ZIP»

The Caller
Your monthly newsletter