



First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

4520 Rosedale Road
Middletown, OH 45042
513-422-2853
www.fcc-middletown.org

Chalice Communicator

Volume XXXVXXVIII

January 18, 2016

Number 1

Interim Minister: Pastor Nik Donges

Music Director: Rachel Eve Davis

Moderator: Larry Steele

Elders: Roger Byrd
Mike Cockerham
Linda Lombard
Dorice Perkins
Karen Powers
Martin Schaefer
Betty Stacy
Marilyn Strong
Cliff Thompson

SEE YOU SUNDAYS:

Prayer Group – 9:30 a.m.
Worship – 10:00 a.m.
Bible Study – 11:15 a.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Wednesdays -Choir Practice 6:30 PM

1/23 CWF Executive Board
10:00 AM
1/25 Board Mtg. 7 PM
1/26 Blanket Sunday
2/03 Esther/Rebekah Circle
7PM @church
2/07 "Souper Bowl"
Luncheon following
worship
2/08 Sarah Circle 7 PM
@church

STATISTICS:

Date	Attendance	Offering
01/17/15	63	\$2,069.00
01/10/15	58	\$2,102.00
01/03/15	52	\$1,612.00
12/27/15	54	\$1,381.00
12/20/15	80	\$1,954.00
Christmas Eve	77	\$ 265.00

NIK'S NOOK JANUARY, 2016

Our New Year is off to a good start. Our worship order has been tweaked just slightly to make it flow better. Worship leaders have been recruited to the end of the year. A coffee fellowship time has been started and will be held every other Sunday. Our first coffee fellowship was on Sunday, January 10th. A Souper Bowl fellowship will follow worship on Super Bowl Sunday, February 7th. This will replace the usual chili cook off. Also, on February 7th we will observe Scout Sunday with Scouts assuming various worship leadership responsibilities. Our ministry to the homeless called Shalom will be the week of February 14th.

It is good to see a congregation involved in so many different ways.

Yesterday, I helped to lead members of the congregation into the next step of transition as seek to discern God's direction and mission for First Christian. I have invited members to join together in prayer triads. This can be three people, three couples, but I cautioned against having more than nine in a group. Each prayer triad will have some designated passages of scriptures to study, to pray about, and to carefully listen for what God might be saying regarding mission and vision in the months and years ahead. What gifts and strengths will you offer to God to accomplish his vision and mission?

I need to know the participants of each prayer triad and who you have designated as your recorder.

Begin to think about where you would like to see First Christian in the next seven to ten years.

There are exciting days ahead of us. Your love and passion of our Lord will help to bring that excitement to fruition.

With His Love,
Pastor Nik

SCRIPTURE AND SERMON TITLES

Jan. 24th- Romans 12:1 "Be a Living Sacrifice"
Jan. 31st- Romans 12:2 "Don't Go Along With the Crowd"
Feb. 7th- Romans 12:3-6 "Get a Hold of Your Self"
Feb. 14th- Matthew 6:9-13 "Our Father"

PRAYER LIST

Health: Leigha Blevins, Ivis Caudill, Amy Cockerham Chuck Deaton, Tom Frebis, Pauline Ginter, Barbara Gray, Lois Hafer, Phyllis Heinkel, Frances Hollan, Virginia Lorton, Jackie Padich, Bob Selby, Rev. Don Steffy, Guy Stone

Our Home-Bound: Kathleen Chamberlain, Jean Greathouse, Elisabeth Lemmert, Janet O'Neal, Sue Whitt, and Leah May Wideman.

Others: Children and teachers, the homeless, heroin epidemic, racism, and all human rights, war, violence, S.H.A.L.O.M, our church, our congregation and our church leaders.

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

01/23 Peggy Byrd
01/23 Peggy Campbell
01/23 SuAnne Farkas
01/27 MacKenzie Lovin
01/29 Judy Andrews
01/29 Alayne Caudill
01/31 Jonathan Lemmert
02/01 Allannah Caudill
02/03 Shelly Blevins
02/06 Michael Blevins
02/08 Lois Hafer
02/08 Larry Steele
02/10 Tommy Efker
02/12 Stacy Plunkett
02/14 Edna Bartlett
02/14 Juanita Johnson
02/16 Irene Williams
02/16 Nancy Schaefer
02/18 Nancy Milton

I'm working on keeping the birthday list updated. If I miss yours or a family member's birthday, please send me the information. Send to judylemmert@gmail.com or place note in offering plate.

THANK YOU

The family of Frances "Nell" Teater would like to thank all of you for your kindness, thoughts, gifts, cards and prayers. Our church family is so wonderful! Again "Thank You" more than words can say, we are grateful!!
Family of Nell Teater

Thank you for the generous Christmas gift of money that you gave me on Christmas Eve. It is deeply appreciated from a very loving and caring congregation.
Pastor Nik

OUTREACH NEWS

On behalf of Outreach, I would like to thank everyone who has made this Christmas season a very joyful time for many within our community. After giving out boxes of food prior to Christmas, we were able to deliver bags and bags of toys to the Center of Hope for Women and Children (Hope House). Toys not distributed during the holidays will be used for several months as new children enter the homeless shelter. Hats and mittens were donated to elementary school children. Additionally, I would like to thank the Outreach volunteers, Linda Poynter, Judy Andrews, and Lois Hafer. Paulette McCandless and Mary Bob Powers also stepped up to help when needed. Thank you to all!

Next up: February is a great month to hold our annual Undie Sunday Drive. Our tradition is to collect new underwear and socks for the children attending Rosa Parks Elementary School as well as the youth who reside at the Center of Hope for Women and Children (Hope House). Needs continue for many children within our community and we would appreciate your help in overflowing our blue giving tub in the narthex.

SHALOM

A big thank you to those who served Shalom in January. They were Zola McClish, Mack McClish and his children, Peyton, Bennett and JJ, Joann Hoelle, Sara Hoelle, Larry Steele, Matt Lyons, Charlotte Steele, Monica, Tyler and Travis Hendricks, Renee Lyons, Linda Poynter, Tina Yarber, Mary Bob Powers, Cliff Thompson and members of the Hall/Alley and Lawson Family who did Friday from 5 pm to 7 am Saturday morning. Please consider how you might be able to help in February (Feb. 14-20th) The sign up sheet is on the easel in the Narthex. It takes all of us to make this happen. This is a good opportunity to work with those in the church you may not know.

CWF NEWS

Esther/Rebekah Circle will meet at 1:00 on February 3rd at the church. Sarah Circle will meet at 7:00 on February 8th also at the church. CWF Executive Board will meet at 10:00 AM on Saturday, January 23rd here at the church.

BLANKET SUNDAY

Please remember that this Sunday, January 24th, we will have our annual Blanket Sunday collection. Consider giving \$5.00 or more toward the purchase of blankets for this worthy cause. Envelopes will be available this Sunday or you may put your offering into the blanket as it is passed around the Sanctuary by the children.

FOUND

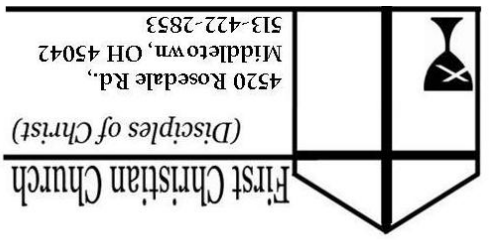
If you're missing your eyeglasses, a pair was found in the narthex. Check in the church office!

WEBSITE

Thanks to Connor Thompson for updating our website! Be sure to check out his work in progress.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

February 15th – Please send articles to church or email to Judy Lemmert or Larry Steele.



An Elder Moment for January 2016

Happy New Year!

It has been a wonderful time of celebration around First Christian over the last several weeks. Thank you to everyone who helped with all the decorating and un-decorating of our sanctuary. All of those who shared their musical talents over the holidays added to the special moments in worship as we prepared for the birth of our Savior. Our youth presentation of the manger time was one of the best. Please continue to share those gifts throughout the year!

For the last 6 months the Elders have been serving as Worship Leader. This was not meant to keep anyone else in our church family from enjoying serving in this position, it was a step in the transition process that we are going through. I want to extend to any of you who would like to serve as worship leader to let Ginger Alley, Tina Yarber, Larry Steele, or Cliff Thompson know so that we can add you to the rotation. Please ask if you have questions about the details of this and what is expected.

The Elders will continue to visit with our special needs members and deliver communion and companionship. If you would like to join an Elder on these visits, just ask! We would be happy to have you join us as would our friends that we are visiting. Remember that if you have a hospital stay, or a family member that does, we are available for prayer and support during that time, BUT WE NEED TO KNOW. The hospital or rehab center will not reach out to us due to privacy laws. We do not want to ignore anyone or let anyone be neglected in a time of need.

With continued Joy from serving,

Your Elders

BELL CHOIR AND CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

