



First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

4520 Rosedale Rd.  
Middletown, Ohio 45042  
513-422-2853  
www.fcc-middletown.org

# The Chalice Communicator

Volume XXXVXXIII

April 15, 2015

Number 4

**Pastor:** [Rev. Laureen A. Roe](#)

**Music Director:** [Rachel Eve Davis](#)

**Worship Accompanist:**  
[Katherine Garringer](#)

**Moderator:** Karen Powers

**Elders:** Mike Cockerham  
Jerry Hall  
Dave Lombard  
Linda Lombard  
Dorice Perkins  
Mike Simpson  
Betty Stacy  
Marilyn Strong  
Sue Tarbox  
Cliff Thompson

## YOUTH SUNDAY

Sunday, April 26, our children and youth will lead us in worship. This special Sunday will be centered on the theme *Strong Women of Faith*. Seniors **McKenna Simpson** and **Kaitlin Thompson** will bring the morning message. Worship begins at 10:00a.m. This is a perfect opportunity to invite your family, friends, neighbors and co-workers to worship.

### Youth Sunday Rehearsals

All children and youth participating in Youth Sunday need to attend rehearsal on Saturday, April 25 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon.

Youth Choir will be singing on this Sunday, so youth grade school and up need to attend Youth Choir rehearsals following worship.

## RAFFLEMANIA (Quarter Auction)

**Date:** Tuesday, May 5, 2015 **Time:** 6-8 p.m. Doors open at 5:15

A fun evening is in store as we raise money for our children to attend church camp. If you have never attended a Quarter Auction, here's the gist: It is like an auction...and like bingo! If you wish to bid, you will donate \$1 for a numbered paddle. A matching numbered disc will be placed into a bin. Each item up for bid will be displayed for all guests to see. Guests will give their bid (raffle tickets worth a quarter purchased upon arrival) and hold up their numbered paddle. When all bids are collected, the auctioneer will draw a numbered chip from the container to determine the winner. Once we have a winner, all chips will be placed back into the container and go to the next item to be auctioned. Still confused? – See our committee chairs: Charlotte Steele, Ginger Alley, and Karen Powers.

### How can you help?

1. Donate items for the concession stand. Sign up on the sheet in the narthex.
2. Donate a new item to be auctioned: theme basket, bath and body products, home or kitchen items, etc. A list of possible items will soon be on an insert in your worship bulletin.
3. Attend the auction and participate! *IT IS FUN!*

## Upcoming Events:

### Each Sunday:

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

### Weekly:

Wednesday – Bible Study @10:30 AM.  
Saturdays – Chancel Choir @ 10:00 AM.

April 20	Elders' Meeting 7 PM
April 22	Bible Study starts
April 25	Property Workday 9A-1P Youth Sunday Reh 10A-12N
April 26	Youth Sunday
April 27	Cabinet Meeting 7 PM
May 5	Quarter Auction
May 18	Elder's Mtg. 7PM
May 24	Rev. Carol Oetzel preaching
May 30	Relay 4 Life 12PM -12AM
June 1	General Board Mtg. 7PM

*First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), a church dedicated to loving relationships with God & Jesus Christ, each other and the world.*

## Thank You!

Dear Congregation of First Christian Church:

Thank you for the donation of socks and underwear for our students at Rosa Parks Elementary. The families and the school staff are very grateful.

Joy Carothers  
Success Program,  
Rosa Parks Elementary

## CWF News for April

CWF wishes to thank all who helped in any way on our March Salad Luncheon. We had 71 persons attend and our gross income was \$528. After expenses, we will net a little over \$400 which will be spent on both local and national mission projects.

On March 29<sup>th</sup> CWF sponsored a discussion on the book and movie "Heaven is for Real". A light lunch was served and there were 11 present. We would like to have another lunch and book discussion in June on a Sunday after church. A date will be announced later.

Blessing Boxes will be dedicated on May 10<sup>th</sup> this year. You may place your money in an envelope or bring your Blessing box that day.

CWF Executive Board will meet on May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 11:00 after choir practice in the Memorial Room. We will plan our get-together then.

## Children's Sunday School Class

Beginning Sunday April 12<sup>th</sup>, we are offering a special Sunday School Class session for our 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade children. Class time will begin after the Children's Sermon (10:20) and go through the end of Sunday Worship (11:15). We will continue this session until May 31. The class will be led by Lora Schueller.

Our tentative plan is to have six-week sessions of classes and take a break for a few weeks and resume class again. Hope to see all of our awesome kids there!!

## Kroger Cards

It's that time of the year again. Time to re-enroll your Kroger card in the Kroger Community Rewards program for the fiscal year of May 1, 2015 to April 30, 2016. To support our CWF ministries follow the instructions below:

1. Log on to Kroger.com
2. Click on sign-in
3. Put in e-mail address and password
4. Select "Community"
5. Then select "Community Rewards"
6. View your details
7. Our organization number is 81221 – First Christian Church – Middletown
8. Using the Edit tab, re-enroll in the Kroger Community Rewards program for the current year.



## Outreach Notes

We would like to say "Thank You" to those who served the homeless on Good Friday. Our team, who volunteered at Hope House, consisted of **Sharon Amburgey, Lois Hafer, Judy Lemmert, Linda Poynter** and **Larry Steele**. We also took the opportunity to make donations from our Food Pantry. For our upcoming collection, we would like to suggest paper products such as facial tissue, (Kleenex or any brand), toilet tissue, paper towels and liquid hand soap. As always, all nonperishable items are welcome and can be placed in the wooden box left of the narthex. Your Outreach Team appreciates your continued support which is making a difference in our community!

## Camp Applications

Make your plans now for the young people in your life to spend time at Camp Christian this summer. Camp applications **and health forms** are available on the bulletin board on the back wall of the fellowship hall. Please make sure to have applications, health forms and registration fees to Laureen by **APRIL 26**, so we can make the early bird deadline. If you have questions, contact Laureen or go to [www.ccinoh.org](http://www.ccinoh.org) for more information.

# GENERAL ASSEMBLY NEWS

July 18-22, 2015 – Columbus, OH



## A Theme To Call Us into Ministry

<sup>31</sup> But those who hope in the Lord  
will renew their strength.

They will **soar** on wings like eagles;  
they will run and not grow weary,  
they will walk and not be faint. (Is. 40:28-31, NIV)

As a whole, the 40<sup>th</sup> chapter of Isaiah has a message for the Church in this time and place. Comfort, preparation, call, challenge – all are contained in this single chapter. And there is also the promise of fresh strength to SOAR!

## Remembering The Saints

General Assembly organizers are planning to remember those who have passed away since the last assembly. Assembly goers are invited to bring a copy of a photo (4x6 or smaller) of anyone from their church who they would like to add to the wall. Names on paper (also 4x6 or smaller) may also be posted. Volunteers can direct you to the wall when you arrive onsite at the assembly. *If you are unable to go to Assembly, but would like to send a photo, please get the photo to Marilyn Chamberlain or Laureen.*

## Choir Singers Needed

Music directors David Duncan and Greg McGuirk are looking for some folks to sing in a choir during worship. Please consider being a part of the General Assembly Choir this summer. The choir will be singing for opening worship on Saturday night, July 18th and for the Sunday evening, July 19th service also. There is great music planned and people are needed to make it the best it can possibly be. The Sunday evening service will be a service dedicated entirely to the music of the church. The repertoire covers everything from the great traditional music and hymns to gospel, folk, as well as to new, contemporary worship songs and anthems. There will be “demos” of all music that the choir will be singing, including individual voice parts and posting it online so all music can be easily learned prior to July. There will be a short rehearsal on Saturday afternoon (July 18) in preparation for the opening evening service and another rehearsal on Sunday afternoon (July 19) in preparation for Sunday evening worship. Specific times and location will be announced.

Please consider being a part of this great opportunity as we come together to glorify the One who has given us the gift of music and song. If you would like to be a part of the Assembly Choir please send your name, email address, phone number and the voice part that you sing to [david.duncan88@yahoo.com](mailto:david.duncan88@yahoo.com)

## Newsletter Publication

*The Chalice Communicator* will be published once a month. May's issue will be published on May 13 with articles due to the office by Fri., May 8.

## New Members

We welcome into our church family, **Patricia Lemmons** and **Katherine Wilder**. Patricia and Katherine join us through rededicated their faith on March 15. Their address is: 4210 Central Ave., Middletown, OH 45044. Please welcome them into our midst. Invite them to join you in ministry activities.

## Sympathy

We extend our love and prayers to Edna Bartlett upon the death of her husband, **Howard Bartlett**, on March 25. Funeral services were held on March 28. Please continue to Edna in your prayers.

## In Your Prayers...

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

Health: *Leigha Blevins, Barbara Cessna, Tom Frebis, Lois Hafer, Vern Hicks, John Holm, Patricia Lemmons, Bob Lester, Karen Thompson, Darla Wiley.*

Other: *Louanne Aponte, heroin epidemic, racism, war, violence, school children, school teachers, Hope House, SHALOM, The Gathering, our pastor, our church, our church leaders, regional church, general church*

## Statistics

	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Offering</u>
Mar. 15	72	\$2,634.06
Mar. 22	47	\$ 540.01
Apr. 29	70	
Apr. 5	136	\$3,389.00
Apr.12	53	\$1,284.10
Easter		\$ 345.00
Coins4Camp		\$ 94.95

## Bible Study

Wednesday morning Bible Study with Pastor Roe will continue with the book of Romans. The group meets Wednesdays 10:30AM – 12:00N. Our current session is scheduled for April 22 through May 20. Please read Romans 1:1-17 for our first class.

## Worship Theme

Our current worship theme is ***Bloom! – Growing with God.*** We will be exploring scriptures focused on flowers, seeds, weeds and growth. It is an exciting time of year when everything in nature is coming back to life after lying dormant all winter. Come explore ways to bring new life to your faith and spirit.

## Property Workday

The Property Ministry Team is hosting another Property Workday on Saturday, April 25, 9AM-1PM. The tasks will be:

1. flower bed cleaning
2. mulching
3. trimming trees and bushes as needed
4. possibly cutting down a tree or two

Hot dogs etc. will be served at 12:30, being roasted on the bonfire (SHHHH!) of wood pile. We will share the lunch with the children and youth who will be there rehearsing for Youth Sunday for the 26th.

Bring your yard tools and let's get the church yard looking good! In the spirit of each helping all, please come!

## Sharing the CrossLight...

I'm still basking in the afterglow of Holy Week and Easter. Our journey together throughout this powerful week was a blessing to my spirit.

It all began on Palm Sunday with the waving of Palms. The choir anthems with our combined Youth and Chancel Choirs was a highlight!

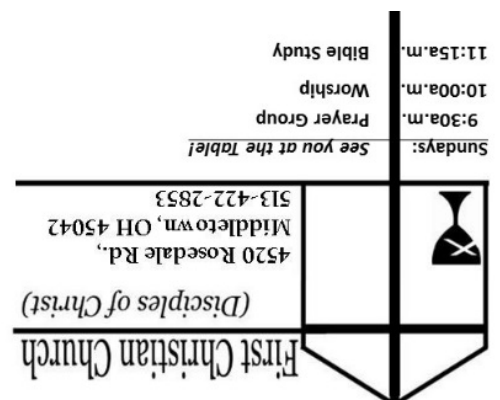
Thank you to our Elders who participated in sharing Luke's passion narrative with us on Maundy Thursday: ***Mike Cockerham, Dave Lombard, Linda Lombard, Helen Morgan, Dorice Perkins, Mike Simpson, Betty Stacy, Marilyn Strong, Cliff Thompson.*** Thanks to ***Rachel Eve Davis*** for filling in at the last minute and for accompanying worship. Also, thanks to ***Larry Steele*** for providing our sound support.

Easter morning heralded Christ's triumph over death with joy and delight. We began with our sunrise service followed by breakfast – thanks to ***Dave Schueller, Lora Schueller, Collin Roe and Mark Roe*** for preparing our Easter morning feast. The cold weather forced our annual egg hunt to be in the sanctuary, but that did not dampen the spirits of the children hunting for candy-filled eggs. Our Easter Worship Celebration was a GRAND examples of the light, love and spirit that pulse through our faith community. Thank you to our ***Chancel Choir*** along with ***Tyler Hendricks*** on trumpet for an uplifting anthem. I also extend a special thank you to I thank all of you who were here – your active participation in worshipping and celebrating our Risen Lord elevated the day to pure jubilation!

Easter is not over. It is not a one day event. We celebrate Easter each and every Sunday. We are an Easter people. I look forward to continuing the celebration and blooming with you in the coming weeks!

with love,

Laureen ☺





# FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

*Disciples of Christ • Middletown, Ohio*



April 2015

Dear Members and Friends,

We thank you for your continued financial support of Christ's church here at First Christian Church. Over the last year your tithes and offerings have enabled us to be God's light within our faith family and beyond.

**Worship:** Your continued support has been instrumental in continuing our mission to the membership and community. The past year has brought many changes to our church, and your faithfulness has been a blessing to the church. We have added some new faces to the staff in Music Director, Rachel Eve Davis and Accompanist, Katherine Garringer. We have also contracted with a professional cleaning service as well. Our worship choices continue to grow with new and thoughtful prayer stations and worship themes.

**Mission:** Our congregation's giving and service-minded spirit continues to be a witness to Christ's light. Financial giving has enabled us to help several within our own church family. We have also been able to help those in the Middletown community through giving financially to Hope House, The Center of Hope for Women & Children, SHALOM, Rosa Parks Elementary, Central Academy, and more. Our giving extends beyond Middletown through giving to Disciple Mission Fund, Week of Compassion, Camp Christian, The Christian Church in Ohio, and others. Beyond financial giving, people continue to be served through hands on mission work.

**Community:** Your giving enables the leadership of our congregation to provide care and support to our special needs members and those hospitalized or in crisis. These moments of ministry are examples of God's caring in our midst. God has chosen to work through people and you make it possible for God's ministry to be done when people need God the most. Our fellowship times and Christian Education opportunities continue to strengthen and enrich our times together. Your giving provides paper products for kitchen and bathrooms, curriculum for classrooms, postage for mailings, and much more.

*(continued)*

As we continue to move through our yearly Budget Cycle, it is a blessing to look back over the year and reflect where ministry has been done in Christ's name. As a community of faith we have had a time of sabbatical, renewed passion in worship, and increased our ministry of mission and outreach.

In the near future you will receive a pledge card to help the church leadership allocate resources for the following year. I would respectfully ask that with prayerful consideration you will give us the opportunity to continue the good works that are First Christian Church – Middletown. By filling out your pledge cards, it allows the church to better plan what opportunities we can pursue and what programs will be supported in the upcoming year. Again, I thank you all for your continued support. Our church leadership has worked very hard to become fiscally responsible with the gifts you have provided. If you have any questions, please contact me as your Stewardship Chairperson or Marilyn Chamberlain, Church Treasurer.

In Christ's Service,

Martin Schaefer  
Stewardship Chairperson