



First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

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

The Chalice Communicator

Volume XXXVXXIII

May 14, 2015

Number 5

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

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.

May 24 Rev. Carol Oetzel preaching

May 30 Relay 4 Life 12PM -12AM

June 1 General Board Mtg. 7PM

June 3 Esther/Rebekah 1PM

June 8 Sarah 6:30 @ Olive Garden

June 10 CWF General Cookout 6 PM

June 14 Congregational Mtg.
Everyone's B-day Lunch

June 15 Elders 7PM

June 28 Pastor Roe's Last Sunday

June 29 Cabinet Mtg 7PM

PENTECOST

On Sunday, May 24 we celebrate and remember the coming of the Holy Spirit. This very special day in the church year is also known as the birthday of the church, because this day commemorates when the disciples went out, spoke in tongues, and told the Good News of Jesus Christ. People believed, lives were transformed and the church was born. The Rev. Carol Oetzel will be leading us in worship on this sacred day. Everyone is invited to **WEAR RED** as we invite the Holy Spirit to enter our lives and transform us.

GRADUATE RECOGNITION

On Sunday, May 17 during worship, we will recognize our seniors graduating from High School: **Molly Farkas, Olivia Milburn, McKenna Simpson, and Kaitlin Thompson**. We will present them with bibles. Come celebrate their accomplishments.

MUSIC APPRECIATION SUNDAY

Music has a way of transcending through to our souls in ways the spoken word cannot. On May 31 at 10:00 a.m., FCC will recognize the many musicians within our congregation as they lead us in worship. This is a special morning when give thanks for the gift of music in our midst.

RAFFLEMANIA, A SUCCESS!

A huge thank you to the entire congregation on behalf of the General Board. Our Rafflemania/Quarter Auction event on May 5 netted us \$802 toward camp fees for our children and youth. We had many compliments on the quality of our donated raffle items. It was a fun event for a very worthwhile cause.

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

CWF News for May

Sarah Circle will meet for dinner on June 8th at 6:30 pm at Olive Garden.

There will be an end of year cookout for the last CWF general meeting of the year. We will meet at 6:00 pm at Marilyn Chamberlain's house – 242 Bernard Dr. in Monroe on June 16th. Please call Betty Stacy, Dorice Perkins, Mary Back, or Linda Poynter and tell them what food item you are bringing.

Blessing boxes were collected on May 10th. If you still have Blessing Box money, you may give it to Angie Otis within the next two weeks.

Congregational Meeting

Plan to attend our Annual Congregational Meeting immediately following worship on June 14. The purpose of the meeting is to vote on the church officers for the 2015-16 church year and approve the operating budget for July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016.

Everyone's B-day Party

Following our Annual Congregational Meeting on June 14, we will gather in the Fellowship Hall for a carry-in birthday party. We will celebrate everyone's birthdays. We will sit together by birth month and share in good food and fellowship.

Camp Christian Workday

Saturday, May 16, 2015

After a long winter there's a lot of spring cleaning to be done to get Camp Christian back in shape for the summer and each year we Men make it part of our Ministry and Mission to help ready the camp for the summer season and the campers and conferees to come. And thanks to some generous donations to cover the cost of food there is no cost for Saturday meals. Please RSVP online at www.ccinoh.org even if you are just coming on Saturday so that we may plan for the meals and the work projects.

Past work has included mowing, weed-whacking, plumbing, retrieving picnic bench building, painting, and sweeping, No matter your age or ability there's something you can do! Nobody is too young or too old to lend a hand.

Worship Accompanist

It is with mixed emotions that the church has accepted the resignation of **Katherine Garringer** as Worship Accompanist effective May 24th. Katherine has shared her most wonderful musical gifts with us since last August. Katherine has been working as a solo performer of her original music for some time now and has a desire to put her efforts into making a career of doing that. She plans to give it a try in the future in Nashville which is really exciting! We thank her for her service to our church and wish her success in her future.

Bell Choir

If you've got rhythm, then FCC has music for you to play in the Handbell Choir! For the experienced ringer or for one who'd just like to give ringing a try, there's a place for you this summer. Our Music Director, Rachel Eve Davis will be directing a bell choir this summer. Rehearsals will be Sundays beginning in June at 11:15AM following worship. If interested, please sign up on the sign-up sheet on bulletin board above water fountain. Come join the fun, and make a joyful noise unto our Lord.

Ribbit Camp

June 7 – 10 is Ribbit Camp at Camp Christian. Attending these days of camp for 2nd-4th graders are **Owen Lyons** and **Nick Otis**. Volunteering their time as counselors are **Ginger Alley** and **Matt Lyons**. Our Pastor Lauren Roe serves as Ribbit Camp Director. Please keep these individuals in your prayers throughout their church camp experiences. Mail can be addressed to Camp Christian, 10335 Maple Dell Rd., Marysville, OH 43040.

Baptisms

Sunday, May 10 was a GLORIOUS day here in God's House! Four of our youth were baptized into the Christian faith: **Daria Dearth, Gretchen Lemmert, Renee Lyons, and Jillian Schatzley.** Please shower these young ladies with your love, prayers and support as they grow in the faith.



(Pictured L to R: Gretchen Lemmert, Jillian Schatzley, Renee Lyons, Daria Dearth, Rev. Roe)

Property Thanks!

On Saturday, May 2 volunteers spent time working inside and outside the church. Flowers were planted, trees/bushes trimmed and cut down, grass cut, kitchen cupboards cleaned, office cabinets organized, mulch spread, and much more. Thank you to all who gave of themselves: **Larry Chamberlain, Marilyn Chamberlain, Dave Lombard, Linda Lombard, Helen Morgan, Karen Powers, Tim Powers, Linda Poynter, Billy Poynter, Lora Schueller, Dave Schueller, Charlotte Steele, Larry Steele, Carl Tarbox, and Cathy Treadway**

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.



Newsletter Publication

The Chalice Communicator is published once a month. June's issue will be published on June 17 with articles due to the office by Fri., June 12.

Thank You

Dear First Christian Church,

Thank you for helping one of our Rosa Parks Elementary families. This family has been faced with many obstacles yet they remain caring and kind. Your financial assistance has meant a great deal.

Sincerely, Joy Carothers
Success Program
Rosa Parks Elementary

New Address

Mary Helen Shetter's new address is
1435 Wazee St. #302
Denver, CO 80202

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, John Holm, Patricia Lemmons, Bob Lester, Nell Teater, Karen Thompson*

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

Statistics

	Attendance	Offering
Apr. 19	57	\$2,876.00
April 26	91	\$1,915.20
May 3	68	\$2,182.00
May 10	83	\$3,198.56
Nepal		\$ 20.00
Week of Compassion		\$ 45.00



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Disciples of Christ • Middletown, Ohio



May 11, 2015

Dear Church Family,

In February 2006, we began doing ministry together. We have walked in faith together through times of great joy, grief, celebration, and wonder. God has guided us through these times with divine love and light. I treasure all we have done together in the name of Christ.

After prayerful discernment, I am resigning my position as Pastor. This has not been an easy decision to make, but I know that I am doing as God is calling. My last Sunday will be June 28. On this day we will worship God with great joy and thanksgiving for the love we have shared over the years. We will gather at Christ's Table and remember that we are one in Christ no matter where our journeys lead us.

During this time of transition, I want to encourage you in two ways. First, let this time be something that stirs you to prayer like never before. Be praying for FCC, its leadership, and the next Pastor. Pray for unity. Pray for continued growth in grace, wisdom and faith. Pray, pray, pray! Second, I want to encourage you to stay the course. God is good. God's steadfast love endures forever. God's love for you, God's love for me... is forever! God is still God and FCC is centered on following the call of Jesus Christ. This is a great church and your continued participation on Sundays and participation in all the ministries are more important than ever. This can be a very exciting time as you bond together to move forward in ministry.

I treasure the weeks ahead that we have together. I look forward to these times filled with God's love, laughter and joy. I thank you for the love each of you has given. It has been my honor and joy serving God as your Pastor.

with love,

Rev. Lauren A. Roe
Pastor

General Assembly News

July 18-22, 2015 – Columbus, OH

A Theme To Call Us into Ministry

³¹ *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)*

You can still register for General Assembly. It's not too late. Register for the whole assembly or for only part. Go to

<http://ga.disciples.org/registration/>

The Assembly promises to be filled with inspiring worship, fellowship and learning as disciples from all over gather at Christ's Table.



Message from the Vice-Moderator

14 May 2015

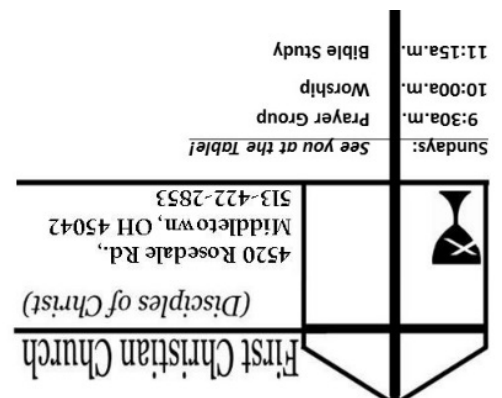
Dear Fellow Members of First Christian Church,

It is with a very heavy heart that I write this communiqué. Monday evening, the elders met with Pastor Roe. At that time she presented her letter of resignation. On Wednesday, the General Board met with Pastor Roe. Unfortunately, both groups have accepted her letter of resignation.

It is never easy to lose someone that you love. And this is no exception to that. We are entering a time when we will need to dig deep and stay strong. The days ahead may be difficult, but we have endured difficult times in the past. And... **we have survived. We will survive this as well.** Please pray and ask our God to guide us during the coming months.

Yours in Christian Love,

Larry L. Steele
Vice Moderator





YOUTH SUNDAY



Strong in Faith – April 26, 2015
Retelling of Deborah the Judge
Senior messages by Kaitlin T.
and McKenna S.
Youth Choir
Thank you to our children and
youth for a joyful morning!

BAPTISMS – May 10, 2015

