



First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

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

Chalice Communicator

Volume XXXVXXXIII

November 15, 2016

Number 11

Interim Minister: Pastor Nik Donges

Music Director: Rachel Eve Davis

Moderator: Larry Steele

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

SEE YOU SUNDAYS:

Adult Sunday School – 9:15
Young Adult and Children’s
Sunday School – 9:30
Worship – 10:30 a.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Tuesdays- Messiah Rehearsal 7-9 PM
Wednesdays -Choir Practice 6:30 PM
11/20 Thanksgiving Sunday
11/21 Elder’s Mtg. 7 PM
11/27 Board Mtg. after church
12/04 Civic Chorus-Messiah
Performance 3:00 PM
12/07 Esther-Rebekah Circle 1 PM
12/12 Sarah Circle 7 PM
12/19 Elder’s Mtg. 7 PM

STATISTICS:

Date	Attendance	Offering
11/13/16	50	\$2,765.00
11/06/16	64	\$2,988.00
10/30/16	43	\$2,011.00
10/23/16	75	\$2,455.33
Thanksgiving		\$353.00

Nik’s Nook, November 2016

Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas are just around the corner and planning has begun to make this time meaningful and celebrative. I take some time in this article telling about some of those plans.

We actually celebrate Thanksgiving Sunday this coming Sunday. I will be preaching on the idea of “Thanksgiving”. Following worship many hands will be needed to help decorate our sanctuary and narthex. Orders will soon be taken for poinsettias to help adorn our sanctuary with these beautiful flowers.

We will celebrate the four Sundays of Advent observing the following themes: Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love. Each Sunday, families or individuals will help us to gradually light the four Advent candles on our special wreath. The fifth candle, the Christ candle will be lit on Christmas Eve.

To help our children celebrate this special season, we will gather for worship in our Fellowship Hall on December 18. Following worship, we will have dinner together.

Our celebrations come to a close with a special Christmas Eve worship in our sanctuary and a very special Christmas Day worship at 10:00 a.m. (note the change of time) in our beautifully decorated sanctuary followed by having a birthday party for Jesus in our Fellowship Hall.

Invite your friends and encourage others to worship with us through this special season.

Actually, Christmas does not end with the day. It continues on for the next twelve days to the celebration of Epiphany.

I again want to reaffirm what a pleasure it is to serve as your interim pastor.

With His Love,
Pastor Nik

Prayer Concerns

Tyler Hendricks was injured at the final Monroe High School football game and has a broken ankle. Please keep this fine young man in your prayers for a good and speedy recovery.

It has been good to see Ivis Caudill and Pauline Ginter in worship over the past few weeks.

Edna Bartlett has been added to our special needs list and would appreciate any prayers.

PRAYER LIST

Health: Edna Bartlett, Leigha Blevins, Alayne Caudill, Ivis Caudill, Amy Cockerham, Chuck Deaton, Wanda Deaton, Don Dixon, Tommy Efker, Elliott Feltner, Pauline Ginter, Barbara Gray, Jean Greathouse, Tyler Hendricks, Harry Little, Pastor Nik, Bob Selby, Betty Stacy, Rev. Don Steffy, Laurie Steffy, Guy Stone, Betty Vaughn, Tina Yarber

Our Home-Bound: Kathleen Chamberlain, 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.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

11/17 Judy Lemmert
11/20 Peggy Byrd
11/24 Debbie Wells
11/25 Elisabeth Lemmert
12/05 Angel Dearth
12/09 Janine Saxbury
12/22 Cameron Fowler
12/22 Rick Treadway
12/24 Dave Lombard
12/29 Judy Dixon



The Middletown Civic Chorus will present Handel's "The Messiah" at 3:00 pm on Dec. 4th here at First Christian.

Our conductor will be Dr. Jeremy Jones of Miami University and our organist will be Cinda Pelfrey. In addition, we will have a string quartet, trumpet, and four soloists.

Please join us for this afternoon of beautiful music. A reception will follow the performance.

OUTREACH

Thanksgiving is fast approaching and many of you have brought in food donations to support Outreach in assisting our adopted families this year. We will be providing turkeys and all the trimmings for five families which include 17 members in their households. Families will be picking up their Thanksgiving boxes this coming Monday, November 21st so there is still time to drop off your donations by this Sunday.

In December, we will continue our holiday giving program by handing out food requests for Christmas. We will also be distributing gift requests for Christmas gifts for the children in each home. All of your support is greatly appreciated! If you would like additional information about any of the Outreach activities, please see Linda Poynter, Judy Andrews (co-chairs) or Janice Kash, Judy Lemmert or Sharon Amburgey.

CWF NEWS

CWF will be hosting the reception following the Messiah presentation on Dec. 4th. We will be serving cookies, cheese ball, and crackers along with punch and coffee. We will also need people to prepare, serve, or clean up on that day. You may contact Tina Yarber, Dorice Perkins, Betty Stacy, Mary Back, or Marilyn Chamberlain with your availability for that day.

Hannah Circle will go out to lunch on Dec. 4th and then return to the church to help set up for the reception. Sarah Circle will meet on Dec. 12th at 6:00 pm for a carry-in dinner at Zola McClish's home.

Sarah Circle cleaned the kitchen on Nov. 3rd. We put felt tabs on the inside of the cabinet doors so that they would open and close easier. We also cleaned the steam table, cleaned out the refrigerator, and fixed the silverware drawer. Many thanks, ladies!

DECORATE THE CHURCH!

The Worship Committee invites any congregation members to stay after church this Sunday to help decorate for Advent. We will order pizza and have lunch and then decorate.

CONGRATULATIONS ALLISON BYRD!

Allison was recognized during the annual YMCA Celebration of Character as a TEEN of CHARACTER. We knew all along that she was a Teen of Character. Congratulations, Allison!

SEARCH COMMITTEE

The search committee wishes to inform our congregation that we continue to make progress toward the selection of a new pastor. The search committee will, within a few weeks, be interviewing an applicant and will be considering that person for the next stage of our search program. We appreciate everyone's patience. We have a very diverse group of people on the search committee who are representative of our congregation and they will select a pastor who will appeal to all members.

ADVENT DEVOTIONAL

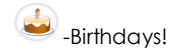
BOOKLETS
















Booklets are available in the narthex for your personal use. Sufficient copies have been ordered so that everyone can have one. If you would like to make a donation of \$2.00 to \$3.00 to help offset the cost, you can place that donation in the smaller basket close to the booklets.

CENTRAL CONNECTIONS

Central Connections invites you and your congregation to join us after your Sunday service for our 2016 Santa Brunch and Craft Show on Sunday, December 11. Brunch is from 10 AM to 2 PM and the craft show runs from 10 AM to 3 PM. There will be delicious food, lots of wonderful vendors and a children's craft area. Santa and Mrs. Claus will be here too! This annual holiday event benefits our programming for older adults and is a perfect opportunity to find that unique Christmas gift. Please join us for a merry day!

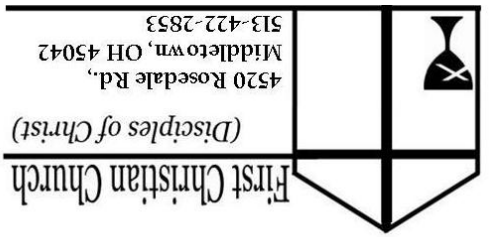
November/December 2016



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		15 Messiah Rehearsal 7-9 PM	16  Join the Choir... You'll Be Glad You Did! Choir practice	17  Judy Lemmert	18	19
20  Peggy Byrd Items due For food Baskets Thanksgiving Sun.	21 Elder's Mtg. 7 PM	22 Messiah Rehearsal 7-9 PM	23 Choir Practice	24  Debbie Well <i>Happy Thanksgiving</i>	25  Elisabeth Lemmert	26  SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY
27 Board Mtg. after church	28	29 Messiah Rehearsal 7-9 PM	30  Choir practice	Dec. 1	2	3 Rehearsal for Civic Chorus 9-12
4 Peace Sunday  Civic Chorus- Messiah Performance 3PM	5  Angel Dearth	6	7 Esther-Rebekah Circle 1 PM Choir Practice	8	9  Janine Saxbury	10  WORLD HUMAN RIGHTS DAY
11 Don't forget the Hat and Mitten tree 	12 Sarah Circle 7 PM	13	14  Choir Practice	15	16	17
18 Sock Sunday! Food items and toys due for Christmas Baskets	19 Elder's Mtg. 7 PM	20	21 Choir Practice	22  Rick Treadway Cameron Fowler	23	24  Dave Lombard Christmas Eve Service



*Happy Thanksgiving!
To You And Your Family*



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