



First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

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

Chalice Communicator

Volume XXXVXXV

February 21, 2017

Number 2

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:

Wednesdays -Choir Practice 6:00 PM

02/22 &23 Shalom
02/26 Cabinet Mtg. following church
03/01 Esther/Rebekah Circle 1 PM
03/13 Sarah Circle 7 PM
03/20 Soup & Salad Luncheon
03/20 Elder’s Mtg. 7 PM
04/01 Razor’s Edge Concert
05/01 Lifeline Screening

STATISTICS:

Date	Attendance	Offering
02/19/17	63	\$2,208.00
02/12/17	57	\$1,766.00
02/05/17	81	\$3,903.00
01/29/17	62	\$ 996.00
01/22/17	61	\$2,408.12
Blanket Sunday		\$332.00
Coins for Camp		\$60.05
Chili Bowl		\$60.00
Week of Compassion		\$140.00

Nik’s Nook, February, 2017

On Sunday, February 5th, this congregation took a most important step forward. You had the chance to meet the Reverend Tracy Siegman, a candidate for the next settled pastor of First Christian Church. The vote was positive and following some procedures in Pastor Tracy’s congregation, she announced this past Sunday of her eventual move to Middletown.

You have worked faithfully and prayerfully to reach this important step in your future. Pastor Tracy, if I may refer to her in that manner, will begin her ministry with you on May 1. My final Sunday with you will be April 30th.

During these final two months, there is much to accomplish. During the Sundays of Lent, I will be sharing a series of messages based upon the newest book by my friend, George Bullard. *Captured by Vision* is the title. There are nuggets of inspiration within this book that will help us prepare to fully welcome Pastor Tracy.

I ask that you keep Pastor Tracy and myself in your prayers as we prepare for a transition. You have welcomed me. You have responded warmly to my leadership. Each of you holds a special place in my heart.

Let us seek to focus on the vision into which God is leading us as we wind down and prepare for a future filled with hope.

With His Love,
Pastor Nik

A Word From Your Moderator

As we anticipate the arrival of our next settled pastor, I would like for you to think about a quote from George Bullard: “Do you want to be more than you are” Do you want to move beyond “good enough” to “exceptional” in meeting the real needs of real people in real time?” What does this mean? How can this apply to us?

In the months following June 1st of 2016, we have all grown closer together as a congregation and have stepped up to accomplish much. It hasn’t always been easy, but,..... **WE** HAVE DONE IT!

As we move forward, let’s remember what we have done and keep doing it. Also, we – in our Triads – have all said that we need to move outside the walls of this church. In the coming weeks, we will have an opportunity to do just that. 1 Market & Eatery will be opening in downtown Middletown and will need volunteers to do the work of reaching out. This project is being mentored by One Bistro, but will expand on just helping to feed. You will hear more in the coming weeks on this project and I expect many volunteers from the congregation @ FCC-Middletown to step forward. Remember, ***this is what we all said we should be doing to further the work of our Savior in the community.***

Larry Steele



PRAYER LIST

Health: Edna Bartlett, Leigha Blevins, Alayne Caudill, Ivis Caudill, Amy Cockerham, Briana Cuellar, Chuck Deaton, Mary Jo Deaton, Wanda Deaton, Tommy Efker, Elliott Feltner, Troy French, Pauline Ginter, Barbara Gray, Jean Greathouse, Jack Gulley, Bruce Henderson, Sara Hoelle, Russ Lawson, Tina Lawson, Harry Little, Esther Saxbury, Bob Selby, Betty Stacy, Rev. Don Steffy, Guy Stone, Betty Vaughn, Dominic Watkins

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, our Country, war, violence, S.H.A.L.O.M, our church, our congregation and our church leaders.

OUTREACH NEWS

We are in our second week serving Shalom in partnership with Christ United Methodist Church. Those serving this week are: Charlotte Steele, Judy Lemmert, Grace and Gretchen Lemmert, Linda Poynter, Dave and Linda Lombard, Larry Steele, Matt Lyons, Sharon Amburgey, Tina Lawson, Zola McClish, Larry Back, Monica Hendricks, Marilyn Chamberlain, Brenda Gulley, Lois Strohm, Ginger Alley, and Jerry Hall. Thank you to all of you for giving of your time in serving those less fortunate.



Prayer Concerns

Russell Lawson continues to recover from his foot surgery and asks for our uplifting prayers.

Prayers for Tina Lawson, who will be having hand surgery on Friday.

Congratulations to Russell Lawson and Tina Yarber who were joined in marriage on Saturday, February 4th.

Ivis Caudill had medical tests almost a month ago and learned that he needs a liver replacement. Also, keep Tony, his friend and Tony’s grandmother in your prayers.

Our sympathy to Joann Grimes upon the death of her brother, Gene Whitley.

Please keep Dominic Watkins, one of Tyler’s teammates in your prayers. He has cancer in one of his legs and is currently undergoing chemotherapy treatments.

Our sympathy to all of the family of Laurie Steffy. Memorial services were a week ago at our Mt Healthy church.

Prayers for Don Steffy, who has pneumonia and is a patient at the West Chester hospital. When released he will be going to Doverwood.

Prayers to the family of Bruce Henderson, who underwent a five way by-pass last Wednesday. He is gradually improving.

Prayers for Sara Hoelle, who had foot surgery a little over a week ago. She is at Pristine Post Acute Care of Oxford.

Prayers for Brenda Gulley as she travels to Indianapolis to be with her brother, Jack, during his throat surgery.

Prayers for Heather Lyons as her blood pressure stabilizes and she awaits any test results.

CWF NEWS

CWF wishes to thank all who contributed to our Blanket Sunday collection on January 29th. We received a total of \$332.00 which is being sent to Church World Service.

Our circle leaders are now in the process of calling members of the congregation to ask for salad and dessert donations and for volunteers to work at the Salad Luncheon which is being held on March 20th from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM. We would like the list of donations to be turned in to Marilyn Chamberlain by next Sunday, February 26th, so that we can see if any more items are needed.

Esther/Rebekah Circle will meet at the church on March 1st at 1:00 PM. Sarah Circle will meet at the church on March 13th at 7:00 PM. Sarah Circle has been studying the book, “Learners-Lessons from Women of Striving and Grace” by Glen Karssen. Our next lesson will be the story of the widow of Zarephath which is found in 1Kings 17:7-24. Any ladies of the congregation are invited to join us at our meetings.

Salad Luncheon! Mark your calendar for March 20th from 11:30-1:00 PM
Price-\$7.00 Proceeds will go to missions.
Carryout plates will be available. Tickets will be available in 2 weeks.



Mark your calendar- Lifeline Screening is coming to First Christian Church on May 1st. Reservation will be needed for the testing. More information will be coming out soon.

The Razor's Edge Barbershop Chorus

Guys
~~and~~
Dolls

vs.

April 1, 2017
7:00 PM

First Christian Church
4520 Rosedale Rd., Middletown, Oh 45044

Tickets: \$12 & Children 12 & Under Free
For information or Tickets Call: (513) 424-2096 or (937) 572-2347
Call for Group Rates

Handicapped Accessible Facility

Don Dixon will have tickets. There will be a group rate for 10 or more. Group rate will be \$10.00 each.



Summer is coming! Check out the dates for Summer Camp. Applications will be available in the Narthex soon. Early Bird registrations needs to be postmarked no later than May 1st.

Dates:

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| Grandparents Camp -June 2 & 3 | Otter Junior Camp – June 18-24 |
| Ribbit Junior Camp – July 5-8 | Chi Rho- June 4-10, July 9-15, or July 23-29 |
| CYF- June 11-17, June 25-July 1, or July 16-22. | Advance Conference - July 30 - August 6 |

February/March 2017



-Birthdays!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		February 21	22 SHALOM 	23	24 SHALOM	25
26 Week of Compassion ends  Cabinet Mtg. Following church	27	28	March 1  ASH WEDNESDAY Esther/Rebekah 1pm Choir Practice	2	3 	4  Carol Efker
5 	6  Heather Lyons	7  David Milburn	8  Logan Blevins  Choir practice	9  Brenda Milburn Janet O'Neal	10	11  Larry Chamberlain
12 Daylight savings time begins. 	13 Sarah Circle @ church 7 PM	14	15 Choir Practice 	16  Mike Cockerman	17	18
19 3 rd Sunday of Lent 	20 <i>First Day of Spring</i>  Elder's Mtg. 7 PM	21	22  Join the Choir... You'll Be Glad You Did!	23	24	25  Roger Byrd John Ofis
26 4 th Sunday of Lent 	27	28  Linda Lombard	29  Travis Hendricks Choir Practice 	30	31	

