



First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

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

Chalice Communicator

Volume XXXVXXXVI

January 16, 2018

Number 1

Minister: Pastor Tracy Siegman

Music Director: Rachel Eve Davis

Moderator: Larry Chamberlain

Elders: Sharon Amburgey
Roger Byrd
Dave Lombard
Matt Lyons
Dorice Perkins
Karen Powers
Martin Schaefer
Guy Stone
Cliff Thompson

SEE YOU SUNDAYS:

Adult Sunday School – 9:15
Young Adult and Children’s
Sunday School – 9:45
Worship – 10:30 a.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Wednesdays- Bible Study 2 PM
Wednesdays -Choir Practice 6:00 PM
01/28 Blanket Sunday
01/28 Week of serving Shalom
01/21 Hannah Circle
02/03 “Dishing For Mission” dinner
02/04 “Souper Bowl” Luncheon
02/07 Esther/ Rebekah 1 PM
02/08 Sarah Circle 7 PM
02/15 Elder Mtg. 7 PM

STATISTICS:

Date	Attendance	Offering
01/14/18	52	\$1,935.00
01/07/18	40	\$1,985.00
12/31/17	32	\$1,963.00
Christmas Eve	71	
12/24/17	83	\$5,739.00
Week of Compassion		\$25.00
Christmas		\$185.00
Coins for Camp		\$91.49

I belong to several groups. The ones I am most dedicated to are the ones I feel most connected to. The ones that include me are the ones that I am more likely to participate in. The more connected I get with activities and people in the group the more time I invest in the group. I like to be invited to participate in their projects. The same is true for most people. You may join a group because you have an interest in the work or goal of the group. It takes time to really become dedicated to a group while you’re learning the ways of the group and getting to know people.

The same is true of the church. You’re more likely to come to church if you’re connected to the ministries and people of the church and you’re more likely to participate in something beyond Sunday mornings if someone personally asks you to do it. I know Sunday morning attendance is an important indicator to many people of one’s commitment to the church. I am, however, interested in your participation in women’s circles, worship leadership, choir, committees, kitchen crew, and other small groups within the church.

As we begin planning the ministries in our vision, we need dedicated people to serve in various capacities. This will give you opportunities to connect to the church in ways you maybe haven’t already or haven’t been in a while. You will get to work with people maybe you haven’t worked with before or haven’t worked with in a while.

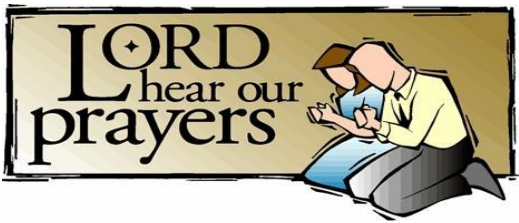
I am very excited about what is ahead of us. I look forward to working with all of you and seeing all of you dedicated to the mission of the church through acts of service and charity.

Pastor T

VALENTINE’S DAY LUNCH

Please join Pastor Tracy for lunch on Valentine’s Day. We’ll meet at the church on Wednesday, February 14th at 11:30 am and head to lunch. Please let Pastor Tracy know if you plan to attend. She will make reservations at a local restaurant based on the group size. If you have a suggestion for where you might like to go for lunch, please also let her know.





Prayer List:

Health: Ivis Caudill, Barbara Gray, Matt Lyons, Dorice Perkins, Lucas Smith.

Special Needs: Edna Bartlett, Jean Greathouse, Helen Hall, Elisabeth Lemmert, Janet O'Neal, Sue Whitt.

Others: Caregivers, 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.

THANK YOU

Thank you to Lisa from Q & R Cleaning service for the candle set on the credenza in the Narthex.

I would like to thank everyone for the beautiful Christmas Cards everyone gave me. I enjoyed going through them all very much. Thanks again.

Love,
Jean Greathouse

PASTOR'S CLASS

Please pray over the coming months for the following who will be participating in Pastor's class: Cameron Fowler, Aiden McMonigle, Owen Lyons, Nick Otis, Travis Hendricks and Riley McMonigle. These youth, Martin and Pastor Tracy need your prayers through these classes. It is an important time for the youth to learn and prepare for a new chapter in their faith story.

They will be meeting every other Sunday 1/28/18, 2/11/18, 2/25/18, 3/11/18 and 3/25/18. They will meet at 9:30 am during the Sunday school hour before church. Elder Martin Schaefer will co-teach the class with Pastor Tracy.

OUTREACH

This month our Outreach focus has been on helping with SHALOM. We had fantastic teamwork during our first week of hosting and really appreciate all the volunteers who helped make this possible. Guests enjoyed great food and fellowship as members of our church family covered the volunteer hours to make sure everyone was welcome and had what they needed during a time when temperatures were subzero.

We will have another opportunity to serve the homeless this month and again, need all the help we can get. The dates we serve will be January 29, 31 and February 2nd. A sign-up sheet is in the narthex and you may always contact Linda Poynter or Sharon Amburgey if you have questions. As we share our blessings, they multiply in so many ways. We know the 63 adults, including 6 children, served so far this year are so very grateful to everyone throughout our community who has stepped up to help. Thanks again for being a blessing and growing with us through this experience!

Sharon Amburgey and Linda Poynter

CWF NEWS

There will be a short meeting of the Spring Fling Craft Sale and Luncheon Committee after church this Sunday. We will need a representative from each circle and a representative from the Men's Group to attend. Also, if anyone else in the congregation is interested, please feel free to attend this meeting.

The bad weather and the flu have affected our CWF members and both Sarah and Esther/Rebekah Circles were unable to meet in January. Both circles are planning to meet in February as usual.

Please remember that Blanket Sunday is coming up on January 28th. On that day we will hand out materials for a project that we would like our youth to complete. Some of our adults may wish to help out on this also.



Cliff Thompson, Connor Thompson, Nik Donges, and John Ralbovsky attending the Annual Lodge Winter Banquet at the Oscar Event Center at Jungle Jim's.



Location: First Christian Church Middletown

Menu: Soup, Salad, Garlic Bread, Lasagna, Tiramisu/Brownie

Tickets (required): \$12/plate

Contact Kaitlin @ (513) 594-0049 or thomp139@miamioh.edu

FUNDRAISING EVENT

On Saturday, February 3rd at 5:00 PM, the Thompsons will be hosting a lasagna dinner in the FCC Fellowship hall. The menu will include soup, salad, homemade lasagna and tiramisu (or brownie). Live musical entertainment will be provided during dinner. Tickets are \$12/plate and all proceeds will go towards Kaitlin's mission trip to the Dominican Republic this spring.

Thank You

Thank you so much for the amazing outpouring of love shown during our "Tastes like Home for the Holidays" food drive this Holiday season. Thanks to your generous support, local families and children will have better access to food that fits their family's palettes and culture. I continue to be amazed by the love and generosity our church family shows to others in our community.

WEEK OF COMPASSION SPECIAL OFFERING

The following is a communication from Week of Compassion regarding our past financial support. We will be collecting the Week of Compassion Special Offering in February during worship.

As we begin the new year, we are grateful for your partnership and support. Below is a list of some of our responses from the fourth quarter of last year. Each response is filled with hope and gratitude and represents a place where you, the church, offered presence in time of need. As we look forward into this new year, we know the work is just getting started.

This week, 21 clergy and their families who were impacted by Hurricane Harvey have been in Arizona for the Care for the Journey retreat. "Our well-being is sacred," said Angela Whitenhill, the Mental Health Initiative Manager for National Benevolent Association, to those gathered. Week of Compassion, NBA, and the Pension Fund co-sponsored the retreat, with program assistance from Family and Children's Ministries of Disciples Home Missions, to support clergy and their families as the new year begins. Participants are practicing skills for self-care, processing their experiences together, and renewing for the long journey of recovery.

2017 4th Quarter Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance projects include:

Boko Haram Conflict Relief in Cameroon, Chad and Nigeria

Refugee Response in Angola, Iraq, Jordan, Bangladesh, Myanmar

















Weather-related Emergency Relief in Ethiopia, Bangladesh, Iowa, Missouri, Louisiana, US Virgin Islands, Syria

Hurricane Relief in Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Florida, Puerto Rico, Texas



January/February, 2018



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		January 16  John Andrews	17 Choir practice 6:00 	18	19	20
21  Peggy Byrd SuAnne Farkas	22 Board Mtg. 7 PM	23	24 Bible Study 2:00 Choir practice 6:00 	25	26	27  MacKenzie Lovin
28 Blanket Sunday Week of serving SHALOM begins	29  Judy Andrews Alayne Caudill	30	31 Bible Study 2:00 Choir practice 6:00 	February 1  Allannah Caudill	2	3  Shelly Blevins "Dishing For Mission" Fundraising Dinner 5 PM
4 Souper Bowl Luncheon	5	6  Michael Blevins	7 Esther/Rebekah Circle 1pm Choir practice 6:00 	8  Larry Steele Sarah Circle 7PM	9	10  Tommy Efker
11	12	13	14  Edna Bartlett Bible Study 2:00 Choir practice 6:00 Valentine's Day Lunch with Pastor Tracy 11:30 AM	15	16  Nancy Schaefer	17
18  Nancy Milton ----- 25	----- 26	----- 27	----- 28 Bible Study 2:00 Choir practice 6:00	22	23	24

