



First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

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

Chalice Communicator

Volume XXXVXXVI

February 20, 2018

Number 2

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:

Tuesdays- Bible Study 7 PM

Wednesdays- Bible Study 2 PM

Wednesdays -Choir Practice 6:00 PM

02/26 Board Mtg. 7 PM

03/01 Sarah Circle 7 PM

03/07 Esther/ Rebekah 1 PM

03/18 Hannah Circle

03/19 Elder Mtg. 7 PM

STATISTICS:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Offering</u>
02/18/18	61	\$2,065.00
02/11/18	80	\$2,466.00
02/04/18	71	\$2,185.00
01/28/18	66	\$1,513.52
01/21/18	68	\$1,965.00
Week of Compassion		\$205.61
Coins for Camp		\$91.49
Blanket Sunday		\$10.00

We’ve been a busy little beehive. There’s been a lot of activity with the beginning of Lent, Valentine’s Day and preparing for Spring and Easter activities. We had a good turn-out for Ash Wednesday service and 20 for the Valentine’s lunch.

Here are some upcoming activities to put on your calendar:

Wed Feb 28 –Lenten Luncheon

First Presbyterian on Central Ave

Noon – 1 pm

Pastor Tracy is speaking

Thurs Mar 29 – Maundy Thursday service at 7 pm.

This will be a short communion service followed by the Gospel of John video clips of the Holy Week scripture readings. Some of the images in these videos are PG-13 so we won’t watch them on Sunday morning. The video is about 45 minutes about the events of Jesus’ last week.

Fri Mar 30 – Good Friday Stations of the Cross

Open house 3:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Walk the 14 traditional Stations of the Cross on a path through the church. You’ll be able to walk at your own pace. Some of the stations are Interactive; all of the stations offer an opportunity for reflection on the last day of Jesus’ life.

Sun Apr 1 – Easter sunrise, Breakfast, Easter Egg Hunt and Easter service

Sun Apr 8 – Guest preacher, Rev. Fay Barnes Blevins

Sun Apr 22 – Baptism Sunday

Wed May 9 – Lunch Bunch

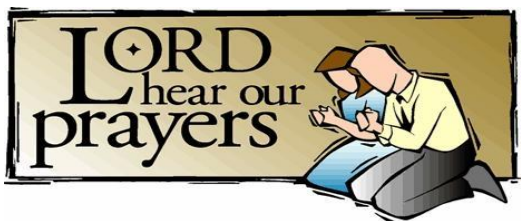
We had such a good time on Valentine’s Day it was requested that we meet for lunch again. We’ll meet in May in honor of Mothers – though, all are welcome.

Sun May 20 – Pentecost Sunday

Weather permitting, we will have an outdoor service followed by a BBQ.

There will be some extra elements of the service honoring the Spirit’s coming in fire.

There will be more about each of these activities in the newsletter or in coming Tracy Talks. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask me. Pastor T



Prayer List:

Health: Judy Andrews, Ivis Caudill, Barbara Gray, Matt Lyons, Lucas Smith, Guy Stone

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

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your kind donation of Hygiene Kits to Church World Service. Your compassion has given individuals and families touched by disaster the tangible evidence that they matter. That someone cares. And they are not alone.

Disasters can strike anywhere, anytime. And they can take many forms: tornadoes, earthquakes, civil conflict, drought, hurricanes and more. Caring people like you, who understand the urgency of responding after a disaster, allow people in crisis to receive help when they need it, and hope for the future.

Learn more about the power of your compassion at cwskits.org.

Here at home or overseas, when tragedy strikes your donations ensure that help is never far behind.

With deepest gratitude,
Rev. John L. McCullough
President and CEO



To the congregation of First Christian Church,

The Board of Trustees of Middletown Area Neediest Youth acknowledges your generous gift of \$300. Thank you for your generous support!
Patti Hackett, Treasurer

Pastor Tracy,

Normally I write notes of appreciation on a small notecard, but my appreciation and gratitude goes beyond what I could write on one of those cards. I have expressed many times what a great partnership Christ Methodist has with First Christian Church. I am sure you know the history; it goes back to when Peggy Davish was secretary/office manager at Christ Church and she spearheaded an effort to get First Christian involved in SHALOM. That goes back I'm guessing to about 2010. I shall never forget the questions she had for me in our first discussion about our church partnership. She doubtless had been asked the question several times by members of the church. She asked how I explained the fact that some clients of SHALOM may take unfair advantage of the program. My answer then and always has been that I would rather stand before God and explain how I had been taken advantage of rather than explain why I failed to help someone in need.

In no particular order I am thankful for our partnership for these reasons, some of them personal:

Obviously your members bring much needed manpower for our weeks of hosting.

First Christian makes meaningful financial contributions to the program.

Sally and I have met many new friends as a result of our work together, and friendships that I value highly.

I have been able to make continuing contact with some longtime friends whose friendship goes back almost 50 years. I shall not mention them by name for fear of leaving someone out. They know who they are. Thanks guys, I value you highly.

On behalf of Sally, members of Christ Church, and most important the people who are guests of SHALOM, thanks to all of you for your help and support.

Blessings,
Walker Williamson

Thank you to Pastor Tracy -for your timely gift of *Thirty New Days*.

Many of us have begun using the daily reading plan as we journey through Lent. This is a booklet Pastor Tracy wrote while on sabbatical several years ago and was kind enough to share it with us. If you have not picked up a copy, I would encourage you to do so this Sunday. My challenge is not to read it from cover to cover in one day, but to use it as it was intended and to set aside time for daily devotions. This also allows time for the reading Scripture and bringing us closer to our loving God.

In Christian Love,

Sharon Amburgey

OUTREACH

We send out a huge thank you to the following volunteers who helped during the two weeks we hosted SHALOM guests: Ginger Alley, Sharon Amburgey, Judy Andrews, Larry Back, Libby Benson, Marilyn Chamberlain, Brenda Gulley, Jerry and Carol Hall, Monica, Travis and Tyler Hendricks, Janice Kash, Judy Lemmert, Dave and Linda Lombard, Zola McClish, Mandi, Aiden and Riley McMonigle, Karen and Tim Powers, Linda Poynter, Pastor Tracy, Larry and Charlotte Steele, Cliff Thompson and Crystal Watson. Many of these individuals worked multiple days to provide for the homeless and cover our volunteer hours. We benefited by finding our lives were enriched by this experience of serving.

This month, we've brought back our **Undie Sunday** project in order to provide new socks and underwear which are needed by elementary school children. These items may be placed in the Outreach tub in the Narthex. We give thanks for the prayers and support of our congregation who makes our Outreach activities possible.

Sharon Amburgey and Linda Poynter

RUMMAGE SALE

Just a friendly reminder that we are already collecting goods for the next rummage sale that will be held at the end of the summer. If you have challenged yourself during the Lenten Season to purge that clutter, then there is no better place to drop off your clutter than here at First Christian! More details will follow as we get closer to the actual date.

Thank-you,

Crystal

EASTER EGG HUNT

We are in need of bite size pre-wrapped candy for the Children's Easter Egg Hunt on April 1st. Please place any donated candy in the church office.

CWF NEWS

Thanks to everyone who participated in Blanket Sunday on January 28th. We are in the process of making a quilt with designs made by our youth and some of our CWF members. When the quilt is finished, we will probably have a silent auction for it. Half of the proceeds will go to Camp Christian and half will go to our Church World Service Blanket Sunday offering.

Our next big project will be the Spring Fling Craft Show, Bake Sale, and Luncheon which will be held on March 17th. This Sunday we will have a sign-up sheet for bake sale workers. We will also have a sign-up sheet for bake sale items and craft items. CWF will also be putting together Easter Baskets and "themed baskets" for sale at the craft fair. The men will be in charge of food this year. Copies of our advertising flyer for the Spring Fling are available on the table in the Narthex. Please take some flyers and invite your friends!



SPRING FLING!

Spring is in the air or rather our Spring Fling Event is coming together! The next awesome group cooperative event will be held in First Christian's Fellowship Hall on March 17th. It will include craft vendors, food concessions and CWF will be hosting a bake sale. The ladies are also working together to finish a quilt in time for the show. Flyers and Registration forms are available in the Narthex. The best advertising is free but it requires all our efforts in spreading the word. So please take flyers and registration forms and leave them at places you visit during the week. If you have any questions please contact Matt Thomas, Monica Hendricks or myself. Teamwork makes the dream work so thanks for all you do!

Crystal Watson



HERE ABOUT OUR SCHOOLS

Pastors, Associate Ministers and congregation are invited to join **Superintendent Marlon J. Styles, Jr.** for a special presentation of Middletown's three-year strategic plan, Friday, March 9, 2018 @ 8:30 a.m. in our Administration Building located in the City Building on the 4th Floor (One Donham Plaza, 4th Floor, Learn Lab)

Space is limited; please click the following link and reply yes to register. [gggregory@middletowncityschools.com](mailto:ggregory@middletowncityschools.com)



CHILI WINNERS



SCOUT SUNDAY



DELICIOUS CHILI



MARTIN'S CHILDRENS MOMENT

February/March, 2018



Birthdays

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		February 20 Bible Study 7:00	21 Bible Study 2:00 Choir practice 6:00 	22	23	24
25 	26 Board Mtg. 7 PM	27 Bible Study 7:00	28 Bible Study 2:00 Choir practice 6:00 	March 1 Sarah Circle 7PM	2	3  Paul Campbell
4  Carol Efker 3rd Sunday in Lent 	5	6  Heather Lyons Bible Study 7:00	7  David Milburn Esther/Rebekah Circle 1pm Choir practice 6:00 	8  Logan Blevins	9  Brenda Milburn Janet O'Neal	10
11  Larry Chamberlain spring <i>forward</i>  don't forget to set your clocks forward this Sunday 4th Sunday of Lent	12	13 Bible Study 7:00	14 Bible Study 2:00 Choir practice 6:00 	15	16  Mike Cockerham	17
18 Hannah Circle 5th Sunday in Lent 	19	20 Bible Study 7:00	21 Bible Study 2:00 Choir practice 6:00	22	23	24
25   Roger Byrd John Otis 	26	27 Bible Study 7:00	28  Linda Lombard Bible Study 2:00 Choir practice 6:00	29  Travis Hendricks	30	31

