



First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

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

Chalice Communicator

Volume XXXVXXVI

December 18, 2018

Number 12

Music Director: Michael Hefner

Moderator: Larry Chamberlain

Elders: Sharon Amburgey
Natalie Byrd
Roger Byrd
Dave Lombard
Karen Powers
Guy Stone
Marilyn Strong
Cliff Thompson
Karen Thompson

SEE YOU SUNDAYS:

Adult Sunday School – 9:15
Worship – 10:30 a.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Tuesdays- Bible Study 7 PM
Wednesdays- Choir practice 6:30 pm
Wednesdays- Literacy class 7 pm

12/22 Youth Baking cookies
12/24 Christmas Eve Service
12/31, 01/02, 01/04 Serving
SHALOM
01/02 Esther/Rebekah 1 PM
01/21 Elder Meeting
01/28 Board Meeting
01/27 Blanket Sunday

STATISTICS:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Offering</u>
12/16/19	49	\$2,040.00
12/09/19	46	\$1,279.00
12/02/18	53	\$3,117.00
11/25/18	50	\$1,158.00

Singles for Sign	\$8.00
Coins for Camp	Nov -\$ 22.81
Thanksgiving	\$85.00
Carols for the Bell	\$660.00
Christmas	\$85.00
Camp Christian	\$50.00

ELDER CORNER

Elders have continued to serve at the Table, make visits with our special needs members and generally help as need arises; especially without a settled or interim pastor currently present. We always strive to be available when a member undergoes a medical procedure so please let us know if you or a family member anticipates such an upcoming event.

In preparation for the second phase of our consultation with New Beginnings, Elders are in discussion regarding which church members might be involved in training for planned group discussions. If you have a suggestion of someone you think might be a good group discussion leader, please inform one of our Elders.

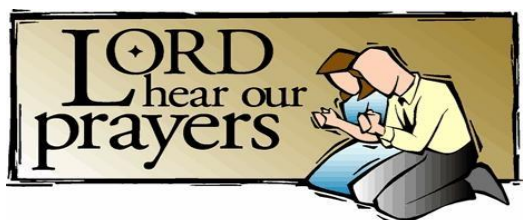
As we approach the Christmas holiday, let us always be mindful of its true meaning.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

Christmas Eve candlelight service will be at 7:00 PM as always. Michael Hefner has some very special music planned. Once again we will be blessed with music from Philip and Kim Meyers. Rev. Dr. Willie J. Barnes-Jackson will be in the pulpit for this special service. Join us at 6:15 for some hot wassail, cookies, light snacks and warm fellowship before worship. What better way to prepare your hearts and quiet your mind to experience the true reason for the season.



December 23	Rev. Lewis Vetri
December 24	Rev. Willie Barnes-Jackson
December 30	Rev. Pamela Barnes-Jackson
January 6	Rev. Sue Glabb
January 13	Rev. Sue Glabb
January 20	Rev. John Dick
January 27	Rev. John Dick



Prayer List:

Health: Ellie Belcher, Becky Brondt, Barbara Cessna, Barbara Gray, Sharon Smith, Crystal Watson.

Special Needs: Edna Bartlett, Jean Greathouse, Helen Hall, Janet O'Neal.

Others: All those affected by disasters. Caregivers, children and teachers, the homeless, SHALOM, heroin epidemic, racism and all human rights, our Country, war, violence, our church, congregation and church leaders.

THANK YOU

Dear Church Family,

I want to thank you for all the visits, phone calls and cards I received while in the hospital and home. Thanks to all who have taken me to Rehab and doctor visits, as well as the hospital.

I want to thank you for making my 90th birthday such an awesome affair. I had a marvelous time and enjoyed every minute of it. Your cards and notes were great!

Love to all,
Dorice

First Christian Friends,

Thank you to all members of First Christian Church for the donation to SHALOM and all of the support that you provide for SHALOM at Christ Methodist.

Walker

First Christian Church,

Thank you so much for your generous FREE STORE donations! It was great being with you in October and I am so grateful for the items I have been able to share with our neighbors around Camp Christian.

Thank you!
Wendy Taylor

First Christian Church,
Thank you so much for your hospitality in opening your beautiful sanctuary up to us. Connor and Marilyn are wonderful ambassadors for you church!
MCC-2018
Middletown Civic Chorus

CALLING ALL YOUTH

Calling all youth. We will gather at the church on Saturday December 22 to bake and decorate cookies for Christmas Eve. Contact Kate or Karen Thompson for time and more info.

MIDDLETOWN YOUTH CONNECTION

Middletown Youth

Connection met on Sunday December 9th to assemble 50 Christmas stockings they had decorated at the November meeting. The stockings will be distributed to homeless and needy who attend the Gathering on Christmas Eve. Thank you to Outreach for purchasing our contribution of socks, hand warmers, Gatorade, peanut butter crackers, and hygiene products. A special thank you to Kate, Angel and Daria for shopping. As always our youth represents this church in such a loving and giving fashion. We have a lot to be proud of.

CAROLS FOR THE BELLS

Our Carols for the Bells dinner was held on Saturday December 1st with 49 in attendance. We raised \$710.00 dollars to go to the Camp Christian keep the bell ringing fund. We even had a visit from Santa himself and he proved he knew who was naughty and nice. A big thank you to Michael Hefner and Kate Thompson for the entertainment. Thank you to all who attended, donated, served, and cleaned up. A great time appeared to be had by all.

CWF NEWS

We want to thank all who brought cookies and cheese balls to the reception for the Messiah presentation which was held on December 9th. Thanks also to all who helped set up and clean up the reception. We received many nice compliments from those who attended.

On December 16th, ten ladies met for lunch and then worked on our outreach project of making lap blankets for an assisted living center. We have about 10 finished as of this date and another 10 are being worked on. Several people took fabric home to finish their lap blankets. Sarah Circle is planning another work day in January. Details on date and time will be announced later.

Blanket Sunday will be on January 27th, 2019. Proceeds from this offering will go to Church World Service and will go toward the purchase of blankets for those who have been affected by disasters both here and overseas.

**Merry
Christmas**

Camp Christian Summer 2019 Schedule

We are so excited to share with you the 2019 Summer Program Schedule for Camp Christian. As you can see there will be two opportunities for Grandparents Camp in 2019 the first being on June 7th & 8th. The dates for the second one have yet to be determined, but will be later in the summer. We are also going to have Chi Rho Camp Damascus and CYF Week #3 at Camp Christian at the same time. The Directors of these two Camps are working together to share the space in new and creative ways. You will also note the two Disciples Fellowship Retreats which are open to all ages.

- Disciples Fellowship Retreat
May 24-26
- Grandparents Camp
#1 June 7-8
- Chi Rho Camp Emmaus
June 9-15
- Otter Camp
June 16-22
- CYF Week # 1
June 23-29
- Ribbit CIT Training
June 30-July 3
- Ribbit Camp
July 3-6
- CYF Week # 2
July 7-13
- Chi Rho Camp Corinth
July 14-20
- Chi Rho Damascus & CYF
Week #3 July 21-27
- Advance Conference
July 28-Aug. 4
- *Grandparents Camp #2*
TBA
- Disciples Fellowship Retreat
August 30-Sept. 1

OUTREACH

This past week we were able to take more than a truckload of food and Christmas gifts to the Salvation Army for the five families and nine children we adopted for the holidays. Your support and donations have been overwhelming and so very much appreciated. We know the families involved have been well-provided for and can enjoy a very nice Christmas. Our sincere thanks to everyone who made this possible!

As in years past, we are in the mist of decorating our Hat and Mitten Tree. As your gifts are filling the branches, visitors have taken notice and even taken pictures of this Outreach activity. We will continue collecting throughout the end of the year and then donate all the hats, mittens and even socks to the children at Rosa Parks Elementary School. We are especially grateful for the time and love that went into the handmade hats.

Your support of SHALOM has been a blessing as we prepare to host our first week beginning Sunday, December 30th. Sign-ups to help have been amazing and so appreciated. We may make some schedule changes as we get closer to our host week but we have teams scheduled for Monday, Wednesday and Friday already.

Our second week will begin on January 27th and sign-ups will be requested after the holidays.

We are happy to report we were able to send boxes of new coats and warm winter clothing to the Free Store at Camp Christian this month. We were also able to make used clothing donations to the Christian Women United Clothing Depot in Middletown and to the Vineyard Help Center in Franklin. We assisted Jerry Hall in obtaining clothing items from SanMar and they have been distributed to St. Vincent De Paul, as well as to those in need in and around Preble and Darke counties.

We provided financial assistance so our youth could fill stockings for individuals worshipping at The Gathering.

As we near the end of the calendar year, we thank everyone who helped make this a great year for Outreach within our community and beyond!

Sharon Amburgey and Linda Poynter



Middletown Civic Choir's Messiah performance was enjoyed by all.



December 2018/January 2019



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<div>December 18</div> <div>Bible Study 7:00</div>	<div>19</div> <div>Choir Practice 6:30 PM Literacy Class 6:30pm</div>	<div>20</div>	<div>21</div>	<div>22</div> <div></div> <div>Cameron Fowler Rick Treadway</div> <div>Youth to meet to bake cookies</div>
<div>23</div> <div></div>	<div>24</div> <div></div> <div>Dave Lombard Christmas Candlelight Service</div> <div></div>	<div>25</div> <div></div>	<div>26</div> <div>Choir Practice 6:30 PM Literacy Class 6:30pm</div>	<div>27</div>	<div>28</div>	<div>29</div>
<div>30</div>	<div>31</div> <div></div> <div>SHALOM</div>	<div>January 1</div> <div>Bible Study 7:00</div>	<div>2</div> <div>Choir Practice 6:30 PM Literacy Class 6:30pm</div> <div>SHALOM</div>	<div>3</div>	<div>4</div> <div>SHALOM</div>	<div>5</div>
<div>6</div> <div></div> <div>Janine Saxbury</div>	<div>7</div>	<div>8</div> <div>Bible Study 7:00</div> <div></div>	<div>9</div> <div>Choir Practice 6:30 PM Literacy Class 6:30pm</div>	<div>10</div> <div></div> <div>Sharon Amburgey</div>	<div>11</div> <div></div> <div>Betty Stacy</div>	<div>12</div>
<div>13</div>	<div>14</div>	<div>15</div> <div>Bible Study 7:00</div> <div></div>	<div>16</div> <div></div> <div>John Andrews</div> <div>Choir Practice 6:30 PM Literacy Class 6:30pm</div>	<div>17</div>	<div>18</div>	<div>19</div> <div></div> <div>Amy Cockerham</div>
<div>20</div>	<div>21</div> <div></div> <div>Peggy Byrd SuAnne Farkus</div> <div></div> <div>Martin Luther King Jr. Day</div> <div>28</div>	<div>22</div> <div>Bible Study 7:00</div> <div>29</div> <div></div> <div>Judy Andrews</div>	<div>23</div> <div>Choir Practice 6:30 PM Literacy Class 6:30pm</div> <div>30</div> <div>Choir Practice 6:30 PM Literacy Class 6:30pm</div>	<div>24</div> <div>31</div>	<div>25</div>	<div>26</div>
<div>27</div> <div></div> <div>MacKenzie Lovin Blanket Sunday</div>						

