

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

Number 5

Assoc. Pastor: Rev. Connor Thompson Assoc. Pastor: Minister Jeff Wilder Music Director: Michael Hefner Moderator: Roger Byrd Elders: Sharon Amburgey

Natalie Byrd
Beth Heinkel
John Heinkel
Dave Lombard
Lora Schueller
Guy Stone
Marilyn Strong
Cliff Thompson
Karen Thompson

SEE YOU ON SUNDAYS

Worship - 10:30 a.m.

STATISTICS:	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Offering</u>		
Livestream 5/03	50	\$2,246.38		
Livestream 5/10	46	\$2,280.00		
Livestream 5/17	51	\$ 705.00		
Livestream 5/26	42	\$1,165.00		

Important numbers/emails:

Assoc. Pastor Connor Thompson (513) 594-0070 pastorconnorlthompson@ gmail.com

Assoc. Pastor Jeff Wilder (513) 594-5431 mastermasonjeff@gmail.com

Elder Co-chair David Lombard (937) 361-6452

Jesus is Everywhere!

Rev. Connor L. Thompson

As we have gone through this time of Stay at Home orders, and adapt to a world beginning to reopen with Social Distancing added to our vocabulary, some may ask, Where is God?

Last Summer, The Gaither Vocal Band released a song entitled, *Jesus is Everywhere*. In this Song the lyrics say:

Jesus is in the water
Jesus is in the wine
Jesus is standing next to us
In the noisy Starbucks line.

Jesus is everywhere.

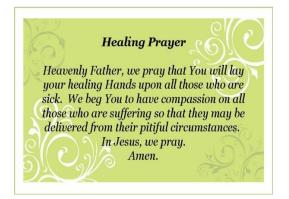
As we pass our remembrance of the Ascension of Jesus, as the world starts to return to business, not so as usual. We remember, Jesus is everywhere. Jesus is with the Healthcare and all the front-line workers. Jesus is with the public servants who work to keep us safe. Jesus is with the who are clothing and feeding the at risk and homeless and operating the shelters for those who have nowhere else to go. Jesus is with the teachers, ministers, and administrators, who are keeping institutions running, in an unprecedented digital environment.

As we begin to try to return from our stay at home orders, just remember, that JESUS IS EVERYWHERE!

Where have you seen Jesus?

More importantly, Where have you shown Jesus?





Prayer List:

Health: Becky Brodt, Sandra Cassidy, Emma Palmer, Esther Saxbury, Allen Stone, Guy Stone Special Needs: Barbara Cessna, Jean Greathouse, Lois Murphy, Janet O'Neal

Other: All those affected by disasters and pandemic. Caregivers, first responders, the homeless, heroin epidemic, racism and all human rights, our Country & World, war, violence, our church, congregation and church leaders

ELDER MOMENT

Elders continue to coordinate with our pastors as we work to serve our congregation in this time of isolation and distancing. We plan to "stay in touch" with many of you until we can worship together again. As pastors Connor and Jeff have expressed in our recent live-streaming service, we hope to have regular church worship by Sunday, May 31st with planned precautions in place. As we continue to deal with the pandemic, Elders are here to help if any member should have a special need for assistance. Do not hesitate to contact us.

Blessings,

Cliff Thompson and Dave Lombard, Elder Co-chairs

Regards from Rev. John Dick:

Hi Larry... A name from your past. Paula and I enjoy receiving the First Christian newsletter each month. It looks like things are going really well. Y'all are to be commended.

I love the community garden you are beginning. We often thought it would be a great ministry for your church. You have the perfect piece of property for it. And now you're bringing it to fruition. Good for you. I think it's fantastic.

Looks like Conner is doing a great job and is right in the thick of things. He has the markings of a great pastor. We need more Conners in the church.

Please share my love and best wishes with your congregation. You folks hold a very special place in our hearts. You always treated us with such warmth and respect.

Here's to hoping our scientists and dreamers and politicians can find a way to come together to find an answer to this horrid pandemic. In the meantime, stay in and stay safe.

John

SUMMER MUSIC

I hope all of you have been well and have had a great Spring so far!

If you are interested in providing special music this summer we would love to hear from you! God tells us to worship Him with songs, hymns and using instruments. Whatever your musical talent may be, come share it with us! Contact either Michael Hefner, Connor Thompson or Jeff Wilder and we will make it happen! We look forward to hearing from you!

Michael Hefner - mrayh@earthlink.net

Connor Thompson - <u>bobwhiteeagle2012@gmail.com</u>

Jeff Wilder - <u>mastermasonjeff@gmail.com</u>

In Christ's Love,

Michael Hefner

Music Director

CWF NEWS

Our church is planning on opening up for services on May 31^{st.} We will be resuming our circle meetings in the near future. Sarah Circle members will meet after church on May 31st in the Memorial Room. We will be discussing the time and date of our next meeting.

Esther/Rebekah Circle will not meet until further notice. Betty Stacy (leader) will call the circle members in order to plan for a date and time to hold the next meeting.

Some of our members have been busy making face masks which can be worn during church services and at other times. The masks will be available at the church service on May 31st. If you are unable to make it to the service on that date, you may call the church to ask for a mask to be sent or delivered to you.

HELP WANTED

How many times have we heard those words? The Property Team has been very busy in recent months, as well as those involved with the Community Garden. Since we have not been congregating, many of you may not have noticed the healthy growth of weeds in our flower beds. That is why we are sending out a request for anyone with extra time on their hands to adopt a section or area that needs weeded and help spruce up our Church property. A work day has not been scheduled as yet but there is plenty to do. If you prefer to work during mornings, afternoons or evenings, feel free to stop by and lend a hand. You may see another volunteer or two but safe distance practices should not be a problem. Your efforts will not go unnoticed and will certainly be appreciated.

OUTREACH

Throughout the year, our members work with staff and students at Central Academy and during the holidays, we provide hats and mittens to the children at Rosa Parks Elementary School. We recently received a much appreciated thank you from Rosa Parks Elementary for our contributions.



LIFE LINE SCREENING

Life Line Screening, a leading provider of community-based preventive health screenings will be in our community on Thursday, July 9, 2020 at First Christian Church. Ultrasound screenings to Identify risk factors for Cardiovascular disease include; Carotid Artery (plaque buildup-a leading cause of stroke), Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (an enlargement or weak area in the main blood vessel that carries blood from the heart to the rest of the body), Peripheral Arterial Disease (hardening of the arteries in the legs), a Heart Rhythm Screening (an EKG to detect Atrial Fibrillation-irregular heartbeat) and an Osteoporosis Risk Assessment for men and women. Being proactive about your health by knowing your risks helps you and your doctor address problems early.

Register online TODAY at

www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle or call

1-866-229-0469 to receive your discount and preferred appointment time.



"FEED MY SHEEP" GARDEN PROJECT UPDATE Update

We've finally gotten our fence installed. However, Mother Nature has not been very cooperative. Continual frosts and freezes have prevented us from putting plants into the ground. The recent "monsoon" last week did some damage to our nicely tilled plot. If the weather cooperates and we get a few dry days, we hope to have plants and seed in the ground in the near future.

Attached are pictures of the water damage that will need to be repaired.





LETTER FROM PASTOR JEFF

I hope this article finds everyone happy, healthy and excited to return to church this month. As some may know, one of the branches of our youth outreach is the development of a Middletown Youth Coalition. This is a program that gives the youth of our community a safe space to voice their concerns and worries about what is going on in our community. It is also a place where they can find resources on events happening in our community for youth and by youth and a place that they can seek direction both, mentally and spiritually. Our Friday live streams have incorporated this premise. I am happy to report that it is growing and flourishing in our community! Since we started our live stream, we have partnered with C.B.I. (the largest youth serving organization in our town) the Middletown Safety Council, and the Outreach for Hispanic Youth of Middletown. In the future, we will be working on a forty point community development and asset plan headed by our very own Kobi Wilder, where youth will learn through peer to peer videos what it means to grow and work in and for our community. We are reaching as many as 45 youth and upwards of 400 streams a week with our live streams. The exciting points are that the youth and young adults are engaging with some tough and deep questions and concerns that we are able to reach out and help guide them though. This is proving to be the case in adults tuning in as well! We at First Christian Church are blessed to have helped birth such a wonderful and meaningful program for our community! The new partnerships and the partnerships in the works with Middletown City Schools and the local mental health programs give us a hope for the future. And that future looks limitless.

For more information or to share your gifts with our youth or coalition please reach out to myself, Pastor Connor, or our youth coordinator Kobi Wilder.

I MISS EACH AND EVERYONE OF YOU.

You all have been in my thoughts and prayers Pastor Jeff.





June, 2020 Birthdays								
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday		
	June 1	2 Connor Thompson	3	4	World Environment Day	Take a Hike		
7 Pentecost Special Offering	8 ORD OCEANS DE LA CONTRACTION	9	10	11	12	13		
14 Mary Back	GLOBAL WIND DAY 15 JUNE	16	17	18	19	UNE 20 WORLD REFUGEE DAY		
EAPPY FATHER'S DAY	Elder Mtg. @7 PM ?	23	24	Jean Greathouse	26 Helen Dennis	27 Kaitlin Thompson		
28	29	30						

(Disciples of Christian Church 4520 Rosedale Rd., Middletown, OH 45042 513-422-2853