



First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

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



Chalice Communicator

March 30, 2021

Number 3

Senior Pastor: Rev. Connor Thompson

Assoc. Pastor: Minister Jeff Wilder

Music Director: Michael Hefner

Moderator: Roger Byrd

Elders: Sharon Amburgey

Natalie Byrd

Zola McClish

Karen Powers

Lora Schueller

Guy Stone

Marilyn Strong

Karen Thompson

SEE YOU ON SUNDAYS

Worship – 10:30 a.m.

Modern Worship – Every other

Thursday @7:30 PM

STATISTICS: Attendance Offering

2/28	18	\$2,105.00
3/07	19	\$1,485.00
3/14	23	\$ 520.00
3/21	22	\$1,420.00
3/28	28	\$ 682.00
Week of Compassion		\$ 155.00
Memorial		\$ 25.00
Regional Ministry		\$ 120.00
Easter		\$ 120.00
Coins for Camp		\$ 22.64

Important

numbers/emails:

Pastor Connor Thompson

(513) 594-0070

pastorconnorlthompson@
gmail.com

Assoc. Pastor Jeff Wilder

(513) 594-5421

mastermasonjeff@gmail.com

Elder Co-chairs

Karen Powers (513) 539-7286

Sharon Amburgey (937) 746-9120

HOLY WEEK at FCC

Join us as we remember the life, death, and
resurrection of Jesus.

Join us for Maundy Thursday service on Thursday
April 1st at 7:30pm. We will have a Tenebrae
service and will host First Baptist Church and St.
Paul's United Church of Christ.

Join us Socially
Distanced in person,
or on Facebook Live
and You Tube

Middletown Area Ministerial Alliance
GOOD FRIDAY
Service

Friday April 2nd, 7:00 PM
First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)

4520 Rosedale Rd, Middletown, OH 45044

fcc-middletown
@FirstChristianChurchMiddletown

Join us for Good Friday service on Friday April 2nd
at 7pm. We will be hosting the Middletown Area
Ministerial Alliance.

Speakers will include: Rev. Greg Tyus (United
Missionary Baptist Church) Pastor Ruth Kelly,
Alliance President (Greater Faith Baptist Church),
Pastor Kevin Aldridge (Church on the Rock), Rev.
Sotty Robertson (First Baptist Church), Rev. Rich
Luh (St. Paul's UCC) and our own Pastor Jeff
Wilder. Then join us in worship Easter Sunday!
We will have wonderful Music from Micahel
Hefner, Mike Fulton, Kaitlin Thompson, and Mary
Back. Pastor Connor will bring his message "Now
What?"



Prayer List:

Health: Allen Stone, Guy Stone,

Special Needs: Barbara Cessna, Lois Murphy

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



Dear Members of First Christian Church,

The Board of WHIIMS thanks you again for your support. We continue to support women with healthcare needs with advisory, education and funding. Your generous gift makes this possible. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Dee Dee Mosko

CWF NEWS

Sarah Circle will have a short meeting after the service on April 18th. We will be scheduling a work session to work on our tied fleece blankets. We also need to discuss changing the time or date of our coming circle meetings since the new Thursday evening service is at the same time as our circle meeting.

ELDER MOMENT

As we look forward to Easter, we think of the gift of Hope. It can be a time of spiritual rebirth for all of us. We've experienced a year like no other in our lives and we look forward to getting it behind us. We have sacrificed and some have suffered and lost love ones. As Believers, we are aware the greatest sacrifice was when our Lord and Savior was crucified. Then came the Resurrection and new life which is available to all of us. This shows us that life doesn't end and God's love never dies. Find a quiet moment between Good Friday and Easter Sunday and reflect on what this means. We celebrate Easter once a year but we celebrate Jesus each day because he is Hope to all of us.

OUTREACH

Our latest information on the new Middletown Interfaith Clothes Closet at St. Paul's UCC is that they are open on Tuesdays and have received many donations. They are currently awaiting racks on which they can hang clothes. If you are interested in volunteering or for additional information, please call St. Paul's at 513 422-4519.

Our Outreach team was able to purchase and donate a large quantity of underwear for adults and children since these items need to be new.

We are excited to see our gardening team busy at work and are aware of many seedlings they have already started. If you love the great outdoors and are interested in volunteering in the Feed My Sheep project, please contact Larry or Dave or the Church office.

FINANCE NOTE

The Finance Team would like to thank everyone who has continued to support our Church during the pandemic. If you have questions about your giving or if your pledge is up-to-date, please ask Tim or Sharon for a statement. Regular quarterly statements will be available in April.

HEAD START IN BUTLER CO.

The Butler County Educational Service Center is asking anyone interested in enrolling children in their Head Start program to contact them. Children ages 3-5 are eligible and there is no cost to families who qualify based on income. For more information or to register, please call (513) 785-6850.




Middletown Interfaith Clothes Closet

We've Got you Covered

The Middletown Interfaith Community Clothes Closet is open on Tuesdays from 11:00 AM-1:00 PM. They are looking for one or two volunteers to assist clients in finding clothes, and keeping clothes sorted and neatly organized. The Library at St. Paul's UCC has been converted into the new home for this ministry, and will be perfect.

To donate clothes, please call St. Paul's United Church of Christ at 513-422-4519. Donations will be accepted Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 11:00 AM-1:00 PM.


The Address for St. Paul's United Church of Christ is 114 S Broad St. Middletown, Ohio.



NEW!
Modern Worship
Thursdays at 7:30 PM
Beginning March 25th

This will be a "come as you are" casual service, with modern music and a question & answer time following the message.

Preaching:
Pastor Jeff Wilder
Associate Pastor



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In March we kicked off a new Thursday night service. Michael Hefner brought us some beautiful contemporary praise music. Pastor Jeff brought us a relevant word and a great time was had by all. We do have child care available for this service, so bring the whole family!

Our next Modern Worship services are:

Thursday April 8th at 7:30 pm

Thursday April 22nd at 7:30 pm

Christian Church in Ohio calls New Regional Pastor & President



Upon recommendation of the Regional Search Team and unanimous affirmation of the Regional Church Council on Saturday, it is with great delight that we welcome the Rev. Allen V. Harris

as our next Regional Pastor and President for the Christian Church in Ohio!

Rev. Harris is no stranger to Ohio, having served as the Senior Pastor of Franklin Circle Christian Church in Cleveland and active as a leader in the Region and at Camp Christian for many years before more recently serving as the Regional Minister for the Christian Church Capital Area (Washington D.C). His official start date will be April 1, 2021 with hopes of sharing a digital greeting to all congregations for Sunday morning prayers of resurrection in our midst.



St. Paul's United Church of Christ **Welcomes New Pastor**

Thursday May 6th at 7:30 pm

Front Row, Left to Right: Rev. Dr. Brian Q. Newcomb (Senior Pastor, David's UCC Kettering) Rev. Rich Luh (Pastor, St. Paul's UCC Middletown) Rev. Michelle Wilkey (Associate Pastor, David's UCC Kettering)

Back Row, Left to Right: Rev. John Wagner (Senior Pastor, First United Methodist Middletown) Rev. Connor Thompson (Senior Pastor, First Christian-Middletown)

Present but not pictured: Jeff Wilder (Associate Pastor, First Christian Middletown) Rev. Carl Robinson (Association Minister, Southwest Ohio Northern Kentucky Association of the Heartland Conference of the United Church of Christ)

Our Brothers and Sisters at St. Paul's United Church of Christ officially installed their settled Pastor the Rev. Rich Luh. Rev. Luh comes to Middletown having served congregations in Ohio, Illinois, Pennsylvania, and New York in a career spanning over 40 years. Rev. Luh most recently served as the Pastor of St. John's United church of Christ in Germantown.

As you may or may not have known, the United Church of Christ, the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United







States & Canada, and The United Church of Canada are in a full communion agreement. This means that we as three denominations recognize the credentials of clergy in each denomination, and share resources where possible to strengthen our ministry to the world.

Look for more opportunities for us to share in ministry with our brothers and sisters at St. Paul's United Church of Christ.

CENTRAL ACADEMY VISIT

We had a great visit with the kindergarten kids at Central Academy this morning. Dave and I went there with cucumber seeds, pots, and labels. We showed them two videos – one dealing with seed germination in general and the other specifically with cucumbers. There were many questions and they seemed very excited to be able to start their own seeds. We, also, had pots for each of the teachers. We told them they could see how well they did and just how “good” the teachers were with growing seeds – a wee bit of competition. The teachers seemed to like this idea, as well. We have developed a good working relationship with this particular school and I feel this effort compliments our relationship. Dave and I agreed to return once their seeds have sprouted and they have actual plants to share. When we left, we gave them a sheet with pictures of just how a cucumber seed sprouts and how the sprouted seeds grow into an actual plant. All in all, this was a very positive visit.



<div> <div>April, 2021</div> <div>  Birthdays </div> </div>						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				April 1  Service 7:30 PM	2  Service 7 PM	3
4  Easter Special Offering	5	6  Barbara Cessna	7	8 Modern Church Service 7:30 PM	9	10
11	12	13  Daria Dearth	14	15	16	17  Dave Schueller
18 Short CWF meeting following church	19	20	21	22 Modern Church Service 7:30 	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30 