



First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

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



# Chalice Communicator

April, 26, 2021

Number 4

**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

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## SEE YOU ON SUNDAYS

Worship – 10:30 a.m.

Modern Worship – Every other  
Thursday @7:30 PM

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## STATISTICS: Attendance Offering

4/04	46	\$3,200.00
4/08 Modern Service	21	
4/11	25	\$1,093.00
4/18	25	\$ 915.00
4/25	33	\$1,203.73
Givelify for March		\$1,180.00
Easter		\$ 164.00
Feed My Sheep Garden		\$ 100.00
Christian Church in Ohio		\$ 200.00

## 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

## Now What?

This is the question I asked Easter Sunday. Christ has risen, so now what?

After Christ's resurrection, the disciples did not hide in the upper room forever, they received their command from God to go out into the world.

This last year for us might have been more from the example of the good shepherd, we made sacrifices as a congregation to protect and care for each other. So, now what?

Now what do we do? Do we sit on our hands and do nothing and wait for a magnificent sign from God? No, we follow the disciples' example to go out.

We are doing just that!

Our garden is in the works for another season. The garden team has even visited Central Academy to teach the student how plants grow, and allow them to start some of the plants.

We received another donation of clothes from SanMar, we have 28 pallets of clothes to support our efforts in the community, as a congregation and through several ministries including the Middletown Interfaith Community Clothes closet!

Our scouts from Troop 250 are back meeting in the building, and are beginning to return to their programs, including a few upcoming Eagle Scouts.

We have our Thursday night service started and it is growing and attracting new visitors each service!

We once again have welcomed children back into the building during worship on both Sunday morning and Thursday evening.

So, again I ask you Now what? What can you do to help further the mission God has tasked us with? What can we do, instead of sit, wait, and hide?  
So 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

## ***CWF NEWS***

Sarah Circle met after church on April 18<sup>th</sup>. We decided to switch our meetings to the first Thursday of the month at 1:00 pm. The May meeting will be on May 6<sup>th</sup> at the church. We will be working on our tied fleece blankets, so please bring scissors and a ruler to the meeting. All ladies are invited to attend. If you would like to participate in making the tied fleece blankets with us and can't attend our meeting, you may call Marilyn Chamberlain or any member of Sarah Circle and we will get some material and instructions to you. We will also be looking at choosing a study for our meetings going forward. If you have any ideas for a study, please bring your suggestions to the meeting.

## ***ELDER MOMENT***

We recently celebrated Easter and what a joyous day it was! The Easter Season, which begins on Easter Sunday, continues for seven weeks or fifty days and ends on Pentecost Sunday. We are thankful that so many of our members were able to join us in worship while still being able to follow guidelines and keep a safe distance. We are thankful for the prayers and support of our congregation in addition to the hours our leaders and volunteers are giving. As we look ahead, we are two months away from the end of our fiscal year. The nominating team will be reviewing positions that need to be filled and the finance team will be preparing a budget for the upcoming year. Ask yourself what your interests are and how you can help. Take the opportunity to make sure your giving is up-to-date. If you have questions, ask an Elder and we can point you in the right direction. We are all God's children and we count on everyone. Most of all, let us thank our loving God for our church and all of our Blessings.

## ***OUTREACH***

Our Fellowship Hall was recently full of boxes of new clothes which were donated by SanMar Corporation. We thank Pastor Jeff and Kelly Wilder and their family and friends for handling the large donation that will mostly be given to the Clothing Closet at St. Paul's UCC in Middletown. This involves hours of volunteer work to unpack, sort, repack and then transfer the clothing items so they may be given to those in need.

We are also thankful for the work Larry and Dave continue to provide to make sure the Feed My Sheep garden project is successful. Many helping hands are welcome and if you would like to be a part of anything that comes under the umbrella of Outreach, please contact Sharon, Linda, Pastor Jeff, Dave or Larry.

## ***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.

NEW!

# Modern Worship

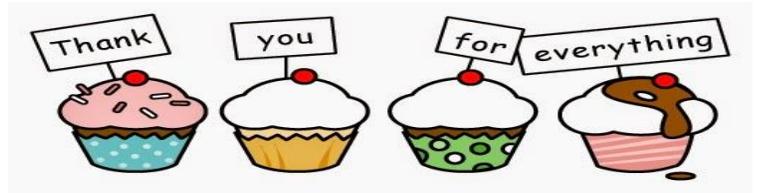
Thursdays at 7:30 PM  
Beginning March 25th

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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## Middletown Interfaith Clothes Closet

We've Got you Covered

Thank you West donating boxes of these will the Interfaith

to SanMar in Chester for 28+ pallets of new clothes, go to support Middletown Community

Clothes Closet as well as other ministries in our community. Thank you to Crystal Watson for connecting us for this donation, and to Pastor Jeff for coordinating this effort to distribute these clothes.

In March we kicked off a new Thursday night service. Michael Hefner brought us 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 Service is Thursday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:30.



Thank you to Larry Steele and David Lombard who have already spent countless hours this spring in getting the plants for our garden started, and have visited Central Academy to teach Students about how plants grow.



Unloading SanMar donations

Thank Watson, Charlotte and Cliff have on our cutting brush, and



you to Crystal David Lombard, Steele, Larry Steele, Thompson who been hard at work property weeding, down trees and trimming plants, preparing for plants to grow and make our property beautiful this summer.

Thank you to the team of volunteers who serve as the administrators of the church in our day to day business.

*Sharon Amburgey* serves as our office volunteer, making sure bulletins get filed for the worship team, and coordinating communications for the church.

*Tim Powers* serves as our financial secretary, making sure that checks are written and bills are paid.

*Marilyn Chamberlain* serves as our Treasurer and makes sure the books are current and balanced, without whom most business of the church could not be conducted.

*Judy Lemmert* serves as our newsletter editor, and ensures that our monthly published communication is put together and distributed to all of us.





We've come a long way since we started this project in 2019. We've done our first tilling to this year and will be tilling again and planting soon.

# May, 2021



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Christian Family Week begins	3	4	5	6 CWF Sarah Circle 1 PM  Modern Church Service 7:30 PM	7 	8
9 	10	11	12	13	14	15 Jake Padich Peggy Byrd  Work Day @ Church
16 Pentecost Special Offering	17	18	19	20 Modern Church Service 7:30 PM	21 Marilyn Chamberlain Marilyn Strong	22
23 Pentecost  Pentecost Special Offering	24	25	26 Allison Byrd	27	28	29
30	31 					

