



First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

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

Chalice Communicator

May 31, 2022

Number 5

Senior Pastor: Rev. Connor Thompson

Assoc. Pastor: Rev. Jeff Wilder

Music Director: Michael Hefner

Moderator: John Ralbovsky

Elders: Natalie Byrd
Zola McClish
Karen Powers
Lora Schueller
Karen Thompson

SEE YOU IN WORSHIP

Traditional Worship – 10:30 a.m.

Modern Worship – Thursday
@7:30 PM

STATISTICS: Attendance Offering

05/29	35/22	\$ 624.00
05/22	29/19	\$ 885.00
110 th Anniversary	87	
05/15	38/21	\$ 815.00
05/05	32/23	\$ 890.00
05/01	34/21	\$2,429.00

Givelify	\$1,215.00
Care Portal	\$ 329.00
Camp Christian	\$ 300.00
Week of Compassion	\$ 25.00
Memorials	\$ 25.00

Important numbers/emails:

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

Assoc. Pastor Jeff Wilder
(513) 594-5421
mastermasonjeff@gmail.com

THANK YOU TO ALL!

OUR 110TH CELEBRATION RECAP!

On May 12, 2022 First Christian Church had the pleasure of celebrating its 110th anniversary. We celebrated with a birthday party complete with cake! A formal celebration was held on May 15, 2022 with a grand affair in 1920's fashion. First Christian welcomed several pastors and clergy to our event and was honored to have Regional Pastor and President Rev Allen V. Harris deliver a wonderful message. Many of our congregation members helped to plan and pull off a beautiful service and a fantastic dinner that followed. Several dishes from FCC cookbooks of years past were prepared, served, and presented by Carly and Kobi. Our gymnasium was elegantly transformed by Laura, Karen, Carly, and Cliff. The FCC youth served our congregation and guests: Thank you Steve, Tyler, Aiden, Chase, Zach, & Aiden. Crystal and Debra assembled swag bags to present our visitors and congregation. Pastor Connor and Pastor Jeff did an amazing job ushering in this event! So many people worked together to make it a truly unique and memorable event.

In the future, we look forward to many more events and special occasions. You can help by turning in your pledge cards. These pledge cards are vital in planning and preparing for the future of First Christian Church.

Here's to the next 110 years!

Pastor Jeff Wilder



Prayer List:

Health: Kristen Beck, Marla Marsh, Linda Neanover, Marilyn Strong, Karen Thompson

Special Needs: 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



Thank You!

My family and I would like to thank you for your ongoing prayers, calls, kind words and uplifting cards due to the loss of my brother, Ken. He and Carla always enjoyed visiting our church and came to know you through our many conversations. Our church family made it an easy choice to hold his memorial service in our sanctuary on Saturday, June 4th. We invite you to join us if you can. Visitation begins at 11:30 a.m. and will be followed by a service at 1:00 p.m.

In Christian Love,
Sharon Amburgey

CWF NEWS

Sarah Circle met on May 5th and put 33 Health Kits together. On May 20th, Judy Lemmert, Zola McClish, and I took the Health Kits, donated clothing, tied fleece blankets, sheets, and other items to Matthew 25 ministries in Blue Ash. These items will be sent to the Ukraine/Poland border to be distributed to the war refugees. Thanks to all who helped with the project.

Sarah Circle’s June meeting will be a lunch meeting at O’Charley’s at 1:00 on June 2nd. All ladies of the church are invited to attend.

Marilyn Chamberlain
CWF President

ELDERS

We continue to serve in the Sunday morning worship service. We have assisted in providing transportation needs of several members. Please reach out to any of us if you have any joys, needs, questions or concerns you feel we could help you with.

We stay in communication with those who are unable to worship with us in person. We are continuing to sponsor the “Tip Jar” to present to an unsuspecting server each quarter. We appreciate all of your change and bills you have put in the jar and ask you to continue doing so. We feel privileged and honored to be your Elders.

In Christian love,
Your Elder Team

Pentecost Special Offering



Received in many congregations May 29 and June 5, 2022

Turning Struggle into Steadfastness

Stories of struggle are nothing new to the church.

From the persecution faced by early Christians to civil rights movements led by faith leaders, the church has found its strength in times of unrest.

The COVID-19 pandemic is yet another chapter in this long history, both nothing unique and yet entirely different.

Through it all, Disciples have been steadfast. By launching emerging congregations, they have stepped up to care for communities in need.

But they don't do it alone.

With the help of regional and general ministries, these brave leaders have been provided with facilities to conduct their outreach activities and with online educational opportunities, such as Leadership Academy.

By making a gift to the 2022 Pentecost Offering, received in most congregations on Sundays, May 29 and June 5, you can ensure that the new church movement continues to prosper in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

Each year, half of these gifts go to your own region to support local new church development. The other half goes to [New Church Ministry](#), which trains, equips, assists, and multiplies new church leaders across the United States and Canada through programs such as coaching, New Church Hacks, and Water the Plants.

Planning, nurturing, and sustaining new places of worship is part of the Disciples' vision – participation in this Special Day Offering helps this vision come to life.

Let's Talk Care Portal

Pastor Jeff Wilder

There has been a lot of talk about the CarePortal lately in our church, so I thought I would take a second and review what we are doing with this program! CarePortal is linking caseworkers in schools and children services to churches and churches to families in desperate need. Faith in this system continues to grow stronger one child at a time. Our church may be small in size but enormous in its love for children, especially those in need. Becoming part of CarePortal, we became the caring part.

Let's look at how it works. A single older mom is raising her children and helping raise her grandchildren, she gets laid off and she can't pay her \$700 rent bill, our church could help with some or all of this need through CarePortal. We can get into the platform to get THAT need right here in our city. The family and the need are already vetted by caseworkers and verified that it is a need that could keep this family from being homeless and stop her from losing these children to the system before it even starts! The needs may range from the aforementioned to a bed or even a car seat.

Mike Fox, the founder of Global Orphan Project, developed this technology. He has seen parents lose custody because they couldn't afford the necessities. He says until this, "you as the case worker can really do only about one thing, and that's pick up the child and put them in the system. This allows a lot of corrections to happen before the child gets into the system." After the agency worker meets with the family, they will come to CarePortal, through CarePortal, a family's needs are entered into the site. This is when we as the church go to work. We have the choice to help completely, partially, with the items needed or monetary means. But most of all we are asked to pray

over the situation. There is an actual button to select that allows the workers to know we are praying! Then we go talk to the families offer them community, love and Jesus and meet their needs. They may not come to church right away, but they know God has intervened in a potentially devastating situation and the seed is planted!

That is our calling in the great commission. Our church has helped sixteen kids and has contributed \$3,200 dollars in total help so far this year. Sixteen kids that could have wound up in foster care! On top of that we have helped 4 other churches deliver items and minister to 10 families. The world is seeing the church work as one body! If you feel led to start working in this ministry in any way contact Pastor Jeff or Kobi and we will get you set up. Or if you want to help with a monetary donation, add it to your tithe and offering and mark it as for the CarePortal ministry! Help us continue to change lives!

Camp Christian Wish List

We are SO looking forward to an awesome Summer at Camp Christian!! As in years past, many of you have asked for a list of needed items to physically donate to Camp Christian for the Summer Camps and Conferences. Some of our sporting equipment, crafting, free time activity, curriculum, and maintenance supplies could use an upgrade/restock. We created this Amazon wish list with several items that would be great additions to have around Camp Christian for our summer programs!

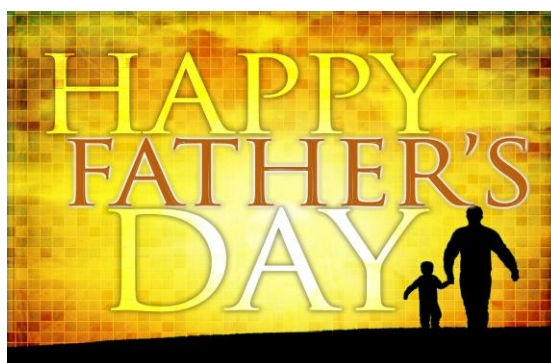
<https://a.co/iBAaV1T>

Please feel free to purchase items from this list and have them shipped directly to Camp Christian, or if you would rather send a monetary gift towards the purchase of these items, that's OK too.

Thank you so much for your love, generosity, and support of Camp Christian!!

AS A REMINDER

We continue to collect used ink cartridges which we recycle each month at Staples. This not only helps with our efforts to "go green," it also gives us rewards from which we purchase office supplies. There is a drop off bin on the wall near the restrooms if you would like to contribute.



June, 2022



Birthdays

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 Pastor Connor Thompson Sarah Circle 1 PM @ O'Charley's Modern Worship 7:30 PM	3	4
5 Pentecost Offering Board Mtg. Follwing Church	6	7	8	9 Modern Worship Service 7:30 PM	10	11
12	13	14 Mary Back	15	16 Kennedy Lemmert Modern Worship Service 7:30 PM	17	18
19 HAPPY FATHER'S DAY	20	21 Elder Mtg. @ 7 PM	22	23 Modern Worship Service 7:30 PM	24	25
26 Helen Dennis	27 Kaitlin Thompson	28	29	30 Modern Worship Service 7:30 PM		

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