

DISCIPLE DIGEST

First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)

AUGUST 2017

MISSION OF FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

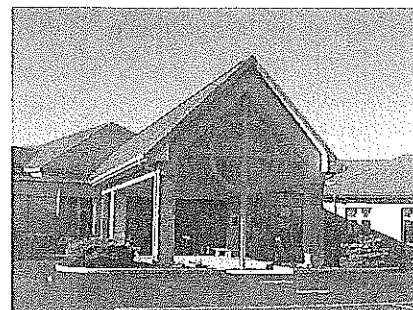
The mission of this Congregation shall be—

To lead people to faith in Jesus Christ.

To encourage their active commitment to His service.

To facilitate their growth in grace and in the knowledge of Christ.

Further, it shall be our mission to work for the unity of all Christians and to participate in the common task of building the Kingdom of God.



FROM PASTOR MERLYN

Some of you might be wondering what the Disciples General Assembly (2017) was about. What exactly gets accomplished? Why is it so important to our church leaders and laity?

The simple answer is that we are willing to pay the price to go; both in effort and time, to gain a stronger sense of purpose. Our work is validated and we come away spiritually refreshed and eager to continue on our chosen paths.

Everything attempted at General Assembly is done with full strength. All stops are pulled out when it comes to the daily worship service. Have you ever worshipped with over 3500 other Disciples? The sounds and sights are something to behold! Daily sermons by the most highly respected scholars, theologians and activists provide inspiration that will sustain God's servants for a long time to come.

The theme of the General Assembly was 'One' this year: Unity! All educational opportunities offered something that encouraged unifying all members of God's creation. Highly qualified and experienced teachers held their sessions and shared their expertise. Then breakout group opportunities were offered where more intense engagement and personal inquiry could continue.

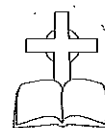
Pastor Greg called out my name from the back of the room in one of these sessions and we joined others (including Sheryl Reeve, daughter of Hal Zug) for a meal. Pastors, staff members, and laity of Disciples churches in Wooster, Wauseon, Newark, Mansfield, Cambridge, Findlay, Lima, Marion, and others who I can't readily recall made themselves known. It was wonderful to be able to find familiar faces in the crowd.

Finally, we had the serious business of the Disciples denomination to tend to. Voting took place for resolutions and other decisions that help move the DOC forward. The very first vote was to elect our next General Minister and President. Rev. Terri Hord-Owen was voted in unanimously. She is an impressive person and brings with her the added benefit of her work experience in the corporate world. She is highly intelligent, articulate and personable. Please visit the disciples.org website to learn as much as you can about our new leader.

Finally, it was time to vote on where the General Assembly will be held in 2019. Des Moines, Iowa was selected as the next site. Delegates from Iowa issued a gracious invitation to the whole community to take advantage of their city. They promise an interesting and affordable venue and extend this invitation to all church members who may be first-time attendees.

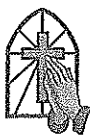
So, mark your calendars and start planning. You are sure to see some of your past ministers there. There is programming for children, and you will find plenty to do. You are free to attend whatever learning opportunities you choose, or you may simply want to sit out a few and just rest.

We are truly blessed to be able to call ourselves Disciples of Christ!



PRAYER REQUESTS:

Comfort in Mourning:
The family of Mary Ricker
The family of Ron Fraley



Healing Prayers:

Curt Bingham
Donnie Egnor
Coe Gordon
Lois Platt
Mooneen Ringenberg
Chris Snyder
Alan Solowitz
Jerry Tope

Continuing Concerns:

Military: *Suzanne Laney, Braden Laney
Sara Yoder, Tristen Albert

Others Kept in Ongoing Prayer:

Deb Belk
Ken Bowers
*Jackie Eiserle
Mark Fraley
Earl Fulk
Susan Gagich
Terry Gagich
Shirley Guilford
Roseann Hall
Marilyn Ladd
Deb Maxey
Greg Platt



*Denotes Members

UPCOMING REGIONAL EVENTS

Disciples Women's Fall Retreat

September 9-10

Disciples Men's Fall Retreat

September 15-17

At Camp Christian



Christ is my strength,
today and every day

Nursing Home Residents..

Manor House

*Georgiana Wilson
Rita Hannah

The Gardens

*John Peeper Jr.
*Shirley Finnegan
*Mary Frank-(2 weeks for rehab)

St. Anne's Retirement Comm. Apt. 26

*Helen Gunderman

Hickory Creek Nursing Home

*Bob Unger

Manor House: 204 Archer Dr., Antwerp, Ohio 45813

The Gardens: 199 Rd 103, Paulding, Ohio 45879

Hickory creek: 401 Fountain St. Hicksville, OH 43526

St. Anne's : 1900 Randalia, Apt. 26 Ft. Wayne In 46805

In Sympathy

We would like to extend out sympathy the family of Mary Ricker. Mary passed away recently in Delphos. She is the Mother of Harry Ricker. Please keep this family in your prayers at this difficult time.

.We also keep the family of Ron Fraley in our prayers. Ron passed recently after a lengthy illness. He is the brother of Gerry Fraley.

Thank You

Thank you to all who prayed for Denny, sent cards, and food for his knee recovery.

He is doing amazing. He's non stop!

Susan Knapp

Thank you

Thanks to all who helped serve lunch at LaFountain Park July 17-21. I know the kids appreciate this.

Outreach Team

Special Music



Randy Long will be joining us on August 27th during worship.

FLOWERS



First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

**DEADLINE FOR THE
SEPTEMBER DIGEST
AUGUST 15**



WORSHIP ATTENDANCE:

DATE:	MEMBERS	VISITORS	NON MEMBERS	CHILDREN	TOTAL
6/25/2017	54	9	6	12	81
7/02/2017	54	6	1	10	71
7/09/2017	58	11	7	16	89
7/16/2017	46	2	6	13	67
7/23/2017	51	1	7	9	68

COUNTERS:

- 8/06/2017 Matt Strayer, Jack Moore, Cindy Grace
- 8/13/2017 Gary McClure, Vicki McClure, Sandra Bandy
- 8/20/2017 Max Hibbard, Sue Simpson, Charles Simpson
- 8/27/2017 Matt Strayer, Matt Stoller, Angela Perchikoff



The amount of contributions needed per month
To meet our yearly budget
is \$11247.83



First Christian Church
Fund Summary
JUNE 2017



- 8/06/2017 Max & Donna Hibbard (In honor of 42nd anniversary)
- 8/13/2017 Virginia Paulus
- 8/20/2017 Delmar Schwab (In Memory of Karen)
- 8/27/2017 Paula Rigganbach (In Memory of Carolyn Workman (Birthday 8/25))

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- 8/02 Paul Biery
- 8/04 Owen Workman
- 8/05 Tony Santo
- 8/06 Jamie Clemens
- 8/06 Kolyn Hilkey
- 8/08 Suzy Strayer
- 8/09 Nathan Bland
- 8/10 Paul Long
- 8/10 Mackenzie MacDonald
- 8/10 Olivia Mendez
- 8/10 Karson Mudel
- 8/10 Steven Strayer
- 8/12 Melanie Bandy
- 8/12 Brian Vance
- 8/14 Reese Lero
- 8/15 Virginia Paulus
- 8/18 Linda Reinhart
- 8/19 Leonard Levos
- 8/21 Michael Coak
- 8/23 Amie Klinger
- 8/23 Katie Strayer
- 8/24 Zane Daniels
- 8/24 Genelta Levos
- 8/24 Leslie Townley
- 8/28 Vada Bandy
- 8/28 Betty Ganger
- 8/29 Max Hibbard
- 8/29 Shirley Miller
- 8/29 Vivianne Myers
- 8/31 Megan Coak

DATES	TITHES & OFFERINGS	INITIAL ENVEL OFFERING	HOLIDAY-PENTECOST	BUILDING/ MAINT.	CAPITAL IMPROVE	MENS GROUP	TOTAL
06/04/2017	2,167.00	3.00	85.00	0.00	15.00	0.00	2,270.00
06/11/2017	1,569.00	0.00	20.00	20.00	15.00	0.00	1,624.00
06/18/2017	2,087.00	0.00	0.00	10.00	15.00	35.00	2,147.00
06/25/2017	1,508.00	0.00	0.00	10.00	35.00	0.00	1,553.00
TOTALS	7,331.00	3.00	105.00	40.00	80.00	35.00	7,594.00

Susan K. Simpson
Susan K. Simpson, Financial Secretary

7-10-17
Date



Vacation Bible School

July 30th thru August 2 nd.
6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Maker Fun Factory

Created by God
Made for a Purpose

FIFTH QUARTER



The churches will be hosting Fifth Quarter Party for junior high and high school students following home games on August 25th, Sept. 1, Sept. 29, Oct 6th. They will take place at the Presbyterian Church. All youth are invited to attend.



Mower list

August 6 and August 13	Clint Reinhart
August 20 and August 27	Diane Bakle
Sept. 3 and Sept 10	Diane Bakle
Sept. 17 and Sept 24	Gary McClure
Oct 1 and Oct 5	Diane Bakle
Oct 15 and Oct 22	Diane Bakle

Thank you to all the mowing volunteers. Your willingness to help with the church property is appreciated very much.

KIDS CLOSET

What: Back to School clothing giveaway
Where: Paulding Elementary School Gym
Giveaway: Saturday August 12th, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.
Donations Accepted: August 10th 3:00-7:00 p.m.
August 11th 9:00-5:00

Donations of gently used clothing for kids in grades Pre K-Grade 12 needed!

Enter for door prizes!!

DISCIPLES WOMEN



Fourteen women traveled to Van Wert and enjoyed an evening at the Mexican restaurant. So nice to take time for an evening out.

Health kits were taken to the General Assembly.

Our next project will be Flat Rock Festival. As always the women will pitch in and do whatever is necessary to help make the festival a success.

Our next meeting will be August 1st at 10:00 a.m.

FLAT ROCK FALL FESTIVAL

The donation and worker list for Fall Festival Are on the table in the narthex. Please consider working at the festival. Proceeds from the festival go to the Building Maintenance Fund. This fund ensures the maintenance of the church is kept up. We need everyone's participation in this project. We also have the pig for monetary donations in the narthex. This will help purchase the meat. Your help is very much appreciated.



Outreach



We will be collecting school supplies for the Elementary School. Many students are in need of school supplies. With our help children will have the necessary tools to get off to a good start in school. We would like 24 pack Crayola Crayons, Black ease markers, Fiskars scissors, 8 oz Elmers glue, school boxes, lots of #2 lead pencils, and book bags. Outreach will buy some other needed items. Please bring your items by August 15th

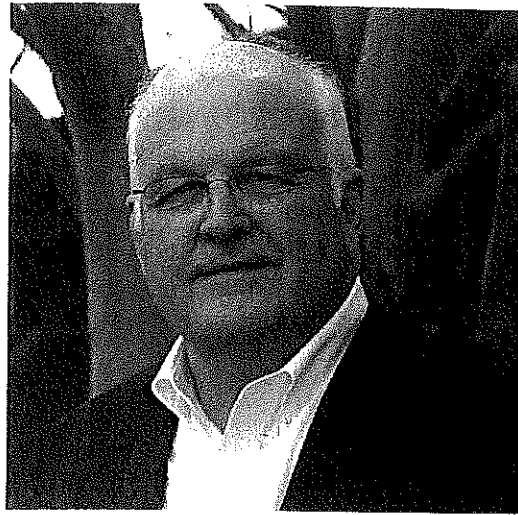
Serve the Lord and Others
The Outreach Team

"Love your neighbor as yourself"
Matthew 22:39

Dear Church,

Greetings!

Today I begin serving as your Interim Regional Minister. It is a day I have been thinking about for some three months, and anticipating for the past few weeks, since receiving the call from the Regional Church Council to serve in this position. I am glad to be here.



My wife Jeannine, will join me in Columbus, as will our household goods, on the weekend of July 15, when our apartment is available. I haven't driven a large truck for some time, but Penske truck rental offered a good deal. Until then, my temporary living quarters will be at Camp Christian. Maybe I will see some of you there.

Jeannine and I will also be at the General Assembly in Indianapolis. I hope to see congregants and pastors from the Christian Church in Ohio there as well. I will try to post on the regional website a time and place where I will be day of the Assembly. Hopefully I can visit with some of you there, or elsewhere at the Assembly. I'll watch for you. Please watch for me. At least we can take the time to introduce ourselves to each other.

Over the almost four decades I have served in ministry, I have learned that transparency and trust are vital to the faith community—actually to any healthy community called into being by covenant, as are we. While visiting with the regional executive committee about these two essential elements of our regional church community, we added a third "T-word": treasury—the financial resources to support ministry. Transparency...Trust...Treasury.

There is another crucial element in our life together as followers of Jesus. The Epistle to the Ephesians describes it so well in chapter four:

"I...beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace....speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love."

These words describe ministry, particularly regional church ministry, so well. You will hear from me often, about the importance of the regional church faith community—the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Ohio—building itself up in love.

I have met some of you. I look forward to meeting all of you. And with anticipation, I look forward to gathering with you about the Lord's Table.

I will keep you in prayer. I ask for your prayers, as well.

Grace & peace,




Rev. John M. Richardson
Interim Regional Minister
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Ohio
jrichardson@ccinoh.org

EVERY SUNDAY 9:00 A.M. ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL
 10:00 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE
 10:00 A. M. CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL



August 2017

“JESUS LOVES ME; THIS I KNOW.” THANK YOU, HOLY SPIRIT,
 FOR REMINDING ME OF THIS SIMPLE—YET PROFOUND—
 TRUTH.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>“SUMMER NIGHT—EVEN THE STARS ARE WHISPERING TO EACH OTHER.”</p> <p>KOBAYASHI ISSA</p>		<p>1 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL-6-8:30 P.M.</p> 	<p>2 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL-6-7:30 P.M. FAMILY NIGHT</p> 	3	4	5
<p>6 SERMON:STANDING AGAINST THE ENEMY! SCRIPTURE: MATTHEW 10: 28-31 EPHESLANS 6: 10-20</p>	7	8	<p>9 THE GARDENS SERVICE-1:30 P.M. FINANCE MEETING-7 P.M. CONSTITUTION MEETING-7 P.M.</p>	<p>10 WORSHIP/ MEMBERSHIP MEETING-6:00 P.M.</p>	11	12
<p>13 SERMON: GOD IN STRANGE PLACES! SCRIPTURE: JOHN 17: 1-5 Rev. 4: 1-11</p>	<p>14 FALL FESTIVAL MEETING-7 P.M.</p>	<p>15 DIGEST DEADLINE BOARD MEETING-7 P.M.</p>	16	<p>17 TRUSTEES-7 P.M.</p>	18	<p>19 MEN'S GROUP 8:30 A.M</p>
<p>20 SERMON: WHO IS WORTHY? SCRIPTURE: JOHN 1: 29-31 REV. 5: 1-13</p>	21	22	23	24	<p>25 FIFTH QUARTER FOLLOWING THE FOOTBALL GAME @ PRESBY. CHURCH</p>	<p>26 HABITAT BIKE RUN STOPPING POINT</p>
<p>27 SERMON: ALL TRIBES AND ALL PEOPLES! SCRIPTURE: JOHN 14: 1-4 REV. 6: 1-8, 7: 9-17 SPECIAL MUSIC- RANDY LONG</p>	28	29	30	31	<p>“AS A CHILD OF GOD, I AM GREATER THAN ANYTHING THAT CAN HAPPEN TO ME.”</p> <p>A.P.J. ABDUL KAMAL</p>	

SERVERS—AUGUST 2017

ELDERS:

Charlie Simpson (bread)
Sue Simpson (cup)
Paul Long (shut-in communion)

Reminder: Elders are responsible for doors, lights and making sure fans are off on Sunday Mornings.

DIACONATE (Deacons):

* Suzanne Strayer Deb Santo
Tracy Gunderman Helen Long
Tammy Boroff Darwin Riley
Denise Renollet Elliott Gunderman

*Please contact Suzy if you are not able to serve.
Deacons please sit in the back two pews to serve communion. Thank You.

WORSHIP LEADER: Deb Santo

PREPARE COMMUNION: Cindy Grace

(Clean up, pick up empty cups,
please put communion in the Sunday Sch Rm for the teacher.

GREETER: Gerry & Dee Fraley

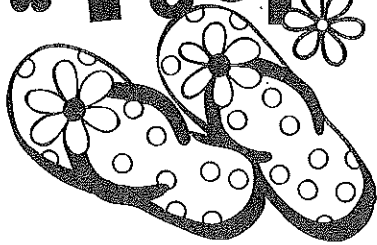
SUNDAY SCHOOL: We would like to have Sunday School but we do not have teachers

NURSERY: The nursery is available for parents to use during worship.

READ SCRIPTURE: 8/06/2017 Max Hibbard-Matthew 10: 28-31
8/13/2017 Leah Gunderman-John 17: 1-5
8/20/2017 Larry Grace-John 1: 29-31
8/27/2017 Jan Commers-John 14: 1-4

COUNTERS: 8/06/2017 Matt Strayer, Jack Moore, Cindy Grace
8/13/2017 Gary McClure, Vicki McClure, Saundra Bandy
8/20/2017 Max Hibbard, Sue Simpson, Charlie Simpson
8/27/2017 Matt Strayer, Matt Stoller, Angela Perchikoff

Happy Feet



This summer, put your best foot forward by brightening up a pair of flip-flops.

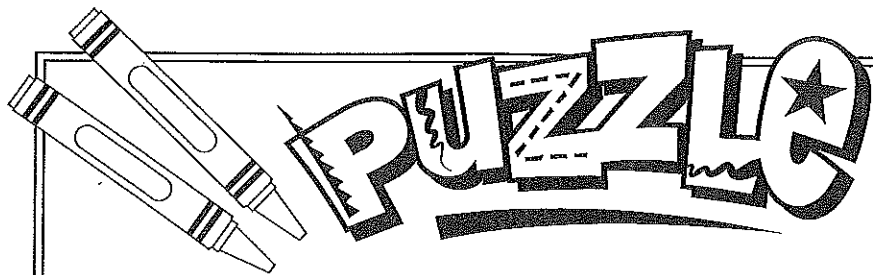
What you need:

- Flip-flops in your size
- Metallic permanent markers
- Foam stickers
- Craft gemstones
- Plastic flowers
- Ribbon
- Hot glue gun (and adult help)

What you do:

Use these ideas to decorate clean, dry flip-flops:

- Draw with markers on the soles.
- Decorate the sides and soles with stickers.
- Glue gemstones along the strap.
- Glue plastic flowers on the strap between your toes.
- Wrap ribbon around the strap and glue in place.



BE HAPPY IN THE LORD

Happiness and joy are frequent themes in the Old Testament book of Psalms.

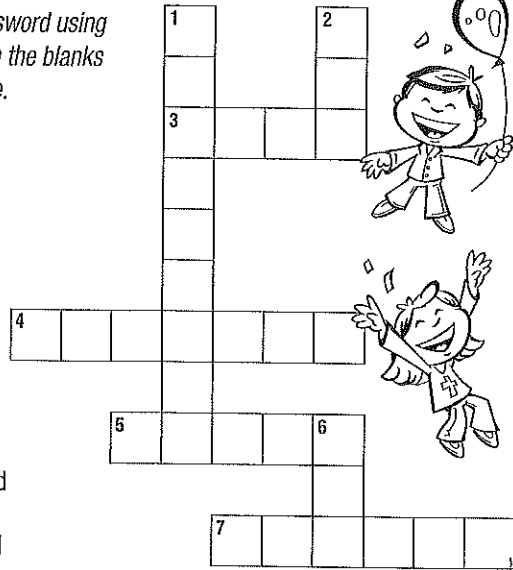
Directions: Solve the crossword using the clues below. Then fill in the blanks to complete the Bible verse.

ACROSS

3. A word for happy (rhymes with had)
4. What you do when you're very happy
5. A song written by David
7. Full of joy

DOWN

1. People who obey God
2. Our Creator
6. The month after April



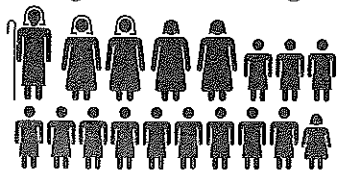
"But may the 1. _____ be 3. _____ and
4. _____ before 2. _____; 6. _____ they
be happy and 7. _____." 5. _____ 68:3, NIV

Answers: (across) 3. glad, 4. rejoice, 5. psalm, 7. joyful; (down) 1. righteous, 2. God, 6. may
and joyful." Psalm 68:3, NIV

Bible Quiz

Jacob had two wives, two concubines (his wives' maids), 12 sons and one daughter. Who gave birth to the daughter, Dinah?

- Zilpah
- Bilhah
- Leah
- Rachel



Answer: C (See Genesis 30:19-21.)

Love's lesson

A new school year promises new adventures, challenges and friends — as well as new classes, homework and lessons. But the most important (and simplest) lesson we can learn is summed up by 19th-century hymn writer Jane Eliza Leeson:

Savior, teach me day by day
love's sweet lesson to obey,
sweeter lesson cannot be,
loving him who first loved me.