



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(Disciples of Christ)
1233 Emerald Rd.
Paulding, Ohio 45879

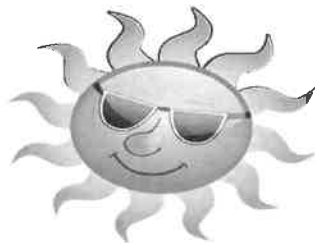
DISCIPLE DIGEST

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
ISSUE NO. VIII-2024
MINISTER: PASTOR RIC BEALS

PHONE 419 399-4576
WEBSITE: firstccpaulding.org
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Coffee & Conversation 9:00 a.m.
Worship 10:00 a.m.

AUGUST 2024



DISCIPLE DIGEST

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)



AUGUST 2024

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.



PASTOR'S PAGE

Ever wonder why we call July and August the “dog days of summer?” I did, so I looked it up. According to Google “To the Greeks and Romans, the ‘dog days’ occurred around the day when Sirius appeared to rise just before the sun, in late July. They referred to these days as the hottest time of the year, a period that could bring fever, or even catastrophe.” These “dog days” stretch from July 22 to August 22. I wonder if with the intensity of the heat and sociological and political climate of these “dog days” we might instead approach them with a bit of dyslexia and look at them as “God days” of summer, remembering that our Lord promised to be with us always, even when the heat is turned up, until the end of the age. Here are my three tips for beating the heat and thriving in the dog days of summer.

- **Take a Social Media Sabbatical:** Take a month off from social media. Instead of worshipping the latest memes and articles posted that raise our blood pressure every time we hear the horn, pipe, harp, triangle, whistle, or whatever sounds our phone notification provides why not just turn it off for a month or at least until August 22. Take a break from Facebook and Twitter, Instagram and Snapchat and see if that changes your general temperament.
- **Practice Daily Prayer:** Praying sets the tone for your day and before you go to sleep at night. Here they are.
- **Rest, Re-create, and Read:** Remember all the summer projects you said you wanted to accomplish (I still have quite a few left on my list for August)? If you haven't completed them, consider paring the list down. Take time for rest each day. Go to bed earlier. Get an extra hour of sleep each night. Give your body and mind a chance to relax. Spend time in re-creation of your mind, body, and spirit with walks, hikes, or biking the neighborhood in the cooler hours of the morning or evening. And read. Read books that challenge your mind, soothe your spirit, and expand your perspective, or just simply make you feel good. It may just change the way you see the world and your part in it come August 23 when the dog days of summer are a little bit behind us. Blessings to you all in this sizzling season of summer!

Pastor Ric

Comfort in Mourning:

Healing Prayers:

*Tammy Boroff
 Mary Jane Englehart
 Carl Husted
 Ben Osburn
 Joe Philpot
 Joanie Welcher

Continuing Concerns:

Deb Bashore
 Dave Foltz
 Jerry Price
 *Darwin & Ursula Riley
 Leslie Santo
 Nursing Homes
 Our World
 *Denotes Members

Paul & Joan Biery
 Brookdale Assisted Living
 725 Fox Run Road
 Findlay, Ohio 45840



AUGUST FIRST SCRIPTURES

08/04 Exodus 16: 2-4, 9-15
 08/11 1 Kings 19: 4-8
 08/18 Psalm 111
 08/25 Joshua 24: 1-2a, 14-18

Flowers For Worship:

08/04 Herm Guelde-In Memory of Jean
 08/11 Max & Donna Hibbard-In Honor of Our 49th Anniversary
 08/18 In Memory of Leonard Levos's Birthday
 08/25 In Honor of Genelta Levos's Birthday

"What sunshine is to flowers, smiles are to humanity."—Joseph Addison

ATTENDANCE

	Total	Member	Non Member	Child	Visitor	Online
6/23	53	37	8	6	2	43
6/30	62	35	11	5	1	49
7/07	47	36	5	5	1	41
7/14	38	29	2	6	1	38
7/21	44	32	5	5	0	



Nursing Home Residents..

The Gardens

*Romaine Boundy

Van Crest of Payne

Lorean McCollum
 *Darwin & Ursula Riley

Fountain Park-Bryan, Oh

*Wanda Rohlf

Military:

Cameron Cramer

AUGUST SERVERS

Elders :

Matt Strayer
Paul Long

Worship Leader:
Larry Grace

Greeter:
Leah Gunderman

First Scripture Reader:
Suzy Strayer



08/02 Paul Biery
 08/04 Owen Workman
 08/05 Tony Santo
 08/06 Jamie Clemens
 08/08 Suzanne Strayer
 08/10 Paul Long
 08/10 Olivia Mendez
 08/10 Karson Mudel
 08/10 Steven Strayer
 08/12 Melanie Bandy
 08/12 Brian Vance
 08/14 Reese Lero
 08/15 Virginia Paulus
 08/18 Linda Reinhart
 08/23 Amie Klinger
 08/23 Katie Strayer
 08/24 Zane Daniels
 08/24 Genelta Levos
 08/24 Leslie Townley
 08/28 Vada Bandy
 08/28 Betty Ganger
 08/29 Max Hibbard
 08/29 Vivianne Myers
 08/30 Lydia Reinhart



08/07 Mike & Jennifer Workman
 08/09 Max & Donna Hibbard
 08/16 Gary & Linda Kadesch
 08/17 Don & Gail Stoller
 08/25 Doug & Amie Klinger
 08/26 Dennis & Susan Knapp

Flowers



If you would like to sign up for flowers for worship, please use the sheet on the bulletin board and place your donation in the offering plate.



From the Elders

A devotion entitled Fresh Fruit by Cindy Hess Kasper

I love the old photographs that are often printed on the obituary page of our local newspaper. A grinning young man in a military uniform and words such as : *92 Years old, fought for his country in WWII*. Or the young woman with sparkling eyes: *89 years young, grew up on a farm in Kansas during the Depression*. The unspoken message is: "I wasn't always old, you know."

Too often, those who have had a long life feel sidelined when they reach their later years. Psalm 92, however, reminds us that no matter how old we are, we can have a fresh and fruitful life. Men and women who have been "planted" in the rich soil of God's vineyard will continue to "bear fruit" and be "fresh and flourishing" (v. 14). Jesus promised that "he who abides in Me, and I in him" will continue to bear "much fruit" (John 15:5).

Yes, muscles may ache and joints may hurt, and life may slow down a bit. But inwardly we can be "renewed day by day" (2 Cor. 4:16).

I recently saw a T-shirt on a beautiful white-haired woman that said: "I'm not 80. I'm 18 with 62 years experience." No matter how old we get, we can still be young at heart-but with the benefit of a well-lived lifetime of knowledge and wisdom.

Pastoral Relations Committee



Sunday School

Fruit of the Spirit is the theme of Children's Sunday School this summer. We are also working with the kids on a Youth Bell Choir that is going very well. We will be continue the rotating teachers into the fall and winter. Suzy Strayer will do the first Sunday of the month. Denise Renollet the second, Deb Santo the third. Who wants the fourth? And the occasional fifth? Contact Denise or Suzy if you can help.

Thank You

Dear First Christian Church,

Thank you all so much for the pocket prayer book! It was a very thoughtful gift that will help me through college.

Addyson 

DISCIPLES MEN'S GROUP

The Men will meet in August. See you the third Saturday at 9:00 a.m.



The pastoral relations committee will meet August 12th at 7 p.m. If you have any concerns, comments or blessings to share with the committee please contact Jan, Tracy, Gary, Matt or Denise.

Special Music



If you would like to share your musical talents with us during worship this summer please sign up on the bulletin board. Questions should be referred to Donna.

Pastor Installation August 25th

Rev. Allen Harris and Rev. Mike Valentine will be with us to officially install Pastor Ric. during worship.

Following the service we will be enjoying a potluck lunch in the fellowship hall.

Hearts

DISCIPLES WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Our next meeting is August 6th at 10 a.m.

The DWM will be collecting items for Care Totes. These totes will be given to people that need comfort in a trying time. Items needed: small totes, lotions, small Kleenex packets, nail clippers, individual care items, puzzle books, anything you feel would help to make people comfortable. There is a tote in the narthex for items.



Fourteen women enjoyed a fun night out in July.

Caring and Sharing Food Pantry

The box to collect items is in the narthex.
All Donations are appreciated.



Monthly Budget Needs

In order to meet our monthly budget needs We need an offering of \$10814.67 per month.

Mowing Schedule

July 22-August 4-Darwin Riley
August 5-August 18-Gary McClure
August 19- Sept. 1-Darwin Riley
Sept. 2-Sept 15-Gary McClure
Sept 16- Sept. 29-Darwin Riley
Sept 30- Oct 13-Clint Reinhart
Oct 14-Oct. 27-Gary McClure



COUNTERS

- 8/04 Matt Strayer, Tracy Gunderman, Cindy Grace
- 8/11 Jan Commers, Paul Long, Sandy Bandy
- 8/18 Max Hibbard. Susan Simpson, Charlie Simpson
- 8/25 Nicole Harris, Angela Bowers, Gary McClure

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS THE 15TH OF THE MONTH

First Christian Church Fund Summary



	100 TITHES AND OFFERINGS	200 BUILDING/MAI NT.	700 MENS GROUP	Total
06/02/2024	3,024.13	60.00	0.00	3,084.13
06/09/2024	1,521.00	15.00	0.00	1,536.00
06/16/2024	983.00	15.00	0.00	998.00
06/23/2024	1,084.00	5.00	30.00	1,119.00
06/30/2024	1,317.00	5.00	0.00	1,322.00
Total	7,929.13	100.00	30.00	8,059.13



Tracy Gunderman 7-1-24

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH



WORSHIP: SUNDAYS-10 A.M. CHILDRENS SUNDAY
SCHOOL FOLLOWING CHILDRENS MOMENT
SECRETARY OFFICE HOURS: TUES.-FRIDAY 8 a.m.-12 p.m.
PASTORS HOURS: TUES-THUS. 8 a.m. 12 p.m.

"Nature does not hurry, yet everything is accomplished."
—Lao Tzu



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

				1	2	3
4	5	6 DISCIPLES WOMENS MEET- ING-10 A.M.	7 WOR/MEMB/ TECH-6:30 P.M.	8 HELP ME GROW- FS HALL-12-2 P.M.	9	10
11	12 PASTORAL RELATIONS MEETING-7 P.M.	13	14 STEWARD/ FINANCE GOOGLE MEET- ING-6:30 P.M.	15	16	17 MEN'S GROUP-9 A.M.
18 ELDERS MEET- ING-8:30 A.M.	19	20 BOARD MEETING -7 P.M.	21	22	23	24
25 INSTALLATION SERVICE & POTLUCK	26	27	28	29	30	31

ELDERS: Matt Strayer & Paul Long
WORSHIP LEADER: Larry Grace
1ST SCRIPTURE READER: Suzy Strayer
GREETERS: Leah Gunderman



8/04 Sermon: Serving Time, Scripture: Ephesians 4: 1-6
8/11 Sermon: Be Kind , Scripture: Ephesians 4:25-5:2
8/18 Sermon: Be Careful How You Live, Scripture: Ephesians 5: 15-20
8/25 Sermon: Everybody Plays, Scripture: Ephesians 6: 10-20

God's gift of music



What helps you sort out what you're feeling, or experience an emotion more deeply? What allows you to let loose and cry, or fully celebrate when you're joyful? Nature helps some of us get in touch with our feelings, perhaps because it removes us from screens and other distractions.

But when getting out isn't possible — no mountain lake is nearby, or the weather isn't tranquil — consider the gift of music. Often instrumental or vocal music helps us access the depths of our soul like nothing else can. God may even speak to us through music — whether in song lyrics, our own inner thoughts or wordless stirrings of the heart.

Albert Schweitzer, a pastor, musicologist, physician and more, said, "Joy, sorrow, tears, lamentation, laughter — to all these music gives voice, but in such a way that we are transported from the world of unrest to a world of peace, and see reality in a new way, as if we were sitting by a mountain lake and contemplating hills and woods and clouds in the tranquil and fathomless water."

Make some playlists for various emotions: joy, grief, anxiety, hope. Then imagine yourself relaxing in nature, and experience God's love.

Co-laborers with Christ



Rusty Stevens, a ministry leader in Virginia, described trying to finish mowing the lawn before dinnertime. His 6-year-old son darted in front of him and grabbed the mower handle. But when Stevens stopped pushing, the mower soon stopped.

The busy dad fought the urge to tell his son to get out of his way and instead offered to help. Stevens began pushing again, leaning over and walking awkwardly to accommodate his eager assistant. Although the mowing commenced, it was slow-going and not as efficient as the solo effort.

That's when Stevens realized a ministry parallel: "This is the way my heavenly Father allows me to 'help' him build his kingdom!" The church leader pictured God busy "seeking, saving and transforming the lost, and there I was, with my weak hands 'helping.'"

Although God surely can tackle all the work of ministry and evangelism alone, he "chooses to stoop gracefully to allow me to co-labor with him," said Stevens. What a blessing and privilege that God lets us work alongside him!

Where we live

[Christians] do not live in themselves but in Christ and their neighbor, or else they are not Christian. They live in Christ through faith and in the neighbor through love. Through faith they are caught up beyond themselves into God; likewise, through love they fall down beneath themselves into the neighbor — remaining nevertheless always in God and God's love.

—Martin Luther, *The Freedom of a Christian*

Puzzle!

Find and circle all the words horizontally. Then, starting on the top line and moving across from left to right, read John 6:35 (NIV). Put the words in order on the spaces below to complete the Bible verse.

JOHN 6:35

WORD LIST

am and be believes bread comes in whoever
hungry go life me me never to never the the of will
will thirsty whoever

T	E	I	R	S	U	V	W	A	M	X	Y	Z	A	B	T	H	E	I	
J	K	L	M	B	R	E	A	D	N	P	O	F	Q	R	L	I	F	E	
D	W	H	O	E	V	E	R	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	
B	C	D	F	C	O	M	E	S	G	H	I	J	T	O	K	L	M	E	
N	W	I	L	L	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	N	E	V	E	R	V	W	
Z	Y	Z	B	C	A	G	O	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	
M	H	U	N	G	R	Y	N	A	N	D	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	
W	X	Y	Z	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	W	H	O	E	E	V	E	R
M	N	O	B	E	L	I	E	V	E	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	A	
V	W	X	Y	Z	I	N	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	
M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	M	E	U	V	W	X	Y	A	B	C	D	
D	E	F	W	I	L	L	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	
S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	N	E	V	E	R	A	B	C	D	B	E	D	
F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	T	H	I	R	S	T	Y	O	P	Q	

" I _____

 _____ "

- John 6:35, NIV

Answer: "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty." John 6:35, NIV



AMAZING ILLUMINATION

God grants us knowledge and understanding through his holy Word, which is like a flashlight.

Directions: Arrange the words from Psalm 119:105 (NIV) in order. Then unscramble the circled letters to complete James 1:5 (NIV).

PATH IS LIGHT WORD
 YOUR A FEET
 MY FOR LAMP A ON MY

Psalm 119:105, NIV

If any of you lacks _____, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you. James 1:5, NIV

Answer: Your word is a lamp for my path; wisdom

Bible Quiz

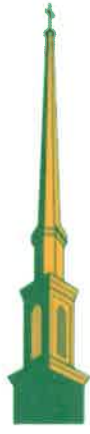
Who helped Samuel understand that it was the Lord calling him in the night?

- A. his mother, Hannah
- B. Moses
- C. his father, Elkanah
- D. Eli



Answer: D (See 1 Samuel 3:1-10)

Christian symbol



STEEPLE — Steeples are a remnant of Gothic church architecture of the Middle Ages, marked by high open spaces and pointed arches that direct attention heavenward. Nowadays a steeple atop a church small or large serves the same function. Typically topped with a cross, it designates a Christian house of worship. Steeples sometimes double as bell towers, sending out a call to worship high above the surrounding land.