



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

DISCIPLE DIGEST

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
ISSUE NO. IX-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.

SEPTEMBER 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

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance... – Ecclesiastes 3:1-3

All the aspects of the season of autumn are connected to the result at its end: the death or seeming-death of the natural world surrounding us, so much so that it changes from rich shades of green to a dull brownish-gray. What is so powerful about this aspect of autumn is that, if seen as part of the whole of all four seasons of the year, autumn also becomes a time of preparing for new life. Clearing the gardens and even planting the bulbs which will stay buried deep in the ground all through winter, but will burst through and blossom in the spring. In our spiritual lives, we can be going through “autumn” when we are living a time of transition—with something ending and something else beginning.

When we recognize the gifts and graces that we have received—it gives a special intensity to our gratitude. The spiritual season of autumn can be a time for a fresh start, but it can also be a time of loss, accompanied by grief and a sense of emptiness. It can be a time of hidden preparation for something that we cannot yet imagine. We witness and benefit from this self-emptying love of Christ every time we participate in worship. And we are called to daily share in the suffering and death of Jesus, the “dying to self” that means carrying the Cross entrusted to us.

Following Christ means that we are called, in a way, to always live in the “spirit” of autumn—that generous, self-giving spirit that lets go—when it is time—to whatever is precious and to allow ourselves—like a brilliant maple leaf—to float to the ground, trusting in God’s loving care. Because a really important aspect of following Christ is that we come to know and trust, on a deeper and deeper level, who God is for us: the God who always brings new life.

Ecclesiastes 3 is a powerful reminder of who God is in our ever-changing lives: that God provides in each season for us, and that we are always—especially when we don’t feel like we are—cherished and being brought to resurrection. Truly praying this passage from Ecclesiastes is an act of trust, an act of surrender that God will be with us in every season.

Autumn Blessings to you,
Pastor Ric

Comfort in Mourning:
The Family of Darwin Riley

Healing Prayers:

*Tammy Boroff
Terry Colley
Mary Jane Englehart
Rich English
Sherri Friend
Bob Iler
Adam Morhart
Joe Philpot
Sarah Renollet

Continuing Concerns:

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

Paul & Joan Biery
Brookdale Assisted Living
725 Fox Run Road

**SEPTEMBER
FIRST SCRIPTURES**

9/01 Psalm 84
9/08 Deuteronomy 4: 1-2, 6-9
9/15 Psalm 45: 1-2, 6-9
9/22 Proverbs 1: 20-33
9/29 Psalm 1



Flowers For Worship:

9/01-
9/08- Herm Guelde-In Honor of Jean's Family
9/15 -Jacquie Walker-In Memory of Sid
9/22-
9/29-

ATTENDANCE

	Total	Member	Non Member	Child	Visitor	Online
7/28	46	31	8	6	1	32
8/04	61	43	7	7	4	59
8/11	46	35	6	4	1	46
8/18	64	39	11	12	1	21



Nursing Home Residents..

The Gardens
*Romaine Boundy
*Sandy Leslie

Van Crest of Payne

Lorean McCollum
*Ursula Riley

Fountain Park-Bryan, Oh

*Wanda Rohlf

Military:

Cameron Cramer

SEPTEMBER SERVERS

Elders :

Sandy Bandy
Max Hibbard

Worship Leader:

Angela Bowers

Greeter:

Jacque Walker
Shirley Cramer

First Scripture Reader:

Sandy Bandy



9/07 Kathy Daniels
9/08 Gabrielle Stallbaum
9/11 Jennifer Workman
9/13 Mara Strayer
9/15 Amber Simpson
9/16 Pete Reinhart
9/17 Brian Knapp
9/22 Ursula Riley
9/24 Corbin Vance
9/25 Josh Hibbard
9/26 Madeline Clippinger
9/26 Elliott Gunderman
9/28 Harry Ricker
9/30 Sharon Cooper
9/30 John Jelinek
9/30 Nate Reinhart



9/18 Dan & Jean Bulau
9/21 Todd & Erika Pease
9/25 Heather & Wally Daniels
9/25 Lindsay & Matt Hormann
9/25 Leslie & Brent Townley
9/27 Denise & Dee Renollet
9/28 Matt & Suzy Strayer

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.

In Sympathy

Please keep the family of Darwin Riley in your prayers at this difficult time. Darwin went to be with our Lord on August 16th.



From the Elders

A devotion by James Banks entitled

Carried by Love

My four-year-old grandson sat on my lap and patted my bald head, studying it intently. "Papa," he asked, "What happened to your hair?" "Oh," I laughed, "lost it over the years." His face turned thoughtful: "That's too bad," he responded. "I'll have to give you some of mine."

I smiled at his compassion and pulled him close for a hug. Reflecting later on his love for me in that cherished moment also caused me to ponder God's selfless, generous love.

G. K. Chesterton wrote: "We have sinned and grown old, and our Father is younger than we." By this he meant that the "Ancient of Days" (Daniel 7:9) is untainted by sin's decay-God is ageless and loves us exuberantly with a love that never falters or fades. He's fully willing and able to fulfill the promise He made to His people in Isaiah 46: "Even to your old age and gray hairs I am he, I am he who will sustain you. I have made you and I will carry you" (v. 4).

Five verses later He explains, "I am God, and there is none like me" (v. 9). The great "I AM" (Exodus 3:14) loves us so deeply that He went to the extreme of dying on the cross to bear the full weight of our sin, so that we might turn to Him and be free of our burden and gratefully worship Him forever!

In what ways does God carry you through each day?

How can you draw new strength from Him in this moment?

Beautiful Savior, I'm so thankful Your love for me never grows old!

Help my love for You to grow ever deeper.



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 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.

The Adult Sunday School class starts September 8th at 9:00 a.m.

DISCIPLES MEN'S GROUP



The Men's group is donating \$300.00 to Lifewise. The next meeting will be September 21st. See you at 9:00 a.m.

Dear Friends of First Christian Church,

We would like to express our gratitude and appreciation for all that was done for the funeral dinner for Marcia Brune.

Thank You for the use of your lovely Fellowship hall, thank you Lori and Denise for help and guidance in the kitchen, and thanks to all who helped in any way. What a wonderful and loving spirit of cooperation.

God's Blessings to you all,

Your Friends at First Presbyterian Church



A **SPECIAL THANKS** to my Church Family for making me so **HAPPY** on my last double digit birthday.

The flowers, lunch, supper, cards, cake, fresh vegetables, fruits, phone calls and visits.

All were enjoyed and appreciated to the utmost.

Love and Blessings to all.
Virginia



DISCIPLES WOMEN'S MINISTRY



Our next meeting is September 3rd 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.

We are planning a chicken pie supper in November. Watch for future details.

We collected \$270.00 for Church World Service Blankets. Thank You Everyone.

Caring and Sharing Food Pantry

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



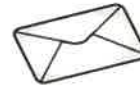
Thanks for Your Support!

Monthly Budget Needs

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

COUNTERS

- 9/01 Matt Strayer, Tracy Gunderman, Cindy Grace
- 9/08 Jan Commers, Paul Long, Sandy Bandy
- 9/15 Max Hibbard. Susan Simpson, Charlie Simpson
- 9/22 Nicole Harris, Angela Bowers, Gary McClure
- 9/29 Charlie Simpson, Joan Tope, Dan Workman



Giving Envelopes for 2025

The Finance Committee is working on the number of tithing envelopes needed for the future.

Please let Denise Renollet or Tracy Gunderman know if you no longer want envelopes before October 15, 2024. Thank You!

Tracy Gunderman
Financial Secretary

Mowing Schedule

- Sept. 2-Sept 15-Gary McClure
- Sept 16- Sept. 29-Trustees
- Sept 30- Oct 13-Clint Reinhart
- Oct 14-Oct. 27-Gary McClure



Thank you mowers. You have done a great job of keeping the property looking perfect.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS THE 15TH OF THE MONTH



First Christian Church Fund Summary

	100 TITHES AND OFFERINGS	111 CWS-BLANKE TS	200 BUILDING/MAI NT.	Total
07/07/2024	3,059.21	100.00	5.00	3,164.21
07/14/2024	1,430.00	0.00	10.00	1,440.00
07/21/2024	1,316.00	100.00	0.00	1,416.00
07/28/2024	1,272.00	70.00	0.00	1,342.00
Total	7,077.21	270.00	15.00	7,362.21

Grateful
thankful
blessed

Tracy Gunderman

8-2-24

PASTOR RIC WITH THE KIDS AT CHILDREN'S MOMENT



CHILI COOK OFF & BINGO

September 22nd
5:00 p.m.

Join us for evening of food and fun.
Bring your favorite chili or just come for the
fabulous bingo prizes. (We are also collecting
fabulous prizes. Check your stuff.)



CHILDREN'S BELL CHOIR



TRICK OR TREAT

We will be participating in trick or treat night in
October. (I am guessing it's the 26th).
Please sign up if you would like to pass out candy
here at the church so that we may plan accordingly.

If you are not able to be here but would like to donate
candy, please bring your donations to the office.

If you have questions, please contact Denise.



Second fiddle

A fan once asked conductor Leonard Bernstein what instrument is hardest to play. "Second fiddle," he quickly replied. "I can always get plenty of first violinists, but to find one who plays second violin with as much enthusiasm ... now that's a problem. And yet if no one plays second, we have no harmony."

The church certainly needs both leaders and followers. And everyone should be flexible and ready to pivot quickly.

It's also important to have other arrows in our quiver — something biblical figures often demonstrated, according to Pastor Frank Ramirez. Although Amos was a high-profile prophet, he probably intended to return to being a shepherd and tending sycamore trees. Nehemiah, the emperor's cup-

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.
BELL CHOIR FOLLOWING WORSHIP EVERY SUNDAY
ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL STARTS SEPT.8TH AT 9:00 A.M.

Special dates

- Labor Day, *September 2, 2024*
- National Grandparents Day, *September 8, 2024*
- Patriot Day, *September 11, 2024*
- Hispanic Heritage Month, *15–Oct. 15, 2024*
First day of autumn, *September 22, 2024*



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
BELL CHOIR STARTS		DISCIPLES WOMEN'S MINISTRY- 10:00 A.M.	WOR/MEMB/ TECH-6:30 P.M. TRUSTEES-7 P.M.			
8 ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL STARTS- 9 A.M.	9	10	11 STEWARDSHIP/ FINANCE-6:30 P.M.	12	13	14
15 ELDERS MEETING-8:30 A.M.	16	17 BOARD MEETING -7 P.M.	18	19	20	21 MEN'S GROUP- 9:00 A.M.
22 CHILI COOK OFF & BINGO-5 P.M.	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

ELDERS: Sandy Bandy & Max Hibbard
WORSHIP LEADER: Angela Bowers
1ST SCRIPTURE READER: Sandy Bandy
GREETERS: Shirley Cramer & Jacque Walker

9/01 Sermon: Everybody Plays, Scripture: Ephesians 6: 10-20
9/08 Sermon: Changing Lives,, Scripture: James 1: 17-27
9/15 Sermon: What are You Worth?, Scripture: James 2: 1-17
9/22 Sermon: Speak the Truth, Scripture: James 3: 1-12
9/29 Sermon: Protecting our Brand, Scripture: Mark 9: 38-50

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	Ⓢ	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	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.

