



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

DISCIPLE DIGEST

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
ISSUE NO. V-2025
MINISTER: PASTOR RIC BEALS

PHONE 419 399-4576
WEBSITE: firstccpaulding.org
EMAIL: firstccpaulding@gmail.com

Coffee & Conversation 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School for Adults 9:00 a.m.
Worship 10:00 a.m.
Childrens Sunday School during worship



DISCIPLE DIGEST

First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)



MAY 2025

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

We are in the month of May, which means Lent and Easter have come and gone. Hopefully the April showers will subside enough for the farmers to plant their crops, and we see abundant new life all around us. With the resurrection, Jesus ascended to heaven for a "new" life, the same new life that he promises each of us when we experience our resurrection someday. New life at Easter sets the stage for the new life we see this time of year, we see it in the cherry blossoms, flowers blooming, new green leaves on the trees, and the newest members of our wildlife community moving about with their families. If we take the time to notice all of the new life, it's a thing of beauty, and that's one of God's promises to us; that over and over again, we will experience new life.

Revelation 21:4-5

There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." 5 He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."

The unofficial beginning of summer happens on Memorial Day weekend, and the funny thing about summer, is that it gives us a renewed energy. We go to the lake, take vacations, enjoy the sunshine and the warmth, and it feels like a "new" experience after a long winter. I want to encourage you all to enjoy your summer! Go to the lake, take the vacation, enjoy the outdoors...at the same time...don't forget about the church. The summer months can be lean times at church. Attendance drops and there is less going on. So, while you're enjoying your summer, make time for church. Get here when you can, continue on with your offering, whether that be a financial offering or an offering of your time and service.

The bottom line is this...we can't be the church without you. The church needs you as much as you need the church. We'll be here every Sunday morning this morning, we hope you see you often!

Peace,

Pastor Ric

Comfort in Mourning:

Healing Prayers:

*Pastor Ric
Bonnie Around
*Sharon Cooper
*Stacey Friend
Chad Manz
*Steven Osbourne
Bonnie Shaffer
Gary Wirth

Continuing Concerns:

Dave Foltz
Tim Pennington
*Charlie Simpson
Susan Sitton
Sam Smith
Our World
*Denotes Members



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
Miranda E. Iler
Morgan R. Iler



If you would like to be added to the email prayer chain, please give your email address to the office.

FIRST SCRIPTURES

5/04 Psalm 30
5/11 Psalm 23
5/18 Psalm 148
5/25 Psalm 25

Sermons

If you would like to hear a specific sermon a 2nd time they are available on our website at firstccpaulding.org or our facebook page.

Flowers For Worship:

5/04
5/11
5/18 Don Brockhaus-In Memory of JoAnn
5/25 Herm Guelde-In Honor of Jean's Family

MAY SERVERS

Elders :

Matt Strayer
Jan Commers

Worship Leader:

Jan Commers

Greeters:

Deb Santo
Angela Bowers

First Scripture Reader:

Max Hibbard



5/05 Kelcie Pack
5/06 Haylie Lero
5/11 Angela Bowers
5/13 Shirley Workman
5/16 Susan Knapp
5/16 Jessica MacDonald
5/18 Julie Pack
5/23 Michael Mudel
5/25 Aaron Hibbard
5/27 Devon Smith
5/28 Ben Gunderman



05/14 Bruce & Anna Gunderman
05/15 Gary & Tammy Boroff
05/16 Ted & Camie Stallbaum
05/21 Harry & Kelly Ricker
05/30 Greg & Ann Reinhart

Do not be discouraged,
for the Lord your God
will be with you
wherever you go.

Joshua 1:9



Flowers for 2025

The flower calendar for 2025 is posted on the bulletin board for anyone who would like to sign up in honor or in memory of a loved one. Donations may be placed in the offering plate.

ATTENDANCE

	Total	Member	Non Member	Child	Visitor	Online
3/23	65	42	8	15		199
3/30	70	41	13	16		211
4/06	66	39	7	16	4	242
4/13	73	44	9	12	8	190
4/17	23	MAUNDY THURSDAY				230
4/20	100	55	18	17	10	162

From the Elders

A devotion by Leslie Koh entitled A Mother's Love

When Sue's parents divorced when she was young, the legal tussle over her custody and other matters resulted in her being sent to a children's home for a while. Bullied by bigger kids, she felt lonely and abandoned. Her mother visited only once a month, and she hardly saw her father. I was only years later, however, that her mother told her that while the home's rules prevented her from visiting more often, she had stood at the fence very single day, hoping to catch a glimpse of her daughter. "Sometimes", she said, "I would just watch you playing in the garden, just to check if you were okay."

When Sue shared this story, it gave me a glimpse of God's love. Sometimes we may feel abandoned and alone in our struggles. How comforting it is to know that God is in face watching over us all the time! (Psalm 33:18). Even though we can't see Him, He is there. Like a loving parent, His eyes and His heart are constantly on us wherever we go. Yet, unlike Sue's mom, He can act on our behalf at any time.

Psalm 91 describes God delivering, protecting, and lifting up His children. He is more than a refuge and a shelter. As we navigate the dark valleys of life, we can take comfort in the knowledge that the all-powerful Lord is watching over us and is active in our lives. "I will answer (you)," He declares. "I will be with (You) in trouble, I will deliver (you)" (v.5)

Lord, thank You for the assurance that we're always under Your watchful care.



LILY CROSS BLOOMS

Sharon Cooper

In Memory of Rollin, John, Mildred & Raymond
Grimes, Mary & Harold Thomas

Shirley Cramer

In Memory of Paul & Christy Cramer

Your Friends from First Christian Church

In Honor Virginia Paulus-Happy 100th Birthday On August 15, 2025

Herm Guelde

In Honor of Jean Guelde. In Memory of John & Jewel Webb

Max & Donna Hibbard

In Memory of Max & Norma Hibbard Sr. and Don & Loretta Stocker.

Dennis & Susan Knapp & Family

In Honor of Sharon Cooper, In Memory of Dad, John, Jerry Knapp,
Donna & Bill McNiel & Sarah Beverly

Genelta Levos

In Honor of Family. In Memory of Sam

Nana & Papa

In Honor of Cady, Clark, Caia & Carter.

Kathy Reinhart

In Memory of Tom Reinhart & Shanna Reinhart McGrath

Deb Santo

In Honor of Leah Gunderman, In Memory of Richard Gunderman

Jacqueline Walker

In Honor of Family. In Memory of Sidney Ben.



DISCIPLES WOMEN'S MINISTRY

We continue to meet the first Tuesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. at the church. All women of the church are invited to attend the meetings.

We are still collecting items for the care tote bags that are given to comfort people in times of health issues or stress. There is a bag in the narthex. Thank you for support the ministries chosen by the women's group.

Prayer Shawls are available in the office for anyone who is in need of comfort.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS THE 15TH OF THE MONTH



**Thanks
for Your
Support!**

Monthly Budget Needs

In order to meet our monthly budget needs We need an offering of \$11263.75 per month.

COUNTERS

5/04 Matt Strayer, Tracy Gunderman, Cindy Grace

5/11 Jan Commers, Paul Long, Sandy Bandy

5/18 Max Hibbard, Corey Harris, Clint Reinhart

5/25 Nicole Harris, Angela Bowers, Gary McClure



OUTREACH

Caring and Sharing Food Pantry

Thank you for your continued donations to the food pantry. The box is in the narthex for any donations. They are currently in need of canned veggies other than green beans, baking supplies and tomato products (sauce & diced),

LETS MAKE THIS MONTH BRING A CANNED FOOD EVERY SUNDAY MONTH.

QR Code Donation

The QR code has made it convenient for donations to the church to be made.

This is working very well. It is always available on the facebook page and the firstccpaulding.org webpage. Your donations make continuing our ministry possible. Thank You!



First Christian Church Fund Summary

04/06/2025 12:57 PM

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	100 TITHES AND OFFERINGS	103 WEEK OF COMPASSION	118 Elavon Tithes/Offering s	200 BUILDING/MAI NT.	300 YOUTH GROUP	Total
03/01/2025	0.00	0.00	40.00	0.00	0.00	40.00
03/02/2025	2,477.00	5.50	0.00	70.00	0.00	2,552.50
03/09/2025	1,173.01	0.00	40.00	0.00	0.00	1,213.01
03/15/2025	0.00	0.00	40.00	0.00	0.00	40.00
03/16/2025	1,217.00	0.00	15.00	25.00	18.00	1,275.00
03/21/2025	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
03/23/2025	1,445.00	0.00	40.00	0.00	0.00	1,485.00
03/29/2025	0.00	0.00	220.00	0.00	0.00	220.00
03/30/2025	1,398.00	0.00	0.00	10.00	0.00	1,408.00
03/31/2025	0.00	0.00	65.00	0.00	0.00	65.00
Total	7,710.01	5.50	560.00	105.00	18.00	8,398.51



DISCIPLES MEN'S GROUP
The Disciples Men will be meeting May
17th at 9 a.m.



SUNDAY SCHOOL

The children continue to meet following children's moment during worship. They practice bells one Sunday a month. Both programs continue to grow.
The class for adults meets at 9 a.m. Everyone is invited to participate.

Mowing Schedule

April 28-May 11-Mick Coak
May 12-May 25-Matt Strayer
May 26-June 8-Gary McClure
June 9- June 22-
June 23-July 6-
July 7- July 20-Gary McClure
July 21- August 3-
August 4- August 17-
August 18- August 31-Gary McClure
Sept 1- Sept 14
Sept 15- Sept 28-Gary McClure
Sept 29-Oct. 12-Mick Coak
Oct 13- Oct 26-Gary McClure



It's time to mow again. Please sign up for a two week spot to help keep the church property looking good. If you are not able to mow but would like to help by paying for someone to mow for you, please sign your name and let Corey know. Thank You. Your help is much appreciated.



Thank You

Friends of First Christian Church
Thank you for the prayer shawls.
Your thoughtfulness is appreciated.

Sheryl & Tony Garza
The Merrill Miller Family

SUMMER MUSIC

If you would like to provide special music during a worship service this summer please sign up on the bulletin board. All questions should be referred to Donna.



Church Keys

If you have a church key that you no longer need to use please turn it in to the office. Thank You.

Paulding Band Fundraiser
Pancake Breakfast
And Car Wash
May 10th
9 a.m.- 12 p.m.



All you can eat breakfast is \$10.00
Car Wash is a free will donation.
Enter on the Emerald Road Side



A prayer for Mother's Day



Dear Lord, thank you for the blessings of children and families. Help us rely on you for guidance, patience and even-temperedness throughout our days.

We pray that our children will love you, worship you and serve you with their God-given gifts. Grant us the wisdom to know how to influence them to live godly lives. Prevent us from provoking our children to anger and from manipulating or nagging them.

Fill our households with abiding love and respect. And help us all be united in purpose to do your will. In the name of Christ our Lord. Amen.

Seizing holy opportunities

In *Holy Moments*, Matthew Kelly discusses the world's need for more small (but sometimes large) instances of people caring for others, cultivating joy, encouragement and love instead of anger, envy, fear. Kelly defines a Holy Moment as "a single moment in which you open yourself to God. ... You set aside personal preference and self-interest, and for one moment you do what you prayerfully believe God is telling you to do."

This may mean mowing the lawn for a neighbor with a broken leg, praising a child on his artwork, buying a surprise snack for someone having a bad day, working extra shifts for a coworker with cancer so she can receive her full salary while out sick, paying for the next car's drive-thru order. Anyone can create a Holy Moment, because you don't need special skills, position or wealth. "If you want to see miracles, make yourself available to God," Kelly suggests.

He adds that God has a track record of collaborating with "the most unlikely people to make amazing things happen, and now He wants to collaborate with you." When we're open to God's leading,

Powered by God

God made us: invented us as a [person] invents an engine. A car is made to run on petrol, and it would not run properly on anything else.

Now God designed the human machine to run on himself. He himself is the fuel our spirits were designed to burn, or the food our spirits were designed to feed on. There is no other. That is why it is just no good asking God to make us happy in our own way without bothering about religion. God cannot give us a happiness and peace apart from himself, because it is not there.

—C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*



Easter egg hunt and Fellowship Night



Easter Sunday



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL STARTS AT 9:00 A.M.

WORSHIP: SUNDAYS-10 A.M.

CHILDRENS SUNDAY SCHOOL FOLLOWING

CHILDRENS MOMENT

BELL CHOIR FOLLOWING WORSHIP EVERY SUNDAY

PASTORS HOURS: TUES-THUS. 8 a.m. 12 p.m.

SECRETARY OFFICE HOURS: TUES.-FRIDAY 8 a.m.-12 p.m.

"There is nothing in a caterpillar that tells you it's going to be a butterfly."

—Buckminster Fuller



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		"Christ is present to us in so far as we are present to each other." —Herbert McCabe		1 NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER YOUNG ATHLETES-6-7 p.m.	2	3
4	5	6 DISCIPLES WOMEN'S MEETING-10 A.M.	7 WOR/MEMB/ TECH-4:30 P.M. TRUSTEES-7 P.M.	8 YOUNG ATHLETES-6-7 p.m.	9	10 LANEY/WELLER WEDDING
11 	12	13	14	15 YOUNG ATHLETES-6-7 p.m.	16	17 MEN'S GROUP-9 A.M.
18 ELDERS-8:30 A.M.	19	20 EARLY INTERVENTION-FS HALL-9:30-11:30 BOARD MEETING-7 P.M.	21	22 YOUNG ATHLETES-6-7 p.m.	23	24 RHONEHOUSE-FS HALL
25 SIMPSON FS HALL	26 	27	28	29 ASCENSION DAY YOUNG ATHLETES-6-7	30	31

ELDERS: Matt Strayer & Jan Commers

WORSHIP LEADER: Jan Commers

1ST SCRIPTURE READER: Max Hibbard

GREETERS: Deb Santo & Angela Bowers

5/04 SERMON: GUEST SPEAKER-CHERI ESTLE

5/11 SERMON: "Hooray for Moms", SCRIPTURE: John 10: 22-30

5/18 SERMON: "Become a Magnet", SCRIPTURE: John 13: 31-35

5/25 SERMON: "Go Out and Tell Our Story, SCRIPTURE: John 14:23-29

Puzzle!

Unscramble the names of these biblical mothers. Look up the verse if you need help. Then use the letters on the numbered blanks to complete the message below.

VEE (Genesis 3:20)

6 11

NNAHAH (1 Samuel 1:20)

14

RBAHEOD (Judges 5:7)

18 3

KREEHAB (Genesis 27:5)

16 5

EHLA (Genesis 30:14)

1

CLEHRA (Genesis 30:22)

7 12

MOIAN (Ruth 1:22)

10 17 13

RAAHS (Genesis 17:19)

8

AMYR (Matthew 2:11)

2

ZEBLEHATI (Luke 1:13)

9 15 4

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

G F F G !

13 8 14 15 4 16 10 17 3 18



A NOBLE EXAMPLE

Proverbs 31 describes a God-honoring woman. How are the women in your life like her? How can you follow their example?

Directions: Use the word bank to complete all the Bible verses. Then write the circled letters in order below to complete Proverbs 31:30, NIV.



WORD BANK

bread, household, women, laugh, children, clothed, speaks, husband, tongue



She is _____ with strength and dignity;
she can _____ at the days to come.

She _____ with wisdom,
and faithful instruction is on her _____.

She watches over the affairs of her _____
and does not eat the _____ of idleness.

Her _____ arise and call her blessed;
her _____ also, and he praises her:

"Many _____ do noble things,
but you surpass them all." Proverbs 31:25-29, NIV

Charm is _____eptive, and be_____ty is fl_____eting; but a
woma_____w_____o f_____rs the Lo_____d is to be prais_____d.

Proverbs 31:30, NIV

Answers: clothed, laugh, speaks, tongue, household, bread, children, husband, women, Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised. Proverbs 31:30, NIV