



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

DISCIPLE DIGEST

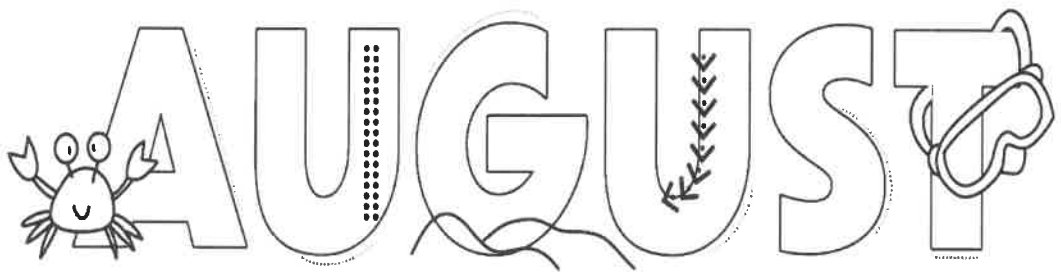
FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
ISSUE NO. VIII-2025
MINISTER: PASTOR RIC BEALS

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

Coffee & Conversation 9:00 a.m

Worship 10:00 a.m.

Childrens Sunday School during worship



2025

DISCIPLE DIGEST

First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)



AUGUST 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

**1 Thessalonians 5:18 Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will
of God in Christ Jesus for you.**

I've been in a stretch of ministry and life recently, where I've been with multiple families who have been watching and grieving while loved ones suffer and die. In all honesty, this is one of life's most difficult journeys for us. As I spent time in prayer recently with one of these wonderful families, God spoke to me. I struggle with what to say to families when they are hurting, but on this day...God said to me, "there's a lot going on here right now, let's push that to the side...and let's be thankful." That's it, isn't it? Let's be thankful for a life well lived, thankful for each moment shared, for their influence and contribution to our life, for the love we shared, and for all the memories. You see, a person dies, but these things live on in our hearts. Also, we see our loved one die, but we don't have access to what they see and experience after death. They have no more pain, no more struggles that come with our earthly lives. They experience glorious reunions...with Jesus and those loved ones they've been missing who went before them. They experience only joy...only love...freedom from the world. It's beautiful, it's perfect, it's paradise. As we are approaching the end of summer, I want to encourage you to adopt an attitude of gratitude. Instead of seeing the negative in situations, look for the positives and be thankful.

Peace, Pastor Ric

Comfort in Mourning:

The family of Sandra Leslie
The family of Jack Hoffman
The family of Tim Pennington

Healing Prayers:

Larry Bennet & family
Renee Celie
Betty Daniels
Linda East
Jerry Hancock
Leah Leslie
Elizabeth Miller
*Kathy Reinhart
Carol Rochan

Continuing Concerns:

Tony Buchman
Dave Foltz
*Charlie Simpson
Hollie Simpson
Susan Sitton
Sam Smith
Our World

In Sympathy

Please pray for the family of Sandra Leslie. Sandy passed on June 24th. Services were held at the church on July 2nd.

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:

8/03 Herm Guelde-In Memory of Jean
8/10
8/17 Virginia Paulus-In Honor of Nieces & Nephews
8/24 Susan & Denny Knapp-In Honor of our Anniversary
8/31



Nursing Home Residents..

The Gardens

*Romaine Boundy

Van Crest of Payne

Lorean McCollum

Military:

Cameron Cramer
Miranda E. Iler
Morgan R. Iler



AUGUST SERVERS

Elders : Matt Strayer
Larry Grace

Worship Leader: Larry Grace

Greeters: Andrea Pease
Family

First Scripture Reader:
Suzy Strayer



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

8/04 Owen Workman
8/05 Tony Santo
8/08 Suzy Strayer
8/10 Jean Bulau
8/10 Paul Long
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
8/17 Jack Roddy
8/18 Linda Reinhart
8/21 Michael Coak
8/22 Ric Beals
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 Vivi Myers
8/30 Lydia Reinhart

Happy Anniversary

8/07 Mike & Jennifer Workman
8/09 Max & Donna Hibbard
8/17 Don & Gail Stoller
8/25 Doug & Amie Klinger
8/26 Denny & Susan Knapp

FIRST SCRIPTURES

8/03 Hosea 11: 1-11
8/10 Psalm 50: 1-8,22-23
8/17 Isaiah 5: 1-7
8/24 Jeremiah 1: 4-10
8/31 Psalm 81: 1, 10-16

ATTENDANCE

	Total	Member	Non Member	Child	Visitor	Online
6/29	62	35	13	11	3	172
7/06	59	36	10	11	2	163
7/13	69	39	14	13	3	134
7/20	56	34	9	13	0	85

From the Elders

A devotion by Karen Huang entitled God Knows Best

Anxious about a health issue my teenage niece had, I was relieved when I heard of a promising natural remedy. My sister, however, felt it might cause side effects, based on her daughter's medical history. I wanted to argue but refrained. No matter how concerned I was about my niece, I had to defer to her mom's authority.

Later, a doctor told us, "That natural remedy would've caused a strong allergic reaction." When it comes to my niece's welfare, her mom truly knows what's best for her-in ways that I don't.

I remember this incident when I'm anxious about other loved ones, asking God to help them the way I think they should be helped. I remember that God, who loves them and knows them far better than I do, knows best.

In Isaiah 55:9, God says, "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways." The Hebrew word here for ways (derek) refers to the moral actions and behavior of God contrasted with that of wicked people. God's wisdom and righteous ways are far above ours. What happens in a loved one's life may not be what we want, we can trust Him to work in their lives as He sees best.

Let's keep entrusting those we love to God by presenting "(our) request to God" (Philippians 4:6). He alone is perfect in love, mercy, wisdom, and sovereignty (Isaiah 55: 3, 7-11).

What concerns do you have for a loved one? How can you surrender your understanding of the situation to God's wisdom?

**Dear God, I entrust my loved ones into Your care.
You alone know what's best for them.**



*You are invited to an
Open House to celebrate*

*Virginia Her Paulus
(Aunt Ginny)*

100th Birthday

August 17th 2-5pm

*Paulding Historical Museum
600 Fairground Rd., Paulding Ohio*



*Hosted by Nieces and
Nephews*





DISCIPLES MEN'S GROUP

The Disciples Men will be meeting August 16th at 9 a.m.

SUNDAY SCHOOL



The children continue to meet following children's moment during worship.

The children's bells will not practice this summer. Help is needed with the children's program. Please contact Suzy Strayer if you can assist her.

The class for adults will be not meeting for the summer.

Mowing Schedule

July 21- August 3-Todd Pease

August 4- August 17-Pastor Ric

August 18- August 31-Gary McClure

Sept 1- Sept 14-Pastor Ric

Sept 15- Sept 28-Gary McClure

Sept 29-Oct. 12-Mick Coak

Oct 13- Oct 26-Gary McClure

Mowing is going well. Thank You. Your help is much appreciated.



Thank you

The families of Sandy Leslie would like to Thank everyone for all the thoughts and prayers during our moms passing.

Also, we appreciate your hard work for the luncheon you prepared.

Leslie-Harris Families

Thank You

The family of Jack Hoffman would like to thank you for the cards, prayers, thoughts and donations to the church and the Dog Kennel during the recent passing of our Dad. And a special thanks to Pastor Ric for the service.

Church family is so very important.

Denise, Linda, Jackie
& families

SUMMER MUSIC

If you would like to provide special music during a worship service this summer please sign up on the bulletin board.



Bell Choir will be starting in the near future, new ringers are always welcome.

Thank You

Church Family,

Thank You for the graduation gift. It is greatly appreciated. Thank You for your support.

Love,
Kynsi Knapp

Thank You

Many thanks to the Ladies who prepared our luncheon, for Rev. Beals helping with my Mom's service and The Disciple's of Christ Congregation for their love and friendship and support to my Mom and our family.

*In Christ,
Laurel Proctor & Family*

Time Flys

Soon fall will be back with us.. This means Sunday School classes who will need teachers, bell choir needs ringers, Youth groups will need support, Disciples Women and the Men's group needs new ideas. So where can you help? What's in your heart? It's all ministry along with fellowship and fun. The church needs your special talents. The ministry opportunity forms for next year will be available soon but you can jump in now. Come to the office and we will make sure you are guided to the ministry close to your heart.



DISCIPLES WOMEN'S MINISTRY

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.

"Gratitude can transform common days into thanksgivings, turn routine jobs into joy and change ordinary opportunities into blessings."

—William Arthur Ward

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS THE 15TH OF THE MONTH



Monthly Budget Needs

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

COUNTERS

8/03 Matt Strayer, Tracy Gunderman, Cindy Grace

8/10 Jan Commers, Paul Long, Sandy Bandy

8/17 Max Hibbard. Corey Harris, Clint Reinhart

8/24 Nicole Harris, Angela Bowers, Gary McClure

8/31 Corey Harris, Joan Tope, Dan Workman



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 also need 46-64 oz clean clear plastic bottles and egg cartons.



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 firstccpauling.org webpage. Your donations make continuing our ministry possible. Thank You!



First Christian Church Fund Summary

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Page: 1

	100 TITHES AND OFFERINGS	105 SPECIAL HOLIDAY-PEN TECOST	111 CWS-BLANKE TS	118 Elavon Tithes/Offering s	200 BUILDING/MAI NT.	700 MENS GROUP	Total
06/01/2025	1,357.00	0.00	0.00	50.00	20.00	0.00	1,427.00
06/08/2025	1,877.00	45.00	0.00	50.00	35.00	0.00	2,007.00
06/11/2025	11,288.75	20.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	12,308.75
06/12/2025	0.00	0.00	0.00	350.00	0.00	0.00	350.00
06/15/2025	1,470.00	0.00	0.00	50.00	10.00	0.00	1,530.00
06/20/2025	3,549.81	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	4,049.81
06/21/2025	0.00	0.00	0.00	50.00	0.00	0.00	50.00
06/22/2025	1,594.00	25.00	0.00	0.00	10.00	25.00	1,654.00
06/29/2025	1,141.00	0.00	60.00	50.00	5.00	0.00	1,256.00
06/30/2025	0.00	0.00	0.00	220.00	0.00	0.00	220.00
Total	22,277.56	90.00	60.00	820.00	1,580.00	25.00	24,852.56

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH



WORSHIP: SUNDAYS-10 A.M.
CHILDRENS SUNDAY SCHOOL FOLLOWING
CHILDRENS MOMENT

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

August 2025

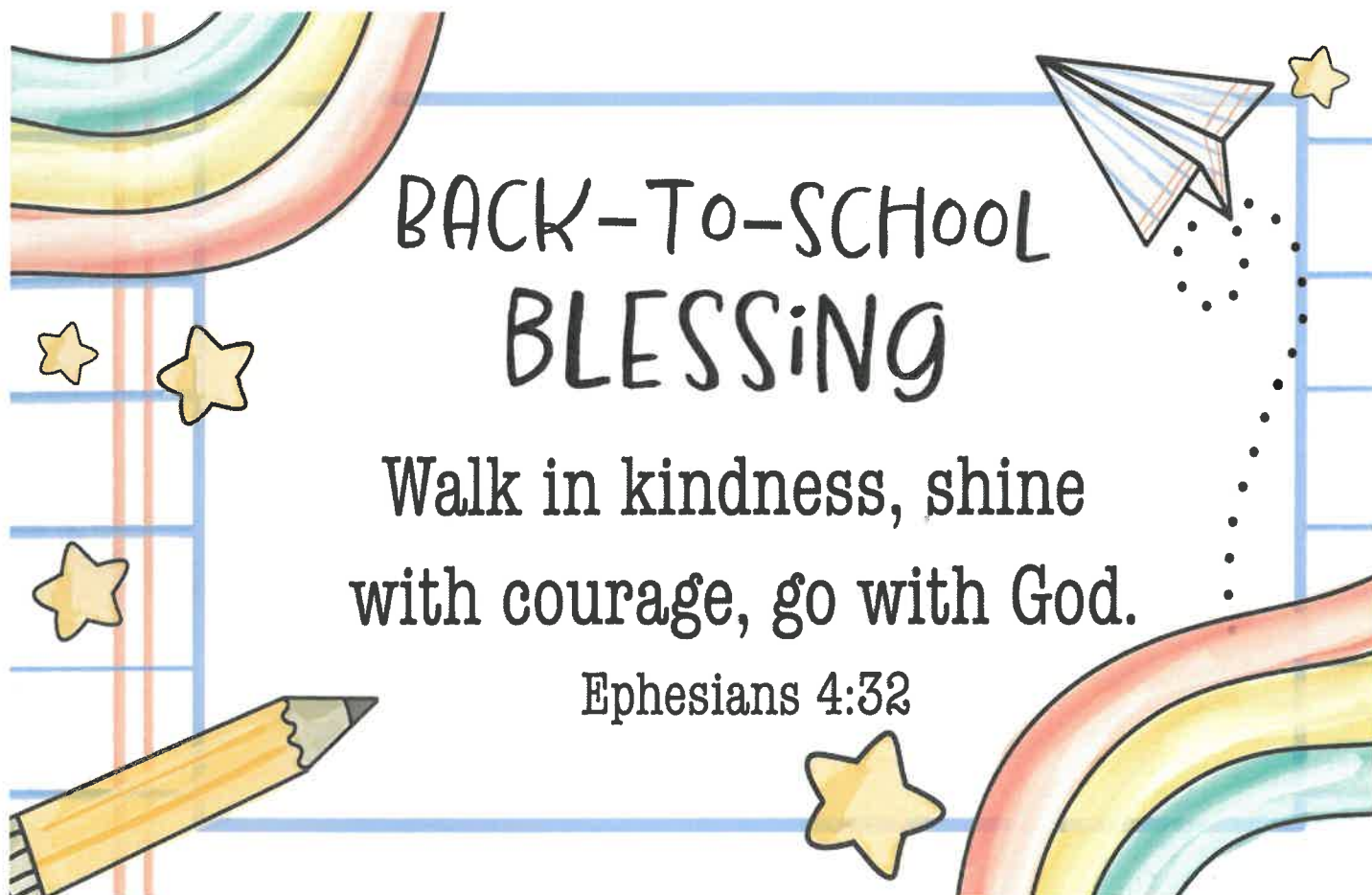


Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

<p>"Allow your soul the freedom to sing, dance, praise, and love."</p> <p>—St. Teresa of Avila</p>		<p>On Christ the solid rock I stand, all other ground is sinking sand</p>			1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		DISIPLES WOM- ENS MEETING-10 A.M.	WORSHIP/ MEMBERSHIP/ TECH-4:30 P.M. TRUSTEES-7 P.M.			
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
			STEWARDSHIP/ FINANCE-6:30 P.M.			MEN'S MEETING- 9 A.M.
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
ELDERS MEET- ING-8:30 A.M.		BOARD MEETING -7 P.M.				
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
			<p>BACK TO SCHOOL</p>	<p>What school supply is in charge of the classroom? <i>The ruler</i></p>		
31						

ELDERS: MATT STRAYER & LARRY GRACE
WORSHIP LEADER: LARRY GRACE
1ST SCRIPTURE READER: SUZY STRAYER
GREETERS: ANDREA PEASE FAMILY

8/03 SERMON: "The Place of Money in Your Life" SCRIPTURE: Luke 12: 13-2
8/10 SERMON: "Be All and Only for Jesus" SCRIPTURE: Luke 12: 32-40
8/17 SERMON: "Family Ties are Untied", SCRIPTURE: Luke 12: 49-56
8/24 SERMON: "Excuses, Excuses" SCRIPTURE: Luke 13: 10-17
8/31 SERMON: "We need to be Appreciate" SCRIPTURE: Luke 14: 1, 7-14



25 YEAR CELEBRATION

This Year marks 25 years since we moved to this building. If you would like to help in the planning of the celebration we need volunteers to organize catering, activities and historical information.

Please see Board Chair Suzy Strayer or Pastor Ric to help.



General Endowment Fund

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
Of Paulding, Ohio Fund

There has been an endowment fund established through the Paulding County Area Foundation for First Christian Church of Paulding.

Anyone can put money in this fund for the benefit of our church. Only the interest from the fund will be paid to our church annually with the board determining when the money will be spent.. If you have any questions contact Matt Strayer or Charlie Simpson trustees for our church.

SO VERY
thankful
INCREDIBLY
grateful
UNBELIEVABLY
blessed.

Lifelong learners

"If you don't have wisdom that goes with knowledge, you are only a walking encyclopedia," wrote Jack Wellman, a Kansas pastor. "A book of knowledge is useless without the wisdom to know how to apply that knowledge. ... Information without transformation leads only to frustration."

Consider the many benefits of wisdom — and how you can use what you've acquired to serve God, your church and your community. To better fulfill your calling, what wisdom might you yet need to acquire?

As another school year begins, here's a prayer for students of all ages: All-wise, all-knowing God, make us willing learners and seekers of your wisdom, not for the gain of knowledge for its own sake, but that we might handle every situation we face with the wisdom of Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

"Summer"

'Tis summer, I know by the blue of the sky;
By the trees' deeper green, as beneath them I lie;
And more than all these, by the lovely wild rose
That now in the woodland its pink blossom shows. ...

I feel the warm west wind fan gently my cheek
As I sit on the grass, far too happy to speak;
And then in the twilight I see the faint spark
Of the fire-fly, flitting alone in the dark.

Oh! long happy days, when 'tis full of delight
To roam in the meadows from morning till night!
Oh! summer, sweet summer! glide slowly away,
For I love in your warmth and your fragrance to stay.

—H.P. Nichols



Why Christian community is key

Jesus' followers aren't meant to pursue faith by themselves. In fact, that's impossible! A *family* and *the body* signify plural members. It is among brothers and sisters in Christ that we:

- experience our Savior's presence, living and incarnate;
- unite in worship, confess our sins, hear the gospel and receive Communion;
- accept church discipline through the gentle guidance of others;
- learn — through other people's examples and experiences — what it means to live a life of discipleship;
- and lovingly serve together as Jesus' hands and feet.

Puzzle!

The biblical calendar had many feasts and festivals. They were connected with the changing of the seasons or special events.

Use the code to find the name of the special days the Israelites observed.

CODE:

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

SEASON

1. End of Summer

I L H S S Z H S Z M Z S

2. Fall

B L N P R K K F I

3. Fall

H F P P L G S

4. Winter

S Z M F P P Z S

5. Winter

K F I R N

6. Spring

K Z H H L E V I

7. Spring

H S Z E F L G

HOLIDAY

New Year

Day of Atonement

Festival of Booths

Festival of Rededication

Festival of Lots

Festival of Unleavened Bread

Feast of Weeks/Pentecost



WHO AM I?

Did you know that some Old Testament books are named after prophets? Use the clues to figure out each prophet's name and write it on the lines. Then unscramble, use the circled letters to complete the sentence at the bottom.

1. I was called to preach to Nineveh, but I ran from God instead. My book is number 32 in the Bible.

I am _____.

2. I spoke God's message when the temple was being built. My book is number 37.

I am _____.

3. Israel's unfaithfulness to God is compared to my unfaithful wife. My book is number 28.

I am _____.

4. My book predicts punishment for wickedness and promises of comfort. It is book 23.

I am _____.

5. I had dreams and visions. My book is number 27.

I am _____.

6. I was often in danger because of my prophecies. I angered officials. My book is number 24.

I am _____.

7. I was a shepherd from Judah who called people to turn to God and leave their selfish lives. My book is number 30.

I am _____.

8. My book contains descriptions of strange visions. My book is number 26.

I am _____.

Prophets are _____.

Answers: Jonah; Haggai; Hosea; Isaiah; Daniel; Jeremiah; Amos; Ezekiel; Messengers.

Answers: 1. Rosh Hashanah, 2. Yom Kippur, 3. Sukkot, 4. Hanukkah, 5. Purim, 6. Passover, 7. Shavuot