



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

DISCIPLE DIGEST

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
ISSUE NO.IX-2026
WEBSITE:firstccpaulding.org

PHONE 419 399-4576
MINISTER: PASTOR RIC BEALS
EMAIL: firstccpaulding@gmail.com

Coffee & Conversation 9:00 a.m

Worship 10:00 a.m.

Childrens Sunday School during worship

SEPTEMBER 2026 

DISCIPLE DIGEST

First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ).



SEPTEMBER 2026

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.



A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR RIC

Do you know why the first day of September marks the beginning of the Church year?

We are accustomed to thinking of January 1st as the beginning of the year. But the tradition of computing the start of a new year with autumn was common to the lands of the Bible and to all the lands around the Mediterranean. The summer harvest was at an end; the crops were stored, and people prepared for a new agricultural cycle. It was an appropriate time to begin a new year. So, here we are! As we begin a new church year, I want to encourage you. I want to encourage you to invest in our church. By investing, I mean finding ways to serve (reading scripture, counting offering, offering to teach, etc.)

because we, as a church, always have a need for more people to serve. I want to encourage you to find ways to grow spiritually, by spending time in the Word and/or in prayer. I want to encourage you to encourage others, and I want to encourage all of us to be present for others in their times of need. Personally, this is a year of great change for me. As most of you know, I have custody of my grandson and I'm getting married soon and moving to Fayette. But it is also a time of stability, I'm so blessed to be here and I'm beyond thankful to have the honor of being your pastor. I pray that this church year is spectacular, that we all continue to grow and stretch our faith, and that this would be another of many years together in ministry.

***In Christ,
Pastor Ric***

Comfort in Mourning:

The family of Ron Eschbach
The family of Ruth Eschbach
The family of Danny Stocker

:

Healing Prayers:

*Tammy Boroff

*Sharon Cooper

Chris Bowers

Continuing Concerns:

Lindsey Arend

Renee Celie

Braden Hormann

Jason Koenn

Pam Long Piazza

Linda Snodgrass Reinhart

Amy Young

*Denotes Members

Sermons

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

Nursing Home Residents..

The Paulding Care

Community

Rich English

Carrie Longardner

Country Inn

*Jack Moore-Rm 34

*Virginia Paulus-Rm 11

Military:

Miranda E. Iler

Morgan R. Iler

Jamie B. Gamble

September Servers

Elders: Sandy Bandy & Max Hibbard

Worship Leader: Angela Bowers

First Scripture: Sandy Bandy

Greeters: Jacque Walker & Shirley Cramer

First Scriptures:

9/06 Psalm 149

9/13 Genesis 50: 15-21

9/20 Psalm 145: 1-8

9/27 Exodus 17: 1-7



9/07 Kathy Daniels

9/08 Gabrielle Stallbaum

9/11 Jennifer Workman

9/13 Mara Strayer

9/14 Malerie Reinhart

9/15 Amber Simpson

9/15 Brooklyn Vance

9/15 Pete Reinhart

9/17 Brian Knapp

9/24 Corbin Vance

9/25 Joshua Hibbard

9/13 Madeline Clippinger

9/26 Elliott Gunderman

9/28 Harry Ricker

9/30 Sharon Cooper

9/30 Nate Reinhart



Invite a Friend to Church & Camp Sunday

September 20th we will be hearing about the kid's camp experience during worship. It is also invite a friend to church Sunday. We will also be having a **Potluck** following worship. Bring a friend and a dish to share.

Flowers For Worship:

9/06

9/13 Herm Guelde-In Memory of Jean

9/20 In Honor of Bring a Friend to church

9/27 Dee & Denise Renollet-In Honor of our Anniversary



9/18 Jean & Dan Bulau

9/21 Todd & Erika Pease

9/23 Angie & Mick Coak

9/25 Lindsey & Matt Hormann

9/25 Leslie & Brent Townley

9/25 Heather & Wally Daniels

9/27 Denise & Dee Renollet

9/28 Matt & Suzy Strayer

BIBLE STUDY

September begins a new study with Pastor Ric on Thursdays, all are welcome, each session begins at 7:00 p.m.

September-10-Matthew 18: 21-35

September 17-Matthew 20: 1-16

September 24-Philippians 2: 1-13



ATTENDANCE

	Total	Member	Non Member	Child	Visitor	Online
7/26	60	34	14	9	3	134
8/02	75	42	16	15	2	136
8/09	67	38	14	12	3	83
8/16	60	34	14	9	3	96



Disciples Women Ministry

Fourteen women attended the July night out. What a great time at Fat Pig in Hicksville.

We have established a chicken pie committee and a committee to organize a large baked goods and sweets sale the day of the chicken pie.

In September we would like everyone to bring lunch foods for the Caring and Sharing food pantry.

Please remember we have prayer shawls for anyone in need of comfort.

Next meeting **September 8th** at 10:00 a.m. All women of the church are invited to attend.

SPECIAL MUSIC

If you would like to provide music during worship, please contact Donna.



Mowers

Thank you for your help.

Aug 17-Aug 30-Gary McClure
Aug 31-Sept 13-Rob Thompson
Sept. 14-Sept.27 Gary McClure
Sept28-Oct. 13-Ric Beals
Oct.14-Oct 25- Mick Coak



Tin Caps Outing

What a great time at the Tin Caps game on July 26th. There were forty-four people in our group. We plan to go again next year.



NIGHT OUT-DISCIPLES WOMEN

Disciples Men's Group

The Men meet on the third Saturday of the month at 9:00 a.m. All Men are invited to attend. If you have questions, please contact Paul Long.

Bingo Prizes



We have such good attendance for bingo nights; we are again looking for fabulous bingo prizes. If you have "stuff" you're not using bring it in. Someone would love to win it. **Bingo is set for October 4th. We will be having hot dogs and chili before bingo.**

Caring and Sharing Food Pantry

The Disciples Women's Ministry would like to promote **September as kids lunch foods month.**

Thanks for helping us help neighbors! The Caring and Sharing Food Pantry always welcomes new volunteers if you have time to spare.



From the Elders

A devotion by Bill Crowder entitled

Citizens of Two Worlds

*But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ.-
Philippians 3:20*

Believers in Jesus live in two worlds with two citizenships. We have, as Paul said, citizenship in heaven but we also have our citizenship in this world. Some have referred to our current status as similar to that of “resident aliens.”

So how we can live out our heavenly citizenship here?

PRAY FOR LEADERS: “I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people—for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness” (1 Timothy 2: 1-2)

SUBMIT TO GOVERNMENT AUTHORITY: “Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established” (Romans 13:1)

RENDER TO CAESAR: “Give back to Caesar what is Caesar’s and to God what is God’s (Matthew 22:21). Paul agrees with this Romans 13: 6-7, reminding us that human government has a role to play in God’s economy.

LIVE AN HONORABLE LIFE: “Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honor the emperor” (1 Peter 2:17)

In addition to these direct responses to human government, believers in Christ also have the slightly more indirect challenge of living like Jesus wherever we reside. This involves the things that represent His heart-care for the poor, help for the weak, and justice for the oppressed.

All of this, however, exist with a significant qualifier. When threatened by the leaders of the religious government of Israel, Peter wisely responded: “We must obey God rather than human beings!” (Acts 5:29).

Ministry Opportunity Forms

A Ministry Opportunity Form for the 2027 year is included with this newsletter. Please prayerfully consider what ministry you can provide in the coming year. Please give the forms to the office or place them in the basket on the card table. Thank You.

SUNDAY SCHOOL



The children continue to meet following children’s moment during worship with the Sunday funday plan. The new lesson plans are ready to start on September 13th.

Teachers are needed. Sign up to teach!!
If you have questions, please contact Suzy Strayer.

Charitable Contributions

According to IRS.gov. beginning with tax year 2026, if you do not itemize, you may deduct up to \$1000.00 (\$2000.00 if filing jointly) of your cash contributions to certain qualified organizations.

(Churches qualify)

For your contributions of cash, check or other monetary gift, you must maintain a record of the contribution.

A written communication from the qualified organization containing the name of the organization, the amount and the date of the contribution must be submitted. You may find the complete information at irs.gov., publication 526.

General Endowment Fund

There was endowment fund established in 2022 at the Paulding Area Foundation for First Christian Church. The original donation cannot be spent, however the interest accrued may be used at the board's determination. Anyone can contribute to the fund which will ensure the church has an income source for the future.

A Prayer for Joy and Laughter

Give me a sense of humor, Lord,
Give me the wit to see a joke
To get some humor out of life,
And pass it on to other folk.
—Anonymous

COUNTERS

9/06 Matt Strayer, Tracy Gunderman, Cindy Grace

9/13 Jan Commers, Paul Long, Sandy Bandy

9/20 Max Hibbard. Corey Harris, Clint Reinhart

9/27 Nicole Harris, Angela Bowers, Gary McClure



First Christian Church Fund Summary

08/03/2026 12:41 PM

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	100 TITHES AND OFFERINGS	111 CWS-BLANKE TS	118 Elavon Tithes/Offering s	500 CAPITAL IMPROVEMEN T	700 MENS GROUP	Total
07/04/2026	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
07/05/2026	2,673.00	130.00	515.00	30.00	52.00	3,400.00
07/12/2026	1,690.00	25.00	50.00	70.00	0.00	1,835.00
07/14/2026	0.00	0.00	350.00	0.00	0.00	350.00
07/18/2026	0.00	0.00	50.00	0.00	0.00	50.00
07/19/2026	1,195.00	0.00	20.00	0.00	0.00	1,215.00
07/20/2026	0.00	0.00	5.13	0.00	0.00	5.13
07/21/2026	0.00	0.00	10.86	0.00	0.00	10.86
07/24/2026	0.00	0.00	0.00	45,767.44	0.00	45,767.44
07/26/2026	1,145.00	125.00	0.00	50.00	0.00	1,320.00
Total	6,703.00	280.00	1,100.99	45,917.44	52.00	54,053.43

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH



WORSHIP: SUNDAYS-10 A.M.

CHILDRENS SUNDAY SCHOOL FOLLOWING
CHILDRENS MOMENT

PASTORS HOURS: TUES-THRU. 8 A.M. 12 P.M.
SECRETARY OFFICE HOURS: TUES-FRIDAY 8 A.M.-12 P.M



Special Dates for September 2026

- Labor Day, *September 7, 2026*
- Patriot Day, *September 11, 2026*
- National Grandparents Day, *September 13, 2026*
- Hispanic Heritage Month, *September 15-October 15, 2026*
- First Day of Autumn, *September 22,*

SEPTEMBER 2026

		1	2 TRUSTEES-7 P.M	3	4	5
6	7 LABOR DAY	8 DISCIPLES WOMEN-10 A.M. WOR/MEM/TECH-NOON	9 STEWARDSHIP FINANCE MEETING-6:30 P.M.	10 BIBLE STUDY-7 P.M.	11	12
13	14	15	16	17 BIBLE STUDY-7 P.M.	18	19 MEN'S GROUP-9 A.M.
20 ELDERS-8:30 A.M. BRING A FRIEND/CAMP SUNDAY & POTLUCK	21	22 BOARD MEETING-7 P.M. 	23	24 BIBLE STUDY-7 P.M.	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Sermons

9/06 Sermon: "Jesus Is Still Working", Mark 7: 24-30
 9/13 Sermon: "Who Needs to be Set Free" Matthew 18: 21-35
 9/20 Sermon: "You Are Not a Failure", Matthew 20: 1-6
 9/27 Sermon: "Love and Serve", Philipians 2: 1-13



SERVERS:

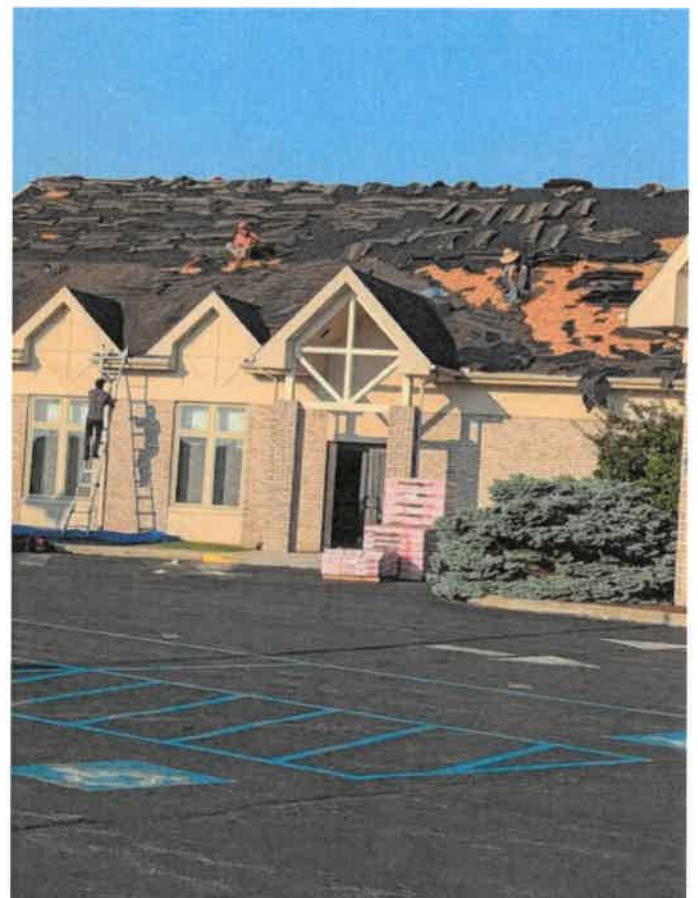
ELDERS: Sandy Bandy & Max Hibbard
 WORSHIP LEADER: Angela Bowers

FIRST SCRIPTURE: Sandy Bandy

GREETERS: Jacque Walker & Shirley Cramer



NEW ROOF



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

(Disciples of Christ)

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

1 Peter 4:10

Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. Please give prayerful thought to how you would like to serve your church in the coming year. Complete this form and place it in the basket proved in the narthex, this morning, or drop it off in the church office. Thank You for serving in the name of Jesus our Lord. It would be a blessing to the church if you are able to use your gifts to benefit the church in at least 2 different ways. You do not need to be a member of the church to volunteer.

_____ Greeter/Usher Sundays

_____ Worship Leader

_____ Read Scripture

_____ Teach Children's Sunday School

_____ Organize/participate in VBS

_____ Help with Special or Children's Programs

_____ Sanctuary Care

_____ Help with Special Services

_____ Serve as Song Leader

_____ Be part of Adult choral Or Bell choir

_____ Provide Special Music

_____ Direct Adult Choir

_____ Provide assistance to members (transportation or errands)

AVAILABLE COMMITTEES

_____ Christian Education

_____ Memorial

_____ Stewardship/Finance

_____ Outreach

_____ Worship/Membership/Tech

_____ Trustees/Property

_____ **Special skills and interest I have that might benefit First Christian Church:**

Name _____ Phone # _____

SAVE *the* DATE!

YOU'RE INVITED TO OUR

1901 - 2026

125th

ANNIVERSARY

HOMECOMING *Celebration*



Join us as we celebrate
125 years of faith, fellowship,
and community at

**St. Paul Evangelical
Lutheran Church**

Paulding, Ohio



LOCATION:

St. Paul Lutheran Church
601 Flat Rock Dr.
Paulding, Ohio 45879



DATE:

Sunday,
September 13, 2026



TIME:

Church Service &
Recognition
10:00 AM

• LUNCH • GAMES • FELLOWSHIP
to follow (after church)

Did you attend:

- ✓ Sunday School
- ✓ Worship
- ✓ Baptism
- ✓ Marriage
- ✓ Church Events

at St. Paul through your life?

**Everyone,
including the entire
community is invited!**

Christian Church in Ohio 2026 Regional Assembly

Saturday, October 10th at Camp Christian
10335 Maple Dell Rd., Marysville, Ohio 43040

Registration: 9 a.m.

Assembly: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

***Listening For God In A Noisy World:
Listen. See. Do.***

**Worship, Workshops, Lunch,
Exhibit Hall, Fellowship, and More!**

Theme Scripture: Philippians 4:9 (NLT)

*"Keep putting into practice all you learned and received
from me—everything you heard from me and saw me doing.
Then the God of peace will be with you."*

- Wear Your Favorite Camp Christian/Regional Shirt/Cap
- Bring a Camp Chair
(if you have one and would like to use it)
- Bring supplies for Disaster Response Team Hygiene Kits
(details online)
- Programming Will Be Available For Kids Ages 3-11
- Infants and Toddlers are Welcome,
but there will not be a nursery

Details through the QR Code or
ccinoh.com/other-pages/regional-assembly



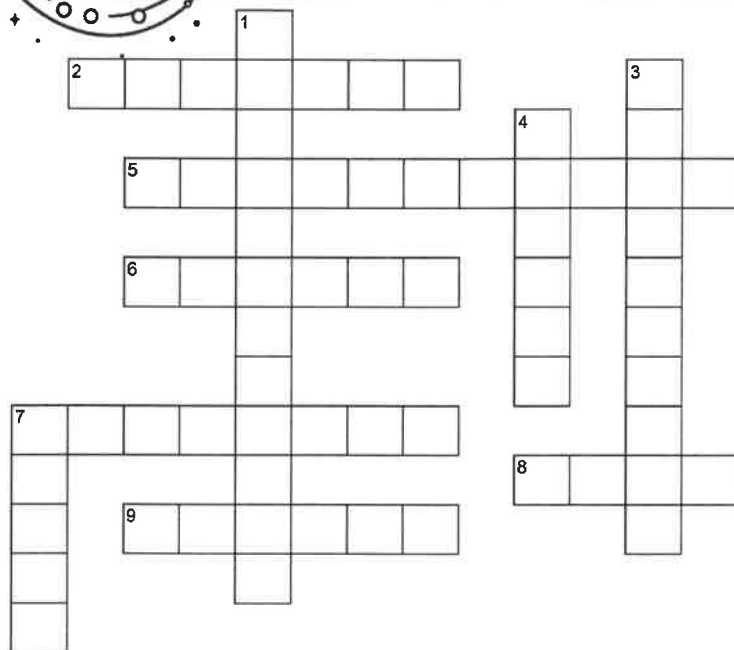
Clergy & Spouse Pre-Event Friday, October 9th
*Registration is with Regional Assembly registration,
but you do not need to attend both if you are not able*

Puzzle!



BEATITUDES

Fill in the blanks below to complete the crossword. Answers are based on Matthew 5:1-13, NIV.



ACROSS

2. _____ and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven.
5. Blessed are the _____, for they will see God.
6. Blessed are those who _____ and thirst after righteousness.
7. Blessed are the _____, for they will receive mercy.
8. Blessed are the _____, for they will inherit the earth.
9. Blessed are those who hunger and _____, for they will be filled.

DOWN

1. Blessed are the _____, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
3. Blessed are those who are _____ for righteousness' sake.
4. Great is your _____ in heaven.
7. Blessed are those who _____, for they will be comforted.

Answer key: 2 Across: Rejoice, 5 Across: pure in heart, 6 Across: hunger
7 Across: merciful, 8 Across: meek, 9 Across: thirst, 1 Down: poor in spirit
3 Down: persecuted, 4 Down: reward, 7 Down: mourn



A sweet reminder that God is always growing something new, no matter the season. As summer winds down and a new school year begins, remember He is at work in your life, helping you grow in faith, kindness and courage. With His help, you can grow in wisdom, build friendships and shine His love wherever you go.

What you need:

- 2 cups milk
- 1 (4-serving) box chocolate instant pudding mix
- 1 (8 oz.) tub whipped topping, thawed
- 1 (16 oz.) package Oreo cookies, crushed
- 8 (9 oz.) clear plastic cups
- Gummy worms or frogs (optional)



What you do:

1. In a large bowl, whisk together milk and pudding mix for 2 minutes. Let stand for 5 minutes until thickened.
2. Gently fold in the whipped topping.
3. Add a layer of crushed cookies to the bottom of each cup.
4. Spoon pudding mixture on top, filling the cups about $\frac{3}{4}$ full.
5. Sprinkle more crushed cookies on top to look like "dirt."
6. Add gummy worms or frogs for fun.
7. Chill until ready to serve, or enjoy right away.

See, I am doing a new thing!
Now it springs up; do you not
perceive it? — Isaiah 43:19 (NIV)

