

**First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
200 W Third Street
Mansfield, OH 44902-1287
419-524-4813**

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

The Quest

February, 2025

Leadership Team

Rev. David Zerby
Interim Minister
Sandy Stout
Church Secretary
Kathy DeLozier
Music Director
Sandy Stout
Chairperson of the Board
Beth Armstrong
Vice-Chairperson of the Board
Stana Shogren
Church Treasurer
Sue Dyson
Finance Secretary
Dominic Morris
Diaconate Chair
Joe Rice ~ Stacia Scott
Co-Chairs of the Elders
Bill "Scotty" Scott
Chair of the Trustees
Fred Kohler
& Stacia Scott
Co-Chair of the Finance Committee



Worship Time: 10:30 am
Adult Sunday School: 9:30 am
Youth & Young Adults 10:30 am

www.firstchristianchurchmansfield.com

Check the website any day to look at the Newsletter, the Mid-Week-Updates, the Church Calendar and so much more

1 Corinthians 13:3-7, 8a

*If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have **love**, I gain nothing.*

***Love** is patient; **love** is kind; **love** is not envious or boastful*

*or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things....**Love** never ends.*

In a time when there is so much divisiveness, perhaps what the church and those who call the church home can best offer is love.

In a 2019 posting in ProgressiveChristianity.org entitled Perfecting Love, Rev. James Burklo shares: *"Perfect love cast out fear." If we take this time from the first letter of John seriously, it leads us to an enlightened personal and communal morality. Border walls will not cast out fear. A nuclear arms race will not cast out fear. Radically restricting immigration will not cast out fear. Keeping a gun in the house will not cast out fear. Rubbing our hands all the time with sanitizer will not cast out fear. What will cast out fear? Knowing our neighbors and showing them kindness. Welcoming strangers. Directing open, warm curiosity toward other people and toward all beings and things, even those that at first glance may seem disturbing. Practicing God—that is, practicing Love—attracts us to kindness and distracts us from fear. And by practicing Love, we will make the world a lot less scary. Because so much of what is scary in this world is the result of people trying to deal with their fears in ways that are scarier than the stuff they were scared of in the first place."*

I pray that we as a faith community continue to seek ways in which we choose **love** over hate, **love** over fear, **love** over the unknown. May it be so.

Pastor David

Second Sunday Speaker Series:

We will be welcoming Ms. Debra Wherry-Bey, with our local I-Connect program on February 9th. She will be joining me in sharing a morning message and will then remain afterwards for a time of fellowship and conversation. Several of us met with Debra back in December to learn about the senior programming they offer within our community. There may be possibilities for our congregation to connect with I-Connect (see what we did there). We hope you will join us.

The Pastor's Peace



First Sunday Conversations

On the first Sunday of each month Pastor David invites you to join him and other members of our faith community for some engaging conversations. We will meet in the Chapel at both 9:30am and again after worship. We will be basing our conversation time on a format from Disciples Mission Fund,

"Imagine a World With More"

February 2 - Imagine a World with More Justice

March 2 - Imagine a World with More Beauty

April 6 - Imagine a World with More Resurrection

All Sunday Worship Services Zoom Call In Invite Numbers:

312-626-6799 or 929-205-6099

Meeting ID: 281 630 1855 Passcode: 334189

For those wishing to call in Please know that you can dial either of the phone numbers listed above and when prompted, key in the **Meeting ID** and then again when prompted, key in the **Passcode** and then you will be connected.

You may talk and we will hear you; we just won't be able to see your smiling face(s)!!! We are set that the Phone numbers along with the Meeting ID and Passcode remain the same for each invite.

Those who have email, receive email invites each Thursday via Email ~ If you would like to join via email, send your email address to: Mansfield1stcc1833@gmail.com and you will be added!!!!

OUTREACH:

February we will celebrate the "Week of Compassion" !! Special Offering the Weeks of February 16—23rd.

As the relief, refugee, and development mission fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Week of Compassion works with partners to alleviate suffering throughout the world, with a vision of a world where God's people transform suffering into hope.

Please consider being generous with your offerings during this time.

Jane Stout, Outreach Chairperson



George H. Gutchall, 88, passed away Monday, January 13, 2025. He was born September 3, 1936, to the late George and Helen (Piper) Gutchall in Mansfield. George spent one year in Florida. He had just moved back to the Mansfield area. George enjoyed watching sports, especially basketball, Cleveland Indians baseball, and other Ohio teams. He was a life-long member of First Christian Church.

George is survived by his daughter, Kristen (Richard) Rader; son, Braden (Cheryl) Gutchall; daughter, Michelle (Doug) Keen; grandchildren, Amber Hannahs, Kayleigh Gossett, Claire Braidich, Mallory Jensen and Grant Gutchall; and eight great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his wife of 50 years, Imogene (Whitinger) Gutchall; his mother, Helen Armstrong; and his father, George Gutchall.

Family and friends will gather for visitation at 98 South Diamond Street, Mansfield, from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM on Wednesday, January 22, 2025. Additional visiting hours will be observed prior to the service from 10:00 AM until 11:00 AM on Thursday, January 23, 2025. The funeral service will begin at 11:00 AM Thursday following the visitation. George will be laid to rest at Mansfield Cemetery. Wappner Funeral Directors-Mansfield is honored to serve the Gutchall family.

Our New Path Forward

The poet and sage of Kentucky, Wendell Berry, wrote:

It may be that when we no longer know what to do,
we have come to our real work and when we no longer know which way to go,
we have begun our real journey.

Rev. Jane Stout

It is time to order Girl Scout cookies. All boxes are \$6. Orders can be given to Grandma Teresa Lupton, on behalf of Ryley Luna. Cookies can be paid for upon delivery the 3rd weekend of February and March.

Thank you for supporting Ryley in Girl Scouts.

Teresa Lupton, Ryley Luna, Jason Luna





Beatrice "Bea" Ann Nedrow

March 10, 1942—January 18, 2025

Bellville: Beatrice An Nedrow passed away peacefully on January 18, 2025. She was 82.

She was born on March 10, 1942 in Elyria, Ohio to parents Harry V and Merry J (Whitcomb) Thompson. Bea lived in the Mansfield area most of her life and graduated from Madison Comprehensive High School in 1960 and went on to obtain her degree as a legal secretary from the Mansfield Business College.

On September 15, 1988 she married James Nedrow, and the couple shared 35 years of marriage until his passing in 2024. Along with raising her children, Bea worked as a clerk at Stoodts Market for many years until her retirement in 2003.

Bea was a long time member of First Christian Church and spent countless hours serving in their children's ministry by teaching many toddler classes. She was also a member of the Beta Sigma Phi Sorority and the Red Hat Society, in which she was very active throughout her life and always cherished the friendships and bonds she made with her sisters.

In her spare time she enjoyed gardening, scrapbooking, birds watching and traveling-especially her trips to the ocean as well as Denmark. Bea loved to decorate for the holidays, and never missed an opportunity to create the magic of the season for her children and grandchildren. For many years Bea would travel around with Jim and participate in Civil War reenactments. She had a giant heart when it came to animals, and made taking her dogs on walks a priority every day. Above all else though, Bea loved her family, the times they spent together, and the endless memories they created together.

She is survived by her children Julie Selby, Jackie (Jim) Steele and Ronald (Kim) Selby, grandchildren Brittany, Lance, Gregory, Darren, Ryan, Jay, Jessica, Mande, and step-granddaughter, Corrin, 22 great-grandchildren, sister, Marjorie (Chuck) Sloan as well as numerous beloved nieces, nephews and extended family.

Along with her parents, Bea is preceded in death by her step daughter Chris Nedrow-Carr and husband Jim Nedrow.

The Nedrow family will receive guests on Friday, January 31, 2025 from 12 pm to 2 pm at the Snyder Funeral Homes, Bellville Chapel, where the funeral honoring Bea's life will begin at 2 pm. Burial to take place in Bellville Cemetery immediately following.



Preparing Communion

Please see the sign up sheet posted to sign up to Prepare Communion each Sunday ~ Grapes and crackers are provided ~

Please see **Dominic Morris** for any questions.



Have you seen the new library sitting space and how about the new lounge



COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

Our Community Breakfast the 3rd Saturday of each month will be **Saturday, February 15th**

Set up & preparation begins at 7 am
Serving **8:30 to 10:00 am** ~
Clean up to follow at 10:30 am.

Menu for February will be:
Scrambled Eggs and Toast along with Sausage Pattie, Biscuits and Sausage Gravy, bowl of Grits and choice of a bowl of cereal plus a glass of orange juice and coffee or hot chocolate



Please sign up and come help at this rewarding ministry.



***Meet Mr. Ellis Wyatt Dudgeon born Sunday evening, January 5th at 6:01 pm weighing in at a healthy 7 lbs 1 oz
Proud Mom and Dad are Noelle and Ethan Dudgeon***

Proud Grandparents are Dom and Jen Morris along with Aunt Katie and Uncles Zach and Tony

Meet Mr. Declan James Luna born Tuesday, January 14th at 3:04 pm weighing in at 6 lbs 10 oz and 20 1/4 inches long.

Proud Mom and Dad are Samantha Cooper and Dakota Luna

Proud Great-Grandparents are Teresa and Jimmy Lupton



Calendar Reminders

All Church Activities/Meetings & Worship happening will continue via Zoom or Church Worship in Person in the Sanctuary

Each Worship Service Zoom invite will be mailed in the mid-week or the next month Quest Newsletter for those calling in on the phone lines & emailed on Thursday for those connecting via Computer

Church is open for worshipping on Sunday mornings, using the Front Door Zoom meeting/worship invites will be emailed prior to the meeting

The Elder's will be having a Worship Service at **Wedgewood on Wednesday, February 5th, 2 pm** with music, worship and prayer.
And **The Waterford on Sunday, February 16th, 3 pm**

Chat & Chew Quilt Club
Next meeting will be on **March 17, 2025.**

Men's Disciple Fellowship!

The Men's Fellowship next meeting will be **Tuesday, February 18th, 12 Noon** at the Amvets on Fourth Street ~ All Men are Welcome to attend!!!



Nelson cleaning the tires on the renovated bike in the snow!!!!

Sarah Group: No Meeting until March 4, 2025!

*Please See **Dominic Morris** or give him a call if you have questions at **419-989-5142** to sign up to be a Deacon &/or Deaconess to Prepare Communion (supplies are provided) and to Pass the Offering Trays each Month*

Worship & Music Committee

We will have a short meeting **Feb. 9th in the Chapel** after Church. Thank you to all who helped in the Christmas Eve service, helped with the Poinsettias and helped put all the Christmas/Advent decorations away for another year.

We are a truly blessed congregation.
Beth and Committee

Elder's Meeting

The Elder's will meet **Tuesday, February 4th, 7 pm** via Zoom.

*Church Board meeting will be held **Wednesday, February 12th, via Zoom, 7 pm***



- 3rd Darrell Glenn
Marilyn Johnson
Sandy Stout
- 5th Tony Morris
- 10th Susan Dyson
Ruth Warner
- 11th Susan Phallen
- 14th Bonnie Glenn
Scott Danison
Linda Zartman
- 21st Fred Kohler
Annie Bibler

February Anniversary

*February 12th
Denny & Linda Marsh-Miller will
celebrate their 14th Wedding Anni-
versary*

EUCHRE PLAYERS:

NO EUCHRE in February.

*The Outreach Committee is happy to
Wish each of You a very Happy Birth-
day and to say "Thank You" for your
contribution to the Birthday Fund which
helps with the cost of our
monthly Community
Breakfast. We truly ap-
preciate your support.*

Euchre will resume March 21, 2025
at 5:00 pm Enjoy your winter
break!

Early March Birthdays:
8th Ray Mellick
13th Connie Baker

January Elders:

- 02/02 Jill Danison
- 02/09 Ray Mellick
- 02/16 Stacia Scott (Waterford 3 pm)
- 02/23 Scott Danison

Lay Leaders

- Marilyn Johnson
- Stacia Scott
- Teresa Lupton
- Need a Volunteer

Greeters:

February Front Door: Need a Volunteer
March, 2025 Front Door: Need a Volunteer
(If unable to Greet ~ Contact Peggy Boddy 419-512-0696)

Preparing Communion February: Sandy Stout
Preparing Communion March: Need a Volunteer

Diaconates February: Need Volunteers

From Your Church Secretary, Sandy

Welcome February!!!



- ◇ *The first month of the New Year is over already ~ Just yesterday we were celebrating the New Year*
- ◇ *January was a good month ~ We celebrated Epiphany, enjoyed learning more about the North End Community Improvement Collaborative (NECIC), we had a good Annual meeting on the 19th followed by a delicious pot luck carry in meal.*
- ◇ *On February 9th we will learn more about Mansfield's connection to Ameri-Corps with Debra Bey from I-Connect. After the worship service, we are invited into the lounge for snacks and more conversation with Debra.*
- ◇ *Attn: Community Breakfast workers ~ Please continue to make things easier for the Community Breakfast Shoppers by writing on the white board what supplies that are needed for the next month breakfast. The white board is on the door of the supply room!!!*
- ◇
- ◇ **The March, 2025 Quest deadline will be: Tuesday, February 25th for Committee meetings, Notices, Photos, Articles, etc ~ Quest will be emailed & mailed Thursday, February 27th!!!!**

Be such a person, and live such a life, that if everyone were such as you, and every life a life such as yours, this earth would be God's paradise.

Phillips Brooks



December Numbers

			YTD
1st	97	Income: \$	\$26,853
8th	90	Expenses: \$	<u>\$11,975</u>
15th	46	Difference: \$	\$14,878
22nd	130		\$9,531
29th	<u>76</u>		

439 (includes visitors & Children)
Via Zoom, Sanctuary attendees
& Facebook Viewers

Sermons & Scriptures– February, 2025

Feb. 2nd	“The Favor of God” 4th Sunday after the Epiphany	Hebrews 2:14-18 Luke 2:22-40
Feb. 9th	“Let Down the Nets” Second Sunday Speaker Series: <i>Friends from I-Connect of Mansfield</i> 5th Sunday after the Epiphany	1 Corinthians 15:1-11 Luke 5:1-11 <i>Micah 6:8</i>
Feb. 16th	“Blessings and Woes” 6th Sunday after the Epiphany	1 Corinthians 15:12-20 Luke 6:17-26
Feb. 23rd	“Love and Judgement” 7th Sunday after the Epiphany	1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50 Luke 6:27-38



Please remember our Prayer Concerns

The Family of George Gutchall as George passed away January 13th; Celebration of Life was January 23rd;
The Family of Bea Nedrow (Jackie Steele’s mother) as Bea passed away January 18th;
Ann Appleby (Jane Stout’s sister) is currently hospitalized in Norton Hospital, Louisville, KY for more through tests and treatments;

“Thank You” to people in the neighborhood in helping to keep the church grounds clean ~ Rick McVicar

Remember those who have ongoing health concerns: Frank Daniell, Darrell Glenn, Theresa Hilbert, Carl Weber, Lisa Stout, London & Carley Hamilton, Pat Gulley, Carolyn Hootman, Joe Schultz, Baby Garrett Egler (friend of Laurie Parish), Dale, Sharon Ryan, Jared Luna, Michelle Adams (Sandy Woosley’s sister-in-law), Robert and Delores Au & Troy and Krista Cramer family; Kennedy Evelyn Scott (great-granddaughter of Bill & Stacia Scott), Terry Hall, Christa Storch & Steve Storch (son and daughter-in-law of Sandy Stout)



Those serving in the Armed Services: Nick Bowman, Army; All current military serving here and/or abroad

Please forward prayer concerns & updates to Pastor David &/or Sandy