

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

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

The Quest

July, 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

I'm writing this month's newsletter article while I'm in the midst of attending Adult Conference. Over the past several years we have needed to make some adaptations to what has been

The Pastor's Peace

a beloved gathering of Disciples within our Region for many decades.

I would love to say that all of the changes taking place have been enthusiastically embraced by everyone. But that wouldn't be entirely honest. As those who have faithfully attended the Conference for many years continue to age the participation level has decreased dramatically. The median age has become older while the number coming has become smaller. Since COVID there have been serious conversations on whether this beloved annual tradition of faithful learning has run its course.

A few years ago a decision was made to make some of the changes and adaptations I referenced earlier. We invited the Heartland Conference of the United Church of Christ to be a full ministry partner. We let go of some time honored traditions that while they made sense to a very handful of 'old timers' were confusing to new attendees at best, and at worst served as obstacles and barriers for a new generation of participants.

As I write this article from Adult Conference I'm still energized by last night's vespers service, the dynamic preaching, the joyful singing and genuine sense of desired community. I have been asked to provide the morning devotion for our first full day together. And I have landed on sharing the story I typically tell the churches at both the start and conclusion of my interim ministry time with them. A story of a faltering faith community that desires to live on even as it struggles with declining numbers.

I have never found times of transition to be without challenge. Times of renewal are accompanied by a sense of loss that change inherently brings with it. Even as there is recognition that without change the outcome is painfully obvious, there is often a desire to simply turn back time.

As we approach the end of my year long interim call to serve First Christian Church Mansfield, I will be sharing this story once again in our time of worship together. I hope you will be with us on the last Sunday of July to hear it. Without giving the story away I can share that it ends with a positive outcome. I hope you will be with us to hear it in its entirety.

In all things with love!

Pastor David

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: Mansfield1stcc18 33@gmail.com and you will be added!!!!



PRAYER GROUP: Our first of the month Prayer Group will meet **Wednesday, July 2nd**. We will begin at 1:00 and conclude around 1:30 p.m. Please enter at the Fellowship Hall door as it will be available until 12:55. This allows Sandy and those in the office and others in the church to share in the group. Everyone is welcome to join in. We invite you to continue to share as a family as we also bring worship and music to our friends at Wedgewood at 2:30. All are welcome.

DIRECTORY UPDATES

Erv & Melanie Sweat
1126 Cobblefield Drive
Ontario OH 44903
Phones remain the same

Erv's new Email: ervinsweat@icloud.com
Melanie's Email remains the same

Rick McVicar
29 Olentangy St., Apt A1
Columbus OH 43202
Phone & Email remain the same

Kathy DeLozier only Phone Number is her Cell # 419-544-5676
She no longer has her landline

The FLOWERS ARE STARTING THE BLOOM!

Thank you for your donations to the Flower Fund and we hope you will enjoy reading the names of all the special Ladies & Gentlemen that have been honored:

Missed last month: My Loving Mother, Nancy Rogers, & Grandmothers Helen Piper Gutchall Armstrong & Flossie Rogers with Love Beth Armstrong & Family

The Gentlemen: ***My Dad, Bob Posekany, by Sue Dyson; My Dad, Bob Cresell, by Sandy Woosley; My Dad, George Rogers, my father-in-law, Bob Armstrong & Grandpa George Rogers, George Gutchall, & son, Andrew Armstrong ~ Love you so very much, by Beth & Family; Sons: William, James Lewis, Jason Craig, Jeremy L, Jarrod Allen by 5-8-9 Teresa Lupton; Ray Mellick, Best Dad and Grandpa!; Sons, Steve Storch & Shannon Stout, by Sandy Stout ; George Gutchall ~ a special dad, uncle & person, by Beth; Happy Father's Day!!! Harold Phillips, Jim Swanger & Jim Lupton, 5-8-9 Teresa Lupton; Dude, for the greatest son & my loving grandpa, Hubble Marlow, by Laurie Parish; In Memory: Father, Russell Glenn, Brother, Dean Glenn, Nephew, Scott Glenn by Kathy DeLozier***

Pantry Pedals Bike Ministry June 19, 2025

We're having a very successful half-year downstairs in the bike shop. As of January, we have distributed 28 adult bikes and six bikes for children. In May, which is National Bike Month, we handed out 30 bikes. Additionally, we sold two adult bikes for \$300 to add to our repair fund, which mostly buys tires, tubes, brake cables and handlebar grips. That total comes to 36 bikes out the door with smiling new owners. Our excellent mechanics are David Miller, J. Ferguson, and new this year, Gary Smith, who purchased a bike in early January.

Respectfully submitted,
Nelson Shogren

Sharman Hartson
Sunday, May 25th



Regional Elder Robin Myers, June 1st

Our New Path Forward

As we move into hot summer days and celebrations, I am mindful of all types of celebrations. On Saturday, June 21st, my family drove from Indiana in the extreme heat to help me put together a flower cart and fill it with flowers, as a tribute garden to my sister. We also made our way to the Buckeye Express Train for a cool celebration meal including "Aunt Sandy" who has been a part of our family celebrations for many years. It was a good celebration with them in church Sunday morning and enjoy a meal together before they drove back to Indiana in a car without air conditioning. They ate ice cream for supper before letting me know they were home.

We are coming to a new phase in our journey at First Christian Church. It is always good to celebrate who we are and where God is leading us, even if it is in small steps and shared celebrations with beg fans to keep us cool. God is leading us and calling us to listen for each whisper and shout as we move into our new shared path.

*Blessing for all of life's celebrations,
Jane Stout*

DISCIPLE MEN'S FELLOWSHIP GROUP

The Disciple Men's Fellowship wishes to thank all those who came to the Strawberry Festival on Sunday, June 8th. We enjoyed



the fellowship of preparing it. There was enough in the donation jar to pay expenses and have \$295.00 left to give to the Community Breakfast Fund



Hygiene Kits ~ We are collecting Hygiene Kits for Church World Service

Beginning in March you may bring in completed kits or the items listed below:

1 hand towel (measuring 15"x28" or 16"x32") (March)

1 washcloth (March)

1 wide-tooth comb (removed from Package) (April)

- ♦ *Must be Sturdy with at least 6 inches of teeth*
- ♦ *No Pocket Combs or Picks*
- ♦ *Rattail & Combs without handles are acceptable*

1 finger nail or toe nail clipper (removed from Package) (May)

1 Bath size bar of soap in original package (June)

1 toothbrush in original packaging (July)

10 standard size Band-Aids (August)

If you make the kits yourself, **DO NOT add toothpaste.** Seal all items in a one-gallon plastic bag with a zipper closure.



See Listing for CWS Period Packs & CWS Kids Kits

Preparing Communion

Please see the sign up sheet to Prepare Communion (grapes are provided) ~ Also, to serve as a Diaconate to collect the offering ~ Please see Dominic Morris for an questions!!!

A very huge "Thank You" is given to the members of First Christian Church, their families, and friends for all the donations to the Rummage Sale June 19, 20 & 21.



A very huge "Thank YOU" to members that were able to come and set up and work the sale: Kathy, Stana, Karyl, Jane M, Peggy and Teresa.

May the Lord bless each of you for your kindness and keep you healthy and safe.

We raised a little over \$500.00 for the General Fund.

Teresa

COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

Our Community Breakfast the 3rd Saturday of each month will be

Saturday, July 19th

Set up & preparation begins at 7 am

Serving **8:30 to 10:00 am**

~ Clean up to follow at 10:30 am.

Menu for July will be:

French 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.

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 are emailed prior to the meeting

The Elder's will be having a Worship Service at **Wedgewood** on **Wednesday, July 2nd at 2:30 pm** with music, worship, and prayer & **The Waterford** on **Sunday, July 20th at 3:00 pm**

Chat & Chew Quilt Club
Our next meeting is a Pot Luck Lunch on Monday, July 21st at 11:00 am. Bring your completed quilt squares.

Elder's Meeting
The next Elder's Meeting is Tuesday, July 1st, via Zoom at 7:00 pm

Sarah Group is off for the Summer months of June, July and August; however, you may still bring in Hygiene Kits or the various supplies for the Hygiene Kits; Plus please note we are adding CWS Period Packs and CWS Kids Kits

Disciple Men's Fellowship
Will meet Tuesday, July 15th at 12 Noon at the Amvets on Fourth Street

Church Board
Will meet Wednesday, July 9th at 7:00 pm in-person in the Lounge Upstairs ~ Please arrive by 6:55 pm at Fellowship Hall Door

Worship & Music Committee
Committee to meet Sunday, July 6th in the Lounge, following worship service to plan for the August picnic

Euchre Card Party, Friday, July 18th, at 5:00 pm in Fellowship Hall ~ Please sign up on the Sign Up Sheet on the Table outside of the Sanctuary so we know how many table and chairs to set up ~ Also, bring a snack to share



5th Les Jones
9th Hal Johnson
10th Nelson Shogren
11th Joyce Beam
17th Stana Shogren
21st Noelle Morris-Dudgeon

The Outreach Committee is happy to Wish each of You a very Happy Birthday and to say "Thank You" for your contribution to the Birthday Fund which helps with the cost of our monthly Community Breakfast

July Anniversaries
07/07 Jim & Connie Baker 41st

07/09 Ray & Jane Mellick 64th

07/09 Eli & Hannah Johnson 3rd

07/10 Tim & Marsha Hoover 49th

07/11 Larry & Theresa Hilbert 27th

07/14 Harry & Beth Armstrong 52nd

07/27 Harold & Barbara Troupe 68th

07/27 Nelson & Stana Shogren 51st

07/28 Chase & Corrin Ward 2nd

Lay Leaders

Elders

07/06	Missy Parish	Missy Parish
07/13	Jill Danison	Need a Volunteer
07/20	Stacia Scott (Waterford 3 pm)	Teresa Lupton
07/27	Ray Mellick	Need a Volunteer

Greeters

July, 2025 Front Door: Barb Kirkpatrick

August, 2025 Front Door: Sandy Stout

(If unable to Greet ~ Contact Peggy Boddy 419-512-0696)

Preparing Communion July: Peggy Boddy

Preparing Communion August: Need Volunteer

July Diaconates: Need someone to Volunteer w/Dom

From Your Church Secretary, Sandy

Hello July!!!



- ◇ Hello Summer ~ 90+ degree days with heat index's of 100+ ~ I truly hope you all are staying "cool"!!
- ◇ Pentecost Sunday was a wonderful day and we truly enjoyed the Men's Strawberry Festival ~ Do you agree with me, the Men are great cooks!!!!
- ◇ I know several ladies who are very happy to be home resting following their diligent work at this years Spring Rummage Sale
- ◇ Then Saturday Morning, June 21st we hosted a record setting number of neighbors and patrons for the Community Breakfast as we ran out of most everything ~ Please see the sign up sheet outside the Sanctuary to sign up to help at our July Community Breakfast when we will be serving French Toast along with all our regular breakfast items!!!!
- ◇ *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 August 2025 Quest deadline will be: Tuesday, July 29th for Committee meetings, Notices, Photos, Articles, etc ~ Quest will be emailed & mailed Thursday, July 31st !!!

Change is difficult but often essential to survival. Les Brown

May Numbers

4 th	26	Income	\$ 5,763	\$57,346
11 th	104	Expense	<u>\$13,507</u>	<u>\$66,319</u>
18 th	78	Difference	-7,744	-8,973
25 th	<u>31</u>			

**253 (includes visitors & Children)
Via Zoom, Sanctuary visitors
And Facebook Viewers**

Sermons & Scriptures- July, 2025

July 6th

Galatians 6:7-16
Luke 10: 1-11, 16-20

July 13th

Community Speaker: Officer Allen Edwards
Mansfield Police Dept Crisis Negotiator

Colossians 1:1-14
Micah 6:8

July 20th

Colossians 1:15-28
Luke 10:38-42

July 27th

Colossians 2:6-15
Luke 11:1-13



Please remember our Prayer Concerns

Christa Storch (Sandy Stout's daughter-in-law) going through additional Chemo treatments for her brain cancer;

Diane Napier (Bill & Stacia Scott's neighbor) was attacked by a dog damaging both arms requiring surgery;

Leslie (an acquaintance of Beth Armstrong) of Loudonville, a victim of domestic violence currently in Akron Hospital;

Rantavia (Ray & Jane Mellick's neighbor) is waiting on a kidney transplant



June 21st Community Breakfast Prayer Requests are on the table beside the sign up sheets

Remember those who have ongoing health concerns: Frank Daniell, Darrell Glenn, Theresa Hilbert, Lisa Stout, London & Carley Hamilton, Carolyn Hootman, Joe Schultz, Baby Garrett Egler (friend of Laurie Parish), Sharon Ryan, Robert and Delores Au & Troy and Krista Cramer family; Kennedy Evelyn Scott (great-granddaughter of Bill & Stacia Scott), Terry Hall, Sherry Bowman

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

PERIOD PACKS

- 1 – 1 gallon Ziplock Bag
- 2 – 2 oz bottle hand sanitizer
- 3 – 4 gallon bathroom trash bags
- 1 – Travel Pack of Wet Ones
- 10 Unscented Tampons
(5 regular , 5 super absorbency)
- 12 Sanitary napkins
(Long super ultra-thin)
- 1 – Bath-Size bar of soap (3 oz bar
Or larger – No Ivory or Jergen's Soap)
- 1 – Pack of flushable wipes
(Unscented, 42 count)
- 6 – fragrance-free laundry detergent
(Place sheets in small Ziploc Bag)



CWS KIDS KIT

- 1 box of 12 colored pencils (in box)
- 1 – 2 pocket folder
- 1 – Glue Stick (We have several already)
- 1 – Pair of blunt scissors removed from package (rounded tips, ONLY)
- 1 – 70-page count spiral bound notebook
(no loose-leaf or filler paper)
- 1 – 30-centimeter / 12" ruler
- 1 – hand-held pencil sharpener removed from package
- 1 – Large Eraser (No pencil Cap Erasers)
- 6 – New Unsharpened Pencils with erasers
(removed from packing & use a rubber band to hold pencils together)
- 1 – Box of 24 crayons (Only 24)
- 1 – 12"x14" to 14"x17" finished size cotton
Or lightweight canvas bag with handles (solid color or kid-friendly Fabric ~ NO Logos or Reusable Shopping Bags or Backpacks)
(I saw these at Hobby Lobby crafts)
- 1 – handmade or store-bought pencil Pouch (optional item)

