

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

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

The Quest

September, 2026

Leadership Team

Pastor Nick Zuercher

Minister

Sandy Stout

Church Secretary

Kathy DeLozier

Music Director

Beth Armstrong

Chairperson of the Board

Stacia Scott

Vice-Chairperson of the Board

Stana Shogren

Church Treasurer

Sue Dyson

Finance Secretary

Dominic Morris

Diaconate Chair

Stacia Scott

Chair 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
Quest Newsletter, the Wednesday Mid-
Week Update, the Church Calendar and so
much more

Sometimes trying to figure out God's will for our lives can be just dog on hard. There have been times when I haven't had a clue what God is doing in my life. Yet, looking back on most of those times, I can see what God was doing.



Several years ago, I was working for my uncle in Cincinnati. We lost a major account that accounted for approximately 50% of our business. My uncle told me he was going to have to lay me off because he could no longer afford me. This was very difficult for me and I went a year without employment.

Fortunately, I had savings and my uncle allowed me to receive unemployment compensation. I had no clue what God was doing in my life. Then at the one year mark, I obtained a job with a bank in Loudonville, Ohio that I worked for as a college student many years before. Unfortunately, the wage was around \$10 an hour. I had a master's degree and I was working for \$10 an hour. I was not using my university education in finance or accounting. I was downright angry with God.

Looking back I can see a little bit of what God was doing. I had gone to seminary for almost 5 years and had pastored and been out of corporate accounting for several years. My experience with my uncle was more of a bookkeeping position as well. I had lost the edge in accounting and was no longer able to maintain a stressful job in accounting. I had forgotten a great deal of the fundamentals of accounting.

If I had obtained a job in accounting that paid well, I probably would not have succeeded in that role because I had been out of corporate accounting for so long. I worked as a bank teller for 8 long years. When I moved out to Nebraska to pastor a church, I obtained a job in accounting that was not requiring me to know Generally Accepted Accounting Principles. In other words, it was more of an administrative bookkeeping position. The pay was \$30.00 an hour enabling me to survive with my pastoral income in Nebraska.

The person who hired me for the accounting role liked my experience with Hewlett-Packard and liked the inherent integrity that a bank teller position required. Clearly the bank teller position helped me obtain this job. I previously thought that that bank teller position was garbage and had no purpose at all. God used that in my new role. Clearly I had been wrong and God was right. God is always right. There are no coincidences even though sometimes it seems like there are.

ATTN: Christian Builders Sunday School

It's that time again, after Labor Day to begin Sunday School. We will meet in the Lounge on September 13th. We will explore the topic of "Peace". It's mentioned over 267 times in the Bible so God must have believed in its importance. Join us for lively discussions.



Among the many treasures of First Christian Church history are hymnals that have been used:

In Excelsis 1896
 Gloria in Excelsis 1913
 Hymns of Praise Number Two 1936
 Christian Hymnways 1939
 Inter-Church Hymnal 1948
 Christian Worship a Hymnal 1956
 Hymns for the living church 1981
 Chalice Hymnal 1997 (currently used)



Now that schools are back in session from summer vacations: Remember to watch for School Buses and Children getting on or off ~ Be sure to STOP

Disciple Men's Fellowship will sponsor a Fish Fry again this year on Sunday, September 20th!

**Menu: Fried Fish
 Cole Slaw, Potato Salad
 Potato Chips**

Dessert: Texas Sheet Cake & Alaskan Sheet Cake

Beverages: Coffee, Lemonade, Iced Tea, and Apple Cider

Cost: Donation towards cost of foods ~ Monies above cost will go to the church

Please Sign-Up so we know how much to prepare!!!!

COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

Our Community Breakfast the 3rd Saturday
of each month will be **Saturday,
September 19th**

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



Menu for September: Pancakes,
Sausage Pattie, Biscuits and
Homemade 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.

DIRECTORY UPDATE:

Steve Howitz ~ Correct Address in Directory
270 N. Main St., Room 13, Mansfield OH 44902

I-Connect Classes:

Intro to Cell Phone Uses 11 – 12 Noon

Computer Classes 12:00 – 1 p.m.

Low Impact Chair Exercises 1 p.m. – 2 pm

**At Oasis of Love Church, 190 Chester Ave., just off of
Bowman Street (1st street on right past Harker on
Right)**

Class Day and Dates

Wednesdays, Sept 16th ~ 23rd ~ 30th



Outreach ~ September

Current Outreach Projects

- 1) Continue to be collecting gently used Pots, Pans, Dishes, Kitchen Utensils, along with bath items such as towels, washcloths and some bedding items!! Also asking if anyone crochets, knits or quilts to make a few pot holder or dish rags!!! This ministry is working hand in hand with Grace Episcopal Church and their Food Pantry Give Away and the Pantry has been very well accepted and attended. Pantry is Open 1st & 3rd Thursdays each month ~ This ministry is doing very very well!!! Busy each day they are open.
- 2) Also collecting clothing for Addy's Attic in Room 3 & 4 down stairs ~ They sort and size and then give away to those coming on the 1st & 3rd Thursday's plus then when open for the Community Breakfast! ~ This ministry is also doing very very well !!! Busy each day they are open!!!
- 3) This project has changed it's name to: COMMUNITY CONNECTOR CORE CARES an AMERICORPS I-CONNECT SERVICE: At our Community Breakfast, August 15th, the ladies passed out small personal hygiene kits and basic laundry supplies to the patrons at our breakfast.

Thank You to each of you for your contribution whether a kit or kits or the various items each month for the kits and those who made monetary donations to purchase the supplies needed for the kits!!!

Come on! Ring those Bells!
Practice time is near
Let us Praise our God
With joy, love and cheer.
Come on! Ring those Bells!!
Everybody say:
Jesus we remember this
You are the way.

When: Sundays, after Church
Beginning Sept. 13th

Where: Sanctuary

I have music available for everything from 4-8 ringers. Let me know if you will be able to join us this year. I would love to see this First Christian tradition continue!!

Kathy DeLozier, Music Director

PS: Please excuse the amateur poetry!

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!!!!



**Congratulations
Nelson on writing the
poem about the
Legends of Fleming
Falls & getting it
displayed!!!!**



Calendar Reminders

Chat & Chew Quilt Club

We will meet **Monday, September 21st** at 11:00 In Fellowship Hall for a Pizza Lunch. Lunch. Bring your personal and Xmas projects

Disciple Men's Fellowship

We will meet at Noon at the Amvets on Fourth Street on **Tuesday, September 15th**.

Elder's Meeting

The next Elder's Meeting is **Tuesday, September 1st** via Zoom at 7 pm

Sarah Group

Sarah Group returns Tuesday, **September 1st** ~ They will be putting the Hygiene kits together & package them for CWS pick up later this month ~ Lunch provided by Sandy Stout ~ Lunches \$5.00

Euchre Card Party

Euchre Party **September 18th**, 5:00 pm in Fellowship Hall ~ Bring a snack to share

Church Board

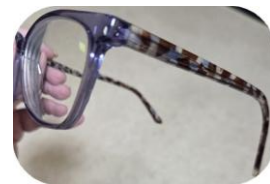
Will meet **Thursday, September 10th** at **7:00 pm** via Zoom

Worship & Music

We will meet in the Lounge on **Sunday, September 13th** after Worship Service to plan for World Communion Sunday, October 4th and All Saints Sunday, November 1st ~ Any new ideas or suggestions, Please Contact Laurie Parish



This pair of glasses was found in the kitchen downstairs



The Spoon was left at the Church Picnic on July 19th at Marshall Park

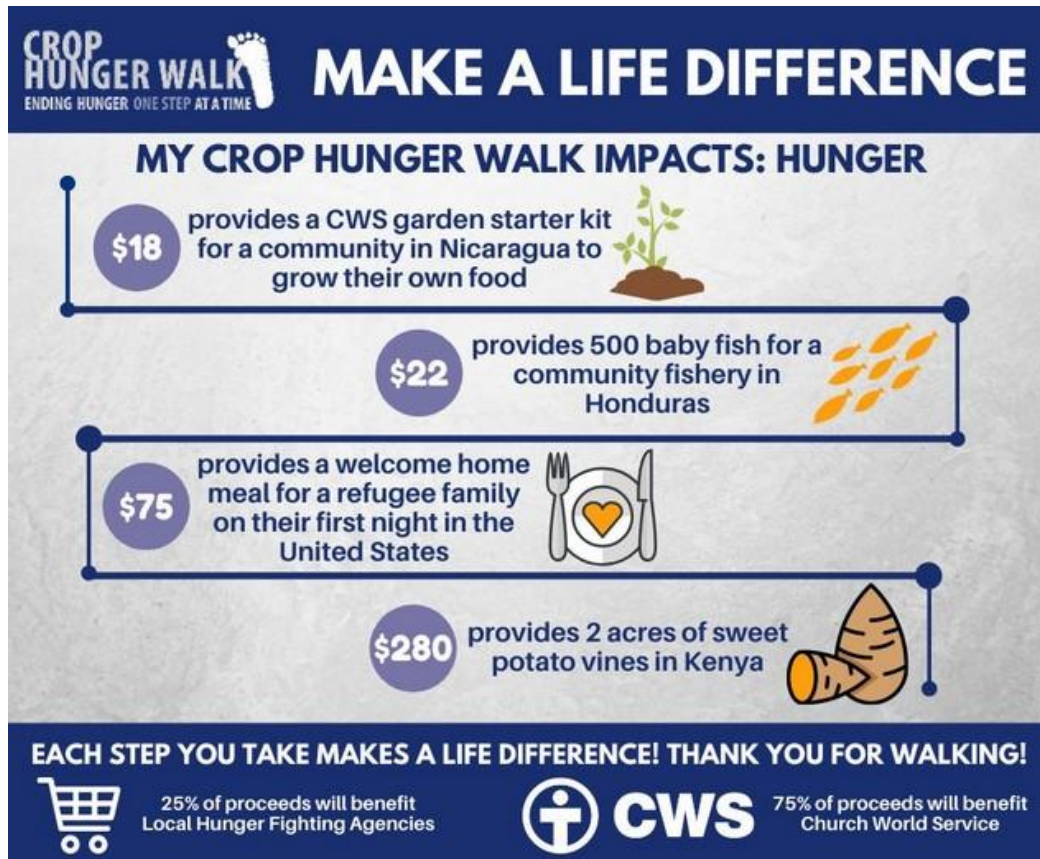


CROP HUNGER WALK ~ 2026

Sunday, October 4th

Beginning at Jericho Wall 1:30 and End at Jericho Wall
(walk maps are on the table outside the Sanctuary)

This year's local 25% will go to People Helping People



Register or Donate at:

<https://events.crophungerwalk.org/chn/event/MansfieldOH>

Greg Bibler will be in Fellowship Hall Saturday, Sept 12 9 – 10 am to assist anyone needing help with registration or navigating the website

Checks should be made Payable to: CWS/CROP
All Monies must be turned in no later than Oct. 18th
First Christian needs a Team Captain

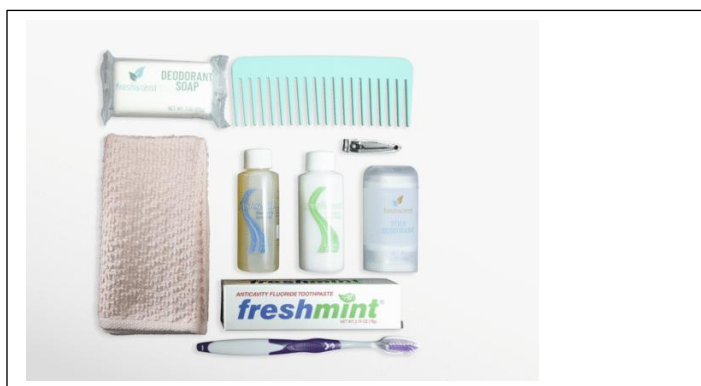
Hygiene Kits ~

We are collecting Hygiene Kits for Church World Service

***Beginning in January or sooner you may bring in completed kits or the items listed below:
Please Note, Items have changed from in the past:***

- 1 washcloth (January)
- 1 fingernail or toenail clipper (removed from Package) (Feb)
- 1 toothbrush in original package (March)
- 1 Bath size bar of soap in original package (April)
- 1 Travel-size deodorant (3.4 oz. or less, non-aerosol) (May)
- 1 Travel-size lotion (3.4 oz. or less, fragrance-free, NEW Only) (June)
- 1 Travel-size shampoo (3.4 oz. or less, NEW Only) (June)
- 1 Travel-size toothpaste (3.4 oz. or less, expiration date of 1 year) (July)
- 1 Sturdy wide-tooth comb (6" minimum teeth, packaging removed) (August)
- 1 gallon resealable plastic bag

Sarah Group Ladies will put together any non-completed items at their September meeting.



**We have a
cupboard in
fellowship hall
(behind the curtain)
to store the kits and
various supplies as
they come in.**

**If you're interested in putting the kid's kits together, please pick
up a copy of the supplies for it on the sign- up table**



September

**BIRTHDAYS
THIS MONTH**

2nd Norma Jean Gongwer

Larry Hilbert

Seth Dahlhausen

Teresa Lupton

5th Jean Bowden

13th Melanie Sweat

22nd Brynli Scott

Early October 2026 Birthdays:

8th Zachary Morris

*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*



September Anniversaries

09/04 James & Teresa Lupton, 27th

09/16 Hal & Marilyn Johnson, 59th



**May 1 thru
July 31, 2026
14 Households
shopped at Kroger
and earning a
\$42.94 donation to
the church**

Elders

09/06 Scott Danison

09/13 Jill Danison

09/20 Sandy Stout (Sing Lord's Prayer)

09/27 Stacia Scott

Lay Leaders

Stacia Scott

Peggy Boddy

Need a Volunteer

Carol Zuercher

GREETERS

September, 2026: Harold Troupe

October 2026: Need a Volunteer

(if unable to Greet ~ Contact Harold Troupe 419-468-2440)

PREPARING COMMUNION September ~ Ray Mellick

Preparing Communion October, 2026 Sandy Stout

September, 2026: *Diaconates to pass Communion in the Chapel ~*



From Your Church Secretary, Sandy

Hello September, Summer is gone and Fall will arrive at 8:04 pm on Tuesday, September 22nd and the kids are back of school

- Summer sure was a rainy summer!!!
- The Kitchen & Bath Pantry & Addy's Attic continue to serve the public very well and appreciate the items you have been donating ~ Please free to continue to bring in kitchen & bath items along with closing, especially Men's Clothing ~ These Ministry's will be open September 3rd and September 17th ~ plus Addy's Attic is open during our Community Breakfast!!!
- Time to start thinking about Operation Child Christmas Shoe Boxes ~ Collection Week is November 16-23rd ~ Need listing of items for the boxes ~ Listings are on the Table outside the Sanctuary ~ There are Boy/Girl Age 2-4; Boy/Girl Age 5-9 and Boy/Girl Age 10-14 ~ Also, Labels for Your Shoe Boxes ~ Now is a great time to shop with all the School Supplies out for sale
- Community Breakfast Workers ~ Please continue to check and use the check list or inventory listing for the Community Breakfast Shoppers by writing on the sheets ~ They are located on the inside door of the Pantry!!

The October 2026 Quest deadline will be: Tuesday, September 22nd for Committee meetings, Notices, Photos, Articles, etc. ~ Quest will be emailed & mailed Thursday, September 24th!! (the early date is to allow those getting it in mail time to receive prior to the beginning of the month)

To give without any reward, or any notice, has a special quality of its own.

Anne Morrow Lindbergh

		July Numbers	
5 th 18	Month	Year-to-date	
12 th 27	Income:	\$ 13,879	\$ 76,075
19 th 20	Expense	<u>\$ 7,627</u>	<u>\$ 80,414</u>
26 th <u>22</u>	Difference	\$ 6,252	\$ - 4,339
87			

(attendance includes Visitors,
Children, those joining via Zoom & in the
Chapel plus Facebook viewers)

Scriptures– September, 2026

Sept. 6th “True Faith”

John 4:46-54

Sept. 13th “True Contentment”

John 6:25-59

Sept. 20th “Christian Leadership

John 10:1-42

Sept. 27th “Integrity: The key to it all”

Scripture to be selected later



Please remember our Prayer Concerns

Sharon Ryan (friend of Laurie Parish) had a very serious series of surgeries at OhioHealth on August 19th

Jon Brokaw (nephew of Barb Kirkpatrick) going thru daily chem Treatments;

Dani (friend of Peggy Boddy) recently diagnosed with brain tumor

Janet Hess (sister to Sandy Stout) having heart ablation Sept. 9th at Ohio Health



August Community Breakfast Prayer Requests are on the table in the hallway outside of the Sanctuary on your way to the Chapel

Remember those who have ongoing health concerns: Frank Daniell, Darrell Glenn, Lisa Stout, Robert and Delores Au & Troy and Krista Cramer family; Marylyn Bradley, Terry Hall, Rantavia, Lisa, Julie Rogers-Milligan, Missy Bradley, Beverly Whitaker; Theresa Hilbert; Jane Stout; Kathy (a friend of Beth Armstrong's); Cruz Baker; Brian Dion; Sylvia Moritz; Jackie Steele; Dana Sauropod; Owen Uhrain; Kaitlynn List; Gary Hughes; Larry Zartman; Sally Warbel; Grandpa Luna, Pastor Nick Zuercher, Carol Zuercher, Harriett Kinder

All those serving in the Armed Services currently military serving here and/or abroad

Please forward prayer concerns & updates to Sandy or Stacia Scott, Elder Chairperson