

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

**PUBLISHED MONTHLY**

# The Quest

*November, 2024*

## **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](http://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 have now been serving as your interim minister for three months. I have greatly appreciated the warm welcome I have received and the openness to explore new possibilities during this time of transition.

# The Pastor's Peace

On October 20th we reconnected with Pastor Greg and Annie Bibler as he received a distinguished minister's pin from our Regional Pastor, Rev. Allen Harris. Thank you to everyone who helped with the worship service and the meal that followed.

The following Sunday, October 27th, we joined with our friends and neighbors of St. John's United Church of Christ for a time of shared worship and fellowship. Once again, thanks be to all who made this gathering together the celebration it was.

I invite you to consider who else we might invite to join us for meaningful worship, faith filled fellowship, and active engagement with our community. Is there a former member of First Christian Church you might consider reaching out to? Do you have a neighbor or someone in your circle of friends who might be in need of a safe space to feel the warmth and welcome of a loving and supportive faith community?

We are nearing the end of the church year which will conclude at the close of this month. And a new church year will begin on December 1. For the start of our new church year together I have chosen to use a worship series entitled 'Words for the Beginning' by Sanctified Art. Here is a brief introduction to what we will be encountering at the start of our new church year together.

*'Advent is a season of ending and beginnings. As the calendar year comes to a close, a new church year begins. Christ's birth ushers us into new ways of living and loving; and yet, the world as we know it spins madly on. In many ways, pregnant Mary was surrounded by endings—large and small, personal and political. But Mary proclaimed hope in a God who was and is making all things new. Christ's birth offered a beautiful new beginning for shepherds and Magi alike—all the while, King Herod tried to bring Christ's story to an end. When we ourselves navigate seasons filled with endings and beginnings, we need reminders. We need words that can feel like steady ground, like a path for our feet to find as we step forward into the unknown. We invite you to move through this Advent season as if you are entering a sacred new chapter, holding fast to the reminders that will bolster you for the journey ahead. As you journey through this season, may we find words for belovedness and hope. May you find words for beginning again. For no matter what you are facing, no matter what this new day brings, love is your beginning.'*

Our journey together during this time of pastoral transition is intended to be a time of fresh new beginnings for this beloved congregation. Journeys are often best experienced with traveling companions. Let's invite others to join us on the journey this year where love is our beginning!

In all things with love,

***Rev. David Zerby***

## **First Sunday conversations begin this month**

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"***

November 3 - Imagine a World with More Compassion

December 1 - Imagine a World with More Hope

January 5 - Imagine a World with More Community

February 2 - Imagine a World with More Justice

March 2 - Imagine a World with More Beauty

April 6 - Imagine a World with More Resurrection

## **Responding to Disasters**

Beginning November 6, I will be away for a week attending a special training for Disaster Response Leadership. This training is being conducted by the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Week of Compassion.

I have been actively involved and engaged with disaster response efforts for quite a few years now. Whether directly responding with onsite recovery or coordinating efforts on behalf of the wider church, I have seen the best of humanity respond to some of the worst situations.

If you are interested in learning about ways you can personally become involved with disaster preparedness, response, and recovery efforts please don't hesitate to reach out to me.

If you feel led to provide financial support as a means of assistance please do your research as best you can. There are many good relief organizations doing good work. There are some who are questionable. And unfortunately there are those who use tragedy as a means of collecting donations for their own personal gain.

Be wise in your efforts to help. If you want to help discerning what are good organizations to support that use sound financial practices and align with core values, feel free to ask me. My personal opinion, and based upon my own experiences, one of the best ways that we as members of a Disciples of Christ congregation can know our support efforts are used wisely is to contribute to Week of Compassion. You can learn more by connecting with this direct link: <https://www.weekofcompassion.org/>

***Pastor David***

## ***OUTREACH PROJECT***

***For the months of November and December we will, once again, be collecting hats, gloves, mittens, scarves and warm socks for the People attending People Helping People and our Community Breakfast in January.***



## **PrayGround Possibilities**

People are praying and Jesus is calling. Calling for you to come home to the PrayGround, where dreams grow along with apples and pears.

With winter approaching, now is a good time to start planning for how to improve the PrayGround in the spring. The elders have recently added four mums for fall colors. What should we plant for Easter?

And what kind of programming would you like to see take place on the sacred space? What types of prayer services would you like to experience?

Contact Rick McVicar with your ideas at 740-993-0490 or [mcvicarrick@gmail.com](mailto:mcvicarrick@gmail.com).



Dearest First Christian Church family,

Thank you so very much for the thoughtful recognition of Pastor Appreciation Month. The gift card is something that will certainly be put to good use. And while I appreciate the card, the best gift I have received from this church so far is your openness to exploring new ways and opportunities of being Christ in our community.

***Pastor David***



## 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.

### St John's United Church of Christ

Mark your calendars for the "Moving Sale" November 7th, 8th and 9th from 9 am to 5 pm at 68 Park Ave East

**See flier at end of this newsletter**



**Tuesday,  
November  
5th**

**Thank You First Christian Church  
~ We put out a call for 50 more  
Hygiene Kits and you come  
through with  
70!!!!**



### COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

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

**Saturday, November 16th**

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

Menu for November 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.*



## Operation Shoebox 2024



Yes, it's time to start thinking, purchasing items and packing the Christmas Shoeboxes.

The shoeboxes need to be here at church **by November 10th.**

Need Ideas: We have listings on the

table in the Library/Lounge area.

We have Boy/Girl ages 2-4;

Boy/Girl ages 5-9 and

Boy/Girl ages 10-14.

Need a shoebox, we have some extras here at church. See Sandy



Remember to move  
your clocks  
back one  
hour.



**Saturday night,  
November 2nd, be  
sure to turn your  
Clocks Back one  
hour**

~ This is when we gain that extra hour of sleep we lost in the Spring!!

**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!!!!



**CROP Hunger Walk 2024**

As of October 30th, First Christian Church collected (cash/ check & on-line) **\$415.00~**

As you can see, FFC was well represented in the crop walk

~

Thank You for your support of Pastor David and Sue Dyson !!!!!

**Poinsettia Order Form**



It's that time of year again. Below is the information you will need to order Poinsettias for the Holiday season. Please fill out and return with your check to the church office by December 15th. The Poinsettia's will be on the chancel on the 22nd, 24th and the 25th. They are all going to be **Red** this year

The cost is \$12.00 per plant. \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$12.00

Given in Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Given in Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

By \_\_\_\_\_

# 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, November 6th, 2 pm** with music, worship and prayer. And **The Waterford on Sunday, November 17, 3 pm**

## Chat & Chew Quilt Club

Will meet this month:

**Monday, November 18th at 11:00 am.** Bring your completed Christmas projects for the shut-ins. There will be a sign-up sheet for our Pot Luck meeting in December. Enjoy autumn as we sew.

## Men's Disciple Fellowship!

The Men's Fellowship next meeting will be **Tuesday, November 19th, 12 Noon** at the Amvets on Fourth Street ~ All Men are Welcome to attend!!!

**EUCHRE PLAYERS:** Euchre Card Parties **FRIDAY, November 15th, 5 pm** in Fellowship Hall

*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*

**Sarah Group:** Tuesday morning, **November 5th, 10:30 am in Fellowship Hall.** Jane Mellick will have the lesson & Karyl Eckenwiler will be fixing the light lunch. \$5.00 for lunch ~ All Ladies are Welcome! We will plan our December Pot Luck Lunch as this will be our last meeting until March 4, 2025

## Worship & Music Committee

All Saints Sunday, Nov. 3rd. ~ Poinsettia order form, \$12 each Red poinsettia  
Christmas Eve Service, 9 pm ~ See sign up sheet to light an Advent Candle  
Next Committee Meeting, Sunday, November 17th following Worship Service  
Set up for Christmas will be after church Nov. 24th  
All are invited to come Dec. 1st as we begin Advent for the Hanging of the Greens during our Worship Service

## Elder's Meeting

**The Elder's will meet Monday, November 4th, 7 pm via Zoom.**

*Church Board meeting will be held Wednesday, November 13th, via Zoom, 7 pm*





# November

## BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH



- 3rd Kathy DeLozier
- 8th Cody Baker
- 11th Beth Armstrong
- 14th Carol McFarland
- 17th Alex Cundiff
- 20th MacKenzie Danison
- 28th Missy Parish

**11/09/1961**  
*Greg & Annie Bibler will  
 celebrate their 28th Wedding  
 Anniversary*

**Final Total on the 2024 Fall  
 Rummage Sale: \$963.00**

*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 Com-  
 munity Breakfast. We truly appreciate  
 your support.*

***Advent Candle Lighters Needed***

*Please see the sign up sheet to light our Ad-  
 vent Candles on : Dec 1st, Dec 8th, Dec  
 15th, Dec 22nd & Dec 24th*

**Early December Birthdays:**

- 6th Kathy Jones
- Elizabeth Tuel
- 7th Casey Gillen

**Disciple Men's Fellowship** helped with the recep-  
 tion after the worship service with St. John's. We pro-  
 vided punch & cider. Next meeting is Tuesday, Nov.  
 19th at 12 Noon at the Amvets on West Fourth Street

**November Elders:**

- 11/03** Beth Armstrong (All Saints Sunday)
- 11/10** Scott Danison
- 11/17** Stacia Scott (Waterford 3 pm)
- 11/24** Joe Rice

**Lay Leaders**

- Ray Mellick**
- Stana Shogren**

**Greeters:**

**November Front Door: Need a Volunteer**

**December Front Door: Need a Volunteer**

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

**Preparing Communion November: Dom Morris**  
**Preparing Communion December: Need a Volunteer**

**Diaconates November: Dom Morris & Sandy Stout**  
**Diaconates December: Need 2 Volunteers**

## From Your Church Secretary, Sandy

Hello November, 2024!!!



- ◇ *November, this year is rapidly nearing and end and we will soon be saying Happy New Year, 2025 Please check the sign up sheet to possibly order God's Creation Calendar for 2025 ~ We need to be able to order 1 full box of 25 ~ Cost remains at just \$7.00 each ~ These make great gifts that can be used all year!!!!*
- ◇ *Check the Bulletin Boards outside of the Church Office. Rick McVicar has graciously volunteered to update !!!!!*
- ◇ *Check the sign up sheet to be an Advent Candle lighter during Advent Season ~ I have heard that the Advent Wreath along with the Communion Table will be on the floor in front of the Chancel.*
- ◇ *Attn: Community Breakfast workers ~ Let's 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 **December, 2024 Quest deadline** will be: **Tuesday, November 26th** for Committee meetings, Notices, Photos, Articles, etc ~ Quest will be emailed & mailed **Wednesday, November 27th!!!!**

*What you achieve through the journey of life is not as important as who you become.*



### Anonymous

#### August Numbers

			YTD
4th	139	Income: \$	7,246 \$ 94,053
11th	26	Expenses: \$	<u>10,420</u> \$ <u>85,156</u>
18th	103	Difference: \$	- 3,174 \$ 8,897
25th	<u>91</u>		

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

