



First
Christian
Church

faith · compassion · community

CALLER

116 E. Boyer St.
Wadsworth, OH 44281
(330) 336-6697
fccwadsworth.org

Revealing Christ by building lives of compassionate faith.

Pastor Sarah West, Senior Pastor

Pastor Shelby Baxter-Andrews, Associate Pastor/Director of Youth Ministries

**May
2023**

WHAT'S INSIDE

Minister's Musings	2
Board News	2
FCC News Brief	2
Stewardship	3
Chairman's Minute	3
Visioning	3
J.O.Y. Fellowship	5
Youth News	6
Outreach	7
Calendar	8

Help celebrate Pentecost on May 28 by purchasing geraniums to decorate the Sanctuary and the church grounds. Cost is \$4.50 per plant. Order forms are on the Registration Table in the Gathering Area.

Spring Clean Up!

Sat., May 13, 8:00 am

Bring your garden tools and help clean up our church grounds!



Summer Worship Hours

Begins May 28
Combined Worship
10:00 am

Outdoor worship will be held June 4, July 2, and Aug. 6. Lemonade on the Lawn will begin in June. Join your FCC family on the church lawn for fellowship and goodies each Sunday after worship.

**June Caller
Deadline
- May 10 -**



2023 VBS

June 13-16 ~ 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

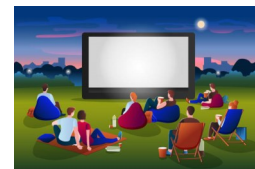
Launch kids on a cosmic quest where they'll have a blast shining Jesus' light to the world. Stellar rockets kids on an out-of-this-world adventure that's years of faith-building fun. Register online at vbspro.events/p/041ebf, use the QR Code, or email jodymlc1@gmail.com for more information.



Volunteers Needed!

Sign-up on the VBS website: vbspro.events/p/041ebf
or email Jody Meager jodymlc1@gmail.com.

Save the Date! FCC is hosting an Outdoor Movie Night on Fri., June 16, right at the end of Vacation Bible School! This is a great opportunity for families and people of all ages to come together and enjoy some time outside while watching a fun feature film. This event is FREE and open to the public.



J. O. Y. Crazy Cornhole Luncheon

Tuesday, May 23

Fellowship Hall ~ Noon - 2:00 pm



Mark your calendar for the next J.O.Y. event on Tues., May 23, in the Fellowship Hall from noon until 2:00 pm. We are going to have a Crazy Cornhole Luncheon. Cornhole like you have never seen before. No official rules will be followed just lots of crazy ways to play the game. Come to be a competitor or be a team supporter. Be sure to come for the laughs. Sloppy Joes, beverage, and place settings will be provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. Signup sheets will be in the Gathering Area starting Sun., May 7.

Outreach Garage Sale

Friday, June 2 ~ 9:00 am - 7:00 pm

Saturday, June 3 ~ 9:00 am - 4:00 pm



Keep the garage sale in mind as you clean this spring and evaluate what stays and what goes. Treasures are in the eye of the beholder, so there may be someone looking for what you would like to move out. We'll be receiving Garage Sale donations May 30, May 31, June 1 and open our sale on Fri., June 2, hoping to attract those attending First Friday. Everything not removed by June 4 will go to the Holmes County Thrift Store.

Musings From the Minister



Easter People

Perhaps you have heard the phrase “We are Easter People” somewhere along the line: in a Sunday Sermon, in a favorite song, on a refrigerator magnet. Even though the powerful and uplifting pageantry of Holy Week is over; the fragrance of the flowers has dissipated and the glory of the trumpet fanfares have receded, Easter is here to stay. The reality that Jesus ushered in through his resurrection, is the reality we are called to live each day.

To be “Easter People” is to put our confidence in the power of God to defeat the forces that seek to tear down, kill and destroy. Are these destructive forces still alive and at work in our world? - Yes. Does this world sometimes threaten to undo us? - Absolutely. But as the old hymn reminds us, “We will not fear for God has willed God’s truth to triumph through us”.

So let us celebrate the ways in which God’s truth, love, healing and power are even now defeating the death dealing forces in our world.

- For all who reach out with generosity towards their neighbors - sharing even out of their poverty.
- For all who cling fiercely to the promise that they are precious and loved by God despite the voices of depression, anxiety, despair, self-hatred, guilt and shame that try to convince them otherwise.
- For all who are finding strength and hope to battle addiction and illness, and for those who love and support their recovery.
- For all who refuse to support political forces that seek to demonize, dehumanize and divide. Choosing instead to speak out for human compassion, unity and justice for the “least of these”

In what areas of your life do you see God’s healing, hope, confidence and strength at work? How is God working through you to bear witness to the power of Christ’s resurrection in our world?

The Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, lives in you. And just as God raised Christ Jesus from the dead, he will give life to your mortal bodies by this same Spirit living within you. - Romans 8:11

Pastor Sarah



Thank you to everyone who purchased Easter Flowers and/or brought flowers to add to the Easter Flower Cross.

Board News

Sharon Wright, Board Clerk

Highlights of the March 14 Board Meeting:

There were 21 Board members, 4 staff, and 4 guests present.

The Board approved the following motions:

- To have a VBS Giving Tree in the Gathering Area to collect items needed for 2023 VBS in June.
- To allow the International Affairs Seminar sponsored by the Christian Church in Ohio to use our building as their host site for their 2024 trip.
- To purchase two microphones for a total of \$1,678 using funds from the Legacy Non-Budget Account.
- The use of Continuing Education Funds in the amount of \$1,719.28 to cover the cost of Pastors Sarah and Shelby attending the General Assembly in July in Louisville, KY.
- To move the remaining balance of \$228.17 in the CD Ministry Fund to the IT Special Fund closing the CD Ministry Fund.
- To create a committee to negotiate an agreement with the Wadsworth City Schools to rent classrooms in our Education Building for the 2023-2024 school year to accommodate the needs of a K-4 Alternative School of up to 20 children with behavioral disabilities.

Copies of the Board Minutes are available in the office.

Next Official Board Meeting

Tuesday, May 9, 7:00 pm
Fellowship Hall & Zoom
Everyone is welcome to attend!

FCC News Brief

New Members

Confession of Faith and Baptism

April 2

Daniel Boarman
Grace Bowen
Lily Church
Justin Hrutkai

Reaffirmation

Tom Kaufman

April 23

Deaths

Ron Hontert
Rick Holt

April 3
April 17

Funeral

Rick Holt

April 28

Sympathies to Dawn Holt, and David and Robert, on the death of their husband and father, Rick Holt, April 17.

Our Call to Mission

"The only thing that counts is faith working through love." - Galatians 5:6

Treasurer's Report

General Fund as of March 31, 2023

Submitted by Lisa Jones

GENERAL FUND CASH BALANCE

\$261,269.39

	CURRENT MONTH	YEAR TO DATE	YEAR TO DATE BUDGET	ANNUAL BUDGET
CONTRIBUTIONS				
Offerings	\$57,781.40	\$150,682.96	\$119,516.25	\$478,065.00
EXPENSES				
Personnel	\$22,479.89	\$70,087.59	\$83,678.25	\$334,713.00
Admin/Programs	6,589.51	22,991.10	24,587.97	98,352.00
Outreach	-	14,606.00	11,250.00	45,000.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$29,069.40	\$107,684.69	\$119,516.22	\$478,065.00

Thank You For Your Generosity

There are three ways you may continue to support the work of the church. You may submit your Offering by mailing it in, signing up for online giving on our webpage, or using the Givelify App. Contact the office for more information.

Chairman's Minute

Since returning to FCC in 1999, I've served this church in a number of capacities. Each role taught me something about God's grace, added to my humility, and strengthened my faith. Though I've only had the responsibility of Board Chair a very short time, I'm getting an entirely new and wonderful perspective on you, the congregation, and how you try to live out your faith in service and love. Each of you is truly a blessing to this church and this world.

As Moses and Paul would attest, being a church is not at all simple. The practical and the spiritual aspects of people and faith can be fairly complex because we're always experiencing new challenges and opportunities while we continue to learn how to live and grow together. I can tell you that I'm eternally grateful for the support you've already shown me as we break new ground here at FCC.

As the church year winds down and we move into the summer months, I'd like to encourage you to do as Paul did. Continue to speak the truth to one another lovingly; show up for our friends and neighbors in need; invest time wisely; and thank God for all blessings that are both seen and unseen.

I invite you to connect with me as you are so called at 330-416-1232 or kkaufman@fccwadsworth.org. Yours in Christ, Kevin Kaufman, Board Chair. May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all. Amen.



This month I want to highlight the Community Visibility and Media Marketing objective led by Visioning Committee members Kirt Virgin and Roger Wright. Also, on this Task Force Team are Pastor Sarah West and Office Manager Donna Kronander.

This Task Force Team has met several times and are in the process of ordering banners/signs to advertise FCC events like VBS and movie night and you have already seen the church yard signs for the Chili Cook Off this past April.

In addition, updated banners have been ordered for the Colonnade and parking lot and banners on either side of the front doors that will mostly be seasonal have also been ordered. Yard signs

for congregation members and a church logo are also being considered as they continue to meet and brainstorm on a regular basis.

Faith

Compassion

Community

Yours in Christ,
Val Baughman, Visioning Chair



Dear Church Family

Thank you to our church family for Mom, Billie Hilton, while she was in the hospital and then for my family as we have been mourning her passing in March. Thank you for all the cards and messages you sent to let us know you care. Thank you to everyone who set up, served and cleaned up after the funeral dinner. And thank you to Pastor Sarah, Donna, Chad Gray, Karen Leatherman, and Nanci Sullivan that made her funeral absolutely touching and beautiful. God Bless You All, Felicity Wilson

Thank you church family for all the cards, texts, phone calls, hugs, and prayers when my Dad passed away. Your support and comforting words during this difficult time meant more to us than words can express. And a special thank you to Pastor Sarah for honoring my Dad with a beautiful graveside service and for always checking in on me and my family. With gratitude and love, Val and Jerry Baughman

Many thanks to the Outreach Committee and everyone who made the Chili Cook Off so successful! From chili cooks, to those who cut fabric and sewed the cool potato bakers and microwave bowl liners, managed the money and the tickets, to the setup and clean-up, many hands were involved in raising over \$600 for Helping Haitians in Need! Pastor Eddy will be thrilled! He and HHN thank FCC for their love and care toward our work. The Board of HHN.



Special thanks to Bill Tuck
for installing a new drinking
fountain in the Ed Wing!

Special Thank Yous

Thank You from Rev. Barbara Bartholomew of Grace Lutheran Church for our participation along with other local churches in the Lenten Services and lunches. \$705 was raised for FISH.

Notes About Folks

Sympathies to Val and Jerry Baughman and Dick and Pauline Thompson and families on the death of their father and brother, Bob Thompson, Mar. 25.

Sympathies to Nancy Buohl and family on the death of her grandson, Brandon Dunn.



80+ Birthdays

Brenda Grom	5/03/40	Bob Rodgers	5/19/41
Barb Sherwin	5/05/41	Joyce Ernest	5/24/42
Barb Jocoy	5/06/43	Lee Kimble	5/25/41
Dean Sullivan	5/11/37	Gladys Barnard	5/26/38
Bob Eley	5/19/42		
Bob Parmelee	5/19/41		

50+ Anniversaries

Brenda & John Grom	5/19/62
Susan & Jerry Ritzman	5/22/70
Nancy & Dave Cordas	5/29/71



J.O.Y. Event
April

END-OF-YEAR BANQUET

All 6th-12th graders and their families are invited to our end-of-the-year banquet! We will celebrate our seniors, thank our volunteers, and enjoy a meal together. The banquet will take place May 7th after second service. Parent volunteers needed to help prepare and serve lunch!

SENIOR SUNDAY

Let's celebrate our seniors! Join us on May 7th during second service for our Baccalaureate celebration. We will honor our seniors and all of our CYF youth will pass out carnations to those who have made an impact in their life over the past year.

URBAN PLUNGE

All rising 6th graders through graduated seniors are invited to join us for our second annual Urban Plunge mission week, June 5-9!

We'll be serving in the mornings, playing games and hanging out in the afternoons, and worshipping together in the evenings before dinner. Sign up today or see Pastor Shelby for more information!

ICE CREAM FRIDAYS

Join Pastor Shelby this summer on Fridays for a sweet, cool treat at Bidingers from 4:30-5:30pm. June 2, July 7, and August 4, 11, 18, & 25.



CHI RHO

FCC will be attending Chi Rho camp from June 18-24.

The alternate dates are July 9-15.

Registration is open! See your email or the camp website for more information.

CYF

FCC will be attending CYF camp from July 16-22.

The alternate dates are June 18-24.



Red Bag Item Cereal

Come join us paint the administration building at Camp Christian May 15-18. Sleep free in the Monroe Lodge and returning painters pay \$15/day for meals for our three-day stay. If you have never painted with us, all your meals are free.



Outreach thanks all of our church members for their generosity on Sat., April 15, with a vast array of personal care products, towels, blankets and laundry products collected by our Drop & Drive volunteers. We divided items among Marian's Closet, Francis House Recovery, and Haven of Rest. The recipients were very appreciative of the items you shared. Thank you.



Thank you for enjoying chili or soup with us April 15. We were able to send \$625 to Helping Haitians in need. Didn't get your potato pocket or soup bowl cozie for microwaving? We still have some available at the Garage Sale.

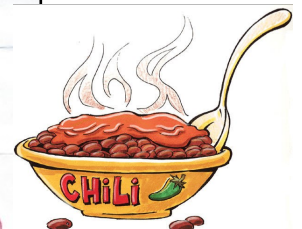
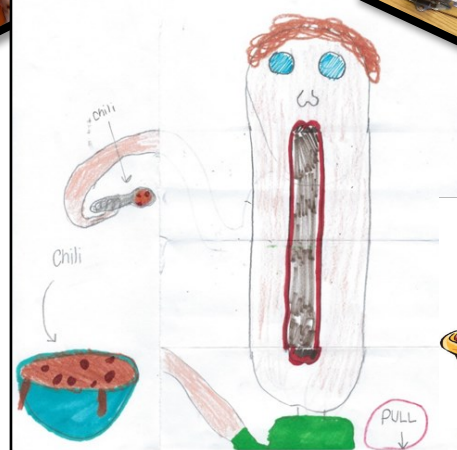
Ron Carlson and Mary Rayburn delivering a mini-van load of personal care items to Haven of Rest.



CHILI



Thank you to our youth who produced 8 chili posters for our event.



Sunday Morning Worship

Contemporary - 8:45 am
 Sunday School - 10:00 am
 Traditional - 11:15 am

May 28
 Summer Worship Hours Begin
 Combined Worship
 10:00 am

YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/user/FCCWadsworthMedia>

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/>

[FirstChristianChurchWadsworthOhio/](https://www.facebook.com/FirstChristianChurchWadsworthOhio/)

WCTV Channel 17
 Tuesday - 11:00 am, 5:00 pm, 9:00 pm
 Wednesday - 8:00 am

Office Hours

9:00 am - 4:00 pm ~ Monday, Tuesday, Thursday
 Closed Wednesday
 9:00 am - 1:00 pm ~ Friday



Follow Us!
fccwadsworth

FCC CALLER

First Christian Church
 116 E. Boyer Street
 Wadsworth, OH 44281

Address Service Requested

 Non-Profit Organization
 U.S. Postage Paid
 Wadsworth, OH 44281
 Permit No. 5

May Dates to Remember

Find updated information regarding church events on the FCC Webpage, Facebook Page, and the Weekly Update sent out every Friday afternoon.

Weekly

Wednesday		
Chancel Choir		5:30 pm
Bells of FCC		7:00 pm
Thursday		
Worship Team RhS		6:30 pm

Daily

May 2	Elders Mtg	7:00 pm
May 6	Sewing Sisters	9:00 am
May 7	Red Bag Sunday	
"	Baccalaureate Sunday	
"	Youth Banquet	12:30 pm
"	Wildflower Walk	1:00 pm
May 9	Official Board Mtg	7:00 pm
May 11	DEI Mtg	7:00 pm
May 13	Spring Clean Up	8:00 am
May 14	Mother's Day	
May 15-18	Outreach Painting/Camp Christian	
May 16	Outreach Comm Mtg	7:00 pm
May 21	Wadsworth Commencement	
"	JYF	10:00 am
May 23	J.O.Y. Event	12:00 pm
May 24	All Church Planning Mtg	7:00 pm
May 28	Outreach Pancake Breakfast	8:00 am
"	Summer Worship Begins	10:00 am
May 29	Office Closed - Holiday	
May 30	Garage Sale Drop Off	
May 31	Garage Sale Drop Off	
May 31	Ice Cream Friday	4:30 pm



Women's Ministry Wildflower Walk
 Sunday, May 7, 1:00 pm
 Hubbard Valley

Request in Home By May 3, 2023

Regional News

Ohio Disciples Men's Spring Retreat and Workday - May 5-6, at Camp Christian. Register at this [LINK](#).

Disciples Fellowship Retreat - May 26-28. The retreat is an opportunity to reconnect with Camp Christian, friends, family, and to make new friends. "Self-Care for Serving God" will include programming for all ages with interactive break-out sessions. This is an extremely family-friendly event.

Community News

Trinity UCC - Organ Concert - Sun., May 7, 4:00 pm. A free-will offering will be taken to support the Trinity Concert Series and the artists.

Habitat for Humanity of Medina County - Fundraiser at Williams on the Lake, Wed., May 17, 6:00 pm. More details can be found at <https://medinahabitat.org/news-events>.

Cleveland Christian Home 33rd Annual Golf Scramble for Kids - Mon., June 26, Shaker Heights Country Club. For more information: cchome.org/scramble.

Homebound Members Listing

An information sheet is located by the Registration Table in the Gathering Area for those interested in sending a card or a note to our homebound members.