

First Christian Church
620 N. Main St.
Findlay, OH 45840
419-422-5615



The Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)

The Lamplighter



You are the light of the world...no one after lighting a lamp puts it under a bushel basket...let your light shine before others..."

October
2015

WEB PAGE:

www.fccfindlay.org

WEB ADDRESSES:

info@fccfindlay.org - For people who are looking for information about our church

pastorrick@fccfindlay.org - For people who want to contact Pastor Rick

jsnyder@fccfindlay.org - For people who want to contact Jane Snyder, Board moderator about church business or the Board agenda items.

FCC Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/fccfindlay

Church Office Hours: 9:00 am - 2:30 pm, Tuesday–Friday

To you wonderful folks of First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) of Findlay,

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. - Matthew 6:21

Rev. Kenneth L. Samuel, Pastor of Victory for the World Church, Stone Mountain, Georgia, recently wrote about a Sunday School teacher who said to the class: "According to the gospel, the love of money is the root of all evil." A student responded: "Well, it's not that I love money, I just love the things money can buy."

I agree with Rev. Samuel's conclusion that what we love says a lot about who we are. And since we usually spend our money on the things we love, our financial statements are really statements of self-disclosure. They reveal our true priorities, our true values and our true delights.

Talk is cheap, Rev. Samuel goes on to say. How true that is! We can say that we are committed to being healthy and avoiding/controlling diabetes through a healthy diet and exercise, but if we are spending more on junk food and alcohol than we are on vegetables and exercise, we know what has really taken precedence in our hearts.

We can say that we love the church and we are committed to the vitality and sustainability of its mission, but if our financial contributions to the church do not reflect the substantive consistency of God's faithfulness in our lives, we know what the priorities of our hearts really are.

We can say that we value public education as the greatest agent of racial integration and economic uplift that America has ever produced, but

if we allow the problems plaguing public education to make us abandon all efforts to adequately fund it and make it more efficient, our funding decisions will say a lot about what we really value at the heart of our nation.

The price of a thing does not necessarily reveal its value, Rev. Samuel maintains. I concur. But the things we value are things that we are willing to pay any price to attain and to maintain.

I understand the need for balanced budgets. But I have a problem with austerity measures in government which, while they may make the numbers look better, are too often undertaken without a heart for the people most impacted.

If we are not making serious investments in the things we say that we really value, then we are not being true to our own heart's desires. If there is a continuous disconnect between what we say we value in our hearts and how we spend our dollars, then perhaps we're just not being true.

Will you join me in this prayer as we begin this month of October: Dear Lord, You have told us that our treasures and our hearts are reflected in one another. Help us to rectify the incompatibilities and to spend our dollars on the things of real value. Amen.

See you around this month of September

Take care and God bless.

Pastor Rick

Final Accounting, A Devotional by Rev. Emily C. Heath

Senior Pastor of The Congregational Church in Exeter, New Hampshire. She is a frequent Huffington Post blogger and a regular contributor to the United Church of Christ's NewSacred

"Let me live that I may praise you . . ." Psalm 119:175

I recently read a blog written just before a relatively young man had died, and released just afterwards. I think I expected to read about how beautiful his life had been despite all that can go haywire in an average life. I anticipated words about how much he loved his family and friends, and how he had found meaning in the day-to-day.

None of that was there.

Instead, the man spoke of his successful life in the advertising industry, the grueling hours he kept, and the choices his work had forced him to make and came to this conclusion: It wasn't worth it. His blog goes on to ruthlessly rip apart his life and career and industry.

It's a harsh read. And yet, it's an important one. Because sometimes we all need a brutal reminder of the fact that we are living with the limited resource of time, and that one day we will have exhausted our supply.

I believe you can find meaning and purpose in almost any kind of work if you look hard enough. But, there's a danger in sacrificing your life to it, and making your job synonymous with your personal identity.

The Psalmist, in the longest Psalm in the book, writes that we should live to praise God. I take that as a sort of test. In our daily lives, are we praising or glorifying God with our actions? Or are we just (temporarily) filling ourselves up with empty praise?

Put another way, at the end of the day will our meaning come from the trophies on the dusty shelf? Or from who we are as children of God who spend our lives in praise?

It's a brutal test. But it's one that may save us heartache in our last days.

Prayer

God, help us to turn our hearts away from vanities, and set our minds on you. Amen.

Another good devotional reflection for October

Written by Oswald Chambers, in *My Utmost for His Highest*, has timeless words for us all. This month we reflect upon these words:

"God has only one intended destiny for humankind – holiness. His only goal is to produce saints. God is not some eternal blessings-machine for people to use, and God did not come to save us out of pity – He came to save us because He created us to be holy. Atonement through the Cross of Jesus Christ means that God can put us back into perfect oneness with Himself through the death of Jesus Christ, without a trace of anything coming between us any longer.

"Never tolerate, because of sympathy for yourself or for others, any practice that is not in keeping with a holy God. Holiness means absolute purity of your walk before God, the words coming from your mouth, and every thought in your mind – placing every detail of your life under the scrutiny of God Himself. Holiness is not simply what God gives us, but what God has given us that is being exhibited in our lives."

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER ON OCTOBER 4:

Please spread the word that on Sunday, October 4, our guest speaker during the worship service will be Imam Farooq Aboelzahab.

Imam Farooq S. Aboelzahab is Imam and Director of the Islamic Society of North West Ohio. He received his B.A. degree in the Arabic Language from Al-Azhar University in Cairo, Egypt, followed by two Graduate Diplomas in the same discipline.

In addition to his service to the Muslim Community, Imam Farooq participates in and organizes interfaith dialogues and events. He meets regularly with area clergy and speaks regularly at regional houses of worship, universities, schools, cultural and government venues. He leads tour groups each month to introduce non-Muslims to Islam and serves as a regular contributor to local news outlets as an expert on Islam.

Previously, Imam Farooq held the position of Imam and Director of the Islamic Center of Greater Toledo for 16 years, served as Imam and Director of the Islamic Center of Cedar Rapids, Iowa for 7 years and served as an Assistant Imam with the same Toledo community for 2 years.

Imam Farooq is the proud father of 4 grown children and the grandfather of 8. In a day of great need to be understanding and respectful of all religious beliefs, we are cordially inviting the public to our worship on October 4. Imam Aboelzahab will be sharing how his Islamic beliefs impact and influence his life.

Prayer Needs:

- ◆ For those with cancer and undergoing Cancer Treatment:
*Kathy Brinkman *Emelia (4 yrs old) *Fred Kretzinger
* John Turner (Janet Powell's nephew)
- ◆ For those with various health issues and concerns:
*Sandy Scherf *Jayleen Miller (Tina's mother-in-law)
*John Snyder *Larry Bosserman *Roger Breitigam *Ruth Fenimore **Lou Grycza (Charlotte Ballard) *Bill Peters
- ◆ For First Christian Church's Homebound Members
- ◆ For growth in all ministries and areas of service at First Christian Church
- ◆ For those who are seeking employment
- ◆ For those having trouble making ends meet
- ◆ For peaceful and just solutions to conflicts around the world.



October Birthdays

- 10/1 Luke Drown
- 10/5 Thomas Riker
- 10/16 Toni Beltz
- 10/21 Nancy Peters
- 10/22 Keaton Kretzinger
- 10/23 Linda England
- 10/23 Mercedes Williamson

October Anniversaries

- 10/18 Tom & Mary Thompson
- 10/17 Jared & Chelsea Siebert

Sue and Ed Davies are our featured members this month, they formally served as officers in The Salvation Army for over 30 years, serving in Ohio, Pennsylvania, New Hampshire and Maine. They joined us in 2013. They are blessed with 3 daughters, 2 sons-in-law, and 2 very well-loved granddaughters. Ed and Sue have been married 33 years. Sue has many hobbies including sewing, crocheting, quilting, and reading. Her real passion is her family and is currently serving as a deacon and a member of the chimes. Ed has a great love for the outdoors and spends many hours every day outside immersing himself in God's creation. He also enjoys fishing, birdwatching, music and reading. He refers to himself as being born last century. Ed has been helpful in planning music for our outdoor services.

WE MOURN THE DEATHS OF TWO OF OUR LONG-TERM MEMBERS IN SEPTEMBER:

Sarah Elizabeth 'Sallie Bett' Hewitt Williams – October 6, 1923 – September 3, 2015 – one month shy of 92 years. "Sallie", as she was known to us, was a member of our church's Christian Women's Fellowship, Sarah Circle. She was also a lifetime member of Country Club Christian Church in Kansas City, Missouri. Her devotion and faithfulness to God and to Christ's body, her friendliness (she never knew a stranger and all who visited her said that Sallie always did more for them than they did for her, and she always seem to want to serve people, even when she was confined), and her kindness and courage and generosity, will always be remembered.

Frances Levine (Bradley) Boltze – April 2, 1922 - September 12, 2015, at age 93. When we think of Frances' life, we think of her service, her persistence, a teaching-example, kindness, faithfulness to family and friends, and her faith and faith family. Frances' life of service and of her Christian faith was exemplified in her membership at our church for more than 40 years. Frances, especially with the Women's Group and Circle, was always known as enthusiastic, hard-working, and a "go-getter". She also sang in the choir, sometimes singing solos.

First Christian News

Average number of service attendees for September: 38
Amount given in August: \$ 3919.14
Remember to like us on Facebook- "First Christian Church Findlay Ohio"

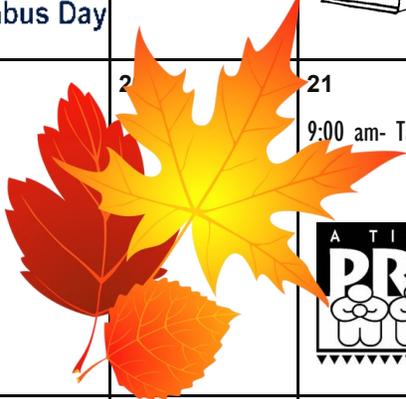
Directions to Read "The Lamplighter" Online!

To access "The Lamplighter" online; go to our website: <http://www.fccfindlay.org>. On the homepage of the website, please click on the page Current Lamplighter Newsletters. There you may choose from form the list of the current newsletters. Earlier editions will be available on the home page in the archives list.

Bill and Nancy Peters will be taking donations to help pay for the turkeys for the Thanksgiving dinner to be held on November 15. See the Peters for details.



October

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
							
				1 	2 11:00 am - Bible Study	3 9:00 a.m. Elders Meeting 9:30 a.m.-Truth Seekers Bible Study	
4 8:45 am-Chimes 9:30 am - Sunday School 10:30 am - Worship-Special Speaker 12:00 Coffee Hour	5		7 9:00 am- Taize Prayer 	8 	9 11:00 am - Bible Study 	10 9:30 a.m.-Truth Seekers Bible Study 10:00 am - Board Meeting	
11 8:45 am-Chimes 9:30 am - Sunday School 10:30 am - Worship 12:00 Coffee Hour	12  Columbus Day	13	14 9:00 am- Taize Prayer 	15	16 11:00 am - Bible Study 	17 9:30 a.m.-Truth Seekers Bible Study	
18 8:45 am-Chimes 9:30 am - Sunday School 10:30 am - Worship-Gideon presentation 12:00 pm -Coffee Hour 2:30 pm-Fox Run Worship	19			21 9:00 am- Taize Prayer 	22	23 11:00 am - Bible Study 	24 9:30 a.m.-Truth Seekers Bible Study 4:00-7:00 p.m.- Family Fun Night
25 8:45 am-Chimes 9:30 am - Sunday School 10:30 am - Worship 12:00 pm -Coffee Hour	26	27	28 9:00 am- Taize Prayer	29	30 11:00 am - Bible Study	31 9:30 a.m.-Truth Seekers Bible Study 	

October Serving Schedule

October 4		October 11	
Minister:	Rev. Rick Pulling	Minister:	Rev. Rick Pulling
Music Coordinator:	Patty Koehler	Music Coordinator:	Patty Koehler
Pianist/Organist	Becky Pulling	Pianist/Organist	Jane Snyder
Children's Sermon:	Robin Kretzinger	Children's Sermon:	Patty Koehler
Greeters:	David England, Barb England, Martha Stoner	Greeters:	Karol Smith, Tim Wolfe, Beth Reynolds
Scripture Reader:	Karol Smith	Scripture Reader:	Tara Miller
Elders:	Robin Kretzinger	Elders:	Nancy Peters & Beth Reynolds
Deacons:	Barb Brown, Tim Wolfe, Cindi Beltz	Deacons:	Bill Peters, David England, Sue Davies
Coffee Hour:	Team #2 Pat Sharninghouse, Linda Pitkin, Sue & Ed Davies	Coffee Hour:	Team #3 Bill & Nancy Peters, Karol Smith, Dale Yoder
Counters:	Robin Kretzinger & Patty Koehler	Counters:	Robin Kretzinger & Andy Koehler
October 18		October 25	
Minister:	Rev. Rick Pulling	Minister:	Rev. Rick Pulling
Music Coordinator:	Patty Koehler	Music Coordinator:	Patty Koehler
Pianist/Organist	Becky Pulling	Pianist/Organist	Jane Snyder
Children's Sermon:	Robin Kretzinger	Children's Sermon:	Patty Koehler
Greeters:	David England, Tim Wolfe, John Snyder, Barb England	Greeters:	Beth Reynolds, Martha Stoner
Scripture Reader:	Mercedes Williamson	Scripture Reader:	Steven Strayer
Elders:	Kathy Brinkman	Elders:	Robin Kretzinger & Beth Reynolds
Deacons:	Lisa Wolf, Deb Kirk, Karol Smith	Deacons:	Charlotte Ballard, Tara Miller, John Snyder
Coffee Hour:	Team #4 Barb Brown, Patty Koehler, Lisa Wolfe	Coffee Hour:	Team #5 Deb Kirk, Barb England, Kathleen Schaffer
Counters:	Robin Kretzinger & Bill Peters	Counters:	Robin Kretzinger & Tara Miller

Family Fun Night

Saturday October 24
4:00-7:00 p.m.



Pizza Night
Dress fun (costumes if desired)

See Nancy Peters for details



Sharing brings Joy

To Us. To Others. To God

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DATED MATERIAL - PLEASE DELIVER

Sunday Schedule
9:30am Sunday School
10:30am Worship Service
Followed by Fellowship-Coffee Hour

October

October 4 – Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost – Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

World Communion Sunday – Reconciliation Sunday – World Religions Understanding Sunday

Scripture Reader: Karol Smith

Scripture: TBA

Message: “How Islam guides my day to day life ”

Speaker: Imam Farooq Aboelzahab

October 11– Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost – Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Access Sunday and Beginning of Disabilities Awareness Week

Scripture Reader: Tara Miller

Scripture: Mark 10:17-31

Message: “Jesus Meets HENRY”

Theme: Discipleship requires that we find new ways to live and to give. Who are “HENRY’s”, and why are they very similar to the young man who approaches Jesus about a job in the discipleship business?

October 18– Twenty-First Sunday After Pentecost – Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Children’s Sabbath Laity Sunday The Gideons will be here to explain their current ministry

Scripture Reader: Mercedes Williamson

Scripture: Mark 10:35-45

Message: “RansomWare”

Theme: Unlike digital kidnappers who are taking over personal computers through programs called “ransomware” and demanding money in order to release the data back to the owner’s computer, what does the ransom that Jesus paid on the cross do for us? Hint: Jesus has the power to unlock our frozen, locked-up lives.

October 25- Twenty-Second Sunday After Pentecost – Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time-Reformation Sunday

Scripture Reader: Steven Strayer

Scripture: Mark 10:46-52

Message: “How to call for help”

Theme: Technology has made it easier for us to call for help when needed, and yet, Americans are notorious for not asking for help. What does Bartimaeus remind us about calling for help? Hint: Asking for help enables someone to bless us, and be blessed in the helping