

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..."

September
2014

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.

What is the purpose of our lives? That may seem like a terribly obvious question. But maybe it isn't all that obvious. Oswald Chambers reminds us that we are not destined for happiness, health, or other blessings. But rather, we are destined for holiness. Chambers said 100 years ago (and how much truer is it today?) that we have far too many desires and interests, and (as he puts it) our lives are being consumed and wasted by them. Many of those desires and interests may be, and often are, right, noble, and good, and may later be fulfilled. But in the meantime, God must cause their importance to us to decrease.

The only thing that truly matters is if you and I accept God who will make us holy. At all costs, we need to be at one with God – we need to have a right relationship with God.

Let's focus on this verse from 1 Peter 1:16 this month: **"...it is written, 'Be holy, for I am holy.'"** Do you and I really believe that we need to be holy, as this verse states? Do we believe that God can come into us and make us holy? Sometimes reading the Bible or hearing the Word preached reveals to us our unholiness, but it also awakens an intense yearning and desire within us.

The Bible is clear that God has only one intended destiny for humankind – holiness. God's only goal is to produce saints. Chambers goes on to say that God is not some eternal blessing-machine (like a giant vending machine in the sky) for people to use, and He did not come to save us out of pity.

But rather, He came to save us because He created us to be holy. Atonement through the Cross of Christ means that God can put you and me back into perfect oneness with Himself through the death of Jesus Christ, without a trace of anything coming between us any longer.

God's Word is clear that we are not to allow any rationalization or excuse to do anything that is not in keeping with our holy God. Why would we want anything to continue to come between God and us? For God wants so much to fill us with His Holy Spirit. And when we are filled, the Bible says that sanctification takes place where we are made more and more holy each day and each day are made more and more like Jesus Christ Himself.

Oswald Chambers concludes by saying that holiness means absolute purity in our walk with God – every word that comes from our mouths and every thought that comes from our minds – placing every detail of our lives 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.

And when you think about it, what better way is there to glorify God and to witness to God than to let His spirit and His holiness shine from our lives? *Cont'd Page 2.*



Let's continue to support each other, in our church family here at First Christian Church in Findlay, as we become more and more holy and more and more like Jesus Christ – not so that we can boast or become self-righteous, but so that we can become more and more “a God influence” in our world that so desperately needs God's love and peace and presence.

As always, I look forward to seeing you around this month! Blessings in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, *Pastor Rick*

**A HELPFUL DEVOTIONAL
BY SUSANNA FOTH AUGHTMON**

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Galatians 5:22-23

Lately, my kids have been mastering the art of making smoothies. I am thrilled. Anytime they opt for fruit as a snack food, I feel I have won a small nutritional victory. They put in any kind of fruit we have on hand. Peaches. Pineapple. Strawberries. Blueberries. Bananas. Everything is dumped in the blender. It is interesting to me how the smoothie tends to taste better with each subsequent fruit. Strawberry and banana is lovely. But strawberry, banana, and orange juice? Even better. And strawberry, banana, orange juice, and blueberry? Stupendous!

It is no different when it comes to the fruit of the Spirit, the fruit that is yielded in our lives when we are following Jesus and letting Him shape our character. Love is so attractive. I will spend hours with someone who is loving, basking in the warmth of their care. But being with someone full of love and joy? Even better. And a person overflowing with love, joy, and kindness with a splash of goodness? Fantastic! When we invite Jesus into our lives, we become more like Him. He is the embodiment of the fruit of the Spirit. When we are full of His presence, we become more attractive to those around us. Who wouldn't want to spend time with us when we are overflowing with love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control? The more we are like Jesus on the inside, the more the people on the outside get a taste of Who He is. And that is good stuff.

Faith Step: Eat your favorite piece of fruit. Or better yet, make a smoothie chock-full of different fruits.

Enjoy its sweetness. Ask Jesus to keep producing the fruit of the Spirit in your life.

Just A Note!

As many of you know, earlier this summer I accepted a new position within our church as Worship Coordinator. Since then, I have been asked to describe the position, and what I would like to accomplish as Worship Coordinator. First, the job description basically means that I am the chain of communication between Pastor Rick, Tina, and all of you. I am striving to make Pastor Rick's job a little easier, as he commutes back and forth, so he doesn't have as much on his plate here when he returns.

Here are a few of my goals that I hope to achieve as Worship Coordinator:

- 1) Help plan the flow of worship services, to enable God's message to be received by all ages
- 2) Continually create ways for the congregation to feel engaged in our service through praise and worship
- 3.) Help to make our church known to our community, through activities as a church family

I am continually looking, and praying, for great new ideas for our services. Have any ideas, or want to request a song? Come see me! I will try my best to make it happen!

Yours in Christ,

Patty



OUR SYMPATHY AND PRAYERS:

The church family of First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Findlay is saddened by the death of Ann Kretzinger on September 1st. Ann's funeral is at the church on Friday, September 5, followed by burial in McComb. Ann was wife to Fred and mother to Robin Kretzinger, Rachelle Barth, Ranae Ruckstahl, and Rhonda Sheely. Ann was sister to Nancy Peters and sister-in-law to Carole Cleary.

Ann worked at Brookside Pharmacy for 17 years and was also a baton teacher directing Annette's Baton and Drum Corp of Findlay for 25 years.

Ann was an active member of FCC for many years, and was a wonderful Christian example and inspiration to so many people, including her long service as Sunday School teacher and superintendent. Ann was always a giving person and one who loved arts and crafts.

Prayer Needs:

- ◆ For those with cancer and undergoing Cancer Treatment:
Kathy Brinkman
David (Sue Davies' brother)
Loretta Way (Charlotte Ballard's sister)
- ◆ For those with various health issues and concerns:
*Sally Williams *Kathy Brinkman *Tom Thompson
*Kathy Marquart *Joyce (Tatum Weber's grandmother)
- ◆ 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 all care givers
- ◆ For peaceful and just solutions to conflicts around the world.

September Birthdays

- 9/8 Melissa Brown
- 9/9 Cindi Beltz
- 9/10 Dominic Coldiron
- 9/15 Amanda Reynolds
- 9/14 Natalie Williamson
- 9/19 Robin Kretzinger
- 9/25 Mabel (Bo) Bradley

September Anniversaries

- 9/3 Bill & Sharon Booher
- 9/11 Andy & Patty Koehler
- 9/29 Dale & Pat Yoder



Don't Miss Youth Sunday!

On Sunday, September 14 our church service will be run by our Sunday School Youth. Please come support them as they share a message of God's Love! There will be singing, a skit, and a special message in place of the sermon that Sunday. Don't miss out on this special time!

First Christian News

Average number of service attendees for August: 39

Amount given in August: \$5049.32

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.

Don't forget to check out this month's church family bulletin board. Lavonne Eckert is featured.



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

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September

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
August 31 8:45 Chimes Prac. 9:30 am - Sunday School 10:30 am - Worship 12:00 pm -Coffee Hour	1  Labor Day	2	3 9:00 am- Taize Prayer 	4	5 No Bible Study 11:00 a.m. Ann Kretzinger funera 1:00 p.m. funeral luncheon	6
7 8:45 Chimes Prac. 9:30 am - Sunday School 10:30 am - Worship 12:00 pm -Coffee Hour	8	9	10 9:00 am- Taize Prayer 	11 	12 11:00 am - Bible Study 	13 10:00 am - Board Meeting
14 Youth Sunday 8:45 Chimes Prac. 9:30 am - Sunday School 10:30 am - Worship 12:00 pm -Coffee Hour	15	16	17 9:00 am- Taize Prayer 	18	19 11:00 am - Bible Study 	20
21 8:45 Chimes Prac. 9:30 am - Sunday School 10:30 am - Worship 12:00 pm -Coffee Hour 2:30 pm-Fox Run Worship	22	23 	24 9:00 am- Taize Prayer 	25	26 11:00 am - Bible Study 	27 Family Fun Night 4:00-8:00 p.m.
28 8:45 Chimes Prac. 9:30 am - Sunday School 10:30 am - Worship 12:00 pm -Coffee Hour						

September Serving Schedule

September 7		September 14-Youth Sunday	
Minister:	Rev. Rick Pulling	Minister:	Rev. Rick Pulling
Music Coordinator:	Patty Koehler	Music Coordinator:	Patty Koehler
Pianist/Organist:	Becky Pulling	Pianist/Organist:	Becky Pulling
Children's Sermon:	Robin Kretzinger	Children's Sermon:	Patty Koehler
Greeters:	Larry Marquart, Karol Smith, Tim Wolfe, Beth Reynolds	Greeters:	David England, Tim Wolfe, John Snyder,
Scripture Reader:	Tatum Weber	Scripture Reader:	Mercedes Williamson
Elders:	Robin Kretzinger & Linda Pitkin	Elders:	Linda Pitkin & Carole Cleary
Deacons:	Barb Brown, Tim Wolfe, Cindi Beltz	Deacons:	Bill Peters, Nancy Peters, Sue Davies
Coffee Hour:	Team #1: Cindi Beltz, Larry & Kathy Marquart, Beth Reynolds	Coffee Hour:	Team #2: Sue & Ed Davies, Linda Pitkin, Pat Sharninghouse
Counters:	Tara Miller & Robin Kretzinger	Counters:	Tara Miller & Andy Koehler
September 21		September 28	
Minister:	Rev. Rick Pulling	Minister:	Rev. Rick Pulling
Music Coordinator:	Patty Koehler	Music Coordinator:	Patty Koehler
Pianist/Organist:	Jane Snyder	Pianist/Organist:	Jane Snyder
Children's Sermon:	Robin Kretzinger	Children's Sermon:	Patty Koehler
Greeters:	Larry Marquart, Beth Reynolds, Martha Stoner	Greeters:	David England, Karol Smith, John Snyder, Kathy Marquart
Scripture Reader:	Steven Strayer	Scripture Reader:	Tara Miller
Elders:	Robin Kretzinger & Barb England	Elders:	Beth Reynolds & Kathy Brinkman
Deacons:	Lisa Wolfe, Deb Kirk, Karol Smith	Deacons:	Charlotte Ballard, Kathy Marquart, John Snyder
Coffee Hour:	Team #3: Bill & Nancy Peters, Karol Smith, Pat & Dale Yoder	Coffee Hour:	Team #4: Barb Brown, Patty Koehler, Tatum Weber
Counters:	Tara Miller & Bill Peters	Counters:	Tara Miller & Karol Smith



Thanks to Stephen Illich (See Genesis 6-8) 05-19-2005

WE WERE TOLD YOU WERE TAKING CREATURES THAT CAME TO YOU IN PEARS



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

September's Sermon Themes

September 7—Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time – Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Scripture Reader: Tatum Weber

Scripture: Matthew 18:15-20

Message: “**Gyroscopic Grace, or, How to Get Right-Side Up When Your Word is Upside Down**”

Theme: No matter how you twist and turn your tablet or smartphone, the images manage to move right with you. Thanks to a nifty little thing called a gyroscope, everything says “right-side up”. Don’t you wish relationships had a gyroscope? Wouldn’t it be nice, if, no matter how turned around things got, there was always a way to get right-side up?

September 14– Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time – Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost-Youth Sunday

Scripture Reader: Mercedes Williamson

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 4:6-9

Message: “**Thankful for the Cracks**”

Theme: Letting God’s light shine for others

September 21– Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Scripture Reader: Steven Strayer

Scripture: Matthew 20:1-16

Message: “**That’s Not Fair!**”

Theme: How many of us have heard that statement from our children or grandchildren, or have even said it ourselves as an adult? And what does this say about God’s generosity?

September 28 – Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Scripture Reader: Tara Miller

Scripture: Philippians 2:1-13

Message: “**Learning To Live Like Jesus**”

Theme: The Apostle Paul is addressing the church to: look out for one another, love and serve one another, and lay down its life to fulfill its mission for the world.