

DECEMBER 2017

The Z-Disciple

First Christian Church

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Angels Among Us: #DoNotBeAfraid

Worship and Study with us during this Advent Season as we prepare to receive the Christ Child anew into our midst. Invite your friends and family and join the celebration.

Sunday, December 3rd: First Sunday in Advent: #morehope

Worship 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

5:00 p.m. Family Advent Workshop

Individuals and families of all ages are invited to join us for a light meal, Advent crafts & stories.

Sunday, December 10th: Second Sunday in Advent: #morepeace

Worship 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

3:00 p.m. Blue Christmas Service in the chapel—all are welcome to join us for this service of hope & healing

Sunday, December 17th: Third Sunday in Advent: #morejoy

Worship 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

Sunday, December 24th: Fourth Sunday in Advent: #morelove

Worship 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

Sunday, December 24th, Christmas Eve:

5:00 p.m. Family Christmas Eve Service

This is a “family friendly” service as our children and youth share their program, *The Christmas Present*

10:00 p.m. Candlelight Communion Service

Scripture and the Chancel Choir Cantata will be part of this candlelight communion service.

Sunday, December 31st #morelife

Worship 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.



Worship on Wednesday 1:00 p.m. in the chapel.

Sunday School for all ages at 9:30 a.m. each Sunday morning.

Join us each week as we celebrate the God’s messages of hope, peace, joy & love!

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Here are the details of our Advent & Christmas Events for All Ages

Angels Among Us: #DoNotBeAfraid

The angels that appear in the story of Jesus' birth would have been right at home in our world of instant messaging and hashtags. Their messages were short and to the point, "Do not be afraid". During the Season of Advent we will explore the stories of God's messengers to Zechariah, Mary, Joseph and the Shepherds and will contemplate what messages we can offer in a culture of fear that will bring hope, peace, joy and love to the world.

Small Group Advent Study, *Defeating Fear with Hope, Peace, Love and Joy*, will begin on Tuesday, November 28th at 6:30 p.m. and will continue for the next three weeks. Through centering prayer, video and discussion we will explore what it takes to live wholeheartedly in a world of fear. All are invited. Dawn will facilitate this study. We will meet in the multipurpose room.

Advent Devotional Booklets are available in the literature rack at the church. Grow in your relationship with the One whose advent we celebrate this season. Spend some time each day in prayer.

Family Advent Workshop

Our annual Family Advent Workshop will be held on Sunday, December 3rd, from 5:00-7:00 p.m. We will share a light meal and then will make a variety of crafts that will help us focus on and celebrate our faith during the Advent & Christmas season. Christmas carols and a short story time will conclude the evening. All ages are welcome to join us.

Blue Christmas Service—December 10th

For many, the holiday season is not all joyful celebrations but rather a painful reminder of loss and sadness. Maybe you are feeling the loss of a loved one, the end of a relationship, job or change in your health. On December 13th at 3:00 p.m. we invite you to join us for a candlelight service of hope and healing. This service will acknowledge the myriad of emotions which confront us at the darkest time of the year and guide us to a place of solace. This service will be held in the chapel. All are welcome to attend.



Good News to Share

Is there someone you know, a neighbor, friend, co-worker or family member who needs to know the Good News of God's love in their life? Why not invite them to church during the Advent Season. It could be the greatest gift you give this season.

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Advent Cookie Plates to our homebound members will be assembled and delivered on Tuesday, December 12th. We will assemble the plates at 10:00 a.m. and plates will be ready for delivery at 11:00 a.m. We are in need of cookie & candy donations for the plates and help with delivery of the plates. If you would like to donate cookies or help deliver the plates, sign up on the bulletin board or call church office. Thanks for your help in letting our homebound members know they are thought of in the Advent Season.

Thank you to the Live Wire Class and all who helped with the Hanging of the Greens to prepare our sanctuary for the Advent Season. Your help is truly appreciated.

Fair Trade Coffee Table: During the weeks leading up to Christmas we will fully stock our supplies of fair trade coffee, tea, chocolate bars, nuts and olive oil. (We have coffee and tea available throughout the year.) Fair Trade items make great gifts and purchasing fairly traded products insures that the farmers receive a fair price for their goods, the environment is protected and a percentage helps support Week of Compassion.

The **Annual Congregational meeting** will be held on Sunday, December 3rd at 9:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall. At this meeting we will review and vote on the 2018 church budget that has been approved by the Board. Please join us!

Board Meeting Highlights—November 9, 2017

- Meeting opened by Moderator Dave Higgins.
- The Finance committee presented the proposed 2018 budget. We are still waiting for information on health insurance premiums. The board unanimously approved the budget. It will now be presented to the congregation at a meeting on December 3rd.
- A task force will be appointed to review our building use policy and update it as needed.
- The Property Committee has chained off the south entrance to our parking lot during the week. The speeding cars that cut through our parking lot to avoid the traffic light at the corner has made for unsafe conditions in our parking lot. The chain will be taken down on Sunday mornings and Wednesday afternoons and other times that large groups are gathered at the church. A sign has been ordered for that entrance. We are sorry for inconvenience this may cause our members and guests.
- Next regular meeting of the board will be held January 11th at 7:00 p.m.

George Frideric Handel's Messiah

The Thursday Music Club presents the 88th Annual Performance of Civic Chorus & Orchestra on Sunday, December 10th at 6 p.m. at Central Trinity UM Church, 62 S. Seventh St. Several members of First Christian Church participate in this event.

2018 Offering Envelopes will be available in December. We are inviting you to pick up your offering envelopes again this year to save us the cost of mailing them. Envelopes are on the hallway table. If you do not currently have offering envelopes but would like to have them, simply add your name to the list on the secretary's desk in the office and we will see that you get them.

End of Year Gifts: As 2017 comes to a close, consider supporting the mission and ministry of First Christian Church with an end of the year gift to First Christian Church. Your gift could change lives.

New Library Additions

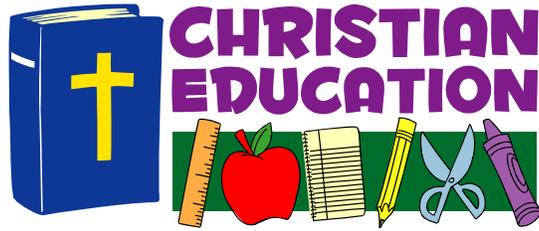
The library has two books that were used as part of the discussion group with parents of teenagers. These are displayed in the library window and may be signed out at any time.

Right Click: Parenting Your Teenager in a Digital Media World by Kara Powell and *The Sticky Faith Guide for Your Family* by Kara Powell.

New Member

J.P. Lichtner became a member of First Christian Church on November 19th. Welcome J.P.!

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Advent Workshop Everyone is invited to join us on December 1st at 5 pm for the Advent Workshop. We will share a light dinner and celebrate the beginning of Advent with your church family making crafts and singing Christmas carols! This is a yearly tradition in our church family that we all eagerly anticipate. There will be crafts appropriate for all ages. Gather your family and join us as we prepare our hearts for the journey to Bethlehem.



Join us for Caroling The JC and Kingdom Kids would love to invite you to join them as they sing Christmas carols to our members who live at Brookdale Assisted Living Center and Primrose Retirement Center on Saturday, December 9th. We will meet at Brookdale (1575 Bowers Lane) at 4 pm and then go to Primrose. We should be finished at Brookdale shortly after 5 pm. Please join us!

“The Christmas Present”, Children’s Musical

The children will continue to practice on Sunday morning at 9:30 am in the chapel during the month of December. Additional practices will be on December 10th and 17th at 11:30 in the sanctuary.

Youth Summer Mission Trip

The youth are excited to announce that their summer mission trip will be to Milwaukee, WI, June 9-15th. While in Milwaukee we will get to work with a number of great organizations that support this community. One of these is Scott Christian Community Center, which houses a food pantry and clothing giveaway service. Another is Gingerbread Land, a neighborhood beautification organization. We may also have the opportunity to serve at a day camp for youth and adults with disabilities, elder care centers or a soup kitchen. In the evenings, we will visit the beach of Lake Michigan and hear from a community friend who works with teenagers and adults growing up in the inner city. Every day will begin in devotion and end with worship and as we dedicate this week to God, we will find ourselves growing more aware of His presence in all the moments of the day.

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Chili Cook-Off

Thank you to those who supported our first mission trip fundraiser of the year! The chili cook-off was a huge success! The youth were split into four teams and they brought enthusiasm, a competitive spirit and delicious chili! Our church family made over \$700 worth of votes and team “Hog Heaven” went home with the trophy for the best chili!



Our tasters loved the rich flavor of this “Cheesey Wisconsin Chili” that this group made in honor of their upcoming trip to Wisconsin. Perfect with a side of tortilla chips, this chili left us wanting more! Team Members Include: Heather Fisher, Jill Bednarczuk (not pictured), Caroline Pinson, Abby Baldwin, Ava Fisher and Skyler Irvin.

The Christian Cowboys cooked up a Tex-Mex Chili which we learned has no beans, but big hunks of satisfying meat! Woo Boy! One taste of this chili and you fancied yourself around a campfire! This group wasn't kidding when they claimed this was the “best chili in church”. Team Members Include: Tillman Hawk, Kris Geis, Leila Hawk, Anna Paul, Carly Geis, Trey Wilson, Nolan Kimberly, Sue Kimberly and Izabella Yerian (not pictured).



Our members found themselves surrounded by romance as they strolled down the sidewalks of Italy and found themselves passing “Luigi's Italian Cafe” where the special of the day was Italian Chili and Cream Puffs. We loved the opportunity to sit at the intimate table for two they had set up while we enjoyed the delicious offerings of this fine cuisine. Team Members Include: Matthew Baldwin, Austin Perry, Chloe Hadley, Sydney Allen, Olivia Baldwin and Rick Griffin (not pictured).



But the winning team knew that their unique pulled pork chili would have you feeling like you were in “Hog Heaven”. Voters couldn't deny that this chili was full of flavor and we couldn't help but be swayed by how cute they looked in pig noses and tails too! Team Members Include: Takayla Holloway, Rylee McCuen, Charlie Huizenga, Jacob Hittle, Lyla Fisher, Callie Buchanan, Alaina Paul, Mady Wilson and Miranda Geis.



What's Happening in Youth Groups?

JC and Kingdom Kids (K-5th grade)

In honor of Veteran's Day the JC and Kingdom Kids adopted a platoon! Our children learned about the climate of South Korea, where our platoon is stationed, as well as the challenges they face as they serve and protect. They also learned how important it is for the soldiers to take good care of their feet. They must constantly take care of their feet guarding against sores, blisters, fungus, bacteria and keeping their feet dry. The children packed care packages with foot care items, wrote letters to the soldiers, and took a toy soldier home with them to remind them to pray for our platoon.

The JC and Kingdom Kids are looking forward to caroling to our members who live at Brookdale Assisted Living Center and Primrose Retirement Center on December 9th. The residents of Primrose have invited us to watch a Christmas movie in their theater with them on this date as well and we are so excited to get in the Christmas spirit with them!



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Chi Rho (6-8) and CYF (9-12)

These teens put the “Arrrr! In parrrrty!” at their Halloween Mystery party which was pirate themed! We had a blast playing our characters and solving the mystery! Our youth group meets weekly for meetings, but we are always finding other reasons to get together and celebrate! Our next celebration will be a Christmas celebration on December 17th at 6 pm.



December Calendar for Chi Rho and CYF

Sunday, December 3rd, 5 pm-7:30

Advent Workshop

The youth will help provide leadership and directions at the craft tables that are set up in the Fellowship Hall. At the conclusion of the Advent Workshop, we will spend a little time in the youth room decorating.

Sunday, December 10th, 6-7:30

Regular Youth Group Meeting

Sunday, December 17th, 6-8:30 pm

Youth Group Christmas Party

The youth are invited to bring a donation of dish towels for CRIS (Community Refugee and Immigration Services) on this evening. We will have a gift exchange and enjoy some holiday treats and games. More details to come on this event...

Mark your calendars!

Vacation Bible School will be on July 16th-20th.
Babylon, Daniel's Courage in Captivity

Camp Christian
Summer 2018

Grandparents Camp (K, 1st, 2nd grade and grandparent)- June 1 and 2

Rabbit Camp (2-4th grade)- July 4-7

Otter Camp (3rd-5th grade)- June 17-23

Chi Rho Camp (6th-8th grade)- June 3-9, July 8-14, July 22-28

CYF Camp (9th-12th grade) - June 10-16, June 24-30, July 15-21

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Outreach

Just as the previous eleven months have been, December is filled with many outreach opportunities. Please consider one or more of the many options below to be the hands and feet of Christ this Christmas season.

Christmas Offering

Our 2017 Christmas Offering will be supporting two very worthwhile causes. We will be helping the Muskingum County Senior Citizens' Center with their "Baskets of Love" program. "Baskets of Love" are items that are delivered to those seniors who receive homebound meals from the Senior Citizens Center. Items range from stationery, stamps to laundry detergent. For some senior citizens this may be the only gift they receive for Christmas.

We will also be helping Transitions a local shelter for domestic abuse victims. Transitions offers a safe, secure home for those who are trying to escape domestic abuse.

Mitten Garland

As is the annual tradition at First Christian Church we will again be collecting mittens, gloves, scarves and winter hats through December 17th for the children of the area. These items will be distributed to Zanesville City pre-school, Salvation Army and Eastside Community Ministry. Please consider donating a pair of gloves or mittens to help keep a child warm this winter.

Prison Ministry Fellowship-Angel Tree

First Christian Church will once again be participating in the Prison Ministry Fellowship Angel Tree Program. This program allows inmates of correction facilities who have children that live in Muskingum County to receive a gift on behalf of the incarcerated parent. Angels are located on the Christmas tree in the chapel. Prison Ministry requests that we by gift(s) totally no more than approximately \$20 per child. The intent of this ministry is not to provide an entire Christmas for the child but to let the child know that their incarcerated parent has remembered the child at Christmas.

Food Collection

With reflections of peace, love and joy this Christmas season, let us remember those who are less fortunate. As you are doing your holiday groceries shopping why not buy an extra can or two of food to place in our grocery cart located next to the elevator. Food donations are given to the Eastside Community Ministry Pantry. We are thankful for your generosity and continued support of this important ministry, feeding God's people.

Klothes for Kids Thank You

First Christian Church,

Thank you so much for the generous clothing donation. It certainly fills a need that we have for many of our students. Again, we are very appreciate of your support for our school.

Sincerely,

Zane Grey Elementary

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Weekly Worship:
 Sunday 8:30 & 10:30 am
 Sunday School 9:30 am
 Wednesday 1:00 pm



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>
3 <i>1st Sunday of Advent</i> 9:30 am Congregational Meeting 5 pm Family Advent Workshop	4	5 6:30 Advent Study	6 1:30 pm Quilters 7:00 pm Choir	7 6:30 Elders 7:00 Property	8	9 4 pm Caroling
10 <i>2nd Sunday of Advent</i> 3 pm Blue Christmas 6 Youth Groups	11	12 Advent Cookie Plates 6:30 Advent Study	13 1:30 pm Quilters 7:00 pm Choir	14	15	16 8 am Men's Breakfast
17 <i>3rd Sunday of Advent</i> 6 Youth Groups Christmas Party	18	19	20 1:30 pm Quilters 7:00 pm Choir	21	22	23
24 <i>4th Sunday of Advent</i> 5 pm Family Service 10 pm Candlelight Communion Service	25	26	27 1:30 pm Quilters	28	29	30
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Acolytes

December 3

8:30 Lydia Huy
10:30 Alaina Paul
Sydney Allen

December 10

8:30 Lydia Huy
10:30 Wyatt Hillis
Walker Hillis

December 17

8:30 Lydia Huy
10:30 Zachary Dilley
Reece Neal

December 24

8:30 Lydia Huy
10:30 Aubrey Miracle
Chloe Buchanan

December 31

8:30 Lydia Huy
10:30 Janetta Rose
Marissa Rose

January 7

8:30 Lydia Huy
10:30 Kenton Casey
Tillman Hawk

Jr. Deacons

Justin Allen
Olivia Allen
Callie Buchanan
Jacob Devoll
Nolan Kimberly
Anna Paul
Austin Perry
Trey Wilson
Mady Wilson
Izabella Yerian

Greeters

December 3

8:30 Jerry & Susan Sutherland
10:30 Norma Jardine
Adam Jones

December 10

8:30 John & Susan Grubbs
10:30 Doris Ross
Ellen Dagneau

December 17

8:30 Margaret Hayes
Melanie Mast
10:30 Mike & Amy Whitson

December 24

8:30 The Delbert Family
10:30 Bud & Juanita Krause

December 31

8:30 Ken & Margo Cooper
10:30 Ana & Jason Kehrberg

Communion Preparers

Mary Arnold & Heather Near

Deacons

Valencia Dick	Jack Morrow
Christi Desender	Jared Robison
David Desender	Kathy Short
Lexi Desender	Phil Short
Ed Henderson	Jill Smith
Marianne Henderson	Lori Ward
David King	Mike Whitson
John Moon	
Jared Moon	

Elders

December 3

8:30 Randy Roberts
Bill Factor
10:30 Heather Near
Kim Fouch

December 10

8:30 Dave Higgins
Penny Higgins
10:30 Jill Bednarczuk
Brady Neal

December 17

8:30 Dale Newlon
Kim Fouch
10:30 Bill Anderson
Dick Church

December 24

8:30 Cato Coleman
Marcia Coleman
10:30 Amy Wilson
Jim Wilson

December 31

8:30 John Grubbs
Randy Roberts
10:30 Jerry Sturtz
Jill Bednarczuk

Welcoming Team

8:30 Sally Denning
Cato & Marcia Coleman
10:30 Scott & Joan Barr
Richard & Trish Church

Worship Leaders

December 31

8:30 Sue Frye
10:30 Scott Barr

Lectors

December 3

10:30 Alaina Paul

December 10

10:30 Trey Wilson

December 17

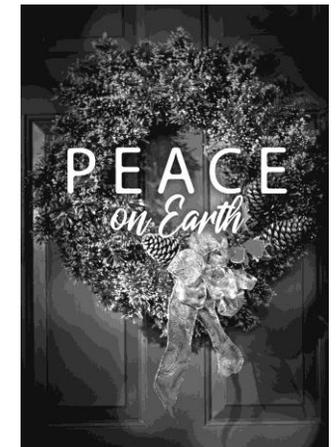
10:30 Larry Paul

December 24

10:30 Mady Wilson

December 31

10:30 Larry Paul



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Happy Birthday to:

Harper Huizenga	December 1
Steven Kimberly	December 3
Samuel Wegner	December 3
Ashton Erwine	December 4
Shirley Williamson	December 4
Bob Bednarczuk	December 5
Kim Gaskill	December 5
Allison Gordon	December 5
Mary Lou Delbert	December 7
Kenneth Jones	December 8
Shari Melick	December 8
Jana Fulks	December 9
Jacob Untied	December 9
Harry Burnell	December 10
Beau Graham	December 12
Adalyn Moon	December 12
Drew Wiseman	December 12
Hailey Watts	December 13
Matt Perry	December 17
Jill Smith	December 17
Brad Baker	December 18
Jared Moon	December 18
Sarah Moon	December 18
Susan Thompson	December 20
Stacey Fineran	December 21
Joshua Wilson	December 21
Barry Supplee	December 22
Dennie Haddox	December 24
Ed Henderson	December 24
Martha Pettry	December 25
Elise Tonneman	December 26
Kim Dunn	December 27
Alex Graham	December 29
Anna Graham	December 29

Happy Anniversary to:

Dennie & Joyce Haddox	December 1
Mel & Deborah Granberg	December 3
Bob & Shirley Williamson	December 15
Deidra & David Allen	December 20
Trish & Dick Church	December 22
Tom & Kathi Heins	December 23
Denise & Jody Baker	December 30

Special Events this month:

Martha Pettry celebrates her 80th birthday on Christmas Day. Her address is 3225 Field Dr., Zanesville, OH 43701

Your Special Day

We typically list special birthdays as 80, 85, 90, and each year thereafter. We list anniversaries at 50, 60, 70, etc. However, we are happy to share your special day whenever it is; just let us know.

