

# *The Z-Disciple*

**FEBRUARY 2018**

First Christian Church

3000 Dresden Road, Zanesville, OH 43701-6477 (740) 453-3437

Rev. Dawn Remster, Sr. Minister

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## **God is doing more than we can imagine!**

The human imagination is pretty incredible. Last fall, Week of Compassion staff and partners heard the dreams of teenage girls in Jakarta, Indonesia--unaccompanied refugees, without a permanent home. Their lives are filled with uncertainty and challenge, yet when they picture their futures, they imagine themselves as small business owners, artists, mothers, surgeons, and pilots.



The human imagination is also limited, bound by our finite human experience. Sometimes the suffering of the world outpaces our ability to imagine new life. For many, 2017 was an apocalyptic year filled with unbelievable storms, earthquakes, fires, floods, and violence. We prayed, stood with, and gave to people and causes from next-door neighbors to global neighbors we will never meet. Even when we found it hard to envision recovery and new life, we accompanied our neighbors, strengthened by the assurance that God is working in, through, and beyond us.

The same Apostle Paul who said that God is able to “accomplish abundantly more than we can ask or imagine” also put the work of building abundance squarely at our feet: “always seek to do good to one another and to all” (1 Thessalonians 5:15). Through thick and thin, when dreams abound and when our imaginations run dry, we continue to do good. Your Week of Compassion gifts work “around the world, around the year” to bring more of God’s love and goodwill than we can ask or imagine.

You shared your compassion with families in South Texas and Puerto Rico who were impacted by hurricanes. You offered food and shelter to families as far away as Sierra Leone and Bangladesh who experienced the most severe floods of the century. You extended God’s care to refugees from Syria and Somalia. You imagined an unimaginable world - God’s world - for empowered women and girls in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Indonesia.

In grateful partnership, we offer again our thanks and rejoice in the abundant good work of the gospel. As we continue to walk together in compassion for others, let us be strengthened in the knowledge that God is able to “accomplish abundantly more than we can ask or imagine.

During the month of February, we will receive our special offering for Week of Compassion. Week of Compassion is the relief, refugee and development mission fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada. We seek to equip and empower disciples to alleviate the suffering of others through disaster response, humanitarian aid, sustainable development and the promotion of mission opportunities. Your gifts are appreciated.

Special offering envelopes are included in this issue of *The Z-Disciple* and are available at the church. Your gifts do make a difference. Thank you!

Week of Compassion Staff and First Christian Church Outreach Committee



*In Our Thoughts  
and Prayers*

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to the families to have recently lost loved ones.

Lee McPherson's sister, Joanie Moorehead, died January 1<sup>st</sup>.

Karen Huy's mother, Jean Dugan, died January 7<sup>th</sup>.

Tim Remster's Aunt Jean recently died in PA.

### ***Disciples Coffee Project***

The Disciples of Christ Coffee Project, a partnership between Week of Compassion, Disciples Home Missions and Equal Exchange, is a way for our congregation to join hands with independent farmer communities across the world. You can put your faith into action by using fairly traded coffee (now in K-cups also) and tea and by learning about how our consumer choices impact the global community. Through the project, farmers receive fair prices for their crops, affordable credit, and long-term trade relationships with a trading partner they can trust, Equal Exchange. In addition, for every pound of fairly traded products Disciples order through the Project, Equal Exchange makes a donation to the Disciples Hunger Relief and Food Security Fund. We serve fair trade coffee here at church and have made fair trade coffee available for our members to purchase for use at home or give as gifts. Because of your continuing support of the Disciples Coffee Project we will continue to make it available. And your efforts continue to support Week of Compassion Ministry. This month as we lift up the ministry of Week of Compassion, why not give Fair Trade Coffee a try?

**Note:** We do have Equal Exchange chocolate bars and almonds that would make thoughtful Valentine's Day gifts.

**Sunday Evening Bible Study Continues:** This month we will continue our winter Bible Study *Moses: In the Footsteps of the Reluctant Prophet*. We meet Tuesday evenings 6:30-7:30 p.m. We will conclude this study on February 13<sup>th</sup>.

### **Pastor's Class 2018**

During the months of February and March, Pastor's Class will meet regularly to learn more about what it means to be a follower of Jesus Christ. Youth interested in exploring church membership are invited to sign up on the bulletin board or talk with Rev. Remster.

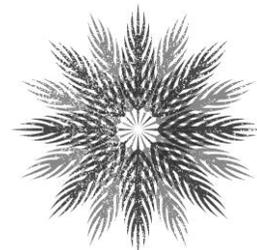
### **Barbara Myers**



Barbara Myers recently celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday with an open house in the fellowship hall.

### **2018 Flower Calendar**

The calendar to reserve a date for chancel flowers is located in the church office. We purchase the flowers from Ford's Flowers and they are a value at \$25 for two arrangements. Celebrate a birthday or anniversary, honor that special person, or remember loved ones with chancel flowers that also add beauty to our sanctuary.



Merciful God, you called us forth from the dust of the earth; you claimed us for Christ in the waters of baptism. Look upon us as we enter these Forty Days bearing the mark of ashes, and bless our journey through the desert of Lent to the font of rebirth. May our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; our prayer, the chant of humble and grateful hearts.

—*Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers*



### **Listen: Hearing that Still, Small Voice and Finding Your Own—Lent 2018**

*“Look, I’ll pour out my spirit on you. I’ll reveal my words to you.” Proverbs 1:23b*

This Lent we will quiet things down and heighten our attention to the “still, small voice” of God and our own True Self. Listening, through prayer and meditation on Scripture, is an ancient Lenten practice. Join us as we quiet our minds and our lives long enough to listen for the voice of God as it speaks to us in this Lenten Season. All are welcome to join us for worship, prayer, study and fellowship as we focus our attention on the voice of God in our lives and our world.

Come and rest, come and listen.

Our journey begins as Lent begins on **Ash Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>**. We will hold **Ash Wednesday services at 1:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.** at the church. Come to whichever one suits your schedule. Join as we mark the beginning of this holy season with ashes and communion. All are welcome.

### **Other opportunities to explore the power of prayer during Lent:**

Sign up to become a **prayer partner** for the season of Lent on Sunday morning or by calling the church office. You will be matched with a prayer partner and the two of you covenant to be in prayer for and with each other during the season of Lent. This does not require a weekly meeting—just making time for prayer.

Be part of our **Prayer Study Group** that will meet on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 during the season of Lent. Each week we will explore a different style or method of prayer. It is an opportunity to try a variety of prayer forms and pray together as a group for the concerns of the congregation. This study will be held February 20 through March 27<sup>th</sup>. You do not need to commit to the entire 6 weeks to participate since the practices will be different each week. Join us as you are able. See Rev Remster if you have questions.

If you are interested in being part of a **prayer shawl ministry** to knit or crochet prayer shawls to be a blessing to others, please let Rev. Remster

### **Notes from the Library Committee**

Looking for something to read? The Mitford Years is a series of novels by American writer Jan Karon. Nestled in the Blue Ridge Mountains, the fictional town of Mitford is a crazy quilt of saints and sinners - lovable eccentrics all. The novels are Christian themed, and center on the life of the Episcopal rector, Father Tim. Titles of the first three are: 1) At Home in Mitford, 2) A Light In the Window, 3) These High, Green Hills. Browse the full series of Karon books in the fiction section of the church library.

### **Reference Set added to Church Library:**

The New Interpreter's Bible (12 volume set) is available in the reference section of the church library. The New Interpreter's Bible has three major sections. It presents the full texts and critical notes of The New International Version and The New Revised Standard Version of the Bible in parallel columns for quick reference and comparison. Next, detailed, critical commentary serves as a guide through the text. Lastly are writings titled "Reflections" explaining the significance of the Scripture for faith and life today.

### What's Happening in Youth Groups?

#### **JC and Kingdom Kids (K-5th grade)**

The JC and Kingdom Kids met in January and celebrated a new year together. We shared scripture, played games, and learned some yoga stretches to help us stay calm and focused in the new year. We also heard from Alaina Paul, who told us about a service project her Girl Scout troop started at the Dog Pound called, "Sit, Stay, Read." She has inspired us to visit the Dog Pound in March, where we will read to the dogs.

We will meet again on February 11<sup>th</sup> at 11:45 in the Multi-Purpose room. We will share a pizza lunch. Our focus for our February meeting will be on prayer. As we learn about the Lord's Prayer in more detail, we will also learn how to sign it. We will also learn how to "pray in color" and make packages of "breakfast in a bag" to hand out at Christ's Table. We look forward to being together again!

#### **Chi Rho and CYF (9th-12th grade)**

In January our high school students finished a series called, "Can I Ask That?" This study allowed them to explore their toughest questions about the bible and their faith in a supportive environment. As we confronted the points of our faith that we are challenged by together, we learned that how you study the bible is important to our understanding of how it speaks to us. We learned to read scripture in context- looking at entire passages (not just single verses) and understanding who wrote it, why it was being written, the type of writing it was and the culture of the time period it was written in. Most importantly, we learned to take tough passages and hold them up to the life of Christ for insight. Through this process we learned that we do not have to back down to our doubts and questions- the Bible and God are strong enough for our hardest questions and our faith grows as we allow ourselves to work through our doubts and challenging questions.

Our middle school students recently finished a study titled, "The Four Acts of Love." Through this series our youth learned that love is a choice- an action that is lived out. They looked specifically at how radical hospitality, fearless conversation, genuine humility and divine anticipation are acts of love that impacts their life and the lives of those around them.

The month of February brings a lot of excitement and we are looking forward to the following upcoming events:

February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 2 p.m. - We will see the documentary *Breathe Free* at the Zanesville Museum of Art. This film, which was created by Zanesville, Ohio, filmmaker, Doug Swift, chronicles the personal stories of refugees living in central Ohio. When the film is over we will view the *Columbus Crossing Borders Project*. This exhibit allows viewers to take an intimate look into the arduous journeys of refugees who are willing to share their stories through art.

February 17<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. - Mercy Me Concert at Schottenstein Arena

February 24<sup>th</sup> - Coffee House Fundraiser

The youth invite you to join them for coffee (or tea) and desserts and enjoy musical entertainment while visiting with friends on February 24<sup>th</sup>. Guest artists include: Adam Jones, John Grubbs, Lori Hittle, Tyson Kumorowski, Callie Buchanan, Anna Paul, Skyler Irvin, Kris Geis and Kris Hawk. Enjoy the musical gifts of our church family as well as fellowship and desserts! See included flyer for more details.

**Children Worship and Wonder Training** - There will be training for new CWW greeters on February 27<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. Anyone who would like to participate in this training, or who has questions about being a CWW Greeter, can contact Kim Paul (kimdpaul@gmail.com)

### **Nursery Redo**

The Christian Education Committee is very excited about the update the nursery has been given. We hope you will peek into the nursery to see the new toys and furniture that were purchased for this room. It was also given a fresh coat of pain and the carpets were cleaned. We are grateful to the Property Committee and all of those who helped get the painting done.

### **Mark your calendars!**

**Vacation Bible School will be held July 16<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup>**



### **Camp Christian**

Summer 2018

Grandparents Camp (K, 1st, 2nd grade and grandparent) - June 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>

Rabbit Camp (2-4th grade) - July 4<sup>th</sup> -7<sup>th</sup>

Otter Camp (3rd-5th grade) - June 17<sup>th</sup> -23<sup>rd</sup>

Chi Rho Camp (6th-8th grade) - June 3<sup>rd</sup> -9<sup>th</sup>, July 8<sup>th</sup> -14<sup>th</sup>, July 22<sup>nd</sup> -28<sup>th</sup>

CYF Camp (9th-12th grade) - June 10<sup>th</sup> -16<sup>th</sup> June 24<sup>th</sup> -30<sup>th</sup>, July 15<sup>th</sup> -21<sup>st</sup>



### **Adult Work Trip!**

We are in the beginning stages of planning an adult work trip to Houston the week of April 8<sup>th</sup>. Anyone who interested in making this trip, please plan on attending an informational meeting Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. at the church. If you interested in the trip but cannot attend the meeting, please call Susie Mercer at (740) 452-0933 or e-mail at [suzemercer@yahoo.com](mailto:suzemercer@yahoo.com)

### **Bethel Community Center**

Bethel Community Center provides a place for the children, youth, and teens to gather for after school programs in the Putnam area of Zanesville. Part of Bethel's support comes from the food donations of concerned churches and community members to provide healthy snacks for the after-school program. Our church family provides snacks the first week of each month. If you would like to be a part of supporting this ministry you can help by donating healthy snacks. Sign-up sheet is located on the main hallway bulletin board.

### **Christ's Table**

Our next time for serving at Christ's Table is Saturday, March 24<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. What a great time to "spring" into action being the hands and feet of Christ. The sign-up sheet is located in the main hallway bulletin board.

### **Food Collection**

As you do your weekly grocery shopping consider buying an extra can or two of soup 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

### **Loads of Love**

Our first Loads of Love ministry was held January 23<sup>rd</sup>. Five elementary families and one homeless man were blessed by this event. Thank you to Lori Buchanan and Adrienne Grimes who assisted onsite and to all who donated the supplies to make this ministry possible.

**Outreach Committee members: We will be having a meeting Thursday, February 8<sup>th</sup> 6:00 p.m. in the church library Please plan to attend.**





### Meet Luisa

Luisa knows the land. She has lived near El Panama, Nicaragua for most of her 34 years. She is teaching her two sons to know the land. Luisa also sees the land changing. Rising temperatures and shifting rainfall patterns make the hard work of farming even harder.

In 2015, Luisa joined a 5-year agricultural project through the Council of Protestant Churches of Nicaragua (CEPAD). With farmers like Luisa, CEPAD is working for holistic change.

On her 1.5 acres, Luisa has improved soil quality with manure and mulch. Drip-irrigation techniques provide consistent water. Luisa has already increased her harvest, but she is more excited about the project's future potential.

Her first focus is seeds. Training in seed selection enabled her to plant quality seeds, which she preserved and cataloged for next season and is sharing with her neighbors.



Luisa's hopes stretch farther than next season, though. She hopes the added income will fund her sons' educations to become professionals. At the same time, she is teaching them the land is part of their future--they are responsible for protecting the spring on their property.

With support from Week of Compassion and CEPAD, Luisa is planting seeds that will bear abundant fruit for today, tomorrow, and years to come. With God's help, these seeds will bear far more than we can imagine.

# The Z-Disciple

FEBRUARY 2018

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



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<b>1</b> 7 pm Property	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 2 pm <i>Breathe Free</i> at Art Museum for Youth
<b>4</b> 6 pm Youth Groups	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 6:30 Bible Study	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 6 pm Outreach 7 pm Worship Committee	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b> 9:30 Elder meeting 6 pm Youth Groups	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 6:30 Bible Study 5:30 pm Houston Mission Trip Info Meeting	<b>14 Ash Wednesday</b> 1 pm Worship 7 pm Worship	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 8 am Men's Breakfast <i>Mercy Me</i> Concert for Youth
<b>18</b> 6 pm Youth Groups	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 6:30 Prayer Study	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 10 am Christ's Table 6 pm Coffee House Fundraiser
<b>25</b> 6 pm Youth Groups	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 6:00 pm CWW Training 6:30 Prayer Study	<b>28</b>			

# *The Z-Disciple*

## FEBRUARY 2018

### **Acolytes**

#### **February 4, 2018**

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

#### **February 11, 2018**

8:30 Lydia Huy  
10:30 Reece Neal

#### **February 18, 2018**

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

#### **February 25, 2018**

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

#### **March 4, 2018**

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

### **Jr. Deacons**

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

### **Greeters**

#### **February 4, 2018**

8:30 Ken & Margo Cooper  
10:30 Brady & Michelle Neal

#### **February 11, 2018**

8:30 Ellen Dagneau  
Sandy Grizzard  
10:30 Adam Jones  
Doris Ross

#### **February 18, 2018**

8:30 John & Susan Grubbs  
10:30 Bud & Juanita Krause

#### **February 25, 2018**

8:30 Tim & Suzann Wilson  
10:30 Rick Griffin  
Velma Huntsman

### **Communion Preparers**

Jim & Lee McPherson

### **Deacons**

Jana Fulks	Steve Kimberly
Mike Frye	Lee McPherson
Judy Gorsky	Judy Newsom
Deborah Granberg	Martha Pettry
Mel Granberg	Rod Richardson
Sandy Grizzard	Jerry Sutherland
Lori Hittle	Susan Sutherland
Sue Kimberly	Susie Mercer

### **Elders**

#### **February 4, 2018**

8:30 Dave Higgins  
Penny Higgins  
10:30 Dick Church  
Brady Neal

#### **February 11, 2018**

8:30 Marcia Coleman  
Cato Coleman  
10:30 Dale Newlon  
Jerry Sturtz

#### **February 18, 2018**

8:30 John Grubbs  
Susan Frye  
10:30 Penny Higgins  
Dave Higgins

#### **February 25, 2018**

8:30 Randy Roberts  
Bill Factor  
10:30 Jill Bednarczuk  
Heather Near

### **Welcoming Team**

8:30 Tim & Suzann Wilson  
Ed & Marianne Henderson  
10:30 Wanda Boughton  
Pam Wallace  
Deborah Granberg  
Lori Hittle

### **Worship Leaders**

#### **February 4, 2018**

8:30 Lee McPherson  
10:30 Boy Scout Sunday

#### **February 11, 2018**

8:30 Bill Factor  
10:30 Peggy Moon

#### **February 18, 2018**

8:30 Susan Grubbs  
10:30 Dick Church

#### **February 25, 2018**

8:30 Yvonne Factor  
10:30 Beth Fineran

### **Lectors**

#### **February 4, 2018**

10:30 Callie Buchanan

#### **February 11, 2018**

10:30 Larry Paul

#### **February 18, 2018**

10:30 Anna Paul

#### **February 25, 2018**

10:30 Alaina Paul



### **Happy Belated Birthday to:**

Russell Devoll      January 9

### **Happy Birthday to:**

Lori Griffin      February 2  
Lydia Huy      February 2  
Lowell Body      February 3  
Ashley Gordon      February 3  
Jean Graap      February 3  
Kaye Bednarczuk      February 4  
Brian Untied      February 4  
Kelsey Gaskill      February 5  
Bill Anderson      February 6  
Melissa Lichtner      February 6  
Mindy Waite      February 6  
Emma Kimberly      February 7  
Celia Miller      February 9  
John Dick      February 10  
Bud Krause      February 10  
Lauren Baker      February 13  
Bob Fox      February 13  
John Grubbs      February 13  
Micah Mathers      February 14  
Genette Spragg      February 14  
Mickey Spragg      February 14  
Marianne Henderson      February 15  
Madison Hillis      February 15  
Adam Jones      February 16  
Carol Hunt      February 17  
Jim McGee      February 17  
Phil Short      February 18  
Sally Denning      February 19  
Sharon Krause      February 20  
Pam Tewalt      February 21  
Shaye Jones      February 24  
Dennis Huy      February 25  
JP Lichtner      February 25  
David King      February 26  
Matt Tice      February 26  
Jacob Hittle      February 28  
Janice Fritz      February 29

### **Special Events this month:**

Bud Krause celebrates his 85<sup>th</sup> birthday on February 10<sup>th</sup>. His address is 2775 N. Lawndale Place, 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.



### **10 biblical ways to love**

1. Listen without interrupting. "To answer before listening — that is folly and shame" (Proverbs 18:13).
2. Speak without accusing. "Be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry" (James 1:19).
3. Give without selfishness. "The righteous give without sparing" (Proverbs 21:26).
4. Pray without ceasing. "We have not stopped praying for you" (Colossians 1:9).
5. Answer without arguing. "Better a dry crust with peace and quiet than a house full of feasting, with strife" (Proverbs 17:1).
6. Share without pretending. "Speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of ... Christ" (Ephesians 4:15).
7. Enjoy without complaining. "Do everything without grumbling or arguing" (Philippians 2:14).
8. Trust without wavering. "[Love] always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres" (1 Corinthians 13:7).
9. Forgive without punishing. "Forgive as the Lord forgave you" (Colossians 3:13).
10. Promise without forgetting. "A longing fulfilled is a tree of life" (Proverbs 13:12).

—From various websites; all Scriptures NIV

### **Happy Anniversary to:**

Bill & Yvonne Factor      February 8