

The Z-Disciple

JANUARY 2019

First Christian Church

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Dear Church Family,

On December 9th we gathered for a Service of Dedication for the Following Jesus room and later, during the 10:30 service the children gathered to hear the first story that would be told in the room, "Follow Me".

There was never any doubt that our older children were in need of this new space. There were many signs telling us that they were ready for new stories and a space of their own, but the real evidence came the very first week we moved in. The pride they felt as they entered the room was evident. They noticed every detail of the room and knew that it was made just for them. They exclaimed over the beauty of the shelves, the brand-new carpet, the fresh coat of paint, the colorful underlays and silks, and were in awe that over 300 wooden figures had been carved just for them. Through the generous gifts of our church family we were able to create a room for worship that feels as holy and important as it is. In this room, where the children will hear stories meant to demonstrate how generous God's love is, how fitting it is that it was put together through the generous gifts of God's people.

What has been especially touching are the conversations that have come out of our wondering questions following the telling of the stories. After hearing, "Follow Me", the children reflected that the disciples might have felt worried when they first chose to follow Jesus, because they may not have been sure that it was really Him. We wondered together about what made them sure it was Him and the children felt they trusted Him because of the things He said and did. This gave us an opportunity to wonder how we recognize Jesus in our own lives. The next week we heard the story of the man with the unclean spirit being healed. The children felt that perhaps the man felt amazed and afraid to have such an incredible thing happen to him, and also happy and relieved. We were able to talk about how you can have all those feelings at the same time and how sometimes really incredible things can be a bit scary. They also felt that once the man was freed of the unclean spirit, he probably went on to do good things. Hearing these children have such insightful, thoughtful spiritual conversations at such a young age is sign of the Holy Spirit at work.

These are the types of gifts we *should* give our children during Christmas season, and I am grateful that through the generosity of your gifts, we have.

Blessings, Kim





With Sympathy

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

The Carl Coleman Jr. family on the death of Carl Coleman Sr. on December 7th.

The family of James Pierson who died December 5th.

Susan Grubbs father, Charles Donehue, died December 8th

Pat James on the death of her sister-in-law Donna Gazelle.

The Supplee family on the death of Jean Supplee on December 27th.

We continue to keep the families in our prayers:

Happy Retirement!

John Van Gilder retired on November 30th after serving our community for almost 40 years.

Thanks from the Remsters

We would like to thank the congregation for the generous Christmas gifts. We appreciate your thoughtfulness and the blessing of sharing ministry together. May you all enjoy a New Year filled with God's surprises. Shalom, Dawn & Tim

Thank You!

Thank you to the Live Wire Class and Caribeth Legats for their help in decorating and then taking down the Advent decorations in the sanctuary. And the Worship & Christian Education Committees and participants in the Advent Workshop for making the beautiful stars that adorned our sanctuary. Your time and efforts are a blessing to us all during the Advent and Christmas Season.

Thank you to all who had any part in making our Advent and Christmas worship experiences extra special. Whether it was lighting candles or serving communion, you each helped us celebrate the birth of our Lord. Thank you!

THANK YOU

I want to express my heartfelt thanks to the congregation for the gifts for Week of the Ministry (in October) and the Christmas gift from the congregation I received this week. Your generosity and kindness to Rolanda and I are greatly appreciated. Thanks also to the church staff for honoring my birthday with a gift. Many thanks for all you do for me and thank you all for the ministries you do within and outside the walls of the church in the name of Christ. A Merry Christmas and God's Blessings in the New Year, Philip

Pastor's Class for youth interested in exploring church membership and baptism will begin next month. Sign up on the bulletin board if you are interested and we will determine a meeting time that will work best for those participating.

Winter Bible Study will begin Sunday, January 20th at 6 p.m. and continue for six weeks. We will be exploring Freedom: Promise and Struggle in the Bible. This study will explore Scripture from the Old and New Testament pertaining to freedom for all God's people in light of the culture we live in today. Sign up on the bulletin board if you plan to attend and let us know if you want a book. See Dawn if you have questions. All are welcome.

Electronic Funds Giving Option

First Christian Church invites you to enjoy the convenience and comfort of the Electronic Funds Transfer giving option. The reasons for automatic bank drafting are clearly advantageous:

***It is easy:** Complete a form that is available in the church office

***It is economical:** No cost to you or the church

***It is disciplined:** Set the frequency of automated check yourself

***It is regular:** Choose bi-monthly or monthly contribution

If you have any questions, contact Janice in the church office.

Board Meeting Reminder

The next board meeting is Thursday, January 10th at 7 p.m. Committee chairs are asked to submit their reports by Wednesday, January 2nd so they can be emailed and previewed prior to the meeting.

2019 Flower Calendar

The calendar is located in the church office. We purchase the flowers from Ford's Flowers and they are a value at \$25 for two arrangements.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday 9 a.m. -12 p.m.
Tuesday-Thursday
9 a.m.-12 p.m. 1-4 p.m.
Friday Closed



THANK YOU!

Thanks to all who supported our 2018 Christmas Offering. Through your generosity, we will be using the proceeds of \$3,232 to support Eastside Community Ministry and we will also be helping our Deacon's Fund that helps some people that need a helping hand.

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.

Christ's Table

Start the New Year out by helping feed God's people. We will be serving at Christ's Table, Saturday January 26th from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The sign-up sheet is located on the bulletin board in the main hallway.

Calm & Bright: Advent Outreach Projects Summary

Thank you for blessing others during the season of Advent by being part of our many special Advent projects. Through your donations, efforts and support we were able to: deliver 30 cookie trays to our homebound members, sponsor 30 children in Muskingum Co. through Prison Fellowship Angel Tree, provide 50 gift bags to the residents of Willow Haven Nursing Care Center, assemble 88 blessing bags for the homeless to be distributed through Christ's Table in January and send 26 hygiene kits for Church World Service disaster relief. In addition, we collected 120 hats, scarves, mittens for our mitten garland to be shared with local agencies and filled the grocery cart for Eastside. Thank you all for your generous hearts and hands.

Prison Fellowship

Thanks to all who adopted angels from the Christmas tree in the chapel. We helped provide gifts to 30 children who live in Muskingum County and who have a mother or father incarcerated in a state correctional facility. The gifts we provided let those children know that they were not forgotten by their mom or dad.

What's Happening in Youth Groups?

In November the **JC and Kingdom Kids** took a fantastic field trip to Missionary Maintenance Services in Coshocton, OH. Missionary Maintenance Services is a first - class airplane maintenance and training organization that has global impact on our world. Their mission is to prepare people and planes for missions. Many missionaries rely on aircraft to provide food, supplies, and transportation. By flying over challenging situations, the airplanes deliver missionaries to their outposts, reaching many more people with the Gospel. And to do this, there is a great need for properly maintained aircraft and highly skilled mechanics. MMS provides free labor to Christian mission organizations who have a need for aircraft repairs. They also provide apprenticeships for people to become fully certified airframe and powerplant mechanics.

Before our tour even began, our guide Phil Maddux (President and CEO of MMS), asked the children what they think is the most important thing the missionaries do. The children suggested the missionaries deliver important supplies, such as medical supplies or food and water. While Phil agreed these things are important, he told them the most important thing they do is spread the word of God. From there he took us to what he said was the most important room in the entire building. I think the children were a little surprised to find that in a hanger that housed numerous planes and equipment, the most important room was a small break room with a large table, fridge and microwave. Phil explained that this room was the most important room because every morning the staff begins their day there together in prayer. He shared that when they are having trouble figuring out what is wrong with a plane, they go to God in prayer and ask for his guidance and direction; when they are having trouble locating a needed part, they go to God in prayer and ask for Him to provide what they need. And with these two pieces of introduction, the tone for our tour was set.

The children got to see around 15 airplanes, sit in a cockpit, and meet numerous mechanics at work who took time to stop and explain what they were doing to the planes they were working on. Not only was it very interesting and exciting to see the planes and mechanics, but it was also a wonderful model of how to use your gifts to love and serve the Lord.



In December the JC and Kingdom Kids went Christmas caroling and delivered Christmas cheer to our members living at the Oaks at Bethesda, the Oaks at Northpointe, Brookdale and Primrose. It was a joyful way to spend an afternoon! We concluded the evening by snuggling up in the youth room together and watching the movie, "The Star".

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The JC and Kingdom Kids will serve at Christ's Table on January 26th from 11-12:30.

This month the Chi Rho and CYF youth provided leadership at the Advent Workshop where families gathered to share a meal, make Christmas crafts and sing carols. They also enjoyed their Christmas party where they had a gift exchange, decorated gingerbread villages, played games and packed gifts for residents of Willow Haven Nursing Home. The youth will have a couple of weeks off for the holidays. Regular meetings will resume on January 6th from 6-7:30 in the youth room.



Christmas Eve Photo Gallery



The Hawk Family

Callie Buchanan & Matthew Baldwin



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Weekly Worship:

Sunday 8:30 & 10:30 am

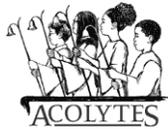
Sunday School 9:30 am

Wednesday 1:00 pm



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 1 pm Worship 1:30 pm Quilters	3 7 pm Property	4	5
6 4:30 Praise Team practice 6 pm Youth Groups	7	8	9 1 pm Worship 1:30 pm Quilters	10 7 pm Board Meeting	11 6 pm Bunco Night	12
13 6 pm Youth Groups	14	15	16 1 pm Worship 1:30 pm Quilters	17	18	19 8 am Men's Breakfast
20 4:30 Praise Team practice 6 pm Youth Groups 6 pm Bible Study	21	22	23 1 pm Worship 1:30 pm Quilters	24	25	26 10 am Christ's Table
27 6 pm Youth Groups 6 pm Bible Study	28	29	30 1 pm Worship 1:30 pm Quilters	31		

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January 6, 2019

8:30 Lydia Huy
10:30 Carolyn Geis
Jacob Hittle

January 13, 2019

8:30 Lydia Huy
10:30 Brooke Beight
Sadee McCuen

January 20, 2019

8:30 Lydia Huy
10:30 Samuel Wegner
Sydney Allen

January 27, 2019

8:30 Lydia Huy
10:30 Carolyn Geis
Jacob Hittle

February 3, 2019

8:30 Lydia Huy
10:30 Graisyn & Parker Roberts

Jr. Deacons

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



Greeters

January 6, 2019

8:30 Margaret Hayes
Melanie Mast
10:30 Norma Jardine
Amy Wilson

January 13, 2019

8:30 Celia Miller
Martha Pettry
10:30 Maxine Rice
Kris Geis

January 20, 2019

8:30 The Robinson Family
10:30 Carol Hunt
Terri Carpenter

January 27, 2019

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

Communion Preparers

Jim & Judy Robinson



Deacons

David Allen	Brenda King
Denise Baker	Jack Morrow
Diane Caton	Michelle Neal
Connie Coleman	Tim Remster
Kelsey Delbert	Jim Robinson
Mark Delbert	Judy Robinson
Kevin Gaskill	Mike Whitson
Rebecca Gaylord	



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Elders

January 6, 2019

8:30 Molly Roberts
Bill Factor
10:30 Bill Anderson
Mary Arnold

January 13, 2019

8:30 Randy Roberts
Molly Roberts
10:30 Jill Bednarczuk
Lori Buchanan

January 20, 2019

8:30 Penny Higgins
Dave Higgins
10:30 Dick Church
Beth Fineran

January 27, 2019

8:30 Ellen Dagneau
Susan Frye
10:30 John Moon
Brady Neal

Welcoming Team

8:30 Mark & Shonda Delbert
Mary Lou Delbert
Kelsey Delbert
10:30 Georgia Robison
Arielle & Jared Robison
Velma Huntsman
Ramona Blackwood



Worship Leaders

January 6, 2019

8:30 Sue Frye
10:30 Scott Barr

January 13, 2019

8:30 Sandy Jones
10:30 Kevin Gaskill

January 20, 2019

8:30 Dave Higgins
10:30 Kari Ward

January 27, 2019

8:30 Lee McPherson
10:30 Brady Neal

Lectors



January 6, 2019

10:30 Alaina Paul

January 13, 2019

10:30 Trey Wilson

January 20, 2019

10:30 Callie Buchanan

January 27, 2019

10:30 Trey Wilson



Happy Birthday to:

Shane Centers	January 2
Dolores Davison	January 2
Lora Lanning*	January 2
Andrew Body	January 3
Barbara Myers	January 3
Greg Gaumer	January 7
Lori Hittle	January 7
Russell Devoll	January 9
Alexia Desender	January 10
Milo Huizenga	January 10
Connor Milner	January 10
Heather Untied	January 10
Beth Iden	January 14
Troy Balderson	January 16
Donna Graves*	January 17
Shirley Hicks	January 19
Bryan Near	January 22
Sam Grubbs	January 24
Rod Richardson	January 25
Earl Smith	January 25
Jacob Devoll	January 28
Georgia Robison	January 28
Duke Jones	January 30



Happy Anniversary to:

Doris* & Frank Micheli	January 9
Gene & Dolores Davison	January 14, 1951
Phil & Barbara Phillips	January 24, 1969
Keith & Carol Sarbaugh	January 31, 2004

* Shut In

Special Anniversaries this month:

Doris & Frank Micheli celebrate their 65th anniversary on January 9th. Their address is 160 E. Willow Dr., Zanesville, OH 43701.

Barbara & Phil Phillips celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on January 24th. Their address is 140 Waters Edge Dr., Hebron, OH 43025.

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.

A prayer for new beginnings

In his book *Awed to Heaven, Rooted in Earth* (Fortress Press), Walter Brueggemann writes in an Epiphany poem:

... this is a time to be born.
So we turn to you, God of our life
God of all our years,
God of our beginning....
We dare pray that you will do for us
and among us and through us
what is needful for our newness.
Give us the power to be receptive,
to take the newness you give
There is a time to be born, and it is now.
We sense the pangs and groans of your newness.
Come here now in the name of Jesus. Amen.

How fitting that the Epiphany season and the new year coincide! Epiphany reveals a new King, the beginning of his ministry, his new disciples, his first healings, his “new teaching — with authority” (Mark 1:27). We, too, experience newness, now and year-round. But newness can be tough. So we trust that God, who “[makes] all things new” while banishing “mourning and crying and pain” (Revelation 21:4-5), walks with us in this new year — and always.