First Christian Church *(Disciples of Christ)*

3000 Dresden Road, Zanesville, OH 43701 740-453-3437

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Rev. Laureen A. Roe, Senior Minister Kim Paul, Director of CE, Children & Youth Ministries

As children of God, we strive to extend radical hospitality through worship, mission, faith formation, and community.

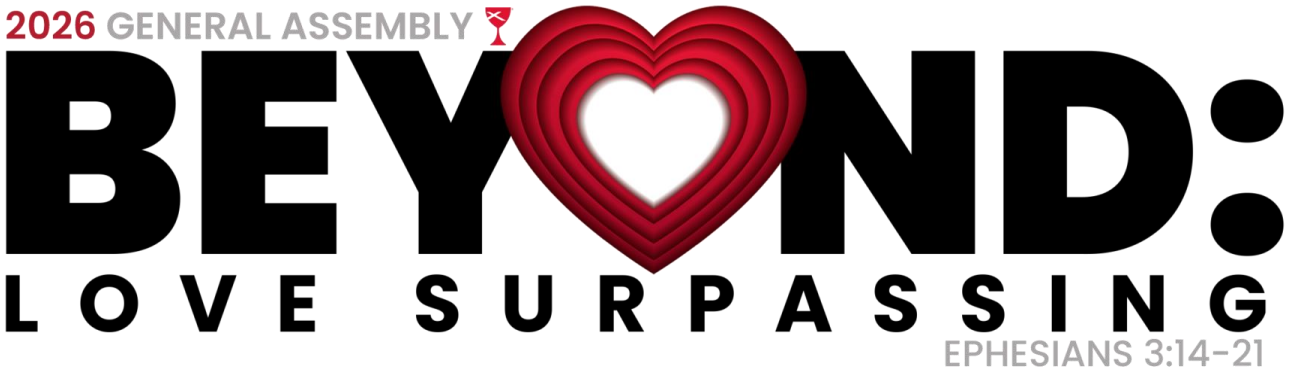
YOUTH MISSION TRIP 2026

Every morning of the mission week began with devotions and every evening included worship. The theme for these times of spiritual growth was, "Made for This". Throughout the week we studied Colossians 3:9-17 and reflected on the idea that we were made in the image of God and meant to be a reflection of God in the world. In order to do that, we are called to clothe ourselves in compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience and love. During the day we supported the work of ministries and non-profit organizations throughout Milwaukee and met people within those ministries who reflected God's image in the work they do. When you see one of our youth around the church or in the community ask them to tell you about:

- The community gardens that they served in: Hope Center Garden where they met Vickie and Susan; Victory Garden, where they met LaDonna; and GroundWorks, where they met Grian.
- The Hope Center (meets basic needs of food, shelter and clothing) where they met Mike and Karen.
- The Adullum Outreach where we met Jamon, James and Patrick.
- The friends they made at St. Anne's Center for Intergenerational Care.

Throughout our week we saw God reflected in the people who led our service, the people we served and in each other. We are grateful to the church community for making this experience possible for us by supporting our fundraisers, surrounding us in prayer and love, and making ministry to our youth a top priority at First Christian Church. I assure you that these trips continue to shape the lives, passions and character of the young people who participate.

Our youth also shared about many of these experiences during Worship on June 28th. You can view it on our YouTube channel.



JULY 10-11, 2026 @ FCC-Z

FCC-Z will serve as a local gathering point for General Assembly 2026, giving our congregation the opportunity to participate together in the wider life of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

General Assembly is a time for worship, learning, business, fellowship, and conversation about the direction and future of the General Church. By gathering at FCC-Z, we can watch online sessions together and share in meaningful discussion about what we are hearing, how the Spirit is moving, and what it means for our congregation and denomination.

Each congregation is invited to designate three voting delegates to represent them at General Assembly. FCC-Z's voting delegates are *Susan Grubbs, Jason Kehrberg,* and *Kim Paul*. Rev. Laureen will also serve as a voting delegate as ordained clergy.

Please register in advance so we can plan for how many will participate at FCC-Z. The cost to register is $30. You can register at https://disciples.org/2026-general-assembly-beyond-love-surpassing/ . If you have already registered, please forward your email confirmation to Rev. Laureen so we know to include you in our attendance plans. Contact Rev. Laureen with questions or for help registering.

Come be part of the conversation as we listen, learn, pray, and imagine the future of the church together.

2026-27 Congregational Leadership Elected

At the Congregational Meeting held on Sunday, June 21, the following people were elected:

Moderator: Rick Griffin **Vice Moderator:** Jim Wilson **Past Moderator:** Valencia Clark
Secretary: Ellen Dagneau **Treasurers:** Cato Coleman, Brady Neal
Trustee: Kevin Dunn

Elders: Mary Arnold, Cato Coleman, Marcia Coleman, Heather Near, Larry Paul, Lori Ryan-Griffin; James McCandlish (Youth Elder)

Diaconate: Valencia Clark (Chairperson), Susie Mercer, John Moon, Josh Murphy, Maddy Murphy, Bryan Near, Pam Wallace

JULY WORSHIP

In July, we continue our summer worship series, ***Be Still and Know***, as we explore prayer through the use of prayer beads. Together, we are discovering how this simple, hands-on practice can help us connect with the Holy and with one another for all our days. Each week invites us into a different rhythm of prayer using prayer beads and the familiar phrase, "Be still and know."

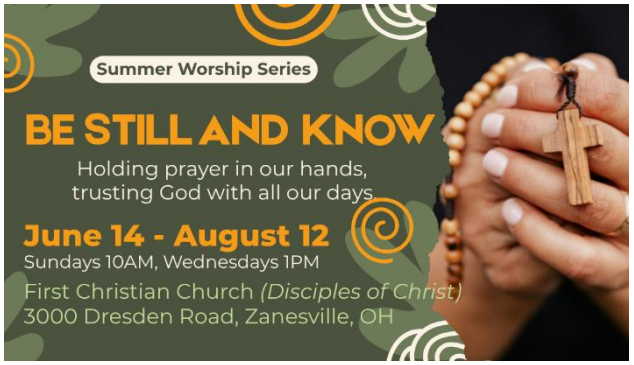
Prayer beads are available in the pews for everyone to use. The beads help connect the movements of prayer in this series with the Lord's Prayer and the simple prayer practice known as the "Be Still and Know" prayer. As we pray through the beads together, we string together moments of stillness, trust, confession, hope, and praise.

<u>July 5 and 8</u>:
Preaching: Rev. Rev. Tyler Whipkey, Director of Spiritual Care for Genesis Healthcare System.
Note: Rev. Laureen will lead Wednesday Worship with the Message by Rev. Whipkey played.
Focus: "Hallowed by thy name"
Scriptures: Matthew 6:9-13, Genesis 2:2-3, Philippians 4:8-9

<u>July 12 and 15</u>:
Focus: "Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven"
Scriptures: Matthew 6:9-13, James 2:2-5, Luke 17:20-21

<u>July 19 and 22</u>:
Focus: "Give us this day our daily bread"
Scriptures: Matthew 6:9-13,
James 5:13-16, Luke 5:15-16

<u>July 26 and 29</u>:
Focus: "Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors"
Scriptures: Matthew 6:9-13,
Colossians 3:12-14, Mark 11:25



SUNDAY FUNDAYS AND WEDNESDAY FRIENDS-DAYS

The next Sunday Funday is July 26th. Following worship, everyone is invited to meet at Spangler Memorial Park (at the back of the property down the hill), play some games, and have lunch together. We will grill hot dogs and hamburgers. Questions? Contact Heather Near.

On Wednesday, July 29th there is Wednesday Friends-day following 1PM Worship. Everyone is invited to gather in the multi-purpose room for fellowship, snacks, and games. Bring a snack to share.

Join us for Vacation Bible School, July 13-17 from 6-8 pm as we travel back in time to ancient Rome! You'll explore the caves of the Underground Church, meet the Apostle Paul, create cool Bible-times projects, experience thrilling real-life dramas, play high-energy games, sample tasty Mediterranean snacks, and hear unforgettable music. Plus, you'll meet new friends! These experiences make God's Word come alive with new meaning for all who participate! Use the QR code to register.

Monday
Bible Point: God's love is a gift.
Bible Story: Meet Paul and learn why he is under house arrest. (Acts 28:16)

Tuesday
Bible Point: God's love changes us.
Bible Story: Paul tells about his life changing experience on the road to Damascus. (Acts 9:1-22)

Wednesday
Bible Point: God's love is always with us.
Bible Story: Paul shares about how God is with him through his struggles. (Acts 28:20)

Thursday
Bible Point: God's love saves us.
Bible Story: Paul shares about how Jesus died to save us . (Romans 5:8)

Friday
Bible Point: God's love is worth sharing.
Bible Story: Paul encourages the children to follow his example and share the Good News of Jesus with others. (Acts 28:23)

VBS Open House

Everyone is invited to experience all that our Roman Marketplace has to offer on June 12th between 9 and 10 am. All ages are invited to come and explore the sights, sounds, and tastes of the Marketplace. Meet our Shopkeepers, explore what they are working on, and try one of their projects!

VBS- How Can I Help?

The beautiful thing about seeing our Vacation Bible School come together is watching how God uses the entire church family to make it happen. Below are opportunities for you to contribute to the success of VBS 2026.

Volunteer
It's not too late, there are still openings! Talk to Kim Paul or Kari Ward for more information about how you can help.

VBS Donations
We have added new items to the bulletin board at the top of the steps. Pick an item to contribute and bring it back with the form from the bulletin board attached. Your donations can be left in the kitchen or coat closet (near door 4). Our VBS is free to everyone who participates! Your donation makes this possible.

Decorating
Our decorating committee is already hard at work. Set-up begins the first week of July. If you can help, please see Kim Paul for details

Spread the Word!
Use the postcards outside the sanctuary to invite your friends, family and neighbors. Our community is more likely to participate in this event if someone they know has personally invited them. We have an AWESOME VBS, so spread the word!

VBS Volunteer Dates

Wednesday, June 24th at 6:30 pm
Volunteer Meeting for Shopkeepers and Family Leaders
At this meeting volunteers will have an opportunity to pick out a costume for the week, receive Leader Manuals, finalize details, and have questions answered. Volunteers are asked to make every effort to attend this important meeting. Please let Kim Paul or Kari Ward know if that will not be possible.

Thursday, July 9th
Marketplace Set-Up (Shopkeepers)
Shopkeepers will set-up their Marketplace shops on this day at a time that is convenient for them. Kim and/or Kari will be in the building from 10 am-7 pm to provide direction and answer questions.

Sunday, July 12th, 9:00am
VBS Open House
We have invited the church community to experience the fun of our Roman Marketplace! Shopkeepers are asked to be in their shops during our Open House and share their projects with all who are interested.

OUTREACH JULY 2026 UPDATE

Gracious Givers 2026: FCC-Z shares Christ's love with our neighbors through our Gracious Givers program. Each month, we select a local mission partner and collect needed goods to support their work in our community. Through simple acts of generosity, we help meet real needs and remind others that they are seen, valued, and loved. Please place donations in the bins near the front entrance.

Month	Organization	Item Collected
July	Avondale Youth Center	Boys/Girls hygiene items: deodorant, shampoos, tampons/pads, razors, etc.
August	Zanesville Community School	Peanut Butter and Instant Potatoes

Christ's Table 2026: We serve next on Saturday, July 25th, from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Rick Griffin will coordinate. If you feel called to help, please sign up on the bulletin board or let the Church office know.

Date	Coordinator
Saturday, July 25	Rick Griffin
Saturday, September 26	Christy McCandlish
Saturday, November 28	Tom Sawyers

CHRIST'S TABLE
feeds the hungry children of God.

CROP Walk: Mark your calendars and make your plans now to participate in this year's CROP Walk. September 20, 2:00PM at OU-Zanesville Rogge Pavillion. If you would like to help with the planning, contact Christy McCandlish.

Saturday, October 9 – Playhouse Build for Habitat for Humanity:

On October 9, we will gather at the Muskingum County Fairgrounds with several other churches and civic organizations to build Playhouses for Habitat for Humanity. This event matches sponsors with low to moderate-income families with children to build custom playhouses for the family. This event is a great fundraiser for Habitat, a wonderful team-building experience, and at the end of the day, a child will be blessed with a playhouse of their very own. Often, the child and family are present to receive the playhouse at the end of the event. Look for more details on how to sign up soon! No construction experience required – just a willing heart.

A NOTE OF THANKS

I want to express my sincere appreciation to my church family for the thoughtful letters and cards of encouragement during my Veterans Honor Flight on June 10. Your kindness truly lifted my spirits.

The experience was deeply meaningful – a powerful blend of joy and emotion as I revisited memories from sixty years ago with two of my cousins and seventy fellow veterans.

Please feel free to stop me sometime, I'd be honored to share more about the journey.

With gratitude, David Higgins

Summer Fun at Camp Christian

Camp Christian has been full of laughter, friendship, worship, and faith formation this summer! Several children, youth, grandparents, and adults from FCC-Z have already spent time at camp—making memories, growing in faith, and experiencing the joy of Christian community.

At Grandparent Camp, June 7–9, Revere Maynard and Bruce Boyer attended together, along with Viola Maynard and Renee Boyer. Their camp theme was Miracles of Jesus, giving grandparents and children the opportunity to explore stories of Jesus' healing, hope, and love together.

During Otter Camp, June 7–14, FCC-Z was well represented by Lillian Appleby, Logan Appleby, Trentin Euman, Zipporah Jackson, Ashden Harris, and Ashllen Harris. Rev. Laureen served as the camp director for the week. The theme was Happy Holy-days, celebrating holidays throughout the church year.

At CYF Conference, June 14–20, Jonathan Devoll, Riley Patton, and Skylar Patton participated as conferees, while Remington Kyes and Mary Arnold served as counselors. CYF campers explored 1 Corinthians, growing in faith as they reflected on what it means to live as the body of Christ.

Zackary Schreiner served as director at Chi Rho Camp Emmaus, June 14-20.

Thank you to everyone who helps make camp possible through prayers, encouragement, volunteering, and support. Camp Christian continues to be a sacred place where faith takes root, friendships grow, and lives are shaped by God's love.

Camp Christian's Summer Continues

Below is a list of those who will be at Camp Christian during the month of July. If you would like to send them a letter, you are encouraged to send it *early* in the week (or even the week before), as mail is slow arriving to camp. Letters and cards can be mailed to:
Camper's Name, Camp Name, Camp Christian in Ohio,
10335 Maple Dell Rd. Marysville, OH, 43040.

Ribbit Camp: July 8-11, Talli Jackson

CYF (Week 2): July 19-25, Zane Griffith, Isabelle Near
Mary Arnold (Counselor)

CWW Training Event at FCC-Z

First Christian Church in Zanesville is privileged to be the host site for Children Worship Wonder and Welcome In-Person Storyteller Training on Saturday, August 22nd. Debbie Walker (Washington Avenue Christian Church in Elyria) will lead the training. This training is offered to everyone in The Christian Church in Ohio and will include participants from Kentucky and West Virginia. This is a unique opportunity for FCC-Z members to receive formal storyteller training without having to travel. Because we are looking to expand the number of storytellers we have, and possibly re-open the Following Jesus Room, the timing is helpful to our ministry. If you feel a gentle nudge and are wondering if this is something you might be interested in or would like register, please reach out to Kim Paul as soon as possible. She would be happy to share more with you about the blessings of Children Worship Wonder and Welcome and storytelling.

july

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 JULY 1ST NATIONAL POSTAL WORKER DAY 1pm Worship WEDNESDAY	**2** Property Committee 6pm	**3** Church Office Closed	**4** INDEPENDENCE Day
5	**6**	**7** Needle Workers 3pm	**8** 1pm Worship WEDNESDAY Grief Support 2:15pm RIBBIT CAMP	**9** 7pm Board Meeting	**10**	**11**
12 CHI RHO CAMP VBS Vacation Bible School Begins	**13**	**14** Needle Workers 3pm	**15** 1pm Worship WEDNESDAY	**16**	**17**	**18** 9am Climate Lobby Meeting
19 CYF Conference	**20**	**21** 3pm Needle Workers 11:30am Pairs & Spares @ Pizza Cottage	**22** 1pm Worship WEDNESDAY	**23**	**24**	**25** CHRIST'S TABLE feeds the hungry children of God. FCC-Z serves on Saturday, July 25
26 SUNDAY FUNDAY	**27** 12Noon Newsletter Deadline	**28** 3pm Needle Workers	**29** Newsletter Publication 1pm Worship WEDNESDAY	**30**	**31**	

2026-27 Schedules

Date	Greeters	Elders		Worship Leaders	Deacons	Pew Crew
		Offering	Communion			
July 5th	Virgil & Sandy Untied	Anne Blood	Susan Grubbs	Marcia Coleman	Christy Desender, Dave Desender, Alexia Desender, Susie Mercer, Josh Murphy, Christy McCandlish, Peggy Moon	Nancy Morrow & Kim Fouch
12th	Ellen Dagneau & Norma Jardine	Mary Arnold	Larry Paul	Kari Ward	Christy Desender, Dave Desender, Alexia Desender, Susie Mercer, Josh Murphy, Christy McCandlish, Peggy Moon	Nancy Morrow & Kim Fouch
19th	Cato & Marcia Coleman	Cato Coleman	Marcia Coleman	Susan Grubbs	Christy Desender, Dave Desender, Alexia Desender, Susie Mercer, Josh Murphy, Christy McCandlish, Peggy Moon	Nancy Morrow & Kim Fouch
26th	Suzann & Tim Wilson	Kari Ward	Jason Kehrberg	Lori Ward	Christy Desender, Dave Desender, Alexia Desender, Susie Mercer, Josh Murphy, Christy McCandlish, Peggy Moon	Nancy Morrow & Kim Fouch
Aug						
2nd	Joan Barr & Jana Fulks	Joan Barr	Heather Near	Mary Arnold	Michelle Neal, Jerry Sturtz, Amy Wilson, Jim Wilson, Graisyn Roberts, Valencia Clark, Cortney Jackson	Sandy & Virgil Untied
9th	Denise Baker & Kim Fouch	Larry Paul	Anne Blood	Ellen Dagneau	Michelle Neal, Jerry Sturtz, Amy Wilson, Jim Wilson, Graisyn Roberts, Valencia Clark, Cortney Jackson	Sandy & Virgil Untied
16th	Lori Ward & Kari Ward	Marcia Coleman	Cato Coleman	Kim Fouch	Michelle Neal, Jerry Sturtz, Amy Wilson, Jim Wilson, Graisyn Roberts, Valencia Clark, Cortney Jackson	Sandy & Virgil Untied
23rd	Jason, Ana, & Alex Kehrberg	Lori Buchanan	Susan Grubbs	Philip Hunt	Michelle Neal, Jerry Sturtz, Amy Wilson, Jim Wilson, Graisyn Roberts, Valencia Clark, Cortney Jackson	Sandy & Virgil Untied
30th	Melissa Lichtner & Lori Ryan-Griffin	Jason Kehrberg	Kari Ward	Cato Coleman	Michelle Neal, Jerry Sturtz, Amy Wilson, Jim Wilson, Graisyn Roberts, Valencia Clark, Cortney Jackson	Sandy & Virgil Untied

JULY Birthdays & Anniversaries

Happy Birthday to:

Ron Carpenter	July 2
Leigh Newlon	July 2
Ben Gordon	July 4
Camden Moon	July 7
Sandy Untied	July 9
Errin Rhodes	July 9
Jamie Erwine	July 12
Diana Caton	July 15
Brian Delbert	July 15
Suzann Wilson	July 17
Bill Christy	July 17
Fred Fox	July 19
Hayden Frye	July 19
Vivienne Robison	July 19
Brian Cooper	July 20
Brielle Spring	July 20
Nancy Chappelear	July 22
Vickie Kumorowski	July 24
Riley Patton	July 24
Skyler Patton	July 24
Michelle Body	July 26
Rob Beight	July 26
Blanche Lemert	July 27
Jill Bednarczuk	July 28
Marilyn Roberts	July 30

Happy Anniversary to:

Cheryl & Rob Beight	July 2
Kenneth & Margo Cooper	July 3 *
Charles & Stacey Fineran	July 4
Jack & Nancy Morrow	July 5
Virgil & Sandy Untied	July 8
James & Lori Buchanan	July 8
Kelcee & Danny Downs	July 8
Shari & Kevin Melick	July 12
Michelle & Brady Neal	July 15
Mike & Amy Whitson	July 19
Jared & Arielle Robison	July 19
Karl & Lona Kuehn	July 25
Amy & Kevin Pinson	July 27
Brent & Cyndi Glass	July 28
Tanya & Jerry Sturtz	July 28
Todd & Kris Hawk	July 28
Jeffrey & Jo'D Rice	July 28
Jill & Perry Smith	July 29

* Homebound

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The experience was deeply meaningful, a powerful blend of joy and emotion as I revisited memories from sixty years ago with two of my cousins and seventy-fellow veterans. Please feel free to stop me sometime; I'd be honored to share more about the journey.

With gratitude, David Higgins

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.

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