



First
Christian
Church

faith · compassion · community

CALLER

116 E. Boyer St.
Wadsworth, OH 44281
(330) 336-6697
fccwadsworth.org

We are followers of Jesus who seek to grow in our FAITH, serve with COMPASSION, and build a COMMUNITY of belonging for all.

Pastor Sarah West, Senior Pastor

**November
2024**

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Set your clocks back 1 hour on Sat. Nov. 2 in order to be on time for worship on Sun., Nov 3.

Family Advent Boxes

Boxes will be passed out on Sun., Nov. 24, following the Worship Service.



Sunday, November 24

Everyone is invited to join the Worship Committee in decorating the church for the upcoming Christmas season immediately after worship on Sun., Nov. 24. There are jobs for every skill level, so everyone can help. Finger foods will be served as well.

December Caller Deadline

- November 10 -

Please plan to join us for this special worship service in which we remember the saints who have gone on to glory over the past year.



See what great love has been given to us, that we should be called children of God.

With gratitude in our hearts,
Let us praise God for the work of the saints who walked this path before us.

Those who received the good news and passed it on to us.

May we, like them, live as faithful disciples shining Christ's light and sharing Christ's love.



All-Church Euchre Tournament!

Friday, November 8
7:00-9:30 pm
Fellowship Hall

It's almost time to break out the cards again for Euchre!! All members and friends of FCC are invited to join us for an evening of strategy and fun as we compete for fabulous prizes in our All-Church Euchre Tournament! Signup online or in the Gathering Area. Snacks will be provided. Donation: \$5

Commitment Sunday November 24

Why do we ask that you sign and return a Commitment Card each year?

After all, you are planning to attend Worship, and you contribute part of your treasure set aside to return to God.

Offering your gifts to God is a spiritual practice and one that brings a satisfying peace. On Commitment Sunday

we bless our collective gifts to God, affirming we want FCC Wadsworth to continue its work in our community, and to the ends of the earth, until the Kingdom comes.

Sure, we appreciate regular and consistent giving. We don't ask how much you intend to give. We don't suggest an amount. Only you know (plus Lisa and Kathy who open the envelopes). If things change during the year, you don't have to notify anyone. If you would like help with e-giving or an automatic withdrawal, just let us know.

We will thank you for signing and returning a commitment card.

The Generosity Committee



Search for the Christ Child

Friday, December 6
6:00-8:00 pm

Guests will enjoy hot chocolate and cookies in the "Camelback Inn" while anticipating their journey in search of the Baby Jesus. Along the way, they will encounter shepherds, wise men, innkeepers, angels, and have a confrontation with King Herod. The Search comes to a dramatic closure with the discovery of Mary, Joseph, and the Baby Jesus in a stable in Bethlehem.

You are invited to bring gifts to the Baby Jesus in the form of canned or packaged foods, which will be distributed to families in our community by the Salvation Army. Monetary gifts may also be given, which will be donated to FISH to purchase gifts for families in Wadsworth.

Musings From the Minister

For the last several weeks my heart and mind have been filled with thoughts of my mother as she prepared to depart this life and enter into eternal life. For three days and three nights I stayed in her room at the memory care unit doing for her what she had done for me throughout my lifetime - making sure she was taken care of. In the quiet hours from 3 am to 7 am between administering doses of morphine I had time to reflect on the impact her life has had on me and so many others.

I thought about how invested she was as a parent; eagerly putting into practice all she learned in college about child development. But her skills and knowledge expanded beyond me and my sister to the children of the first integrated Head Start program she helped to start in Urbana, IL. It extended further still in the Christian Education curriculum she wrote for the Christian Board of Publication and Disciples of Christ churches throughout the denomination.

As an ordained minister of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) she devoted herself - her pastoral gifts, her writing skills, her passion for history and learning - to a lifetime of service to the church at all levels: local, regional and national. At the local level she served as a pastor to several churches as well as a chaplain at a home for abused and neglected children in St. Louis. At the regional level she was active as a leader of camps, conferences, retreats and workshops. At the national level she served on the board of the Disciples Historical Society for many years.

By the time All Saints Day arrives on November 1st, she will already have gone on to glory. She has joined the mighty throng of those who have gone on before and now gather at the throne of Christ to sing his praises. But what she has left behind for me is a powerful example of what it means to preach the gospel not just in words but in deeds. Although I fear I cannot live up to her example, yet I am inspired to do all I can to use the gifts God has given me to make a positive impact in the world.

I hope and pray there are "saints" in your life who inspire you too. If they are still living, I encourage you to take time this month to send them a note and let them know the difference they have made in your life.

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us," - Hebrews 12:1

Pastor Sarah



Thank you to everyone who stopped by on Oct. 12 to help ready the church grounds for winter. The hard workers were: Lloyd Hachat, Terry Tucker, Bill Dague, Keith Longfield, Ron Carlson, Nathan Brothers, Cameron Brothers, John Hoover, Donn Taylor, Derek Taylor, Jerry Ritzman, Chris Jones, Denis Hachat, Lisa Jones, Karol Tucker, Val Baughman, Kelly Evans, and Sandy Galbreath.

Board News

Board Clerk, Felicity Wilson

Highlights of the September 10 Board Meeting:

There were 20 Board members, 5 staff members, and 2 guests present.

The Board approved the following motions:

- Nominating Committee: Lloyd Hachat will complete the remainder of Bill Roberts' term as Trustee/Chair of the Trustees.
- W.E. Committee: Purchase Listen Technology WiFi Hearing Assistance system at a total cost of \$3,103.80 with the entire cost being funded by FCC donors.
- Outreach Committee: 2nd qtr distribution: Camp Christian - \$756; Cleveland Christian Home - \$200; Feeding Medina County - \$1,100; FISH - \$500; Free Clinic of Medina County - \$500; Habitat for Humanity of Medina County - \$300; Helping Haitians in Need - \$500; Marian's Closet - \$300; The Garage - \$200; FCC Sewing Sisters (Little Dresses for Africa) - \$300.

Next Official Board Meeting

Tuesday, November 12, 7:00 pm

Fellowship Hall & Zoom

Everyone is welcome to attend.

FCC News Brief

Sympathies to Sarah, Clark, Cecilia, Anne, and Amos West on the death of their mother and grandmother, Linda Chenoweth, Oct. 13.

Dear Church Family

Dear FCC family, I want to thank you for all of your lovely cards and gifts for pastor appreciation month. Each year my affection for each of you grows deeper. I look forward to coming to church every day because I am excited to work alongside you for the gospel of Jesus Christ. Your faithfulness to God's church inspires me in my own service. Thank you for the privilege of pastoring you.

I also want to thank you for the incredible outpouring of cards and sympathy on the death of my mother, Linda. Our family has found great comfort in the loving embrace of our church family during this time of loss. With heartfelt appreciation, Pastor Sarah

Special Thank Yous

Thank you so much for participating in the Basements & Attics Tour. Having First Christian Church on the tour was a great addition. I think this was a wonderful success with the community, and those who attended enjoyed the program. I know I learned a lot! Looking forward to the future projects we will work on together! All the best, Megan Hardy

Our Call to Mission

"The only thing that counts is faith working through love." - Galatians 5:6

Treasurer's Report

General Fund as of September 30, 2024

Submitted by Lisa Jones

GENERAL FUND CASH BALANCE		\$229,015.82		
	CURRENT MONTH	YEAR TO DATE	YEAR TO DATE BUDGET	ANNUAL BUDGET
CONTRIBUTIONS				
Offerings	\$36,318.62	\$326,124.75	\$358,307.43	\$477,743.00
EXPENSES				
Personnel	\$20,520.96	\$211,672.16	\$252,338.22	\$336,451.00
Admin/Programs	4,452.74	103,702.86	72,218.97	96,292.00
Outreach	5,056.00	36,858.00	33,750.00	45,000.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$30,029.70	\$352,233.02	\$358,307.19	\$477,743.00



Vision Plan Updates

Chancel renovations in 2009 moved the chancel and steps forward and out of the well lit area.

As a result, the chancel front steps and front of the chancel are dimly lit, gloomy, and shadowy. Research and quotes from lighting services are in progress to access our current lighting and find ways to enhance our in person service and online viewing with added lighting. Better lighting was a subset objective of the Music Enhancements objective in the 2023 FCC Vision Plan.

In other exciting Music Enhancement news, the Praise Team has added three new singers, Mary Christ, Jen Diroll, and Jody Meager and a new drummer, Jimi Errante Humes. We are so thankful and grateful to them for sharing their special gifts with us.

"My heart, O God, is steadfast, my heart is steadfast, I will sing and make melody." (Psalm 57:7)

A feedback loop was created for the Continued Education for Pastor(s) objective and will be sent out several times in the next year to provide feedback to Pastor Sarah about her sermons. Your feedback is important, so if you receive this online feedback loop we would appreciate your taking the time to thoughtfully and prayerfully answer each question and send it back. All names will remain anonymous.

Thank you all for your continued support and prayers.

Val Baughman, Visioning Chair

W.E. Committee

Need a cooking break right before your big Thanksgiving Feast? The W.E. Committee is here to help with a "Dining to Donate" fundraiser at Casa Del Rio, Mon., Nov. 25 with 20% of all sales going to the W.E. age friendly and disability accessibility initiative. Look for flyers at the Welcome Center and check for more information in the Weekly Bulletin. Thank you for your continued support.

Also, inside the large print bulletins you will find large print hymns with the hymns that will be sung on that Sunday. Sing your praise to the Lord!

The W.E. Committee meets the third Thursday of each month in Fellowship Hall at 7:00 pm and ALL are welcome to attend.

Your fellow servants in Christ,

Val Baughman and Michelle Moore, W.E. Co-Chairs

I am sure you have noticed some additional people on our Worship Team. I want to welcome Jen Diroll, Jody Meager, and Mary Christ to the vocal team. I also want to welcome Jimi Humes-Errante who has been playing the drums on the musician team. It is so nice to have more people that can share their musical gifts with us on Sunday.

Gary Oliver, Director of Contemporary Music



Child and Family MINISTRIES

Keyshia Beverly, Director
kbeverly@fccwadsworth.org



3rd Grade Bible Presentation
Jonathan Taylor, Lydia Steigerwald

Christmas VBS (Vacation Bible School)

Thursday and Friday, December 26-27
9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Come join us as we travel back in time to take the journey to Bethlehem as Mary, Joseph, the Wise Men, and the shepherds did so many years ago. Kids will look at the journeys that Joseph, the Shepherds, and the Wise Men took to get to Bethlehem. But, as far as they all traveled, kids will see that Jesus traveled the farthest and gave up the most to be in Bethlehem on that first Christmas.

God's Little Angels (GLA) Childcare Room

Just a reminder that child care is available each Sunday morning, for children ages birth through preschool age. During both worship service and the Sunday School hour your child will be cared for in room 100. Our childcare worker, Juli will have crafts, snacks, and bible lessons for your little ones during the Sunday School hour. **Please stop by and greet Juli with a warm FCC "Hello" on Sunday mornings!**



Dates to Remember!

November 24 - Decorate Ornaments
December 6 - Search for the Christ Child
December 14 - Parent's Day Out
December 26-27 - Christmas VBS
January 26 - Bowling

God's Kids Club (GKC)

If you are in **K-5th grade** you will want to be part of God's Kids Club! We meet in Room 102 during the Sunday School hour four times this school year (see church calendar). What do we do?? Well, we meet to talk, do craft projects, and write letters to all the Homebound members of our church. We make sure that every month they receive a letter and a small handmade gift. It's a very important ministry and so we need every K-5th grader to join this very important group. If you are interested in joining GKC, please come!!

Junior Youth Fellowship (JYF)

During this time of fellowship, kids participate in games or other fun activities to build relationships between their church peers.

God's Kids Club Choir (GKCC)

The GKCC meets Sunday mornings in the Sunday School room during the first 15 minutes of the Sunday School hour to rehearse for upcoming performances.



Faith Formation after Worship Service!

Every Sunday during the Faith Formation hour, from 10:45-11:45 am, our youth will have the chance to play games, fellowship with one another, and discuss "Christ and Everyday Life," in the Youth Room!

Dates to Remember!

November 24 - Decorate Ornaments
December 6 - Search for the Christ Child
December 14 - Parent's Day Out
(Volunteer to help entertain the little ones while the parents are out)
December 15 - Youth Christmas Party
January 26 - Bowling

SEARCH for the CHRIST CHILD

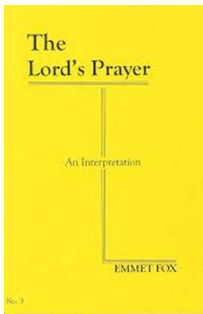


Our 51st Annual "Search for the Christ Child" is near, and we would love to have you volunteer! Fri., Dec. 6 from 6:00-8:00 pm. This year, you are invited to be a spectator and a participant! There are many ways to get involved, including donating supplies, volunteering, and putting on a costume yourself to fill a role in our Christmas story.

There will be three practices - Nov. 10, 17, and Dec. 1 from 6:00-8:00 pm. All actors must attend at least one practice but all three are strongly encouraged!

First Men

Facebook Page: FCC First Men-First Christian Church, Wadsworth, Men's Ministry



Men's Forum

The Lord's Prayer – An Interpretation, by
Emmet Fox

Mondays 7:00-8:00 pm

Nov 4 @ FCC Medina library

*Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us
from evil.*

Nov 11 @ FCC Wadsworth Chalice Room

*For thine is the kingdom and the power and
the glory forever and ever.*



It is not possible that you could ever
find yourself anywhere where God
was not fully present, fully active,
able and willing to set you free.

— Emmet Fox —

AZ QUOTES

Join us for the last few meetings this Fall as we get together as guys over a cup of coffee to form some REAL bonds and get to know each other and our God a little better.

We are working through Emmet Fox's timeless interpretation of the Lord's Prayer. We are working through the Lord's Prayer one powerful line at a time.

Emmet Fox was an Irish spiritual leader from the early 20th century. His views on Lord's Prayer provide an intelligent explanation of the relationship between God and man, and the basic facts of existence.

Booklets will be available for \$5.

Men's Kickoff Pig Roast Success (Despite a little rain)

The First Men of FCC Wadsworth and Medina gathered at Kaufman Farm for our annual kickoff pig roast barbeque. The remnants of hurricane Helene dampened the grounds around the pavilion, but not our spirits nor our appetites!

Bill Bentley prepared his usual, incredible spread of pulled pork, chicken drumsticks, and other amazing fixings. Jerry Ritzman contributed his famous Bean and Spanish rice dish to the mix, too.

Although the corn hole tournament was out, the group enjoyed the food and fellowship. The event concluded with a devotion by Michael Fox, who provided an inspiring introduction to our Men's Forum focus on the Lord's Prayer by Emmet Fox. He highlighted that we have many types of prayers, but the Lord's Prayer perfectly incorporates all types into one, simple, powerful prayer carefully designed by Jesus to survive the centuries.

Thank you to Tom and Dora Kaufman for letting us use their pavilion yet again...a perfect venue for this event. Also, many thanks to our First Men's planning team of Donn Taylor, Dan Sondles, Ken Dye, Dave Baker (Medina), and Chris Jones coordinating this special event.



Fun time at Spunkmyers!

Women's Ministry Dinner

El Rincon

Monday, November 18

6:00 pm





Red Bag Item Mac & Cheese

All items are appreciated. Pick up a Red Bag near the coat rack in the Gathering Area.



Thank you to all who donated clean-up items to our Bucket Brigade collection through September. Thank you to those who made a cash contribution so we can fill out the numbers of items so our youth may pack complete buckets. We delivered the packed buckets to a regional depot. They could be deployed to hurricane damaged homes sooner than we could have imagined.

The Wadsworth Chamber of Commerce (FCC is a member, thanks to Donna Kronander) is organizing the 2024 Inaugural MEMORIAL LIGHTFEST at Memorial Park, Wadsworth's very own drive-thru Holiday Light Festival December 7-January 2! A free event for the community. FCC is a tree sponsor and will be decorating a tree. Our youth will be decorating crosses on reflective discs. Our congregation will be signing outdoor ribbon material with a message of peace to be connected in chain links. If you would like a larger role in the decorating process, contact Karen Longfield at klong197@yahoo.com.

The Angel Tree will appear in the Library in November with tags for those who applied through the Salvation Army. Please take a tag or two (and sign your name and phone number, by the tag number) purchase the requested item and return it to the Library by the end of November, if you would like to share the love of the Christmas season with one of our community's youth.



80+ Birthdays

Ron Carlson	11/04/44
Lynn Slaby	11/04/38
Digger Thompson	11/05/33
Connie Kalina	11/15/43
Marilyn Slaby	11/19/39
Donna Moutes	11/20/41
Karen Wilson	11/30/43

50+ Anniversaries

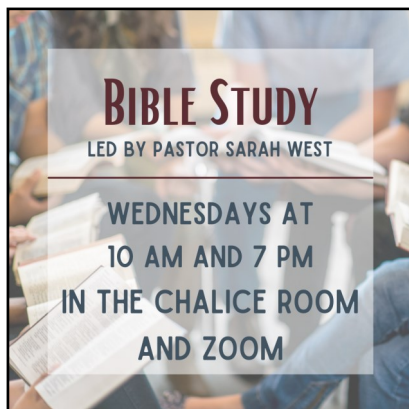
Amy & Al Mavity 11/23/62



Congratulations Dora Kaufman!

Glasses for Guatemala

Do you have eye glasses that you are no longer using? Bring them in and drop them off in the Gathering Area. Gary Barnard will be making a trip to Guatemala in 2025 and will take them with him. The collection will run through December.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

FCC Bell Ringing 2024
Wadsworth Giant Eagle
Saturday, December 7



Trunk
Or
Treat



Mission Trip to
Camp Christian

Sunday Morning Worship

Worship Hours
9:30 am

Faith Formation
10:45 am

YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/user/FCCWadsworthMedia>

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/FirstChristianChurchWadsworthOhio/>

WCTV Channel 17

Tuesday - 10:30 am, 4:00 pm, 9:00 pm
Wednesday - 8:00 am

Office Hours

9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday



Follow Us!
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FCC CALLER

First Christian Church
116 E. Boyer Street
Wadsworth, OH 44281

Address Service Requested

November Dates to Remember

Find updated information regarding church events on the FCC Webpage, Facebook Page, and the Weekly Update sent out every Friday afternoon.

Weekly

Wed.	Bible Study	10:00 am and 7:00 pm
"	Chancel Choir Rhs	5:30 pm
"	Bells of FCC Rhs	7:00 pm

Daily

Nov 2	Sewing Sisters	8:30 am
Nov 3	All Saints Sunday	
"	Red Bag Sunday	
"	God's Kids Club	10:45 am
Nov 4	FCC Men's Forum	7:00 pm
Nov 5	Elders Mtg	7:00 pm
Nov 8	All Church Euchre Night	7:00 pm
Nov 10	Veterans Day	
Nov 11	FCC Men's Forum	7:00 pm
"	Wmns Mnstry Book Study	7:00 pm
Nov 12	Official Board Mtg	7:00 pm
Nov 18	Wmn's Mnstry Dinner Event	6:00 pm
Nov 19	Outreach Comm Mtg	7:00 pm
Nov 21	W.E. Mtg	7:00 pm
Nov 24	Commitment Sunday	
"	Hanging of the Greens	10:45 am
Nov 28/29	Office Closed - Thanksgiving Holiday	

Regional News

Camp Christian Work Days - Sundays, 2:00-6:00 pm, November. Interested in helping? Contact Dave or Wendy with any questions. Dave - 330-507-1673; Wendy - 614-832-9679.

Community News

Pasta Dinner - Fri., Nov. 22, 4:30-7:30 pm, Trinity UCC. Take out is available.

Free Thanksgiving Dinner - Thurs., Nov. 28, 11:30 am, Wadsworth United Methodist Church, 195 Broad St. Reservations required. Dine in or delivered (no carryout). Doors open at 11:00 am. Please call 330-336-6689 by Nov. 20 to reserve your dinner. If you would like to volunteer to help, contact Tom Redding at SPRChair@wadsworthumc.com.

Salvation Army Soup Kitchen - Every Tues., 4:00 pm, in the parking lot of Wadsworth Towers, 190 Main St. Stop by for a "Hot Meal to Go!" There is a one meal per person limit.

Salvation Army Food Distribution - Volunteers are needed to help box, load, unload, and bag items for the Salvation Army Pop-Up Food Distributions being held at the Wadsworth Salvation Army on the second Friday of the month. Volunteers please arrive at 10:15 am. Food Distribution runs from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm.

Inclement Weather Policy



In the event of inclement weather, the Pastor and the Board Chair shall determine whether Sunday School, Worship, and scheduled activities will be held. The FCC Web Page, the FCC Facebook page, and a notification to those who receive the Weekly Update

will have the information no later than 7:00 am if the church is to be closed.