



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST) ASHLAND, OHIO

FROM YOUR PASTOR

Deuteronomy 6:4-7 "Hear, O Israel: the Lord is our God, the Lord alone. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. Keep these words I am commanding you today in your heart. Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise."

Last Thursday, I had the privilege of driving my grandson Ayden to pre-school. I secured him in the car seat in the back seat of my car and started driving. As we proceeded to school Ayden surprised me by saying "Pepaw why did you put the 'X' on mommy's forehead last night?" What he was talking about suddenly occurred to me, Ayden's mom and dad were at the Ash Wednesday service and I had marked his mom's forehead with ashes in the sign of the cross. Obviously Ayden had asked his mom what was on her forehead and she told him grandpa had put the mark there. It took me a moment to think about how I would respond to a four year old about Ash Wednesday and Lent. I told Ayden "We do that every year at church because we love Jesus and we put that mark on our forehead to let people know we love Jesus." Ayden laughed and said "You're silly Pepaw for putting that mark on

mommy's forehead." Ayden had waited all night to ask me about the mysterious mark on his mom's forehead. Remarkable considering that Ash Wednesday fell right on his fourth birthday. You would think that his birthday would have been the conversation topic of choice, but instead he was "chomping at the bit" to ask me about the mark. I'm convinced that interactions like these are "holy moments," gifts from God. I'm also convinced that we tend to make sharing our faith harder than what it needs to be. We simply need to live a life of faith and take advantage of the opportunities that God brings our way to share that faith with others. I'm hopeful that I will get the privilege of baptizing my grandchildren into the faith, maybe it will be in the baptistery of the King Rd. sanctuary. None of us know what the future holds, but I do know that future generations will receive the gift of faith, when it is given to them by someone who loves them. May this Lenten season offer us many opportunities to share Christ with the people in our lives, and may we be energized by the "holy moments" that God sends our way.

Rev. John O'Hara

The First Word

MARCH 2010 SCHEDULES FOR DIACONATE

FOOD BANK ITEMS



F o o d

Bank Sunday will be March 7th and the following items are needed: *Sunny Delight, vegetable oil, Miracle whip/mayonnaise, instant Boxed Mashed Potatoes (plain), Fresh Potatoes, small cans of chicken, strawberry/grape jelly, spaghetti and sauce, flour, white rice, hot dogs, Kleenex & paper towels.*

The Food Bank would once again like to thank the congregation of First Christian Church for your continued and generous support.

DEADLINE NEXT

NEWSLETTER

"March 19, 2010"

This newsletter will be
sent out

Wed., Mar. 24, 2010

- Mar. 7** - Serving Communion - **Group #3**
Communion Preparation - **David & Mary Ann Welch**
Greeters - **David & Mary Ann Welch, Molly Henderson**
Communion to Shut-Ins - **Doug & Molly Riley**
- Mar. 14** - Serving Communion - **Group #1**
Communion Preparation - **Yvonne & Wade Kimball**
Greeters - **Yvonne & Wade Kimball, Dick DeVault**
- Mar. 21** - Serving Communion - **Group #2**
Communion Preparation - **Bill Jackson, Chantelle Brady**
Greeters - **Bill Jackson, Chantelle Brady, Dale Wells**
- Mar. 28** - Serving Communion - **Group #3**
Communion Preparation - **Randy & Kelly Gearhart**
Greeters - **Randy & Kelly Gearhart, Sara Stewart**

SCHEDULES

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

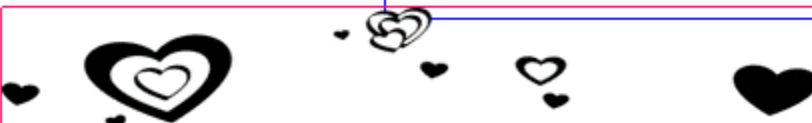
- Mar. 7 - Yvonne Kimball
Mar. 14 - Rich Pate
Mar. 21 - Lana Bell
Mar. 28 - Arlene Whitmer

ACOLYTES

- Mar. 7 - Jennifer Burns
Mar. 14 - Matthew Metcalf
Mar. 21 - Emma Jenkins
Mar. 28 - Nick Danison

ELDERS SCHEDULE

- Mar. 7 Todd Whitmer, Rich Pate,
Beverly Zimmerman
- Mar. 14 Pam Jackson, Lee Conwell,
Kim Mercer
- Mar. 21 Ellie Wells, Larry Overholt,
Dick Reich
- Mar. 28 Dale Campbell, Marilyn Franklin,
Pam Jackson



We thank those who volunteer each Sunday to participate in our worship experience. If you are unable to keep your scheduled day, please try to trade with someone or call the chairman or leader of your group.

The First Word

Attendance Record

Jan. 03	101
Jan. 10	116
Jan. 17	135
Jan. 24	117
Jan. 31	135



ATTENTION GOLFERS!

It is the time of the year to be thinking about your swing. If you would like to play for FCC in the church league please contact David Bell at 419-651-1343 or via email at dbell@zoominternet.net



Congratulations to **Ashley Carpenter** for being on the fall dean's list for 2009 at Ashland University. To be eligible, a student must be enrolled full time and achieve at least a 3.5 grade point average on a 4.0 scale. Ashley is majoring in early childhood education. Ashley is the daughter of Fred & Shelley Carpenter.

"DUST FROM THE BOARD"



The **Church Board** met **Monday, Feb 8th** with 16 members present. **World Outreach** chairman, **Rich Pate** reported that there were 107 hygiene kits and 49 baby kits assembled. **Building Committee** Chair, **Lee Corwell** mentioned that they signed the contracts on the February 5th and construction on the King Rd. building will begin. **Worship** chair, **Ellie Wells** reported there would be **two (2) Lenten Services and meals**. The first on Ash Wednesday and the next on **Wed. March 17th**. We will have a **Maundy Thursday** service at **7:30** on April 1st and an **Easter Breakfast** at **9:00** on **Easter Sunday, April 4th**.

For Your Information

If you have a change of address, please notify the church office as soon as possible as we are charged for each "First Word" that is returned. This can really add up in postage. Thank you for your cooperation.

We are still collecting *pop can tabs*, *Campbell's soup labels* (***please save the whole label***) and *General Mills Box Tops for Education* at the Welcome Center. A special thank you to **Esther McCormic** for taking care of all these soup labels and turning them in for our church.

Hospital, nursing homes and Hospice do not notify local churches or their pastors when a person is admitted to their care. It is up to you or a family member to contact the church, if you wish a visit or ongoing pastoral care. These policies are a result of the HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act). Your church wants to provide the spiritual care you or your loved ones need.

Prayer Chain

If you have a Prayer Chain request, please call **Sara Stewart (419-289-3726)**. Thank you.

RUMMAGE SALE

We are requesting that **NO** more rummage be brought in as we are **not** going to have another sale at this location. Thank you.

PRAYER MEETINGS

Please join us for a **prayer meeting** on **Wednesday** mornings at **10:00** and **Sunday evenings** at **6:30**. We are now gathering at the **house** by the church on **King Road**. They are very informal gatherings and we hope you will try to attend one.

The First Word



Congratulations to **Jamie Graham & Jeffery Weaver** who were married October 3, 2009 in Gahanna. Jeff is the son of Ron & Bonnie Weaver and grandson of Martha Stine.

Thanks

I would like to thank everyone for the special bag of gifts a Santa named Dick, dropped off at my house. It was wonderful! Thanks to everyone who worked to make it possible. Blessings be to all.

Velma Byers



Our Christian love and sympathy is extended to Donald Ross on the death of his brother-in-law Don Goodall of Scranton, PA who passed away January 24th.



Report from the Building Team

Contracts have been signed for the renovation project with Imhoff Construction. Renovation work has begun. During this time of construction the King Road building will be officially a "hard hat" construction area and we will need to stay clear of the building and let the contractors do their thing. Thanks for your consideration during this time.

As was authorized by the Church Board, the Building Team will be staying in contact with the contractor and working with the architect in overseeing the project. The Building Team consists of our Elder Chair Larry Overholt, Trustee Chair George Paulsen, Board Chair John Whitmer, and Building Chair Lee Conwell.



POWER XPRESS

The Power Xpress theme February 21st thru March 14th is "The Garden of Gethsemane". All children ages 3 thru 6th grade are welcome. Please pick your children up after worship in the Fellowship Hall.



Thank you to my church family for the wonderful Christmas gift! This was definitely a surprise and a wonderful gift to receive around the holiday time. Thank you very much for your generosity.

Ashley Carpenter

YOUTH UPDATE

On February 7th, in lieu of a Super Bowl Party, the youth group gathered for a Bible Bowl Party! We played bible trivia and tested our knowledge on some challenging Bible facts. There were no Mardi Gras beads for the saints we were talking about, though!

Thank you to **Amy Shakley, Mario Amaro, and Shelley Carpenter** for volunteering to lead the youth group while I am student teaching in Ireland. A appreciate you three for your willingness to volunteer and the youth group is looking forward to having you help!

Ashley Carpenter

HAITI KITS



107 Hygiene Kits and **49 Baby Kits** were put together on Saturday, January 30th. Thanks to everyone who helped make this endeavor such a success!

The First Word

“MARCH” “BIRTHDAYS”



Mar. 3 Stan Brechbuhler
Mar. 3 Bob Yoxtheimer
Mar. 6 Valerie Dye
Mar. 8 Jackson Brockway
Mar. 9 Sue Detrow
Mar. 11 Rick Cole
Mar. 12 Jim Midlam
Mar. 13 Steve Hammond
Mar. 13 Barb Schaege
Mar. 22 Miriam Brady
Mar. 22 Carol Wertz
Mar. 23 Erin Brockway
Mar. 23 Stephanie Hastings

Mar. 25 Randy Gearhart
Mar. 26 Stan Burns
Mar. 26 Michael Glasser
Mar. 26 Les Shafer
Mar. 27 David Bell
Mar. 27 Troy Cole
Mar. 27 Jean Hignett
Mar. 27 Ellie Wells
Mar. 29 Jessica Deck
Mar. 30 Linda Decker
Mar. 30 DeAnna Reynolds
Mar. 31 Stephanie Frymier
Mar. 31 Kim Mercer



March 1 - Bob & Esther McCormic “63 yrs”
March 17 - Dick & Nadine Gordon “54 yrs”
March 22 - Todd & Arlene Whitmer
March 27 - Tom & Linda Byers “51 yrs”



If your birthday/anniversary date is listed incorrectly or your name has been omitted from the birthday/anniversary list, please call the church office immediately so it can be added in the future. Thanks for your help in keeping these lists as complete and accurate as possible!

MILESTONE COMING UP????

If you have a “special” birthday or anniversary coming up - please notify the church office - we do **not** have all of your birthdays or anniversaries - and on some of these special dates that we do have we don't have the year listed - so don't assume that the office can put your special celebration in the newsletter - call us!! Thank you.



LENT AND HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Lenten Service Wed. March 17th at 6:30 p.m.
Lenten Meal—5:30—6:15 (by the Camp Kids & Amy)
Maundy Thursday Service—Thurs. April 1st 7:30 p.m.
Meal at 6:00 –7:00

Proceeds from the meals will go towards “The Camp Kids Fund”

The First Word

For Your Information

BULLETIN BOARD

Check out our "Tell & Sell" type bulletin board outside the church office. If you have something to sell, trade or give away or a service you would like to provide, just stop by and fill out a 3 x 5 card (which is attached to the board).

Why not check out our website at www.firstchristianashland.org. If you have any comments or suggestions, contact Todd Whitmer who is serving as the site's administrator. Our **fax number** is 419-282-9910 and our **email** is fca22qly@zoominternet.net.

If you have a **pastoral emergency**, Rev. O'Hara's number is 419-685-4613; it is also on the church answering machine. And, if you would like to schedule an appointment with him, just call the church office to set up a time.

UPCOMING
LENTEN SERVICE
MARCH 17th
Meal 5:30

MAUNDY
THURSDAY
SERVICE
APRIL 1st
7:30 p.m.
SERVICE OF
DARKNESS
Meal 6:00 p.m.

EASTER
BREAKFAST
9:00
April 4th

Share in Prayer

MEMBERS - Bob & Gaynor Yoxtheimer, Jim & Sally Schussler, Fred Mercer, David Welch

SHUT-INS - Linda Decker, Marie Kolp, John Tovey, Les Shafer,
Bob Tipton, Catherine Brennstuhl, Cliff Mumaw, Bill Andrew,
Evelyn Thomas, Mary Denney, Velma Byers

FRIENDS -

Heather Reich (Dick & Lennie Reich's granddaughter);
Leesa Kohn (Gary & Darleen Kohn's daughter); Jim Bauckman;
Eric Paulsen (George & Ruth Paulsen's nephew)

SERVICE PEOPLE - Dan Rhine (nephew of Rev. & Mrs. John O'Hara)
Sean McCormic (grandson of Bob & Esther McCormic)
Randy McCafferty (friend of Rev. & Mrs. O'Hara)
Willie Rhine (nephew of Rev. & Mrs. John O'Hara)
Desiree Hedrick (Nancy Meeker's sister)
Jamie Hawke (Dale & Ellie Wells' grandson-in-law)
Trevor Cole (son of Rick & Tassie Cole)

Just a reminder that every three (3) months we will **delete all the names** from the Prayer List and start over. **If you would like your name or a person you have put on the list to remain, please call the church office - 419-289-7439. (April 1 we will start over again).** Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.



MARCH 2010

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

<p>11:45 Pastors Class</p>	<p>1 Invite someone to church</p>	<p>2 6:30 Relocation Event Planning Team</p>	<p>3 * (see below) 1:30 Priscilla Group - Suzie Scott's 4:30 Child.Ch 6:30 Chancel</p>	<p>4 10:00 Rachel Group Conference</p>	<p>5 Pray for our Capital Campaign</p>	<p>6 Organization Meeting Capital Campaign 8:00 a.m.</p>
<p>7 8:00 Elders Mtg. (Chancel Choir) ** (see below) 6:30 Youth Grp</p>	<p>8 7:00 Board Meeting Mary Kelly Room</p>	<p>9 Pray for yourself today</p>	<p>10* (see below) 4:30 Children's Choir 6:30 Chancel Choir</p>	<p>11 Pray for all our church committees</p>	<p>12 Pray for our upcoming move to the new church</p>	<p>13 Pray for Sunday's Worship Service</p>
<p>14 (Chancel Choir) Angel Ringers ** (see below) 2:00 Mike's Music recital Sanctuary</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16 Pray for peace in our country</p>	<p>17* (see below) 4:30 Children's Ch 5:30 meal 6:30 Service Chancel Ch After service</p>	<p>18 Pray for your Minister</p>	<p>19 Newsletter Deadline 10:00-2:00 Cleveland Food Bank at Masonic Lodge</p>	<p>20 Prepare Your Heart for Worship</p>
<p>21 (Chancel Choir) (Gloryringers) ** (see below) 2:00 MLM Music Recital 6:30-8:00 Youth Group</p>	<p>22 Pray for the schools</p>	<p>23 Pray for our Shut-Ins</p>	<p>24 * (see below) 1:00 Newsletter Mailing 4:30 Children's Choir 6:30 Chancel Choir</p>	<p>25 Pray for all those who serve in the Military</p>	<p>26 Call a friend today</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>28 Palm Sun. (Praise Team) (Children's Choir) ** (see below)</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31 * (see below) 4:30 Children's Choir 6:30 Chancel Choir</p>	<p>Wednesday March 17th St. Patrick's Day </p>		
<p><u>SUNDAYS</u> 9:15 Adult SS Class-Isa Downs 10:30 Worship Power Xpress 11:45 Prayer Time</p>	<p><u>SUNDAYS</u> 9:15 Angel Ringers 11:45 Gloryringers</p>	<p><u>SUNDAYS</u> ** 6:30 P.M. Prayer Meeting at new church</p>		<p><u>Wednesday</u> *Mar. 3rd Priscilla Gr. Meet at Sorellas 12:00 noon</p>	<p><u>WEDNESDAYS</u> 4:30 Children's Choir 6:30 Chancel Choir</p>	<p><u>WEDNESDAY</u> * 10:00 A.M. Prayer Meeting at King Rd. Church</p>

"In the name of Christ Jesus, our peace, in whom we are made one, who has broken down the wall of hostility, creating in himself one new people, reconciling all people to God in one body through the cross, thereby bringing the hostility to an end..."

EPHESIANS 2:13-16

Peace, Reconciliation and Reunification

One hundred and thirty-seven church leaders from across the world recently recommitted to the goal of peace, reconciliation and reunification of the Korean Peninsula. The Consultation included presentations from the churches of North and South Korea, an overview of developments over the past 25 years, input from political analysts, and a joint celebration of the Eucharist led by North and South Korean church leaders. There have been many positive developments in the past twenty five years, including opportunities for visits by Christian leaders to North Korea and for North Korean Christian leaders to visit other countries, especially the opportunity for North and South Korean church leaders to meet and to gain in understanding and trust of each other; and the sharing of growing understanding and trust between North and South Korea. However, in recent years hostility towards the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on the part of other countries has challenged the process, and the change of government in South Korea has brought a sharp change in outlook and policies towards North Korea.

The consultation created a statement calling for numerous actions and encouraging the international community to allow space and time for direct negotiations between North and South Korea to lessen tensions between them. They also called for support of the World Council of Churches' initiatives and encouraged the Christians of North and South Korea to celebrate a turning point in their endeavors for peace and reunification in 2013. The statement concludes: "It is the fervent hope and prayer of all participants at the Tsuen Wan Consultation that the divided people of Korea will be reunited soon. We long for the day when the people of the Korean peninsula, together with the rest of the world, can join together in thanksgiving and joy to celebrate that they are again one people and one nation."

Let us share in this prayer for reconciliation through peaceful means.

Global Ministries partners with the Presbyterian Church of the Republic of Korea (PROK).



You make the difference . . .

The prayers and help you provide through your local congregations make possible the work and witness of GLOBAL MINISTRIES, which is supported by Disciples Mission Fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM) of the United Church of Christ.

WWW.GLOBALMINISTRIES.ORG