

First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
200 W Third Street
Mansfield, OH 44902-1287
419-524-4813

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

The Quest

October, 2026

Leadership Team

Pastor Nick Zuercher

Minister

Sandy Stout

Church Secretary

Kathy DeLozier

Music Director

Beth Armstrong

Chairperson of the Board

Stacia Scott

Vice-Chairperson of the Board

Stana Shogren

Church Treasurer

Sue Dyson

Finance Secretary

Dominic Morris

Diaconate Chair

Stacia Scott

Chair of the Elders

Bill "Scotty" Scott

Chair of the Trustees

Fred Kohler

& Stacia Scott

Co-Chair of the Finance Committee



Worship Time: 10:30 am
Adult Sunday School: 9:30
am Youth & Young Adults:
10:30 am

www.firstchristianchurchmansfield.com

Check the website any day to look at the
Quest Newsletter, the Wednesday Mid-
Week Update, the Church Calendar and so
much more

People have been in disagreement over God's part in our salvation and our part in our salvation. What exactly is our role in being saved? What exactly is God's role in our salvation. Too many people look at these questions with an either/or mentality rather than a both/and mentality. What do I mean by that? God clearly takes the initiative in salvation. He brings situations in our life that show us the truth he stands for. One of the first things he does in us is show us the foulness of our condition.



Something is definitely not right with humanity. Men kill other people. Wars happen. In World War II, Germany was dropping bombs on England to inflict the most injuries and deaths as possible. People backstab at work hoping to get someone fired. People gossip in churches and try and create difficulties for the pastor. What is wrong with humanity?

God clearly shows us the foulness of our condition before he saves us. In other words, God convicts us of our sin before he even extends us grace in salvation. This was clearly the case with me. God showed me my self-centeredness. Before I was saved, everything in my world revolved around me. There was no other-centeredness. It was complete self-centeredness. I was hoping to make as much money as possible. My mindset was me first, my neighbor second, and God in the convenient background.

I did have a conscience though, and I knew something was wrong with me. There had been Christians in my life who were outstanding examples of living an other-centered life. When I moved to California, in 1989, I was running away from God. That wasn't the only reason I moved to California, but it was one of the reasons.

Fortunately, I was still attending a church out in California that preached from the Bible. I was thinking more about what was preached and if it were right and if it made sense. I had no peace of mind. I believe one of the most sought-after commodities in life is that of peace. I was hearing one thing but not living it. My life was a great contradiction. Finally God was able to get a hold of me with his Holy Spirit and I cried out to him.

He heard me and through his Holy Spirit gave me grace. I was completely changed. God was so close to me that I felt as though I could almost scoop him out of the air. He called me to ministry very quickly. Instead of getting an MBA from Stanford and making a bunch of money, I now wanted to go to seminary and make an impact in people's lives.

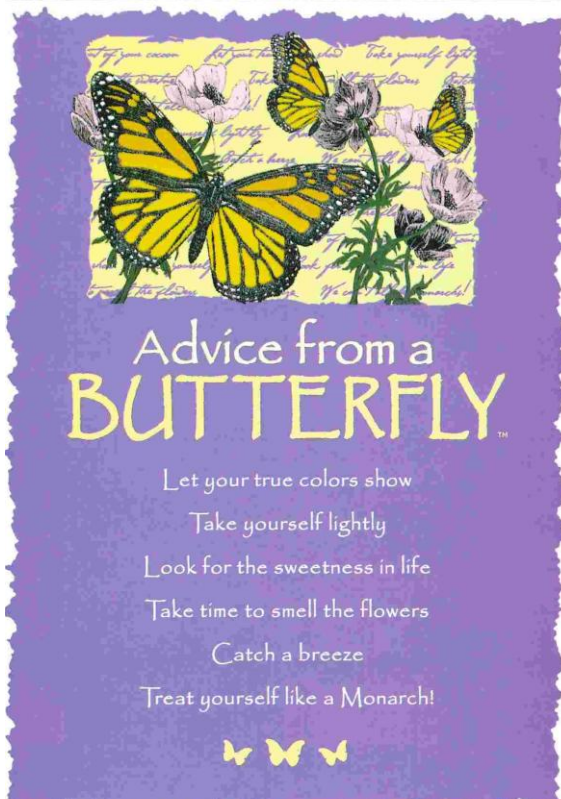
So was it God who saved me or was it my faith? God clearly took the initiative and wooed me to himself. My faith was due to his grace. There was nothing meritorious about my faith. Faith is not a work. So salvation is a both/and phenomenon. God's grace enabled me to exercise faith. If there had been no Holy Spirit giving me grace, I would not have exercised faith.

TIDBITS FROM THE ARCHIVES

Among the many treasures in Archives are the Bibles we have used:

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1875 ~ Holy Bible | 1888 ~ Holy Bible |
| 1893 ~ Harmony of the Gospels | 1925 ~ Pulpit Bible |
| 1937 ~ New Testament | 1952 ~ Holy Bible – Revised Standard Version |
| 1976 ~ Good News Bible – Today's English Version | |
| 1984 ~ Award Bible – New International Version
(given to members of Pastor's Class) | |
| 1989 ~ Holy Bible – regular and large print
New Revised Standard Version
(currently in use) | |
| 2001 ~ The Holy Bible – English Standard Version
(used by Christian Builders Class) | |

Come see the Display the 2nd and 3rd Sundays in October in the Lounge



Let us learn to live with kindness, to love everyone, even when they do not love
- Pope Francis



COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

Our Community Breakfast the 3rd Saturday of each month will be **Saturday, October 17th**

Set up & preparation begins at 7 am

Serving **8:30 to 10:00 am**

~ Clean up to follow by 10:30 am.



Menu for October: Scrambled Eggs, Toast, Sausage Pattie, Biscuits and Homemade Sausage Gravy, bowl of Grits, and choice of a bowl of cereal plus a glass of orange juice and coffee or hot chocolate

Please sign up and come help at this rewarding ministry.

KITCHEN & BATH PANTRY Thanks for your ongoing donations!! We just had 71 persons last time we were open ~the highest number yet, so the need is great! We appreciate any towels, small appliances, pots & pans, etc. you can donate. We are asking that all used sheets, blankets, comforters and towels be washed and dried under high heat. If possible put a note on the donation saying “washed and dried under high heat.” It’s a way to prevent any critters from getting in. This is not necessary for new donations. Thanks!

I-Connect Classes:

Intro to Cell Phone Uses 11 – 12 Noon

Intro to Cell Phone Uses 12 – 1:00 pm

Low Impact Chair Exercises 1 p.m. – 2 pm

At present time NO Computer Classes

At Oasis of Love Church, 190 Chester Ave., just off of Bowman Street (1st street on right past Harker on Right)

Class Day and Dates

Wednesdays, October 7th, 14th, 22nd & 29th

**Member Ballots Due into Church,
Sunday, October 4th ~ Extra Ballots
Available Sunday, October 4th**

Lost and Found:



**Left at
Church
Picnic**



**Were left in
Fellowship
Hall following
a Community
Breakfast ~
currently
hanging on
Bulletin
Board in
Fellowship
Hall.**



**Glasses &
Pen on
Communion
Table**

Addy's Attic

*Addy's Attic clothing
giveaway is going great. We
are having lots of people
every time we're open. I
would guess and say probably
at least 40. We are still in the
need of men's and boy's T-
Shirts, Jeans, Boxers, Socks,
Shoes, Boots, Coats plus we
will be taking blankets
starting now.*

DIRECTORY UPDATE

**Joyce Beam
c/o Silver Birch of Mansfield
300 Cline Ave., Apt. 115
Mansfield OH 44903
Phone: 419-571-5656**

Outreach ~ October



- 1) Continue to be collecting gently used Pots, Pans, Dishes, Kitchen Utensils, along with bath items such as towels, washcloths and some bedding items!! *If receiving items from outside the Church Family they will be left outside and go over to Grace Episcopal to check for cleanliness and possible bed bugs.* Also asking if anyone crochets, knits or quilts to make a few pot holder or dish rags!!! This ministry is working hand in hand with Grace Episcopal Church and their Food Pantry Give Away and the Pantry has been very well accepted and attended. Pantry is Open 1st & 3rd Thursdays each month
- 2) Also collecting clothing for Addy's Attic in Room 3 & 4 down stairs ~ They sort and size and then give away to those coming on the 1st & 3rd Thursday's plus then when open for the Community Breakfast!
- 3) Beginning to Collect Winter Hats, Gloves, Scarves and Warm Socks for our homeless at our Community Breakfast
- 4) Sunday, October 4th is World Communion Sunday and the Crop Walk ~ **Our Walkers are Sue Dyson, Missy Parish, Jill Danison and Nelson Shogren** ~ Please support them with your donation ~ Checks are to be made payable to CWS/CROP and all monies need to be turned in to Sandy Stout no later than Sunday, October 11th!!
- 5) **"Thank You First Christian Church Family"** for your generous donations, we collected, and Sarah Group Ladies put together 103 Hygiene Kits and 4 Kids Kits were also donated!!!!

***** Please Do Not Feel Obligated to donate to everything ~ Only Do What You Can or are Comfortable Doing *****

We are a Collection Depot for Church World Service and we had 4 churches and/or organizations bring in:
___ 13 boxes of Hygiene Kits

All Sunday Worship Services Zoom Call-In Invite Numbers: 312-626-6799 or 929-205-6099

Meeting ID: 281 630 1855

Passcode: 334189

For those wishing to call in, please know that you can dial either of the phone numbers listed above and when prompted, key in the **Meeting ID** and then again when prompted, key in the **Passcode** and then you will be connected.

You may talk and we will hear you; we just won't be able to see your smiling face(s)!!! We are set that the Phone numbers along with the Meeting ID and Passcode remain the same for each invite.

Those who have email, receive email invites each Thursday via Email ~ If you would like to join via email, send your email address to: Mansfield1stcc1833@gmail.com and you will be added!!!!

**Thursday, October 15th, First Christian Church will
host the Faith in Action Partnership Group Meeting
at 3:00 pm in Fellowship Hall!!**

**This is a group of concerned persons from a
variety of churches sharing information to help
our community.**

***Please check the Bulletin Board between the
Minister's office and the Secretary's office for
the lovely "Thank You Notes" from the kids
that were able to attend Friendly House
Camp this past Summer!!!!***



Disciple Men's Fish Fry, 2026



We men enjoyed doing the Fish Fry & we hope you enjoyed it too, Thanks for the donations that were in the Donation Jar. After we took out the cost for food, we had \$242.00 left. We are giving \$200.00 to support the Community Breakfast & \$42.00 into the men's saving account



Calendar Reminders

Chat & Chew Quilt Club

Chat & Chew Quilting Crew: We continue to working on our Christmas projects. The October meeting date will be set at a later time, "Quilters lead pieceful lives."

Elder's Meeting

The next Elder's Meeting is **Tuesday, October 6th** via Zoom at 7 pm

Disciple Men's Fellowship

We will meet at Noon at the Amvets on W Fourth Street on **Tuesday, October 20th**

Sarah Group

Sarah Group will meet **Tuesday, October 6th** with Karyl Eckenwiler will give our program and Lunch provided by Stana Shogren Lunches are \$5.00

Euchre Card Party

Euchre Party **October 16th**, 5:00 pm in Fellowship Hall ~ Bring a snack to share

Church Board

Will meet **Thursday, October 8th at 7:00 pm** via Zoom

Worship & Music

The Advent Season is approaching and the Advent Devotionals have been ordered ~ Also, remember, **All** voting ballots need to be at church no later than October 4th.



Kathy will be participating in the Ashland University Fall Choral Concert on Sunday, October 18th at 7:00 pm in the Chapel at Ashland University



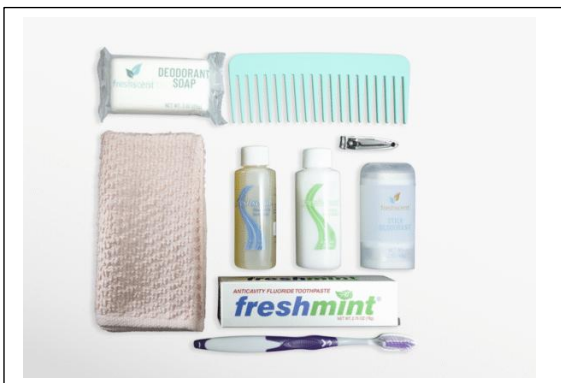
It's time to order your God's Creation Calendar for 2027 ~ See Sign Up Sheet ~ Pay when we order them ~ \$7.00 will be the cost

We will be collecting Hygiene Kits for Church World Service

Beginning in January or sooner you may bring in completed kits or the items listed below:

- 1 washcloth (January)
- 1 fingernail or toenail clipper (removed from Package) (Feb)
- 1 toothbrush in original package (March)
- 1 Bath size bar of soap in original package (April)
- 1 Travel-size deodorant (3.4 oz. or less, non-aerosol) (May)
- 1 Travel-size lotion (3.4 oz. or less, fragrance-free, NEW Only) (June)
- 1 Travel-size shampoo (3.4 oz. or less, NEW Only) (June)
- 1 Travel-size toothpaste (3.4 oz. or less, expiration date of 1 year) (July)
- 1 Sturdy wide-tooth comb (6" minimum teeth, packaging removed) (August)
- 1 gallon resealable plastic bag

Sarah Group Ladies will put together any non-completed items at their September meeting.



Putting Hygiene Kits together



Sarah Group Ladies putting Hygiene Kits together ~ We are sending 103 Hygiene Kits to CWS this year

If you're interested in putting the kid's kits together, please pick up a copy of the supplies for it on the sign- up table



October

4th Carol Zuercher
 8th Zachary Morris
 19th Beverly Whitaker
 28th Sylvia Moritz
 31st Larry Zartman
 Kathy Shambre

Early November 2026 Birthdays:

3rd Kathy DeLozier

11th Beth Armstrong

The Outreach Committee is happy to Wish each of You a very Happy Birthday and to say "Thank You" for your contribution to the Birthday Fund which helps with the cost of our monthly Community Breakfast



October Anniversaries

10/05 Roger & Karyl Eckenwiler, 58th

10/08 Nick & Mackenzie Danison, 4th

10/28 Dominic & Jennifer Morris, 26th



Gordon Grogg & Jean Wendland
 take a break while enjoying the Waterford Car Show

Elders

10/04 – Sandy Stout
10/11 – Missy Parish
10/18 – Laurie Parish (Praise Sunday)
10/25 – Ray Mellick

Lay Leaders

Sandy Stout
Peggy Boddy
Volunteer Needed
Volunteer Needed

GREETERS

October, 2026: Harold Troupe

November 2026: Need a Volunteer

(if unable to Greet ~ Contact Harold Troupe 419-468-2440)

PREPARING COMMUNION November ~ Peggy Boddy

Preparing Communion December, 2026 Need a Volunteer



From Your Church Secretary, Sandy

Who's ready for October and Halloween, then Changing our Clocks, Celebrating All Saints Sunday, and Thanksgiving and then we are into Advent and Christmas

- Please continue to bring in any gently used pots, pans, plates, glasses, cups, silverware, toasters, small crock pots (No Large Appliances) or misc. items for the bath or bedding for the Kitchen & Bath Pantry ~When bringing Bedding be sure clean & if from someone outside the church family, washed, dried in a hot drier for at least 45 minutes to guarantee no bugs ~ also put a note on them that they are clean & dried in a hot drier. This Ministry with Grace Episcopal will be open October 1st and October 15th ~ It has been very well accepted and attended; however, items are still needed, if you can!!!
- “Addy’s Attic” continues to be very well accepted ~ Also, please bring clean clothes and if from outside the church family, washed and dried in a hot drier. They are open the Same Dates as the Kitchen & Bath Pantry plus they will also be open the same hours as our Community Breakfast!!!!
- **IMPORTANT:** Community Breakfast Workers ~ Please check the new check list or inventory listing for the Community Breakfast Shoppers by writing on the sheets ~ They are located on the inside door of the Pantry!!

The November 2026 Quest deadline will be: Tuesday, October 27th & mailed Thursday, October 29th!!

Hide not your talents. They for use were made. What's a sundial in the shade?

Benjamin Franklin

		August Numbers	
2 nd 22	Month	Year-to-date	
9 th 28	Income:	\$ 5,963	\$ 82,039
16 th 31	Expense	<u>\$ 10,744</u>	<u>\$ 91,159</u>
23 rd 23	Difference	\$- 4,781	\$ - 9,120
30 th <u>27</u>			
130			

(attendance includes Visitors,
Children, those joining via Zoom & in the
Sanctuary plus Facebook viewers)

Scriptures- October, 2026



Oct. 4th ***"The Man who came at night"***
John 3:1-15

Oct. 11th ***"Water into Wine"***
John 2:1-11

Oct. 18th ***"Pride and Humility"***
Scripture to come later

Oct. 25th ***"Finding God Amid the chaos"***
Scripture to come later

Please remember our Prayer Concerns

The Family of Lisa Stout (Jackie Steel's daughter-in-law) as she passed away August 28th;
Grandpa Luna (grandson's Zach & Charlie) has had his surgery and needs prayers for healing;
Jon Brokaw (nephew of Barb Kirkpatrick) is having daily chemo treatments;
Janet Hess (sister of Sandy Stout) had her heart ablation on Thursday, Sept. 17th at OhioHealth and did very well;
Kathy Reining (Beth Armstrong's Daughter's Mother-in-law) has had cancer for more than 6 years and it is all through her now & she suffering with a lot of pain;
Teresa Lupton had successful Knee Replacement Surgery, Monday, Sept. 28th & is home doing resting & doing therapy;



September Community Breakfast Prayer Requests are on the table in the hallway outside of the Sanctuary on your way to the Chapel

Those at Home &/or in the Nursing Home Frank Daniell, Darrell Glenn, Robert & Delores Au, the Troy and Krista Cramer Family; Terry Hall (cousin of Laurie Parish recently diagnosed with brain cancer and she lives in Utah; Rantavia (Ray & Jane Mellick's neighbor); Lisa an acquaintance of Beth Armstrong; Stanley Marlow, Julie Rogers-Milligan; Marylyn Bradley; Beverly Whitaker; Kathy Jones, Missy Bradley, Kathy (a friend of Beth Armstrong's); Thersa Hilbert; Brian Dion, Sylvia Moritz, Cruz Baker; Sally Warbel; Dana Sauropod; Kaitlynn List; Julie Rogers; Gary Hughes; Gordon Grogg, Pastor Nick & Carol; Jane Stout; Harriett Kinder; Dani (a friend of Peggy Boddy); Doug Scott; Sharon Ryan

All those serving in the Armed Services currently military serving here and/or abroad

Please forward prayer concerns & updates to Sandy or Stacia Scott, Elder Chairperson