



First
Christian
Church
(Disciples of Christ)

The Visitor

February 2025

875 Haskins Rd. Bowling Green, OH 43402 • Phone: 419-354-3989 • E-mail: firstoffice875@gmail.com • Website: www.bgfcc.org

"SUGG" ESTIONS

What is music? The online version of the Oxford dictionary defines music as: *vocal or instrumental sounds (or both) combined in such a way as to produce beauty of form, harmony, and expression of emotion.* While this is true, it also doesn't quite capture the essence of music. I have loved music since I was very young. I even took piano lessons, but took issue with the need to practice. I can still plunk out a song but that's about it. I asked Google what is the importance of music and the Generative AI responded with the following:

Music is important for many reasons, including:

- **Social connection:** Music can help people connect with others, express themselves, and feel a sense of understanding. Music can also be a powerful way to unite people, such as through national anthems, protest songs, hymns, and love songs.
- **Mental health:** Music can help people relax, come to terms with their emotions, and improve their well-being. It can also boost mood, reduce stress, and help beat anxiety.
- **Cognitive development:** Music can stimulate cognitive development, particularly in children. Learning to play an instrument can enhance memory, attention, and problem-solving abilities.
- **Physical health:** Music can improve mobility and reduce the need for sedatives.
- **Cultural identity:** Music can be a way to express cultural identity.
- **Therapeutic effects:** Music can have therapeutic effects on health and well-being.
- **Brain health:** Learning music can strengthen the brain by engaging the visual, auditory, and motor parts simultaneously.
- **Memory recall:** Listening to familiar music can help recall memories from long ago.

This past Sunday, I found myself tearing up as Giorgos played the beautiful prelude. Why? I really don't know why. I do know the music touched my soul in a way that brought tears to my eyes. Music is such a powerful language. It speaks to us on a soul level deeper than any words can reach.

I am so thankful for the many people who have blessed our worship by sharing their musical gifts. When I first came to BGFCC we were using canned music and trying to make it work. Don Scherer, Ruth Maltby, Diane Morlock all stepped up and were instrumental in moving us forward with live music. What a difference it has made. I am thankful for Nano and Malik and now Giorgos for sharing their talents. Thank you all for bringing us before God as we prepare to worship.

You are loved, Gene



Special Dates in February

- Feb 2: Groundhog Day
- Feb 3: Food Pantry Volunteer - 1 PM
- Feb 5: Food Pantry Volunteer - 10 AM
- Feb 7: Food Pantry Volunteer - 10 AM
- Feb 7: Community Meal - 5 PM
- Feb 14: Valentine's Day

Operating Fund Information Through December 31, 2025

Contributions & Inflows:	\$134,751
Expenses:	\$115,911
Difference:	\$ 18,841



Please consider donating the following items for The Cocoon:

Bars of Soap
Toothpaste (small) & Toothbrushes
Shampoo & Conditioner (small)
Contact Steve Riewaldt for details
@ 419-308-4649

*In Our Thoughts
& Prayers*



Do you need someone added to this list?
Please write your request on the sheet in
the foyer or email the church office.

fccadmin@bgfcc.org

Scott & DeAnna Beeker
Marge Leathem
Marcia Naugle
Marie Rogers

Tim Bomeli
Ruth Maltby
Ed Reiter
Mae Scott

Peggy Carsey
Ruth Ann McCray
Steve & Marilyn Riewaldt

Jim Corbett
Becky Meredith

Special Prayer Requests

Cleve & Irene Patton
Connie & Tami Adams - BG Christian Food Pantry
Emily Rupp
Jennie Stoddard-Bernard, Regional Administrator
Linda Brown - Sharon Bronsink's family member
Randy Jones - Ann Jones' son
Todd Spencer - Gary & Barb Spencer's son

Ministers & Missionaries

Paul Bomeli
Audrey Connor
Margot Connor
Allen Harris
Erin McCreight Proie
Gene Sugg
Ernie Unholz

Would you like to reach out to those on the prayer list.

Please use the note cards in the pews to write who it is to in the space at the top, jot a quick note, and sign your name. Then place the card in the offering plate, and the church office will address the envelope and drop your note in the mail.



TRANSPORTATION MINISTRY



The FCC Transportation Ministry connects seniors in need of transportation for non-emergency medical appointments with volunteer drivers from the church.

The volunteers are called as needed on a rotating basis. If you would like to help with this ministry, we would love to put you on our list of drivers.

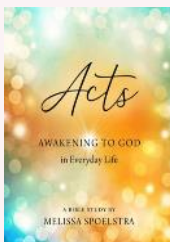
Also, if you are in need of assistance yourself, please call
Pat Koehler at 419-494-3231.



Happy Birthday to those born in February

Kelsey Tennison	2/1	Jim Corbitt	2/15
Amy Kirkbride	2/2	David Wick	2/20
Buz Maltby	2/6	Claude Kilpatrick	2/22
Elizabeth Wick	2/7	Ernie Naugle	2/26
Gary Spencer	2/7	Joanne Tennison	2/26
Hannah Shaffer	2/12	Jackson Krueger	2/26
Karen Dauer	2/15	Pat Stack	2/27

On January 8, 2025, we started our new study, *Acts Women's Bible Study Participant Workbook: Awakening to God in Everyday Life* by Melissa Spoelstra.



This six week study of the Book of Acts has helped us journey with the first followers of Jesus and witness the birth and growth of the early church through spiritual awakening to the power of God's Spirit, message, freedom, grace, mission, and direction. By the time we complete this study, we'll have read the entire Book of Acts. We'll soon be deciding on a Lenten study to begin on Ash Wednesday, but we'll find something interesting to discuss for two weeks before that.

*Join us anytime!
We'd love to have some new members!*

PLEASE NOTE

1. There are no Board Meeting minutes in this issue of "The Visitor" because a Board Meeting was not held in December.
2. Look for updated Board Meeting minutes in the March issue of "The Visitor."

FEEDING OUR MISSION

The BG Christian Food Pantry needs:

Any Food and Toiletry Items!



Monetary Donations needed



**Save the Date
FCC's Week to Volunteer
February 2, 4, 6**

RUMMAGE SALE



**START SAVING YOUR STUFF
for the
2025 WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP
RUMMAGE SALE!**

Thank you from Women's Fellowship!



RUMMAGE SALE



FCC's Mission Project with the Bowling Green City Schools!

Thank you to everyone who recently donated to the school mission project. In August, we took a large amount of supplies to the middle school for distribution to the students. The school was very appreciative of our donations.

For the month of **February**, we are collecting the items shown below. Also - if you see school supplies on sale, pick some up. They won't go to waste!

If you have questions, please contact Elizabeth Wick @ DEZSLL6@GMAIL.com

- ✧ Laundry Detergent
- ✧ Cleaning Products
- ✧ Hand Sanitizer
- ✧ Kids Rain Boots (Size 5-12)
- ✧ Adult Shoes
- ✧ Individually Wrapped Snacks

Items Due By:
**February
23rd**

FCC's NEXT DRIVE-THRU COMMUNITY DINNER IS FRIDAY, ***FEBRUARY 14th***

5:00 - 6:00 pm (or until food runs out)

Our FREE Community Dinners
continue to be a huge success!

In November we served over 160 meals and
distributed groceries to many families!

Thank you to the **WICK's**
and their crew!

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED TO ASSIST WITH
COOKING and SERVING ON FRIDAY, ***DECEMBER 13th.***
DONATIONS OF COOKIES and SUPPLIES ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!

Elizabeth Wick and Betsy Solley are looking for volunteers to help with cooking for this growing monthly Outreach Project. Please contact Elizabeth Wick at 419-575-7867 or DEZSLL6@gmail.com to offer your support.

Thank you to everyone who has already helped out with time, food, and monetary donations!

**WE HOPE YOU WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT US
IN THIS VERY VALUABLE COMMUNITY OUTREACH!**





February, 2025



Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Please note that various committees meet throughout the month. Please check with your committee's chairperson regarding the date and time that your committee will be meeting this month.

2	3	4	5	6	7	8
10:30 Worship 11:30-Food Pantry Sunday 11:30 Prayer Circle Groundhog Day	1:00 Food Pantry Volunteer		10:00 Food Pantry Volunteer 11:00 Women's Bible Study (via ZOOM) 7:00 Women's Club of BG Social Mtg.		10:00 Food Pantry Volunteer	1
10:30 Worship			11:00 Women's Bible Study (via ZOOM)	7:00 FCC Board Meeting	5:00 Community Meal/Grocery supplies Valentine's Day	15
10:30 Worship			11:00 Women's Bible Study (via ZOOM)			22
	President's Day					
10:30 Worship	7:00 Women's Club of BG Board Meeting		11:00 Women's Bible Study (via ZOOM)			

