

“Sugg”estions

Recently, I watched a show about hummingbirds. Yes, my evenings are quite exciting. The show was actually very entertaining and informative. Did you know hummingbirds range from one to three inches long and weigh less than a nickel? Hummingbirds are the only bird that can fly backwards. Hummingbirds migrate south for winter. They travel over 500 miles in a 20 hour timespan, flying through the Gulf of Mexico. Pretty amazing for such a small creature. Hummingbirds may be small, but they are mighty.

If you haven't been watching the NCAA Men's basketball tournament you still may have heard the shocking news that the #16 seed Fairleigh Dickinson University defeated a #1 seed Purdue University. The NCAA tournament started in 1939. This is only the second time in its history that a sixteen seed has beaten a one seed. Only the most rabid Fairleigh Dickinson fan believed they could win. They were under-sized and over-matched by the much bigger, stronger and deeper Purdue team. But they did win. They managed to play the game of their season and make history as a team. They may have been small, but they were still mighty.

Many congregations are still feeling the sting of COVID. Sanctuaries aren't nearly as full as they once were just a few years ago. Fewer youth run through the fellowship hall. Sunday school rooms have become storage closets. Too often we focus on what isn't what it used to be. We need to focus on what is. I was reminded of this during a conversation with a church member. She was asking for prayers for a family member struggling with health challenges. Her words still ring in my ears, and I quote: *“requesting prayers from our small but mighty church!”* Those words brought tears to my eyes as a beautiful and powerful reminder of what is truly important for us. The church has, is, and will always be mighty when we focus on making a difference in the lives of people. We may be small, we may not be what we once were numerically, but we are just as, if not more so, as mighty as we have always been. *Where two or three are gathered...*

Special Dates in April

- April 1: BGSU Electronics Recycling Event: 9:00 A
- April 2: Palm Sunday Service: 10:30 A
- April 6: Maundy Thursday Service, 7:00 P
- April 7: Good Friday
- April 9: Easter Sunday Services: 8:30 A, 10:30 A
- April 9: Easter Continental Breakfast: 9:15 A
- April 10: Food Pantry Volunteer, 10 A - 12 N
- April 12: Food Pantry Volunteer, 1 P - 3 P
- April 14: Food Pantry volunteer, 1 P - 3 P
- April 14: Drive-thru Community Dinner, 5 P
- April 22: Earth Day
- April 30: All Church Pot Luck: 11:30 A



Operating Fund Information Through February 28, 2022

Contributions & Inflows: \$21,526.62
Expenses: \$14,902.16
Difference: \$ 6,624.46

To contribute to FCC using Tithe.ly,
Please scan this QR code using the
camera on your mobile phone!



FCC's Spring Blood Drive Update!

- Thank you to **Elizabeth Wick & Earlene Kilpatrick** for Chairing the Blood Drive while Scott & DeAnna Beeker were on vacation!
- Thank you to **Steve Meredith & Don Bateson** for set-up AND to **Doug Dauer** for tear down.
- The Red Cross collected 35 usable units!
- Each unit has the potential to save up to three lives
- **GREAT JOB and THANK YOU AGAIN!**



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

Tim Bomeli
Ruth Ann McCray

Peggy Carsey
Becky Meredith

Marge Leathem
Mae Scott

Ruth Maltby

Special Prayer Requests

Boni Reese - Diane Morlock's friend (breast cancer)
Laynee - Sharon Daniels' great-niece (heart transplant needed)
Linda Brown - Sharon Bronsink's family member (COPD)
Louise Carrol - DeAnna Beeker's mom (health issues)
Mike Jones - Diane Morlock's brother
Pat Huling - Scott Beeker's step-mother
Randy Jones - Ann Jones' son
Regan Starks - Lee Starks' daughter

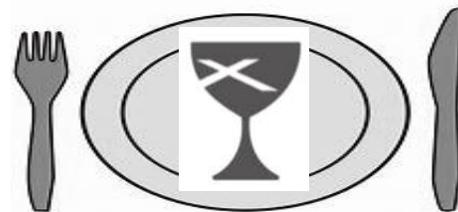
Ministers & Missionaries

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

Active Service Members
Levi Wick

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH, BG, OH DRIVE-THRU COMMUNITY DINNER FRIDAY, APRIL 14!

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



FCC continues to host our monthly "DRIVE-THRU DINNERS."

In March we served over **90** meals and distributed many bags of grocery items!

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED TO COOK AND SERVE ON FRIDAY, APRIL 14!
DONATIONS OF COOKIES and OTHER SUPPLIES ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!

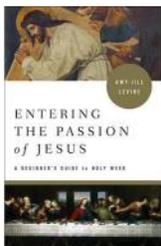
If you are interested in helping Elizabeth Wick and Betsy Solley with this
monthly Outreach Project, please contact Elizabeth Wick at
419-575-7867 or DEZSLL6@gmail.com.

Thank you to everyone who has already helped out with time, food, and monetary donations!
WE HOPE YOU WILL JOIN US IN THIS VALUABLE COMMUNITY OUTREACH!

Women's BIBLE STUDY

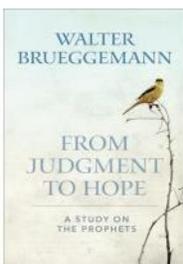
Women's Spiritual Studies Group

We will complete our Lenten study on March 29. This study, *Entering the Passion of Jesus: A Beginner's Guide to Holy Week* by Amy Jill-Levine has been very informative and caused us to think much about Holy Week and what it means for Christians everywhere. For April 5, during Holy Week, we will read and discuss a meditation entitled "What Was the Lord Doing on Wednesday of Holy Week?" by Monsignor Charles Pope



After Easter, we'll complete *Unforgotten* with two lessons, one on Leah and the other on Gomer. According to the author, "by studying [these lesser known women of the Bible] we can learn for ourselves what it means to live a legacy of faith - what it looks like to live a life worthy of being remembered."

We will then finish out the spring with *From Judgment to Hope: A Study on the Prophets* by Walter Brueggemann. According to the author, the prophets are "emancipated imaginers of alternative." He highlights the "common themes of judgment and hope found in the prophets' messages" and "invites readers to consider what those messages mean for us today." The book includes three Major Prophets and 12 Minor Prophets.



Contact Char Scherer for information about the current and upcoming studies and please...

Join us on Wednesdays at 11:00 AM on Zoom anytime!

Happy Birthday to those born in April!
In Victorian times, a gift of Daisies meant "you are simply loved!"

Ruth Van Wormer	4/4
Debra Downey	4/7
Logan Krueger	4/12
Jacob Tennison	4/16
Kelly Roudebush	4/22

FEEDING OUR MISSION

The BG Christian Food Pantry needs:

Any Food Items and
 Body Wash/Soap
 Lotion
 Deodorant
 Toothpaste
 Toothbrushes

Toilet Paper
 Paper Towels
 Tissues
 Shampoo
 Conditioner
Any Toiletry Items

Bowling Green Christian Food Pantry

Save the Date
FCC's Week to Volunteer
April 10, 12, 14

DECORATE THE SANCTUARY WITH EASTER LILIES!

LILIES ARE A TRADITIONAL SYMBOL OF RESURRECTION AND NEW LIFE!

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PURCHASE A LILY PLANT FOR EASTER SUNDAY, PLEASE COMPLETE A FORM FOUND ON THE TABLE IN THE FOYER AND RETURN IT TO THE OFFICE WITH YOUR PAYMENT OF \$15.00 PER PLANT.

AS OF TODAY, THERE ARE ELEVEN PLANTS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE.



FCC's mission project with the Bowling Green City Schools continues...

Many students face food insecurity and lack of personal care items. The school system started a pantry at the Middle School where they gather snacks, school supplies and hygiene items/ warm weather gear.

Each month, we will focus on collecting a different item in each category that will be delivered to the school at the beginning of the next month.

Please watch the bulletin for the items each month. Bring your donations to church where we will designate a collection spot. **Monetary donations** are also welcome as there are always students that need help with school lunch payments and we can use the money to buy items when they are on sale. If you have any questions, reach out to Elizabeth Wick, Kim Thomas, or Karen Adams.

Here are the details of what to contribute for the next couple of months:

Month	Due Date	Food Item (<i>no nuts</i>)	Personal Care Item	School Supply
April	April 30, 2023	Oatmeal Packets / Hot Chocolate	Toothpaste Toothbrush	Blue / Black / Red Ink Pens
May	May 28, 2023	Ramen Noodles / Multigrain Bars	Razors / Shaving Cream or Gel	Notebook Paper



The Care Elders have a way for you to reach out to those on the prayer list.

We have developed care notecards. The note cards have been placed in the pews. If, during church, you hear of someone that is in need of prayer, you can take one of these note cards, write who it is to in the space at the top, jot a quick note, and sign your name.

Then just place the card in the offering plate, and the church office will address the envelope and drop your note in the mail.

If you put someone on our prayer list that is not currently attending our church and you want them to get a note, it will be important to write their address on the prayer list by the door or email it to the church office when you get home. (fccadmin@bgfcc.org)



Sunday, April 2
Palm Sunday Service at 10:30 AM

Thursday, April 6:
Maundy Thursday Service at 7:00 PM

Sunday, April 9:
Easter Sunrise Service at 8:30 AM

Sunday, April 9:
Easter Continental Breakfast at 9:15 AM

Sunday, April 9:
Traditional Easter Service at 10:30 AM



ALL CHURCH SPRING POTLUCK

Sunday, April 30
following the service

Join in the fellowship and fun with your church family!

Please bring an entrée, salad, or side dish
and your own table service.

Hospitality Committee will provide dessert & drinks.

Sign up using the sheet
on the table in the
church foyer!



BGSU[®]

Do you have any electronic devices you no longer use? Wondering how to get rid of them safely? Wondering whether they can be recycled? "What should I do now?" is a question that often bothers folks when their electronics wear out.

Fortunately, BGSU's Environmental Studies students have researched the best, current answers and have organized the entire process for the ease of folks who want to dispose of their worn-out electronics.

On Saturday, April 1, between 9 AM and 1 PM you can take them to BGSU's Slater Ice Arena!

Load up your vehicle, drive to the Ice Arena parking lot on the East side of Mercer Road where BGSU student volunteers will direct your route as other students remove your donations and thank you for relieving yourself of a no-longer useful apparatus without creating new, unhappy consequences for the environment.

Christian stewardship of God's own Creation!

Most electronic items will be accepted including Batteries, Televisions, and Computers, etc.

No older "tube style" televisions will be accepted.



First Christian Church of Bowling Green, OH Board Meeting, February 9, 2023

The February 9, 2023 board meeting of First Christian Church was held via zoom. Present: Vice-Moderator, Mike Solley, presiding, Pastor Gene Sugg and members Karen and Jim Adams, Nancy Andrade, Lynn and Don Bateson, Sharon Daniels, Jay Kirkbride, Ruth Ann McCray, Steve Riewaldt, Char and Don Scherer, Betsy Solley, Kim Thomas, Rae Thomson, Elizabeth Wick and Pat Koehler.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 by Vice-Moderator, Mike Solley who opened with prayer.

The devotion was given by Pat based on Romans 12:5 citing the acts of service given by the church family. The March devotion will be given by Sharon Daniels.

The January board minutes were approved on a motion by Jay Kirkbride, second by Rae Thomson.

There was no Treasurer's Report. Jim Adams will send reports and provide updates at the March meeting

Administrative:

Clerk: Sharon Daniels, no report. Sharon requested that congregants assist in updating the membership by notifying her of the status of our children, their baptismal dates and church affiliation at the present time.

Financial Trustees: DeAnna Beeker. No report but a committee meeting will be scheduled.

Personnel: Diane Morlock. Diane sent a written report to the board in her absence; it will be filed. Lynn Bateson has contacted BGSU and will be providing a posting for a church pianist to the students.

Property: Steve Riewaldt reported that most projects will be delayed until Spring.

Technology: Jay Kirkbride no report.

Moderator: No report.

Pastoral Search Committee: In her absence Nancy Otley sent minutes of the last meeting to board members. The next meeting is scheduled for March 6.

Pastor's Report: Gene acknowledged the positive search committee report and commended them on the progress being made. He commented on the 'ministry of presence' and the wonderful support of the church family to the Leathems. There is one more week on the Bible Study he is leading and he spoke to the mission projects with appreciation.

Old Business: None

New Business:

As Hospitality chair, Betsy Solley noted that the kitchen floor is in need of a good cleaning; Steve Riewaldt said Property committee will follow-up. Don Bateson suggested that fellowship hall also needs cleaning and suggested that property get a quote for a professional cleaning of both areas.

Betsy also suggested that we revive the 'after-church potluck dinner' since the last one was pre-Covid. The Men's group is planning a Shrove Tuesday event on Feb. 21 and considering events on Mother's Day and Father's Day. Betsy will check the church calendar for a Sunday available after Easter.

Ministry: Elder's Reports

Care Elders: Elizabeth reported that committee met Jan. 24. They have compiled a list of members who have left the church; Gene will contact them to schedule a visit.

Worship Elders – Mike Solley reported there was a recent meeting with the focus being on Lent. Gene stated that the communion service will be modified to take the cup together and allow more time for meditation.

Missions:

Community Meal: Scheduled for Feb. 10

BG Christian Food Pantry: Volunteers are badly needed each month as more people are needing food assistance.

School Assistance: Elizabeth reported that the supplies provided by FCC were greatly appreciated. The need is great; the schools are providing food for the weekend for the 'food insecure and the homeless'. She requested and received \$800 from her employer for the mission project.

Green Chalice: Don Scherer reported that FCC will be adding glass collection to our efforts. Jim Adams will procure the bins and take the glass to Owens-Illinois for recycling. Gene and Scott Beeker will arrange for signage. The glass may include food jars, wine, beer and spirit bottles.

Fellowship: Hospitality concerns discussed in new business.

Study Groups: Char reported the Women's Group will start a new book on Ash Wednesday entitled *Entering the Passion of Jesus* by Amy-Jill Levine.

Gene's Group has one week left in current study.

Prayer Concerns: Ed Reiter, surgery on Feb.16; Rae's friend Floyd Chamberlain, brain surgery; Pat's neighbor Pam Potter, cancer; Karen Adams mom, Judy Hartley; Scott's mom Pat Beeker, surgery; DeAnna's mom, Louise Carrol; Gene's mom, skin cancer and George Reese's daughter Katrina; Laurie, friend of the Solley's, hip replacement; Matt Every, triple by-pass; Bethany Palmer, young friend of Rae, fighting cancer. Elizabeth's son, Levi, serving overseas, is doing well and Gene mentioned that Aurora and Paul appreciate the prayers for them.

Closing Prayer given by Pastor Sugg

Adjournment was at 7:50.

Next meeting dates are March 9 and April 13 at 7:00 pm. by zoom.

Respectfully submitted, Pat Koehler, Secretary