First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)

June, 2022

The Visitor

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

"SUGG"estions…

Memory is a funny thing. Studies show our memories can't always be trusted, especially during traumatic events. And we tend to remember the good times as better than they actually were and the bad times not as bad as they really may have been.

Recently, we celebrated Memorial Day, a day to remember those who gave the ultimate sacrifice in service to our country. It truly is amazing the amount of courage it takes to willingly put your life on the line for a cause, a belief, and/or a principle. So many were willing to die, because they believed, deep down, in what this country stood for; Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. We shall always remember and honor their sacrifice.

This past week we also mourned the loss of 19 grade school children and 2 teachers from Uvalde, Texas in yet another mass shooting in a school. We didn't even have time to forget the mass shooting in a Tops Family Market that killed 10 people and we were already appalled by the loss of life in an elementary school in Texas. These events cause a sadness that goes beyond words.

As I sit here enjoying my Memorial Day Holiday and recognize the sacrifices that were made by so many to provide me this freedom, I am also aware of the disconnect underlying our celebrations and remembrance. On a day when we take time to honor and remember the men and women who died in service to our country, who stepped up when called into service, we are terribly divided.

I wonder, have we lost the ability, or even the desire, to sacrifice something for the greater good? Have we lost the ability to simply listen to one another without condemning the other for believing differently? And yet, isn't this one of the freedoms so many fought and died for? Our strength comes from our diversity. When we share ideas, brainstorm solutions to difficult issues, welcome the opinion of others, we all benefit and grow together.

We MUST work together to find a way to stop the violence that is killing our children. We MUST be willing to sacrifice and compromise in order to come to a solution that protects the most vulnerable. If we do not, I fear, our memory of this one will be replaced by the reality of the next.

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. [17] For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. John 3:16-17

Special Dates in June:

June 5: Annual Congregational Meeting
June 5: Pentecost
June 6: Food Pantry Volunteer (1p-3p)
June 8: Food Pantry Volunteer (10a-12p)
June 10: Food Pantry Volunteer (10a-12p)
June 10: Drive-thru Community Dinner (5p-6p)
June 14: Flag Day
June 18: Women's Club of BG Garage Sale
June 19: Father's Day
June 19: Juneteenth

Financial Information Through May

YTD Income:	$49,181.46
YTD Expenses:	$41,244.77
Difference:	$ 7,936.69

FEEDING OUR MISSION

The BG Christian Food Pantry needs:

Boxed Meals	Soup
Jam/Jelly	Condiments
Instant Pudding	Personal Care Items
Jell-O	Paper Products

Bowling Green Christian Food Pantry

Save the Date
FCC's Week to Volunteer
June 6, 8, 10

Please Pray for…

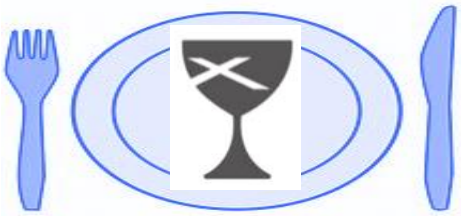
Tim Bomeli
Marge & Luke Leathem
Ruth Ann McCray
Diane Morlock
Seldon & Peggy Carsey
Ruth Maltby
Becky Meredith
Mae Scott

Boni Reese: Diane Morlock's friend (breast cancer)
Jean Ryan: Betsy Solley's friend (cancer)
Laynee - Sharon Daniels' great-niece (heart transplant)
Linda Brown - Sharon Bronsink's family member (COPD)
Randy Jones - Ann Jones' son
Rob Slone - Rae Thomson's son-in-law (motorcycle accident)

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

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

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH, BG, OH
DRIVE-THRU COMMUNITY DINNER
FRIDAY, June 10, 2022
5:00 - 6:00 pm (or until food runs out)



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

In May we served 67 meals and distributed 46 bags of groceries!

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED TO COOK AND SERVE ON FRIDAY, JUNE 10!
DONATIONS OF COOKIES ARE NEEDED TOO!

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!

happy birthday

Howard Roberts	6/1
Jay Kirkbride	6/2
Logan Dauer	6/6
Zachary Wick	6/15
Pat Koehler	6/17
Deborah Frakes	6/22
Ryan Maltby	6/22
Don Scherer	6/22
Doug Dauer	6/26

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)

COFFEE HOUR

- **Please join us in this Fellowship opportunity after Sunday Services!**
- **Volunteers for June are: 6/5 - Pat Koehler; 6/12 - Ann Jones; 6/19 - OPEN; 6/26 - Spencer's**
- **Additional volunteers are needed to prepare and serve. Please sign up at Coffee Hour!**

Women's BIBLE STUDY

Women's Spiritual Studies Group

We continue to meet weekly on Wednesdays at 11:00 am via Zoom and welcome anyone who would like to join us. Contact Char Scherer (cschere@bgsu.edu) if you need the link.

JUST WOMEN

Our current study is from *Just Women Magazine*, "When Women Connect" which will take us through June 15. **We will NOT meet on June 8.**

Our summer plans are for various group members to take turns choosing some material: short article, poetry, music, Scripture discussion, Lectio Divina, meditation, or any combination and plan a lesson around it for their week. Marcia is scheduling these, and Char gets a break from planning for the summer. We will start a new study, yet to be chosen, on September 7, 2022.

Come join us on Zoom anytime!

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 willing drivers.

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

The following names are placed in nomination by the Nominating Committee for terms beginning July 1, 2022. Election of officers will take place at the Annual Congregational meeting on Sunday, June 5, 2022, after service.

Sunday, June 5, 2022

Board Officers – One Year Term:
Moderator – Earlene Kilpatrick
Vice Moderator – Mike Solley
Secretary – Pat Koehler
Treasurer – Jim Adams
Church Historian/Clerk – Sharon Daniels

Representatives at Large – One Year Term:
Nancy Otley
Gary Spencer
Pat Stack
Kim Thomas

Care Elders:
Nancy Andrade - 1 year term
Rhoda Bennett - 1 year term
Sharon Daniels - 1 year term
Karen Dauer - 1 year term
Jay Kirkbride - 2 year term
Pat Koehler - 2 year term
Carla Meredith - 1 year term
Betsey Solley - 1 year term
Rae Thomson - 1 year term
Elizabeth Wick - 2 year term

Worship Elders:
DeAnna Beeker - 1 year term
Earlene Kilpatrick - 2 year term
Wil Roudebush - 1 year term
Don Scherer - 1 year term
Mike Solley - 1 year term

Property Trustees – 3 Year Term:
Don Bateson
Steve Riewaldt

Financial Trustees – 1 Year Term:
DeAnna Beeker
Earlene Kilpatrick
Diane Morlock
Joanne Tennison

Modified Deacon – 1 Year Term:
Karen Adams
Lynn Bateson
DeAnna Beeker
Scott Beeker
Earlene Kilpatrick
Ruth Ann McCray
Barb Spencer

If you are not able to attend the meeting in person, you may use the Zoom link shown below to attend remotely.

Topic: FCC Annual Congregational Meeting
Time: **Jun 5, 2022, 11:30 AM Eastern Time (US)**

Join Zoom Meeting
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82155992637

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF BOWLING GREEN, OH - BOARD MEETING, April 21, 2022

The April 21, 2022 board meeting of First Christian Church was held via zoom. Present: Rev. Gene Sugg, Vice-Moderator Mike Solley, Members DeAnna Beeker, Sharon Daniels, Jay Kirkbride, Steve Riewaldt, Don and Char Scherer, Rae Thomson, Elizabeth Wick and Pat Koehler.

The call to order and opening prayer was given by Vice-Moderator Mike Solley at 7:35. The Devotion was given by Rae Thomson who shared a reading from *The Secret Place* reminding us to avoid being so "busy" that we don't pause, look and notice the beauty of nature in the Spring. The May devotion will be given by DeAnna Beeker.

The March10 board meeting minutes were approved on a motion by Rae Thomson, second by DeAnna Beeker. All yes.

Treasurer's Report was given by DeAnna Beeker. Financial reports that were sent as attachments by Earlene with the meeting agenda included the Profit and Loss year to year report through March and the current year Balance Sheet as of March 31. DeAnna reported that contributions are down $4,577.09 from last year including both pledges and loose offerings. Total Huntington Bank checking balance is $65,566.13.

Administrative:
Clerk: Sharon Daniels reported that Peggy and Seldon Carsey have transferred their membership to Weston Church of Christ. She will provide a card available for FCC members to sign and reported that the Carsey's would appreciate staying in touch with our church family.
Finance Trustees: No report.
Personnel: No report.
Property: The committee has conducted an energy audit and put insulation in the parsonage, worked with Damschroeder to repair the roof leak, installed a fire alarm in the church kitchen, put new slats on the trash enclosure and have started mowing.
Technology: Gene and Jay that everything is working well.
Moderator: Mike reported that The Nominating committee has been assigned and has begun its work. Members include: Karen Adams, Claude Kilpatrick, members of the congregation; Mike Solley, Vice Moderator; Elizabeth Wick, Elder Chair; DeAnna Beeker, (modified) Deacon; Earlene Kilpatrick, Board Moderator. The congregation will be notified of the Nominating Team on Sunday, April 24 and the slate presented to the board at the May 12 board meeting. There is a concern about filling the Treasurer's position. Mike also announced that attendance records will be picked up and recorded by Lee on Excel; previous records are not available.

Pastor's Report:
Gene thanked all who participated in the Lenten season and Holy Week services. Easter was celebrated with two services and a breakfast prepared by Steve and Marilyn Riewaldt and was indeed a joyful time. He is planning to begin opportunities for the congregation to gather together beginning in May to provide feedback on the selection of a settled pastor. Some specific questions to consider will be:

What makes FCC a viable congregation in the community?
What would we tell new attendees about FCC?
Do you think the best times as a congregation are behind us or ahead of us?
What brought me to FCC? Why have I stayed and remained active?
Think of our previous pastors. What qualities of leadership stood out? What characteristics of their personality did you connect with? As we have our discussions, let us build on the positives.

Gene will be officiating at Jill Witham's funeral service tomorrow.

Ministry/Elder's Reports:
Care Elders: Met April 12. Elizabeth reported that there was discussion on compiling an email list that could be used to notify the congregation about urgent concerns, e.g. illnesses or death. Earlene and Lee will be working on that project. Gene suggested we also consider a Robo calling system that could notify people with a phone call and would reach those who do not have access to a computer. Elizabeth mentioned that Mae Scott fell and is at Wood Haven, room 236. The Kirby family will be added to Rae's shepherding list.

Worship Elders: Don thanked the team of worship elders for their participation during the Holy Week services, noting that serving also enhanced the spiritual life of the participants. He reported that Eastertide, the seven Sundays leading to Pentecost will focus on individual gifts supporting the spiritual vitality of the community. He mentioned that the Green Team of Steve Riewaldt, Kim Thomas and Don will be considering ways to make the church greener.

Study: Char announced that the Wednesday group has started a Just Women study that will run through June 8. The group will continue with zoom meetings through the summer.

Fellowship:
Hospitality: No Report.
Men's Group: Steve reported that the continental breakfast on Easter morning served 40; Easter lilies were delivered to shuts-in Mae Scott, Peggy Carsey and Becky Knight.

Mission:
Food Pantry: Volunteers are needed on M/W/F during the week of May 9. Contact Joanne Tennison.
Community Dinner will be served Friday, May 13, with the Wicks in charge. April 8 dinner served 67.

Old Business: Re: Covid, Elizabeth suggested that the drinking fountain be uncovered. Steve will check with health regulators and advise.

New Business: Steve Riewaldt requested approval and made a motion that the men's group host a church pot luck event on May 15 in lieu of the fall Homecoming event that was cancelled due to Covid.
Jay Kirkbride seconded the motion, all voted yes. A sign-up sheet will be posted and a suggestion to serve the food was made. Consensus was in favor of serving.

Prayer concerns: Prayers were requested for the families of Jill Witham and David Bomeli who passed recently. Char asked for prayers for Mike Krueger who has A-fib concerns and Don Scherer with a new health issue.

Rev. Gene closed the meeting with prayer.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.
Minutes by Pat Koehler, Board Secretary

The next FCC Board Meeting will be on May 12, 2022 at 7:30 pm.
Diane Morlock will take the meeting minutes in Pat's absence. Thank you!

Worship Leaders Needed

If you are interested in helping out in this way, please contact Steve Riewaldt at 419-308-4649

Notice to the Congregation of First Christian Church to Amend Our Bylaws

Dear Church Family,

Recently the Nominating team was charged with filling seats for At-Large Representatives and Deacons. We quickly discovered our Bylaws did not have a description of the At-Large duties. Additionally, since the role of Deacon has been modified, the modified duties should be written into our Bylaws.

At the May 15, 2022 Board meeting, I proposed amendments to our Bylaws reflecting duties of an At-Large Representative and the modification of the Deacon role. The Board approved a motion to present the amendments to you, for a congregational vote.

According to our Bylaws, the process for amending reads as follows:

XI: Adoption and Amendments

> *These Bylaws may be amended, altered, or repealed by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting, either physically or virtually, at a special or regular meeting. Any changes must be proposed in writing and communicated to the membership by the newsletter issued during the four weeks prior to the meeting.*

Therefore, publishing this notice in the June 2022 newsletter meets the communication requirement. A congregational special meeting is scheduled for July 3, the Sunday that is four weeks after the notice of the proposed amendments.

Please, do not hesitate to contact me with any questions. Thank you!

Respectfully,
Earlene Kilpatrick
FCC Board Moderator
419.601.0976/cnekilpatrick@outlook.com

Proposed amendments to the:

First Christian Church of Bowling Green
Disciples of Christ
Bylaws

Section III. Duties of Elected Officers and Teams

M. The Modified Deacons shall as follows:
1. Pre-Service
a. Arrive at church 40 minutes prior to the start of worship.
b. Place communion pre-prepped cups on the table at the sanctuary entryway.
c. Place communion pre-prepped cups at the lecterns, communion table, piano, and technology station.
d. Place a fresh bottle of water at the lecterns.
e. Place communion bread on the communion table.
Check the pews for the need of attendance pads/pencils/giving envelopes and replace as necessary.

2. During Service:
a. Record the number of attendees.
Place record in the Administrative Assistant's mailbox.

3. After service:
Gather used communion cups and throw away.
Check lecterns and recycle open water bottles. Throw away used communion cups.
Gather Attendance sheets and place them in the Administrative Assistant's mailbox.
Advise Church Administrative Assistant of need to order prepped communion cups.

Term will be for 1 year.

The role of Modified Deacon may be terminated upon resuming the Serving, Prepping, and Junior Deacon roles as stated in these bylaws.

Section III. Duties of Elected Officers and Teams

N. The At-Large of the General Board shall:
1. Serve as a liaison and spokesperson between the congregational board and the congregational membership.
2. Serve to receive input, provide feedback, and serves as a spokesperson for the members of the congregation.
3. To properly represent the membership of the congregation, the At-Large member should be able to attend board meetings.
Provide board information to the congregational membership in a timely manner.

The current moderator may change the duties as defined in organization bylaws or as needed.

Will be elected to a full term of 3 years or to a partial term of 1 or 2 years.

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