

First Christian Church Newsletter

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Contents:

- Upcoming Events
- NEW Lent Study Starting Soon
- February Meeting Notes from Leadership Council
- Women's Prayer Breakfast Invitation
- Men's Breakfast Invitation
- Resources for Help
- Prayer Requests



Upcoming Events

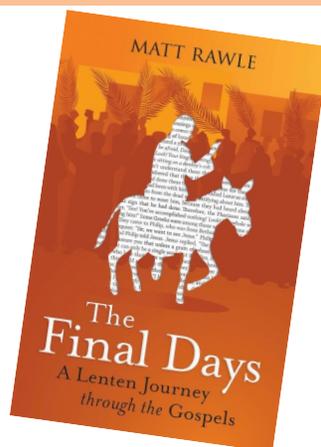
- **Sun, Feb. 22—Elders' Meeting** at 10:00 am
Elders will meet in person in the sanctuary prior to worship. Please let an Elder co-chair know if you are unable to attend.
- **Sun, Feb. 22—Worship Service** at 10:45 am
Join us in person or online via Facebook and YouTube! Recurring every Sunday.
- **Tues, Feb. 24—Women's Bible Study** at 2:00 pm
Open to anyone non-binary or fem-identifying who is looking for a safe, feminine space for Bible study. Recurring every Tuesday.
- **Sun, Mar. 1—Worship Service** at 10:45 am
Join us in person or online via Facebook and YouTube! Recurring every Sunday.
- **Tues, Mar. 3—Women's Bible Study** at 2:00 pm
Open to anyone non-binary or fem-identifying who is looking for a safe, feminine space for Bible study. Recurring every Tuesday.
- **Sun, Mar. 8—Daylight Savings Time!**
Set your clocks *forward* one hour. Don't be late to church!
- **Sun, Mar. 8—Worship Service** at 10:45 am
Join us in person or online via Facebook and YouTube! Recurring every Sunday.

NEW Lent Study Starting Soon

Elder Sheila Iott will be hosting a new study during the Lent season! Sessions will begin February 25th and will continue every Wednesday evening at 7:00 pm, until April 1st.

The study will follow *The Final Days: A Lenten Journey through the Gospels* by Matt Rawle.

A Zoom link will be set up and sent out prior to the call.



February 11, 2026

Leadership Council Attendees

Lettie, Doug, Arretta, Patrick, Jeff, Tom

Other Attendees

Sheri, Pastor Larry, Marilyn, Sterling, Brenda, Richard, Peck

Agenda

- Food ministry - After the closing of the church's Saturday dinners, Sheri spoke about a potential to continue serving the community. She had a call from the pastor at Latonia's Trinity United Methodist, Pastor Larry, who invited us to join their food ministry, which serves twice a month on Fridays. Donna and Sheri are shadowing this Friday and will reach out to volunteers to discuss further if it's a good fit.
- Update on moving items from church - Doug gave an update that everything has been moved out of the church and the majority is stored in the closet of the cry room. Special thanks to Donna and Brenda who went through much of the items to get them moved, Dough, Sheri, Lettie and Patrick. Patrick moved the sheet music to his home. Lettie took the choir robes to be used at the theater. Sheri will write something for the church's newsletter that explains where the items were dispersed.
- Update on Interim Minister - Richard and Doug represented the hiring committee for an interim minister. The committee has met several times and Pastor Gillette has advised them to focus on four points; prayer, patience, consensus and confidentiality. A survey was passed out to the congregation on Sunday, February 8, and Doug asked that members pray on their answers and return the survey to the committee by the following Sunday. Richard said that the committee has met several Thursdays and emphasized, as Doug did on Sunday, that all

conversations with candidates will be kept confidential. Doug wanted direction from the Leadership Council concerning an hourly rate and number of hours the new pastor will work. The motion to address an hourly rate/number of hours was made and passed by the Leadership Council.

- Direction on Items from the Arnold House Office - Doug asked for direction on what to do with the items from the office. These include membership lists, Memorial and Endowment Fund records, business records and pictures. Doug and Hildy are currently storing these items in their garage. We talked about asking Alex to digitize this material, but with the amount of records this may be time consuming for her. Arretta will research local places that may be able to help or do this for us and report back.
- Musician for services/CD of organ music - Doug coordinates getting a musician in for services. Joanna has agreed to be the pianist through February, but has mentioned to Patrick and Pastor Larry that she enjoys playing for us and may be interested in working past February. Pastor Larry sent an email to the Leadership Council in January offering an alternative to music at church. He had a conversation with the organist at Fort Thomas Christian Church, Barry Baker. Mr. Baker would be willing to prepare recorded organ music (prelude, hymns, postlude and choir selections) for each week's service via a CD. Richard said our sound system is able to play a CD and Larry confirmed. It was a consensus of the Leadership Council that live music was the preference at this time. Doug will work with Joanna to discuss being our musician after February.
- New Phone Number - the new phone number for the church is (859)287-6279.
- New Mailing Address - our new mailing address for any correspondence is P.O. Box 17321, 123 Buttermilk Pike,

Lakeside Park, KY 41017.

- Pay raises for employees - the Leadership Council agreed on pay increases for Alex, who works 10 hours a week, from \$17/hour to \$20/hour, Joanna, the musician, for three hours a week from \$150 to \$200 and Pastor Larry who works many hours, from \$200/week to \$400/week. The motion for pay raises was made and passed by the Leadership Council.
- Basic Mission Finance - Sheri was asked and agreed to analyze the amount of money our church spent in the past towards basic mission work. Sheri will report back.
- Publication of Minutes - Char brought up in the Trustee meeting that they would like to receive the Leadership Council notes when they are sent to Alex. It was agreed that the notes will be added to the newsletter to be shared with the congregation.
- Third Sunday Luncheon - the Leadership Council discussed whether we could ask the Band of Helping Hands (BOHH) for space and time for our luncheons. Doug shared that it had been asked at meetings before the lease was signed and they (BOHH) declined it. We will meet this Sunday, February 15, at Larosa's near church as a trial run of lunch locations. Further discussion for covering expenses for guests and alternate locations may need to occur at a later time.

FOLLOW UP

- Sheri - Update us on shadowing in Latonia
- Sheri - List of items/places from church for newsletter
- Arretta - Cost and suggestions for digitizing and categorizing church records. Follow up with Doug to get an idea of how many records he's storing.
- Sheri - Basic mission financial analysis

Next Leadership Council Meeting on March 11

DEBORAH WOMEN STILL I RISE PRAYER BREAKFAST



**MARCH 7, 2026
9:30-11:30 AM**

SUMMIT CHRISTIAN CHURCH
4021 DENLINGER RD, TROTWOOD, OH 454266

**GUEST SPEAKERS • GOOD FOOD • MUSIC
FELLOWSHIP • SISTERHOOD**

TICKETS \$30

FOR INFO AND TICKETS

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/19766236339506aff=odrttdtcrea>

To purchase tickets for this event, go to [Eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com) and search for "Deborah Women Still I Rise Prayer Breakfast".

PUTTING ON THE ARMOR OF GOD!

MEN'S BREAKFAST



Saturday, March 14th | 10AM

First Christian Church - Middletown

*Join us for a morning of
fellowship, faith & brotherhood.*

MEN SUPPORTING MEN • STRENGTH IN BROTHERHOOD

**EQUIP YOURSELF WITH
THE FULL ARMOR OF GOD!**

It's hard not to notice all the hardships in the world right now. To help us help others, Larry has created a list of organizations that are already doing the work to make change happen. These are going to be places you can either volunteer with or can share with others.

Take some time to review this list and become familiar with what they have to offer. We will have sheets with these resources listed on them available in the back of the sanctuary if you would like to have some on hand to give to others.

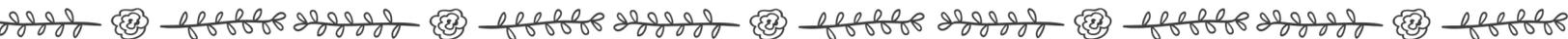
God bless.

- No Kings Movement—<https://www.nokingsmovement.com/>
- Interfaith Alliance —<https://www.interfaithalliance.org/>
- Faith in Action—<https://faithinaction.org/>
- Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)—<https://disciples.org/>
- Poor People's Campaign—<https://www.poorpeoplescampaign.org/>
- Kentucky Refugee Ministry—<https://kyrm.org/>
- Kentuckians For The Commonwealth—<https://kftc.org/>

Prayer Requests

If there is a name that needs to be removed or added to the prayer list, please contact the church office via email at firstonfifthcc@gmail.com. Prayer request details are kept private and only first names will be published publicly for prayer. Prayer Requests will remain on the list for one month, and then will automatically be removed unless we have been asked to keep it on.

- Debbie M.
- Interim Pastor Search Committee
- Richard
- Ruth Ann
- Scott



Welcome wholly.
Love authentically.
Share God's grace abundantly.



First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)

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