



FIRST CHRISTIAN disciples of christ HIGHLIGHTS

Making disciples who make a difference!

October 28, 2020

Koinōnia (Koinonia)

koinō' nēā, noun: Christian fellowship

Do not fear, for I am with you, do not be afraid, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my victorious right hand.

(Isaiah 41:10, NRSV)

When I first began my journey into ministry, I noticed that congregations seem to have a bias towards younger people. I noticed how leaders and many members of the church were fixated on how to get young families in the building. And whenever people under 35 years old showed up at the sanctuary doors, they were given the five-star treatment. If they joined the congregation, they were quickly nominated for service and leadership positions. I remember how my own family was quickly embraced by the church when we started attending regularly.

While I think that it is wonderful that young individuals and young families are embraced by today's congregations, and while I certainly hope it continues, I worry sometimes that we neglect our more senior members. I have heard a certain stereotype over the years that older church members are "stuck in their ways" and afraid of change. My experience in ministry, however, tells a completely different story. Many of the members I have served who have been in the church for several decades, have witnessed and facilitated more change than you can imagine. The difference with our older members is that they have acquired something along the way that younger people oftentimes don't have: wisdom. They know the value in being deliberate. They know better than most the danger of getting swept up in an unvetted fad. And I think their feelings are subject to being hurt when the church so quickly dismisses them for something or someone new and shiny.

Of course, I know that those of you who are reading fit into different age groups, including the senior member population. For those of you who do, I hope that I am accurate in my assessment.

Here's where I am going with all of this: we need wisdom. We need wisdom now more than ever. I absolutely

value the energy and fresh inspiration that youth brings, but we need wisdom to test and temper that energy so that our world will continue to flourish.

In these difficult times, I am looking not only to innovative ideas but for reassurance from those of us who have been around for a while that we have been in difficult places before and we found a way out. That is what gives me hope. I need to hear the voices of those who have been through political uncertainty, social unrest, and invisible threats. I want to know that our generation is not completely unique in history, and I want to hear the stories of how we overcame years ago. Of course, that doesn't mean that time runs backwards or that it is possible to go back to some mythical glory in the past. But I do believe that each generation's struggles contain wisdom buried within them, and if we don't uncover and carry forward that wisdom, we are condemned to repeat the same struggles until we do.

I don't need to enumerate all of today's challenges, you know what they are. But I do want to encourage you to hold on and have faith. The Bible contains the story of God's people journeying from hardship to hardship, many of which are self-imposed. And yet God never abandons them. And you—especially those of you who have been around for a while—are full of the stories of how God's people continue to overcome obstacles and triumph over challenges. We need those stories. We need to hear about how God never abandoned us. We need that hope.

Personally, I've seen too many miracles to ever give up hope. I've known too many people to rise above their circumstances to ever give up hope. I've heard too many stories of courage and humility, of service and of love. to ever give up hope. If you have stories like that, please share them with anyone who will listen. Now is the time to encourage someone. Now is the time to put your hard-won wisdom to work in service to the Kingdom of God. And may God continue to bless this church.

Shalom,
Joey Pusateri

Inside...

News & Events

October Board Summary

Kids Club

November Birthdays & Anniversaries

October Board Summary

- Financial Report:

- * Contributions were down \$6000.00 for September and down \$46,000.00 year to date. Due to the endowment revenue and forgivable \$34,500.00 Small Business Loan via the Cares Act, revenue is \$11,585.00 greater than budget, hence finances are holding their own despite lower contributions. The forgivable loan was used for church payroll and utilities and it is expected the loan does not have to be repaid. Expenses were \$10,500.00 less than budget for September and \$46,107.00 less than budget year to date.
- * Electricity continues to be over budget due to a rate increase and overestimate of savings from new HVAC system.
- * Audit is planned on 2019 books due to upcoming retirement of Business Administrator.
- * Total pledges through September are currently 22% behind and Capital Campaign pledges are currently 20% behind.
- * Stewardship Campaign is underway and pledges may be returned by mail, email, phone call, drop off, or worship.

- Senior Minister:

- * Live streaming going well; if it is necessary to go back to no in-person services, live streaming will continue.
- * Bethany Fellows offered a grant for up to \$1000.00 for updating technology (live streaming) and Pastor Joey has applied for it.
- Property - several projects are being planned and others are in the works including replacement of overhead lights in CLC, sealing and painting of front columns, and requesting donations for a landscaping project.
- Personnel presented information regarding upcoming job search for Business Administrator including presentation of the Job Description.
- Discussion as to how best church can support new Associate Minister.
- Vice-Chair Doug McMurry will lead the Nominating Committee.
- Elders have completed their 2021 Elder Election process with the slate of officers and elders to be presented to the leader of the Nominating Committee.
- Initial board discussion regarding viability of Christmas Eve service during the pandemic.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

November 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Kourtney Lear Sean Welch	2 Peyton Guerrant Kendall Williams *Bart & Shelley Gover	3 Mickey Glover	4	5 Kate Snyder	6 Alivia Shartzner	7 *Windell & Fran Drury
8	9 Sallie Carter Mike Spellacy	10	11 Billy Cannon III	12 Karen Rankin Brandon Williams	13	14
15	16 Maddy Funkhouser Justin Jarnagin	17	18 Martha Bryant Mindy Carter	19 Robbie Reynolds	20 Kelly Anderson Gigi Biles	21 Jan Scott Serenity Smithers
22	23 Greg Anderson Martha Jackson Bob Ziesmer	24 Martha Akin	25 Chloe Darnell *Brent & Kandi Williams	26 Tori VanHook	27	28
29 Ann Barker Sadie Pusateri	30					

FCC KIDS CORNER

We're so grateful that we were able to have our first Kids Club Event since March last Sunday! Thanks to all who came for some Halloween fun. Check out our Facebook page for some great photos.

Save the Date: Next Kids Club Meeting
Sunday, November 22nd
Watch for details via text or email!



25 Days of Gratitude Challenge

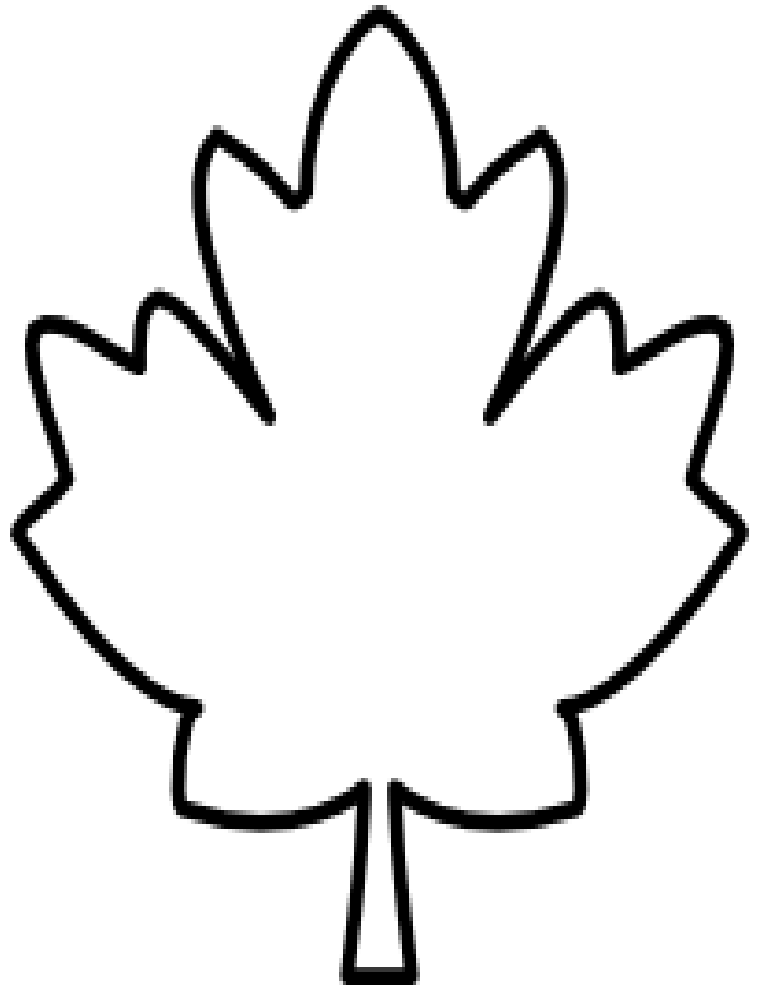
Try this Gratitude Challenge. Grown-ups can play too!

Trace the leaf below onto a piece of cardboard or heavy paper to use as a template.

Each day, trace the leaf template on a piece of colorful construction paper. Then think about the challenge for the day. Write (or have an adult write) the answer to the challenge on the leaf, cut it out and tape it on a window. By Thanksgiving on November 26th, you will have a colorful reminder of some of the things you are grateful for.

I'm Grateful For . . .

1. A family member I'm thankful for
2. Something that makes me smile
3. My favorite book
4. Something sweet I like to eat
5. Someone who has taught me something
6. Something that makes me laugh
7. Something I like about myself
8. Friends I'm thankful for
9. My favorite foods
10. Something beautiful in nature
11. My favorite thing to draw
12. Someone who has helped me
13. My favorite animal
14. My favorite outfit to wear
15. A sound I love to hear
16. Something that makes me happy
17. Something unique about me
18. A movie I love to watch
19. Something that challenges me
20. Something that is my favorite color
21. Something I love to look at outside
22. A teacher I love
23. My favorite TV show
24. Something I love about my church
25. Another family member I'm thankful for



Prayer Concerns

Bill Barker	Mike Miller
Jane Boyd	Peggy Mitchell
Jerry Boyd	Susan Montgomery
Steve & Pat Bruce	Bill Morgan
Philip Dean and family	Jim Page
Odell Hines	Betty Ramey
Jack Kaiser	David Robertson
Marianne Kirby	Mike Swain
Marilyn Marlowe	Bonnie Wilson
Nancy Mellios	Jeff Withers
Margaret Ann Milburn	Mary Lou Withers

Thank You

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for your support and graduation gift! I love the blanket and the constant reminder that you all are there for me!

P.S. I loved the small sermon you had at the BLM prayer rally, Rev. Pusateri!

Thanks again,
Virginia Harp



Thanksgiving Offering

On November 15, Disciples churches across the US and Canada will collect the Thanksgiving offering. In the midst of national and global challenges associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, our higher education institutions are facing unprecedented challenges and need our support now, more than ever. Even as they work diligently to ensure safe and healthy learning environments, the financial realities faced by many of our schools is adding additional stress to students, faculty and staff. Please give generously to this year's Thanksgiving offering. Designated offering baskets will be available at in-person worship service as you leave. All checks should have "Thanksgiving Offering" in the memo line or please indicate when mailing to the church. Your gifts make a world of difference as Disciples continue our legacy of supporting education and our institutions of higher learning.

FCC Happenings

All Saints Day

We will be observing All Saints Day this Sunday, November 1 during worship. A candle will be lit in remembrance of those who have passed on since last All Saints Day. We will also be lighting one big candle for those to remember a loved one that has passed on over the years. Let this be a time of knowing how much a blessing we can be to one another.

Stewardship Sunday

This Sunday we will be collecting stewardship pledge cards of your sacrificial giving to help prepare the church budget for the upcoming year. The budget will be presented at the November Board meeting. Pledge cards are to be returned this Sunday, November 1 in any of the following ways: given at in-person worship, drop it by the church, mail to Sherrie Cocanougher, 555 E. Lexington Ave., Danville, KY 40422, call Sherrie (236-4006) or email at sherrie@firstchristiandanville.com.

Veterans Day

On November 8 we will be honoring all of those who have served in the military. If you or someone you know has never been on our previous list and would like to be added, please call the church office by November 4.

The Salvation Army Angel Tree Tag Adoptions

Angel Tree tag adoptions will be arriving soon! With Covid precautions, we will be approaching this very important Outreach Ministry differently this year and determine how many children we will be able to adopt. The Salvation Army has at least 50 more children than last year and the requests are still being processed. You may sign up this Sunday, November 1st if you are willing to take a Angel Tree tag and shop in-person or online for a child. If you are unable to attend in-person worship and want to participate in the program, please contact Linda Dachenhaus (419-260-0618) or email at lbdach74@gmail.com by Monday, November 2nd. Monetary donations are also welcome. Checks should be made directly to the Salvation Army with "Danville KY Angel Tree" in the memo line and mailed to 519 S. 4th St., Danville, KY. Thank you very much for your help!

Church Workday

Mark your calendars for Saturday, November 7 to help with new landscaping around the front and side of the church. We will begin at 9 am and work till 12 Noon. For inclement weather, a make-up day is set for Saturday, November 14. Monetary donations are needed for the purchase of new shrubs and plants. Please indicate on the memo line of your check or envelope. Contact Steve Cline (319-4332) for more information.

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Join us for All Saints Day as we remember all of those who have passed on before us.

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