

The Messenger

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Our Mission is to Celebrate and Share Christ's Love through feeding the Body & the Soul.



9540 Fifth St. Highland, IN 46322

219/924-5400

www.fcchighland.net

Summer 2024

Picnic at FCC

SATURDAY, AUGUST 10
1:00 P.M.



First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
(9540 Fifth St. Highland, IN)
invites our sister church of RIDGE UMC to join us for an
afternoon of good food, fellowship, and games!



Hot dogs and hamburgers will be provided.
**Bring a dish to pass and a nonalcoholic beverage of
your choice (if you are able).**

www.fcchighland.net

Upcoming Church Events

- August calendar (p. 2)
- Prayer concerns (p. 4)
- Serving Schedule (p. 5)
- Mission & Ministry opportunities (pp. 6-7)
- Remarks from Rebecca (pg. 8)
- September calendar (p. 9)

Sundays @ FCC

Disciples Café—
9:30 A.M.

Worship—10:30 AM

Youth Group—
5 –6:30 P.M.

The mission of First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
in Highland, IN:

*“to celebrate and share Christ's love though feeding
the Body and the Soul.”*



August 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 B: Marcie Messmer	3 Homeless Lunch B: Andrea Meyers
4 Disciples Café 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M.	5 Farm Work 3-5	6	7 Game Group 10-12 Boomwhackers 6 P.M.	8 Farm Work 3-5	9	10 Church Picnic 1:00 P.M. A: Tim & Lori Brown
11 Disciples Café 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Backpack Blessing	12 Farm Work 3-5	13 Stitch of Time 10-12	14 Senior Food Box Distribution 10-12 B: Lindsey Neyhart	15 Farm Work 3-5	16	17
18 Disciples Café 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Youth Group Resumes 5:00—6:30 B: Delia H.	19 Farm Work 3-5	20 Stitch of Time 10-12	21 Game Group 10-12	22 Farm Work 3-5	23	24
25 Disciples Café 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Youth Group 5:00-6:30 P.M.	26 Farm Work 3-5	27	28	29 Farm Work 3-5	30	31

Resumes August 18th
5-6:30 P.M.

Youth Group @ Ridge UMC



A Ministry Partnership of Ridge United Methodist Church and First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Subs Needed for the Nursery!

As Linnea Sundquist heads off to college August 15th and Olivia will miss some Sundays because of Trojan Guard, we will need a list of substitute nursery attendants for the days Olivia is not able to be in the nursery. Rev.

Becky would like to gather a list of names of interested people who could help out in the nursery from time to time. Please see her if you are able to help!

Youth Group Dinner Sponsorships

If you would like to support the Senior High/Junior Youth Group meetings this fall, providing dinner at one of our weekly meetings a fantastic way to support this important and growing ministry. Please see Rev. Becky with a list of available dates!



Boomwhackers Rehearsal

Wednesdays -
August 7th
September 18th
@ 6



On the Horizon:

Coming this Fall, Rev. Becky will offer a series on "Faithful Practices for Peace in a Contentious Election Season".

More info will be forthcoming. See Rev. Becky if you have more study ideas!

@ Ridge UMC
8607 Columbia
Munster

PARENTS' NIGHT OUT!

OCTOBER 4TH &
DECEMBER 6TH
5:30 - 8 P.M.

BABYSITTING, DINNER, ACTIVITIES, &
MOVIE PROVIDED FOR KIDS FOR FREE!
RSVP WITH PASTOR BECKY!

2024 Backpack Blessing

August 11th

For all students
and teachers

Start the school
year off right!



Praying for our Friends & Family

FCC Family: Tim & Kathy Drury, Dolores Cave, Don Dean, Judy Olen; Ashley Moss, Family of Ken Cengel

Friends of the Congregation: (Please let me know if there are updates to this ongoing list) The Yuris Family, The Murphy Family, Dennis Chambers, Gary Barber, Cindy Williams, Jerry Zolmer, Liz Griffin, Mary Jones, Chris Dury, Al Eckert, Cherie Coolidge, Melissa Belar, Cathhart Family, Jim Pasour, Ron Straker, Nikki Sweeny, Barbara Blaze, Taft/Weber Family, Terry Mavity, Marty Chidalek, Laurel Higgenbotham, Sophia Morgan, Sandi Lamb, Jim Pasour, Terry, Renee, Valerie Rushing, Cindy Spicker, Paul Graegin, Joe Luis and Family, Lori Kime, Pauline, Bob Margraf, Christine Phillips, George Cengel, Nikki, Marian Huizenga, Martha, Shaun, Val Rushing, Bill Murphy, Matt Murphy, Spencer Gordon, Michael Cole, Chris Cole, Dave Horvat, Faith, Tim Gasaway, Deborah, Sue, Susan Spore, April Margraf, Maureen Weber and Family, Chad, Anne Fairfield, Sandra Bullock, Kaden & Mara Luthringer, Curt, Sonja Devaris, Jennifer, Jim Moss, Beres Family, Charles Fliter, Tim Guernsey, Linda Steel

The Wider Community: War in Ukraine and War in Middle East; global natural disasters; violence and division throughout the nation;

Joys: The 2024 Farm season; our new member, Rhonda Ryba!

Fifth Street Figures

Description	Offering
Worship (6/2/24)	\$1449.68
Worship (6/9/24)	\$1591.93
Pentecost Offering	\$25.00
Sober School	\$1000.00
Carpet Cleaning from Sober School	\$100.00
Pastor's Discretionary Exp. (credit card)	\$143.74
TOTAL	\$2860.67
Worship (6/16/24)	\$2265.04
TOPS	\$100.00
TOTAL	\$2365.04
Worship (6/23/24)	\$1146.04
Worship (6/30/24)	\$1586.04
Worship (7/7/24)	\$930.00
Worship (7/14/24)	\$2366.93
TOPS	\$50.00
TOTAL	\$2416.93

Fifth Street Figures Continued...

Worship (7/21/24)

\$1690.68

May2024 Figures

General

Income: \$8629.00

Transfer from Capital Funds: \$4,000.00

Expenditures: (\$12,228.27)

Outreach

Income: \$115.00

Expenditures: —

June 2024 Figures

General

Income: \$9253.00

Transfer from Capital Funds: \$3,786.00

Reimb from Cap. Fund: \$143.74

Expenditures: (\$10,623.89))

Outreach

Income: \$239

Expenditures: -

Thank you for your faithful giving to the ministries of our beloved church!

If you are interested in receiving the financial statements for First Christian Church, please contact Delia Helpingstine and she will be happy to share that information with you.

The mission of First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ) in Highland, IN:
“to celebrate and share Christ’s love though
feeding the Body and the Soul.”

This amendment was made in 2023 to
identify our passion for food justice as well
as spiritual growth in God in all we do.



**Our Mission Statement is to
celebrate and share Christ's love through
feeding the Body and the Soul.**

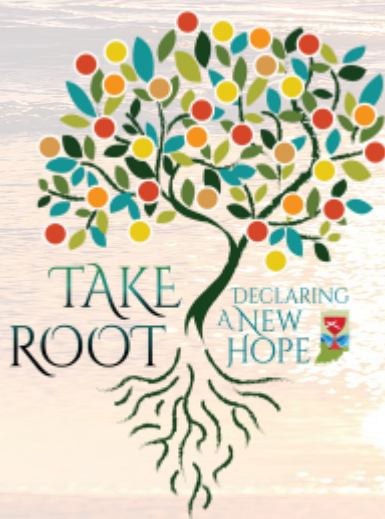
First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
9540 Fifth St. Highland, IN 46322
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www.fcchighland.net
email: fcchighland9540@gmail.com
Check us out on Facebook!

Disciples Café 9:30 A.M.
Worship: 10:30 A.M.



Pastor Office Hours:
Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday
(9:30 A.M.—1:00 P.M.) or by appointment
Pastor Rebecca Sundquist
Cell phone: (217)341-4105
Email: becky.sundquist@gmail.com
YouTube: First Christian Church Highland IN
Facebook: First Christian Church Highland IN
Instagram: fcchighland

News from the Christian Church in Indiana!



2024 Indiana Regional Assembly



CHRISTIAN CHURCH
| (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST) | in INDIANA

Elder & Deacon Serving Schedule

August 4, 2024
Elder: Debbie Benson
Deacon: David Michalak

August 11, 2024
Elder: Brenda Michalak
Deacon: Tania Messmer

August 18, 2024
Elder: Mary Ellen Carpenter
Deacon: Don Dean

August 25, 2024
Elder: Delia Helpingstine
Deacon: Brad Chandler

September 1, 2024
Elder: Sharon Worrell-Schroader
Deacon: Linda Messmer

September 8, 2024
Elder: Brenda Michalak
Deacon:

September 15, 2024
Elder: Debbie Benson
Deacon: David Michalak

September 22, 2024
Elder: Mary Ellen Carpenter
Deacon: Tania Messmer

September 29, 2024
Elder: Delia Helpingstine
Deacon: Don Dean



If you are interested in serving as a lector/
worship leader on Sunday mornings, please
see Brenda Michalak or the church office
for open Sundays. Your voice is important
in worship leadership!



Ways You Can Be A Part of the Action!

There are so many ways you can be a part of the mission and ministry at FCC!

We are always collecting items for our Blessing Box and books for the Book Nook!

Hygiene products are always needed. If you know of any seniors

who could benefit from the Senior

Food Box ministry, connect them with Debbie Benson.

You can be a part of the ministry, Stitch of Time as they make warm and soft blankets for chemo patients in our area. (They meet on the 2nd & 3rd Tuesdays of each month—10-12);

You can join the lunch bunch and be a part of the team that feeds area homeless. See Sharon Worrell-Schroader if you would like to be a part!



Opportunities to Serve

News from the Farm

As you read this, the church garden has been prepped and planted and is now working with Mother Nature to put out a beautiful harvest. Some of the bean plants are already at the top of the 6 foot trellises. There are small eggplant fruits on the vine and some small peppers are forming.

The garden is being visited by many pollinators throughout the day stopping at our milkweed plants, the daisies, and the coneflowers. We are working with a new beekeeper who is under the direction of Nicky Jones and the Earthen Bee Company. I hope to have more information about him to share with you for the next newsletter.

It is nice seeing some new faces helping in the garden this year. We are working Mondays and Thursdays from 3 P.M. to 5 P.M. With the number of people that have been showing up, the workload has been light and we are finishing up before 5 P.M.

Just a reminder of something Pastor Becky mentioned—we would like people to come and watch us work. We will find you a chair and get you close to the action. We want you to be included in the conversations that are going on. Who knows? You might find something you want to do.

David Michalak



8/13, 8/20, 9/10, & 9/17

A STITCH OF TIME

A Ministry of First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ) of Highland, IN

Creating handcrafted blankets for those undergoing chemotherapy.



Lunch Bunch News

2024 Serving Dates:

August 3

October 5

December 7

If you are interested in being a part of this amazing team of servants, see Sharon W.S.!



Many Thanks



Thank you to all the volunteers who donated time, creativity, supplies, and joy to this year's VBS with Ridge UMC! Thanks to Debbie Benson, Linda Messmer, Sharon Worrell-Schroader, Rhonda Ryba, Olivia, Linnea & Rev. Becky Sundquist for your hard work! All of you did a wonderful job! Over 16 quilts and hospital kits for kids undergoing chemo were made by the VBS mission crew! What a fantastic team!

Thank You!

Game Group

1st & 3rd Wednesdays of each month!

10-12.

Join this fun group and be blessed!



NEW DIRECTORY

The new directory is available to all who are in need of the latest edition. Email or call the church office to reserve your copy today.

News From the Pews



Lunch with the Pastor

Starting this fall, Rev. Becky will be hosting monthly lunches with the Pastor. There is no real agenda, but ideas and feedback are welcome topics. Mostly, she wants to use this time to have one-on-one time with those who participate. Our first lunch will be Thursday, September 5th at 11:30 A.M. at Les Café in Highland (2708 Highway Ave).



The Mission of First Christian Church is to celebrate and share Christ's love through feeding the Body and the Soul.
- amended August 7, 2022

Mark your Calendars!

Ridge UMC invites FCC to the annual Harvest Fest on October 6th 2-5 P.M.

Food and fun for all ages!

Congratulations to Tom Cushing who had the amazing opportunity to participate in the Honor Flight this Spring. We are proud of you!



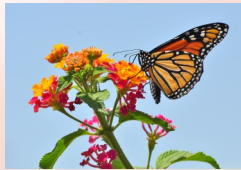
An Official Welcome!

While we have gotten to know her over the past year, we say a special welcome to Rhonda Herrick-Ryba who joined FCC on Sunday, July 21st! Blessings on your continued journey with Christ and your church family!

The next Elders meeting is Sunday, September 8th following worship.

See you there!





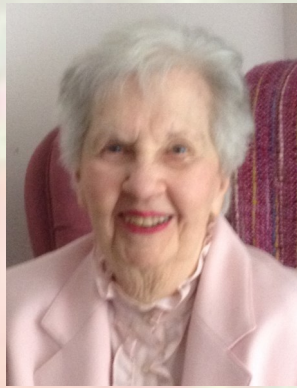
In Memoriam....



Phyllis Frost
October 11, 1946 ~ April 29, 2024
Celebration of Life
May 4, 2024



Celia Newcomb
June 7, 1915 - July 9, 2024
Celebration of Life
Friday, July 12, 2024



Kenneth Cengel
November 18,
1968 ~ July 15, 2024

Celebration of Life
July 19, 2024



Dear FCC Sisters and Brothers,

As I compile the newsletter, the Olympics have just begun in Paris for the 2024 Summer Games. Already, people are posting on social media their contentment with the Opening Ceremonies or their disgust. I haven't heard much in between. It is representative of most things people comment on. Road work, new construction, personal accomplishments, news, religion, politics. Many of us have shared over the past several years how mean the wider culture has gotten. Everyone is an expert and a critic. Usually, we have limited facts though. The world is so very stuck on "being right" or holding more righteous power over another that we forget about the unity that things like the Olympics demonstrate for a world that is so terribly divided on everything. Civility is important. Respect is important. Facts are important. Our words do matter. More than anything else, the compassion and understanding that Jesus embodied and calls us to be about will lead us to the peace that is Kingdom-building. I have a little Post-It note stuck on my computer that says "ask good questions instead of always answering". One of my favorite Ted Lasso quotes is "be curious, not judgmental". In my Master's program in Mental Health Counseling, we are regularly trained in asking questions—good questions. What if part of our compassionate connection other people is in asking questions that are genuinely curious. Maybe then, the world wouldn't be such a hardened place. In this volatile season, may we find peace and hope in kindness and civility, but in understanding and compassion as well. As Jesus taught by asking questions and telling stories, maybe we could take a "page out of His playbook" and do the same. Then we can be part of the life-giving change the world needs.

Grace and Peace,
Rev. Becky

WORD OF THE THE YEAR

Connect

September 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Disciples Café 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. No Youth Group	2 Labor Day Office Closed Farm Work 3-5 B: Steve Sundquist	3 B: Samantha Messmer	4 Game Group 10-12 P.M.	5 Lunch with the Pastor 11:30 A.M. Les Café Farm Work 3-5	6	7 B: Amelia Neyhart turns 1!
8 Disciples Café 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Elders Mtg—12 Youth Group 5:00-6:30 P.M.	9 Farm Work 3-5	10 Stitch of Time 10-12 A: Dan & Delia Helpingstine	11 Senior Food Box Distribution 10-12	12 Farm Work 3-5	13 B: Linda Messmer	14
15 Disciples Café 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Youth Group 5:00-6:30 P.M.	16 Farm Work 3-5	17 Stitch of Time 10-12	18 Game Group 10-12 Boomwhackers 6 P.M.	19 Farm Work 3-5	20	21
22 Disciples Café 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Youth Group 5:00-6:30 P.M.	23 Farm Work 3-5	24 B: Tim Drury	25	26 Farm Work 3-5	27	28 A: Bob & Andrea Meyers
29 Disciples Café 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Youth Group 5:00-6:30 P.M.	30 Farm Work 3-5					



Seeds of Hope



Farm & Garden

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Highland, IN

Volunteer with us!

Mondays & Thursdays — 3– 5 P.M.

First Christian Church

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PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

