

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

March/April 2023

Holy Week & Easter 2023

Palm Sunday

Sunday, April 2nd

Service of Worship—10:30 A.M.

Maundy Thursday

Thursday, April 6th

Service—7:00 P.M.

Good Friday

Friday, April 7th

Tenebrae Service—7:00 P.M.

Easter Egg Scramble

Saturday, April 8th

11:00 A.M.

Please R.S.V.P. with Linda Messmer or Debbie Benson

Easter Celebrations

Sunday, April 9th

Online Sunrise Service on Zoom @ 7:00 A.M.

Breakfast @ 9:30 A.M.

Sign-up on the bulletin board in the main hallway.)

Worship @ 10:30 A.M.

Upcoming Church Events

- Easter flower order form (p. 3)
- April calendar (p. 2)
- May calendar (p. 7)
- Mission opportunities (pp. 8-9)
- Remarks from Rebecca (p. 10)

Sundays @ FCC

Disciples Café—
9:30 A.M.

Worship—10:30 AM



April 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Homeless Lunch
2 Palm Sunday	3	4 Labyrinth Walk 12 P.M.	5 Game Group 10-12 Boomwhackers 6 P.M.	6 Maundy Thursday Service 7 P.M. B: Nancy Cave	7 Good Friday Tenebrae 7 P.M. B: Ally Messmer	8 Easter Egg Scramble 11 A.M.
9 Easter Breakfast 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. B: Jim Wilson	10 B: Molly Korman	11 B: Missy Crawford, Olivia Sundquist	12 Senior Food Box Distribution 10-12	13	14	15
16 B: Dan Helping- stine	17	18	19 Game Group 10-12	20	21 B: Rev. Becky Sundquist	22 Earth Day
23 Earth Day Celebration B: Linda Herbst	24	25 B: Brenda Michalak	26 Prayer Circle 7 P.M. On Zoom	27	28	29
30						

2023 Easter Flower Order Form

Lilies—\$11.00 # _____

Tulips- \$11.00 # _____

Hyacinths—\$11.00 # _____

Daffodils (large pot) - \$22.00 # _____

TOTAL Flowers Ordered _____

Total Owed _____

My flowers are purchased in HONOR/MEMORY (please circle) of: _____

Orders are due by Monday, April 3rd.

Please make checks payable to First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ) Highland, IN



Earth Day Celebration

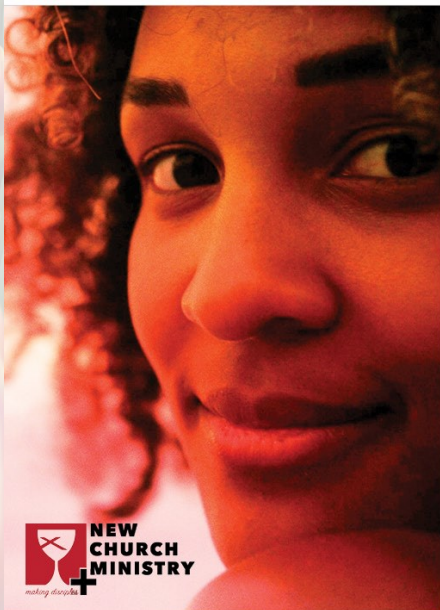
Earth Day is officially celebrated on April 22nd. We will honor this important day during and after worship on Sunday, April 23rd!



World Labyrinth Day

Saturday, May 6th

An international day for unity and peace on the sacred path. There will be a guided walk on our labyrinth that day at 10 A.M. Let us walk together with those around the world!



2022 PENTECOST OFFERING
**TURNING STRUGGLE
INTO STEADFASTNESS**

SUNDAYS MAY 29 + JUNE 5



Praying for our Friends & Family

Members of the Congregation:

Celia Newcomb, Phyllis Frost, Tim Drury, Roger Mierzwa, Dolores Cave, Nancy Cave, Sharon Morgan, Kathy Jage, Tom Cushing, David Narjes, Family of Nancy Wiening, Family of Roger Mierzwa

Friends of the Congregation: (Please let me know if there are updates to this ongoing list) The Yuris Family, The Murphy Family, Madge Lipka, Gene Beres and Family, Dennis Chambers, Gary Barber, Cindy Williams, Jerry Zolmer, Liz Griffin, Mary Jones, Chris Dury, Al Eckert, Cherie Coolidge, Melissa Belar, Cathhart Family, Ron Spore, Jim Pasour, Ron Straker, Louise Wolak, Nikki Sweeny, Barbara Blaze, Taft/Weber Family, Michael Tusai, Susan Worrell, Jeff Meyers, Terry Mavity, Louis Spannik, Jeri Sears, David Coolidge, Tim Gasaway, Joshua Russell (deployed to Afghanistan), Jack, Lee, Chris, Faith, Jon Carpenter, Marty Chidalek, Austin & Rachel Scherer, Laurel Higgenbotham, Margie Cole, Sophia Morgan, Marilyn Jacobsen, Zvette Schuster, Sandi Lamb, Rita Messmer, Ed Gnaidek, Jim Pasour, Terry, Laura Miller, Renee, Valerie Rushing, Dean Simms, Family of Theresa Szczpanik, Family of Jeff Mayer,

The Wider Community: War in Ukraine; Victims of the Turkey/Syria earthquake;

Joys: Lent & Easter season

Fifth Street Figures

Description	Offering
Worship 1/29/23	\$556.87
Worship 2/5/23	\$1509.23
Initial	\$20.00
Week of Compassion	\$130.00
TOTAL	\$1659.23
Worship 2/12/23	\$1754.23
TOPS	\$200.00
TOTAL	\$1954.23
Worship 2/19/23	\$1603.16
Week of Compassion	\$30.00
TOTAL	\$1633.16
Worship 2/26/23	\$1213.79
Week of Compassion	\$70.00
TOTAL	\$1283.79

Fifth Street Figures Continued...

Worship 3/5/23	\$1469.23
Worship 3/12/23	\$1365.00
Week of Compassion	\$25.00
Easter	\$20.00
TOTAL	\$1410.00
Worship 3/19/23	\$2615.00
Donation from Mierzwa Funeral	\$1600.00
TOTAL	\$4215.00

January 2023 Figures

General

Income: \$14,377.36

Expenditures: \$9705.92

Outreach

Income: \$218.00

Expenditures: —

February 2023 Figures

General

Income: \$6311.00

Expenditures: \$11,100.21

Outreach

Income: \$230.00

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” to
“Our Mission is to celebrate and share Christ’s love though feeding the Body and the Soul.”

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

FCC Offers Multiple Platforms to Join the Community of Faith

FCC offers multiple ways to participate in the community of faith. Not only do we offer in-person worship, but you can join together with our community online through YouTube (First Christian Church Highland IN) and Facebook Live (First Christian Church Highland, IN).

Recorded services can also be found on Facebook, YouTube, and our website.

Many opportunities to get involved in service and faith formation are posted with the FCC

Facebook group and website. Check out **www.fcchighland.net** for weekly and daily updates on both platforms.

FCC is now on Instagram!!

Follow fcchighland today!

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
(219)924-5400

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:
Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday
(10:00 A.M.—1:00 P.M.) or by appointment
Pastor Rebecca Sundquist
Cell phone: (217)341-4105
Email: becky.sundquist@gmail.com

Elder & Deacon Serving Schedule

April 2, 2023

Elder—Brenda Michalak
Deacon—Brad Chandler

April 9, 2023

Elder—Debbie Benson
Deacon—Don Dean

April 16, 2023

Elder—Mary Ellen Carpenter
Deacon—Olivia Sundquist

April 23, 2023

Elder—Delia Helpingstine
Deacon—Linnea Sundquist

April 30, 2023

Elder—Sharon Worrell-Schroader
Deacon—Janis Bermingham
Lector—Janis Bermingham

May 5, 2023

Elder—Brenda Michalak
Deacon—David Michalak

May 14, 2023

Elder—Debbie Benson
Deacon—Ken Cengel

May 21, 2023

Elder—Mary Ellen Carpenter
Deacon—Justin Meyers

May 28, 2023

Elder—Delia Helpingstine
Deacon—Linda Messmer



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!

Pentecost Sunday 2023
May 28, 2023

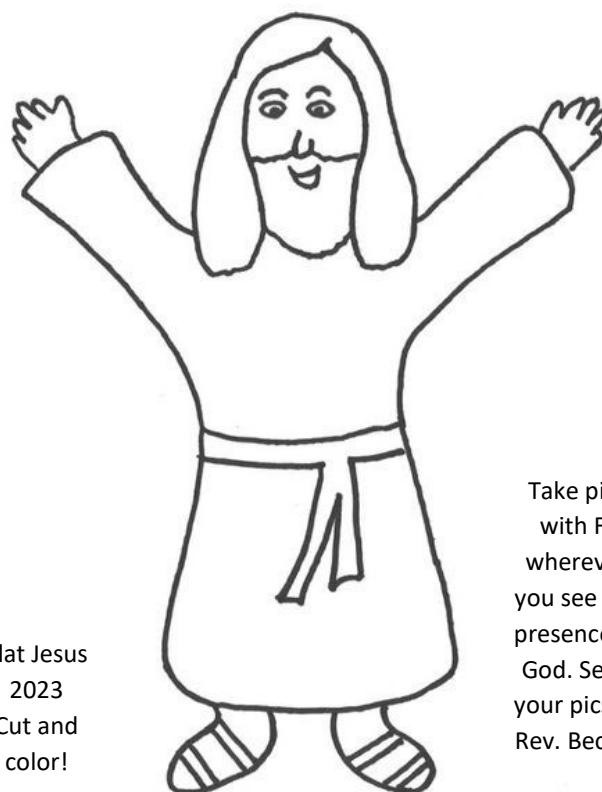
News from the Christian Church in
Indiana!

If you would like weekly e-news
from the Christian Church in
Indiana please send an email to
info@indianadisciplesorg!

Keep up on the latest ministries
and opportunities
the CCIN has for us!



CHRISTIAN CHURCH
| (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST) | in INDIANA



Flat Jesus
2023
Cut and
color!

Take pics
with FJ
wherever
you see the
presence of
God. Send
your pics to
Rev. Becky!

May 2023

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

	1 A: David & Brenda Michalak	2	3 Game Group 10-12 Boomwhackers 6 P.M.	4 A: Tom & Sheila Cushing	5	6 World Labyrinth Day Guided Labyrinth Walk 10: A.M.
7 Disciples Café 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Elder's Meeting 11:45 A.M.	8	9	10 Senior Food Box Distribution 10-12	11 A: Kevin & Tania Messmer	12	13
14 Mothering Sunday Disciples Café 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M.	15	16 Board Meeting 7 P.M.	17 Game Group 10-12 Boomwhackers 6 P.M.	18	19 B: Leah Helpingstine	20
21 Disciples Café 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M.	22	23	24 Prayer Circle on Zoom 7 P.M.	25 B: Don Dean	26	27
28 Pentecost Sunday Disciples Café 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M.	29 Memorial Day	30	31			



Blessing Box Needs!

We are in desperate need of hygiene products and cleaning supplies for the Blessing Box. Our shelves are pretty empty of these high demand products. Any help you can offer is greatly appreciated!

The Senior Food Box

Ministry Thrives

The Senior Food Box Ministry continues to thrive as it serves 51 clients with a monthly supply of food staples. Each box helps offset the cost of food so that seniors don't have to make the difficult decisions like choosing between food and medicine. If you know of anyone over the age of 60 that could benefit from this service, please contact Debbie Benson. If you would like to help with this important ministry, see Debbie for volunteer opportunities. The boxes are distributed every 2nd Wednesday of the month from 10 to 12.

Opportunities to Serve

Outreach Is Collecting Hygiene Kits For Church World Services

It's that time of year when nature wreaks havoc not only here in the USA but all around the world. Earthquakes, tornadoes, Tsunamis, Fires and Floods happen all the time. People are forced to abruptly leave their homes because of emergencies, they may not have time to pack the things they need or use on a daily basis like soap or toothbrushes. But after a few days without these items, they definitely miss them. Hygiene kits offer needed supplies and Hope. And let them know that others care for them in their time of need. Starting April 1st we will be collecting items to make hygiene kits for Church World Services. Here's how to help, make a kit on your own or you can donate any of the items needed and we will assemble the kits.

Supplies Needed: One - 1 Gallon Ziploc Bag
One - Hand Towel 15"x28" to 16"x32"
(No fingertip, bath, dish or micro-fiber towels)
One - Washcloth
One - Wide tooth Comb (sturdy with 6" of teeth)
(No pocket combs or picks)
One - fingernail or toenail clippers
One - Bath-size bar of soap (in package)
One - Toothbrush (in package)
Ten - Standard Band-aids

If you have any questions see Debbie Benson or Sharon Worrell-Shroader for details. Donation boxes will be in the Narthex.

Sunday, April 2 and 9, 2023

We Are Witnesses

Acts 10:39

Supporting general ministries of the
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
received in most congregations

Easter
SPECIAL OFFERING

Church Briefs:

Great job Everyone!

Together, we collected 164 cans do soup for the Souper Bowl of Caring!

Many Thanks

A heartfelt thank you to Sheila Cushing, Linda Messmer, Debbie Benson, Brenda Michalak and David Michalak for your hard work in organizing a lovely meal for the family of Roger Mierzwa as they celebrated his life.

Thanks to all who helped with the Mardi Gras Pancake Supper and/or brought food in to share. What a fun night!

Thank You!

Fools for Faith!

The Lunch Bunch is all set to serve lunch on April 1st to area homeless. While it may be April Fools on Saturday the 1st, it is serious work in making sure all have access to food.

News From the Pews

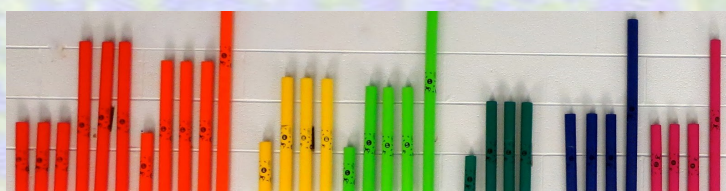
Boomwhackers Rehearsal Schedule

The Boomwhackers hope to perform again soon! We welcome new folks who would like to give this fun musical group a shot. The Boomwhackers Chorus meets every 1st & 3rd Wednesday of each month. For the next couple of months, rehearsal will be at the following dates & times:

April 5th @ 6 P.M.

May 3rd @ 6 P.M.

May 17th @ 6 P.M.



Gaming with the Gals

Do you like to play Card games - Yahtzee - Dominoes - Bunco? The Game group has a ball every time they gather AND its not just limited to the ladies! If you are looking for some fellowship with some all star people and relaxed atmosphere with classic games, then check out the Game Group! We will meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month from 10:00 to 12:00. Bring your favorite game - bring a friend - and come join us for fun and fellowship. See Debbie Benson for details.



Books Needed!

The Book Nook is filled a couple of times a week. While we still have plenty of books, there are definitely growing spaces on the storage shelves in the outreach room. We will gladly take any of your old books and share with others!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!" Matthew 21: 9

Remarks from Rebecca

I love that I ran out of space for my article! What does that tell us? It says that we are doing a lot of great things in our community! It says the Spirit of God is using our congregation to live our mission statement to all those around us. It says that while we may be a tiny church, we have a great big heart. I hope these pages bring you peace and joy as we continue to celebrate all that God is doing in and through us together.

As we prepare for the journey to the Cross, experience the empty tomb and celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit, my hope and prayer is that you find a spiritual awakening that brings you closer to God in very powerful ways. Blessings in all the ways you experience the resurrection in this season of joy and hope!

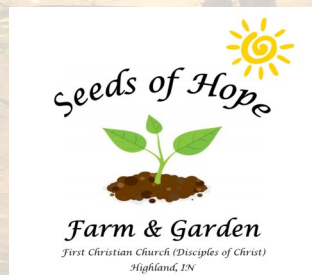
Grace and Peace,
Rev. Becky

Mothering Sunday May 14, 2023

We will be celebrating the gifts of those who mother us all in their unique and beautiful ways. We also will honor the ways this day can bring some sadness and offer healing and hope in our worship together.

Farm News

While there still is not much happening out on the Farm these days, but soon the 2023 season will be under way. (Though really the ducks have been busy out there with all the rain!) Keep an eye out for Farm announcements coming soon this Spring. Soon enough, we can get our hands in the soil and plant loads of healthy produce!



Splinters from the Board

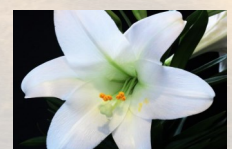
- The March Board meeting was cancelled due to several absences that were planned ahead of time.
- A file of March reports is available to all members who would like to be kept abreast of the work of the church.

The next Board meeting will be held on May 16th at 7 P.M. All Elders and Deacons are included on the Board along with Executive Chairs and Department Chairs. Everyone's participation is important! Please save the date on your calendar.

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

He is not here.
He is risen.
Matthew 28:6





FruitFULL Faith

A Spirit-filled Life!

2023 CAMPS

Geneva

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| June 12-14 | You & Me 1 (age 5+ and an adult) |
| June 12-17 | Explorers (completed grades 4-5) |
| June 15-17 | New Beginnings (completed grades 1-3) |
| June 19-21 | You & Me 2 (age 5+ and an adult) |
| June 19-24 | M.A.D. (Music Art & Drama - completed grades 6-12) |
| June 26-July 1 | High School Traditional (completed grades 9-12) |
| | Middle School Traditional (completed grades 6-8) |
| June 26-July 1 | C.R.O.S.S. (Christian Recreation and Outdoor Sports Skills - completed grades 6-12) |

Bedford

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| June 19-24 | Explorers (completed grades 4-5) |
| June 26-28 | New Beginnings (completed grades 1-3) |
| June 29-July 1 | You & Me (age 5+ and an adult) |
| July 3-8 | High School (completed grades 9-12) |
| July 10-15 | Middle School (completed grades 6-8) |



See Rev. Becky for registration materials. Scholarships are available for camp fees.



Celebrate the Empty Tomb

April 9, 2023

First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)
9540 Fifth St.
Highland, IN 46322

Phone: 219-924-5400

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fcchighland9540@gmail.com

Website:

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PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

