

# 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

Early Spring 2024



## Holy Week

Holy Week & Easter:

Maundy Thursday at Ridge UMC (8607 Columbia Ave.)  
7 P.M. (3/28)

This is a collective worship service with FCC and  
Ridge United Methodist Church.

Good Friday Tenebrae at FCC—7 P.M. (3/29)

Easter Egg Scramble—11 A.M. (3/30)

Easter (3/31)

Sunrise Service will be posted on Facebook and emailed at 4 A.M.  
to watch as you are able.

Easter Breakfast Potluck—9:30 A.M.

Easter Worship: And I Hope—10:30 A.M.

### Upcoming Church Events

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

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Sundays @ FCC

Disciples Café—  
9:30 A.M.

Worship—10:30 AM

Youth Group—  
5 –6:30 P.M.

(@ Ridge UMC)



# April 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 Game Group 10-12	4	5	6 Homeless Lunch B: Nancy Cave
7 Disciples Café 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Youth Group 5-6:30 P.M. B: Ally Messmer	8	9	10 Senior Food Box Distribution 10-12 B: Molly Korman	11 B: Missy Crawford, Olivia Sundquist	12	13 Baby Shower 1-3 P.M.
14 Disciples Café 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Holy Humor Sunday Youth Group	15	16 Stitch of Time 10-12 B: Dan Helping- stine	17 Game Group 10-12	18	19	20
21 Disciples Café 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Youth Group 5-6:30 P.M. B: Rev. Becky	22	23 Stitch of Time 10-12 Board Meeting 7 P.M. B: Linda Herbst	24	25 B: Brenda Michalak	26 Parent's Night Out 5:30-8 P.M.	27
28 Disciples Café 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Youth Group 5-6:30 P.M.	29	30				



Join FCC Highland (9540 Fifth St.)  
for the annual World Labyrinth Day Walk for Unity  
5/4/24 @ 10:00 A.M.



# HOLY HUMOR

SUNDAY

**DATE**  
April 14th, 2024

**TIME**  
10:30 A.M.

**LOCATION**  
First Christian Church (DOC)  
9540 Fifth St. Highland

#Holyhumor  
#Laughterforthesoul  
#humorishealing

Admission:  
smiles

@ RIDGE UMC

## PARENTS' NIGHT OUT!

APRIL 26, 2024

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

# Mothersing Sunday

Sunday, May 12, 2024  
10:30 A.M.

## Easter Scramble

The hour approaches! The time to embark on an epic quest for eggs and treasures draws nigh! Behold, the Easter Scramble, scheduled for the 30th of March at 11:00 sharp. The hunt shall commence, and the Easter Bunny himself shall grace the event with his presence. This grand adventure is open to children of the age of 10 or younger. If you have a young heir or a regal granddaughter who yearns to join the fray, seek the wise counsel of Linda Messmer or Debbie Benson for the acquisition of tickets.

## Praying for our Friends & Family

### FCC Family

Celia Newcomb, Phyllis Frost, Tim & Kathy Drury, Dolores Cave, Don Dean, Ken Cengel, Judy Olen, Dorothy Sankowski

### 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, Lorie Kime, Ed Gnaidek, Pauline, Bob Margraf, Christine Phillips, Steven Neyhart, George Cengel, Shirley and Charles Fliter, Susan Worrell, Nikki, Marian Huizenga, Martha, Shaun, Val Rushing, Bill Murphy, Matt Murphy, Spencer Gordon, Cindy Bugno, Michael Cole, Chris Cole, Dave Horvath, Josh Lukas, Faith, Tim Gasaway, John Cushing, Rhonda and family, Deborah, Sue, Liz Meeker

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

## Fifth Street Figures

Description	Offering
Worship (2/4/24)	\$1881.75
Initial	\$5.00
Week of Compassion	\$140.00
TOTAL	\$ 2026.75
Worship (2/11/24)	\$3110.00
TOPS	\$100.00
TOTAL	\$3210.00
Worship (2/18/24)	\$2438.81
Worship (2/25/24)	\$708.11
Week of Compassion	\$50.00
Total	\$758.11
Worship (3/3/24)	\$2333.11
Week of Compassion	\$25.00
Total	\$2358.11

## Fifth Street Figures Continued...

Worship (3/10/24)	\$1503.11
TOPS	\$50.00
TOTAL	\$1553.11

Worship (3/17/24)	\$2786.53
Initial	\$20.00
Hall Rental	\$50.00
Total	\$2856.53

Worship (3/24/24)	\$352.00
Easter Offering	\$45.00
TOTAL	\$397.00

### January 2024 Figures

#### General

Income: \$16,958.93  
 Transfer from Capital Funds: \$4,000.00  
 Expenditures: (\$9,051.75)

#### Outreach

Income: \$692.10  
 Expenditures: —

### February 2024 Figures

#### General

Income: \$8,255.00  
 Transfer from Capital Funds: \$4000.00  
 Expenditures: (\$11,367.69)

#### Outreach

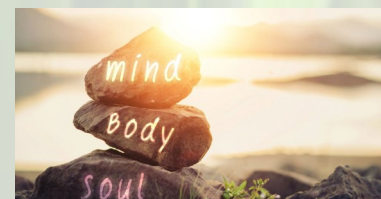
Income: \$190.00  
 Expenditures: -

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 through 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  
(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:  
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!  
Associate Regional Minister,  
Rev. Carolyn Reed announced the occasion of her  
retirement on June 1, 2024.

There is a celebration of her long and bountiful  
career as a minister, both in pastoral ministry as  
well as regional ministry on Saturday, May 18th  
(2-4 P.M.) at the Promise Road Campus of Geist  
Christian Church in Fishers, IN.

Let us share in celebration and well-wishes for a  
servant of God who has served the Church well!  
Congratulations, Carolyn!



**CHRISTIAN CHURCH**  
| (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST) | in INDIANA

**Elder & Deacon Serving Schedule**

March 31, 2024—Easter  
Elder—Mary Ellen Carpenter  
Deacon—Olivia Sundquist

April 7, 2024  
Elder—Delia Helpingstine  
Deacon—Brad Chandler

April 14, 2024  
Elder—Brenda Michalak  
Deacon—Linnea Sundquist

April 21, 2024  
Elder—Sharon Worrell-Schroader  
Deacon—Linda Messmer

April 28, 2024  
Elder—Debbie Benson  
Deacon—Ken Cengel

May 5, 2024  
Elder—Mary Ellen Carpenter  
Deacon—David Michalak

May 12, 2024  
Elder—Delia Helpingstine  
Deacon—Tania Messmer

May 19, 2024  
Elder—Sharon Worrell-Schroader  
Deacon—Don Dean

May 26, 2024  
Elder—Brenda Michalak  
Deacon—Olivia Sundquist



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

### Outreach Is Collecting Hygiene Kits For Sojourner Truth House

As we did last year, we will be collecting hygiene items for the Sojourner Truth House. Sojourner's is located in Gary and is a shelter for abused women and children. These women are given a safe place to recover, guidance, day care, job training, and hope. Sojourner's also helps the homeless and needy in the area through their food pantry, clothing pantry, and community garden. How can you help? You can make a kit on your own or donate any of the items and we will assemble the kits.

Supplies Needed: Washcloths - Hand Towels 15"x 28"

Wide tooth combs (no pocket combs or picks)

Toothbrushes - Toothpaste  
Deodorant (men and women)

Soap - bath size

Fingernail or toenail clippers

Razors (men and women)

Bandaids (10 bandaid per kit)

Gallon Ziploc Bags

If you have any questions see Debbie Benson for details. Donation boxes will be in the Narthex.

### Lunch Bunch News

2024 Serving Dates:

March 30

April 6

May 25

June 1

August 3

October 5

December 7

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

### Souper Bowl of Caring

Well done FCC!

You knocked it out of the park once again! The

Outreach Department challenged us to collect

125 cans of soup for the Blessing Box for the

annual Souper Bowl of Caring and YOU brought

in 176 cans of soup!

Thank you to all who donated to our Souper Bowl and helping keep

our neighbors fed!

Blessings to you in your giving.



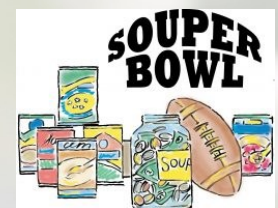
Rev. Becky is looking for volunteers to help at

VBS this year!

June 17-21

9-11:30 A.M.

Join the team today!



## Many Thanks

Thank you to Linda Messmer for taking care of Flower orders for Easter! Our chancel is full of new life!

Thank you to all of our blanket makers for your steady work making chemo blankets for patients in our area receiving life-saving chemotherapy. We blessed 11 blankets on March 17th! Keep up the good work!

Rev. Becky would like to thank the Elders for filling in for her when she has been absent on Sunday mornings. She is grateful for your leadership and willingness to serve!

*Thank You!*

### Game Group

1st & 3rd Wednesdays of each month!

10-12.

Join this fun group and be blessed!



NEW DIRECTORY COMING SOON

Work is being done on a new Directory. If your contact information has changed, please send your correct information to Brenda Michalak by email ([brenda\\_michalak@hotmail.com](mailto:brenda_michalak@hotmail.com)) or put the new information in her box at the church.

## News From the Pews

4/9, 4/16, 5/14, 5/21

### A STITCH OF TIME

A Ministry of First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) of Highland, IN  
Creating handcrafted blankets for those undergoing chemotherapy.



### Labyrinth Wish List



As we look to the coming months and labyrinth clean up, we would love to plant any of your bulbs from your Easter flowers if you are willing to donate them. Additionally, new mulch is needed and appreciate any financial contributions you make toward that effort. We estimate around \$200 toward new mulch. Thank you!

## Camp 2024

June 10-12

June 12-14

June 14-17

June 17-22

June 24-29

July 1-6

July 8-13

July 15-20

July 14-20

You & Me 1 ages 5+ w/ adult

New Beginnings grades 1-3

You & Me 2 ages 5+ w/ adult

CROSS sports & recreation, grades 6-12

Explorers grades 4-5

High School grades 9-12

Middle School grades 6-8

MAD music, art, & drama, grades 6-12

Mission as Justice grades 10-12

*Linked by Love*

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

### Dates to Remember:

#### Board Meeting

Tuesday, April 23rd - 7 P.M.

#### Elder's Meeting

June 2—after church

# He is Risen!

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?"

JOHN II:25-26

Dear FCC Sisters and Brothers,

We are in the holiest of seasons of the liturgical year and look to warmer months to come. We have had difficult conversations in the early months of 2024 but because of our bravery in talking about hard realities, we have been able to find hope in our future together. I hope you have noticed, as I have, that there is a good energy and a lightness of spirit that feels good. I truly do believe God is walking alongside us as we look to the future with hope and new life.

It is a holy season we are in. We do not get to Easter morning by an easy journey. It is difficult and dark at many moments. It is within these dark moments that the opportunity for our greatest transformations can occur. This is our opportunity for new life in our walk with Jesus. I find my spirit in an entirely new place than I did just a month or so ago. This Easter will have special meaning as we embark on this season with a new kind of joy within us. Can you feel it too? We have new friends among us. New opportunities are being planned. Continued ministries bring us much meaning. We are partnering with our Methodist friends in good ways. Our faith grows. May it grow still.

Be reminded that our word for 2024 is CONNECT. Imagine this word in terms of your faith in every way you possibly can. Keep dreaming! Keep praying! Keep trusting! God is able. God will use us. In this Easter season, may you be blessed by new life.

Grace and Peace,  
Rev. Becky

WORD OF THE THE YEAR

Connect



# May 2024

**Sun**

**Mon**

**Tue**

**Wed**

**Thu**

**Fri**

**Sat**

			<p><b>1</b></p> <p>Game Group 10-12</p> <p>Boomwhackers 6 P.M. A: Brenda &amp; David Michalak</p>	<p><b>2</b></p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>Youth Overnight at Ridge</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>World Labyrinth Day Walk 10 A.M.</p> <p>A: Sheila &amp; Tom Cushing</p>
<p><b>5</b></p> <p>Disciples Café 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Youth Group 5-6:30 P.M.</p>	<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>7</b></p>	<p><b>8</b></p> <p>Senior Food Box Distribution 10-12</p>	<p><b>9</b></p>	<p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p>A: Tania &amp; Kevin Messmer</p>
<p><b>12</b></p> <p>Mothering Sunday Disciples Café 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Youth Group 5-6:30 P.M.</p>	<p><b>13</b></p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p>Stitch of Time 10-12</p>	<p><b>15</b></p> <p>Game Group 10-12</p> <p>Boomwhackers 6 P.M.</p>	<p><b>16</b></p>	<p><b>17</b></p>	<p><b>18</b></p>
<p><b>19</b></p> <p>Pentecost Sunday Disciples Café 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Youth Group 5-6:30 P.M. B: Leah Helpingstine</p>	<p><b>20</b></p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p>Stitch of Time 10-12</p>	<p><b>22</b></p>	<p><b>23</b></p>	<p><b>24</b></p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p>B: Don Dean</p>
<p><b>26</b></p> <p>Disciples Café 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M.</p> <p>No Youth Group</p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p>Memorial Day</p>	<p><b>28</b></p>	<p><b>29</b></p>	<p><b>30</b></p>	<p><b>31</b></p>	



# PENTECOST

## SUNDAY



*The Outpouring of the Spirit*

**5-19-24**

First Christian Church

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

Phone: 219-924-5400  
E-mail:  
[fcchighland9540@gmail.com](mailto:fcchighland9540@gmail.com)  
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PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

