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COMMUNITY OF CHRIST
 LUTHERAN CHURCH
Making Jesus Known



October 2024

What's Ahead

Worship Times

Sunday Morning
 8 & 10 a.m. starting
 In-person and
 Facebook Live

Sunday Morning Bible Study

9:00 – 9:50 a.m.

Pastor's Bible Study

Thursdays 1:00 p.m.

Worship & Music

October 3

Quilt Ministry

October 1 & 15

Visitation Ministry

October 7

Council Meeting

October 8

Concert Committee

October 8

Youth and Education

October 14

Stewardship

October 15

Social Action

October 22

Choir

Wednesdays 7:00 p.m.

Bell Choir

Thursdays 7:30 p.m.

Worship Services

Available on the net at
www.commofchrist.org



Pastor's Letter The Love of Jesus



We had a really good conversation at our first Confirmation Class earlier this fall. In our opening session with students from both Community of Christ and neighbors at Zion (Waterville), we posed the question to our sixth and seventh-graders, "What does it mean to be a Christian?" and invited their responses. Almost immediately, someone (who had clearly been paying attention to something they heard in church, somewhere along the way) said, "We're disciples of Jesus!" Fantastic—that's a great place to start!

But that begged a follow-up question since the word "disciple" can be a bit of churchy jargon for some ears. So, I followed up: "All right—what does it mean to be a *disciple*?" And after the room had a bit to mull that question over, someone offered a thought, "Someone who learns from Jesus... to do the things Jesus taught us to do... to live like Jesus." Again, that's a great insight—we aren't just people who know facts about God like we had to memorize state capitals or the periodic table in school at some point, but we are people learning a way of life. We were making good progress in this discussion.

Then came the real challenge—the \$50,000 Question, so to speak: **What does Jesus teach us to do, after all?** In other words, *What kind of life is Jesus calling us to be disciples in? What is Jesus' way of life all about?* And once again, the class thought about it for a moment and then offered this answer: **love**.

The heart of the way of Jesus, which is thus also the heart of our lives as disciples, is learning *the love of Jesus*. That's more than just an emotional gut-response thing: love is always more than just a "feeling" but about the choice to do good to others, to seek their well-being, and to put the needs of others even above and before our own self-interest. Love involves our priorities, our choices, our temperament, our words, and our actions... and, sure, yes, also our emotions as well. And as we learn from Jesus—hearing his teachings, reflecting on the stories of his actions, and seeing his way of life reflected in other disciples' lives, too—we come to see a love that reaches out not just to friends or "in-group" members, but to strangers, outsiders, and even enemies. We see a love that goes beyond good intentions and mere talk, to actions. We see a love that is courageous and takes risks and bears the ridicule of others, including the Respectable Religious Leaders ("Who does this guy think he is, eating with **THOSE** people, those tax collectors and sinners?"). We see a love that is willing to take time with people ("He had compassion on them because they were like sheep without a shepherd..."). And we see a love that is willing to serve in lowly positions rather than staying comfortable. All of that is what the *love of Jesus* looks like, and honestly, it takes a lifetime to learn it—to let it sink into our bones and become our own way of life. That's why we keep gathering together—in worship, in study, in service, around tables and meals—so that together the living Jesus can keep teaching us to embody his kind of love for all.

from Pastor Steve Bond continued

This October, our year-long project of *Meeting Jesus* will focus on just that: **the love of Jesus**. And we'll be exploring it beyond mere sentimentality, to dive deeper into how we love God and love others the way Jesus embodied for us. It will involve our whole selves, including our time, our talent, and our treasure. And it will begin with being re-centered in the assurance that before we love anybody else, Jesus has loved us first. That's where we begin, every day. Come along and share that journey with us this month at Community of Christ.

With gratitude for the many ways, you all embody the love of Jesus,
Pastor Steve



Crazy Faith Talk Podcast Explores Discipleship

Did you know that our Pastor Steve continues to offer a weekly podcast with two colleagues in ministry? It's called **Crazy Faith Talk**, and each week we look at a variety of topics, subjects, and ideas from faith and church life to pop culture and everything in between. *Crazy Faith Talk* releases new episodes every Tuesday at noon, and you can listen for free, either by finding the link on our Facebook page, finding it at www.blogtalkradio.com/crazyfaithtalk (where you can also subscribe for free to get notifications of new episodes), or even asking your Smart Speaker (like Amazon Echo) to play the podcast "Crazy Faith Talk." And new for this month, **Crazy Faith Talk is now on Spotify, too!** If you like to listen to music or podcasts using the Spotify app, you can find Crazy Faith Talk there, too!

Our latest series explores what it means to be disciples of Jesus as *apprentices* of Jesus. Rather than seeing ourselves as an audience watching a performance on Sunday mornings, or customers consuming a religious product, or even as just students who learn "head-knowledge" about God, Jesus calls us to be *apprentices* who learn his way of life. That always moves us beyond mere intellect or feelings to the actions, practices, and choices we make in our lives, and how they all center on Jesus' way of life—both what Jesus modeled in his own actions and what he described in his stories and teachings. So, check out this new series and listen in on these conversations each week on Crazy Faith Talk!

"Held In Trust"—Sunday Morning Adult Forum Continues this October

This October, our Adult Sunday School class continues our study called, "Held in Trust," intended to help us see our whole lives in response to God's goodness. Join us between services (from about 9:15-9:45 a.m.) in the Fellowship Hall for a six-part series looking at everything as a gift of God, and our role of stewards of those gifts. Beyond just thinking about "how we raise money to pay the church's bills," we'll be exploring a whole-life perspective that sees our time, our talents, our treasures, and creation itself as gifts held in trust, for which we are caregivers. Over these weeks, we'll gain a new perspective over everything in our lives, with a look at both biblical ideas of stewardship and practical connections for our daily lives. We've started this series in September already, but this is still a great time to jump in and join us for these remaining sessions this fall:

Oct. 6—*Where Our Treasure Is*: Rethinking Money and Faith

Oct. 13—*Stewards of Time*: Making the Most of Each Day

Oct. 20—*Unexpected Gifts*: Offering Our Weaknesses



from Vicar Natalie Downs

A New Journey within a Larger Journey

A little over a year ago, my family moved from Dexter, MI to Temperance. One of the things you notice after living in a house for twelve years with two kids is how much stuff you accumulate over time. Even though cleaning out things and moving is quite a daunting task, one of the joys of sorting through items is finding things from your past that you had forgotten about. Pictures, cards from birthdays, baby blankets, certificates, for example. My parents also have recently been going through their things, getting ready to give me the last of my childhood items. My mom sent me a picture via text of something she wrote in my baby book about my baptism on Sept. 15th, 1985, that struck me. It stated, "On Sept. 15th, you were baptized. You wore the exact same christening dress I did. Also, we were baptized in the same church (St. James Lutheran - Toledo, OH). When you were baptized you looked right in the pastor's eyes as if you knew exactly what he was saying. Who knows? Maybe you did."

My mom sent that picture to me a little after I started my internship, and in some way, I feel that it was the Holy Spirit's way of comforting my nerves. I wasn't expecting to be nervous at the start of my internship, but I was, and some fear started to set in those first few days. It reminded me that in those baptismal waters, I was claimed as a child of God, welcomed, forgiven, and given eternal grace to freely go and serve in the name of Jesus. As I sat in worship at Community of Christ on September 15th, I was reflecting on the idea that 39 years ago, little did I know as an infant or anyone in my family know where this baptism journey would lead me. And all those pictures, cards, things that I had stumbled upon reminded me of who I was and the people who made an impact on my life to get me to this point. God has accompanied me to this point, and God will continue to accompany me wherever I am called.

For all of us, our lives can lead us through hills and valleys, death and life, beginnings and ends- these experiences through the power of the Spirit shape and form us into the people we are today. Whatever your journey entails- the good, the bad, and the ugly- know that God has been and is accompanying you on this journey. God is not an arrival point we work towards, measured by how good and great we are at following Jesus. God is the companion on your journey, shaping and molding you by water, word, bread, and wine. God's grace goes with you because of what Christ has done for you. And so, throughout our baptismal journey, we are blessed because no matter what lies ahead in the unknown, we trust that God walks in it and through it with us. Thanks be to God.

From ELW 326- Bless Now, O God, the Journey (vs. 4)

Divine eternal lover, you meet us on the road,
We wait for lands of promise where milk and honey flow,
But waiting not for places, you meet us all around,
Our covenant is written on roads, as faith is found.





Grow in Faith Together

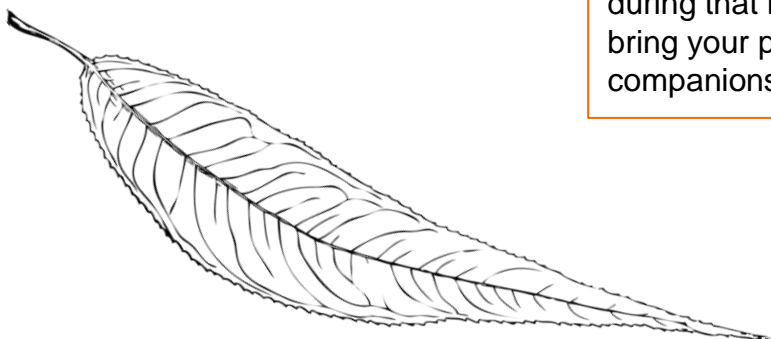


Thursday Bible Study Series: "Freed... For Love" Explores Galatians!

We live in a culture where ads promise us great deals and promotions for "free," but they always come with fine print, conditions, or limits. What if the Good News of Jesus were different, and we really were freed without a catch--what if we were freed... FOR LOVE? That's the question at the heart of Paul's letter to the Galatians, and it's what our current Thursday Bible Study series is leading us to explore. Every Thursday, you can join us in person at 1:00 p.m. at Community of Christ for a deep dive into an important letter of the New Testament and the BIG questions like, "What puts me in a right relationship with God?" or "How does Jesus welcome outsiders?" and "What am I freed FOR in my life?" Everybody is welcome, and if you can't make a session in person, you can catch up online with our weekly video summary sessions which you can find on our Facebook page and on YouTube. Come check out what it means to be freed... for love!

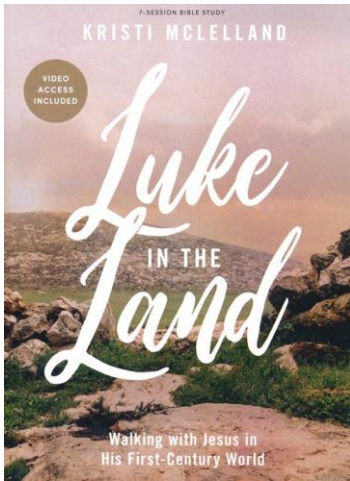
Blessing of the Animals—Saturday, Oct. 5

Animals are one of the wonders of God's creation, and our pets are especially dear to us as members of our households and families. So, this fall, Community of Christ is offering a chance to participate in the tradition of having a Blessing of the Animals as a way of offering specific thanks to God for our pets and asking for God's blessing on them. If you would like to bring your pet for this experience, we'll be offering a window of time when you can come to the front door of the church building (the doors with the benches) and Pastor Steve will offer prayers of blessing, as well as a special tag that can go on a leash or collar as a reminder of God's love and care for all creatures. The blessing of individual pets doesn't take long (pets tend not to like to sit through long sermons), but you can come anytime between 1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m. outside the main entrance to the church. Bring your dog, cat, rabbit, turtle, or whatever other creatures you like, and we'll have a chance one-on-one to give thanks to God for them and to ask God's blessing on them as well, any time during that hour. We hope you'll take a moment to bring your pets and give thanks to God for the companionship and love they bring into our lives!





Grow in Faith Together



Ladies Bible Study starting November 5th, we will study Kristi McLelland's, "Luke in the Land". This seven-week video with a study guide allows us to explore the land of Israel based on the Gospel of Luke. We will explore Bethlehem, the Sea of Galilee, Gethsemane, Jerusalem, and the road to Emmaus. Along the way, we'll see how Jesus brought His kingdom to earth for everybody. Please sign up at the kiosk. Plus be sure to order the study guide 'Luke in the Land'. The class will start @ 8:30 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. Any questions? Call Becky King @ 419-349-7319



Welcome Table Wednesdays Continues

This fall, we've invited children, families, and adults to a weekly gathering on Wednesday evenings with food, fellowship, and faith activities for all ages. Our Welcome Table Wednesdays kicked off on Wednesday, September 4th with dinner from 6:00-7:00 p.m., activities that were especially geared for kids and families, but also open to everyone at 7:00. We invited those who were planning to be in the choir this fall to bring their kids along to church, as a great way for them to do fun and faithful activities with music, art, stories, and games while parents join the choir! If you haven't been able to join but would like to, it's not too late! Join us, on October 2 and 9 for fellowship, dinner, and fun! *Sign up at the kiosk* in the church gathering space today! You can see more FUN pictures in this newsletter or on our Facebook page!



Worship Volunteer Schedule

October 2024



Week	Oct 6	Oct 13	Oct 20	Oct 27
Acolyte/Crucifer 8:00	Volunteer Needed	Joe Perkins	Volunteer needed	Laurie Mauro
Acolyte/Crucifer 10:00	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Kari Swagler
Bulletin 8:00	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Irene Rang
Bulletin 10:00	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed
Camera	Neil Raymond	Sarah Rockwell	Carol Wiemken	Kevin Swagler
Communion Prep/Clean 8:00	Bea Ludwig	Becky King	Volunteer Needed	Josef Perkins
Communion Prep/Clean 10:00	Susan Raymond	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed
Geeter West 8:00	Rick Metcalf	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed
Greeter East 8:00	Linda Metcalf	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed
Greeter East 10:00	Natalie Rilling	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed
Greeter West 10:00	Chris Rilling	Dean Nofzinger	Marsha Cochran	E&R Hetherwick
Lector 8:00	Dana Schmidt	Kathryn Whitacre	Cheryl Fischer	Natalie Downs
Lector 10:00	Natalie Downs	Marsha Cochran	Tammy Myers	Dana Schmidt
Worship Asst 8:00	Josef Perkins	Kathryn Whitacre	Cheryl Fischer	Laurie Mauro
Worship Asst 10:00	Volunteer Needed	Kevin Swagler	Marlene LaChine	Don Schroeder
Verger 8:00	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed
Verger 10:00	Volunteer Needed	Becky King	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed

****Volunteer list as of 09/16/2024****

*****Should you need to cancel your scheduled date, please contact another volunteer to fill your position and time slot. Also, cancel in Sign-Up Genius so the person covering you can sign up.**

Lectors: The readings are available for preview on our website at www.commofchrist.org under "Worship and Bulletins" and then the appropriate bulletin date.

Bulletin Assistants: Arrive 15 minutes before service to pass out bulletins. Count the number of people in attendance (including worship volunteers and all in the nursery if applicable) and mark this number on the chart inside the kiosk.

Door Greeters: Arrive 15 minutes before service to greet members and visitors at the doors of both entrances of the church.

The Verger: is a caretaker role who keeps their eyes and ears open to lend a hand for any need that arises with congregants or worship providers during the service.

Should you have any questions, please contact Laurie Mauro at (419) 877-5366. Thank you all for your time and attention to helping make our Worship Services run smoothly!

Prayers



Blessings & Prayers

PRAYING FOR GOD'S PEOPLE



Prayers

REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING IN OUR DAILY PRAYERS FOR ALL WHO ARE ILL, SHUT IN, RECENTLY HOSPITALIZED, MILITARY, OR IN NEED OF PRAYER:

SUE BROWN, DEBBIE CARMAN, SHIRLEY COFER, VIRGINIA DILLON, SUSIE DONNAL, GLORIA & STEVE EBERLY, JIM & SUE ENK, FLO HANNUM, RON HETHERWICK, ART INGMIRE, TOM JENNINGS, TRISTAN KIMMEY, JACK MILLER, KATHY PHILLIPS, CHRISTAL & CHAD PRITCHARD, DICK RISON, IRIS ROCKWELL, PETER SCHULTZ, PHYLLIS STURGEON, LOIS WISE
MILITARY: JAY RASMUSSEN, NOAH PITZEN, AUSTIN CUNNINGHAM, JAKE COPE



We remember the family of Troy Bernhard in prayer. May our Lord grant them peace and comfort in their hearts in the days ahead.



Children's Sermon

Kids of all ages please join Pastor Steve for a Children's Sermon at both the 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m. services. This is the Pastor's time to share the good news of Jesus with our younger friends! He'll even have a sticker waiting just for YOU!!!!



Prayer Shawls

If you are interested in making a prayer shawl or know of someone who would be blessed by receiving a prayer shawl, please reach out to Irene at 269-832-7714.



*****ATTENTION Members and Friends***
SPONSORED WEEKENDS HAVE NOT
BEEN TURNED IN*****

If you have sponsored a weekend for Altar Flowers and have not turned in your envelope(s) please do so no later than the Sunday before that weekend so this can be shared in the bulletin. Thank you ☩

CoC Ministry Dates to Remember



Next Meeting Date
October 3 @ 10:00 a.m.



Next Meeting Date
October 7 @ 10:30 p.m.



FIRST Meeting Date
October 8 @ 6:00 p.m.



Next Meeting Date
October 8 @ 7:00 p.m.



Next Meeting Date
October 14 @ 6:30 p.m.



Next Meeting Date
October 15 @ 7:00 p.m.



Next Meeting Date
October 22 @ 7:00 p.m.



Dear Members and Friends, The Property Committee has recently faced a few challenges. We've had to replace the air conditioner in the Fellowship Hall and repair a leak in the roof. These unexpected expenses have significantly reduced our Capital Improvement Fund. To help replenish our fund, we kindly ask that you consider directing any extra offerings to the Capital Improvement Fund. Your generosity will be greatly appreciated as we work to maintain and improve our beautiful church. Thank you for your continued support and contributions. Blessings, the Property Committee



CoC Music News!



🎵 A note from the Choir Director: 🎵

Making music in the fellowship of others is one of the best ways to serve your church. Drop in on ANY Wednesday night rehearsal, (7-8), to check us out. You can also sign up for sessions on the kiosk in the gathering space or online by clicking on the links below. Our schedule through the holidays is as follows:

Session 2: 9.25-10.27

We will rehearse for 5 Wednesdays and will sing on Sunday 10.13 and 10.27, (Reformation Sunday). Sign up on our website at www.commofchrist.org under "Worship & Event Signups": [Session 2](#)

Session 3: 10.30-11.24

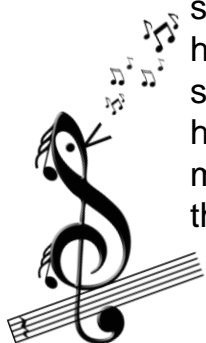
We will rehearse for 4 Wednesdays and sing on Sunday, 11.24, (Christ the King Sunday.) Sign up on our website at www.commofchrist.org under "Worship & Event Signups": [Session 3](#)

Session 4: 12.4-12.24

We will rehearse the 3 Wednesdays in December from 7:45 to 8:45 after the Advent service and sing on Sunday 12.8, Sunday 12.22, and at the 11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service. Sign up on our website at www.commofchrist.org under "Worship & Event Signups": [Session 4](#)

Concert Committee

Community of Christ has a long and rich tradition of hosting musical events like concerts, recitals, and other performances. Our current worship space was designed with concert acoustics in mind as well as our Sunday services, and our 50th anniversary events last year included several special concerts that many had the chance to enjoy. Moving forward, we are rebooting our Concert Committee in the hopes of continuing to host special events and musical performances for the wider community, and we already have some ideas in the works for this fall. We would LOVE your help to bring special events like this to Community of Christ, so if you are excited about the idea of hosting more concerts and special performances here, join us for an organizational meeting on Tuesday, October 8, at 6:00 p.m. (in the hour before council) to help us get the rejuvenated Concert Committee off the ground!



STEWARDSHIP

A Disciple's Way of Life



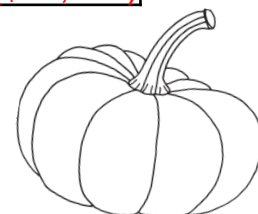
Opening Our Gifts: Time, Talent, and Treasure

If you're given a gift—say, for your birthday or at Christmas—it's a terrible thing to leave it wrapped in the paper. It's a shame if someone has gone to the trouble of choosing something for you that they hope you will enjoy and you leave it in the packaging forever unopened. And on the flip side, when you receive a thoughtful gift and use it, well, everyone's lives are enriched. Your relationship with the giver is deepened, your joy is increased, and the same is probably true of the people around you whose lives are made better because you are using your gift well.

It's the same, really, in our relationships with God and with one another: when we use the gifts we have been given by God, our relationship with God is deepened, our joy is increased, and we make the world a better place for the people around us, too! That's why this fall, we are inviting everyone at Community of Christ to prayerfully consider how **YOU** will use your **time**, **talent**, and **treasure**—all gifts from God—in the year ahead, with our Time and Talent forms, and our invitations to Financial Commitment for the year 2025! You've already been given incredible gifts by God: the hours in each day, the abilities and interests that make us unique, and the resources we live on. Those are already in your hands, like a present waiting to be unwrapped and taken out of the box. By now, you and your household should have already received Time and Talent forms and Invitation to Financial Commitment forms for our church family. (If you need more, lost yours, or don't think you received one, you can get them in the Gathering Space at church!) Now we would ask you to use your God-given gifts with joy and gratitude by prayerfully selecting ways you can serve and participate here at Community of Christ in the year ahead! We're asking for you to complete those and return them to the church by **Sunday, October 13**, so that we can get new volunteers connected with the ways they are being led to serve, and so that we can make our proposed 2025 budget grounded in realistic expectations of our planned giving. Don't leave your gifts unopened and unused—help us make



2024 Building Loan Fund			
	Income	Expense	Diff.
Aug	\$9,086	\$12,563	(\$3,477)
YTD	\$91,140	\$100,504	(\$9,364)
2024 General Fund			
	Income	Expense	Diff.
Aug	\$23,939	\$28,942	(\$5,003)
YTD	\$246,426	\$268,713	(\$22,288)





STEWARDSHIP


A Disciple's Way of Life



Exciting news from our church! We are offering you more giving options to support our church's financial needs. Council and Finance Committee (as well as the Synod) have recommended the use of a new online safe and secure tool to be able to give online electronically. The program is through Tithe.ly company used by many other churches and organizations. It has several options to be able to give as noted below:

- Your donations are recorded for your giving records, and confidential to the financial secretary.
- When you donate, you designate the fund you would like your monies to go toward e.g., building loan, general, thank-you, or other.

-There are four methods to give:

1. On the church website - @ <https://tithe.ly/give?c=2746426>
2. Online (through tithe.ly website, search for Community of Christ)
3. By text: simply text the word **give** to get started.
Community Of Christ Lutheran Church: (833) 985-2568
4. Download the app and give. 



Notes:

- The app and the web link allow you to input credit/debit card information. The text method will charge through your existing cell phone bill.
- There is a fee for this service for the convenience that it offers:
 - You can choose to cover this fee in addition to your donation, OR if you don't, the fee is deducted from the donation to the church.
 - This fee is a percentage typical of this type of service.

SIMPLY GIVING PROGRAM

PLEASE REMEMBER ---we also offer an **electronic offering**, (**Simply Giving**) that will withdraw your offering automatically from your bank account. THANK YOU FOR GIVING TO THE LORD'S WORK AT COMMUNITY OF CHRIST AND THE ENTIRE CHURCH!

Community of Christ: In Focus Video Series

Stewardship Committee invites you to check out a new series of short videos, releasing monthly, which highlight different areas of our ministry life here at Community of Christ. We're calling it Community of Christ: In Focus, and each one gives a bit of a deeper dive into the many facets of our congregational life. Our first video, highlighting worship and music, is already available to watch through our website (look under the Worship Bulletin and Recordings section of the "News and Events" tab), on our Facebook page, or YouTube. Future videos will help shine a spotlight on the different kinds of things our gifts of time, talent, and treasure go to support so that you can have a better sense of the MANY things God is up to around here at Community of Christ. Check them out, share them with a friend, and learn more about how our resources, shared for Christ's service in this place, are being used for God's work in the world!



Getting Involved at COC



We will be wrapping up the Ladies Lunch for 2024 at Carrabba's Italian Grill on Friday, Oct. 25th @ 11:30 a.m. Located at 3405 Briarfield Blvd Maumee, OH. **Please note Carrabba's does not take reservations but call-ahead seating so I will be calling in @ 11:00 a.m. Please keep me updated about your attendance so I can have as accurate of a count as possible. Sign up at the kiosk! Questions?? Call me @ 419-349-7319. see you then- Becky King

Community of Christ Book Club

Community of Christ October Book Club

When: October 16, 2024, at 1:00 p.m.

Where: Church Library

Book: *The First Ladies* by Marie Benedict & Victoria Chapman Murray.

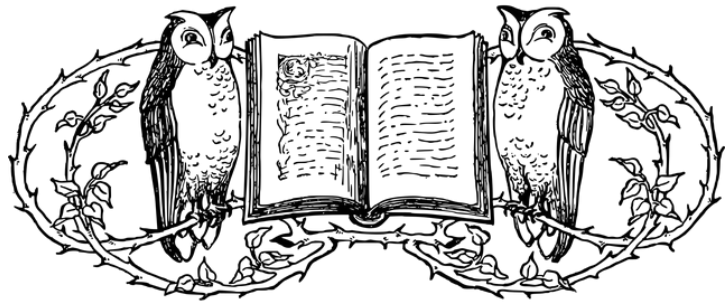
The authors of *The Personal Librarian* bring us a novel about the extraordinary friendship and partnership between Eleanor Roosevelt and Mary McLeod Bethune.

The daughter of former slaves, Mary McLeod Bethune is a civil rights activist who refused to back down as white supremacists threaten her work. She is an activist and an educator, eventually, she becomes a celebrity who is recognized by leaders of industry and the President of the United States. Eleanor Roosevelt seeks her out and they share a belief in women's rights as well as the power of education. They become fast friends, sharing secrets, a desire to fight together for justice and equality.

This book features two different and formidable, compassionate, and committed women who made a very real contribution to the modern civil rights movement.

Please come and join us for this look at two famous women and how their lives intertwined during their lifetimes and well into our lifetimes. The book is available at the Waterville Library, just ask for it at the check-out desk!

Questions call or text: Kathryn Whitacre at 567-395-9444



Coming Up:

November 19 - *The Maid* by Nita Prose

December - Our Annual Christmas outing. Date to be Announced!

January 21 - *The Women* by Kristen Hannah

February 18 - *Frozen River* by Ariel Lawhon

March 18 - *Demon of Unrest* by Eric Larson

April 15 - *The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo* by Taylor Reid Jenkins

May 20 - *Grey Wolf* by Louise Penny

June 17 - *Remarkably Bright Creatures* by Shelley Van Pelt

Questions??? Call or Text: Kathryn Whitacre 567-395-9444



Visitation Ministry News!



COOKIE SUNDAY!

Be sure to stop in the gathering space after worship on **October 13th**! Visitation Ministry has cookies for you to enjoy. Then take a bag with you to share with a friend, neighbor, classmate, co-worker.....anyone who would be lifted up by some cookies that are delivered with a smile, kind words, or a warm hug.



FREEZER CASSEROLES!

Grateful for the folks in the kitchen helping to prepare 133 freezer meals to be given out as needed in the coming weeks for anybody who might need a couple—whether recuperating from surgery, getting over an illness, or as relief from other caregiving. Thanks for the good work our Visitation Ministry does!

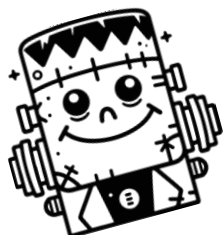


While reviewing our records, we noticed that some birthdays may have been missed. Our Visitation Ministry is dedicated to acknowledging each member's special day, and we want to ensure that everyone is celebrated. If you think your birthday might not be on file, please reach out to Michelle at secretary@commofchrist.org. She will be happy to update our records. Thank you for your help, and we look forward to celebrating your birthday!



VISITATION MINISTRY

Thank-you Notes!

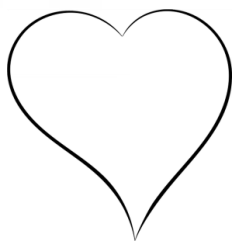


THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR THE BOX OF COOKIES!
IT WAS VERY THOUGHTFUL OF YOU! I CAN'T WAIT
TO SHARE THESE WITH MY ROOMMATES AND FRIENDS!
THE COMMUNITY OF CHRIST FAMILY IS CONSIDERED A
SECOND FAMILY TO ME AND THE SUPPORT SHOWN MEANS
THE WORLD TO ME.

THANKS AGAIN!

~ SPENCER

Thank you so much for making and
hand delivering the delicious box
of cookies. My roommates, friends and
I really enjoyed them. You and the
rest of the community of Christ
family are true blessings. I am
beyond grateful for your love and
support as I enter my junior year
at the university of Dayton.



Go Flyers!
Love,
Haley Reid
Haley Reid

Thank you so much for cookies
for myself and my friends that
I got to share with. They were
delicious and I could not
stop eating them :) It was
so thoughtful and I cannot
thank my community of Christ
friends enough!

Blessings,
KYLE Gebhart



Thank you so much for
the delicious cookies +
note! I am so grateful
for the prayers + support
C of C provides me. Having
a taste of home has been
so nice (+ my friends
love it too!) I feel so
very blessed by you + the
church community. ♥ Zoe

P.S. Hugs from Athens, OH! I am
starting my junior year at Ohio
University tomorrow, I study
Spanish + Spanish Education.





Social Action News!



Social Action Seeks YOUR Help and Ideas in Loving Neighbors!

At Community of Christ, we have lots of opportunities to participate in projects and ministries that serve our neighbors and respond to needs in the wider world. From the quilting ministry of the Material Girls whose finished quilts go around the world through Lutheran World Relief to our collections of items for school kits or migrant workers to our partnerships with friends on the North End at Salem or at the garden beds of Urban Wholistics, there are many ways to be involved in social ministry through Community of Christ. But up to this point, what we haven't had is a way of coordinating these individual projects together. That can mean that people miss out on opportunities or that we end up with numerous events in a short period of time rather than spread out evenly on the calendar for easier participation. That's why we're trying something new this fall: we're rebooting our various social ministry projects to bring them together in a regular meeting committee, to help keep our social action ministries organized for the future. We'll still do the projects and activities that people are passionate about—don't worry!—but our hope is to make sure our left hand and right hand know what each other is doing. If you have ideas for new kinds of social action you would like to see happen at Community of Christ, or if you are willing to help us coordinate and carry social action ministry into the future, we invite you to join us for an organization meeting on **Tuesday, October 22 at 7:00 p.m.** here at Community of Christ!

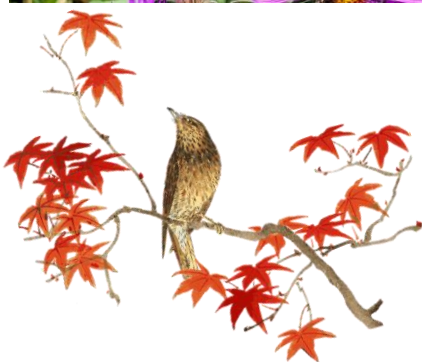
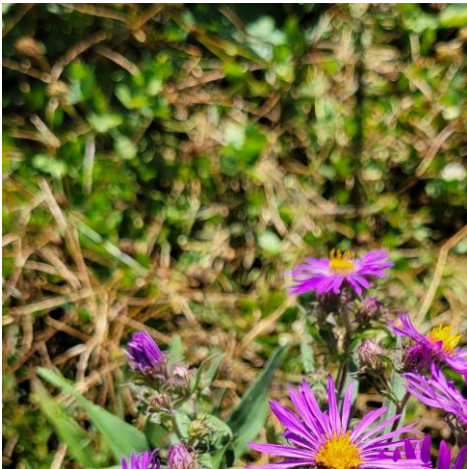
Thanks to EVERYONE who donated school supplies this August and September and to the hands that assembled them into School Kits to go to students around the world through Lutheran World Relief! We appreciate your generosity!





Prairie Meadow

Our Prairie Meadow has quite a bit in bloom. Tall Sunflowers, Sneezeweed, black-eyed Susan, New England Aster, and Purple Love Grass are very viewable right now. If you get a chance, take a walk and enjoy God's beauty.





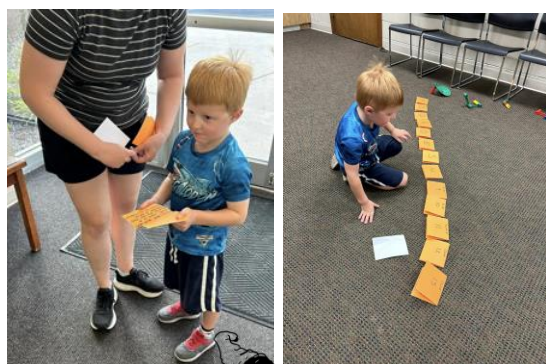
Making Jesus Know in All We Do!

Our annual Blue Jean Sunday included an outdoor service with the Band, a cookout picnic potluck lunch, the creation of a time capsule of memories for the future, and the creation of new banners! Thanks to ALL who made today such a joyful celebration!



Making Jesus Know in All We Do!

Welcome Table Wednesday —good food, good fellowship, and lots of creativity!





Making Jesus Known in All We Do!

Thank you to our volunteers who come out to weed with friends at Urban Wholistics community gardens and Tatum Park.

It was a good but also hot morning ☀️





Getting Involved at COC



Thanks to the folks who came out to plant trees at Colbert Park in partnership with Pastor Mike Hanck of Salem Lutheran in the North End!
You are amazing! Thanks to Pastor Mike for the partnership!





Getting Involved at COC



Festival of Talents





Getting Involved at COC



Festival of Talents





Brian Smucker	10/01	Judith Mock	10/09	Carol Heuerman	10/19
Jillian Dewitz	10/01	Matthew Davis	10/09	Luke Rardin	10/19
Karen Schroeder	10/01	Emily Steinman	10/11	Natalie Dewitz	10/19
Lydia Smucker	10/01	Jill Bocian	10/11	Andrew Carman	10/20
Vicki Keil	10/01	Sharon Bucher	10/13	Mike McSurley	10/20
Debbie Warner	10/02	Alicia Lipinski	10/14	Doris Disher	10/22
Marie Sheets	10/02	Dawn Ray	10/14	James Matthews	10/22
Mary Jo Bright	10/02	Joshua Hartbarger	10/14	Ellen Nowak	10/23
Amy Bartley	10/03	Neil Nutter	10/14	CJ Moser	10/26
James Fischer	10/03	Richard Knight	10/14	Evonne Johnson	10/26
Elizabeth Brenneman	10/04	Douglas Ackerman	10/15	Flo Hannum	10/29
Keith Carpenter	10/04	Melanie Moser	10/15	Pat Lutz	10/29
Kyle Ruhe	10/05	Teegan Winkelman	10/15	Greg Brenneman	10/30
Nadine Wise	10/07	Dean Nofzinger	10/16	John Cedargren	10/30
Robyn Spilker	10/07	Brandy Outly	10/18	Autumn Gebhart	10/31
Kyle Gebhart	10/08	Kraig Keil Jr.	10/18	Will Malohn	10/31
Megan McKee	10/08	Maggie Meyers	10/18		





Community of Christ Lutheran Church Welcomes You!



****Exciting News! Scan Our New QR Code!****

Community of Christ Church Members

We're thrilled to introduce our new QR code system, making it easier than ever to connect with us and access valuable resources! Simply scan the QR code below using your smartphone camera or QR code scanner app to unlock a world of information and opportunities:

By scanning this code, you'll gain instant access to:

- Church announcements through our Newsletter
- Worship bulletins & recordings, and podcasts
- Church calendar
- Donation portals and volunteering opportunities
- And much more!



This innovative technology allows us to streamline communication and enhance your experience within our community. Whether you're a longtime member or a newcomer, we invite you to scan the QR code and explore all that awaits you.

Thank you for embracing this new initiative as we strive to make your engagement with us as seamless and enriching as possible.

Church Office Hours

8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. (Monday through Friday)



Like us on Facebook

Community of Christ Lutheran Church



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