

Disciples Christian Church

Spreading the Word

www.dcchamilton.org

August 2018

OUTREACH

Toiletry/Hygiene Ministry

We will be starting our Toiletry Ministry TODAY, Wednesday, August 1st. Items will be handed out to members of our community on the 1st Wednesday of each month, from 5:00-6:30. We will need folks to walk people through to make their choices, and also need 1 or 2 folks to sit at a table to get info. Please see the sign-up sheet to help at the first night.

Help us continue to stock the pantry for future months... Similar to our donations from Trunk or Treat last year, we are collecting Toiletry/Hygiene products. Please look to the following schedule to bring in items each week.

August 5 th	Toothbrush/Toothpaste
August 12 th	Feminine Products
August 19 th	Body Wash
August 26 th	Small Bottles of Laundry Detergent

We'll also have a miscellaneous table for items that we may get a little of like make-up, chapstick, perfume, cologne, lipstick, pens, jewelry, nail polish, tissues, paper towels, hair spray, lotion, etc. Please place items in the labeled box on the table at the top of the stairs.

Chosen

Meals will be served at **Chosen** on Wednesday and Thursday, August 8th and 9th. See Sign-up Sheets on the board.

Community Meals

We will prepare the August 24th Community Meal on Thursday, August 23rd starting at 3:00 p.m. at the Zion Lutheran Church in Hamilton. Margaret and Diane will both be out of town, so if you can provide a little extra help this one time, let Lynn know.

Back to School Supplies for Mrs. Betty's Angels

Through our Outreach ministries, our congregation provided the children of Sky Meadows Mobile Home Park. With \$280.11 we provided 3-ring notebooks, markers, scissors, pencil boxes, crayons colored pencils, and glue sticks for 40 children. Thank you to Lynn Adams for making this ministry happen.

Camp Christian

There is a new effort among many Ohio Disciples (individual and congregations) to sacrificially donate to pay off the principle on the camp mortgage. The hope is that if enough of you can share above and beyond gifts toward this end, then we can burn that mortgage by the Regional Assembly or no later than the end of 2018. Several congregations around the region have already committed special gifts above and beyond their Disciple Mission Fund giving toward this effort. Further, many of the children and youth who are participating in camp programs this summer are bringing home Milk Jugs to your congregation for this stated purpose. Coins for Camp will help enable this debt retirement and I deeply appreciate this children and adults who are providing leadership for this initiative.

Wouldn't it be amazing if we could begin 2019 without a \$3,700 monthly mortgage payment and know that Camp Christian is unencumbered? We have been treated graciously by Disciple Church Extension Fund which has given us relief on principle payments this year, requiring only interest each month. But it is time to rally our resources and great love for the camp and clear this fiscal burden from our proverbial decks. Your check should indicate clearly that the gift is for "Camp Debt Retirement" so it is credited properly. Thank you all for your love and stewardship of Camp Christian!

Finally, thanks to our camp directors, counselors and staff who have worked very well under tighter financial constraints this summer. We do have fewer resources and austerity measures have been taken in some aspects of camp operations to stay within the constraints of budget and available funds. We are in a new epoch of accountable discipleship and must maximize every gift and resource. Kudos to all of you who are still bearing witness to message and mission of the Kingdom of God in the lives of our campers. A special thank you to Al and Donna Channel for your ongoing efforts to secure a future for Camp Christian. Your love is showing!

(From 6/27/2018 Regional Update by Moderator Rev. Dr. Tom Stephenson)

If you would like to give to support paying off the Camp Christian Mortgage, you may include that with your normal Sunday giving. Please label your donation as "Camp Debt Retirement" – and we'll see that it gets sent in as that.

Disciples Mission Fund

(Also from the Regional Update ...)

My final word concerns 2018 Disciple Mission Fund (DMF) giving to date. DMF is the central financial commitment between Disciple congregations and the regional/general church. Our regional percentage of what churches give to DMF makes up about 70% of the operations side of the overall budget.

Our ability to gauge where we are in a budget year is complicated by the fact that the bulk of that giving plus the Christmas Offering (100% to regional ministry) comes in between Dec. 15 and Jan. 8. So we get a good read by the end of July where our income and expenses will be for the camp side of the region's budget, but are still unsure how the current year will resolve

for regional operations as we are planning for the next. 2017 ended with DMF giving down in total but thanks to the grace shown by our general church partners, we are keeping a larger percentage of DMF for Ohio's work - but it is still the case that our churches gave less in sum. As we work our way back to a fairer DMF balance between the region's share and general ministry support, we continue to ask churches to communicate with us their intentions for DMF giving for the second half of 2018. Our two annual funds, "Leadership" for the region and "1 in 1,000" for camp, plus designated gifts are being honored in donor intent and are all helpful in their own way. But our future will be largely determined by congregations choosing to support the wider work of the Disciples of Christ (regional and general church) through their DMF gifts.

We won't officially request donations for DMF until Christmas, but if you'd like to give extra now, just label your donation as DMF and it will be sent in.

Although most of our church's budgeted outreach goes towards local outreach (Chosen, Hygiene Ministries, etc.) we send \$50 each month with \$25 going to Camp Christian and \$25 going for Regional Operations.

A Special District Listening Conference is in the works for Tuesday, August 28th at 6:30 p.m. at Carthage Christian Church for congregations to learn more about the last Regional Meeting and the need for an earlier Regional Assembly. Please let Rev. Bonnie Goodwin know if you plan to attend.

EDUCATION & FELLOWSHIP

Ohio Women's Ministries Fall Retreat

The Ohio Women's Ministries Fall Retreat is scheduled for one day this year, Saturday, September 8, 2018 from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm at Camp Christian. Arrangements for those who want or need overnight accommodations are available. The Theme for the day is "Blooming Where You're Planted" and the book "Blooming Where You're Planted" by Emily Rose Lewis is being used as a resource. Music will be provided by Candace Jerew and Christy Johnson this year. The Silent Auction will still be held, so please continue to bring baskets. The Committee has planned for an exciting and informative day. Additional information and registration information will be published soon. Please save the date!

Men's Group News

The Men's Group is pleased to celebrate the two young men from our congregation that went to Camp Christian this year. Payton and Tanner had a wonderful time and experience at camp. Please continue to keep these two young men in your prayers, that through their experience at camp as well as their participation in our congregation will strengthen their relationship with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

The men's group was pleased to sponsor our Ice Cream Sundae Social on Sunday, July 29th and we hope that you were able to participate and enjoy in both the ice cream with your favorite toppings, but also the time of fellowship with our Congregational family.

The Men's Group is working with Rev. Bonnie, on an event to conclude our Dr. Seuss series with a special breakfast. We wish to thank Rev. Bonnie for all she is doing for our congregation. We have found her summer with Dr. Seuss sermon's to be fun and educational. Thanks Bonnie!

The men's group is looking into how to support a fifth-grade class at either Crawford Woods or Fairfield East. If funding allows we will try to support a class at both the schools, otherwise we will do one school this year and the other school next year. Suggestions were made to help local school teachers through the website, Donors Choice, which allows you to look at specific requests from various schools and grades.

We deepened our spirituality with our latest Andy Stanley DVD and discussion. The sessions help us to focus on becoming the men that God made us to be. We have completed the series on White Flag – Surrendering to God and started with session 1 of "It's Personal." This series is about how "You don't have to understand everything to believe in something."

Keep in mind this is a relaxed environment and does not require deep theological processing, we are simply a group of guys having a discussion. We hope that those that were not able to attend our last meeting will join us on August 14th at 7:00 p.m. for our next meeting.

The Men's Group



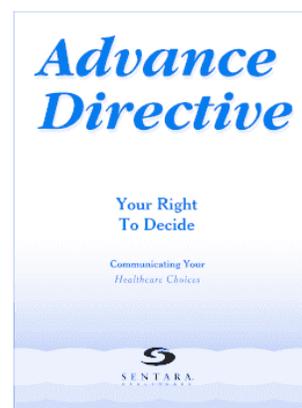
Care Ministry

It's Time, Mark Your Calendar. As mentioned last month the Care Ministry Team is working on a follow-up to the Third Thirty retreat. These will include small-group gatherings to discuss many topics that have come from the retreat. The Care Ministry Team along with you will meet as a group to discuss various topics on an ongoing basis.

Our first session is on Thursday, August 23, 2018 at DCC at 6 PM with special focus on Advance Directives. The Care Ministry Team will provide a dinner of sandwiches, chips, a drink and brownies. Mercy Health Partners Spiritual Care department has volunteered to provide one of their full-time Chaplains – Tammy Eady to facilitate the Advanced Directives training for our group. The training will include:

- What is an Advanced Directive?
- Who and Why I should have a completed Advanced Directive?
- Can I make changes to my Advanced Directive?
- Additional Q&A Time about Advanced Directives.

Blank copies of the Advanced Directives documents will be available for individuals to complete with the assistance of the Chaplain. Once completed, individuals will need to share the documents with your doctors, hospital, family and friends and anyone else you feel needs to be aware of your wishes.



I often tell people that this is a love document, as by your completing your Advanced Directives you are not only expressing what you want but making it clear for others to know as well. It is also an expression of love to your spouse and/or family by not leaving them to make decisions that can be extremely hard especially at these difficult and emotional times. Please take the time to attend this session as it will be well worth your time, appreciated by your spouse and/or family and give you control of your wishes about the care and how much you want at the end of life through this document if you are able to express them. *** *Advanced Directives include Living Will, Healthcare Power of Attorney as well as other documentation. *** We will try to provide information that you would need prior to this event so that you are ready to complete the paperwork at the event. **** This goes for all ages no matter if you are dealing with medical issues now or not. It is an act of love to take care of this paperwork so that your family is not left with having to make these decisions. Remember, whether you have filled one out in the past or not, it is important to keep up to date with these documents

The Care Ministry hopes to continue to provide such events that provide a holistic benefit to the mind body and spirit. The Care ministry is also here to provide support to those in the congregation that have special needs going on and to recognize special events going on in our congregation, or by individuals in our congregation. Please make John aware of any events or individuals.

Blessings!!!

The Care Ministry Team.

Ice Cream Social

Our Ice Cream Social this past Sunday, July 28th was a huge success. Thank you to the Men's group for hosting the event and for the help of many others in the congregation as well. It was a lot of fun to create our Ice Cream dishes with so many toppings and cookies to enjoy! We look forward to more fun, fellowship events in the future.

WORSHIP

Summer of Seuss – Dr. Seuss

Here is the Summer Schedule:

August 5 – On Beyond Zebra

August 12 – The Zax

August 19 – The Butter Battle Book

August 26 – Green Eggs and Ham

Find out how along with scripture, we can learn about faithfulness, fairness, friendship, greed, pride, hope and much more. Come for one Sunday or come for all eleven weeks of our Summer of Seuss!

Are You as Faithful as an Elephant?

On Sunday, July 1st, 2018, Kathy Baughman continued our Summer Seuss series with "Horton Hatches an Egg". This message shared that we are called to live faithfully and trusting not ourselves but in the grace of God. God is faithful 100% and, like Horton when he remains faithful to the end, we too shall receive a great reward. Thank you, Kathy, for reading and sharing this Dr. Seuss selection.

Green Eggs and Ham

We will end our Summer of Seuss Series on August 26th with Green Eggs and Ham. No really! The men of the congregation are hosting a breakfast before worship beginning at 10:00 a.m. with Green Eggs and Ham along with other breakfast items. Come and join us in the final Seuss book and enjoy the fun with our congregation.

Worship Leader Schedule

Aug	5	Jeri Pendergest	608-5859
	12	Jill White	829-5690
	19	Margaret Adamson	939-2213
	26	Mike Rosser	777-1828
Sept.	2	Dean Schmidt	777-3738
	9	Cindy Williams	680-5767
	16	Terrie Cox	319-8673
	23	Terry White	829-5690
	30	Pete Ayers	777-8530

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

It's amusing and maybe even a little scary how much technology has changed in my lifetime, let alone during the duration of others. Children now have not experienced a world with rotary phones and have no idea how to use one if needed. With the increase in technology, I have found that there are more and more miscellaneous sounds that happen throughout my house. Sometimes, it is the smoke detector alerting us to change the battery, other times it is the printer in need of paper or fresh ink. In our new house, there are even more sounds to figure out. Recently one of our appliances started alerting us to a problem and it took us quite a while to determine where the beep was coming. After searching high and low we figured out that it is a warning signal on our refrigerator to let us know the door remained ajar for an extended time.

We have warning lights and sounds on everything now it seems. Do we pay attention to any of them or do they simply drone on without any acknowledgement? Our faith often gives us



warning signals when we are struggling or even when we are growing. Do we see them? Do we hear them? Do we acknowledge those sounds or signals anymore than the appliances at home? What is your faith warning light telling you today? Read the Bible! Go and make Disciples! Or something else entirely?

Blessings,

Rev. Bonnie Goodwin

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

July 2018 Financial Report

Simplified Report: Everything is fine.

Checking Account Balance at 7/27/2018: \$11,528.24

Investment Account Balance (DCEF): \$309,012.12

July Income (Offerings) *excluding 7/29/18 offering*: \$4,096.34 actual, \$6,323.22 adjusted

July Expenses/Outreach: \$7,173.83 actual, \$7,477.83 adjusted

* Adjusted takes into consideration early offerings and the interest from investments in the budget and pro-rates these throughout the year. It also uses normal expenses only. Insurance and budgeted capital improvements are spread throughout the year. This provides a better month - to - month picture of how we're doing than the actual numbers. No adjustments were made this month.

I left town on 7/28, and completed this report before I left. All July checks were written, but the last offering of the month isn't in yet.

Fellowship Hall Remodeling

Work on the Fellowship Hall has halted until the upgraded fire alarm system can be installed. The next step will be drywall, but fire alarm inspections will need to be done before the dry walling. Once the fire alarm system is installed, work should progress quickly. In the meantime, the kitchen is fully accessible.

Trustee Report

After careful consideration, the Trustees have finally selected a provider for our new fire alarm system. Johnson Controls will be installing a new alarm panel, a cellular communicator (which will bring us up to code), 2 new smoke detectors and several sensors in the basement. The cost for this will be around \$6,000 (quite a bit better than our first quote of \$13,000.) In the future, Johnson Controls will monitor and inspect the Fire Alarm System while Eyewitness Alarm will still be responsible for monitoring the security system. (None of the fire alarm companies we met with would take on a security system that wasn't theirs, and we don't want the expense of updating the security system at this time.) A contract was signed last week, and the permit process is beginning. Hopefully by the end of August, the upgraded system will be installed.

One other thing regarding this... I have heard some people say that the need to upgrade the fire alarm system is a result of the basement remodeling. I'd like to offer a different perspective. While it's true that the problem was found because of the remodeling project, we were not even close to being to code in the basement. The strobe in the basement was far too small for the area covered, and the Rec Room and other rooms in the basement didn't have anything. If we had been to code, I suspect that there wouldn't have been an issue with the remodeling. I've reviewed the inspection report from when we bought the building. All it said was that the "smoke alarms are low voltage hardwire system" and not inspected, so these problems weren't mentioned there. We didn't know we had a problem until we had the issues with the remodeling permit. This upgrade, as well as the annual inspections we'll start doing, will ensure our building, and the people in it, are adequately protected.

A Message from John Pendergest

Last month, I shared my frustration with what was the purpose from God to keep putting Jeri through all these episodes related to my health. I shared with you that I had not asked God why since February of 2003, including when my brother died on Christmas Day 2010. However, I realized while sharing that, that I had replaced the word why with the words of what purpose was this going to serve. God gives us subtle reminders and He did again the other night at our Men's Group meeting. We started a new study called "It's Personal." This series is about how "You don't have to understand everything to believe in something." It was one of those subtle reminders from God to just trust Him and to do it without reservation. That is a hard lesson to learn especially in scenarios dealing with your children or hearing stories about young children being harmed or killed in what we can just described as a senseless act.

It can happen even if your child is much older, for example if you have a child with downs syndrome, there are people who without thinking will come up and say "Why would God do this to great people like you and your husband?" Even if your son is 59 years old, that type of encounter hits us at the core of our heart. Or someone who gets up from the table and moves when you and your son sit down for dinner. We can't make sense of people who do things like that, but thanks to God with our faith, we don't have to understand humans to believe that there is a God who loves us unconditionally and we know that it is part of a His plan. We can sit back and see why things happen because God has entrusted in us with all that we have, including those special gifts from above. What we need to do in these moments that we encounter with other human beings is to just pray for them for just as Jesus said on the cross "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do."

Forgive, Love and Trust!!!

Amen!!!

Blessings!

John Pendergest

Commissioned Minister/Pastor

BIRTHDAYS

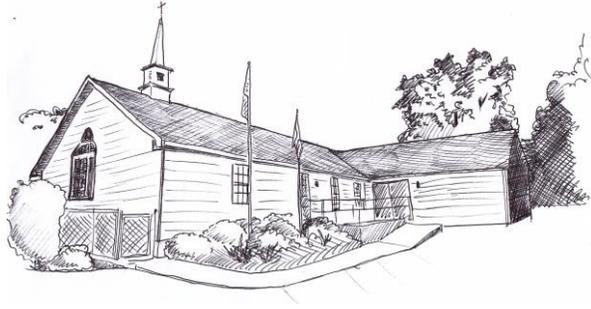
<u>August</u>		<u>September</u>	
Danny Vangen	17	Jana Mullins	13
Jeri Pendergest	31	John Williams	13
		Leland Houncell	18
		Bonnie Goodwin	23

PRAYER REQUESTS

John Pendergest, Linda Ashbrook, Baby Oliver, Lois Hill, Glenn Russell (Dave Adamson's brother in law), Johnny Helton (Co-Worker of Jana Mullins), Gail (Tenant of Jeannie White), Family of Julie Meece, Families of John Seyfang II and Joellynn "Jodi" Johnson Seyfang, Todd Glasier, Family of Della Miller (Friend of Claudette Thomas), Alexis (who works for the cable company), Family of Darren Shuman, Tabitha and Jacob (on loss of son, Max - Cousins of Cindy Williams), Family of Pauline Webster, Family of Dustin Jackson

AUGUST CALENDAR

1	5:00 p.m.	Toiletry Pantry	23	6:00 p.m.	Third Thirty Small Group
5	10:45 a.m.	Worship	26	10:00 a.m.	Green Eggs and Ham Breakfast
8	5:30 p.m.	Chosen	26	10:45 a.m.	Worship
9	5:30 p.m.	Chosen	28	6:30 p.m.	District Listening Conference
12	10:45 a.m.	Worship	29	10:00 a.m.	Newsletter Deadline
14	7:00 p.m.	Men's Group Meeting			
19	10:45 a.m.	Worship			
23	3:00 p.m.	Community Meal Prep			



Disciples Christian Church
2047 Tuley Rd.
Hamilton, OH 45015

