

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

December 2024



2024 Advent & Christmas

Advent 2

December 8, 2024

Advent 3

December 15, 2024

Blue Christmas

December 19, 2024

7 P.M.

Advent 4

December 22, 2024

Christmas Eve Candlelight

& Communion

Streaming Online

In-person @ 10:30 P.M.



Upcoming Church Events

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

Sundays @ FCC

Disciples Café
9:30 A.M.

Worship

10:30 AM

Youth Group

5- 6:30 P.M.

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

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



December 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <p>Advent 1 Disciples Café 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Youth Group 5-6:30 P.M. A: David & Maribel Boban</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Angel Tree Gifts Due @ church B: Ray Benson, Marc Obregon</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Game Group 10-12</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Parent's Night Out @ Ridge UMC 5:30-8 P.M.</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Homeless Lunch B: Kathy Drury</p>
<p>8</p> <p>Advent 2 Disciples Café 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Youth Group 5-6:30 P.M.</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Stitch of Time 10-12 B: Dolores Cave, Jamie Neyhart</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Senior Food Box Distribution 10-12</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Night In Bethlehem 6-9 P.M. (Ridge UMC)</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>Advent 3 Disciples Café 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Youth Group 5-6:30 P.M.</p>	<p>16</p> <p>B: Max Schroader</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Stitch of Time 10-12</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Game Group 10-12 B: Mickey Mitchell</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Blue Christmas/ Longest Night Service 7:00 P.M.</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p>Advent 4 Disciples Café 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Youth Group 5-6:30 P.M.</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Christmas Eve Service 10:30 P.M.</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Christmas</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>B: Linnea Sundquist</p>
Office Closed						
<p>29</p> <p>Disciples Café 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. B: Tania Messmer</p>	<p>30</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Office Closed</p>	<p>31</p> <p>New Year's Eve</p>				

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

Youth Group

@ Ridge UMC



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

Youth Group Dinner Sponsorships

If you would like to support the Senior High/Junior Youth Group meetings this winter, providing dinner at one of our weekly meetings a fantastic way to support this important and growing ministry.



Please see Rev. Becky with a list of available dates!

Come and Experience

A Night In Bethlehem

*Friday, December 13
6-9 P.M.*

*An interactive family experience
at Ridge United Methodist Church
(8607 Columbia Ave. Munster)*



Warm up this winter with this family fun night!

Amazing Race 2025!

JANUARY 24TH
6-8 P.M.
@ RIDGE UMC
(8607 COLUMBIA AVE)

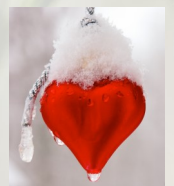
ALONG WITH GAMES
THERE IS PIZZA AND ICE
CREAM!

A fun night of memories await
us all!



Staff Love Gift

If you would like to offer your Christmas blessings to our wonderful staff, please give your contributions to Debbie Benson! Thank you for supporting our staff!



Praying for our Friends & Family

Members of the Congregation:

Tim & Kathy Drury, Dolores Cave, Don Dean, Judy Olen, Ashley Moss, Herbie Peck, Grace Kristoff, Tom Cushing.

Friends of the Congregation: (Please let me know if there are updates to this ongoing list)

The Yuris Family, The Murphy Family, Dennis Chambers, Gary Barber, Cindy Williams, Jerry Zolmer, Liz Griffin, Mary Jones, Chris Dury, Al Eckert, Cherie Coolidge, Melissa Belar, Cathhart Family, Jim Pasour, Ron Straker, Nikki Sweeny, Barbara Blaze, Taft/Weber Family, Terry Mavity, Marty Chidalek, Laurel Higgenbotham, Sophia Morgan, Sandi Lamb, Jim Pasour, Terry, Renee, Valerie Rushing, Cindy Spicker, Paul Graegin, Joe Luis and Family, Lori Kime, Pauline, Christine Phillips, George Cengel, Nikki, Marian Huizenga, Martha, Shaun, Val Rushing, Bill Murphy, Matt Murphy, Spencer Gordon, Michael Cole, Chris Cole, Faith, Tim Gasaway, Deborah, Sue, Susan Spore, Maureen Weber and Family, Chad, Anne Fairfield, Sandra Bullock, Kaden & Mara Luthringer, Curt, Sonja Devaris, Jennifer, Jim Moss, Beres Family, Linda Steel, Dave Horvat, David Cole, Scott Bridges, Myles Wolak, Wayne Bigger, David Cole, Faith, Val, Louis Sczczpenik, Jack, Susan Worrell, Family of Michael Campbell, Cindy Bollinger, David Harding, Pam Wynne, Annie Haschke;

The Wider Community: War in Ukraine and War in Middle East; global natural disasters; violence and division throughout the nation; Hurricane Helene & Milton recovery;

Joys: Interfaith Thanksgiving Service; Advent Events.

Fifth Street Figures

Description	Offering
Worship (9/22/24)	\$1231.04
Reconciliation	\$25.00
TOTAL	\$1256.04
Worship (9/29/24)	\$1440.04
Reconciliation	\$25.00
TOPS	\$50.00
Sober School	\$800.00
TOTAL	\$2340.04
Worship (10/6/24)	\$809.68
Worship (10/13/24)	\$2641.00
CWS	\$50.00
TOTAL	\$2691.00
Worship (10/20/24)	\$714.85
Worship (10/27/24)	\$1952.93
Worship (11/3/24)	\$2851.04

Fifth Street Figures Continued...

Worship (11/10/24)	\$1949.28
Worship (11/17/24)	\$1913.68
Thanksgiving Offering	\$25.00
TOTAL	\$1938.68
Worship (11/24/24)	\$1573.64
Thanksgiving Offering	\$25.00
Angel Tree	\$30.00
TOTAL	\$1628.64

September 2024 Figures

General: \$4552.89

Income: \$8201.00

Transfer from Capital Funds: \$3791.00

Expenditures: \$10,056.29

Outreach

Income: - \$309.00

Expenditures: - \$329.00

October 2024 Figures

General: \$6468.60

Income: \$6130.00

Transfer from Capital Funds: \$4000.00

Expenditures: \$8459.95

Outreach

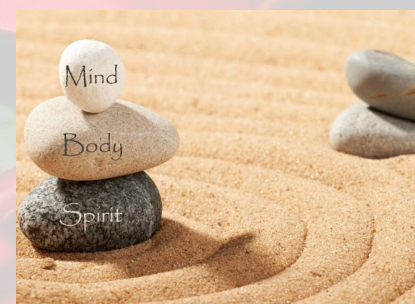
Income: \$50.00

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

News from the Christian Church in Indiana!

The CC(DOC) in Indiana Mission

Indiana Identity Statement

The Christian Church in Indiana is a diverse community of congregations called by God to act together in love.

We Value . . .

Christ's Table: We extend Christ's welcome to all through worship and communion.

Connection and Care: We are called to accompany one another.

Shared Wisdom: We gain insight in community.

Mutual Ministry: We do our ministry and mission more effectively together.

Spiritual Leadership: We nurture each one's call as gifted by the Spirit.

We Imagine . . .

A region that engages in networks of diverse relationships which shape our shared mission and ministry. We envision collaborative efforts that assist individuals in expressing their spiritual gifts, equip congregations to serve in their context and give witness to God's hope for a new community. This compels us to allocate our energy and resources in fresh ways and to call forth leadership throughout the region to fulfill this vision.

*Written by the Manna Process,
2010-2012*



CHRISTIAN CHURCH
| DISCIPLES OF CHRIST | i n INDIANA

Elder & Deacon Serving Schedule

December 8, 2024

Elder: Mary Ellen Carpenter
Deacon: Don Dean

December 15, 2024

Elder: Sharon Worrell-Schroader
Deacon: Brad Chandler

December 22, 2024

Elder: Brenda Michalak
Deacon: Linda Messmer

December 29, 2024

Elder: Debbie Benson
Deacon: David Michalak

January 5, 2025

Elder: Mary Ellen Carpenter
Deacon: Tania Messmer

January 12, 2025

Elder: Delia Helpingstine
Deacon: Don Dean

January 19, 2025

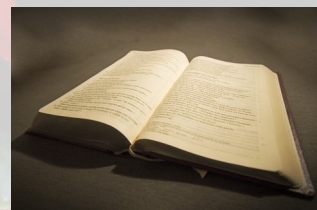
Elder: Sharon Worrell-Schroader
Deacon: Brad Chandler

January 26, 2025

Elder: Brenda Michalak
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 im-
portant in worship





Ways You Can Be A Part of the Action!

Lunch Bunch News

2024 Serving Dates:
December 7

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



Blessing Box and Book Nook News

We are always in need of items for the Blessing Box, especially hygiene products. Most recently we have been putting infant supplies out there, and they go as quickly as the other hygiene products! We are grateful for anything (hygiene products, cleaning supplies, and food) you bring to be given away as the need is great!



We also continue to receive books of all

kinds to put in the Book Nook and they are well received!

Senior Food Box Ministry

We have an awesome team who distributes the senior food boxes (Patrick, Marc, Linda and Debbie)! If you want to be a part of the action, see Debbie Benson!

Opportunities to Serve

God's love
visible



2024 CHRISTMAS OFFERING

December 15 & 22, 2024

Resumes 1/21/25

A STITCH OF TIME

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

Creating handcrafted blankets for those undergoing chemotherapy.



Thank you to ALL who contributed to the 2024 Angel Tree that supports students of Highland. All the tags were taken in the first week and gifts were turned in to the church the following week. You are all amazing in your generosity! Thank you!



“For unto us a child is born”
Isaiah 9:6



Many Thanks

Fellowship Committee for a fun Chili Cook-Off and Pumpkin Decorating Contest! Our winners were Tim Brown for Best Chili and Tom & Sheila Cushing for Best Pumpkins!

Thank you to Brenda and David Michalak, Linda Messmer, and Rev. Becky for decorating the church for Christmas. It looks beautiful!

Thank You!

Game Group

1st & 3rd Wednesdays of each month!

10-12.

Join this fun group and be blessed!



Well Done Stitch of Time!

\$185 was earned from the Blanket Raffle and \$120 was earned from the Bake Sale.

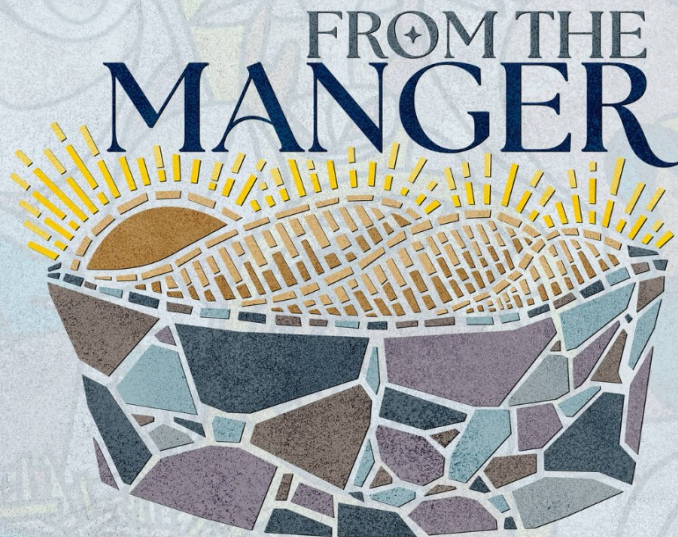
\$305 was earned total for the Stitch of Time Ministry initiative to support families grappling with pediatric cancer. Thank you to all who supported the raffle and sale!



News From the Pews



2024 Interfaith Thanksgiving Service



Advent 2024

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Highland, IN

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

The next Board Meeting is Tuesday, January 14th
7:00 P.M.
In Fellowship Hall.





Lunch with the Pastor

Join Rev. Becky for monthly lunches with the Pastor! There is no real agenda, but as and feedback are welcome topics. Mostly, she wants to use this time to have -on-one time with those who participate. Our first lunch of the new year will be Thursday, January 9, 2025@ 11 A.M. at Les Café in Highland (2708 Highway Ave).



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one

Dear FCC Sisters and Brothers,

As holiday decorations are being dusted off and the calendar fills, I am grateful for this time of anticipation and preparation for the Birth of the Christ Child. Normally, I can be quite a scrooge about this time. I'm not really sure why, but my best guess is that I have been thinking and planning and organizing for the season since August and September and by this time it has gotten old. This year, though, feels different. I will admit to cheating the turkey and buying decorations and listening to seasonal music already. I am almost done with my gift-buying. I am more on schedule with things than I have ever been (prayers that continues!). I am sure you know what I mean that some years or more festive than others. Whether you are having a bah humbug kind of year or you have already started wearing your favorite ugly sweaters this year, honor where you are. In the middle of all of that, look for the Christ Child, our Emmanuel, because he is there always. Blessings to you as you celebrate all that we have in God!

Grace and Peace,
Rev. Becky



January 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<p>1 New Year's Day Happy 2025!</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4 B: Mary Schons</p>
Office Closed						
<p>5 Epiphany Sunday Disciples Café 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M.</p>	<p>6 Feast of the Epiphany B: Carol Coolidge</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8 Senior Food Box Distribution 10-12</p>	<p>9 Lunch with the Pastor at Les Café 11:00 A.M. B: Carol Chandler</p>	<p>10 B: Tim Brown</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>12 Sunday Disciples Café 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Elder's Meeting 12:00 P.M.</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14 Stitch of Time 10-12</p>	<p>15 Game Group 10-12</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19 Sunday Disciples Café 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M.</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21 Stitch of Time 10-12 Board Meeting 7:00 P.M.</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 Amazing Race @ Ridge UMC 6-8 P.M. B: Grace Kristoff</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26 Sunday Disciples Café 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Congregational Dinner & Meeting</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>	

Christmas Eve Candlelight & Communion

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24TH

STREAMING ONLINE AT YOUR CONVENIENCE
BEGINNING AT 12 P.M.

IN-PERSON ONLY - 10:30 P.M.

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(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)
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PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

