

April 2026 Newsletter



The First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) of Perry is a family that finds ways of supporting growth through the connection of worship and the compassionate care of our church members and community.

Giving Report

| Attendance Report | 8:15 AM | 10:30 AM | 6:00 PM | YouTube |
|-------------------|---------|----------|---------|---------|
| 3/8/26 | 24 | 99 | 18 | 16 |
| 3/15/26 | 41 | 90 | 11 | 16 |
| 3/22/26 | 37 | 107 | n/a | 15 |
| 3/29/26 | 42 | 110 | n/a | 5 |

| | | |
|---------|----------------------------|-------------|
| 3/8/26 | General | \$2,642.00 |
| 3/8/26 | Quilt tickets | \$225.00 |
| 3/8/26 | Restricted-Church Camp | \$300.00 |
| 3/8/26 | Restricted Easter Plants | \$20.00 |
| 3/15/26 | General | \$12,395.00 |
| 3/15/26 | Restricted-Food Pantry | \$250.00 |
| 3/15/26 | Restricted Church Camp | \$2,306.00 |
| 3/15/26 | Restricted-Easter plants | \$96.00 |
| 3/22/26 | General | \$2466.00 |
| 3/22/26 | Restricted-Easter plants | \$205.00 |
| 3/27/26 | Subsplash | \$2,527.70 |
| 3/27/26 | ACH | \$400.00 |
| 3/29/26 | General | \$4,233.91 |
| 3/29/26 | Special Easter | \$100.00 |
| 3/29/26 | Retricted-Camp | \$70.00 |
| 3/29/26 | Restricted-VAN | \$25,000.00 |
| 3/29/26 | Restricted-G.D.I. | \$18,000.00 |
| 3/29/26 | Restricted-Carport | \$9,000.00 |
| 3/29/26 | Restricted-Fire Chaplaincy | \$250.00 |
| 3/29/26 | Restricted-Easter plants | \$20.00 |
| Total: | | \$80,506.61 |





From Resurrection to Renewal: Why This Season Matters

Easter is never just a day

It is the moment that reminds us who we are as the Church. It tells us that God is still bringing life out of what feels finished, still working in ways we cannot always see, and still calling us forward into something more. But if we are not careful, Easter can become something we celebrate and then move past too quickly. The truth is, Easter is not the end of the journey—it is the beginning of how we live.

That is why May, June, and July matter so much for us as a church.

In May, we begin to settle into the life of resurrection. We gather week after week—8:15, 10:30, Sunday School, and Grace After Sundown at 6:00 pm—and those rhythms start to shape us. Worship is not just something we attend; it is something that forms us. It gives us stability when life feels busy, and it keeps us grounded when everything else is shifting.

And May is a season of change. School is ending. Schedules are changing. Families are moving in a hundred different directions. That is exactly why staying connected here matters. When everything else becomes uncertain, the Church becomes a place of consistency, a place where we are reminded again and again of God's presence.

June builds on that.

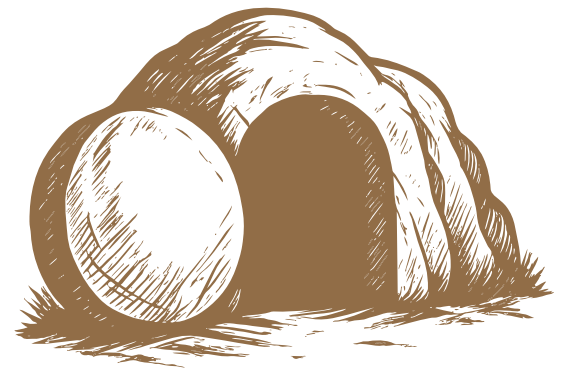
This is where life together really begins to take shape. Summer activities, gatherings, and simply being present with one another begin to deepen relationships. Faith does not grow in isolation—it grows in community, over time, through shared experiences. The simple act of showing up—week after week—matters more than we often realize.

It also matters for those who are watching us.

Our children and youth are paying attention to what we prioritize. When they see us make space for worship, for fellowship, and for service, they begin to understand that faith is not just something we talk about—it is something we live.

Then comes July.

This is often when routines are the most disrupted. Travel, vacations, and summer schedules can easily pull us away. And while rest is important, July is also a time when faithfulness matters in a different way. Staying connected—being present when you are here, making worship a priority



cont.

even when life feels scattered—reminds us that our relationship with God is not seasonal. It is steady. It is ongoing. It is part of who we are.

And when we remain connected, something happens. We return to one another with renewed energy, with new stories, and with a deeper sense of what it means to belong to this community.

That is really what this season is about.

Not just programs. Not just schedules. But a life together that is shaped by the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

So here is the invitation.

Be here.

Be present in May as life begins to shift.

Be present in June as relationships grow deeper.

Be present in July when it would be easy to drift

Because what we are building together matters.

It matters for your faith.

It matters for your family.

It matters for this church.

Easter tells us that new life is possible.

These months are where we learn how to live it.

Shalom,
Joshua


Disciples Kids

April 29th will be the last Disciples Kids this school year. Thank you to all who make the afterschool program such a success! We could not do it without our volunteers! Be sure to check the lost & found. We have several jackets, lunchboxes & accessories that have been left behind.

Those items will be donated to Operation Blessing if not picked up by May 3rd. Thank you!



Christian Education's
Easter
Celebration
Sunday, April 5th @ 9:30 AM



STEWARDSHIP MINUTE



For Christians, Easter is not just a day, but a way of life. The enthusiasm of this season calls us to examine our stewardship throughout the year. How are we using our time, talents, and treasure to shine the light of the risen Christ? Let us pledge our continued commitment to the work of reconciliation, healing, and proclamation, ensuring the impact of Easter lasts all year long.

Welcome to FCC!

We are pleased to announce the newest member of the First Christian Church, - Kate Englebrecht!



Welcome

April Birthdays

Ronan Newton 4/1
Christopher Anderson 4/2
Jarron Davis 4/2
Ted Bolay 4/3
Jerry Sylvester 4/3
Patti Sylvester 4/3
Kali Hughey 4/4
Kase Wheatley 4/4
Jacob Capps 4/7
Lainey Hughey 4/7
Connor Bolay 4/8
Paula Shryock 4/10
J.D. Koch 4/14
Kevin Clavier 4/16
Caelyn Wilson 4/29
Mike Wilda 4/29
Leslie Kelly 4/30

CWF

Coin Drive for Operation Blessing

Accepting coins through April 26th
to benefit our local Operation Blessing.

April Anniversaries

Roger & Carmen Tetik 4/8
Robert & Pam Cunningham 4/20
Barry & Kristie Cook 4/20
Hank & Lou Geisinger 4/25
Josh & Jamie Thompson

CWF BROWN BAG BUNKO

Thursday, April 16th

5:30-6:00 dinner

6:00-8:00 Bunko

BRING YOUR OWN DINNER & ENJOY A FUN EVENING OF BUNKO!

Baptism @ FCC

Congratulations to Jenna Thompson on her recent baptism!



From the Chairman of the Board...

Thank you to the volunteers: Angie Schweer, John Vasek, Robert Rahn, Gerald Demory & Johnny Fuller, who recently helped with the painting of our church nursery. I appreciate your time, energy and love that you put into this project. The First Christian Church is truly blessed with such dedicated and generous people who make such a difference in and outside of this church.

Sincerely,
David Sharp
FCC Board Chair



Announcements

Reoccurring Events:

Sunday School : Sundays at 9:30 AM
Sunday Worship Services: 8:15 AM 10:30 AM
Grace After Sundown Sundays 6:00 PM
Caraway Street: 3rd Sunday at 9:30 AM.
Disciples Kids: Wednesday after school
Youth: Sundays at 5:00 PM
Chancel Choir: Wednesdays @ 6:00 PM
(except when Board meetings are scheduled.)
Bell Choir: Wednesdays @ 7:00PM (except
when Board meetings are scheduled.)
Bible Study: Bible Study Tuesdays at 9:00 AM
Disciples Women: 3rd Thursday of the month
6:00 PM
Quilters: Thursdays 1:00 PM
Pickleball: Tuesdays & Fridays at 10:00 AM
Christian Women's Fellowship: Events
scheduled throughout the year.
Christian Men's Fellowship breakfast: 3rd
Saturday of the month 7:00 AM.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE:

4/2 Maundy Thursday Service 6:00 PM
24-hour Prayer Vigil begins 7:00 PM
4/3 Good Friday Service 7:00 PM
4/5 Easter Sunrise Service @ CCC Lake Chapel 6:30 AM
Services 8:15 AM & 10:30 AM
Sunday school 9:30 AM
Easter Celebration 9:30 AM
No Youth Group
Grace After Sundown Evening Worship 6:00 PM



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(Disciples of Christ)
701 Holly St.
Perry, OK 73077
580-335-4576



Rev. Dr. Joshua Bell, Sr. Minister
Shiloah Kennedy, Administrative Assistant
Emily Androes, Children's Ministry Coordinator
Paula Shryock, Music Director
Nancy Wells, Organist
Karen Douglass, Pianist
Bobby Cunningham, AV tech
Ted Loring, AV Tech
Sharon Worrell, Custodian

Thank you for reading!

April 2026



| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|--|---|---|--|-----------------------------|
| | | | 1 Disc. Kids 3:30 PM Chancel 6 PM Bell 7PM | 2 Quilters 1:00 PM Maundy Thurs. Service 6:00 PM 24-hr. Prayer Vigil begins 7:00 PM | 3 Good Friday Service 7:00 PM | 4 |
| 5 Sunrise Service @ CCC Lake 6:30 AM Easter Cel. 9:30 No Youth Grace After Sundown 6 PM | 6 Deacons' mtg. 5:30 PM Elders' mtg 6:00 PM | 7 Bible Study 9:00 AM Pickleball 10:00 AM | 8 Disc. Kids 3:30 PM Board 6:00 PM | 9 Quilters 1:00 PM | 10 Pickleball 10:00 AM | 11 |
| 12 Youth 5:00 PM Worship 6:00 PM | 13 | 14 No Bible Study Pickleball 10:00 AM | 15 Disc. Kids 3:30 PM Chancel 6PM Bell 7PM | 16 Quilters 1:00 PM Brown Bag Bunko 5:30 PM-8:00 PM | 17 Bible Study Day Trip 8-4PM Pickleball 10:00 AM | 18 CMF breakfast 7:00 AM |
| 19 Caraway St. 9:30 AM Nav. Trans 3:00 PM Youth 5:00 PM Worship 6:00 PM | 20 Stewardship mtg. 6:00 PM | 21 Bible Study 9:00 AM Pickleball 10:00 AM | 22 Disc. Kids 3:30 PM Chancel 6PM Bell 7PM | 23 Quilters 1:00 PM | 24 Pickleball 10:00 AM | 25 PHS Band dance |
| 26 Stewardship Committee Mtg. 3:30 PM Youth 5:00 PM Worship 6:00 PM | 27 | 28 Bible Study 9:00 AM Pickleball 10:00 AM Disciples Women 6 PM | 29 Last Disciples Kids 3:30 PM Chancel 6 PM Bell 7PM | 30 Quilters 1:00 PM | | |

Prayer Labyrinth 3/30-4/3 in the Big Room

Prayer Requests for April 1, 2026

The Family of:

Rena Hilburn

Jamee Clapper

Troy Crews

Ann Ewy

Carrie Patterson

Lewis & Maria Martinez

Trish Bazzell

Norman Nyberg

Recent Health Concerns:

Andrew Fuller-wisdom teeth being removed 4/1

Tracey Klingaman-update: out of ICU and is doing better.

Jackie Fuller

Robert Koch-stage III renal failure

Redessa Ramsey

Allen Vaughan-carpal tunnel

Kim McLain-broken shoulder

Kathyrn Knott-gall bladder surgery

Betty Curtis-broken pelvis

Johnny Hafner

Gary Koch

Caroline Foote, great, great niece of Norma Hughes Klingaman, hernia procedure.

On-going Health Concerns:

Everett Lighty

Hattie Fischer

Terri Morrow

Sally Frazier

Joyce Choplin

Bruce Force

Lindsey Wiley

Edna Dillon

Kenneth New

Jim Gall

Kim Hughes

David Frazier, Sr.

Unspoken & General Concerns:

The country, the President, & the military.

Praise:

Pam & Robert Cunningham are celebrating 35 years of marriage!

Willow Karcher passed her CNA exams!

Stephanie, Paula Shryock's daughter, is going to Colorado for her residency program.

Bob Bornt's granddaughter was safe after an accident

Tammy Kelly is out of a boot.

Tommie Cargill's great grandchildren are visiting.

Cancer:

Brenda Coats

Nancy Mitchell

Shari Bross

Bev Klingaman

Lindsey Wiley

Doris Lewis

Doug Butler

Roger Ediger

Junene Whiteley

Tom Nelson

Becky Ambrosini

Tammy Daniels

Paige Dunham

Tiffany Hager, cousin of Shelley Hawkins

Judy Winters

Shannda Holcomb, friend of Ashley Bode

George Cunningham, Robert Cunningham's brother

Lyle Smith

Victor Chavez

Emily Koch

Travis Wilhelm

Roger Gierhart

Brian Fuller

Matt Frazier

Brian Boyea

Tracey Klingaman

Sheryl Jackson

Jerry Carson