



The Charleroi Christian

First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

August 2024

61 Walnut Ridge Road
Charleroi, PA 15022-3322

Senior Pastor Dennis J. Stitch

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FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Hello First Christian Church Family,

Philippians 4:8 KJV

Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, if there be any praise, think on these things.

In this life our thoughts, what we focus on in our thinking, and how we invest our time is a "HUGE" key for all of us. Last month I started a series on the whole armor of God. This is taken from the book of Ephesians 6:12-18 and written by the Apostle Paul.

As Christians we MUST be prepared for our challenges in life the best we can. One way is to put on the whole armor of God. Through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ we are "VICTORIOUS"! Our battles are spiritual battles as we are told.

Let us put on the whole armor of God so we can have the victory.

Yours in Christ.

Pastor Dennis J. Stitch



Tithes and offerings

A STEWARDSHIP REMINDER PLEASE REMEMBER: JUST BECAUSE YOU MAY NOT BE AT CHURCH ON A GIVEN SUNDAY, THE LIGHTS ARE STILL ON, THE FURNACE AND AIR CONDITIONERS ARE STILL IN USE, THE CUSTODIAN HAS CLEANED THE CHURCH, AND THE BILLS STILL NEED TO BE PAID. SO, IF YOU HAPPEN TO MISS A SUNDAY (OR THREE OR FOUR SUNDAYS) **PLEASE MAKE UP YOUR PLEDGE/OFFERING. THANK YOU!**

"Will a mere mortal rob God? Yet you rob me. But you ask, 'How are we robbing you?' **In tithes and offerings!**" – MALACHI 3:8

BIRTHDAYS

AUG. 3	PHILIP HERMANN
AUG. 7	MACY GEARHEART
AUG. 9	BROOKE BLY
AUG. 10	ADDYSON POZIVIAK & DENISE COLE
AUG. 12	MALCOLM CALLERY
AUG. 13	DAWN BILLY
AUG. 14	DAWN LAPINSKY & JOELLA PENDLETON
AUG. 17	ANTHONY CRAMER
AUG. 18	DEBBIE LESSMAN
AUG. 21	DEBBIE COLVIN
AUG. 23	GARRETT SANTO
AUG. 24	JOAN SANTINI & ERICA MERANDO-CURTIS
AUG. 27	SARAH STITCH



"God gave us the gift of life; it is up to us to give ourselves the gift of living well." –Voltaire



ANNIVERSARIES

AUG. 10	MIKE & SHERRY ERDELY
AUG. 16	LAWRENCE & THEODORA HARRIS
AUG. 27	MALCOLM & CANDY CALLERY
AUG. 29	JIM & DEBBIE CALDWELL



ELDERS FOR COMMUNION – AUGUST 2024

AUGUST 4	DIANE RUSAK DEBBIE COLVIN
AUGUST 11	DENNIS CALDWELL KRISTIN BLAIR
AUGUST 18	TOM GRIFFITH DEB CALDWELL
AUGUST 25	MARY VALLA DEBBIE COLVIN



DEACONS' SCHEDULE – AUGUST 2024

AUGUST 4	SUE LATOUR & NANCY LESSMAN
AUGUST 11	VIVIAN HORNER & BOB GRANT
AUGUST 18	GEORGE HOGAN & DIANE GRAY
AUGUST 25	VALERIE STITCH & BETH HUGHES



**MOVIE NIGHT AT FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH – 7 P.M. –
SOCIAL HALL, EVERY THIRD FRIDAY OF THE MONTH.**

THANKS TO MALCOLM CALLERY, A MOVIE WILL BE PRESENTED FOR YOUR ENJOYMENT. COME AND FELLOWSHIP TOGETHER IN THE CHURCH'S SOCIAL HALL. If you have a favorite DVD movie or a suggestion for Malcolm, please let him know. Our next movie will be presented on **Friday, AUGUST 16, 2024 at 7 PM.**

EVANGELISM – Margie D'Antonio or Cora Russell (724-344-9803)

There **were** prayer letters sent out last month. These prayer letters are always available in the narthex for you to sign and to put a name in the notebook for someone to get the prayer letter.

SAVE THE DATE IN 2025 – NEXT GENERAL ASSEMBLY – JULY 12-15, 2025 IN MEMPHIS, TN

ALL ARE INVITED

BI-REGIONAL MEETING:

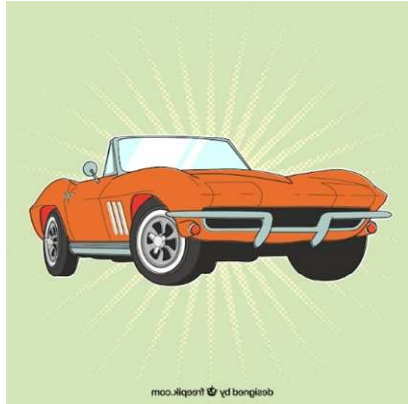
and Friday, October 18 at First Christian Church (DOC), 615 East Beau Street, Washington, PA. Watch for more information in the coming months. **SAVE THE DATES**

[Grab your reader's

Thursday, October 17
Christian Church

SAVE THE DATE - 2nd ANNUAL CAR SHOW (FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH) –

August 24th (rain date, August 31) – Noon – 4 PM CAR SHOW ADMISSION \$10; REGISTRATION STARTS AT 10 AM with free coffee & donuts! SPECTATORS FREE!



Featuring music by: DJ Jerry Jericho

Contact Ernie and Viv Horner at 724-350-9598 for more information.
Proceeds benefit the church kitchen and the driveway fund.

TO: ALL FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF OUR PASTOR, DENNIS J. STITCH

Pastor Dennis has served our church for over two years and he deserves the respect of his position when referring to him inside and outside the church. Please address him as Pastor Dennis or Pastor. Although many of you have grown up or known him for years, he deserves our respect of his position. We are so grateful to see the growth of our membership over the past two years and how he has brought such love, joy, compassion and dedication as our full time pastor.

CHOIR ANNOUNCEMENT:

Choir practice will begin on Wednesday, August 28, 2024 at 6:30 PM. New members are always welcome!

We will be back in the sanctuary on September 8, 2024.



Elder's Corner – Back to School

Hello Church Family –

Can you believe how fast summer is flying by? In a matter of weeks, it will be “back to school” for the children – and all that comes with that! Morning routines, sports or band practices, homework every night and studying for exams... with that in mind, whether you have school age children or not – take some time to enjoy what is left of summer. Take a look around – marvel at all that nature provides, and take a moment to relax!

We get so “busy” with our day to day routines/lives that we forget to stop and appreciate all that God has given us. If we could just slow down and stress less – we can be wonderful examples to the children. We need to lead by example... they need to learn from how we handle situations and then they can apply it to their own scenarios. First and foremost, we must show them our trust in God – that He knows and has a plan – even when we cannot see what that may be. We need to teach them that prayers are always answered and we should love one another the way that the Lord loves us.

Dear God –

Please help to guide and protect our youth as they head back to school this month. If they are struggling, show them the way. If they are rejoicing, let them realize it is all from your glory. Help the adults to be good role models for everyone to follow – especially the children. No matter how hectic our lives become, let us never forget to praise you and thank you for all you have given us and for the sacrifice you made – giving your only son, Jesus Christ, so that we may have eternal life with you.

Amen

Good luck, kids with “back to school”... I know you will do GREAT things!!!

Love,

Mary Valla

THE C.W.F. BLESSING BOXES: For many years the idea of the Blessing Box has been part of the lives of the Women of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). The Blessing Box is planned as a means to express “over and above” giving to the mission of the church through Basic Mission Finance.

A Blessing Box offering represents a gift of love, of appreciation, of thanks to God. It is a coin offering. To help Kristin, please convert the coins to dollars.

New Part-Time Co-Worker: As of August 1, 2024, Kim Quinn will be joining Debbie Caldwell in the office. Kim will be preparing the weekly bulletin and assisting me in other duties. She is an excellent typist and types much faster than I do. Kim will be in the office on Thursday and Friday from 9 AM – noon. I will continue to be in the office Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 9 AM – noon. We may change days from time to time for appointments keeping our total shared weekly hours and shared salary the same each month.

Welcome aboard Kim!

UNDER LONG-TEM CARE

<i>Our Leaders*</i>	<i>Marlene Celaschi*</i>	<i>Sophia Renk*</i>
<i>Our Troops*</i>	<i>Ellis & Darla White*</i>	<i>Betty Jo Matesich*</i>
<i>Our Church*</i>	<i>Bill & Garnet Krutz*</i>	<i>Nancy Lessman*</i>
<i>Universities*</i>	<i>Rocky Renk*</i>	<i>Ken & Sherry Ballentyne*</i>
<i>Grace Vandernitte*</i>	<i>Father Bob Hanna*</i>	<i>Kristin Colvin*</i>
<i>Justin Sutch*</i>	<i>David Hanna*</i>	<i>Miley Ava Delval*</i>
<i>Karin Brightwell*</i>	<i>Joseph Wojcik*</i>	<i>Grethen & Tom Speece*</i>
<i>Lila Risch*</i>	<i>Alicia Hruby*</i>	<i>Sarah Matay*</i>
<i>Bertha Zollars*</i>	<i>Jack Sharp*</i>	<i>Gage Peters*</i>
<i>Lois Buberniak*</i>	<i>Hannah Simpson*</i>	<i>Cindy Buckley*</i>
<i>Michael Erdely* (Mike & Sherry's Son)</i>	<i>Karl & Dorothy Semekoski*</i>	<i>Dave & Chrissy Zoltun*</i>
<i>Tanner Riley*</i>	<i>Mason Madzey*</i>	<i>Laverne Giordanengo*</i>
<i>Jessica Beimel*</i>	<i>Terri Brownfield*</i>	<i>Margie D'Antonio*</i>
<i>Heather Simpson*</i>	<i>Victor Angelo*</i>	<i>Melanie Slattery*</i>
<i>Small Businesses*</i>	<i>Christian Colleges*</i>	<i>Janet Hellner-Burris*</i>
<i>Brian Stillwagon*</i>	<i>Bob Gilpin*</i>	<i>Sam & Jane Semekoski *</i>
<i>Joe & Betty Jo Rapp*</i>	<i>Gary Gray*</i>	<i>Josh Cramer*</i>
<i>Bre Randolph*</i>	<i>Tonya Kepich*</i>	<i>Connie Siranni*</i>
<i>Andrew DeBroeck*</i>	<i>Jesse & Joseph Bird*</i>	<i>Sydney Weaver*</i>
<i>Ed Yuhas*</i>	<i>Matt Sezewich*</i>	<i>Rev. Chuck House*</i>
<i>Gene Kite*</i>	<i>Kelly Weaver*</i>	<i>Missy Montgomery*</i>
<i>Ingri Humphrey*</i>	<i>Joan Caldwell*</i>	<i>Nate Stanchfield*</i>
<i>Jake Hurley*</i>	<i>Rose Wilkinson*</i>	<i>Diane Rusak*</i>
<i>Michael Cramer*</i>	<i>Mike Wilkinson*</i>	

SYMPATHY AND CONCERNS

Our deepest sympathy to Mary Ann Simpson, wife, and family on the recent passing of her husband, Paul V. Simpson, a beloved kindergarten teacher at Charleroi Elementary Center.

Our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Karen Majka, who recently passed away.

JOYS

* Congratulations to Tyler Weller for organizing the First Christian Church Men's Dartball Team. Tyler has recruited 11 players. Tyler met with the Mon Valley Dartball League on Monday, July 29.

* Happy 14th birthday, July 20, to Ryder Nicklaus, who lives in New York and is the great-great grandson of Ellis and Darla White.

* Thanks to all for your cards and prayers. They meant so much to us. Mary Lou Lachman

* Thanks for our picnic, which went well. Garnet Krutz

* Rose Wilkinson completed her last chemo treatment two weeks ago. She did well and is in good spirits. Mike & Chris Wilkinson

* UPDATE: Lori Burgess is now improving and if BP stays up and labs improve, she will move to regular room. An emergency prayer chain went out two Thursdays ago for Lori, who went to Washington Hospital for blood infection, low BP, dehydration and pneumonia. Requested by: Pastor and First Lady – **Lori was back in church on 7/29 as we praise our God for His mighty hand.**

THE MEMORIAL FLAG PRESENTATION to the family of CONGRESSMAN AUSTIN J. MURPHY will now be held at the August 18 Service. This flag was flown over the capital building in honor of his birthday on June 17.

NEW LIFE OPTIONS WALK FOR LIFE 2024 will be held at Chess Park in Monongahela on **SATURDAY, AUGUST 10**, with registration at 10 AM and the Walk beginning at 11 AM. An informational flyer with more details and sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board if you would like to participate.

PLEASE PLACE completed PRAYER/JOY REQUEST SLIPS to be read during the service in the basket near the Pastor's podium **before** the service begins. When the service begins at 10:45 AM, we are officially on Facebook.

Thank you to the Moreland family for sharing their zucchini and cucumbers from their garden. God loves a cheerful giver.

BACK-TO-SCHOOL SUNDAY, AUGUST 18: Since Charleroi Area School District begins their first day back on August 22, school supplies will be available after worship. Bring your own book bag or back pack to put your school supplies in.

PRAYER CONCERNS* Prayers for Bill Krutz, who has sepsis; for Garnet with low iron – receiving iron infusions, and for Katie (Garnet’s dog) who has had multiple seizures.

* Prayers for Mike Wilkinson experiencing some complications from his radiation treatments.

Requested by: Christine Wilkinson

* Prayers for Raffey, Tyson and Mayhew families who are experiencing health issues.

Requested by: Barbara Jeffery

* Prayers for my niece who is having a hysterectomy. Requested by: Barbara Jeffery

* Prayers for Ed Gould for his upcoming bypass surgery on August 14. Requested by: Marla Gould

* Prayers for Ed & Marla Gould as they travel to South Carolina to visit Uncle John on Aug. 5-9.

* Prayers for my daughter Melanie who is recovering from pneumonia and expected to be back home on Monday. Requested by: Tom Griffith

* Prayers for peace and comfort over our daughter Jenna dealing with postpartum depression.

Requested by: Ray & Missy

* Prayers for Jean Anderson who broke her pelvis. Requested by: Tyler Aderson (Erin’s grandson)

* UPDATE: Donna Manion Clark (Maria Durfey’s friend) for a reoccurrence of kidney cancer. She saw her oncologist on July 24. Continued prayers are needed.

* UPDATE: Prayer for Elma, (not Alma) Ellis’ sister in Ohio, who has lung cancer. Requested by: Ellis and Darla White

* Prayers for Sue Ellen Nagel, who is in Jefferson Hospital with heart problems. Requested by: Pastor and First Lady

* Prayers for Nate Stanchfield (17 year old from Belle Vernon) who is fighting childhood leukemia. He is now in Children’s Hospital in Philadelphia having a new Car-T cell treatment. Please keep praying for him. Requested by: Debbie Colvin

* Prayers for Rene Jarvis, on hospice, and husband, Tom. Both now have Covid.

* Prayers for Dee’s husband, Richard Evens, who has esophageal cancer and is starting treatment. Requested by: Deb Caldwell

* Prayers for continued success with treatment of pancreatic cancer – family friend of Barndollars and Vallas. Requested by: Paula Barndollar

* Prayers for those who lost their life and were wounded. Thank God President Trump was not hurt!

* Prayers for Kent Downer who had an accident at home and broke his wrist, requiring surgery. Requested by: Tammy Greco

* Continued prayers for God’s peace and comfort over my mental health issues. Requested by: Missy

* Prayers for Tyler’s dad (Dan) in a lot of pain and chemo has been stopped. Requested by: Missy

* Prayers for my father-in-law, Nick, who’s in Mon Valley Hospital with possible GI bleed. Requested by: Missy