



# The Charleroi Christian First Christian Church

*(Disciples of Christ)*  
**March 2025**

61 Walnut Ridge Road  
Charleroi, PA 15022-3322

Church Office: (724) 489-9014  
Church's email: [fcccharleroi@gmail.com](mailto:fcccharleroi@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.FCC-Charleroi.com](http://www.FCC-Charleroi.com)  
Pastor's Cellphone: (724) 316-9255

Senior Pastor Dennis J. Stitch

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## **FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK**

Hello God's "BEAUTIFUL" Children!

As he approached it, he called out to Daniel, worried: Daniel, servant of the living God! Was your God—the one you serve so consistently—able to rescue you from the lions?" Daniel 6:20 CEB (Common English Bible).

The majority of us in life can say we have been in situations that felt like we were in a hungry lions den. Knowing in our hearts the only deliverance will come from God himself. There are times situations seem bleak and nearly impossible to overcome. That's when we MUST rely on the FAITH God has given us.

So how do you and I overcome the lions den in our lives? When we are in situations that are unfair and challenging us in our walk with God, what do you do? Will God really deliver and make good on HIS promises? Yes, HE will deliver you and I from the lions den.

Three points I will share that will help us in the lions den.

- 1) TRUST God and HIS strength as you go through the trials.
- 2) View the challenge as an opportunity to increase your FAITH.
- 3) Surround yourself with other believers who will strengthen you in your journey.

Please come and worship with us at First Christian Church, we would love to see you.

Senior Pastor Dennis J. Stitch

## BIRTHDAYS

Mar. 2	Marie Miller
Mar. 3	Alyssa Pendleton, Lettie Porter, Rick Carson
Mar. 4	Brad Bly
Mar. 5	Braylynn Nicole Franklin
Mar. 7	Wesley Porter
Mar. 8	Trudy Bly
Mar. 9	Marlene Celaschi
Mar. 12	Dr. Mike Erdely, Pam Rice
Mar. 14	Delia McCurdy
Mar. 17	Colin Rice
Mar. 21	Jeffrey Lessman, Savannah Snipes
Mar. 24	Ed Gould
Mar. 26	Jessica Merando, Trish Fleming
Mar. 27	Ron A. Bird, Bruce Pendleton, Melissa Pendleton
Mar. 28	Anthony DeMarco
Mar. 29	Aiden Gernot, Nancy Horrell, Selah McCurdy



## ANNIVERSARIES

Mar.21	Tammy & Buddy Greco
Mar. 30	Sharan & Glenn Lowden



### ELDERS FOR COMMUNION – MARCH 2025

<b>MARCH 2</b>	<b>TOM GRIFFITH DEB CALDWELL</b>
<b>MARCH 9</b>	<b>TARYN GRANT PAULA BARNDOLLAR</b>
<b>MARCH 16</b>	<b>RON BIRD SR. DEB COLVIN</b>
<b>MARCH 23</b>	<b>JOE VALLA DIANE RUSAK</b>
<b>MARCH 30</b>	<b>MARY VALLA KRISTIN BLAIR</b>

### DEACONS' SCHEDULE – MARCH 2025

<b>MARCH 2</b>	<b>SUE LATOUR &amp; NANCY LESSMAN</b>
<b>MARCH 9</b>	<b>VIVIAN HORNER &amp; BOB GRANT</b>
<b>MARCH 16</b>	<b>GEORGE HOGAN &amp; DIANE GRAY</b>
<b>MARCH 23</b>	<b>FIRST LADY VALERIE STITCH &amp; BETH HUGHES</b>
<b>MARCH 30</b>	<b>MARLA GOULD &amp; GARNET KRUTZ</b>



<b>UNDER LONG-TERM CARE</b>		
<i>Our Leaders*</i>	<i>Marlene Celaschi*</i>	<i>Ken &amp; Sherry Ballentyne*</i>
<i>Our Troops*</i>	<i>Ellis &amp; Darla White*</i>	<i>Kristin Colvin*</i>
<i>Our Church*</i>	<i>Garnet Krutz*</i>	<i>Miley Ava Delval*</i>
<i>Universities*</i>	<i>Rocky Renk*</i>	<i>Gretchen &amp; Tom Speece*</i>
<i>Grace Vandernitte*</i>	<i>Father Bob Hanna*</i>	<i>Sarah Matay*</i>
<i>Justin Sutch*</i>	<i>David Hanna*</i>	<i>Gage Peters*</i>
<i>Karin Brightwell*</i>	<i>Joseph Wojcik*</i>	<i>Cindy Buckley*</i>
<i>Lila Risch*</i>	<i>Alicia Hruby*</i>	<i>Chrissy Zoltun*</i>
<i>Bertha Zollars*</i>	<i>Jack Sharp*</i>	<i>Laverne Giordanengo*</i>
<i>Lois Buberniak*</i>	<i>Hannah Simpson*</i>	<i>Margie D'Antonio*</i>
<i>Michael Erdely*</i> <i>(Mike &amp; Sherry's Son)</i>	<i>Mason Madzey*</i>	<i>Melanie Slattery*</i>
<i>Tanner Riley*</i>	<i>Terri Brownfield*</i>	<i>Janet Hellner-Burris*</i>
<i>Jessica Beimeel*</i>	<i>Victor Angelo*</i>	<i>Josh Cramer*</i>
<i>Heather Simpson*</i>	<i>Christian Colleges*</i>	<i>Diane Rusak*</i>
<i>Small Businesses*</i>	<i>Bob Gilpin*</i>	<i>Sydney Weaver*</i>
<i>Brian Stillwagon*</i>	<i>Gary Gray*</i>	<i>Rev. Chuck House*</i>
<i>Joe &amp; Betty Jo Rapp*</i>	<i>Tonya Kepich*</i>	<i>Missy Montgomery*</i>
<i>Bre Randolph*</i>	<i>Jesse &amp; Joseph Bird*</i>	<i>Nate Stanchfield*</i>
<i>Andrew DeBroeck*</i>	<i>Matt Sezawich*</i>	<i>Sue Charney*</i>
<i>Ed Yuhas*</i>	<i>Kelly Weaver*</i>	<i>Carolyn Santavicca*</i>
<i>Gene Kite*</i>	<i>Joan Caldwell*</i>	<i>Dana Obusek*</i>
<i>Ingri Humphrey*</i>	<i>Rose Wilkinson*</i>	<i>John &amp; Karen Mollenauer*</i>
<i>Jake Hurley*</i>	<i>Lori Burgess*</i>	<i>Dennis Fritsch</i>
<i>Michael Cramer*</i>	<i>John Blatnik*</i>	<i>Kate &amp; Joe Greer Jr.</i>
<i>Jim Caldwell*</i>	<i>Sophia Renk*</i>	<i>Betty MacDonald</i>
<i>Chris Blatnik*</i>	<i>Betty Jo Matesich*</i>	
<i>Autumn Raffaele*</i>	<i>Nancy Lessman*</i>	



**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, March 21, 2025 at 7 PM (weather permitting).**

**FCC VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2025** – Volunteers are needed. Please sign up in the narthex or call Jenn to volunteer. Church members or their friends and family members are welcome to volunteer. **If you would like to be a volunteer, please let Jenn know.** The program is scheduled for June 23-27 from 6:00 PM – 8:30 PM. Closing program and picnic on Saturday, June 28, 11 AM – 2 PM. Jennifer Snipes (724-366-7934), FirstChristianCharleroi\_VBS\_Dir@outlook.com, will be directing this program. So, come, be a part of **ROAD TRIP ON THE GO WITH GOD!**

**NEXT GENERAL ASSEMBLY–JULY 12-15, IN MEMPHIS, TN**

**GOOD NEWS CLASS SOUP & SANDWICH LUNCHEON – MARCH 16**

**SPORTSMAN'S DINNER – APRIL 26**

**SPRING VENDOR CRAFT SHOW – MAY 17**



## EVANGELISM – CORA RUSSELL

Our prayer letter mission is growing. Thank you for signing each Sunday and leaving the important addresses. For the month of February, 16 have been mailed. Your blessings of prayer are very appreciated. –Cora

Please remember the Church Improvement/Building Fund when you are doing your giving planning. This is your over and above giving to keep our church in tip top shape. We never know when a repair or improvement is going to be needed.

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### **UPCOMING DATES FOR MARCH 2025:** *(weather permitting)*

March 2	Quarterly Elder's Meeting
March 3	Dartball HOME vs Orchard Christian Church – 7 PM – Social Hall
March 5	Choir Practice – 6:00 PM
March 5	ASH WEDNESDAY Service – 7:00 PM
March 6	IOOF Men's Fellowship – 7:00 PM – Social Hall
March 6 – 7	24-HOUR PRAYER VIGIL
March 9	<b>DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS</b>
March 10	Dartball HOME vs Fayette City Alliance – 7:00 PM – Social Hall
March 12	Choir – 6:00 PM
March 16	Good News Class Soup & Sandwich Luncheon after worship
March 16	Panera Bread
March 17	ST. PATRICK'S DAY
March 19	Choir Practice
March 20	IOOF Men's Fellowship – 7:00 PM – Social Hall
March 21	Movie Night
March 26	Choir – 6 PM



Mark your calendars for the "Soup and Sandwich" Luncheon on **March 16, 2025** right after worship. This luncheon is sponsored by The Good News Class. Thank you, Ellis White

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### **ELDER'S CORNER – Cora Russell**

On Friday, April 4, our Pastor will be honored by receiving the Distinguished Citizen of the Year Award. This award is given by the Pittsburgh Council of the Boy Scouts of America. This is the 30<sup>th</sup> year for this award. Remember, scouting is one of the few organizations aimed at building good character in our youth.

The breakfast will begin at 8:30 AM at the Lombardi Education Conference Center at Mon Valley Hospital. There is no charge for the breakfast but I feel sure donations will be accepted. If you are able to come and be there for this award to our Pastor, please give Cora your name.

Pastor, we are proud of you. Your First Christian Church Family

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## **LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS**

A new committee has been established for our church and we are looking for volunteers to assist our committee.

The committee that has recently been created is the **FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE**.

The goal of this committee is to gather ideas for fundraising opportunities to support our church as well as people willing to assist in organizing and putting into action fundraising opportunities.

If you are interested in this opportunity, please contact Diane Rusak for more information.  
(412) 389-5639 – cell number.

More information will be coming shortly....please pray about it and if it speaks to you, let me know!

Thanks in advance!!

Diane Rusak

### **CAMA LENTEN SERVICES -7 PM**

- 3/9 Pastor Randy Ord at First Christian Church**
- 3/16 Pastor Jeff Smith at Speers UMC**
- 3/23 Pastor Lori Walters at Charleroi UMC**
- 3/30 Pastor Dennis Stitch at Mt. Sinai Baptist Church**
- 4/6 Pastor Diane Hobson at First Christian Church**



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**24-HOUR PRAYER VIGIL** – a very important 24-hour vigil is taking place at First Christian. This vigil begins at midnight on March 6 and ends at midnight on Friday, March 7. I am sure we all know how important prayer is. Our Pastor has said on many occasions that FCC is going to make a difference in our community, region and further. Prayer is needed for this to happen. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex for praying for the church. As of 2/21, there are 5 slots left (March 6: 3:30 AM, 4 AM & 4:30 AM – March 7: 10 PM & 10:30 PM). You can call the office at 724-489-9014 to find an open spot. For those of you who are away from church grounds, please pray at home. Imagine how powerful our prayers would be if we had 24 hours in church and 24 hours of prayers from our homes. Prayer changes things, so let's begin to make things happen. *–Cora Russell*

## **COMMUNITY EVENT**

Come see Belle Vernon Area High School's production of the musical comedy "The Drowsy Chaperone" on March 13th, 14th, and 15th at 7:00 pm, and March 16th at 2:00 pm. They are a great group of talented young people including junior, Sarah Shenouda (Ken and Sherry Ballentyne's granddaughter) as "The Chaperone".  
Get your tickets online at [www.bvabroadway.com](http://www.bvabroadway.com) . \$15.00 for adults and \$10.00 for students.

## **JOYS**

Congratulations to Randall & Chelsea Risch on the birth of their son, Nolan Robert Risch, born Feb. 9. Nolan joins sisters Lila & Adelyn. Proud grandparents are Bob & Taryn Grant.

Kidney appointment went well! By: Nancy Dunmeyer

For Tyler Anderson's 8<sup>th</sup> grade travel basketbal team – an undefeated season! By: Nana Erin Sinko

**THANK YOU** to the men of our church for the Valentine Brunch!

Our new grand nephew, Ronen, was born Wednesday, 2/5. Proud parents Eric & Emily Barndollar, Proud grandparents, David & Adele Barndollar. Ronen also has a 3-year old sister, Lyric. By: Proud aunts, Paula Barndollar & Mary Valla

For Tyler Anderson's 8<sup>th</sup> grade travel basketbal team – an undefeated season! By: Nana Erin Sinko

Thank you, Lord, for speaking your words of positivity into my heart this week. By: Missy

My dad, Wayne, is healing well from hernia surgery and is back to being an Elder at Lone Pine Christian Church. By: Missy

Congratulations to Emily E. Fossi, who received her Master of Science in Nursing Leadership and Management degree. She now has degrees in MSN, BSN & RN By: Grammy Deb

I am joyful to be part of this church and have God in my life. By: Tara

For my granddaughter, Toni Marie, who made the Dean's list at Slippery Rock & got a paid internship with the Defensive Intelligence Security Agency. By: Marla DeMarco

I work on Sundays and I miss you all. Thankful I can watch on Facebook Live. By: Terri Brownfield

## **SYMPATHY**

Sympathy and prayers for the family of Dennis Shiflet, who passed away on Thursday, 2/6, from cancer. By: Ken Ballentyne

Sympathy and prayers for the Yates family. Ben Yates passed away and his wife passed three weeks ago. By: Marla Gould

For the family of Estela Rivera, who was tragically killed last week and for her three children, who are left behind. By: Missy

Sympathy and prayers for the family of Bev Coolidge, who recently lost their mother, Bev.

### **PIZZA & HOAGIE SALE – GALIFFA'S**

- \* Order forms in First Christian Church Narthex
- \* Order forms due with payment, Sunday, March 9<sup>th</sup>
- \* Orders for pick up after church, Sunday, March 23
- \* Questions – See Paula or Diane