



The Charleroi Christian

First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

May 2025

61 Walnut Ridge Road
Charleroi, PA 15022-3322

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Senior Pastor Dennis J. Stitch

Hello First Christian Church Family!

Matthew 28:5-7

And the Angel answered and said unto the women, "Fear not ye: for I know you seek Jesus, which was crucified. He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay."

Holy Week is one of the most important times in the Christian faith. At First Christian Church we celebrate with Maundy Thursday, also known as Holy Thursday. We highlight the serving of others as our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ displayed as He washed his disciple's feet.

On Good Friday, we had a powerful service - The Last Seven Sayings of Jesus on the Cross. Seven powerful preacher's shared God's word.

On Easter Sunday, we studied the scriptures that solidify the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Now, we continue to walk on the journey God has placed before you and I. Do we see this as a moment frozen in time or a continuation of what we are to do in this world? You and I make a difference in this world.

Let's ALWAYS remember Jesus is Christ is the difference maker. You and I will make a difference for HIS kingdom in this world.

Christ is Risen!

Senior Pastor Dennis J. Stitch

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

BIRTHDAYS

May 1	Toni Marie DeMarco
May 5	Colton Brightwell
May 6	Chuck Moreland
May 8	Sherry Caldwell
May 9	Miley Ava Delval
May 14	Mickey Polinski
May 19	Bertha Zollars
May 22	Rob Waggoner
May 26	Ashley Rice
May 28	Paula Barndollar



ANNIVERSARIES

May 5	Pastor Dennis & First Lady Valerie Stitch
May 23	Mark & Karin Brighwell
May 23	Mike & Heather Cramer



ELDERS FOR COMMUNION – MAY 2025

MAY 4	TOM GRIFFITH DEB CALDWELL
MAY 11	TARYN GRANT PAULA BARNDOLLAR
MAY 18	RON BIRD SR. DEB COLVIN
MAY 25	GOOD FRIDAY

DEACONS' SCHEDULE – MAY 2025

MAY 4	MARLA GOULD & GARNET KRUTZ
MAY 11	SUE LATOUR & NANCY LESSMAN
MAY 18	BOB GRANT & VIVIAN HORNER
MAY 25	DIANE GRAY & GEORGE HOGAN

BLANKET SUNDAY, May 11, 2025

\$10.00 provides a CWS Blanket to someone in need. Blanket the World LOVE. Imagine the impact of your compassion. Each blanket serves as tangible expression of God's love!



UNDER LONG-TERM CARE

<i>Our Leaders*</i>	<i>Ellis & Darla White*</i>	<i>Miley Ava Delval*</i>
<i>Our Troops*</i>	<i>Garnet Krutz*</i>	<i>Gretchen & Tom Speece*</i>
<i>Our Church*</i>	<i>Rocky Renk*</i>	<i>Sarah Matay*</i>
<i>Universities*</i>	<i>Father Bob Hanna*</i>	<i>Gage Peters*</i>
<i>Grace Vandernitte*</i>	<i>David Hanna*</i>	<i>Cindy Buckley*</i>
<i>Justin Sutch*</i>	<i>Joseph Wojcik*</i>	<i>Chrissy Zoltun*</i>
<i>Karin Brightwell*</i>	<i>Alicia Hruby*</i>	<i>Laverne Giordanengo*</i>
<i>Lila Risch*</i>	<i>Jack Sharp*</i>	<i>Margie D'Antonio*</i>
<i>Bertha Zollars*</i>	<i>Hannah Simpson*</i>	<i>Melanie Slattery*</i>
<i>Lois Buberniak*</i>	<i>Mason Madzey*</i>	<i>Janet Hellner-Burris*</i>
<i>Michael Erdely* (Mike & Sherry's Son)</i>	<i>Terri Brownfield*</i>	<i>Josh Cramer*</i>
<i>Tanner Riley*</i>	<i>Victor Angelo*</i>	<i>Diane Rusak*</i>
<i>Jessica Beimele*</i>	<i>Christian Colleges*</i>	<i>Sydney Weaver*</i>
<i>Heather Simpson*</i>	<i>Bob Gilpin*</i>	<i>Rev. Chuck House*</i>
<i>Small Businesses*</i>	<i>Gary Gray*</i>	<i>Missy Montgomery*</i>
<i>Brian Stillwagon*</i>	<i>Tonya Kepich*</i>	<i>Nate Stanchfield*</i>
<i>Joe & Betty Jo Rapp*</i>	<i>Jesse & Joseph Bird*</i>	<i>Sue Charney*</i>
<i>Bre Randolph*</i>	<i>Matt Sezawich*</i>	<i>Carolyn Santavicca*</i>
<i>Andrew DeBroeck*</i>	<i>Kelly Weaver*</i>	<i>Dana Obusek*</i>
<i>Ed Yuhas*</i>	<i>Joan Caldwell*</i>	<i>John & Karen Mollenauer*</i>
<i>Gene Kite*</i>	<i>Rose Wilkinson*</i>	<i>Dennis Fritsch</i>
<i>Jake Hurley*</i>	<i>Lori Burgess*</i>	<i>Kate & Joe Greer Jr.</i>
<i>Michael Cramer*</i>	<i>Sophia Renk*</i>	<i>Betty MacDonald</i>
<i>Jim Caldwell*</i>	<i>Betty Jo Matesich*</i>	
<i>Chris Blatnik*</i>	<i>Nancy Lessman*</i>	
<i>Autumn Raffaele*</i>	<i>Ken & Sherry Ballentyne*</i>	
<i>Marlene Celaschi*</i>	<i>Kristin Colvin*</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 **May 16, 2025**

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

THE LAST SEVEN SAYINGS OF JESUS

What a powerful evening of prayer, worship and fellowship with all of our community churches as we listened to seven powerful preachers speak on the last seven sayings of Jesus.



EVANGELISM – CORA RUSSELL

In the month of April, 16 Prayer Letters were mailed. Once again, many who received or a family member gives each of you who signed a **BIG** thank you! These letters also let the family know that they are not alone. Please keep taking the time to sign and to pray for those receiving the letters. Remember, when we call on our Lord, we never get a busy signal or need to push a number for a different language. God is always ready to hear from us. Blessings, *Cora Russell*

UPCOMING DATES FOR MAY 2025:

May 1	IOOF Men's Fellowship Program – 7 PM - PA SERVICE DOGS FOR VETERANS– Social Hall
May 4	CELEBRATE WOMEN LUNCHEON – 12 Noon – Social Hall
May 7	Choir Practice – 6 PM
May 8	FCC BOARD MEETING – 7 PM – Social Hall
May 11	MOTHER'S DAY
May 13	CAMA – NO MEETING
May 14	Choir Practice – 6 PM
May 15	IOOF Men's Fellowship – 7 PM – Social Hall
May 16	MOVIE NIGHT
May 17	VENDOR CRAFT SHOW – 10A – 3 P – Social Hall
May 18	CAMA Meeting – Vitori Scholarship
May 18	Panera Bread
May 21	Choir Practice – 6 PM
May 25	MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE
May 25	Graduation Party – Alex Bird – Pavilion – 3-6 PM
May 26	MEMORIAL DAY – OFFICE CLOSED
May 28	Choir Practice – 6 PM



There is an old saying, "April showers brings May flowers". The renewal of the beautiful landscape with the trees turning green and the flowers blooming is a much welcome sight from the bare winter scene. It can also be a renewal of our spirit too. Enjoying the warmer weather can also warm our hearts and soils. Showing love and respect to one another, as Christ intended us to do. May is also a time of reflection and gratitude, honoring and remembering those who have sacrificed their lives for our freedom. This Memorial Day, whether you are gathering with family and friends or spending a quiet moment alone, take a moment to remember the bible verse John 15:13 "Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends". Just as our soldiers laid down their lives for our freedom, Christ laid down his life for us. Let us be mindful of all those who have given the full measure of devotion in laying down their lives for us in the protections of our liberties and the preservation of our lives and freedoms, and for Christ's sacrifice for the sins of humanity, offering a means of forgiveness and salvation.

Taryn Grant, Elder

Thank You

I want to thank all who have been saving the pull tabs from cans for my daughter. For most they are garbage, just thrown away, but when she was living in Pittsburgh she was with a program with McDonalds, where these tabs helped parents at the Ronald McDonald House in Pittsburgh when they had a child at Children's Hospital. My daughter and her husband are now living in South Carolina and they do not have that plan there. Many pounds of tabs have been turned in and they thank you. The money they collected was given to the

Ronald McDonald House to help pay for parents needing the lodging. Many pounds of tabs have been turned in and they thank you. The money they collected was given to the Ronald McDonald House to help pay for parents needing the lodging. –Cora Russell

HALL OF FAME INDUCTION FOR OUR PASTOR

On June 20, our Pastor will be inducted into the **Mid Mon Valley All Sports Hall of Fame** at St. Spyridon Hellenic Church in Monessen. He is one of 6 inductees. Tickets are \$55. We have 16 people and there are 10 places at a table. It would be great if we could fill the 2nd table. If you want to attend, please see Cora ASAP & give her cash or make a check payable to Cora Russell and she'll send a check. (This makes for easier bookkeeping for MMVASHOF). FCC will have a congratulations ad in the program book. I am asking that the red chalice pins be worn for this event. If you did not receive one, please see Cora. Congratulations Pastor, we are proud of you and support you.



IT IS GRADUATION TIME, which means scholarship time. Applications for the Alma & Clara Carson Scholarship, and the Leonard & Sarah Santini Scholarship forms from FCC are available. Also the Vincent Vitori Scholarship forms from CAMA are available. – Cora Russell



IT IS ALSO CAMP LAURELVIEW TIME! The schedule has been in the bulletin and the registration forms are online at the Camp Laurelview site. Our church pays half for our youth who attend church. Also, I will be asking for **COOKIE BAKING HELP ON SATURDAY, JUNE 14**. I will take cookies to camp on Sunday, June 15. Please keep the camp program in your prayers. Many youth have been blessed with the camp experience on "God's Holy Mountain." – Cora Russell

PASTOR'S AWARD –On Monday, April 7, members of First Christian Church attended the breakfast for Pastor Dennis as he received the Citizen of the Year Award given by the Boy Scouts of America. The breakfast was held at the Lombardi Education Conference Center at Mon Valley Hospital. A delicious breakfast was served and the program was so inspiring. There were several young people who attended and spoke, reinforcing the fact that scouting is such an important part of growing good, young citizens for our future. Here is a photo taken of the group who attended from FCC, taken by Chris Grilli of Grilli's Studio. A wonderful day was had by all!



Congratulations, Pastor!

SAVE THE DATE – 3rd ANNUAL CAR SHOW – SEPTEMBER 13

RAIN DATE – SEPTEMBER 20





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

SPRING VENDOR CRAFT SHOW – SATURDAY, MAY 17 – 10 AM TO 3 PM

It's spring ... and that means it's time for our Spring Vendor Craft Show. Please stop on by for some wonderful handmade treasures, some lunch with friends, and enjoy our beautiful church on the hill. FREE ADMISSION, PLENTY OF PARKING, HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE. We will also have a beautiful selection of raffle baskets and a 50/50 drawing. Vendors and crafters are still needed, so please contact Paula Barndollar (paulabarn@gmail.com or 412-841-2561) or Diane Rusak (DLRUSAL@Outlook.com or 412-389-5639) if you are interested in participating as a vendor or crafter.



4/27 - For the great evening last night and speaker Jordan Miller, Cook Wes, and everyone who helped. By: Deb Caldwell

4/20 - Thank you, Church, for an awesome Friday night service. Your ministers brought the house down!! Praise Jesus!

Lauren is improving. Doctor said she has two life threatening infections. Thank you for prayers.
By: Cora

4/13 - UPDATE: For our brother-in-law, surgery went well & came home from hospital on Friday. (For our brother-in-law, Mark Mears, (Lila's husband). He passed out, fell down & broke his back. Was transferred from Pueblo to Colorado Springs to a back surgeon). By: Ken & Sherry Ballentyne

The Dartball Team had a great fellowship time last Monday evening. Thanks to all the players who attended. By: Tyler

4/06 - Welcome back to Nate Stitch! By: Pastor Dennis

UPDATE: Nate is recovering well. Did not see anything cancerous. For Nate Stitch (Pastor Dennis' brother), who had surgery on Thursday, 3/27. All went well. Prayers for quick healing & recovery.

So good to see Sandy Cramer! By: Pastor Dennis

SYMPATHY

Our sincere condolences to the family of Lori Burgess, who passed away peacefully at home on Wednesday, April 16.

Our sincere condolences to the family of Billy Lundy, who passed away a couple of days ago, especially his brother, Chris. By: Paula Barndollar

Our sincere condolences to the family of Eric Haines, who passed away. His mother sang in our choir for many years. By: Sherry Caldwell

Our sincere condolences to the family of Jim Linn Sr., who passed away on Thursday, 3/27.