



***The Christian Window***  
**Volume 52 Number 15 Mid—December 2011**  
**First Christian Church of Kent**  
 (Disciples of Christ)  
 335 West Main St., Kent, OH 44240-2416  
 Phone: 330-673-6634  
 Rev. Ralph S. Wearstler, Interim Minister  
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**The Work of Christmas**

By Howard Thurman

When the song of the angel is stilled,  
 When the star in the sky is gone,  
 When the kings and princes are home,  
 When the shepherds are back with  
 their flock,

The work of Christmas begins:  
 To find the lost,  
 To heal the broken,  
 To feed the hungry,  
 To release the prisoner,  
 To rebuild the nations,  
 To bring peace among others,  
 To make music in the heart.

***Merry Christmas and  
 Happy 2012 Wishes  
 from the Staff***

***of First Christian Church of Kent***



The **RED Door** is back up for everyone to share their Christmas wishes with the congregation. You are welcome to post a card on the door or send you greetings to the office and we'll put it up for you.

Did you know the card door began as an Outreach project? We invited everyone to post a card to the whole congregation instead of sending one to each of the individuals who mean so much to them, and then to give the money we saved on cards and postage to Outreach. You might want to "go back to the olden days" and do that this year. If you don't have a favorite mission project, just put it in an envelope marked "Outreach" and the Outreach Committee will choose for you.

**2012 Elders Epiphany Dinner  
 and White Elephant Gift Exchange**  
 Saturday, January 7th, 2012  
 Firehouse Grille & Pub  
 1225 West Main Street, Kent  
 Time : 6:00P.M.  
 Evite Invitations have been sent, if you do not have an email address or did not receive the invite, please contact Jean Sossa to RSVP. Phone 330-626-3586

**All Church Caroling Party**



As we enter into the season of Advent let us prepare our hearts and souls for the coming of Christmas as we bring the Good News of Great Joy to those unable to get out and about. **Bringing the Joy of Christmas to Homebound Members and Friends on Sunday, December 18th from noon to 2:30pm. Please let us know if you can attend and if you can drive. Guests are welcome.**

**Thanksgiving Special Offering  
 for the Discretionary Fund**

As of Sunday, December 4, we received \$1420 for the Discretionary Fund from our Special Thanksgiving Offering. What a blessing!

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## BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP



We will meet in the parlor on Monday, Jan. 3 to discuss The Zookeeper's Wife: A War Story by Diane Ackerman. If you are

interested, just get a copy of the book and come. We would be happy to have you join us.

Betty, Louise and Vera

## List of Home Bound Members and Friends to remember this Holy Season.

During the Holiday, please send a note or card to these people. They would love to get greetings from FCC friends.

### **Floyd Wetmore**

Brookside Inc.  
7000 St. rt. 88  
Building 1 Room #1  
Ravenna, OH 44266-9046

### **Pearl Eidson**

Stow Glen Village  
4285 Kent Road, Apt. 140B  
Stow, OH 44224-4355

### **Frances Secaur**

% Jon Secaur  
421 Crain Ave.  
Kent, OH 44240-3221

### **Mona Gates**

301 McKinney Blvd.  
Kent, OH 44240-3067

### **Jim Gray**

1303 Chelton Drive  
Kent, OH 44240-2605

### **Ken and Phyllis Hecker**

2992 Reservoir Drive  
Mogadore, Oh 44260

### **Pat McKinney**

1049 Cottage Gate Dr.  
Kent, OH 44240-1853

Check out the Prayer List and remember the many ill and recovering from illness and surgery.



## Christmas Gifts for the Church Staff

Please don't forget our staff members at our church when making out your Christmas gift list. There are two wrapped Christmas boxes in the Narthex; one marked for the minister and the other for our church staff. The church staff gift is divided between 6 people: Vicki Lynn Phillips, Jodi Stillisano, Cathy Steele, Patty Wiley, Donna Oberlin and Sarah Redman.



Monetary donations will collect through Christmas Eve.

Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Linda Beal, Board chair

## Special Christmas Offering

Every congregation eventually has a time they are "in between ministers." At these times, the church calls upon their regional ministry. The regional church ministry helps the church consider their immediate and long term needs.

Immediate concerns include an orderly transition of leadership to an Interim Minister. The regional church provides names of candidates for the "interim" or temporary pastoral leadership. Some have specialized training in leading congregations through pastoral change. Long term needs may include closure on the previous ministry, addressing any areas of particular conflict and challenge, identifying the future mission of the congregation and of course, seeking a minister who is well suited to this calling. The regional church can assist the congregation with each of these. The Search and Call system of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), gives congregations an essential tool to determine the training, experience and screening of ministry candidates. Disciples of Christ congregations that are seeking a new minister do not have to pay a fee for the services received from the regional church. Gifts from congregations to Disciples Mission Fund help to cover these costs through the year. Once a year, we receive a special Christmas offering for regional church ministries. This helps churches seeking a new minister as well as providing camps, retreats, training events, new church planting and many more ministries in our area and throughout North America. Please consider a generous gift to our Christmas offering this season to share these blessings again in the New Year.

**Your Support of this Offering in past years has benefited First Christian Church through its own "In-Between Time" these past twelve months.**

### December Lord's Pantry

We received 18 bags of groceries and \$76.54 for the Lord's Pantry on December 4th. The next Lord's Pantry will be January 8th.

**Christmas Eve 6:30pm**

Elders: Barbara Linger, Denny Eberhart

Deacons:



**Christmas Eve 10:00pm**

Elders: Marty Viets, Jean Sossa

Deacons:

December / January Serving Schedule								
	Elders	Deacons Prep/Serve/ Clean	Worship Leader	Deacons- Serve	Record CD	Greeters	Door Welcomers	Attendance
<b>DEC. 25</b> <b>10:00am</b> <i>MERRY CHRISTMAS</i>	Michael Viets, Marty Viets		10:00am Marilyn Holloway	Tom and Erica Bordonaro		Louise Neubert	Harold & Irene Snowber- ger	
<b>January 1</b> <b>10:00am</b>	Dan Wilt, Michael Viets	Iris Palmer	10:00am Michael Viets	Jodi Stillisano, Bob and Iris Palmer, Carie Wright	Bob Palmer			Marilyn Holloway
<b>January 8</b> <b>8:30am</b>	John Green	Tim & Jan Vicars	8:30 Art Putt	Sarah & Andrew	Tom Bordonaro			Andrew Neri
<b>10:45am</b>	Denny Eberhart, Dan Wilt	Sarah Neri	10:45	Neri, Tom & Erica Bordonaro				
<b>January 15</b> <b>8:30am</b>	Ruth Green		8:30 Linda Manfrass					
<b>10:45am</b>	John Green, Denny Eberhart		10:45 Sue Collier					
<b>January 22</b> <b>8:30am</b>	Barb Linger		8:30					
<b>10:45am</b>	Ruth Green, John Green		10:45 Tom Bordonaro					
<b>January 29</b> <b>8:30am</b>	Ed Mozingo		8:30					
<b>10:45am</b>	Barb Linger, Ruth Green		10:45 Carol Dunlap					



# January 2012

God's Blessings to you and yours in this New Year!

**Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat**

<b>1</b> 10am Worship Denny Eberhart Speaker	<b>2</b> <i>Office          closed</i>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Christian Men's Fellowship	<b>5</b> Book Discussion Group 7:00pm	<b>6</b> Spaghetti Dinner & Bake Sale for Youth	<b>7</b> Epiphany Elders Dinner 6:00pm
Rev. Ralph on Vacation until January 9th						
<b>8</b> <i>Lord's          Pantry</i> Dennis Wendling Speaker <b>Worship Mt.</b> <b>Take down          decorations</b>	<b>9</b> Bible Study 9:30am <b>Elders Mt</b> <b>7:00pm</b> Trustee Mt. 7:00pm	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Stewardship & Finance Mt. 7:00pm	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> Euchre Night 7:00pm	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Bible Study 9:30am  Outreach Mt 7:00pm	<b>17</b>  Sarah Circle 7:00pm	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Deadline newsletter	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Bible Study 9:30am	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Asenath Circle @ church 7:00pm	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b>  <i>Outreach          5th Sunday          Luncheon          Soup &amp; Chili          For          Cleveland          Christian          Home</i>	<b>30</b> Bible Study 9:30am	<b>31</b>	<p><b>Weekly Meetings:</b>          Tuesday: 7-8:30pm AA (Bethany Hall)          Thursday: 10am to 2:00pm Quilters                      Handbell Practice 7:00pm                      Choir Practice 8-9:15pm                      7:00-8:00pm AA (Room 2)          Friday: 8:00pm AA (Bethany Hall)</p> 			



### Cookie Sale/ Spaghetti Dinner

The proceeds from Our Christmas Cookie Sale for the Cleveland Christian Home came to \$737—a wonderful gift! Many thanks to Iris

Palmer for coordination this event and to all who baked, packaged, or bought those beautiful cookies. We sold every last tin of cookies during the Spaghetti Dinner.



Mark your calendar now for going to the **Akron Aeros Baseball Game** on Friday, June 29th. It will be the last night of Vacation Bible School. Save this date or contact Chuck Lanning to get your name on the 50 tickets reserved for First Christian Church.

### Thank You.....



To ALL at First Christian Church: Thank you so much for the use of the church for our Coleman Annual Thanksgiving Dinner. It means so much to all of us.

Deborah Carl

(Card signed by several participates and on bulletin board outside the office for you to view.)

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your generous donation of \$1850.00 that came from “lots of helping hands and generous hearts” who worked on several activities to benefit our wonderful program for adults with autism at Hiram Farm Living and Learning Community. We are so blessed to have had your support over the past years as our program continues to grow and serve this special population.

Please visit our website

[www.hiramfarm.org](http://www.hiramfarm.org) regularly to see the many activities that are happening on the Farm. Again, thank you all for your continued support and we wish all of you Happy Holidays .

Sincerely,

De Ann K. Brewer  
Executive Director

Thanks to everyone for the prayers, concern, cards, and food during my recent recovery from knee surgery. Sue Geopfert

### New Addresses:

Pat Hoskin  
4285 Kent Road, Apt. 524C  
Stow, OH 44224  
330-686-7524

The Stillisano Family  
2935 Crown Pointe Drive  
Stow, OH 44224  
Same cell numbers

Marilyn Holloway  
3758 Cascade Blvd.  
Kent, OH 44240



### Quilt Raffle

The Quilters are pleased to announce that our quilt raffle was a big success. Because of the generosity of our congregation and the help of friends who purchased tickets, we were able to meet our goal. We will be sending a check to the Cleveland Christian Home in the amount of \$1,010 toward our church pledge to them in the Partnership Challenge to help in the reduction of their mortgage.

The winning ticket, drawn at the Spaghetti Dinner on December 2nd belonged to Kathy Callies in Florida, the daughter of Tom and Sue Geopfert. We are happy to know that the quilt we enjoyed working on so much will be in good hands and will be treasured by the winner.

Thank you to everyone who helped us on this project! We are already working on the next one.

### **Our Prayer Concerns & Joys:**

**Healing: Members:** Jane Baxter, Rose Miller, Ruth Green, Pat McKinney, Barb Linger, Osie Conard, Frances Secaur, Sue Geopfert, Connie Mellott, Carl Sellman.

**Friends and family:** Joe & Cortney Ademan, Betty Sumner, Bob Bernat, Don & Teresa, Chris Hukari, Jim Muth, Randy Williams, Will Lautznhiser, Terry Viets, Sam Combs, Marie Strickin and family, Olivia Seaborn, Marie Noble, Sandra Wright.

**Special Prayers:** The Search Committee and the Transition Team.

**Sympathy:** The family of Don Bentley

**Joys:** The wonderful Children’s Christmas Program last Sunday!



**FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH**  
**(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)**  
**335 WEST MAIN STREET**  
**KENT, OHIO 44240-2416**



**Blanket Sunday** will be February 5th.  
More information coming next newsletter.

email: [kentfcc@firstchristiankent.org](mailto:kentfcc@firstchristiankent.org)

**CHURCH STAFF:**

Interim Minister	Rev. Ralph S. Wearstler
Director of Christian Education	Jodi Stillisano
Church Secretary	Vicki Lynn Phillips
Organist	Cathy Steele
Chancel Choir Director	Patricia Wiley
Nursery Attendant	Sarah Redman
Early Accompanist	Donna Oberlin

**Worship Times/Office Hours**

*Worship Times: 8:30am and 10:45am with Sunday School at 9:30am for adults and children.*  
**Office Hours** 8:30am to 1:30pm Monday through Thursday. The office is closed on Fridays.  
Office closed Dec. 23-26-30 and Jan. 2.

The next issue of the  
**Church Window** will not be until  
January 15th—*Happy Holidays!*

**Wiggle Worship**

Dec. 25— No Sunday School  
Jan. 1— Andrew and Sarah Neri  
Jan. 8—Jodi Stillisano

**Acolytes:**

Dec. 25—Josh Bordonaro  
Jan. 1—Max Stillisano  
Jan. 8—Zach Stillisano

***Sermons and Scriptures***

December 25: **One Worship at 10:00am**  
“The Christmas Story Continues”  
(Luke 2:21-33)

January 1: **One Worship at 10:00am**  
Denny Eberhart, Elder

Jan. 8: Rev. Dennis Wendling

Jan. 15: “Discipleship Is An Adventure”  
(Isaiah 55:1-9)

Jan. 22: “Follow The Master” (John 1:29-42)

Jan. 29: To be announced