

***The Christian Window***  
**Volume 53 Number 1      Mid January 2012**  
**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**  
**Website: [www.firstchristiankent.org](http://www.firstchristiankent.org) Email: [kentfcc@firstchristiankent.org](mailto:kentfcc@firstchristiankent.org)**

**Blanket Sunday**

On Sunday, February 5th we will be having *Blanket Sunday* to help Church World Service. All monies collected will go toward such uses as health kits, school kits, clean-up kits, food, drinking water and blankets to help around the world.



**LENTEN BOOKLET**



It is time to start writing for the Lenten book. It can be favorite scriptures, poems, memories, stories or articles you have read. Please keep them under 250 words.

The deadline for them is Sunday, February 5<sup>th</sup>. You can email them to Paulette Cortnik at [polly144@aol.com](mailto:polly144@aol.com), give them to Paulette at church or put them in the worship mailbox next to the office.

Thanks, The Worship Committee

**Scout Sunday—February 5th**

We will be recognizing our Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts on Sunday, February 5th at the 10:45 am worship service. Please contact Jodi Stillisano if your Scout would like to participate in the worship service. Also, please wear your uniforms on Scout Sunday—we look forward to honoring our Scouts!



**Flower Chart ~ Door Welcomers**

There is a new sign up sheet at the Mantua Street door for providing flowers in memory of...or in honor of someone or something. Flowers need to be at the church for the 8:30am worship and the 10:45am worship. Call the office if you would like to check on a date.

We are in need of door welcomers for the 2 entrances at each Sunday worship (10:45am). Please sign up on the bulletin board or call the office (330-673-6634) if you would like to participate. *Lots of Openings!*

**Youth Broom Ball**

Calling all youth (grade 6-12): Join us for Broom Ball on Saturday, *February 4th from 6:30 to 8:30pm* at the KSU Ice Arena. The youth groups from Stow and Ravenna will join us for our annual event! Friends are welcome at all youth activities. We will have a pizza party following the games! Cost will be \$5 per player. RSVP to Jodi Stillisano at 330-554-4700.



**3rd Annual Children's Art Show**  
 Sunday, February 12th at Noon  
 Come meet the amazing children of our congregation, view their art work and enjoy refreshments! Art work will be raffled off during the show. Tickets will be \$1.00 each at the show. Proceeds will go to a charity of the children's choice.



**Estimates of Giving**

During the past two months our estimates of giving have fallen considerably behind, but our financial needs to maintain the building and the wonderful activity that happens here continue on. Perhaps you are behind because you've been out of town, had guests, or simply the "busy-ness" of the holiday season has put you behind. If that's the case, please do your best to catch up. If you are not sure what you pledged, or how much you have already contributed, Carol Dunlap, our financial secretary, can help you with that. Louise Neubert, Treasurer

**Index:**

Page 2: Thank You's...  
 Page 3: Red Door Greetings, Spaghetti Dinner, Acme Slips, Prayers & Joys, Logos Night, Lord's Pantry, Disciples Coffee Project, Exercise Group  
 Page 4: Outreach Luncheon, Adult Sunday School classes, Camps, 10 Blessed Truths  
 Page 5: February Calendar, Thank You  
 Page 6: Serving schedule, Birthdays & Anniversaries  
 Page 7: Writings from Rev. Ralph  
 Page 8: Worship Times & Staff, Sermons & Scriptures, Wiggle Worship/Acolytes

## Christmas Program Thank You!

The children and youth presented a beautiful worship service on Sunday, Dec. 11th. Thanks to all the kids who shared the Christmas Story with costumes, songs and readings: Maya Gregory, Will Stillisano, Josh Bordonaro, Michael Bryan, Taylor Dunlap, Jenna Neri, Dominic Wilson, Luke Colpo, Rob Eberhart, Faith Bryan, Matt Colpo, Max Stillisano, Reilly Curtis, Nate Lennox, Zach Stillisano, Donny Bailey, Noah Dunlap, Katie Smith, Ashley Smith, Ben Bordonaro, Mitchell Curtis, Mallory Curtis, Katie Lennox, Maggie Lennox, Emi Neri, Keegan Wright, David Adolphson, Rebecca Thomas, Nicky Bryan, and Shawn Cramer. Special thanks to Vicki Lynn Phillips, Portia Gregory, and Sarah Neri for their help preparing the stage, programs and costumes. Also, we really appreciate everyone who brought in goodies and treats for the Coffee Hour! YUM! And to all the parents, grandparents, and foster families- keep up the good work! You are raising amazing children!

Merry Christmas, Jodi Stillisano

---

*For the group of carolers that came and sang to me. Your thoughtfulness warms my heart and brightened my day! Plus a delicious plate of cookies and card from the "Wiggle Worms"*

Sincerely, Mary Jean Gemberling

---

*I would like to thank all this church family for their concern, prayers, cards and phone calls while I was in the hospital and at home. What a joy it is to have so many prayers.*

Barbara Linger

---

*Thank you! I am so blessed to work for such a wonderful church family. Thank yo all for thinking of me at Christmas time, and for you love and support throughout the year!*

Jodi

---

*Thank you again for my monetary Christmas gift. I appreciate it very much and am thankful for the opportunity to play for you.*

Cathy

---

*Dear First Christian Church of Kent  
Thank you for being one of our partners in hope! We truly appreciate your donation of toys, games school supplies and travel bags. Your gift allowed us to fulfill holiday wishes and provide needed items for each of the children we serve. What terrific help! Thanks for "making Christmas bright."  
Cleveland Christian Home*

*Many thanks to my wonderful church family for the generous Christmas gift! I truly appreciate your kindness, support and thoughtfulness.*

*In love and gratitude, Patty*

---



*Thanks so very much for the monetary gift given to me from the church and the other wonderful Christmas gifts given to me by others. You all make working at FCC a joy!*

Vicki Lynn

---

*Dear Rev. Wearstler and Friends at FCC,*

*So much of what we accomplish here at Cleveland Christian Home comes from the tireless efforts of so many—and everyone deserves thanks.*

*The children, teens and families we serve work hard to learn better ways and better choices for their lives. Our staff works hard to offer professional care in a quality environment. And our donors work hard to make it all possible.*

*So thank you, thank you, thank you! I want you to know that your recent gift of \$737 representing proceeds from your Annual Christmas Cookie Sale, is a valuable tool in transforming the lives of the 1,200 children, youth and families we serve each year. You deserve to know how special you are to us.*

Sincerely,

David J. Lundeen, Chief Executive Officer

---

*Dear Friends,*

*With sincere gratitude and appreciation, I thank you for your thoughtful donation of \$1000 to United Christian Ministries. Your generosity helps to provide the organization with resources it needs to make a positive impact on the lives of students at Kent State as well as the people with whom those students come in contact. UCM continued financial support will help strengthen current and future students through United Christian Ministries as well.*

Thank you,  
Margaret Van Fossen

(Full Letters from Cleveland Christian Home and United Christian Ministries are posted on bulletin board outside the office stairs.)



## RED Door Greetings

The last newsletter you learned more about our traditional Christmas card greeting door. Here is the list of names sending greetings.

Dorothy Rice	Ron & Barb Linger
Harold & Irene Snowberger	Diana
Martha Michael & Jane Baxter	Louise & Terry Neubert
Rick & Vicki Lynn Phillips	Ira & Ida Kastner
Bob & Linda Beal	Kay Wise
Michelle Boring	Tim & Jan Vicars
Marilyn Hardesty	Jack & Theresa Bennett
John & Bonnie	Paulette & Carl Cortnik
Lois & Jerry Murphy	Marilyn Holloway
Lillian & Carl Sellman	Jon & Linda
Frances Secaur	Harvey & Carol White
Dave & Becky Brown	The Neri Family
Vera Mozingo	Rev. Bill Edwards
Doug & Janis Osborne	
Denny, Vicki and Robbie Eberhart	
Christian Church Foundation	



### Spaghetti Dinner

At the December dinner we served 178 and deposited \$1091 into the Capital Fund. The cookie and bake sale earned \$735 for the Cleveland Christian Home. The January dinner on Jan. 6th served 175 and earned \$1165.74 (minus \$200 for expenses). The bake sale proceeds were for the youth and was \$135.50. The next Spaghetti Dinner will be February 3rd from 4:30 to 7:00pm.

### Remember in our Prayers:

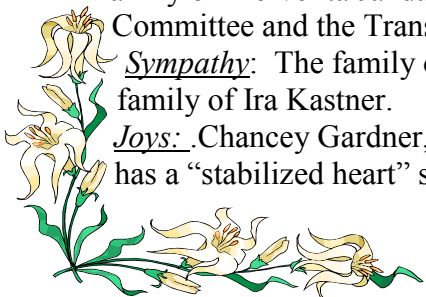
**Healing: Members:** Don Horner, Shirley Doane, Mona Gates, Pat Hoskin, Jane Baxter, Ruth Green, Connie Mellott, Carl Sellman.

**Friends and family** Melissa Gilling, Nancy Pavlick, Dorothy Sommers, Laura, Linda Geopfert, Rory Wolff, Tom Stubbins and family, Terry, Joe & Cortney Ademan, Betty Sumner, Bob Bernat.

**Special Prayers:** The village of Cagayan de Oro and the family of Mervelita Jandayan-Labial, the Search Committee and the Transition Team.

**Sympathy:** The family of Evelyn Maxwell, the family of Ira Kastner.

**Joys:** Chancey Gardner, Carol White's brother, has a "stabilized heart" since his amazing surgery.



### Acme Cash Back

The program goes until February 11, 2012. Bring your ACME Receipts with the Community CASH BACK on the bottom to the church and deposit them in the box in the Narthex. The church will receive 5% cash back that will go toward Camp Scholarships.



### CHURCH NIGHT AT LOGOS

Thanks to everyone who shopped at Logos on our Church Night, and especially to the folks at Logos Bookstore. Their gift to our Church Library was \$152!! Watch for new items as we purchase them for the library.

### Kent Social Service LORD'S PANTRY

On Sunday, January 1st, we collected 6 bags and \$56.00 for KSS. The next date will be February 5th.

### Disciples Coffee Project

Every third Sunday, our congregation has an opportunity to support small farmer co-operatives around the world while purchasing delicious coffee, tea, chocolate and olive oil products. These co-ops enable the farmer to receive fair prices, affordable credit and a trading partner they can trust, Equal Exchange. The farmers can then make investments in their land, in education, and improved social services for their communities. Equal Exchange also makes a percentage donation to the Disciples Hunger Relief and Food Security Fund and Week of Compassion. It is a win, win, win situation! We hope to continue this project, but are running at a deficit, so please consider your support. Thank You!



*Next sale is January 15th!*

There will be an **Exercise Class** starting on January 28th at 10:00am at the church. If you are interested in joining the group, bring a mat, water, and weights (dumb bells). The class will be led by Gabriel Piriz, a friend of Carolyn Brothers. There is no charge for the class. Hope to see you there!



**Soup and Chili  
Outreach Luncheon  
January 29th ~ Noon  
Free Will Donations for Cleveland Children's Home  
Jane Ryan Kuroiwa, guest speaker from CCH**



***Start the New Year right – Come to Sunday School!***

Beginning January 8th, the Open Circle class and the Searchers class will be using excerpts from a new book published by Chalice Press, our denominational publishing house, "***Banned Questions about the Bible.***" Each week at 9:30 a.m. we will review and discuss a few of these questions and the answers provided in the book. The class will meet in the Open Circle classroom with Dave and Becky Brown leading the class. "***Banned...***" is edited by Christian Piatt with answers contributed from more than a dozen "experts."

The Friendship Class, led by Dan Wilt, at 9:30am will be starting a class on the 12 "minor prophets": Hosea, Amos, Micah, Joel, Obadiah, Jonah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah and Malachi. We will be looking into the history of these books, the society of the time in which these books were composed and examining the text. There is a lot of "gold" in these books. Please join us any time during the study!

**Summer Programs**

For Children currently in 1st or 2nd grade

Grandparents Camp: June 1-2

For Children currently in 3rd, 4th, or 5th grade

Otter Junior Camp: June 17-23

Chi Rho for youth currently in 6th, 7th, or 8th grade

Portaghoga: July 8-14

CYF for you currently in 9th, 10th, or 12th grade

Hiram: June 24-30

For young adults ages 19-29

Advance Ministries Summer Conference: August 12-19

For Adults of all ages

Adult Conference: June 18-22

It is the 75th Anniversary

Meeting at Northwest CC in Columbus

*Scholarship are available for all camps.*

**Online Registration for  
Summer Programs Coming Soon!!**

**Adventure Camp 2012**

Come canoeing the Mohican River down from Loudonville to Coshocton and then on down the Muskingum River to Chillicothe. Camp is open to all. Youth younger than high school must be accompanied by a parent or responsible adult over 21. Dates and cost are still pending but assumed to begin in June with cost about \$300.

**10 Blessed Truths**

1. Love yourself. Effect change within your heart and soul in order to be the best person you can be.
2. The Bible says: "Whatever state I am, therewith to be content. You are blessed." Recognize and acknowledge that fact and be happy with what you have.
3. Relish your solitude and quiet time. Don't feel guilty about it—revel in it. Your mind, body and spirit crave it.
4. Be of a giving nature—but don't be self-sacrificing. Helping others nurtures the soul; giving of yourself until you are spent does not.
5. Learn to forgive yourself and others. Letting go of blame frees you to discover the true blessings of your life.
6. Keep it simple; Do unto others as you's have them do unto you.
7. Don't strive for perfection; it's not possible. Instead, strive for excellence. All you can do is your best.
8. Bring down the curtain on drama. Simplify your life by vowing to stop turning minor upsets into major blowups.
9. Taking care of yourself does not make you self-centered. It makes you centered.
10. Remember: No God, no peace. Know God, know peace.





January/ February Serving Schedule								
	Elders	Deacons Prep/Serve/ Clean	Worship Leader	Deacons- Serve	Record CD	Greeters	Door Welcomers	Attendance
<b>January 22</b> <b>8:30am</b>	Barbara Linger	Tim & Jan Vicars	8:30 Eleanor Weiss	Marilyn Holloway, Doug and Amy Smith,	Tom Bordonaro	Debi Redman	Martha Lambert & Nancy Berlan	Erica Bordonaro
<b>10:45am</b>	Ruth Green, John Green	Marilyn Holloway	10:45 Tom Bordonaro	Michelle Boring				
<b>January 29</b> <b>8:30am</b>	Ed Mozingo	Tim & Jan Vicars	Rev. Ralph	Bonnie Mozingo, Joan	Andrew Neri	Martha Lambert	<b>CALL</b>	Sarah Neri
<b>10:45am</b>	Barbara Linger, Ruth Green	Bonnie Mozingo	* Guest Speaker 10:45am	Wilson, Elaine Alexander, Carolyn Brothers			<b>THE OFFICE IF</b>	
<b>February 5</b> <b>8:30am</b>	Diana Secaur	Rose Miller	8:30 Diane Easterday	Iris and Bob Palmer, Jodi	Bob Palmer	Caroline and Jim Brothers	<b>YOU CAN HELP</b>	Jodi Stillisano
<b>10:45am</b>	Ed Mozingo, Barbara Linger	Freeman Iris Palmer	10:45 Marty Viets	Carie Wright				
<b>February 12</b> <b>8:30am</b>	Jean Sossa	Rose Miller Ruthie Freeman	8:30 Luke Colpo	Sarah and Andrew Neri, Doug and Amy Smith	Andrew Neri	Michael Viets	<b>AS A DOOR WEL-COMER</b>	Sarah Neri
<b>10:45am</b>	Diana Secaur, Ed Mozingo	Marilyn Holloway	10:45 Dianna Tenney					

### Birthdays and Anniversaries

January 15 Jared Hubicsak  
 16 John Thomas  
 18 Ashley Smith  
 19 Camille Collier, Dian Mangus  
 20 Dick Bennett  
 21 Debbie Reusser  
 24 Dave Hurst  
 25 Harvey and Carol White (1958)  
 26 Barb Gregory  
 27 Bob Beal  
 29 Chuck Tipton  
 30 Rand Boston  
 31 Erica Bordonaro



February 5 Luke Colpo, Raelynn Hardy  
 6 Sue Geopfert  
 8 Michelle Lantz  
 10 Kermit & Dian Mangus (1968)

## Writing From The Rev - January 2012

As of January 6th, we, as the Church have entered into the season of Epiphany. And yet, there are many who have no real indication as to what this season is all about. It may help to realize that if Advent is a time of waiting, as in Jesus' first and second coming, then Epiphany is about beginnings.

Just as the secular world celebrates new beginnings with the New Year each first of January. Epiphany, in the life of the Church, embraces the beginnings of Jesus' life and his ministry to the world.

And much like Advent, Epiphany also has two expressions. Western Christianity tends to focus traditionally on the "Revelation to the Gentiles" mentioned in Luke 2:22-38. This is where the term Gentile means all non-Jewish peoples. In Matthew 2:1-12, the Biblical Magi, represented the non-Jewish peoples of the world, who paid homage to the infant Jesus in stark contrast to Herod the Great (King of Judea), who sought to kill him. At the same time there is a focus on the baptism of Jesus in the Jordan river (Mark 1:9-15), and Jesus' first miracle at the Wedding in Cana (John 2:1-11).

At its heart Epiphany deals with the appearing or the revealing of Jesus as God's Son to the world and everyone in it.

Beginnings are not new to the life of the Church or our own lives as well. For some, each day is a new beginning full of possibilities and blessings. Opportunities to change, to grow, to start over, to leave behind, and to be blessed in the doing of it.

What revelation or revealing does this New Year hold for you?

Well it be as bright as a star shining high above, leading you, guiding you in the direction that you need to go?

Well it be a prophetic word spoken by a stranger that will help you understand your purpose in this world?

Could it be something like a dove descending from above, speaking a clear message of what it is you need to do?

Well it be some miracle that you have the privilege to encounter, that enables you to see God at work in this world?

To paraphrase the Psalm, "***This is the (year) that the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it.***"

While we cannot know for sure what all is in store for us, we can walk it in faith, hope, and love. The Apostle Paul shares some very appropriate words for anyone venturing into this new year. In Philippians 3:12-16, he says:

***"I'm not saying that I have this all together, that I have it made. But I am well on my way, reaching out for Christ, who has so wondrously reached out for me. Friends, don't get me wrong: By no means do I count myself an expert in all of this, but I've got my eye on the goal, where God is beckoning us onward—to Jesus. I'm off and running, and I'm not turning back."***

***"So let's keep focused on that goal, those of us who want everything God has for us. If any of you have something else in mind, something less than total commitment, God will clear your blurred vision—you'll see it yet! Now that we're on the right track, let's stay on it."*** (The Message)

Likewise, while I may not be able to see exactly what is unfolding before us here at First Christian Church. What I do know is that in this coming year you will experience the beginnings of a new ministry, with a new minister. So let us strive together in these days ahead, reaching out in Christ, embracing all that God has in store for us, seeking a clearer understanding of the mission and ministry this congregation can provide both inside and outside as a community of faith.

***"Have A Blessed New Year!"***

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



**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

**Wiggle Worship**

January 22: Aireane Curtis  
January 29: Portia Gregory & Laura Adolphson  
February 5: Tom & Erica Bordonaro

**Acolytes:**

January 22: Robbie Eberhart  
January 29: Josh Bordonaro  
February 5: Mitchell Curtis

**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.*

***Sermons and Scriptures***

Jan. 22: "Follow the Master" John 1:29-42  
Jan. 29 Rev. Ralph is during the worship 8:30am  
Jane Ryan Kuroiwa, guest speaker from  
Cleveland Christian Home, for 10:45am