

*First Christian Church Disciples of Christ
340 North Main Street Kenton, OH 43326
419-673-1197 Website- fcckenton.org
Follow us on Facebook @FCCKentonOH
Bruce Bowerman-Jett- Minister*



THE DISCIPLE



April 2023 Edition

A WORD FROM THE PASTOR

Greetings Church! As I complete my classes at Phillips Theological Seminary and prepare for my ordination interview, I reflect on those who have helped me recognize my call to the Ministry. Unfortunately, the two who were instrumental in helping me are no longer with us on this earth. It is hard to swallow that if and when I am ordained, they will not be physically with us to celebrate this moment in my life. This makes my heart break. It makes me grieve their loss all over again with the questions and anger regarding how they could have been taken so early in their lives.

We all experience grief. It is a universal truth about being human that we can not escape. The tricky thing is that no two people experience grief in the same way. Some of us express our grief by mourning openly and others prefer to mourn in private. Some of us take any opportunity to talk about the person who died and others prefer not to talk at all. Some seek comfort in religion, while others question their faith.

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Grief is universal, and yet, individual. Our grief is our own, and all of our feelings and expressions of grief are OK. There is no “right” or “wrong” way to grieve. No pattern is better or worse. They are simply expressions of the fact that each person copes with loss in a personal way.

This can become problematic when there is a failure to acknowledge that people handle loss differently, even in the same family. Differences in grieving styles are simply that; they do not represent differences in the love for the person who has died. Different grieving styles do not need to be a source of conflict. In fact, complementary ways of coping can be a source of strength.

1 Thessalonians 4:13 “13 Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope.” So, when we grieve, our grief is different because we know they are with the Lord, which is better by far. In (Philippians 1:23) we are reminded that we shall meet them again. We grieve, but it is not without hope.

One thing that has helped me is a ministry called GriefShare. GriefShare is a video seminar series that features some of the nation’s foremost Christian experts on grief and recovery topics as seen from a biblical perspective. The video seminars are combined with support group discussion of the materials presented during the video.

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The journey of grief is a painful process, and you do not need to walk it alone. I would like to encourage you to come to the special seminar and support group offered. The materials specifically address topics and issues for those who are grieving the death of a loved one.

GriefShare meets weekly for thirteen weeks and the content is Christ-centered and biblical. You will find this to be a place where you can be around people who understand the pain of your loss. You will be prayed for and learn valuable information that will help you through this difficult season of your life.

Our GriefShare group starts April 20th from 6pm to 8pm at First Christian Church (340 N. Main in Kenton). I hope you will consider joining us. See ya on Sunday! Pastor Bruce

The State Of Our Finances

Stewardship March 2023		
Actual Giving March 2023	Actual Need To Meet Commitments Feb 2023	+/-
\$1,812.00	\$4,678.45	\$2866.45
Actual Giving YTD 2023	Actual Need To Meet Commitments YTD 2023	+/-
\$7,834.00	\$13,072.66	\$5,238.66

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Daily Scripture Readings April 2023

Monday, April 10, 2023: Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Exodus 14:10-31; 15:20-21;
Colossians 3:5-11

Tuesday, April 11, 2023: Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Exodus 15:1-18; Colossians 3:12-17

Wednesday, April 12, 2023: Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Joshua 3:1-17; Matthew 28:1-10

Thursday, April 13, 2023: Psalm 16; Song of Solomon 2:8-15; Colossians 4:2-5

Friday, April 14, 2023: Psalm 16; Song of Solomon 5:9-6:3; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Saturday, April 15, 2023: Psalm 16; Song of Solomon 8:6-7; John 20:11-20

Monday, April 17, 2023: Psalm 114; Judges 6:36-40; 1 Corinthians 15:12-20

Tuesday, April 18, 2023: Psalm 114; Jonah 1:1-17; 1 Corinthians 15:19-28

Wednesday, April 19, 2023: Psalm 114; Jonah 2:1-10; Matthew 12:38-42

Thursday, April 20, 2023: Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19; Isaiah 25:1-5; 1 Peter 1:8b-12

Friday, April 21, 2023: Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19; Isaiah 26:1-4; 1 Peter 1:13-16

Saturday, April 22, 2023: Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19; Isaiah 25:6-9; Luke 14:12-14

Monday, April 24, 2023: Psalm 134; Genesis 18:1-14; 1 Peter 1:23-25

Tuesday, April 25, 2023: Psalm 134; Proverbs 8:32-9:6; 1 Peter 2:1-3

Wednesday, April 26, 2023: Psalm 134; Exodus 24:1-11; John 21:1-14

Thursday, April 27, 2023: Psalm 23; Exodus 2:15b-25; 1 Peter 2:9-12

Friday, April 28, 2023: Psalm 23; Exodus 3:16-22, 4:18-20; 1 Peter 2:13-17

Saturday, April 29, 2023: Psalm 23; Ezekiel 34:1-16; Luke 15:1-7

Monday, May 1, 2023: Psalm 100; Ezekiel 34:17-23; 1 Peter 5:1-5

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Deacon Schedule April 2023

April 16th- Mary Rayl/Jessica Osborn

April 23rd-Jed Lones

April 30th-Gary Strobel

May 7th-Tom Bowerman-Jett

Elders Schedule April 2023

April 16th- Eileen Latham

April 23rd- Janet Dearing/David Faulkner

April 30th Mary Dickinson

May 7th- Cary Modd

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Although no two people experience grief in the exact same way, by attending a support group you may find that other people have experiences, feelings, and struggles that are similar to your own. When you feel totally alone and misunderstood by the world, the support group community can provide you with a haven of understanding. Starting April 20th at First Christian Church 340 N. Main Kenton, Ohio 43326 at 6p-8P, we will begin our 13-week journey together. If you would like more information or to register, please visit:

<https://www.griefshare.org/groups/164316/registrations/new>

During the week of March 27th-31st, Hardin County S.O.U.P served 691 meals to the community. They will serve again April 24-28th. If you are interested in helping serve meals, contact the church office.

Upcoming Events:

Sunday May 21st will be All Saints Sunday. Please contact the office if you would like your loved ones remembered during this service.

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