

Koinonia *focus*

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)
AUGUST 2025 NEWSLETTER

The First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) of Perry is a family that finds ways of supporting growth through the connection of worship and the compassionate care of our church members and community.

Giving Report:

6/29/2025	Subsplash	\$1,734.85
6/29/2025	ACH	\$800.00
7/6/2025	General	\$4,471.63
7/6/2025	Restricted-Backpack Blessings	\$20.00
7/6/2025	Restricted-Camp	\$100.00
7/13/2025 & 7/20/2025	General	\$9,793.00
7/13& 7/20	Restricted	\$170.00
7/13-7/20	Restricted-CWF	\$20.00
7/27/2025	General	\$2985.00
7/27/2025	Restricted-Outreach	\$10.00
7/31/2025	Subsplash	\$591.85
7/31/2025	ACH	800.00
8/3/2025	General	\$4,059.00
Total		\$25,555.33

Attendance Report:

Service	8:15 AM	10:30 AM	YouTube
6/29/2025	29	49	50
7/6/2025	34	82	34
7/13/2025	Unavailable	Unavailable	9
7/20/2025	34	58	14
8/3/2025	45	70	7

FCC

BACK-TO-SCHOOL LUNCHEON

August 10th after the 10:30 service.

Hot dogs & drinks will be provided. Bring a side that you would like to share!

Josh's Jottings

Dear First Christian Church Family,

I am thrilled to invite you to our Voice and Vision Summit, a pivotal gathering where we will come together to dream, plan, and shape the future of our beloved church. Mark your calendars for August 30, 2025, from 9 a.m. to noon at the Old Junior High Cafeteria. This summit is for past and present Deacons and Elders, Committee Chairs, and anyone passionate about First Christian Church's next steps in ministry. Your voice matters, and together, we will lay the foundation for a vibrant and impactful future.

Why the Voice and Vision Summit Matters

The Voice and Vision Summit is more than a meeting—it's a sacred opportunity to align our hearts and minds with God's purpose for our church. As we stand at a crossroads, this summit will help us strategically plan for the future by setting real, actionable goals and envisioning tangible outcomes that reflect our mission to serve, grow, and share Christ's love in Perry and beyond.

Strategic planning is essential because it gives us clarity and direction. It ensures that our efforts are focused, our resources are used wisely, and our ministries are responsive to the needs of our congregation and community. By coming together, we can discern where God is leading us, identify priorities, and create a roadmap that reflects our shared values and vision.

How We'll Plan for the Future

During the summit, we'll engage in a collaborative and prayerful process to dream big and plan intentionally. Here's what you can expect:

Listening and Sharing: We'll start by reflecting on our church's history, celebrating our strengths, and identifying areas for growth. Every participant will have a chance to share their hopes and ideas for First Christian Church's future.

Vision Casting: Guided by prayer and discussion, we'll articulate a clear vision for where we want to go as a church. This vision will be rooted in our faith and responsive to the needs of our community.

Setting Goals and Outcomes: We'll work in small groups to establish specific, measurable goals. For example, we might explore ways to deepen our outreach ministries, enhance our worship experiences, or strengthen our youth and family programs. Each goal will include clear outcomes to track our progress and ensure accountability.

Creating a Strategic Plan: By the end of the summit, we'll outline a strategic plan that includes timelines, responsibilities, and next steps. This plan will serve as a living document, guiding our decisions and inspiring us to stay focused on our mission.

This process is designed to be inclusive, transparent, and Spirit-led. Whether you're a longtime leader or a new member with a heart for ministry, your perspective will help shape our future.

Why Your Presence is Vital

The Voice and Vision Summit is a chance to dream boldly and plan faithfully. Your participation ensures that our plan reflects the diverse gifts and passions of our congregation. Past and present Deacons and Elders bring wisdom and experience, Committee Chairs offer insight into ongoing ministries, and every member brings a unique vision for what our church can become. Together, we'll create a plan that honors our past, embraces our present, and prepares us for a future filled with hope.

A Heartfelt Thank You

On a personal note, I want to express my deepest gratitude to each of you for your support and prayers during my recent trip to Texas. Your encouragement allowed me to engage in meaningful learning and connection, which I'm excited to bring back to our church. Your prayers sustained me, and I am so thankful to serve alongside such a loving and faithful community.

Join Us on August 30!

Please join us on **August 30, 2025, from 9 a.m. to noon at**

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the Old Junior High Cafeteria for the Voice and Vision Summit. Together, let's dream about what God has in store for First Christian Church and take bold steps toward a future filled with faith, love, and impact. Light refreshments will be provided, and we'll wrap up in time for lunch.

If you have any questions or ideas to share before the summit, please reach out to me or

any of our church leaders. Let's come together as a family, united in purpose and ready to shape a bright future for First Christian Church of Perry.

Shalom,

Joshua Bell

Christian Women's Fellowship Road Trip

The ladies of the Christian Women's Fellowship recently travelled to Wichita, Kansas to visit the New Hope Christian Church. Rev. Denny Bell, Rev. Dr. Joshua Bell's mother, invited the CWF ladies to visit and worship with New Hope & the Lao International Church. The Lao International Church shares a space with New Hope Christian Church. The ladies enjoyed their visit and meeting the people of both New Hope Christian and the Lao International Church.



Sunshine & Friendship

Let's have a ladies' luncheon and enjoy Christian fellowship.

AUGUST 20, 2025

AT 12:00 NOON

FOOD & DRINK WILL BE PROVIDED.

Perry First Christian Church
701 Holly St.

RSVP to the church office (580) 336-4576 by August 15th.

Please inform the church office if you need a ride.

COOKIES & BROWNIES!

We are looking for donations of 11 dozen cookies or brownies for the Soup Kitchen on August 14th. Cookies will need to be packaged in baggies or plastic wrap in twos.

Signup sheet is in the narthex.

We greatly appreciate your help!





DISCIPLES KIDS

Registration
Form



RETURNS SEPTEMBER 17TH!
GRADES K-6TH
LIMITED SPACES AVAILABLE



**YOUTH GROUP
BEGINS
AUGUST 21ST!**

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED
FOR
DISCIPLES KIDS**

SEE EMILY ANDROES
FOR MORE DETAILS



Thank You...

Dear Members of FCC,

Thank you for letting me go to camp and paying my way. It was a lot of fun and I learned about God.

Sincerely,

Jacob Hoffman

Dear Members of FCC,

Thank you for everything you did for me to go to church camp. Church camp was really fun and I met a lot of friends. I have learned so much from your camp. It has helped a lot. I appreciate your thoughtfulness.

Sincerely,

KK Hoffman

Dear Members of FCC,

Thank you so much for sending me to church camp. I had a great time and learned a lot about God. Your donations and support are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

MaKenna Hoffman

August Birthdays

Velma Shelton 8/1

Norma Hughes-Klingaman 8/7

Alana Schweer 8/7

Hazel Bolay 8/7

Betty Dillon 8/7

Stacey Wilda 8/8

Brooke Davis 8/9

Robert Oberholzer 8/9

Jamie Thompson 8/11

Robert Cunningham

Robert Lowry 8/12

Jiim Henley 8/18

Nila Nuttle 8/19

Wyatt Carris 8/21

Janet Wilhelm 8/22

Rick Schweer 8/22

Ryan Wilson 8/23

Lillian Cunningham 8/26

Cameron Frazier 8/26

Gerald Demory 8/28

Tessa Anderson 8/30

Lyndey Wilda 8/31

August Anniversaries

Marcus & Brooke Davis 8/6

Jordan & Katy Carris 8/6

Karl & Norma Klingaman 8/7

Larry & Suzanne Voise 8/20

Johnny & Helen Fuller 8/22

ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS:

Reoccurring Events:

Sunday School : Sundays at 9:30 AM

Sunday Worship Services: 8:15 AM 10:30 AM & 6:00 PM

Returns August 17th

Caraway Street: No Caraway St. over the summer. Details coming soon.

Disciples Kids: Wednesday after school **starting Sept. 17th!**

Youth: Sundays at 5:00 PM **beginning September 21st.**

Chancel Choir: Wednesdays @ 6:00 PM (except the 2nd Wed. of the month. **Begins September 3rd!**

Bell Choir: Wednesdays @ 7:00PM (except the 2nd Wed. of the month.) **Begins September 3rd!**

Bible Study: Bible Study begins August 5th at 9:00 AM

Disciples Women: 3rd Thursday of the month 6:00 PM

Quilters: Thursdays 1:00 PM

Pickleball: Tuesdays & Fridays at 10:00 AM

Christian Women's Fellowship: Watch for info. coming soon! Ladies Luncheon August 20th @ noon

Christian Men's Fellowship breakfast: 3rd Saturday of the month 7:00 AM.



BEGINING AUGUST 3RD! BOOK CLUB FOR SUPPORT

Grief is hard. Knowing what to do with it shouldn't be.

Sign-up in
the narthex
or call 580-
336-4576



Participants will engage in a combination of reading, writing, and discussion about navigating grief in today's world.

Dates: 8/3, 8/17, 8/31 & 9/14 @ 4:00 PM.

No cost
to attend.

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)
701 HOLLY ST.
PERRY, OK., 580-336-4576



Rev. Dr. Joshua Bell

Senior Minister

(620) 491-3488

Nancy Wells

Organist

Sharon Worrell

Custodian

Shiloah Kennedy

*Administrative Assis-
tant*

Ted Loring

AV Tech

Emily Androes

*Children's Ministry
Coordinator*

Bobby

Cunningham

AV Tech

Paula Shryock

Director of Music



Church Office

701 Holly St.

580-336-4576

Monday-Friday

8:30 AM-3:00 PM

Sunday Services

8:15 AM & 10:30 AM

Sunday School

9:30 AM

August 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Pickleball 10AM	2
3 Grief Book Club for Support 4:00 PM	4	5 Bible Study 9 AM Pickleball 10AM	6	7 Quilters 1:00 PM	8 Pickleball 10AM	9
10 Back to School Hot dog luncheon after 10:30 service.	11 Deacons' mtg. 5:30 PM Elders' mtg 6:00 PM	12 NO Bible Study Pickleball 10AM	13 Board 6:00 PM	14 Quilters 1:00 PM FCC serving at the Soup Kitchen	15 Food Pantry 10-12 Pickleball 10AM	16 CMF breakfast 7:00 AM
17 Grief Book Club for Support 4:00 Contemporary Worship begins 6:00 PM	18	19 Bible Study 9 AM Pickleball 10AM	20 Sunshine & Friendship Luncheon & Fellowship for Ladies 12:00 PM	21 Quilters 1:00 PM	22 Pickleball 10AM	23
24 Contemporary Worship 6:00 PM	25	26 Bible Study 9 AM Pickleball 10AM	27	28 Quilters 1:00 PM Food Pantry 5-7 PM	29 Pickleball 10AM	30 Vision & Voice Summit 9-12:00 BOE room at the old junior high.
31 Grief Book Club Support 4:00 PM Contemporary Worship 6:00 PM	Sept. 1 Labor Day Church office will be closed.					