

Weekly Update FYI

COLLEGE FIRST
CHURCH OF GOD

Love. Equip. Send.

December 3, 2025



Dear College First family,

On Sunday, we began our Advent sermon series with a study of the biblical lyrics of Handel's Messiah. The best way to experience the musical masterpiece is by getting free tickets to Saturday's performance at Winebrenner at 7:30 PM. I hope to see you there!

If you have a church mailbox, please note the letter inside about our special Christmas offering. If you need a copy of the letter, please request one from me...kirk@collegefirst.org.

Blessings,

Kirk

P.S. It's not too late to take our church health survey on page 2 of the FYI. It's anonymous and your input is extremely valuable. Thanks.



Art Yoder 12/1
Charlene Hankinson 12/1
Nancy Hiser 12/2
Beppie Walerius 12/3
Annette Peterman 12/3
John Rupp 12/5
Judith Rutledge 12/7
Deidre Ramthun 12/8
Megan Rupp 12/8
Jacob Harris 12/9
Gary Lora 12/11
Bonnie Smith 12/12
Erick Reese 12/12

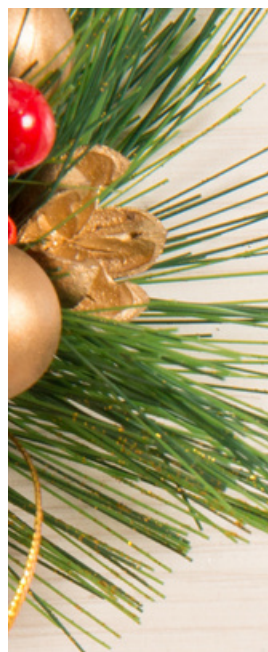
Upcoming Events

12/5: Handel's Messiah Bluffton, 7:30 PM
12/6: Handel's Messiah Winebrenner, 7:30 PM
12/9: Senior Fun Dinner, 5:30 PM
12/7: Young Adult Lunch, 11:30 AM
12/7: Next Gen Worship Christmas Night, 6:00 PM
12/13: Young Adult Bethlehem Experience, 6:30 PM
12/24: Christmas Eve Family Service, 3 PM
12/24: Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 5,7,9 PM

TITHES/OFFERINGS....\$17,840.32
ADDITIONAL OFFERINGS....\$2,140.28
BUDGET.... \$19,738.00

You can give online via PayPal, in addition to giving on the church website. Please scan the QR Code provided. Any questions, please call the church office.





Christmas Offering

Dear College First Family,

Each year, we receive special offerings at Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter. This year's Christmas offering will serve as an investment in the future of College First Church of God—and in the future of God's Kingdom. Our 2025 Christmas offering will help launch the Reist Next Gen Leadership Development Quasi-Endowment.

I am grateful for the leaders who crafted our “love, equip, send” mission language and our vision: *to become a future-oriented church by 2028, with 33% of our congregation made up of kids, students, and young adults.* This fall, we have regularly been meeting that target. We want to see that momentum continue.

While many churches are closing their doors, College First has both a bright present and a hopeful future. Our investments in interns, residents, and ministry fellows have produced tremendous fruit, and we desire to ensure that impact continues for generations.

My prayer is that we raise \$1 million to establish this fund, with ongoing support coming from trusts, estates, and special gifts. This endowment will allow us to love, equip, and send tomorrow's pastors, missionaries, elders, and Kingdom leaders for God's glory. You may give online by scanning the QR Code, or place your Christmas offering in the collection basket during service.

May God bless you in this season of giving as we celebrate Emmanuel—God with us.

Kirk Schneemann, Lead Pastor





The POWER of PRAYER

• Jan Below	• Ruth Lynch
• Linda Bratt	• David Martaus
• Leonard Burris	• Phyllis Miller
• Christine Cole	• Bob Nietz
• Paula Dewey	• Lee Osmun
• Briella Fletcher	• Cindy Sims-Perry
• Jill Gordon	• Heather Tussing
• Kathy Kennard	• Kay Reinehr
• Dan Kerlin	• Doug Rosendale
• Ledger Han	• JoAnn Wilson

E-MAIL PRAYER GROUP - Praises and prayer concerns for the church body as a whole are sent out via e-mail by Connections Pastor Kimberly Reese. To submit a prayer request or to be added to the Prayer Chain recipient e-mail list please contact Pastor Kimberly at kreesse@collegefirst.org.

CHURCH HEALTH SURVEY

Come and take our Church Health Survey!

This is just getting a “pulse” in how we can help in serving you better. Your opinions matter!

Please take a few minutes by scanning the QR Code below. Any questions, please contact the church office. Thank you!



Thank You

Thank you very much to the anonymous person who gave me a Christmas card! What is in it is very appreciative! God's blessings to you and have a wonderful Christmas!

Sincerely,
Katie Thomas

Staff Christmas Gift

To All Who Worship at College First Church of God,

In the past, many of you have given Christmas gifts for the College First pastors and staff who minister to us and support us throughout the year. You are again invited to contribute toward monetary gifts that will be distributed to all pastors and staff. If you would like to participate, please insert your contribution in an envelope located next to the mailroom across from the Sanctuary or at the Welcome Table at Winebrenner and place it in the offering plate. Or you may return the envelope to the church, before December 19 by Noon, so that gifts can be presented during the Christmas season. Online giving is also available at <https://collegefirst.churchcenter.com/giving>.

We understand you have family priorities, personal needs and other opportunities for giving during the Christmas season. With those considerations, please use this as an invitation, not an expectation, to give. Prayers for our pastors and staff are always appreciated.

Thank you and may God bless you throughout the coming year.

Nathan Tice, Council President



HANDEL'S MESSIAH

Handel's *Messiah* will shape much of our Advent season at College First. This is especially true as College First is set to perform Handel's *Messiah* along with our friends from Bluffton University and the University of Findlay, as well as from the Bluffton and Findlay communities.

Save the date for the 132nd and 133rd performance of Handel's *Messiah*. The first performance is on Friday, December 5 at 7:30 p.m. in Yoder Recital Hall and the second performance will be Saturday, December 6 at 7:30 p.m. at Winebrenner Auditorium on the University of Findlay's campus. Tickets are free and you can reserve yours using this link:

<https://www.bluffton.edu/about/happenings/tickets.aspx>



SENIOR FUN DECEMBER DINNER TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9 5:30 PM

Our Senior Fun Ministry sponsors a dinner each month and the December dinner is coming soon. Plan to come with a hot dish, salad or dessert to share to complement the ham main course. Then, prepare to share in an evening of joyful and fun entertainment.

A signup list has been placed near the church offices for you to indicate your participation. Please sign up today. You can also call at 419-422-7365 to sign up. Contact Pastor David for any questions you may have.



Blue Christmas

A service of Remembrance and Hope

Sunday, December 21 / 6:00 pm
College First Sanctuary

The holiday season can be a difficult season for those who are going through some tough times or for those who have experienced the loss of a loved one.

For this reason, College First is offering a special service of remembrance and hope. The service to open to everyone. Childcare for infants and toddlers is available.

Questions?

Contact Pastor David or Pastor Kimberly at office@collegefirst.org.

The holiday season is hard
for those whose hearts
are hurting.
You are not alone.

CHRISTMAS EVE at COLLEGE FIRST

Family Service

3:00 pm

Candlelight Services

5:00, 7:00, and 9:00 pm

College First Sanctuary

One of the most meaningful days of the year for the ministry of our church takes place on Christmas Eve. Amidst the glow of candles and smiling faces, the retelling of the Christmas story is an experience not to be missed.

The evening will feature three worship services. The first service, at 3:00 pm, will be designed to minister to the entire family—especially those families with young children. Children from the church will minister in music at this service. Nursery care will be provided.

Three identical services will then be held at 5, 7, and 9:00 pm. These worship experiences will feature the traditional Scripture lessons, carols, and candles. The Worship Choir and Handbell Choir will minister in music. Pastor Schneemann will deliver the Christmas message.

Make plans now for you and your entire family to come and be a part of these special worship services as together we all keep Christ in Christmas.

Pew Group

Have you ever wanted to help out in a small simple way in the church and not sure what?

Katie Thomas, church admin assistant, is looking for a few people to help maintain the pews in the College First Sanctuary once per month.

It would be going through each pew and filling up what is needed; Connection Cards, giving envelopes, and pens to write. This is a small, yet important detail for the church!

If you are interested, please email Katie at kthomas@collegefirst.org or call the church office at 419-422-7365, M-F 9 AM-2 PM. Thank you!



The Winebrenner worship service is in need of additional volunteers for our tech teams...and we'd love to have you!

All volunteers will serve approximately once a month after training is complete. Some of the available roles include running the audio board, slides and lights operator and live stream operator.

For additional details or to get involved, please contact Pastor Kimberly at kreesee@collegefirst.org. We hope you'll be a part of our behind-the-scenes team!



COLLEGE FIRST
NEXT GEN MINISTRIES

NEXT GEN

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP NIGHT

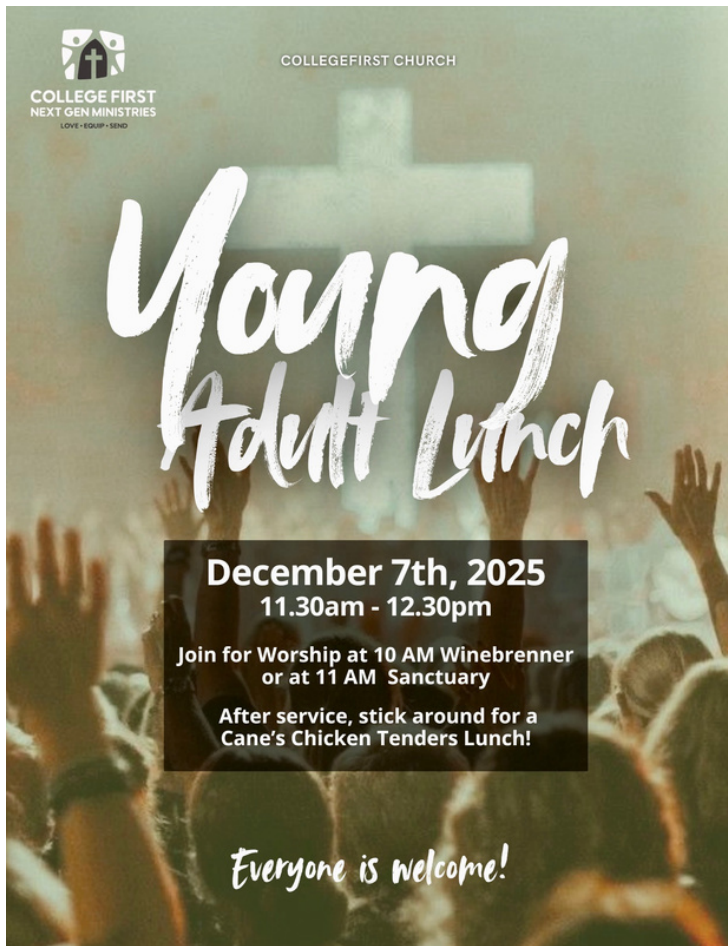
**SING TO THE LORD
HOT CHOCOLATE BAR**

**SUNDAY,
DECEMBER
7, 2025** | **TIME :
6:00 PM** | **VENUE:
FELLOWSHIP
HALL**

**EXPERIENCE THE WONDER
OF CHRISTMAS IN A NIGHT
OF WORSHIP**

COLLEGE FIRST CHURCH
THE GIFT OF LOVE AND LIGHT

WWW.COLLEGEFIRST.ORG



COLLEGEFIRST CHURCH

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Young Adult Lunch

December 7th, 2025
11.30am - 12.30pm

Join for Worship at 10 AM Winebrenner
or at 11 AM Sanctuary

After service, stick around for a
Cane's Chicken Tenders Lunch!

Everyone is welcome!



COLLEGEFIRST CHURCH

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YOUNG ADULT BETHLEHEM EXPERIENCE

Hope and Joy

Saturday
December 13, 2025
At 6:30 PM

VENUE
Meet at the church

Journey through time as you witness the events of the life of Jesus

www.collegefirst.org



Angel Tree



CF Kids Min Angel Tree is up near the church office. Please take a tag off the tree and bring the gift back unwrapped or in a bag, with the tag attached to the gift before Friday, December 12. Any questions about the Angel tree, please contact Nicky at ninman@collegefirst.org.

CF KIDS MIN UPDATES

Dear CF Kids Min Families,

During the month of December, there are a few updates and cancellations.

- There **will be** Encounter Wednesday, December 3 and Wednesday, December 10 as usual.
- On Wednesday, December 17, we will be meeting at **Soar Jump Park** from 6-7:30 PM for those who helped say the 250 verses! Parents, please go to the Soar Jump Park website ahead of time and fill out the parent waiver on the top right hand of their website.
- There will be no Encounter on Wednesday December 24 and Wednesday December 31.
- **We will be performing at the 3:00 PM Christmas Eve Service on December 24.** Practice for this will be at Encounter and Saturday December 20 at 10:30 AM.
- There will be **no Finally Friday** on December 26.

I hope you have a blessed holiday season with your families and the remembrance of the reason of the season-Jesus' birth!

Any questions, please let me know. My email address is ninman@collegefirst.org. **U R LOVED!!!**

Sincerely,
Nicky Inman, CF Kids Min Director



IF YOU FIND JESUS - TAKE HIM WITH YOU

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

9:00AM 11:00AM

SERVICES IN THE SANCTUARY, 1100 N. MAIN ST.

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

10:00AM @ WINEBRENNER

WINEBRENNER TLB AUDITORIUM, 950 N. MAIN ST.

SUNDAY WORSHIP ONLINE

LIVESTREAM 9:00AM

FACEBOOK PAGE & YOUTUBE CHANNEL

GO TO THE WEBSITE 'ONLINE WORSHIP' PAGE FOR LINKS

1100 N. Main St. Findlay, OH 45840

PHONE: 419-422-7365 **FAX:** 419-423-9449

E-MAIL: office@collegefirst.org

WEBSITE: www.collegefirst.org

OFFICE HOURS: Monday-Thursday 9AM-4 PM, Friday 9 AM-2 PM

Staff Directory

Kirk Schneemann, Lead Pastor
kirk@collegefirst.org

David Welker, Pastor of Worship and Lay Activities
dwelker@collegefirst.org

Kimberly Reese, Connections Pastor
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Nancy Hiser, Pastor of Student and Young Adult Ministries
nhiser@collegefirst.org

Nicky Inman, Director of Kids Ministries
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Simeon Joseph, Associate Director of Next Gen Ministries
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Donald Daboiko, CF Winebrenner Director of Worship
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Lisa Jolliff, CF Winebrenner Director of Music
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Alex Miller, Ministry Fellow
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Su Jung, Organist
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SeaHwa Jung, Worship Choir Director
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Jen Miller, Treasurer
jmiller@collegefirst.org

Katie Thomas, Admin Assistant
kthomas@collegefirst.org

Chad Smith, Custodian

Mark Fillhart, Assistant Custodian

Church Elders 2025

Deb Anders, Next Generation

Alvin Trusty, Connection and Discipleship

Nate Tice, Outreach and Missions

Randy Ewing, Property Management

Jon Rupp, Stewardship and Finance

Dave Green, Worship



church center

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Love. Equip. Send.