



Love. Equip. Send.

November 19, 2025



Dear College First family,

You're not ready to live until you're ready to die. Are you? You can find sermon notes and recommended books on heaven and hell at www.PastorKirk.com.

Our Advent sermon series will explore the biblical passage of **Handel's** *Messiah*, arguably the greatest music ever written. There are free tickets available for the Bluffton (12/5) and Winebrenner (12/6) performances of the masterpiece at www.bluffton.edu/tickets.

Our Thanksgiving offering for Christian Clearing House continues until the end of the month.

Please take our church health survey <u>here</u> (or QR code below). It's anonymous and will help us gain a pulse of our congregation.

Blessings,

Kirk





Fred Junge 11/14 Kathy Brooker-Chappa 11/15 Bill Smith 11/16 Carolyn Lenhart 11/18 Hannah Ragland 11/18 Melanie Ewing 11/19 Lynn Harris 11/20 David Crane 11/22 Hailey Town 11/23 Becky Spikes 11/24 Steven Rothlisberger 11/24 Terry Aukerman 11/25 Chrystal Terry 11/25 Norma Trexler 11/26 Judith Philipp 11/27 Ann Manley 11/27 Phyllis Fellows 11/28 Lorena Baird 11/28 Shawn Beucler 11/28 Paula Junge 11/29 Christine Cole 11/29 Jenna Martin 11/29 Emmanuel Kaddo 11/30

### **Upcoming Events**

11/27: Young Adult Festival of Holiday Foods, 1 PM

11/27: Office Closed, Thanksgiving Day

11/28: Office Closed, Thanksgiving Observance

11/28: Finally Friday, 6-8 PM 12/5: Handel's Messiah, 7:30 PM

12/6: Handel's Messiah, 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

TITHES/OFFERINGS....\$18,807.80 ADDITIONAL OFFERINGS....\$3,634.44 BUDGET....\$19,738.00











### **Thanksgiving Offering**

During this season of giving, the Thanksgiving offering envelope is a way to financially contribute to our community as a way of saying, "thank you for everything you do." This year, proceeds from the Thanksgiving offering will go to Christian Clearing House.

You can also give online using the QR Code below and mark it as "Thanksgiving Offering." From the Pastors, Church Council, and Staff at College First, "THANK YOU," for giving and have a beautiful Thanksgiving filled with God's abundant love.





# 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 <a href="https://collegefirst.churchcenter.com/giving">https://collegefirst.churchcenter.com/giving</a>.

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



- Jan Below
- Linda Bratt
- Leonard Burris
- Christine Cole
- Paula Dewey
- Briella Fletcher
- Jill Gordon
- Kathy Kennard
- Dan Kerlin

- Ledger Han
  - Ruth Lynch
  - David Martaus
    - Phyllis Miller
    - Bob Nietz
    - Lee Osmun
  - Cindy Sims-Perry
    - Kay Reinehr
  - Doug Rosendale
  - 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 <a href="mailto:kreese@collegefirst.org">kreese@collegefirst.org</a>.



Dear CF family,

Thank you to everyone who sent prayers for me during my surgery. The doctor told me that he was able to get all the cancer-praise God who watches over all of us. You all fill my heart with so much love!

Sincerely, Jan Below

#### **SHEPHERDING MINISTRY**

Friends are needed for Shepherding Ministry!

This ministry will serve as a bridge between College First and those who cannot attend church in person. Depending on the need, it will be either weekly to twice a month visiting College First homebound.

Please contact Pastor Kimberly if you are interested in becoming a volunteer to help our homebound family. Pastor Kimberly's email is kreese@collegefirst.org. Thank you!



F YOU FIND JESUS - TAKE HIM WITH YOU





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.

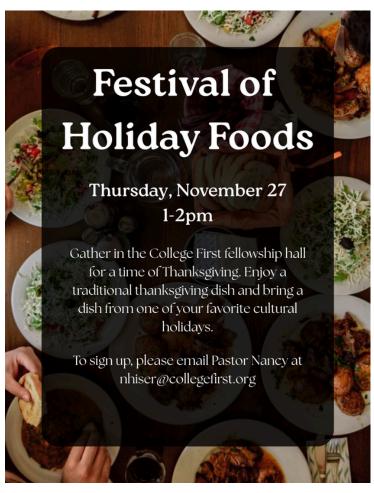
A signup list has been placed near the church offices for you to indicate your participation. Please sign up today. You can also call at 419–422–7365 to sign up. Contact Pastor David for any questions you may have.

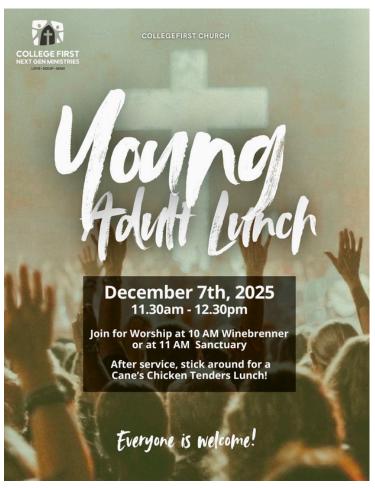




You are not alone.



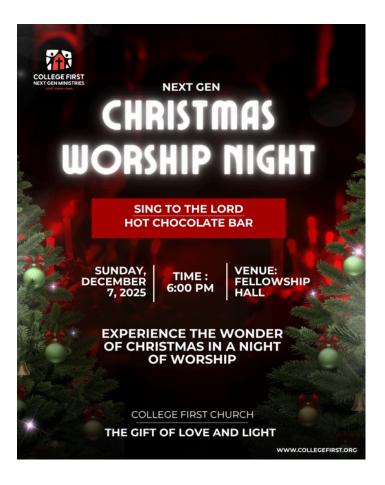




#### **CF Kids Min**

For grades K-5<sup>th</sup>, come join us for Thanksgiving snacks and fun Christmas Crafts! Any questions, please contact Nicky.





# International Student Ministry Donations Needed

Our international students are in need of Christmas decorations, space heaters, mattresses, men's winter coats, desks, and bicycles. If you have any of these items to donate, please contact Pastor Nancy at nhiser@collegefirst.org.













Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, & TikTok! Download the Church Center app!

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#### **Staff Directory**

Kirk Schneemann, Lead Pastor kirk@collegefirst.org

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

Kimberly Reese, Connections Pastor kreese@collegefirst.org

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

Nicky Inman, Director of Kids Ministries ninman@collegefirst.org

Simeon Joseph, Associate Director of Next Gen Ministries simeon@collegefirst.org

Donald Daboiko, CF Winebrenner Director of Worship donald@collegefirst.org

Lisa Jolliff, CF Winebrenner Director of Music ljolliff@collegefirst.org

Alex Miller, Ministry Fellow millera18@findlay.edu

Su Jung, Organist crystals7715@gmail.com

SeaHwa Jung, Worship Choir Director jung@findlay.edu

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