



**Northwest
Christian Church**

DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

May 2024

TABLE OF CONTENTS

2. PASTOR'S ARTICLE

3. HEART SISTERS

4. SUMMER CAMPERS

5. EASTER PICTURES

6. EXTRAVAGANT GENEROSITY

7. QUARRY TRAILS HIKE / HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

8. EPIC

9. FELLOWSHIP EVENTS

10. WORK DAY AT CAMP CHRISTIAN

11. NNEMAP

12. PENTECOST OFFERING

13. BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Pastor's Article

News to Share...

As Easter People, we continue to experience the resurrected Christ in our lives every day. Through a smile from a stranger, through a written card or note from a friend, through a phone call from a church member just to check in, we connect with one another and share the light of Christ. Recently we worshipped together in Fellowship Hall and engaged in conversation with one another around tables within our worship service. Our conversations included remembering times in our congregational life when we felt nurtured, and times when we might have felt disappointed or let down. We then revisited our stated values and priorities and questioned whether they still represent who we are today. We added some things to our list of areas to focus on. And we invited one another to continue the conversations in other settings, with many folks volunteering to dig deeper into certain areas that were important to them. We ended with a celebration of Holy Communion and a hymn. It was a glorious time participating in worshipful work together.

I believe worship should be much more than an observatory event, rather it is greatly enhanced when it is a participatory event. One of our stated values is to be "passionately worshipful." I invite you to consider what that might mean for you. And if you're comfortable, share your thoughts with me! As we move into this next chapter of our life together, discerning who God is calling us to be and how God is calling us to share the Good News among ourselves and in the community, I look forward to hearing from you!

Blessings to you in this season of new life and growth!
Pastor Joyce

Pastor Joyce Wealand

HONORING THE WOMEN IN OUR LIVES

TUESDAY, MAY 28

Mothers are honored in May with their own special holiday, but we know there are many women who have positively impacted our lives that should also be recognized. Perhaps you had a sister, a friend, a teacher, or a co-worker (or a mother!) who touched your life in a special way. At our May gathering, we will take some time to share about these special women who have impacted our lives. Consider bringing a photo or trinket of your special person to share with the group. The program will begin at 7pm in the Fellowship Hall, but feel free to bring your own dinner between 6-7pm and share in a time of fellowship together. Please note that the meeting has been moved to Tuesday, May 28th to avoid the Memorial Day Holiday.

If you have questions or require transportation, please contact Carolyn Abels, Jane Russell or Debbie Stephan.



HeartSisters

Connecting...to God, to each other, to community

SUMMER CAMP

Charlie and Lizzie Jones
Ribbit Camp June 30 - July 3
(Grandma Marsha Mueller will also be
at camp this week!)

Christian Brongers
CYF Week 1 June 16 - 22
(Christian will be a camper this week)
CYF Week 2 July 14 - 20
(Christian will be a Youth
Leader this week)

*Write our
campers a
letter*

Camp Christian
(Camper Name)
10335 Maple Dell Rd.
Marysville, OH 43040

**Hallelujah Chorus
(Handel)
Chancel Choir, brass,
organ and
congregation**



EASTER SUNDAY



**Northwest Christian
Church enjoyed the
eclipse at Camp
Christian!**



**Many families had fun at the 2024
Easter Eggstravaganza!**



John 6:43-46 Jesus said, "Don't bicker among yourselves over me. You're not in charge here. The Father who sent me is in charge. He draws people to me—that's the only way you'll ever come. Only then do I do my work, putting people together, setting them on their feet, ready for the End. This is what the prophets meant when they wrote, 'And then they will all be personally taught by God.' Anyone who has spent any time at all listening to the Father, really listening and therefore learning, comes to me to be taught personally—to see it with his own eyes, hear it with his own ears, from me, since I have it firsthand from the Father. No one has seen the Father except the One who has his Being alongside the Father—and you can see me. [The Message]

Listening is an important part of being a Christian. We need to listen to God, to each other, and to those who are in need of talking. But listening to God is only a first step; we also need to remember what we have heard - memorize if necessary.

I recently read an article by Kyle Davidson Bair who pointed out how important it was for listening and learning in Jesus' time. Writing implements and paper were not common commodities for ordinary people. So people would learn about their religion in their temple from the Rabbi. Many serious Jews memorized passages.

Jesus' process was just like that. He talked and people listened carefully and remembered what he said and the principles he was teaching. The disciples heard much more than the crowds did, and had more responsibility to memorize what Jesus had said. They were then assigned to go out and preach exactly what they were taught - God's Word, not theirs.

The net result was that the apostles went out and taught what they had learned directly from Jesus and were careful to be accurate in what He said. They didn't add or subtract anything.

Thus, Jesus's words were passed on orally for quite a few years until people went through the difficult process of writing things down. Talk about being Good Stewards of God's Word! We can do the same thing. Thoroughly learn what God wants to know, and pass it along to others we encounter who also need to know those things.

Carla Nuenke

**Extravagant
GENEROSITY**

Greater Columbus, Habitat for Humanity Happenings: Habitat House Dedication Saturday May 11

Our Northwest Partnership Habitat for humanity house is now complete. Come on out to 1496 Arlington Ave. in the Linden area to celebrate this occasion. Join Zeinab Bahdi and her family on Saturday morning May 11 at 9:00 am. Pastor Joyce will be participating in the program. Thanks to everyone for supporting this important mission.

Partners: – This is our 30th house with the partnership. Together we share construction and financial and volunteer responsibility for this house with Habitat for Humanity- MidOhio and our partner churches:

Covenant Presbyterian
St Agatha Catholic
St. Mark's Episcopal
Atonement Lutheran

Riverside Church
Holy Trinity Lutheran
First Community

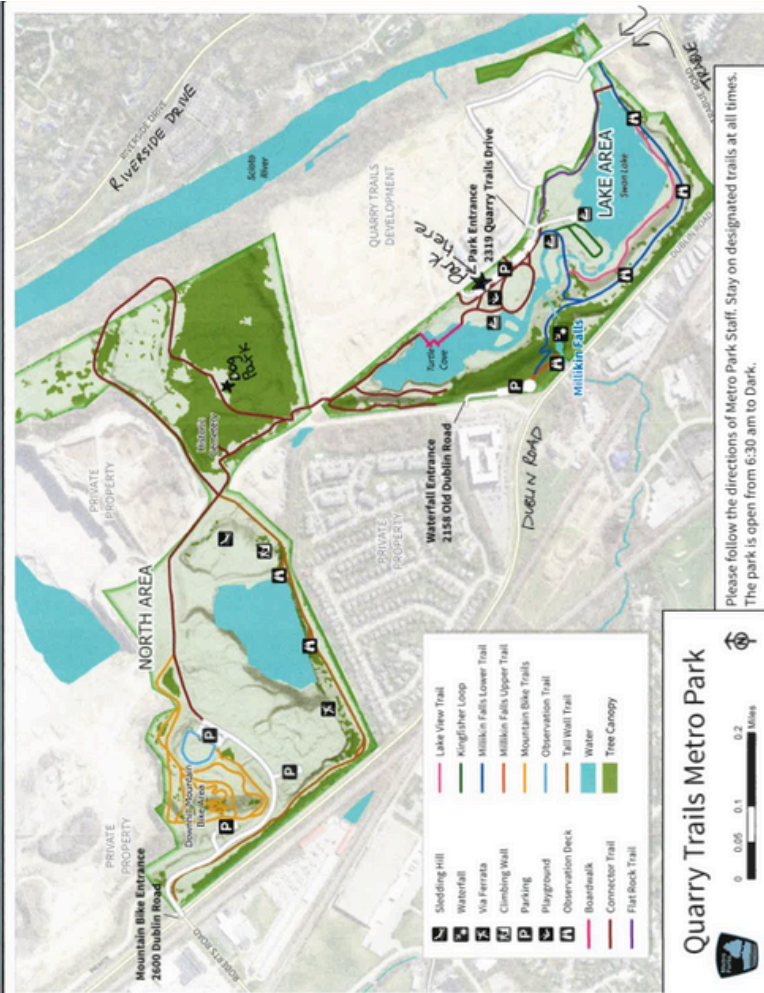
Next House:

This fall we hope to sponsor a 31st house! Watch for details.

Quarry Trails Metro Park Sunday Hike

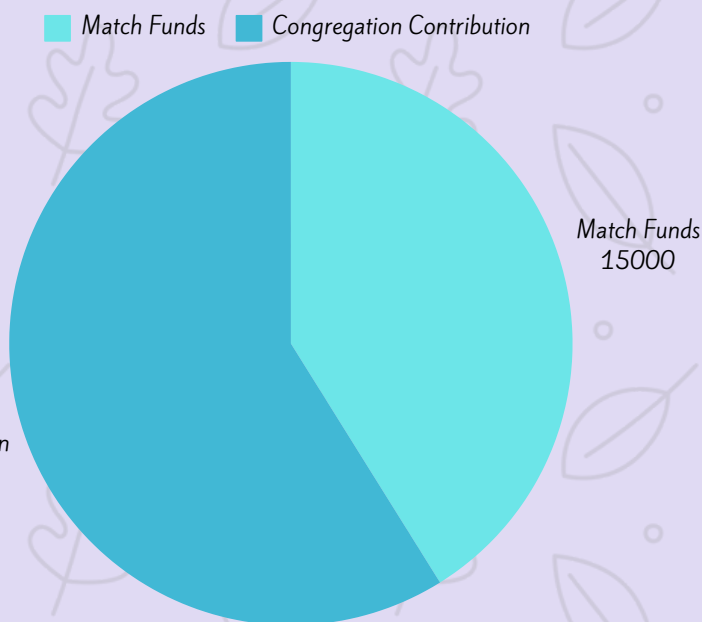
All are invited to gather at Quarry Trails Metro Park on Sunday, May 19, gathering at 1:00 pm. Enter off Trabue on Quarry Trails drive and park by the playground and climbing wall area. From there, there is a short hike to the dog park, or to Millikin Falls. If you want to see Millikin falls, and need the easiest access with fewest steps, park at the waterfall entrance at 2158 Old Dublin Road (this is a smaller, sometimes full parking area). Questions? Ask Lori Beals, Hospitality Committee.

Mark your calendars for June 2, when we will have a hot dog lunch after the service and celebrate our newest church members.



We've Closed the Gap!

After the passing of our budget with a deficit of over \$30,000 the congregation was invited to help Close the Gap by making donations. A generous donor initiated the process with a matching pledge of up to \$15,000. So our challenge began. And in a few short weeks, we exceeded our goal. Our final amount donated was \$36,480! With the additional pledge, we have established a budget that is expected to end the year with a small surplus. Thank you to all for your enthusiastic support of our initiative!



EPIC *"Unpacking your Stories"* TUESDAY MAY 21, 2024



EPIC, Tuesday, May 21, potluck at 6:00, program at 6:45. Pat Synder, retired humor columnist for SNP newspapers, will lead a workshop on "Unpacking your Stories." In an interactive workshop, Pat will help us discover how to pass down our treasured items as family stories whether in person, in writing, through recording, pictures or labels. PLEASE BRING A TREASURE - OR A PICTURE OF ONE - AND BE PREPARED TO SHARE IN SMALL GROUPS WHAT IT MEANS TO YOU AND WHY YOU WILL WANT TO PRESERVE ITS STORY ALWAYS. All ages are welcome; you or your parents may be thinking about rightsizing or preparing for a someday move.

Fellowship Events

FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

MARCH 18, 2024

9:30AM

**WOODLAND CHRISTIAN
CHURCH. 143 WOODLAND AVE
COLUMBUS, OH 43203**

All men and pastors of District 9 are invited. There will be good food and fellowship discussing what direction to take in the future, and planning for a retreat in the spring of 2025. No offering will be held. This breakfast is a gift from Woodland Men's Fellowship.

Disciples Fellowship Retreats are held every Memorial Day and Labor Day. We are a volunteer organization of long-time camp attendees who want to share the spirit of camp and the love of God with others. You can help us do that by coming to our retreat yourself and by inviting others to join you. Share this information with your church, family, and others who might appreciate a spirit-filled weekend of good fellowship and worship.



**Disciples
Fellowship
Retreat**



**Friday, May 24th
through
Sunday, May 26th**

For all ages

QUESTIONS?

OhioDFR@gmail.com



Camp Christian Work Day Saturday, May 11th

From 7:00am until 5:00pm
10335 Maple Dell Rd., Marysville, OH 43040
Attend as you are able

Here are a few of the tasks that need worked on around Camp Christian. There are tasks suited for a wide range of ages and abilities.

- Cleaning Cabin Clusters
- Set up Green Chairs around Camp
- Power Washing
- Clean out Gutters and Downspouts
- Cleaning Boats and Life Jackets
- Cleaning Vespers Spot
- Cleaning in all Buildings
- Weed control throughout Camp
- Washing Windows
- Painting Swings & Chairs
- General grounds cleanup
- Just to name a few!

A more detailed list of tasks and expectations can be viewed at
https://www.ccinoh.com/media/374545/work_day_5_11_24_tasks.pdf

Please wear work clothes, boots or heavy duty shoes, and bring gloves. Certain tasks may require more PPE.

Please pack your own lunch. Snacks, Coffee and Water will be provided.

Anyone under the age of 18 **MUST** have a legal parent or guardian attending and working with them.

There is no charge to participate, but please complete the online sign up at <https://www.ccinoh.com/regional-calendar.aspx?events=11521&action=details>

If you have any questions about this or want to bring some of your own equipment, please contact Campsite Manager Tom Bowerman-Jett directly at 567-204-2962 or tbowerman-jett@ccinoh.org.

If you would like to make a monetary donation to the supplies for the work day, you can do so at <https://www.ccinoh.com/donation.aspx> -Select "Other" as your designation and type in "May 11th Work Day." You can also mail a contribution by check to Camp Christian – 10335 Maple Dell Rd., Marysville, OH 43040.



Let's continue filling the shopping cart with bar soap during May!

The shopping cart in the Narthex is filling with soap – thank you so much for your donations! Can we overfill it? Keep those bars of soap coming during May! In addition to bar soap, any shelf-stable or toiletry item is always welcome. Adult and children's books are also accepted at any time. Thank you for your generous donations and your support of NNEMAP. To learn more, please visit nnemappantry.org or contact Debbie Stephan.



Mark YOUR Calendar

Taste of German Village and the Brewery District to be held on Saturday, July 13th from 1-4pm on the grounds of Grange Insurance. This is a wonderful fundraiser for NNEMAP and you get to sample delicious foods from many local restaurants! Stay tuned for details on how to get tickets!



State Fair
JULY 24 - AUGUST 4
2024

Volunteer to park cars in the NNEMAP parking lot during the Ohio State Fair. Northwest is committed to covering Wednesday, July 24th and 8 volunteers are needed – 3 for the morning shift, 3 for the afternoon shift, 2 for the evening shift. Contact Debbie Stephan for more info.

Working hard to package coffee for NNEMAP



The children of Northwest, along with adult helpers, were very busy on April 14th bagging coffee for NNEMAP. They created 370 bags of coffee, which equates to 740 pots of coffee or 5,920 cups of coffee! Thanks to everyone who donated coffee – the clients at NNEMAP appreciate having this special treat. Great work everyone!



RESTORE AND REWIND
2024 PENTECOST OFFERING
SUNDAYS MAY 12 & MAY 19

ALL WHO BELIEVED WERE TOGETHER AND HAD ALL THINGS IN COMMON;
THEY WOULD SELL THEIR POSSESSIONS AND GOODS AND DISTRIBUTE
THE PROCEEDS TO ALL, AS ANY HAD NEED. + ACTS 2:44-45



THE 2024 PENTECOST OFFERING IS A SPECIAL OFFERING
IN SUPPORT OF THE NEW CHURCH MOVEMENT IN YOUR REGION
AND ACROSS THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST).

RESTORE AND REWIND



DISCIPLES
NEXT

When it comes to church,
we have a lot of negative
tapes playing in our heads:

"Church is judgmental."
"Church is hypocritical."
"They think they're better
than everyone else."

It's time for restoration.
Time to rewind the tape.

**New Church Ministry is
dedicated to fostering
faithful communities
marked by deep Christian
spirituality and a passion
for God's love and justice.**

Yesterday, today, and tomorrow, **God is singing a new song:
not a song of judgment, but of welcome and forgiveness;
not a song of superiority, but of humility and grace; not a
song of hoarding, but of sharing everything we have!**

God's movement for wholeness is already underway. Our
job is to listen, and learn, and follow - supporting leaders
and communities as the Spirit calls them into being, laying
down a new song for a new generation.

Church as a place of generosity and justice. **Church as a
movement for wholeness in a fragmented world.**

Your gifts to the 2024 Pentecost Offering, received in most
congregations on Sunday, May 12, and Sunday, May 19,
are divided equally between your regional ministry, which
supports local new churches, and **New Church Ministry**,
which trains, equips, and assists emerging leaders to be
"movement initiators."

Like our ancestors, we're going back to the beginning,
when new Christian communities gathered together and
shared all they had, organizing everything around the
Spirit's dreams for their lives and their communities.



Find additional Pentecost Offering resources at pentecost-offering.com

Happy Birthday

5/3 Charlie Schmidt

5/8 Steve Hallarn

5/9 Annette Harden

5/11 Charlie Jones

5/12 Helen Clover

5/12 Kelley Femia

5/17 Gretchen Hammond

5/18 Claudia Lozier

5/24 Doug Allen

5/27 Judy Embree

5/29 Jan Thorley

5/30 Weldon Abels

5/30 Diana Schmidt

HAPPY Anniversary

5/16 Victor and Laura Jochem

5/28 Ben and Lina Taylor

5/29 Rob and April Steffy

Should you have any pastoral needs or concerns, please let our Pastor know.

Rev. Joyce Wealand, Minister: pastor@northwestchristian.org

Dr. Tim Sarsany, Minister of Music: tsarsany@gmail.com

Tracy Qian, Accompanist / Organist

Rebecca Bean, Secretary: office@northwestchristian.org

Madison Buty, Child Caregiver

Karly Dearth, Child Caregiver

**Disciples
LGBTQ+
Alliance**

