

# The Wheeling Disciple

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), 1343 National Road, Wheeling WV 304 242-1520  
Senior Pastor: Rev. Kenneth M. Hardway

**JANUARY 2023**  
Volume 84, Issue 1



## Sunday Service Times

10:45 am Doors open at  
10:20

If you'd like to make an appointment with Kenny, Jennifer or Mary Jo, please call the church office (304 242-1520) and leave a message, or email [pastor@wheelingdisciples.org](mailto:pastor@wheelingdisciples.org) or [office@wheelingdisciples.org](mailto:office@wheelingdisciples.org).

## ABOUT THE DISCIPLES:

We are Disciples of Christ, a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world.

As part of the one body of Christ, we welcome all to the Lord's Table as God has welcomed us.

## Newsletter information:

Please submit your news, events, notes, committee information and other information as soon as possible so it appears in the newsletter in a timely manner!

Church Secretary:  
Jennifer Fedczak

Newsletter editor:  
Ann Kogler

## PASTOR'S PAGE



Christmas is more than a day...it's a season! The old carol "The 12 Days of Christmas" has it right. The church celebrates Christmas for 12 days, culminating on Epiphany, which is always Jan. 6<sup>th</sup>. This calendar year our Sunday's in Christmastime land on two holidays—Christmas Day and New Year's Day. So we will move our Day of Epiphany celebration to Sunday, Jan. 8<sup>th</sup>. We will tarry awhile in Christmastime, which is not a bad thing at all to do. So keep up those decorations! Sing those carols! Let generosity abound and keep the light burning bright! Our Christmas will culminate with an Epiphany Sunday Church Family Dinner and Baby Shower on Jan. 8<sup>th</sup> (more on that later in the newsletter.)

I've never felt like it was 'an accident of the calendar' that the global community celebrates a New Year during the church's Christmas celebrations. It's quite a beautiful thing to consider that we close out the previous year, and usher in a new, while celebrating the incarnation of Christ. God made flesh... The God of ages past, and our hope for years to come... The hopes and fears of all our years... Emmanuel, God is with us...and will be with us always, to the end of the age. I would like to contend that it is because of Christmas that we can celebrate the coming of a new year.

Newness is a major, if not THE major, theme of Jesus's life and ministry, death and resurrection. Jesus came with a "new teaching with authority!" (Mark 1:27). He has two parables about not patching new upon the old (one using cloth and the other wineskins). Jeremiah prophecies about new days coming when God will make new covenants (Jeremiah 31:31) and Jesus fulfills this at his Last Supper when he shares the "cup of a new covenant" (Luke 22:20). Not to mention all the lives that were transformed into new ways of living: lepers cleansed, demoniacs restored, blind seeing, lame walking, teachers learning, disciples now called friends (John 15:15, one of my favorites!). Think about how Paul and the early church understood the death and resurrection of Jesus connecting us so deeply with our own: *"Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life."* (Romans 6:4).

~continued page 5~



### SENIOR PASTOR

Rev. Kenneth M.  
Hardway  
304 242-1520 (office)  
304 780-1989 (cell)

### PASTORAL CARE

If you or someone you know needs a visit or is in the hospital, please contact Rev. Kenny at 304 780-1989 or email [k.hardway@yahoo.com](mailto:k.hardway@yahoo.com). You can also contact one of the Elders who are serving. We want to keep in touch with our church family! Help us do that!

### COME!

We are created by God, but not created to be alone.

God has given us Christ, a Lord who calls us friend.

God has given us a world, to live in and to serve.

God has given us a church - a family to live with and share together in the joys and demands of discipleship.

We are created by God, but not created to be alone.

Thanks be to God!

## HELPING OUTSIDE OUR CHURCH WALLS

There are so many needs in our community. Some have no shelter. Some can't afford utilities. Some don't have enough food. Some have difficulty getting to necessary appointments. Some people need a friendly face...a smile...a word of encouragement.

We are called to walk in the way our Savior walked. What can we do to ease someone's burdens? Maybe you can donate your time, treasures, or talents or share the resource with someone who needs help.

Food insecurity is a huge problem across our country and in our area. SNAP emergency allotments will end after the February 2023 issuance. Please consider donating food or money to help.

[First Christian Church](#) - gleaning is shared with Catholic Charities Neighborhood Center

[Catholic Charities Neighborhood Center](#)

[Blessing Boxes](#) - located around Ohio County

[The Soup Kitchen of Wheeling](#)

[The House of the Carpenter](#) - Donations are accepted for the thrift store and the food pantry. Work programs help the community with ramps and other household chores. The Backpack Ministry provides food for school students.

[Family Service Upper Ohio Valley](#) - the Ohio County Senior Center offers in several services in Ohio and Marshall Counties. Call 304 233-2350 for information on programs, areas covered, or volunteering.

[Senior Services of Belmont County](#) offers home delivered meals, in home services, and transportation to seniors in Belmont County. They can be reached at 740 695-4142.

[Ohio County Family Resource Network](#) lists the January food pantries.

Other area services:

[Valley Hospice](#) offers hospice care and palliative care. A support group meets at First Christian. Contact Valley Hospice for information on volunteering or donating, or for information on their services. Call 740 859-5650 for support group information.

[CASA for Children](#) offers trained advocates to provide support and advocacy for abused and neglected children.

The [Gabriel Project WV](#) helps with baby necessities, support, and information on baby care and parenting. Our local office is at St James Lutheran Church and serves Ohio County and Belmont County. For info: 304 639-5039

There are many services for eligible veterans or widows of veterans. Contact the Veterans Outreach Center in Wheeling (304 232-0587), [Belmont County Veterans](#), [Helping Heroes](#), or the [VA Regional Office](#).

[Altenheim Resource Services](#) offers free information on aging and caregiving, services, and other resources.



Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him."

After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was.

When they saw the star, they were overjoyed.

On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

Matthew 2: 7 - 12

## Prayer concerns

### Prayer List

*Please pray for* our Elders, Minister, and the Church Leadership; The Rev. Terri Hord Owens and the General Church; The Rev. Thad Allen and the Regional Church; the Ecumenical Church; Rev. Dr. Victor Makari & the Church in the Middle East; the Church facing persecution around the globe, unity of the church.

*We pray for* our Nation and its leaders; our country and our world as we go through the pandemic; our government; doctors, nurses, first responders, medical, grocery, and our service men and women; those suffering from disasters, both natural and of our own making; Children of Saint Jude Hospital; Refugees; Ukraine and victims of war; those struggling with addiction and/or mental illness; broken and hurting families; those healing during the pandemic, for victims of the disease, and all those who give care; peace; world unity.

*We lift up in prayer* Judy Casto; Paula Klimas; Jan Kinser; Howard Nelson; baby Harper Scott and Family; Bruce Koegler; Barbara Cole Estep; the Rawe-Polosky family, Courtney & Baby, Larry Young; Wayne Snyder; Rose Riggs; Johnna Ethan; JD Sloop; Pat Jeffers; Joan Cox; Miller Niksic; Chuck & Jennifer Kilmer; Susie Yeager; Joyce Scott; Delores Shelton; Jeanne.

*We offer prayers for* the friends and family of Dottie Stein and all who grieve.

We lift up those held in our hearts and those whose names we bring before you.

You know who we are. You know our needs.

*GOD IS GOOD...ALL THE TIME*

*ALL THE TIME...GOD IS GOOD*

### MEMBERS IN CARE FACILITIES & OUT OF TOWN

#### Out of Town Church Family

\*Paula Klimas, 1435 Christian Blvd, Room 103, Franklin IN 46131

\*Patsy Terry, Dickensonville Rest Home, 63 Yahweh Road, Room 7, Castlewood VA 24224 276-794-7868

#### **NEW ADDRESS**

\*Joan Cox, Maplewood Cuyahoga Falls, 190 West Bath Road, Room 147, Cuyahoga Falls OH 44223

The Lord is my strength and my shield;  
My heart trusts in Him, and I am helped;  
Therefore my heart exults,  
And with my song I shall thank him.

Psalm 28: 7



**JANUARY 2023**

- January 1  
Janae Walker
  
- January 3  
Stephanie Barbeau  
Ryan Harrington
  
- January 5  
Judy Marsh
  
- January 6  
Vincent Campeti
  
- January 7  
Nina Fletcher
  
- January 12  
Jayne Freeman
  
- January 14  
Bryan Ramsey
  
- January 15  
Dominic Campeti
  
- January 16  
Sharon Tatich  
Beverly Wilson
  
- January 20  
Michelle Ramsey
  
- January 24  
Ray Kinser  
Judy Kloss  
Jan Stillwell
  
- January 26  
Jai'lah Walker
  
- January 28  
Shirley Martin
  
- January 30  
Zachary Muth

# BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, CELEBRATIONS, OBSERVANCES & NEWS



**JANUARY 2023**

January 2  
Alvey & Marjorie Squires

Giving thanks for our church family  
who are celebrating birthdays and  
anniversaries!  
May God bless you with years of  
happiness!

\*\*\*\*\*

**January Observances**

**New Year's Day – January 1**  
365 new days, 365 new  
chances.



**National Glaucoma  
Awareness Month**

Glaucoma can occur at any age  
but is more common in older  
adults. It is one of the leading  
causes of blindness for people  
over the age of 60. Many forms  
of glaucoma have no warning  
signs. Make sure to get regular  
eye exams!

**National Blood Donor Month**

Every two seconds someone in the  
US needs blood. Each blood and  
platelet donation can save as  
many as three lives.

**EPIPHANY**

Epiphany means “appearance or  
manifestation.” Throughout the  
world, Christians celebrate it on  
January 6 - 12 days after  
Christmas Day. Many countries  
refer to it as “Three Kings Day.” On  
this day, Western Christianity  
recognizes Christ’s manifestation  
to the Gentiles. The Gentiles,  
represented when The Magi visited  
the child Jesus, showed how  
God’s gift of the Good News is for  
all people. Eastern Christianity  
observes Jesus’ baptism on this  
day. His baptism revealed his  
identity to mankind. In the East or  
the West, Epiphany celebrates  
God revealing himself to the world.

Epiphany originated from the  
earliest Church leaders and has a  
spiritual meaning. The Church  
Year begins at Advent. From then,  
through Pentecost, Christians  
concentrate on the life and work of  
Christ. For the rest of the year—  
Pentecost to Advent—the church  
year focuses on the teachings of  
Christ and the applications to the  
Christian life. The ultimate purpose  
of the church calendar ensured  
that Christians covered the entire  
breadth and depth of the Gospel in  
the course of a year. The six-  
month period from Advent to  
Pentecost covers all six major  
events: Advent, Christmas,  
Epiphany, Lent, Easter, and  
Pentecost.

[Source: [www.christianity.com](http://www.christianity.com)]

Glorious now behold him arise;  
King and God and sacrifice:  
Alleluia, Alleluia,  
Sounds through the earth and skies.

We Three Kings, 1863

# Our Church & Church Community

## Pastor's Page – continued from page 1

This baptismal life *is* life-made-new and is renewed every time we gather at the Lord's Supper. This newness of life is incarnational (we live the gospel now, in our flesh) and resurrectional (death is no longer the final word, but rather is a gateway unto the newness of eternal life). There may be a sentimentality in our culture that 'longs for days gone past' or a stagnation that digs in one's heels in hopes to keep the status quo, but the Christian faith is always looking for God to do a new thing in our midst. It's our task to keep awake, be ready, and embrace the newness of life God lays before us.

We are in the midst of celebrating that new thing that God did in the babe that lay in the manger so long ago. It was a pivotal moment in human history. It was a decisive act on God's part in the unfolding of God's salvation history. It changed things, forever. God comes to us. Light and life are born anew, in us. Newness is not just our hope, it is our reality.

May your Christmas be merry, and your New Year be bright. Because of one, we can look forward-facing with hope into the other.



## ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

We're so grateful to these new leaders that God has called, the Nominating Committee has identified, and the congregation has approved:

- Elder (class of 2024)—Jayne Freeman and Laura Leshuk
- Elder (class of 2025)—Barbara Cole, Bryan Ramsey, Kevin Hensley
- Deacon (class of 2025)—Chuck Polley, Pat Collelo, Cindy Ickler, Pat Jeffers
- President Elect—John Parr; Secretary—Pam Leech; Treasurer—Jayne Freeman

## EPIPHANY SUNDAY DINNER AND GABRIEL PROJECT DONATIONS

Epiphany Sunday was celebrated on Sunday, Jan. 8<sup>th</sup>, and as has been a custom in our congregation, we marked this day with a "Baby Shower for Jesus." We brought gifts to help support young families in our community. We also shared a meal after worship that day. (If you have items to donate, please contact the church office or contact the Gabriel Project at 304 639-5039.)

The Gabriel Project has recommended these items:

- \*New baby cribs and mattresses
- New car seats for infants and toddlers
- Diapers, especially large sizes (Sizes 4, 5, 6 and 7)
- Pull-up training pants, either boys or girls, all sizes
- Formula and baby food (unexpired, unopened)
- New or gently-used infant and toddler clothes (size newborn through 4T)
- Baby hygiene products (baby wipes, baby wash, diaper rash cream, etc.)
- Gently used baby equipment (high chairs, strollers, swings, baby bath tubs, etc.)
- Office supplies
- Storage bins, clothing racks, cabinets and shelves
- Hangers for baby clothes
- Monetary Donations

*Please note that due to consumer safety standards used cribs and used car seats cannot be accepted. We also do not accept nursing pads or new or used breast pumps. Pacifiers, teething rings, bottles and bottle nipples can be donated to us if they are unopened in their original packaging.*

In the mid-1950s, Dr. King led the movement to end segregation and counter prejudice in the United States through the means of peaceful protest. His speeches—some of the most iconic of the 20th century—had a profound effect on the national consciousness. Through his leadership, the civil rights movement opened doors to education and employment that had long been closed to black America.

In 1983, President Ronald Reagan signed a bill creating a federal holiday to honor Dr. King for his commitment to equal rights and justice for all. Observed for the first time on January 20, 1986, it's called Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

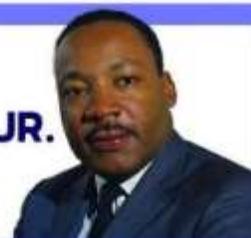
In January 2000, Martin Luther King Jr. Day was officially observed in all 50 states.

The events of the 2023 Celebration are listed and all are open to the public.

## WHEELING AREA

# DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

## CELEBRATION 2023



ALL EVENTS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

### FRIDAY, JAN. 13

#### SHABBAT SERVICE

7 p.m. Shabbat Service at Temple Shalom, 23 Bethany Pike, Wheeling, featuring acclaimed American tenor Edward Washington, II, funded by Temple Shalom congregants.

### SATURDAY, JAN. 14

#### DEBATE AND DISCUSSION

1 p.m. Debate and Discussion with high school and college students. Wheeling University Troy Theater in Swint Hall, 316 Washington Ave., Wheeling.

### SUNDAY, JAN. 15

#### MLK MARCH • MLK & ROSA PARKS AWARDS • INTERFAITH WORSHIP SERVICE

2:15 p.m. MLK March, beginning at the Windmill atop Martin Luther King Boulevard. Park near the march endpoint at the Federal Building, 1125 Chapline St., Wheeling. Busing will be provided to the top of the hill.

3:15 p.m. MLK and Rosa Parks Awards presentation, West Virginia Northern Community College B&O Auditorium, 1704 Market St., Wheeling.

Immediately after the awards presentation, Community Banquet, West Virginia Northern Community College Multi-Purpose Room, 10 17th Street (\$5 suggested donation)

6 p.m. Interfaith Worship Service and special award presentation, Macedonia Baptist Church, 105 12th St., Wheeling, W. Washington's participation in the service is sponsored by the Wheeling chapter of the NAACP.

### MONDAY, JAN. 16

#### MLK AWARDS BREAKFAST • MLK CONTEST WINNERS' AWARDS • CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

9 a.m. MLK Awards Breakfast, Laughlin Memorial Chapel, 129 18th St., Wheeling

9:30 a.m. MLK Contest Winners' Awards Presentation, Laughlin Memorial Chapel, 129 18th St., Wheeling

10:30 a.m. Special Programming for children ages 5 – 12 in honor of Dr. King, Laughlin Memorial Chapel, 129 18th St., Wheeling. Mr. Washington's participation is sponsored by the Wheeling chapter of the NAACP.

*"If I cannot do great things,  
I can do small things in a great way."*

— Dr. Martin Luther King

#### Sponsored by:

Wheeling Area Dr. Martin Luther King Celebration Committee  
Bethlehem Apostolic Temple  
Community Foundation of the Ohio Valley  
First Christian Church, Wheeling  
NAACP, Wheeling Chapter  
St. Matthew's Episcopal Church  
The Seeing Hand Association  
Wayman A.M.E. Church  
West Virginia Northern Community College  
Wheeling University  
YWCA Wheeling

MLK Committee Chair Ron Scott, Jr.  
Frank Colabrese  
The Congregation of St. Joseph  
Macedonia Baptist Church  
St. Mark Evangelical Lutheran Church  
St. Michael Parish  
Temple Shalom  
West Liberty University  
Wheeling Human Rights Commission  
The Windmill

For MLK Celebration details, visit <https://www.facebook.com/mlk/wheeling>



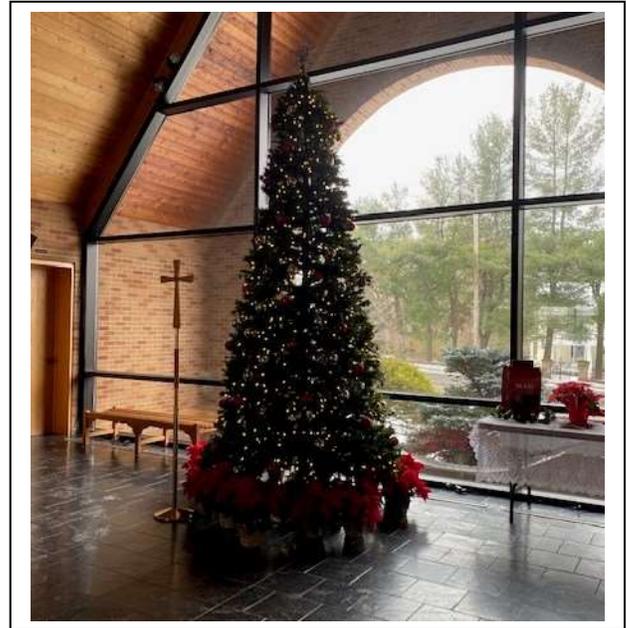
## DISCIPLESHIP COUNCIL MEETS

Our Discipleship Council will meet after worship on Sunday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>. A light lunch will be provided, and then we will get to work. Please plan on the meeting lasting until 2p.m.

The Discipleship Council is made up of all of our Elders, all of our Deacons, the chair of the Trustees, and the President of the Congregation. We will work on serving schedules, brainstorm ministry opportunities, and identify areas of leadership needs to be filled. Come with ideas and hopes for ministry in 2023!

## December 2022 in pictures

We had a Christmas card exchange – thank you to everyone!  
The new Christmas tree in the Narthex  
Bryan & Michelle Ramsey joined FCC  
Kenny and the Christmas Day service  
Mary Jo and the choir gave us the gift of music all year



**Have  
A  
Blessed  
2023!**





**FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)**  
1343 NATIONAL ROAD  
WHEELING WV 26003

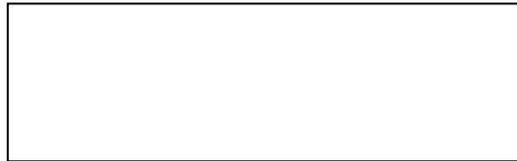


Return Service Requested

**Phone**  
(304) 242-1520

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[www.wheelingdisciples.org](http://www.wheelingdisciples.org)

Check in on our Facebook page at:  
[www.facebook.com/FCCWheeling](http://www.facebook.com/FCCWheeling)



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**THIS IS  
GOD'S HOUSE  
& ALL ARE  
WELCOME  
HERE**