

*FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH*

*(Disciples of Christ)*

*Niles, OH 44446*

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

*Rev. Christopher Stark, Minister*

**10:00 A.M.**

**WORSHIP SERVICE**

**AUGUST 20, 2017**

**WE BEGIN OUR TIME TOGETHER**

**NEWS IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH**

(Please sign and pass the attendance pad across in your row, recognizing and greeting members and guests. Include children/family elsewhere in the building.)

**WE MEET OUR LORD TOGETHER AND OFFER OUR PRAISE**

\* CENTERING (Responsively)

Leader: God has called us to be people of love.

**People: God didn't mean the 'syrupy' stuff of movies and novels.**

Leader: Truly loving can sometimes be difficult.

**People: Yet we are called to reach beyond the difficulty with compassion.**

Leader: In all of this, God is with us, guiding and helping us.

**People: Thanks be to God for God's faithful presence. AMEN.** (ministrymatters.com)

\*PRAISE SONG 'Sing of One Who Walks Beside Us' CH p. 231

**OPENING PRAYER**

**God, you have been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the earth was formed, long before there were people on this planet, you were fashioning life in its myriad forms. Out of the billions of years you have been creating, our lives have come to this moment of meeting. We stand in awe before you, amazed to discover that you care about us, tiny blips on the screen of eternity. O God, we want our lives to count for something. Show us how to fit into your plans. Amen.** (L. Bayler)

**PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**CHILDREN'S MOMENT**

**WE PRAY TOGETHER**

PRAYER CONCERNS

MORNING PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

**WE HEAR GOD'S WORD**

SPECIAL MUSIC 'Sister Act' Lydia Circle and friends

(For our 10 a.m. summer worship, children ages 0-4 are welcome in the Preschool Room. For those children remaining in worship, activity bags are available on the front pew.)

SCRIPTURE Matthew 22: 34-46 NT p. 25

MESSAGE 'A MOTE OF DUST, SUSPENDED ON A SUNBEAM'

**WE SHARE THE LORD'S SUPPER**

PRAYERS FOR THE BREAD AND CUP 'Lo, I Am with You' vs. 1-3 CH p. 430

Elders Serving: Howard Gerke and Bonnie Moore

**COMING TO THE TABLE**

(Please come forward from the center aisle and dip the bread into the cup. Those unable to come forward please stay seated and a deacon will bring the bread and cup to you.)

**OFFERTORY MOMENT**

OFFERING OUR GIFTS (Deacons will pass trays)

DOXOLOGY

PRAYER FOR THE GIFTS

**WE DEPART TO SERVE**

**THE INVITATION**

(All who will accept Christ as Lord of their lives and those who desire to transfer membership are invited to come forward at this time.)

HYMN OF INVITATION 'Lo, I Am with You' vs. 4-7 CH p. 430

**LITANY OF BLESSING**

Leader: No matter how far you journey, do not fear.

**People: God walks beside us.**

Leader: When you feel lost, alone, forsaken, do not fear.

**People: God walks beside us.**

Leader: As God goes with us on our journey

**People: May we walk beside others as God walks beside us. Amen.**

\* Please stand if able

SPECIAL MUSIC for today's service is offered by Lydia Circle and friends.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED!** A teacher is needed for the 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade Sunday School class and for the 6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade Sunday School class. All materials are supplied. If you are interested please see Pastor Chris ASAP.

**SCHOLARSHIP FORMS** are available on the bulletin board by the main office for those heading to post high school education in an accredited institution. Applications must be filed each year (even if you have applied in previous years.) Deadline is **August 31 complete with proof of enrollment.**

NILES CHURCH BOWLING LEAGUE 'Meet and Greet' Tues., Aug. 22, 6 p.m., Pizza Hut, Rt. 422, Niles. There are several team openings. It is a co-ed league for adults 18 and older. If someone would like to attend as FCC representative, contact Dennis Cohol (330.534.9619) or Ron Reigle (330.307.3895). See posting on main bulletin board.

DISCIPLE WOMEN'S JAIL MINISTRY August 21, 6:45 p.m., Trumbull County Jail

OHIO WOMEN'S MINISTRIES FALL RETREAT will be held Friday, Sept. 8 through Sunday, September 10 at Camp Christian. Keynote speaker will be Rev. Dr. Cathy Myers Wirt on the theme 'Forward Leaning.' Registration deadline is August 31. To register and for more info visit [ccinoh.org](http://ccinoh.org).

OHIO DISCIPLES MEN'S FALL RETREAT will be held Friday, September 15 through Sunday, September 17 at Camp Christian. Rev. Dr. Richard Hamm will be Keynote Speaker. Visit [ccinoh.org](http://ccinoh.org) to register and for more information. Deadline to register is September 5.

PLEASE REMEMBER to keep your email addresses current with the church office so that we can communicate most effectively.

BUDGET RECEIPTS LAST WEEK WERE:	\$3,255.00
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**\*CALENDAR\***

Sun.	9:00 a.m.	Lydia Circle practice
	10:00 a.m.	Worship Service
Mon.	6:45 p.m.	Disciple Women's Jail Ministry - Trumbull County Jail
		Men's Golf
Sun.	10:00 a.m.	Worship Service