



Life Under the Dome

Keep up to date on all that is happening at First Christian through Sunday bulletins, "The Christian Visitor", website: www.bellefontaine.fcc.org, Facebook, and the "Life Under the Dome" weekly update email.

Prayer List: Bill Kite, Ami Lotz (Granddaughter of Brian & Ernestine Geboy), Diane Liles (Sister of Steve Swartz), Aaron Kite, Rosanna Keirn, Pat Wallace, Vickie Morgan, Greg Smith (Brother of Frank Smith), Bob Notestine, Suzanne Starbuck, ohn & April Fultz (relatives of the Wallace Family), Jon Norris (son of Tawnya Irick), Amy Jo Robinson, Deone & daughter Grace (Friends of Laura Keirn McCreanor), Martin Cromes (shoulder surgery), Father & brother of (Tony Johnson), Ohio Region & the Regional Search Committee

Friends at Logan Acres:

The Homestead: Ed Post, Dick Van Buskirk

The Care Center: Retha Lowe, Betty Miller, Lucille Post, Don McGee

Our Friend in Findlay: Jan Powell



Our Friends at Home: Glendora Allen, Barb Smith, Everetta Titus, Jim & Norma Kipker, Fred & Ruth Meredith, Mike Peak

THIS WEEK Life Under the Dome Weekly Calendar Feb. 23rd – Mar. 1, 2021

Today, Tues. Feb. 23rd 7:00 P.M. Church Executive Council Mtg (Fellowship Rm/Zoom)

Wed., Feb. 24th 6:00 P.M. Stewardship Team Mtg (Fellowship Rm)
7:30 P.M. Choir Practice

Thurs., Feb. 25th 5:00 P.M. Troop 94 Eagle Scout Review Board Mtg. (Bethany Hall)

Fri., Feb. 26th

Sat., Feb. 27th

Sun., Feb. 28th 9:15 A.M. Café Grace Praise & Worship (Bethany Hall)
10:45 A.M. Sanctuary Worship

Mon., Mar. 1st 6:00 P.M. Troop 94 (Bethany Hall)
6:30 P.M. Café Grace Planning Team (Zoom)

THE STEWARDSHIP TEAM will be holding the 2021 kickoff team meeting on Wednesday, February 24th at 6:00 in the Fellowship room. Anyone interested in being a part of the team in 2021 please join us. **THE CHANCEL CHOIR** practices have resumed each Wednesday at 7:30 P.M.

Stewardship for Sun. Feb. 21st, 2021

Gen. Fund.	\$ 2806.00	Week of Compassion	\$ 284.00
Outreach	\$ 276.00		
Capital Imp.	\$ 172.00		
Camp Christian	\$ 25.00	Attendance	In Person Facebook
		Café Grace	19
		Sanctuary	27

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Please join us for Worship Sunday, Feb. 28th

9:15 A.M. Café Grace Praise and Worship (Bethany Hall)

Bruce Bowerman-Jett will serve as the Host
Brenda Sanford will preside at the Table

**Rev. Kevin Greenwald will deliver the message at both services
“Covenant with Sarah & Abraham”
Scripture Text is Genesis 15:1-21**



10:45 A.M. Sanctuary Worship (Sanctuary)

Bruce Bowerman-Jett will serve as the Worship Leader
Rev. Kevin Greenwald will present the Children's Message

Services will also be live streamed on FACEBOOK at FCCBELLEFONTAINEOHIO

Genesis 15

New English Translation

The Cutting of the Covenant

15 After these things the LORD's message came to Abram in a vision: "Fear not, Abram! I am your shield^[a] and the one who will reward you in great abundance."

2 But Abram said, "O Sovereign LORD, what will you give me since^[a] I continue to be childless, and my heir^[a] is Eliezer of Damascus?" **3** Abram added, "Since you have not given me a descendant, then look, one born in my house will be my heir!"

4 But look, the LORD's message came to him: "This man will not be your heir, but instead a son who comes from your own body will be your heir." **5** The LORD took him outside and said, "Gaze into the sky and count the stars—if you are able to count them!" Then he said to him, "So will your descendants be."

6 Abram believed the LORD, and the LORD credited it as righteousness to him.

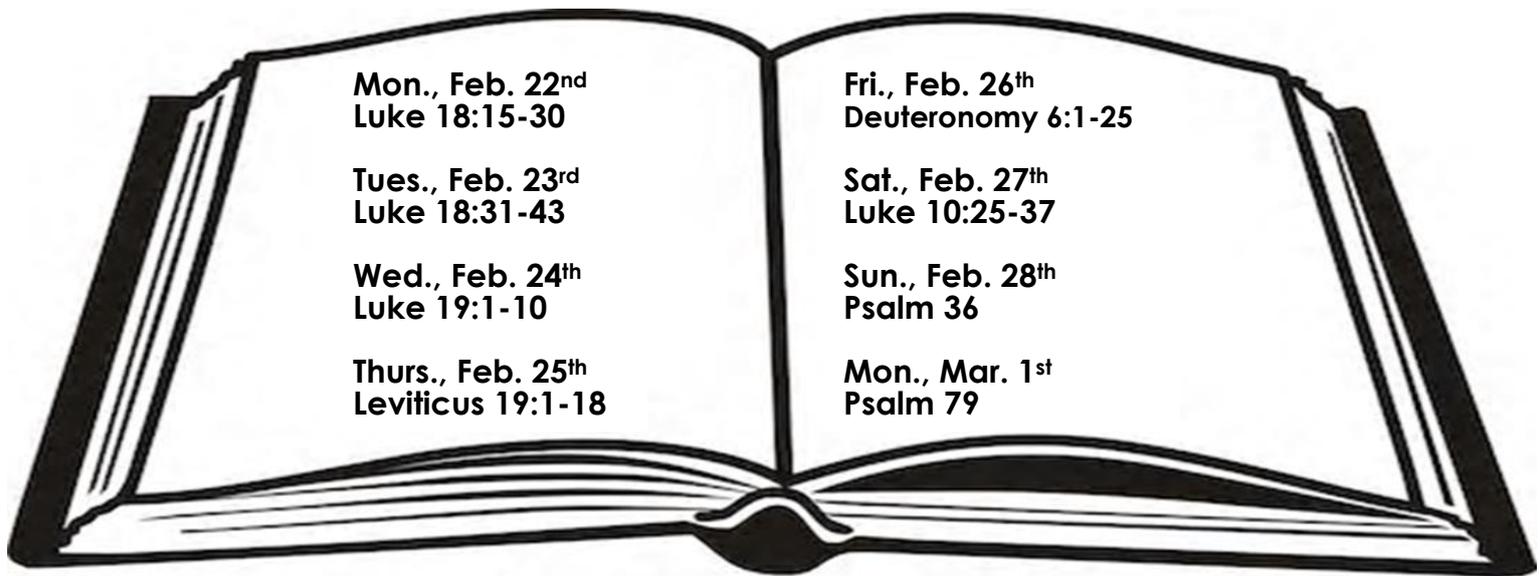
7 The LORD said to him, "I am the LORD who brought you out from Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to possess." **8** But Abram said, "O Sovereign LORD, by what can I know that I am to possess it?"

9 The LORD said to him, "Take for me a heifer, a goat, and a ram, each three years old, along with a dove and a young pigeon." **10** So Abram took all these for him and then cut them in two and placed each half opposite the other, but he did not cut the birds in half. **11** When birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

12 When the sun went down, Abram fell sound asleep, and great terror overwhelmed him. **13** Then the LORD said to Abram, "Know for certain^[a] that your descendants will be strangers in a foreign country. They will be enslaved and oppressed^[a] for 400 years. **14** But I will execute judgment on the nation that they will serve.^[a] Afterward they will come out with many possessions. **15** But as for you,^[a] you will go to your ancestors in peace and be buried at a good old age. **16** In the fourth generation your descendants will return here, for the sin of the Amorites has not yet reached its limit."

17 When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking firepot with a flaming torch passed between the animal parts. **18** That day the LORD made a covenant^[a] with Abram: "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt^[a] to the great river, the Euphrates River— **19** the land^[a] of the Kenites, Kenizzites, Kadmonites, **20** Hittites, Perizzites, Rephaites, **21** Amorites, Canaanites, Girgashites, and Jebusites."

Daily Bible Readings



Mon., Feb. 22nd
Luke 18:15-30

Tues., Feb. 23rd
Luke 18:31-43

Wed., Feb. 24th
Luke 19:1-10

Thurs., Feb. 25th
Leviticus 19:1-18

Fri., Feb. 26th
Deuteronomy 6:1-25

Sat., Feb. 27th
Luke 10:25-37

Sun., Feb. 28th
Psalms 36

Mon., Mar. 1st
Psalms 79

1 Peter 3:8-9 NRSV

February 23 Lenten Devotion

8 Finally, all of you, have unity of spirit, sympathy, love for one another, a tender heart, and a humble mind.
9 Do not repay evil for evil or abuse for abuse; but, on the contrary, repay with a blessing. It is for this that you were called—that you might inherit a blessing.

Peter and his community offer challenging words in chapter 3. Having a "unity of Spirit" is challenging enough and being tender hearted and humble minded are anomalies these days.

Each of these invitations offered to the early church would probably rock our communities from D.C. to Dallas if taken seriously in 2021, but that thoroughly Christ-like repayment plan is beyond understanding. "Do not repay evil for evil, abuse for abuse, but instead repay with a blessing". The perpetuation of evil and abuse is ingrained in our culture, our media, family systems and faith traditions. When we are tired, afraid, hurting, sick it is very easy to be complicit in this pay it forward model of brokenness. Even in this very passage we can imagine that this verse and others like it must have been used by passive and violent abusers against those who were to be oppressed or subdued. Perpetuating the very evil it was designed to disrupt.

Perhaps disruption is the real invitation from 1st Peter. Be a blessing instead. Offer love instead. Be tender hearted instead. Be of humble mind instead. Be united in spirit and love instead. May we seek to disrupt the diseased patterns of racism, of unbridled consumption, of dehumanizing one another. You may not be the first to be disruptive. Has someone disrupted brokenness in your life, your family, your church or community? Who has built a legacy of love in you? How will you build a legacy of loving disruption this season and beyond?

Prayer: Loving God, we are facing pandemics of all kinds, environmental destruction, systemic racism and COVID-19. Our people, our families, our very bodies are tired, sick, outraged and grieved. Lord, offer us life giving rest. God disrupts the lies we tell ourselves and one another that drive us away from each other and wall us off from you. May we nurture instead a courageous capacity for truth, love, and wisdom so that we may build a legacy that is a blessing for all people and the planet.

May it be so, Amen

Rev. Scott Hardin-Nieri Associate Pastor for [Green Chalice](#)

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Can you imagine spending 75 years with one person? To some that seems like such a long time, and I am sure my mom and dad, Ruth and Fred Meredith, are probably thinking the same thing, but on March 7th, they will be celebrating 75 years of marriage.

With Covid still rearing its ugly head, we will not be having a big celebration with family and friends, but we didn't want this momentous occasion to go unrecognized, as this milestone doesn't happen that often. So, instead of a party, we would like to SURPRISE them with a card shower. Don't worry, we have blocked mom from this post so that she cannot see it.

If you would like to join us in celebrating this special occasion, please send your cards to:

Fred & Ruth Meredith
C/O Cathy Wallace
1716 Co. Rd. 11
Bellefontaine, OH 43311

Our goal is to try to get 75 cards for their 75th, but obviously we will accept more if we get them. 😊

Thank you in advance for your assistance in making this a special day for them and for the blessing it will be to our family.

Thanks, the Meredith, Moore, Ramsey, and Wallace Families



Let Love Flow GIVING CALENDAR



	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Week 1	"Let Love Flow" Give 1 unit for every song you can think of that has the word 'love' in it!	Worldwide, more than 800 million people are food insecure. Give 1 unit for each meal you eat today.	The number of refugees and displaced people continues to grow. Give 1 unit to support those seeking safety and a new life.	Over 700 million people around the world live on less than \$2 a day. Give 2 units to support global food security programs.	More than 3 million migrant farmworkers are employed in the U.S. Give 1 unit for those who work to put food on your table.	Hand-washing is critical to prevent the spread of disease. Give 1 unit for each faucet in your home, to support water programs around the world.	Disciples in Coral Gables, Florida, worked to feed their neighbors during the COVID-19 pandemic. Give 2 units to support congregational feeding ministries.
Week 2	"I will give you living water." Give 1 unit for every time you can think of that Jesus mentions water.	1 in 3 children around the world live in poverty. Give 3 units to support sustainable development programs.	Climate change is making it more challenging for farmers to earn a living. Give 2 units to help care for the earth.	Week of Compassion partners help provide shelter after disasters. Give 1 unit for each bedroom in your home.	More than 40 million people worldwide are victims of human trafficking, the majority of which are women. Give 1 unit to support women's empowerment.	Half of the world's refugees are children. Give 2 units to help provide education resources in refugee camps.	Disciples in Nashville, TN worked to serve and provide for their neighbors following severe tornadoes. Give 2 units to support congregational ministries. .
Week 3	"They will neither hunger nor thirst." Give 1 unit for each Bible verse you can think of that's about feeding the hungry.	1 in 3 people worldwide don't have access to safe water. Give 1 unit for each glass of water you drink today.	Natural disasters are happening with more frequency and severity than ever before. Give 1 unit to support resilient communities.	More than 600 million children around the world lack access to basic education. Give 2 units to support education programs.	25% of the population worldwide lacks access to adequate sanitation. Give 1 unit if your community provides for these basic needs.	Vocational development programs empower women to learn, earn and lead. Give 1 unit to support vocational programs for women.	Disciples in Tucson, Arizona worked to feed their neighbors during the COVID-19 pandemic. Give 2 units to support congregational feeding ministries.
Week 4	"He leads me beside still waters." Give 1 unit for every Psalm you can think of that's about water!	The number of people experiencing crisis-level hunger may increase by more than 80% due to COVID-19. Give 1 unit to promote food security worldwide.	How does your church help neighbors in need? Give 1 unit to celebrate each ministry you can think of!	An estimated 305 million jobs were lost in the U.S. due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Give 2 units if you have a secure income.	On every continent, the prevalence of food insecurity is higher for women than for men. Give 2 units to support women's empowerment through agriculture.	Week of Compassion partners help provide hygiene supplies and latrines after natural disasters around the world. Give 1 unit for every toilet in your home.	Wild card: give 2 units in recognition of a need or part of the world that is close to your heart.

Sources: UN Sustainable Development Goals Knowledge Platform; UN High Commissioner for Refugees; UN Office on Drugs and Crime