

# Life Together

October 2022 Edition

Monthly Newsletter of  
First Christian Church Wayne City



As I sat on my front porch in my rocking chair, I watched the clouds heavy with rain creep over the field across from me and work it's way into our yard. The air is cool and moist around me, the rain dancing on the edges of my porch, trying to make it's way to my feet as I rock. My yard is soaking up the much needed rain, calming the dust that stirs up with any little breeze. I enjoy watching the rain come down steadily, giving the ground the very thing it's been longing for. The soothing sound brings me peace to my weary and tired soul. I am tired, in so many ways. As I rock, this bible verse enters my mind.

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light." Matthew 11:28-30

I start talking to God. And the tears roll down my face. I hear Him in the my weariness.

Rachel, don't focus on how tired you feel. Think about the ways you can serve Me, how you can show love to others... I haven't forgotten you, and I have never left your side.

As I continue rocking, I feel comfort settling on me. Comfort does not always mean a change in your circumstances, sometimes it's just a supernatural peace that settles on you and helps you continue your race in the face of your weariness.

Psalm 23 tells us "The Lord is my shepherd ... He restores my soul."

It reminds us that Jesus hasn't forgotten us in our labors, whether that means healing from an illness, doing good works or the presence of that peace that passes all understanding.

As I rock quietly in the stillness , I let His grace relieve my weariness and restore me. Far from forgetting me, the Lord was waiting quietly until I was ready to receive His mercy and joy.

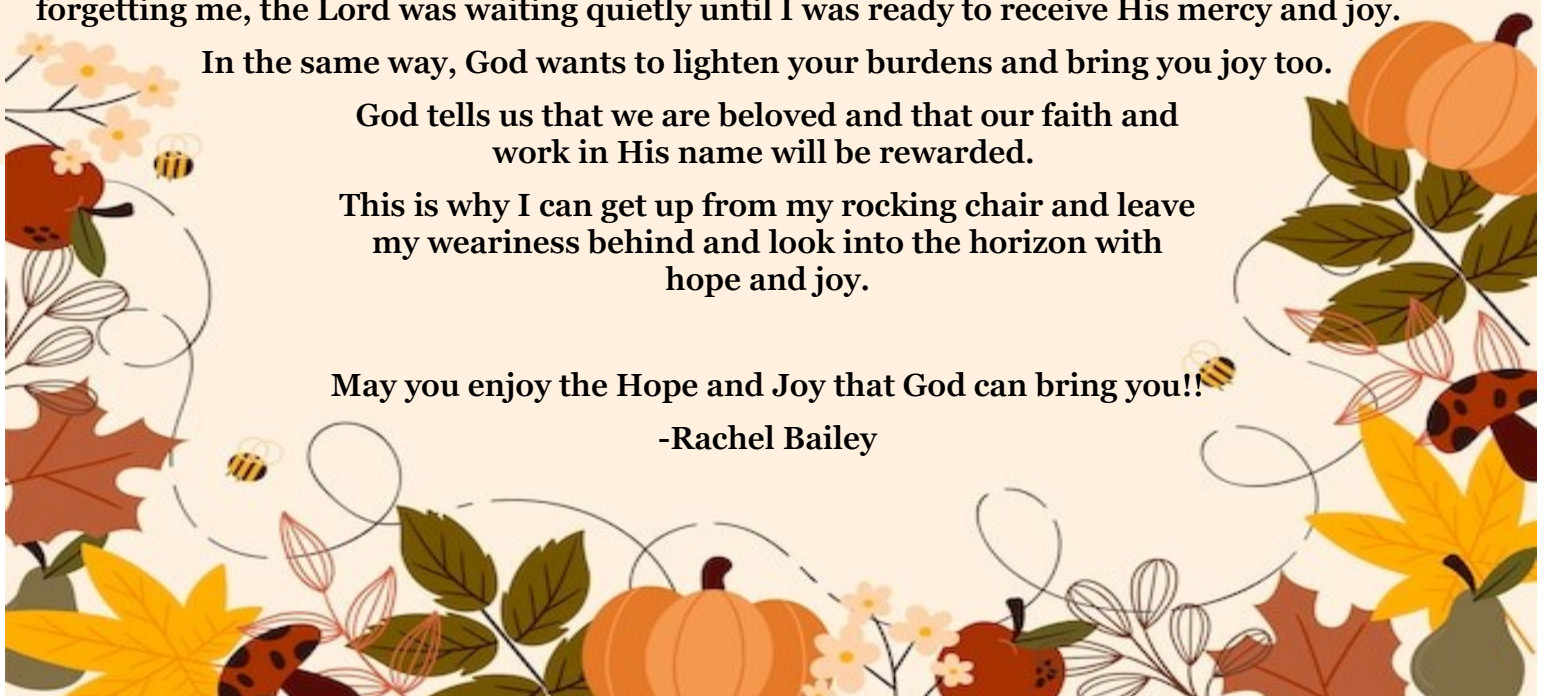
In the same way, God wants to lighten your burdens and bring you joy too.

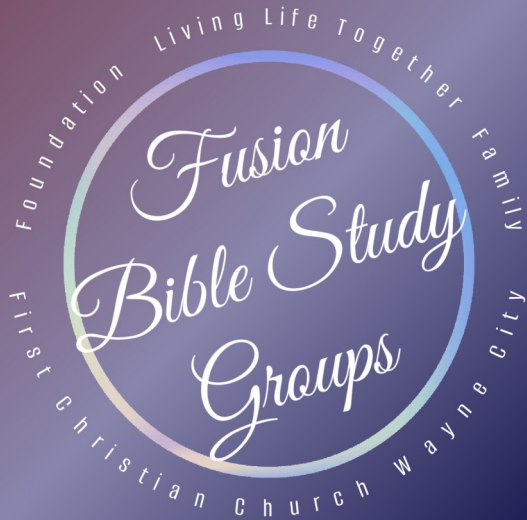
God tells us that we are beloved and that our faith and work in His name will be rewarded.

This is why I can get up from my rocking chair and leave my weariness behind and look into the horizon with hope and joy.

May you enjoy the Hope and Joy that God can bring you!!

-Rachel Bailey





Sunday Evenings - Monday Mornings - Monday Evenings

Fusion Bible Study Small Groups—Find one today!

Sunday Evenings—Terry & Annette Koker

Monday Morning Coffee Shop—Randall Shively

Monday Evenings—Steve Griswold/Angie Hedden

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

**Oct. 3rd Shawntell Desch**

**Nora Bowsher**

**Oct. 5th Charlene Barnard**

**Bayley Moyer**

**Oct. 10 Dez Milner**

**Oct. 11 Malorie Hunt**

**Oct. 19 Donna Clark**

**Harley Bowsher**

**Oct. 20 Jason Pollard**

**Oct. 27 Lois Greenwalt**

## October Events

**Oct. 2nd Pastor Appreciation 5pm**

**@ Wayne City Park**

**Oct. 5th Midweek Meal & Worship 6pm**

**Rooted in Christ Youth**

**Oct. 7th Men's Meeting 6:30pm**

**Oct. 9th Sun. School 9:30 Worship 10:30**

**Youth Encounter leave 12:00**

**3pm-9pm return 10:30ish**

**Leadership Meeting 4:00pm**

**Oct. 10th Columbus Day**

**Oct. 12th Midweek Meal & Worship 6pm**

**Rooted in Christ Youth**

**Oct. 14th Ladies of Grace Meeting 6pm**

**Hosted by Sherry Locey**

**Oct. 15th FCCWC Cruise-In 3pm—6pm**

**Oct. 16th Sun. School 9:30am Worship 10:30**

**Oct. 19th Midweek Meal & Worship 6pm**

**Rooted in Christ Youth**

**Oct. 23rd Sun. School 9:30 Worship 10:30**

**Oct. 26th Midweek Mail & Worship 6pm**

**Oct. 30th WC Matters Fall Carnival**

**4pm—7pm: Trunk or Treat 6-7pm**

**Oct. 31st Halloween**



## Forgiveness – Let It Go

There it was again. I was out walking, enjoying the day, and my mind reached down and pulled up that hurtful memory like a cow pulling up its cud to chew. And chew I did. I was there again. I rehearsed what they said, what they did. It was simply wrong. It wasn't true or right. I saw their expression. It hurt. It made me mad. My body tensed. All the words I should have said coursed through me. Finally, I said to myself, "That was five years ago! WHY am I thinking about that now? I thought I forgot that." Obviously I had not. As I settled down and focused on *why* I was remembering so vividly rather than *what* I was remembering, I had the thought, 'perhaps I need to forgive.' The word *forgive* comes from the Greek word "aphiemi" which means to release or send away. Bottom line it means "**let it go.**"

**Unforgiveness puts us in a prison of torment.** They say it's like preparing poison for the person you haven't forgiven and then drinking it yourself, not understanding why they don't change. **Unforgiveness makes us ugly.** We think we are unaffected, except for what they did to us. The truth is *we become difficult to be around*. Perhaps we are always the victim, promoting the poor-me attitude. Perhaps we put up a wall so no one else can hurt us or deceive us. We also may go on the aggressive, just to make sure no one has the opportunity to do anything against us.

**Forgiveness sets us free.** Most of us think it lets the other person off the hook. Not so. *It does not deny what they did or that it was wrong.* They will have to answer to God, to themselves, and perhaps the civil/criminal court of law. But we can be free of their sin's control over us. That person may not even know anyone was offended. It's possible their comment or action was inadvertent. And, certainly, it may have been on purpose, mean-spirited, and downright evil. Either way, forgiveness sets us free from those chains. Forgiveness is the highest order of life. If you forgive constantly, if you make a habit of letting it go, life is a joy. It destroys the stumbling blocks of anger, frustration, resentment, bitterness, and wariness that seem to place themselves right in your path. *You have opportunity every day to take offense*, but it will be poison in your veins. Forgiveness cleanses you, protects you, and so blesses others. Why not begin developing the habit? As with any habit, you will have to practice. Sometimes you may need to forgive the same thing many times, but it becomes easier and easier.

I spent a whole summer walking and forgiving. It seemed all those things that had festered below the surface were brought up to my mind, like the cream rising to top so it could be skimmed away. I learned to let it go, to skim it away. Some were easier than others, but I began to develop a pattern, and I began to learn to recognize the poison for what it was. Looking back, a lot of good doors opened after that summer. I think when those ugly thoughts aren't dominating our thinking that we are so much more open to hear God's thoughts and good plans for us. I still have to work at it at times, but *life is so much better when I let it go.*

By Judy DeCharme





## FCCWC Youth—Rooted in Christ

Wednesdays 6:00pm

Leader: Lacie Dailey

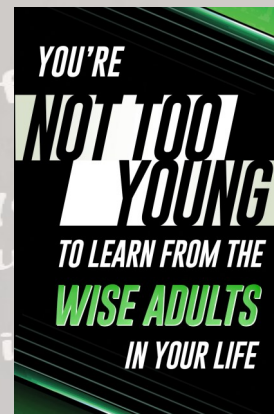
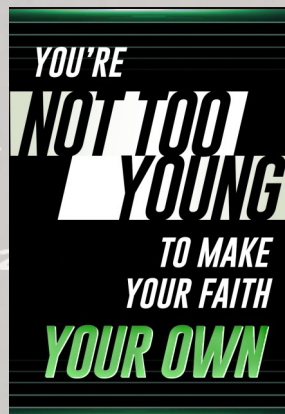
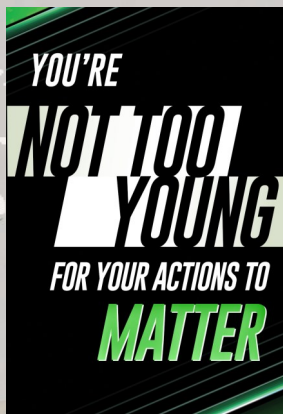
FCCWC Youth is back! Our youth name is now Rooted in Christ. Our mission is to help students become rooted in Christ so that they can stand firm in their faith in a world that seems to be ever-changing. Our students will develop and cultivate their faith, while learning to live in community. We meet on Wednesday nights, after our mid-week meal and worship. Mid-week meals starts at 6:00 pm. All students 6th-12th grade are welcome to join!

### Starting Series: NOT TOO YOUNG

Middle and high schoolers find themselves living in an in between. They long for more freedom, more maturity, more people to see them as old enough to do just about anything. But in reality, they're still learning, growing, and developing in so many areas. This can leave them feeling like they'll never be old enough for the big things. That's why in this series, we want to empower students with the truth they're not too young to own and grow their faith!

Our memory verse for this series is from 1 Timothy 4:12.

“Don’t let anyone think less of you because you are young. Be an example to all believers in what you say, in the way you live, in your love, your faith, and your purity” (NLT)



Youth Encounter—Oct. 9th 3:00pm-6:00pm

If you have signed up for Youth Encounter, please meet here at FCCWC right after Church service to leave for Marion. Get ready for a great evening of fun, friendship and Worship!!

# From the Desk of the Pastor

## Trained up!

Years ago as we taught Human Video dramas, we trained for a whole week getting our timing and movements in sync. This ministry used our hands and fingers to make the song come alive to the audience.

The scripture we used was **Psalm 144:1 Praise be to the LORD my Rock, who trains my hands for war, and my fingers for battle.**

On October 16th I will again teach how to use your fingers and hands to tell others about Jesus. This second class of evangelism will begin promptly at 9:30 am (Sunday School time) It is the only training for the month of October.

I will offer a repeat class on the Roman Road lesson very soon if you missed that training.

You might not think about it much but we are soldiers in battle for the souls of our family and neighbors! This class is a great way to get **“Trained Up”**



*Pastor Steve*