

A Monthly Publication

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The Messenger

First Christian Church—Mount Vernon
and St. Clare Chapel

Welcoming, Caring, Communities of Faith

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Elder Schedule

7/4 - Jim Paget
7/11 - Don Leak
7/18 - June Steen
7/25 - Art Neumarkel

Worship Leaders

7/4 - Marcie Labo
7/11 - Nona Carter
7/18 - June Steen
7/25 - Joyce Leak

Coming Events

7/4 - 4th of July
8/8 - Church Picnic
9/6 - Labor Day



The Parable of the Pencil:

The Pencil Maker took the pencil aside, just before putting him into the box. "There are 5 things you need to know," he told the pencil, "Before I send you out into the world, always remember them and never forget, and you will become the best pencil you can be."

"One: You will be able to do many great things, but only if you allow yourself to be held in someone's hand."

"Two: You will experience a painful sharpening from time to time, but you'll need it to become a better pencil."

"Three: You will be able to correct any mistakes you might make."

"Four: The most important part of you will always be what's inside."

"And Five: On every surface you are used, you must leave your mark. No matter what the condition, you must continue to write."

The pencil understood and promised to remember, and went into the box with purpose in its heart.

Now replace the place of the pencil with you. Always remember them and never forget, and you will become the best person you can be.

One: You will be able to do many great things, but only if you allow yourself to be held in God's hand. And allow other human beings to access you for the many gifts you possess.

Two: You will experience a painful sharpening from time to time, by going through various problems, but you'll need it to become a stronger person.

Three: You will be able to correct many mistakes you might make.

Four: The most important part of you will always be what's on the inside.

And Five: On every surface you walk through, you must



And the Preacher said ...

"Going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than going to a garage makes you an automobile."

Billy Sunday

Mark Your Calendars!
Sunday, August 8, 2021
Outdoor Worship Service
and Church Picnic.

leave your mark. No matter what the situation, you must continue to do your duties.

By understanding and remembering, let us proceed with our life on this earth having a meaningful purpose in our heart.

... Author Unknown ...



"O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain. For purple mountain majesties, above the fruited plain! America! America! God shed his grace on thee. And crown thy good with brotherhood, from sea to shining sea!"

A Prayer for our Nation ...

We lift up our hearts, O God, in gratitude for the gift of being Americans. We rejoice with all those who share in the great dream of freedom and dignity for all. With flags and feasting, with family and friends, we salute those who have sacrificed that we might have the opportunity to bring to fulfillment our many God-given gifts. Come, O gracious God, who led your children Israel from slavery, keep us free from all that might hold us in bondage. Bless our country and join our simple celebration that we may praise you, our Source of freedom, the One in whom we place our trust. **Amen.**



Hymn Story - "Come, Thou Fount ..."



"Come, thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace; streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise."

God chooses whom God chooses, and God chose Robert Robinson to write the hymn, "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing;" a hymn that has blessed people for more than two centuries.

Robinson was an unlikely candidate for ministry. As a teenager, he was a member of a street gang. Inviting his gang to mock Methodists,

Robinson persuaded them to visit a revival meeting being conducted by the great evangelist, George Whitfield. Whitfield preached on the text, "O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come?" and convinced Robinson that he was speaking to him personally. It took three more years, but Robinson became a Christian.

Robinson never got the proper education expected of a minister, but he became one nevertheless, a minister so competent that he attracted learned people to his congregation in the great university town of Cambridge, England.

Robinson wrote only two hymns, and "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" is the only one that remains popular today. But it is popular indeed, being found in practically every

hymnbook. It is a hymn of praise to God for the blessings that he has bestowed on us and a prayer that God will seal our hearts "for Thy courts above!"

The original version of the hymn uses the word "Ebenezer," a word unfamiliar to most people. It refers to a place where Samuel erected a stone memorial to honor victory over the Philistines (1 Samuel 7:12). The wording has been changed in many modern hymnals. (Lectonary.org)

Did You Know

July was originally the month of Quintilis in the Roman calendar. It was the fifth month of the year until January and February were added in 450 BC. It got its original name from the Latin word for fifth. Later the name was changed to Julius in honor of Julius Caesar who was born on July 12.

People in Disciples History: Isaac Errett ...



Isaac Errett was born in New York City, January 2, 1820. His father was a native of Ireland, and his mother was a native of Portsmouth, England. His parents were from Protestant families and became identified with the Disciples in New York City as early as 1811. Both were converts of Alexander Campbell and Isaac’s father served as an elder in the church. After his baptism at age ten, Isaac became a diligent student of the Word of God, and gained a respectable education while laboring as farmer, miller, lumberman, bookseller, printer, teacher, and editor. Isaac became a minister in the Disciples of Christ in 1840 and held pastorates in Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Michigan. He worked with Alexander Campbell on the *Millennial Harbinger*, and in 1866 began his own publication called the *Christian Standard*. He was elected president of Alliance College in Alliance, Ohio in 1868, but soon resigned, and moved to Cincinnati, where he continued the publication of the *Christian Standard*. He received the degree of LL.D. from Butler University in 1886. Isaac Errett was a man of “firsts,” a pathfinder. He was the first located minister of the Restoration movement in Ohio, at New Lisbon. He was one of the first in founding Hiram College; one of the first in starting the Ohio Christian Missionary Society; one of its first secretaries, and one of its first presidents. He was one of the first starters of the Foreign Christian

Missionary Society, and its first president. He was among the first to urge the claims of the women in organizing the Christian Woman’s Board of Missions; one of the first advocates of Church Extension, the Benevolent Association and Ministerial Relief. He was also the first and greatest editor of the *Christian Standard*. Isaac Errett died on December 19, 1888, in Cincinnati, Ohio. His lifelong accomplishments are notable and serve as a reminder to us all that through commitment and courage, we too can serve our risen Lord if we will only put him first in our life, and trust in his guidance through all the ups and downs of our earthly journey.



Financial Report:

Income (May):	\$2,794.35
Expenses (May):	\$3,649.68
Rental Account:	\$5,227.08 (as of May 31st)
General Fund Balance:	\$667,047.55 (as of May 31st)*
Fidelity Balance:	\$34,318.51 (as of April 30th)
Reserve Balance:	\$10,221.93 (as of April 30th)

*In April 2021 the sale of the brick building was completed. Thereafter, the Trustees met several times to develop a plan for the proper disbursement of the proceeds of that sale which total \$650,000.00. They were assisted by Monica Myers Greenberg from the Christian Church Foundation (CCF). A document was provided to the congregation describing the proposal that was crafted and submitted to the MVFCC General Board. The Board agreed with this plan and recommended approval during the Congregational Meeting of June 13, 2021. The vote by the congregation was unanimous in favor of the proposal. The April letter is available upon request and provides details of the distribution of the proceeds.



Native American Wisdom:

When the newcomers from Europe discovered this country, Native Americans were running it. No taxes, no debt, women did all the work. The newcomers thought he could improve on a system like this.

Cherokee Saying

JULY 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 Zoom 10:30am	5	6	7	8	9	10 2nd Saturday Regional Class—Zoom
11 Zoom 10:30am	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 Zoom 10:30am	19	20 Men's Breakfast	21	22	23	24
25 Zoom 10:30am	26	27	28 Gal's Luncheon	29	30	31

July Events, Birthdays & Anniversaries

July Birthdays

- } 7/9 - Ashley Good
- } 7/15 - Wilma Reeves
- } 7/25 - Ray Labbe

July Anniversaries

- } 7/23 - John & Lady Seilheimer

July Holidays

- } 7/4 - Independence Day
- } 7/6 - National Fried Chicken Day

} 7/9 - National Sugar Cookie Day

} 7/13 - National French Fry Day

} 7/23 - National Hot Dog Day

July Events

} 7/10 - 2nd Saturday Regional Class on Zoom—The use of Story Telling in Congregational Settings.

} 7/20 - Men's Breakfast

} 7/28 - Gal's Luncheon

10:30 AM Worship is held each Sunday on Zoom with a Virtual Fellowship to Follow.



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Place
Stamp
Here

TO: