



PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH



October is Pastor Appreciation Month and in appreciation of the dedicated services of all staff at First Christian Church, we want to show our heart felt thanks to each of them in a tangible way. We thank God for their commitment to fulfill God's purpose for their lives in the Church family.

We would ask each of you to prayerfully consider how God would have you participate in this "Love Offering" as a way of saying "Thank You."

Any Sunday in the month of October, you can give the "Love Offering" by marking your envelope or check accordingly. The gifts will be shared equally by all five members of our paid staff, Pastor Sanford, Pastor Long, Joann Vandegrift, Chris Stoffer & Sherri Oberly.

LADIES PAINT NIGHT

Friday, October 17th @ 6:00 pm

Come for a night of painting, worship, fun and fellowship. Worship music will be played as we create together. No experience needed. We will have a few samples you can choose from or paint what you wish at the Spirit's leading.

Feel free to bring a small snack to share.
Cost for the event is by donation.



OCTOBER 2025

FROM THE PREACHER'S PEN

IDENTITY

Under the Old Covenant, Israel found their identity in the God who called them to Himself. The nation began as a theocracy with God Himself being their king. Desiring to be like the other nations around them, Israel demanded an earthly king for themselves. Through a series of good kings and bad kings, Israel found herself continually drawn to idols and the worship of idols. Finally, God had had enough, and the southern Kingdom of Judah was sent into Babylonian exile.

While in Babylonian captivity, we meet Daniel and his 3 friends, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah. All followers of Yahweh, the true and living God. Their identity was wholly found in God, and even their names reflected this. Daniel's name meant God is my judge. Hananiah meant the grace of the Lord. Mishael, He that is the strong God. Azariah meant The Lord is a help. In Babylon, one of the first acts of King Nebuchadnezzar was to give these youths new names that reflected to all people that the culture of Babylon was where one finds their identity and not in their relationship with God. Consequently, their names were changed to honor the false gods worshipped in Babylon.

The overwhelming message the king desired to send to these young men was clear: culture, and not the Lord, will determine your identity. Now, if you know the rest of the story, you know that Daniel and his 3 friends refused to allow this to happen. Fast forward to our own day, and not a lot has changed. Culture still seeks to define us. Be it a TikTok influencer or a follower of some sports team, the culture that existed in Babylon is still alive and active today in the Western world. Now there is a push for gender identity, and the lie that is behind this movement is that you can select whatever gender you prefer, and if you don't like the existing genders, no worries, just make one up.

The culture desires to make and mold you in its image; it seeks to define you. Whether it be your job or your level of income, the kind of car you drive, or the company you keep. But as followers of Jesus, He is the One who defines us. He is the one we owe first allegiance to. Galatians 3:28 puts it like this: There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. That means before you are a husband or wife, father or mother, engineer or stay-at-home mom, you are a Christian. Even more important than your gender is the fact that you belong to Jesus Christ, and He defines us.

REVIVAL THAT STARTED WITH TRAGEDY

The following is what I posted on Facebook the day after Charlie Kirk was brutally murdered and martyred in Utah on September 10 th , 2025. I had been wrestling with whether or not to post something and finally decided to, I am very glad I did. I feel that it helped me process what had happened better, and I hope that it is a help to you as well.

"I wasn't going to post about Charlie Kirk because I have felt so heavy and downtrodden over this for the past 24 hours, but now I feel like I need to say something.

I have told a few people that I didn't know Charlie personally, but I feel as if I lost a distant friend.

Let me be clear: Charlie Kirk is an American hero, and a Christian who was killed for being willing to stand up for his faith in Christ and what he believes in.

I am heartbroken for his family. Like so many others have said: Now his kids are without a Daddy. Now his wife is without a husband. This is absolutely heartbreaking, and all because of a senseless act by a coward.

I am frustrated and outraged by any who are celebrating his death. I am frustrated by any who are justifying his death by taking any of his quotes out of context. Can we not just call this what it is? Absolute, total evil.

But, through all of this, my heart is heavy, but hopeful. Why? Because you can kill the man, but in this case, you can never kill the Message.

All Charlie Kirk ever wanted to do was lead people to Jesus, and I pray his death will eventually lead to more people giving their lives to Christ than he could ever have done in his lifetime. Make no mistake, God will use this, and I am sure already has started to.

Because that's the thing about our God. He takes broken, messed up things, and turns them into beauty. He takes tragedies, and turns them into triumphs. That's what Jesus does. And He will do it again even through this dark time. Christians, keep your head up, Jesus still wins in the end. Charlie Kirk is with Jesus right now.

Continued . . .

REVIVAL THAT STARTED WITH TRAGEDY . . . Con't.

The Apostle Paul in 2 Corinthians 4:16-18 says it best:

"Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal."

For now, we live in a broken, fallen world where people like Charlie Kirk are murdered. But someday, there will be no more pain. No more tragedy, no more fear. Someday, Jesus will return.

I am sure Charlie Kirk would want you to answer this question if he were here today: are you ready?"

Since this was posted a couple weeks ago, revival has swept our nation. Thousands of people are returning to Church, as well as giving their lives to Christ. Probably millions of people have heard the Gospel due to Charlie Kirk's death. We saw a memorial service honoring Charlie Kirk's life that was absolutely incredible. 60,000+ people worshipped, the name of Jesus was lifted up by some of the most influential people in our country and world. But the moment that took the cake was when Erika Kirk, Charlie's wife, forgave the man who shot her husband. Absolutely unbelievable grace shown in such a difficult moment. The Holy Spirit moved. The grace of Christ was put on full display for all to see. Truly, it is something I never thought I would see in our nation. If you haven't seen it, be sure to look it up on YouTube, it is well worth watching it!

In Upper Room I started a series with the teens titled "UNCOMFORTABLE TRUTH", as we dive into biblical characters who were willing to stand up for the LORD even when it wasn't popular. Even if it cost them their life. We started with the first martyr, Stephen. I asked the students this question and I will ask you the same: "Will you take a stand like Stephen?" May Charlie Kirk's death be the rallying point for revival in America, and let Minerva FCC be a Church that is part of leading that charge! In Jesus' Name!

Always for Jesus,
Pastor Zach

SHUT INS

Mrs. Pat Lowery
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Minerva, OH 44657

Mrs. Barbara Dunlevy
1737 Union Ave. SE
Minerva, OH 44657

Mrs. Mary Long
10057 Kensington Rd. NE
Kensington, OH 44427

Mr. Bill Becknell
3275 Union Ave. SE
Minerva, OH 44657

Mrs. Mary Jo Hardman
c/o St. Luke's
4301 Wooddale SE
Room 206
Minerva, OH 44657

Mrs. Sharon Lewis
c/o St. Luke's
4301 Wooddale SE
Room 206
Minerva, OH 44657



FAMILY MATTERS

Thank you . . . Words cannot express how thankful I am for the prayers, visits & calls as I continue my journey. I am currently at Minerva Healthcare for therapy and hopefully will be going home soon. Please continue to keep me in prayer as I still have a long way to go. Connie Morris (Connie is

currently back in the Cleveland Clinic.)

Welcome to the family . . . Danica Bostick. Danica was baptized by Pastor Zach on Sept. 10th with her family and friends here to witness her decision. Danica is a 7th grader at MACS

SUNDAY EVENING



AWANA
5:00 - 6:30 pm
Grades K-5

**ADULT EVENING BIBLE
STUDY**
5:30 PM

**CHOIR
CHRISTMAS
PRACTICE**
6:30 PM



HYMN

Sing

OCTOBER 5 4 PM

GUEST LEADER
STEVEN DARR



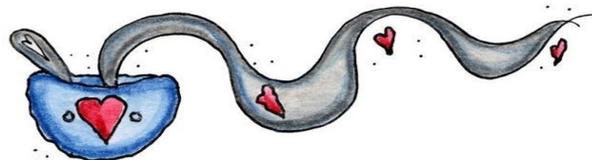
NORTH INDUSTRY
Christian Church
425 45th St. SW
Canton, Ohio 44707

North Industry Christian Church

NEW SECURITY POLICY

Anyone who enters the building during the school day **MUST** sign in at the office.

Whether you have a key fob or are buzzed in, you must stop by the office. Please do not come into the building and go to the social halls or elsewhere before signing in at the office.



HOME DEPT. STEW DAY

TUES., OCT. 14TH

10:00 - If you would like to help prepare

2:30 - delivery pick up



God
IS IN
CONTROL
AND
HIS TIMING
IS PERFECT.

MINERVA AREA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



Autumn has arrived at MACS, bringing vibrant colors and falling leaves! Our students and staff have settled into the new school year, making impressive strides. We kicked off the season with a joyful Grandparents Day celebration, welcoming over 200 guests to our school. It was a heartwarming day filled with connection and memories.

Our recent book fair was a resounding success, raising over \$700 to purchase new books from Grace and Truth Publishing. A huge thank you to everyone who supported this effort by purchasing books!

On September 24, we joined the nationwide "See You at the Pole" prayer event. Over 70 students gathered in the Sanctuary for a powerful time of corporate prayer and worship, lifting up our school, community, and nation. Special thanks to Pastor Zach for his inspiring message and Pastor Sanford for his participation.

October is packed with exciting events for our students and families! Our Fall fundraiser begins on October 13 and runs for two weeks. Students will be selling delicious Stoller pastries to raise funds for student activities. If you'd like to purchase pastries, please stop by the school office.

We're also thrilled about our upcoming field trips:

Preschoolers will explore Varian Orchards.

K-4 students will visit Arrowhead Orchards.

5th-8th graders will discover history at the McKinley Museum.

As we continue to grow and reach more students and families, your prayers are deeply valued. If you'd like to support MACS financially, you can contribute through our website at <https://donorbox.org/macs-fund>.

Wishing you a wonderful October filled with autumn's beauty!

OCTOBER CALENDAR

Oct. 1 - FLIP (grades 4-6) 6:30 - 7:30 pm
Oct. 1 - Upper Room 6:30 - 7:30 pm
(grades 6-12)
Oct. 2 - ASX 3:15 - 5:00 pm
Oct. 3 - Red Cross Blood Mobile 11 - 5
Oct. 5 - AWANA 5:00 - 6:30 pm
Oct. 5 - Evening Bible Study 5:30 pm
Oct. 5 - Choir Christmas Practice 6:30 pm
Oct. 7 - Choir Practice 7:00 pm
Oct. 8 - FLIP (grades 4-6) 6:30 - 7:30 pm
Oct. 8 - Upper Room 6:30 - 7:30 pm
Oct. 9 - ASX 3:15 - 5:30 pm
Oct. 12 - AWANA 5:00 - 6:30 pm
Oct. 12 - Evening Bible Study 5:00 pm
Oct. 12 - Choir Christmas Practice 6:30 pm
Oct. 13 - General Board Meeting 7:30 pm
Oct. 14 - Home Dept. Soup Day
Oct. 14 - Choir Practice 7:00 pm
Oct. 15 - FLIP (grades 4-6) 6:30 - 7:30 pm
Oct. 15 - Upper Room 6:30 - 7:30 pm
Oct. 16 - Deacons Pantry 9 - 10:30 am
Oct. 16 - ASX 3:15 - 5:30 pm
Oct. 17 - Ladies Paint Night 6:00 pm
Oct. 19 - AWANA 5:00 - 6:30 pm
Oct. 19 - Evening Bible Study 5:00 pm
Oct. 19 - Choir Christmas Practice 7:30 pm
Oct. 21 - Choir Practice 7:00 pm
Oct. 22 - FLIP (grades 4-6) 6:30 - 7:30 pm
Oct. 22 - Upper Room 7:30 - 8:30 pm
Oct. 23 - ASX 3:15 - 5:00 pm
Oct. 25 - Men's Breakfast 8:00 am
Oct. 26 - AWANA 5:00 - 6:30 pm
Oct. 26 - Evening Bible Study 5:30 pm
Oct. 26 - Choir Christmas Practice 6:30 pm
Oct. 28 - Choir Practice 7:00 pm
Oct. 29 - FLIP (grades 4-6) 6:30 - 7:30 pm
Oct. 29 - Upper Room 6:30 - 7:30 pm
Oct. 30 - NO ASX

GENERAL BOARD MEETING

**OCTOBER GENERAL
BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, OCT. 13TH
@ 7:30 pm**

DEACONS PANTRY

Each month our Deacon's Pantry distributes food and some paper products to 12 - 15 families. If you are able to pick up a few non-perishable items to donate it would be greatly appreciated. Some of the items we need are: tuna, soups, canned vegetables, fruit, ramen, peanut butter, mac & cheese, pasta & sauce, saltine crackers. Monetary donations are always welcome. We will be making our distribution on **Thurs., Oct. 16th**, if you are able to help see Jay Harsh.



MEN'S BREAKFAST

**SATURDAY, OCT. 25TH
8:00 AM
@ MFCC**



Join us for
Donuts & Devotion

PRAYER LIST

Reagan Abner
 Jennifer Allen
 Alice Archer
 Kassadee Archer
 Shawn Archer
 Bill Becknell
 Dorothy Birney
 Arlene Brown
 Shirley Catlett
 Don Clapper
 Lora Crabtree
 Donna Long Dyer
 (past Church
 Secretary)
 Barbara Dunlevy
 John George
 Mary Jo Hardman
 Larry Hartshorn
 Todd Hetherington
 Dave Hoopes
 Evelyn Hopkins
 George Horvath
 Lee Iden
 Rory & Nancy King
 Herb & Pat Lowery
 Sondra & Dan
 Lowery
 Scoo & Dolores
 M^cCully
 Jean Miller
 Shea Mitchell
 Lynn Morgan
 Connie Morris
 Sheila Murray
 Emily Owens
 Barbara Palmer
 Tim Parker
 Eric Prowe
 John & Sandy
 Russell
 Gene Schmucker
 Kathy Schmucker
 Gary Schotts



ATTENDANCE

	<u>Sept. 7</u>	<u>Sept. 14</u>	<u>Sept. 21</u>	<u>Sept. 28</u>
Worship	138	136	134	139
Bible School	79	71	71	76

Kathy Shaw
 Sally Shaw
 Joan Shotwell
 Allie Swank
 Carol Thomas
 Jeremiah Ward
 Marge Warrick

MILITARY

Military: CSS Jesse Clark; Sgt. Kurt Warrick, Staff Sgt. E6 Michael Derrick, John William Mozz. **Please let us know about Military updates/corrections.**



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

300 West Lincoln Way
Minerva, Ohio 44657

October 1, 2025

Church Services

minervafcc@hotmail.com
Celebration 10:15 am
Sunday School 9:00 am

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday
8:00 a.m.- 4:00 pm

Minerva First Christian Church
MinervaFCC.com



Staff

**Mr. Chris Sanford
Lead Minister**

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**Zach Long
Associate/Youth Minister**

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MFCC Office

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MACS Administrator

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cstofer@minervaareachristianschool.org

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| 1 John George | 13 Hunter Hogue
Owen Hogue |
| 2 Linda Palmer | 14 Madison Fankhauser |
| 3 Bill & Melody Fisher
33 years | 15 Sue Barr |
| 4 John & Cindy Pilati
19 years | 18 Flora Bergman |
| 7 Connie Brewer
Terri Bush | 27 Joan Henninger |
| 10 Jay Harsh | 29 John Russell |
| 11 Luis Torres | 31 McKayla Long
Chip Syme |
| 12 Kathryn Clapper
Bruce Doppelheuer | |



SERVE THE LORD WITH GLADNESS!

	Oct. 5	Oct. 12	Oct. 19	Oct. 26
Comm. Meditation	John Russell	John Long	Bruce Doppelheuer	Nate Oberly
Ushers	Brandon Keen	John George	Bob Palmer	Mike Fountain
Deaconess	Sandy Unkefer & Julie Brown	Sandy Unkefer & Julie Brown	Sandy Unkefer & Julie Brown	Sandy Unkefer & Julie Brown
Shut-In Teams	Mike Fountain & Kenny Hoopes	John George & Dave Seibert	Chris Sanford & Jay Harsh	Nate Oberly & Bob Palmer