

The Daily Disciple

Newsletter of First Church of New Knoxville | August & September 2026



Awana is now scheduled to begin **Wednesday October 7th**. We will meet most Wednesdays from 6-7:15 pm in the Social Room. Scan the QR code to register.

Awana is a midweek children's ministry for Pre-K through 6th Grade students. We challenge students of all ages to grow in their faith through bible memorization, large group lessons, and fun games. This is the fifth year we have run the Awana program. It has had a tremendous impact on our children and our community. We look forward to what God will do in year 5!

We need your help! Awana requires an amazing team of adult volunteers. We are looking for a few more people to help. Please contact the church office or Pastor Joel if you are interested in learning more about how you can volunteer and make a kingdom impact in our community!

Welcome New First Church Members



Wednesday Nights
October 7th
6:00–7:15pm

Scan QR code to register





Dear First Church Family,

Summer is quickly coming to a close. It seems to go quicker every year. Maybe it's because my kids are older and they are involved in more activities. Maybe it's just because I'm getting older, too. Either way, I know that fall will be here soon. Soccer season has begun. School will start shortly. Before we know it, we'll be making plans for Thanksgiving and Christmas break!

The end of summer also signals the beginning of the ministry year at First Church. Starting in September, many of our normal activities will resume. Youth Group will kick off the year on September 9th with Color Wars in the church parking lot. Sunday School and Confirmation are set to begin on September 13th. Awana will start the first week of October (an update is included later in the Daily Disciple). The church will be full on Sunday mornings and Wednesday nights very soon!

The new ministry year is not just for the children and youth. There are also plenty of opportunities for adults to get connected throughout the week. We're also looking forward to the return of the bells and vocal choir practice on Wednesday nights. There is a new small group meeting on Wednesday nights beginning September 9th. Emily Shelby will lead this group through a Right Now Media study entitled "Essentials of Faith". There are also returning Bible Study opportunities during the Sunday School hour led by Stan Reineke and Pastor Joel. Don't forget about the Women's Bible Study on Tuesday nights (led by Maria Lammers), the Men's Bible Study on Sunday's at 8 am, and Pastor Joel's Tuesday morning Bible Study. Did I catch everything?

Why am I listing all of this? Because there are plenty of options for you to get connected to a small group Bible study. Life is busy. It requires an intentional decision to make time for church on Sunday mornings and to find a small group to join. These things are important in your walk with the Lord. I do not want to make your life busier. I want you to prioritize what is important. What is eternal. If you are not protective of your time, your week will be filled with all sorts of activities and no time for the Lord.

Jesus once called several unnamed individuals to follow him (see Luke 9:57-62). Unfortunately, something always prevented them from making that commitment. Each one had an excuse. Each one missed out on spending time with Jesus.

Let's not be like those unnamed individuals. Let's make the decision to spend time with Jesus and his people. This fall is a great time to start. I encourage you to join a group. Sign your kids up for Sunday School and Youth Group. Maybe you can even start a new group that meets at a new time.

Discipleship and fellowship with other believers doesn't happen by accident. Make the effort. Set aside the time. It will be worth it.

*In Christ,
Pastor Joel*



— BIBLE STUDY —

ROMANS

*God's Righteousness
Revealed*



First Church
OF NEW KNOXVILLE

New Sermon Series: Pastor Joel will begin preaching a new sermon series this fall on the book of Romans. Romans is one of the most important letters of the New Testament. Paul explains the role of faith in salvation and that the good news of the Gospel is available to all people – Jew and Gentile alike.

Romans continues to be relevant in today's world. It clearly teaches about the reality of sin and its deadly cost. It also offers us hope. Jesus Christ died and rose again to save us from our sin. God's righteousness is revealed clearly and completely through Jesus.

Join us at First Church beginning September 13th as we study the book of Romans together!

Dear First Church Family,

It's the start of a new year of ministry! I've spent the last few months planning, preparing, and praying for the start of a new year of ministry. I believe that the Lord has big plans for our kids and students this year! Our children and youth ministry is designed to equip, encourage, and empower the young people in our community to live for Jesus Christ each day. My prayer is that all of our kids feel the love of Christ when they walk in the doors of our building, and that they desire to build a relationship with Him.



As we head into a new year of youth ministry, I am excited to continue to deepen our partnership with the Methodist church to reach the kids in our community. Youth group starts on September 9th. All junior and senior high students are invited to join us for our annual "Color Wars" party to celebrate the new year. We will meet for youth group every Wednesday from 7-8:30pm in the ministry center. Students, bring your friends!

Junior and senior high Bible study will start on Sunday, September 13th. We meet every Sunday from 7-8pm in the basement at Dave and Judy Bambauer's house. This fall our students decided they wanted to study the book of Judges! All students are invited to come and grow in their relationship with Christ by studying His Word together. Please reach out to me if you have any questions!

Sunday school will start at 10:15am on Sunday, September 13th. We're celebrating the start of a new year with donuts! Kids, we are so excited for the new year! We can't wait to get to know you and help you grow in your relationship with Christ. *Tory Breitigan*



A Quick Word About Phone Numbers & Staying Connected

We know it can sometimes be frustrating when you need to get in touch with someone in our church family and realize that their cell phone number isn't listed anywhere. Because of privacy concerns, the church office cannot give out personal cell phone numbers without permission from the individual.

There is an easy solution! The Realm Connect app includes a church directory where members can choose to have their contact information—including their cell phone number—listed. If you have Realm and have given permission for your cell phone number to be displayed, you can be found in the directory.

If you haven't downloaded Realm Connect yet, call the church office at 419-753-2446 or email us at firstchurchnk@nktelco.net. We will need to send you an invitation to create your Realm account. It's a convenient way to stay connected with our church family, receive announcements, prayer requests and access the directory.

Thank you for understanding and for helping us respect everyone's preferences.



A Celebration for Tory & Jake!

Please join us as we celebrate Tory and Jake and this special season in their lives!

We will be having an Open House Reception & Diaper Shower on Sunday, November 1st, from 1:00–3:00 p.m.

Stop by anytime during the afternoon to enjoy some refreshments and spend a little time celebrating with Tory and Jake. Diapers and other baby essentials are welcome, but your presence and prayers are the most important gifts.

There will also be a Bible especially for Miss Margaret Katharine. If you would like, you may highlight a favorite verse and write a personal note or blessing for her—a meaningful keepsake for her to have as she grows.

We hope you'll stop by and show Tory and Jake how much they are loved and appreciated!



Summer Pond Party





Upcoming Fall Date



**Happy Anniversary to the following
couples who are celebrating 50+ years of
marriage.**

Fred & Diane Piehl, 52 years on August 23

Orville & Bonnie Heidt, 58 years on August 24

Tim & Anne Hegemier, 50 years on September 10

Terry & Sally Wissman, 58 year on September 14

**Happy Birthday to the following
members who are celebrating
special birthdays.**

Becky Huston on August 25

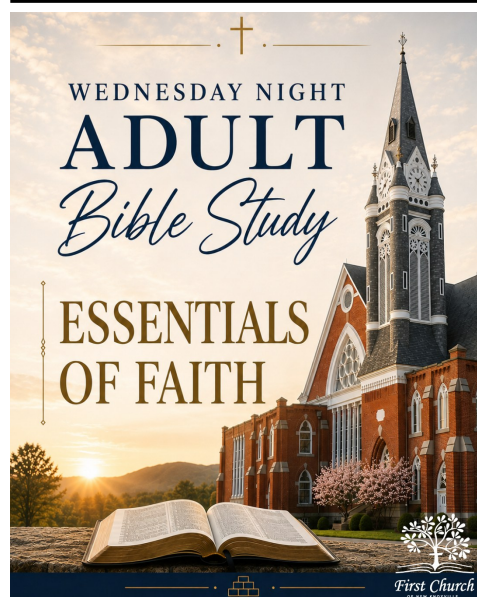
711 S. Walnut Street, Room #1048, New Bremen, OH

Ruby Settlege on September 7

11107 Yost Circle Swan, St. Marys, OH

Roberta Tanzini on September 26

11402 Yost Circle, Room #402, St. Marys, OH



Join us September 9th for a new adult Bible study, led by Emily Shelby.

We will be walking through a series called "Essentials of Faith".

Ask any group what it means to be a Christian, and we will hear different answers. But what unifies us? What are the basic characteristics of our faith that every Christian affirms? In this six-session series, Francis Chan will lead us in an exploration of key concepts common to all Christians through the centuries. No matter what divides us, we are united by these truths about the God we worship and our relationship with him. Francis Chan's hope for the series is to learn things about our faith, and for wonder and awe to be developed inside our hearts.

This Bible study will begin on **September 9th** and will meet weekly. Bible study gatherings will be held from **6:00-7:15 PM** in the **Heritage Room**.

GIVE THANKS

Dear First Church, Thank you Pastor Joel for you many visit and prayers for Serra and the wonderful service in her memory. We would also like to thank everyone for your prayers, cards, phone calls, and kind words. Thank you to all the ladies who helped in the kitchen the day of Serra's funeral. Thank you to all who brought the good food. *The family of Serra Pax.*

Dear First Church, Thank you for the beautiful red rose for our 58th wedding anniversary. *Jerry & Judy Kuck*

Dear First Church, Thank you for all your prayers, cards and encouragement to Linda Kuck over the past years as she battled cancer. She was blessed by knowing her community cared for her. Thank you for allowing our family to use the Ministry Center for fellowship and a luncheon following her funeral. God Bless you all. *The family of Linda Kuck*

Dear First Church, Thank you for the beautiful rose for our 64th Anniversary. It's a reminder of the many blessings over the years. *Jim & Bev Reineke*

Dear First Church, Thank you First Church family for the lovely rose in honor of our 55th anniversary. *Ted & Carolyn Lammers*

Dear First Church, Thank you for all of the prayers, support, and encouragement as Ken underwent surgery and radiation for the cancer. Ken is recovering well though not as fast as he'd like. We are thankful for our church family and for the faithful prayer warriors! God is so good! All praise to His Holy name. *Love in Christ, Rose & Ken Cline*

Dear First Church, Thank you for your kindness and support. Your donation allows us to continue our mission by serving over 30,000 meals a year in the Lord's name. *God Bless, Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen*

Dear First Church, Thank you for the flowers and the gift card in honor of my tenth anniversary at First Church! My family and I are so blessed to have called First Church and New Knoxville our home for the past ten years. It is an honor to be your pastor and to see how the work the Lord has done here. I look forward to continuing to serve First Church and minister with you in the gospel ministry. In Christ, *Pastor Joel, Alie, JoJo, and Myles*

Dear First Church, Thank you for your generous donation. It's is by the grace of God, and wonderful people like you, that we are able to continue this ministry of life. *Rustic Hope*

Dear First Church, Thank you so much for the anniversary gift. It has been a privilege to serve with you and alongside of you for the last 11 years. Thank you for your continued love and support for Jake, myself, and our growing family. We love you and are so blessed to call you family. *Tory Breitigan*

Dear First Church, Thank you for your generosity toward the ministry of Eight Days of Hope. In the last 2 months, we've been able to deploy 7 times in order to love and serve those in need. This would not be possible without continued support from faithful partners like yourself. Thank you! Blessings, *Steve Tybor*

Upcoming Communion Schedule

September 13, 2026

Fall Communion

October 4, 2026

Worldwide Communion Sunday

November 1, 2026

All Saints Sunday

November 29, 2026

First Sunday of Advent

January 3, 2027

New Year Communion

Financial Snapshot for July 2026

General Operating Fund Balance	\$270,607.48
Benevolent Fund Balance	\$43,922.01
VBS Fund Balance	\$4,856.98
Radio Ministry Fund Balance	\$25,136.08
Music Ministry Fund Balance	\$17,486.36
Bequest & Endowment Fund Balance	\$85,506.42
Camp Fund Balance	\$10,293.25
Building Maintenance Fund Balance	\$204,411.38
<i>Held for Elevator: \$102,470.57</i>	
<i>Held for Sanctuary Painting \$95,746.78</i>	
Jr. High Youth Fund Balance	\$5,496.53
Sr. High Youth Fund Balance	\$9,758.16
Global Missions Fund Balance	\$7,454.01
Christian Women's Fund Balance	\$7,759.15
Outreach & Evangelism Fund Balance	\$6,042.12
Children's Ministry Fund Balance	\$17,052.27
Building Technology & Improvements Bal.	\$18,443.43
Temporary Undesignated Gifts Balance	\$150,000.00
Those In Need Fund Balance	\$14,612.95

*Full detail is available by calling the treasurer, Connie Schroer
at the church office. 419-753-2446*

Designated Offerings - Aug. & Sept.

Aug 2	General Operating Fund
Aug 9	Children's Ministry Fund
Aug 16	Those In Need Fund
Aug 23	Radio Ministry Fund
Aug 30	Keith & Amy Melugin, Heart of Hispaniola
Sept 6	General Operating Fund
Sept 13	Right to Life of Shelby County
Sept 20	Do Good, Osgood
Sept 27	Jim & Carol Sheffield, Ethnos 360

Offering facts & figures

***The offering totals shown here include both
Sunday morning gifts and online giving.***

July 5

Attendance — 117

General Fund Offering—\$3,225.00

July 12

Attendance — 143

Kusel Mission Church, Germany—\$3,328.00

July 19

Attendance — 183

Radio Ministry Fund—\$3,928.00

July 26

Attendance — 142

Jr & Sr High Youth Group Fund—\$3,449.00

Misc. Extra Mission Gifts

Athletes in Action Ukraine—\$900.00

Eight Days of Hope—\$50.00

Fellowship of Christian Athletes — \$3,000.00

Samaritan's Purse Disaster Aid—\$1,075.00

Online Giving through Realm

You can give online via our website at
www.firstchurchnk.org

You can also text "FIRSTCHURCHNK" TO 73256
and give via your mobile device.

Warner Fund Gifts:

Athletes in Action Ukraine—\$3,000.00

First Church of New Knoxville

LOOKING FOR *Connection*



SCAN ME

firstchurchnk.org



SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP BEGINS AT 9:00AM

📍 200 W. BREMEN STREET, NEW KNOXVILLE, OH 45871



First Church
OF NEW KNOXVILLE

Senior Pastor Joel Bucklin
P.O. Box 339
200 W. Bremen St.
New Knoxville, OH 45871-0339
419-753-2446
Office e-mail: firstchurchnk@nktelco.net
Church Website: www.firstchurchnk.org
Return Service Requested

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ORGANIZATION
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