



First Church of God
7968 U.S. 23, Risingsun, OH 43457
Website: www.risingsunfcog.org
Church email: fcogrisingsun@gmail.com
Phone: 419-457-3971
Pastor Paul J Rutledge

**AUGUST 2024
NEWSLETTER**

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Pastor's Meditation August 2024.

A happy August to everyone. County fairs, back to school, and football is in the air.

For this month's meditation, I've had baseball and football on my mind, and "the Wave" popped into my head. People love doing "the wave." At sporting events and concerts around the world, it begins when a few people stand and raise their hands. A moment later, those seated beside them do the same. The goal is to have one sequential flowing movement work its way around an entire stadium. Once it reaches the end, those who started it smile and cheer, and keep the movement going.

Some historians believe the wave originated in 1979, at an NHL game between the Colorado Rockies (who in 1982, went on to become the New Jersey Devils) and Montreal Canadiens at McNichols Sports Arena in Denver. A man by the name of "Krazy" George Henderson started, led, and perfected the wave at assorted NHL games.

The earliest video documentation of a wave, which "Krazy" George led, happened on October 15, 1981, at a Major League Baseball game in Oakland between the A's and the New York Yankees. This wave was broadcast on TV, and George Henderson used a videotape of the event to bolster his claim as the inventor of the wave.

The happiness and togetherness we experience while doing the wave is reminiscent of the gospel. The good news of salvation in Jesus unites believers everywhere in praise and hope. This "ultimate wave" started over twenty centuries ago in Jerusalem. Writing to the people of the church in Colossae, Paul described it this way in Colossians 1:6, "The gospel is bearing fruit and growing throughout the whole world, just as it has been doing among you since the day you heard it." The natural result of this good news is "faith and love that spring from the hope stored up for us in heaven" (1:5). As followers of Jesus, we're part of the greatest wave in history. Keep it going! Once this wave is done, we'll see the smile of the One who started it all, when we are with him in Heaven.

If you have an item to put in the newsletter, please submit it to Susie Hoffman by the 3rd. Sunday of the month. Susie's email address is fcogrisingsun@gmail.com

Hospice provides special care, comfort and support to those facing a life-limiting illness.

Volunteers are a large part of hospice care. Whether assisting with administrative projects in the office, or spending time with patients in their homes, volunteers make an incredible difference.

Hospice volunteers can contribute by:

Note: All hospice volunteers are interviewed and must pass drug screening and criminal background check prior to orientation and training.

- Providing companionship and listening to patients
- Helping with errands, yard work or organization
- Creating memories (scrapbooks, audio tapes, etc.)
- Conducting internet research projects
- Photocopying and filing paperwork
- Assisting with mailings

Note: All hospice volunteers are interviewed and must pass drug screening and criminal background check prior to orientation and training. If interested please reach out by phone or email. Wendy wjess@ohioliving.org or Madelynn mmangold@ohioliving.org

Yacht Club

Attention Men: It's not too late to join the Yacht Club for the annual men's retreat.

Aug. 16-17-18 At Camp Otyokwah.

\$64 for the weekend + some supplies.

See Tim or Pastor Paul for details if you would like to go and didn't get a chance to sign up on the clipboards

The Yacht Club and the Ladies Breakfast Club are planning a combined Brunch(ish) outing this fall, Likely in early October

Details to follow as arrangements are firmed up.

Combined Service/Picnic



Sunday Sept. 22nd we will be having one combined service for 1st & 2nd service.

Church service will be at 10:00am in the Sanctuary we will have Sunday School at 9:00am

After church, we will have a cookout with Hamburgers Hotdogs and Brats provided. Sign up sheets will be put on the clipboards for fixings, sides and deserts

There will be cornhole and other games for families to enjoy and enjoy the fellowship of our church family after the picnic.

The Youth Safety and expectations training will be on Sunday Aug. 25th during the Sunday School hour. This training/expectation review is for anyone in the church that helps with, wants to help with, or may have even the smallest connection in helping with ANY/ALL of our youth programs. This training is very important, so everyone involved in the youth programs knows what to do in the event of an emergency. It is also important that the church be able to demonstrate and document that we annually take proactive steps with our "staff" to communicate the church's expectations and do some emergency preparedness training.

The ladies Breakfast Club will be hosting a Pay to eat (donations) breakfast at this same time, so this is a win/win. Come to the fill your belly with delicious food and receive some important training at the same time.

Scuba VBS



What a fin-tastic week at VBS!!!

The VBS began our under sea adventure, where we experienced the ever-flowing never ending love of God, at 6:00pm on Sunday, July 14. Throughout the week we were introduced to our sea-loving friends Tad, Finnley, Fisher, Waylon, and Octavia. They shared with us that God is a friend who is real, who loves us, a friend we can trust, a friend forever, and a friend to everyone. We also learned and talked about Elijah's encounter with God, how Jonah discovered God's love, to trust God with our fears, met someone who witnessed Jesus' death and resurrection, and met Lydia who becomes friends with Jesus. Each evening our dive buddies, Claudia, Scuba Steve, and Rachel, prepared us for a life-changing experiences through songs and skits. We also encountered dive buddies that provided delicious Tidal treats, soaking water games, interactive Bible adventures, science-fun experiments in Imagination Station, and were completely submerged on the SS CS (Sticky Scripture Cyber Submarine) to dive deeper into each day's Bible verse. On Thursday July 18th, we took our final dive. What an amazing week of learning how awesome God's love is for each of us. Although everyone was sad to say goodbye to our sea-loving friends, it was good to be back on solid ground.

Each year at VBS the children support a mission. This year's mission was the food box. The children did an outstanding job of supporting this mission by bringing in 175 food items and a cash donation of \$45 that will help meet the needs in our community. Thank You to everyone who volunteered their time to make VBS '24 a success. Christian Ed

Navy Basic Training— Cody Biddle is in basic training. His address is:
Sr. Biddle, Cody, J,
Ship 04 DIV270,
3600 Ohio Street,
Great Lakes IL 60088-7103
I'm sure Cody would appreciate a card of encouragement.

Kids For Christ

Kids for Christ will begin on Wednesday, September 11, 5:30-7pm. KFC is for Kids 4 years old through 12th Grade. Staff & students enjoy dinner at 5:30-6pm. Class time begins at 6pm where students discover God's truths in the Bible and how they can apply it in their own lives. Online registration will be available mid August.

PAY-TO-EAT!!! YUM!!

The Women's Breakfast Club will, once again, be hosting a Pay-To-Eat (donations) breakfast on Sunday, August 25, during the Sunday School hour and preparing all the delicious food! Please plan to join in for a wonderful breakfast and great fellowship! Your always generous donations will be split between the Breakfast Club (used for the Men's Appreciation Dinner) and Lakota's LifeWise program! During this breakfast time, Tim James will give a safety refresher for everyone helping with KFC, Sunday School classes, nursery, etc. Hope to see you there!!

CARE BAGS!!

During the month of October, the Women's Breakfast Club will be assembling "care bags" to distribute to homeless shelters, domestic violence shelters, pregnancy centers, etc. Please notice the sign-up sheets on the clipboards that list items needed for the bags. Your donations are needed and appreciated to make this project work! Last year, we were able to deliver a total of approximately 40 gallon Ziplock bags to two facilities and larger sized items to a third facility. You all made that possible!! There will be a clearly marked bin in the overflow room to place your donations! Thank you so much in advance!

...other Women's Breakfast Club dates...!

*August 17- breakfast, 9am, hosted by
Jennie Harman*

*September 28- breakfast, 9am followed by
craft time!*

*November 16- Men's Appreciation Dinner,
Tailgate 2.0, TBD (still!)*

*February of '25- Assembly and delivery
of Cookie Plates, date TBD
Join us, Ladies! We have a good time!!*

Church Pew Cushions Update A down payment has been made. It is going to be about 3 months before we receive them.

Bus Drivers: We are in need of substitute bus drivers. Requirements: 25 years of age, a good driving record, passenger CDL or equivalent. If you need a CDL the church will reimburse the cost. Please contact Pastor Paul if you have any questions or would like to help with this ministry.

Hello church family!

It is with great joy that I made it through our 6-month mission trip through South Africa, Lesotho and Namibia. Our time in southern Africa was not all perfect by any means, but as I reflect on the journey and readjust to life back home in the states, I am very content and humbled by the communities our team has been able to immerse ourselves in all by the grace of God.

In case you haven't heard, I wanted to share that I have the opportunity to lead another Immersion team with Experience Missions for 3 months in Costa Rica. I am so excited to embark on this new journey and return to a place that I hold so dear in my heart since leaving almost a year ago. For this trip, I will be leaving August 25th and returning November 14th. All prayer for our team throughout this time will be a blessing. It really does make being in a foreign environment a little less scary knowing that we are covered in prayer. My heart is full of peace knowing that none of this is by my own strength, but by the strength of Christ within me.


Blessings,
Jessica Davies

Car Show

August 31, 10am-3pm at Gibsonburg Community Church, 795 W. Madison Street. Registration 10-11am. Awards at 2pm. Entry fee—free will offering. All proceeds will go towards community outreach. Great food will be available.



First Church of God August 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat												
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