



# FIRST EVANGELICAL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

369 East Woodsdale Avenue, Akron, OH 44301  
330.773.2128 [www.firstecchurch.org](http://www.firstecchurch.org)

<https://www.youtube.com/@firstevangelicalchurchakro8051>

*"To be known as a church that prays"*

*"To be a church that takes the word of Christ to others"*

*"To feel the love from Christ in a way that makes our heart rejoice"*

**Sunday, September 24, 2023**

Pastor Michael Lewis 330-606-2711

Jeff Cunningham, Worship Leader;

Rob Cowie & Pauline Long, Musicians

**Opening Praise/Greeting Time**

\*\* "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name" #43

**Announcements-Julie Beltz/Prayer-Bill Underwood**

"Faith is the Victory" #727

"He Keeps Me Singing" #746

"Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus" #730

**Prayer/Offering**

**Message**

Pastor Mike

**Benediction**

\*\*Those who are physically able, please stand\*\*

**First Church Events This Week**

**Matthew 18:20 <sup>20</sup> For where two or three gather in  
my name, there am I with them."**

**This Week:**

**Sunday**

Sunday School @ 9:30 a.m.

Worship Service @ 10:30 a.m.

**Wednesday**

Educational Meeting @ 6:00 p.m.

Mens and Ladies Bible Study @ 7:00 p.m.

**Thursday**

Prayer and Praise @ 11:00 a.m.

Junior Church is the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month at 10:30 a.m.

**Upcoming Events:**

October 6-8

Mens Retreat, Camp ECCO

New membership classes are available for anyone interested in joining First Church. Contact Pastor Mike to arrange a convenient time.

**THIS WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

September 26 Todd & Tammy Canter

October 1 Pandora Cunningham

Andy Stehler

**Mark your calendar**

**This Wednesday at 6:00 pm., we're welcoming Dave Feola as our new Educational Superintendent. Everyone is invited to come and learn about our future educational goals.**

**If you're a leader, co-leader or if you've ever had an interest in leading/co-leading any class, including outreach programs, please don't miss this meeting.**

**"Pray and Seek God's Answer"**

**If you have any prayer needs,** contact Pastor Mike @ 330-606-2711 (email) – [bacrides10@gmail.com](mailto:bacrides10@gmail.com). or, Jim Dotson @ 330-703-4585, - (email) - [jimdotson7@gmail.com](mailto:jimdotson7@gmail.com)

*Pastor's office hours are Wednesday 1:00 – 5:00 pm. & Thursday varies. Please call ahead.*

**Mathew 17:2** 17 After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. <sup>2</sup> There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light.

**2 Corinthians 5:17** <sup>17</sup> Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come:<sup>[a]</sup> The old has gone, the new is here! <sup>18</sup> All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation:

**Colossians 3:1-15** <sup>3</sup> Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup> Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. <sup>3</sup> For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup> When Christ, who is your <sup>1</sup>life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

<sup>5</sup> Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. <sup>6</sup> Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. <sup>7</sup> You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. <sup>8</sup> But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. <sup>9</sup> Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices <sup>10</sup> and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator. <sup>11</sup> Here there is no Gentile or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all.

<sup>12</sup> Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. <sup>13</sup> Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. <sup>14</sup> And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

<sup>15</sup> Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.



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**“From the inside out”**

**September 24, 2023**