



EAST 40 CHURCH OF CHRIST

AUGUST 2026

~GETTING TO KNOW YOU~

*"Mightier than the thunder of the great waters, mightier than the breakers of the sea—
the Lord on high is mighty."*

PSALM 93:4 NIV



For God. For you.

Hi church,

WILL'S WORDS OF WISDOM

During the recent heat wave, I received more than a couple emails from my electric company encouraging me to be more energy efficient. They told me to set my thermostat higher, to wait until evening to use large appliances, to turn off unnecessary lights, and other (un)helpful suggestions. I was already doing all those things, yet I somehow felt the pressure to become more efficient.

Oddly (and interestingly) enough, that same day, I randomly came across an interesting article about penguins. Yes, in the burning heat of summer, a penguin article came across my screen. And crazy enough, this article also talked about energy efficiency. Believe it or not, scientists have found that a penguin's waddle is actually incredibly energy efficient. Who would've thought? Yes, while it may look a little awkward, a shiny-looking tuxedo-donned bird scooting along with that side-to-side stroll, that wobbling walk actually allows penguins to recover and conserve energy as they move. Take that AEP.

But all joking aside, that newfound penguin fact really surprised me. Because if I were God, and I was designing the most energy-efficient way to move around, a waddle probably wouldn't have made the cut. But then again, appearances can be deceiving.

That got me thinking about our walk (waddle) with Christ.

We live in a culture that loves speed. Quicker. Faster. High-speed. Immediate! We want instant results, visible progress, and measurable accomplishment. Yet, isn't it the truth that God's work in our lives often looks quite the opposite?

Church, more often than not (and more often than we might want to admit), our spiritual growth happens through ordinary acts of faithfulness repeated over time. Daily prayers. Reading Scripture. Cheerful generosity. Small acts of service. Simple words of encouragement. Sunday worship.

None of those things seem dramatically quick, fast, high-speed, or immediate on their own. No, they can feel like a waddle. But over time, God uses that rhythmic sway of faithfulness to shape us in the ways of Christ Jesus.

Galatians 6:9 reminds us: **"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up"** (NIV).

When life heats up, don't become weary, just keep waddling. It's the most spiritually energy-efficient way to walk with Jesus.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Will

"Let the sea resound, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it."

PSALM 98:7 NIV

SUMMER SERIES 2026

HEARTCHASER

*"The voice of the Lord is over the waters:
the God of glory thunders, the Lord thunders over the mighty waters."*

PSALM 29:3 NIV



Meet ... Valerie Smith

I am Valerie Smith. I serve in East 40's Women's Ministry.

I am originally from the Akron/Canton area but have spent 26 years in New Concord. I have two older brothers, all three of us having been born within 2.5 years of each other.

My family did not attend church, but I went with a friend to the Akron Baptist Temple during my younger years, and once I was old enough to drive, I attended a Presbyterian church. I received Jesus as my savior and guider of my life at a summer church camp, and he has continued to rescue me ever since.

I attended college at Muskingum University and befriended so many international students that it launched my career into immigration and international education. I received my master's in Student Affairs at Ball State University and my doctorate in Higher Education Administration at Liverpool University in the UK. I have been working at Muskingum University for 23 years.

I had never been out of the country until the summer after my college graduation, and now I have been to over 25 countries on 5 continents. I have climbed the Eiffel Tower, scuba dived the Great Barrier Reef, strolled the grounds of the Taj Mahal, explored the Scandinavian fjords, crossed the canopy of a Costa Rican rain forest, and tasted the culinary masterpieces of Singapore. I have seen first-hand God's boundless creativity and pure goodness in both nature and in experiencing different cultures and ethnicities. I am unbelievably blessed to be able to help students at Muskingum have similar experiences and connections.

While I truly enjoy traveling and serving college students, my favorite place to be is at home with my family. I have three sons (Mateo is 23, Jared is 21, Isaac is 16) and two dogs. I love having dirt in my fingernails from an evening in the garden. We all love playing board games and card games; some of our current favorites include Munchkin, Doomlings, and Pokémon TCG.

I feel that I worship God best through music. I love belting out hits by Megan Woods, Lauren Diagle, Toby Mac, Casting Crowns, etc. Praising Him for his sustaining grace in my life, which I cling to. MercyMe's I Can Only Imagine brings tears to my eyes every single time. I love the comfort of **Philippians 4:4-9**, which reminds us that we do not need to be anxious or fearful - God's got it! We can hand our troubles to God and receive peace, goodness, and healing in return.

"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all.

The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you."



Why Women's Ministry Matters

I have had some really tough patches in life and I tend to close down and shut people out in response. The East 40 women do not allow that to happen. They call me, they show up at my house, they pray for me and they pray with me. God is fulfilling these women and sustaining them. Women's Ministry at East 40 is about loving God and being loved by Him, through the hands and feet of His servants. I am so excited to be part of this group and to continue growing together with my Sisters in Christ. And there's always room for more.

"When you pass through the waters, I will be with you ..."

ISAIAH 43:2 NIV

"The men were amazed and asked.

"What kind of man is this? Even the winds and the waves obey him!"

MATTHEW 8:27 NIV



Jesus Calms the Storm

²³ Then he got into the boat and his disciples followed him. ²⁴ Suddenly a furious storm came up on the lake, so that the waves swept over the boat. But Jesus was sleeping. ²⁵ The disciples went and woke him, saying, "Lord, save us! We're going to drown!" ²⁶ He replied, "You of little faith, why are you so afraid?" Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the waves, and it was completely calm. ²⁷ The men were amazed and asked, "What kind of man is this? Even the winds and the waves obey him!"

Find the **Bold Underlined** Words

C	A	M	A	B	D	I	S	W	D	J	E	T	I	S	A	F	A
S	A	F	B	O	I	C	A	B	J	E	S	H	A	J	R	M	
L	W	A	M	A	Z	E	D	V	M	M	A	S	A	V	E	E	A
E	L	I	T	T	L	E	R	E	A	A	T	R	U	R	S	B	R
E	I	T	N	Z	E	D	I	S	C	I	P	L	E	S	E	U	Z
P	L	H	E	D	R	O	R	E	B	P	Z	S	A	T	J	K	W
I	I	P	J	E	S	O	T	O	U	K	S	A	W	O	K	E	O
N	L	I	T	E	N	A	R	O	W	L	P	M	A	R	T	D	R
G	L	E	E	P	I	N	D	R	T	N	C	A	L	M	A	L	C

What did the beach say to the tide when it came in? Long time, no "sea"!



MARRIAGE MINISTRY

KAREN KIGGANS
740-630-8163

"And over all these virtues put on love,

which binds them all together in perfect unity." COLOSSIANS 3:14 NIV



Strike up some fun!

E40 MARRIAGE MINISTRY

QUARTERLY Date Night

• CALLING ALL MARRIED COUPLES! •

Join us for an afternoon of fun,
fellowship, and friendly competition!

DATE:
Saturday, August 29, 2026

TIME:
3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

LOCATION:
Sunrise Bowling Center
Zanesville, Ohio

WHAT:
Bowling & Fellowship

WHAT TO BRING:
Socks!

COST:
\$9.00 per person, per game
(paid upon arrival)
Food and beverages will be
available for purchase at the venue.



RSVP DEADLINE:
AUGUST 14, 2026
Final head count is needed
by this date.

*We hope you'll
join us! ♥*



QUESTIONS ABOUT THE EVENT?

Contact Katie Weber at 740-680-2609



For more information on how you can get involved in the

Marriage Ministry:

Call or Text Karen Kiggans at

740-630-8163

love you

*"For the Lord is the great God, the great King
above all gods.*

*The sea is his, for he made it,
and his hands formed the dry land."*

PSALM 95:3, 5 NLT



KIDS

KELSEY HURSEY
CHILDREN'S MINISTER

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

MATTHEW 19:14 NIV



It is Back-to School time!

And that means ...

**E40 Kids will be starting back up on
Sunday, September 13th at 6:00**

We NEED more adult volunteers for Sunday nights!

~~ CONTACT ~~

Kelsey

~ kelsey@east40.church ~ 740-252-7930 ~

What do you call a gossipy whale?
A "blubbler" mouth!!



YOUTH

CORY KIGGANS
STUDENT/YOUTH LEADER

"Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it."

PROVERBS 22:6 NIV

E40 STUDENTS

EVENTS SCHEDULE

Cory Kiggans
E40 Student Leader
740-630-7906

AUG. 2026

02 SUNDAY
Youth Group 6-7:30pm

14 FRIDAY
Youth Group Swim Party
Host: Dixon & Misty Stratton
RSVP By 8/12/2026

RSVP HERE -----> 

16 SUNDAY
Youth Group 6-7:30pm

30 SUNDAY
YOUTH SUNDAY
Youth Group 6-7:30pm
Fall Series Kick Off

STUDENT

INTAKE FORM - CONNECT WITH YOUTH GROUP



STUDENTS 6TH-12TH GRADE

KNOCK, KNOCK
who's there
WATER
water who?
WATER YOU
WAITING FOR ...
JUMP IN !!



Will Dusing ~ Lead Minister ~ will@east40.church ~ 513-600-8184

Cory Kiggans

Student/Youth Leader

ckiggans17@gmail.com

Kelsey Hursey

Children's Minister

kelsey@east40.church

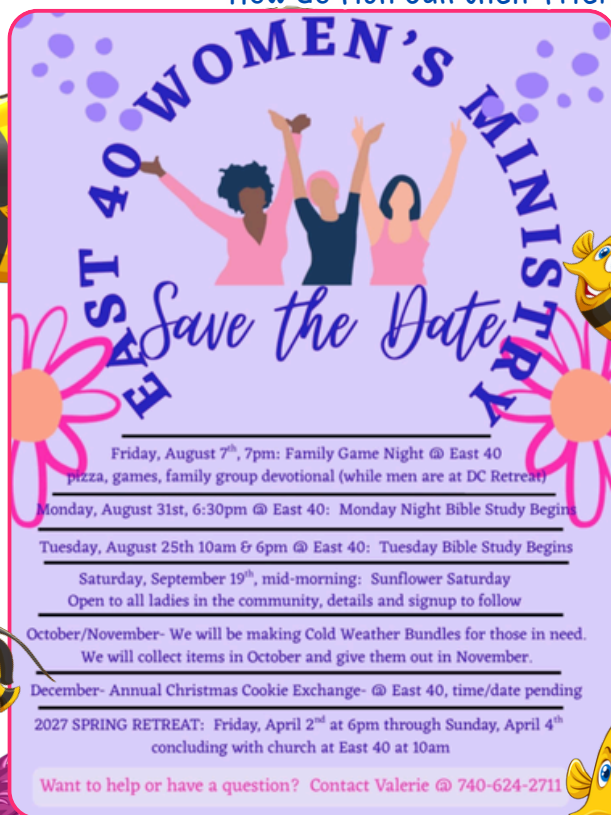
Melissa Staker

Secretary

office@east40.church

East 40 Church of Christ ~ 7522 East Pike ~ Norwich, OH 43767 ~ 740-872-3711

How do fish call their friends? On their "shell" phones.



EAST 40 WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Save the Date

Friday, August 7th, 7pm: Family Game Night @ East 40
pizza, games, family group devotional (while men are at DC Retreat)

Monday, August 31st, 6:30pm @ East 40: Monday Night Bible Study Begins

Tuesday, August 25th 10am & 6pm @ East 40: Tuesday Bible Study Begins

Saturday, September 19th, mid-morning: Sunflower Saturday
Open to all ladies in the community, details and signup to follow

October/November- We will be making Cold Weather Bundles for those in need.
We will collect items in October and give them out in November.

December- Annual Christmas Cookie Exchange- @ East 40, time/date pending

2027 SPRING RETREAT: Friday, April 2nd at 6pm through Sunday, April 4th
concluding with church at East 40 at 10am

Want to help or have a question? Contact Valerie @ 740-624-2711



FAMILY GAME NIGHT

AT EAST 40

GOOD FOOD, GREAT GAMES,
BEST MEMORIES

FRIDAY, AUG 7TH
7:00-9:00 PM

FREE FOR ALL!

What to Know

Women's Ministry will provide finger foods, a family devotional,
and games-but feel free to bring something to share if you want!

Questions? Contact Valerie @ 740-624-2711

Men's Fellowship Breakfast

First Saturday of Each Month
9:00 AM - Location TBD

See Jim Deitrick or Dave Monlux for more info

E40

East 40 Women's Ministry

Bibles & Breakfast

Ladies of all ages are invited to join Bibles & Breakfast
First Saturday each month at 9:30AM
Fellowship Hall @ East 40 Church of Christ
Bring a breakfast dish to share and enjoy fellowship

"For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea."

HABAKKUK 2:14 NIV

ELDERS

Steve Brooks

stevebrooks86@gmail.com 740-680-9186

Andy Hendrickson

andyrph1989@gmail.com 740-704-3431

Nathan Larrick

Ntlarrick@icloud.com 740-630-1084

Tom Monroe

tpmonroe@columbus.rr.com 740-591-3145

Dixon Stratton

dixonstratton@yahoo.com

Our Church Leadership

DEACONS

Aaron Bates

Jim Deitrick

TJ Hall

Ty Hursey

Wade McGee

Richard Newsom

Adam Pattison

Adam Steer

"... if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast."

PSALM 139:9-10 NIV

SUNDAY MORNINGS

8:30 AM ~ Traditional Worship Service

10:00 AM ~ Contemporary Worship Service, and Online

10:00 AM ~ Children's Morning Programming

2026-2027 Women's Precept Bible Studies

"LORD, I Want to Know YOU"

Study to begin on August 25

Information and SignUp in the Lobby

Please see Connie with any questions or call/text her at: 740-819-5807

or email: ghursey@columbus.rr.com

August

Wednesday

1:00 Bible Study

Resuming

in August

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			Evening Small Group	Young Life 5:30-9PM		Women ~Bibles & Breakfast~ at the Church~9:30 AM Men~Breakfast~ Place TBD~9:00 AM
2	3	4	5 Men's Retreat - Museum of the Bible - Washington D.C. Evening Small Group	6 Young Life 5:30-9PM	7 Family Game Night 7-9:00PM	8
9 Men's Retreat	10	11	12 Evening Small Group	13 Young Life 5:30-9PM	14 Youth Group Swim Party (Stratton Home)	15
16	17	18	19 Evening Small Group	20 Young Life 5:30-9PM	21	22
23 Leadership Meeting 12 PM	24 Lady's Small Group Resumes 6:30PM	25 Women's Precept Resumes 10AM or 6PM	26 Evening Small Group	27 Young Life 5:30-9PM	28	29 Marriage Ministry Quarterly Date Night 3-5:00PM Sunrise Bowling
30	31					



September

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Women's Precept Resumes 10AM or 6PM	2 Bible Study 1:00PM Evening Small Group	3 Young Life 5:30-9PM	4	5 Women ~Bibles & Breakfast~ at the Church~9:30 AM Men~Breakfast~ Place TBD~9:00 AM
6	7 Lady's Small Group 6:30PM	8 Women's Precept Resumes 10AM or 6PM	9 Bible Study 1:00PM Evening Small Group	10 Young Life 5:30-9PM	11	12
13	14 Lady's Small Group 6:30PM	15 Women's Precept Resumes 10AM or 6PM	16 Bible Study 1:00PM Evening Small Group	17 Young Life 5:30-9PM	18	19
20	21 Lady's Small Group 6:30PM	22 Women's Precept Resumes 10AM or 6PM	23 Bible Study 1:00PM Evening Small Group	24 Young Life 5:30-9PM	25	26
27 Leadership Meeting 12:00PM	28 Lady's Small Group 6:30PM	29 Women's Precept Resumes 10AM or 6PM	30 Bible Study 1:00PM Evening Small Group			

Why is the ocean always on time? Because it likes to stay current.

"The Lord will guide you always ... like a spring whose waters never fail."

ISAIAH 58:11 NIV

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Harmonie Adams August 1
Samantha Hilton August 1
Chloe Lake August 1
Kelly Porter August 1
Aubree Trout August 2
Terry Tracey August 3
Kamry Lahrmer August 4
Soul Holbein August 5
Blaike Killiany August 5
Caden Parker August 8
Adam Pattison August 8
Kyle Porter August 8
AnnaBelle Adams August 9
Teri Clapper August 14
Mavrick Noland August 14
Leigha Stoner August 15
Misty Stratton August 16
Kaci Raber August 17
Karey West August 17
Dalton Wisecarver August 17
Easton Hursey August 19
Marsha Brock August 21
Malinda McWilliams August 21

Dee Tracey August 21
Addison Abrams August 22
Corbin Miller August 22
Gwendolyn Kovacs August 23
Dixie McCormick August 23
Ansen Abel August 24
Evie Abel August 24
Hudson Abel August 24
Lincoln Daubert August 25
Logan Daubert August 25
Lisa Hendrickson August 25
Karl Leachman August 25
Reid Williams August 25
Jordan Founds August 26
Evie West August 26
Sue Leachman August 27
Quinci Jones August 28
Tevaeh Simpson August 28
Annette Shade August 29
Karsen Smart August 29
Dixon Stratton August 29
Logan Kiggans August 30



Matt and Christie McGee August 2, 1997
Russell and Krystal McFarland August 3, 2013
Cody and Missy Duffy August 4, 2012
Wade and Marah McGee August 6, 2017
Jim and Diane Deitrick August 20, 1988
Joe and Nikki Killiany August 31, 2002



What did the sun say to the beach! I got you covered.

(All birthdays and anniversaries are gathered from CCB. Please update your information to be included in the newsletter.)

Our Beliefs

We believe in the one true God;

God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

We believe in God the Father, Creator of all things visible and invisible.

We believe in Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, the eternal Word of God, and the on Savior. We believe Jesus was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. Jesus was fully human and fully divine; the Word made flesh. We believe that Jesus lived a perfect life, without sin, but suffered and was crucified as a atonement for sin. We believe that Jesus rose again bodily from the dead on the third day, ascended into Heaven where He sits at the right hand of God, and will one day return in victory to establish a new creation where He will rule forever.

We believe in the Holy Spirit. The Spirit lives inside every Christian and helps us in our weakness, intercedes for us in prayer, convicts us of our sins, and empowers us to live a fruitful, Christian life.

We believe in the Bible; God's Word.

We believe that God inspired the original writings for Scripture and that those writings were without error.

We believe that the Bible is the final authority of all matters of faith, truth, morality, and Christian living.

We believe in the Gospel; the Good News of Salvation.

We believe that mankind willingly sinned against God and is therefore lost and without hope apart from Jesus Christ.

We believe that God was not satisfied with being separated from those created in His image, so He offers forgiveness for sins through the sacrifice of His Son, Jesus Christ.

We believe that salvation is given when one puts their life under Christ's rule, repents of their sins, and confesses Christ, and that the Bible commands every believer in Christ to be baptized by immersion.

We believe that those who have received salvation are sent into the world to proclaim the Gospel and to love and serve the world like Jesus did.

We believe in the Church; the Body of Christ.

We believe that the Church of Jesus Christ consists of all Christians everywhere and is organized into local assemblies, called churches.

We believe that the bible teaches that every Christian should be an active member of a local church.

We believe that the elders of the local church are the overseers of its affairs and the shepherds of its members; that they are the final interpretive authority of the Bible's meaning and application for the church; and that they are responsible for the oversight, instruction, edification, discipline, and restoration of church members.

We believe that all Christians belong to the body of Christ and are called to regularly meet for fellowship, worship, teaching, and the taking of the Lord's Supper. We believe that Christians are also called to use their natural abilities and spiritual gifts for the building up of one another as everyone promotes unity under the name of Jesus.

Our Mission

We believe that Jesus summed up everything we are supposed to do into two commandments (Matthew 22).

Firstly, He says to Love God with all our heart, soul, and mind. So at East 40, we are For God.

We are for His fame, for His agenda in the world, and for His will in our lives.

Secondly, Jesus says that we are to love our neighbors as ourselves. Then, He told us that everyone is our neighbor. So at East 40 we are For You. We are for people finding God, believing in Jesus, and then living the life they were designed to live as they become more like Jesus.

Simply put, at East 40, we are For God and For You!

rightnow
MEDIA

Get started immediately by visiting:

<https://app.rightnowmedia.org/join/east40church>

Or by texting the code EAST40CHURCH to 49775

Or by scanning the QR code above.



East 40 Church of Christ

SUNDAY SERVICES

MORNING SERVICES

8:30AM Traditional
10AM Contemporary
10AM Online Stream
10AM Children

EVENING SERVICES

6PM E40 Kids

*Pre-K - 5th Grade
September-May*

6PM Youth Group

6th Grade - 12th Grade



CONNECT CARD

Emergencies & Prayer Line

Text or Call 740-202-9690

Longterm Prayer Requests

- Church Leadership
- Missions
- School Leadership
- Governing bodies
- Our Military
- Worldwide situations
- Elderly
- Widows
- Caretakers
- Poor
- Sick
- Lonely and Sad
- Those suffering loss
- Those in pain
- Those who need Jesus