

E-Messenger

First Church of Christ

As I have been working on the newsletter, some of the information and news has had me looking into 2017. Seems a little crazy to think we are on the threshold of a new year. 17 years ago, the world was going to end as we know it. Computers would crash, cars would not start, and other bits of doom. 17 years later the world goes on like it always has. A reminder from the apostle Peter...“Above all, you must understand that in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own evil desires. **4** They will say, “Where is this ‘coming’ he promised? Ever since our ancestors died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation.” **5** But they deliberately forget that long ago by God’s word the heavens came into being and the

earth was formed out of water and by water. **6** By these waters also the world of that time was deluged and destroyed. **7** By the same word the present heavens and earth are reserved for fire, being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly.

8 But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. **9** The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

10 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will

disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare.

11 Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives **12** as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. **13** But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells.” 2 Peter 3:3-13

The Gift of Christmas

We have now entered the Christmas season. We are all busy planning things going on in 2017 as well as planning for the Christmas Eve service. The Christmas Eve service is a highly attended, well received time for the true message of Christmas to reach so many. That is exactly what we are praying and working towards this year.

The title of the Christmas Eve service, as well as the title of this message, is “The Gift of

Christmas.” In reading this I hope most of us realize that the gift of Christmas is Jesus. There is nothing more important that can be shared, or given, or focused on at any time during the year. It becomes easier to talk about this amazing gift especially during this season .

It’s so easy to get lost in the trees and lights, parties and gifts of this season that we forget this is the time we have set aside to

celebrate the birth of our Savior. However, there are so many people not getting lost in the festivities of the season; they simply do not know or understand that there is anything else beyond shopping, decorating, and excitement. They have never been introduced to Jesus.

That is why we are presenting the “gift” of Christmas. A time to celebrate the birth of a Savior in the

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Destined to win,
Larry Snavelly

beauty of “Silent Night” and candle light while offering God’s precious gift to anyone who has never accepted Jesus as their Savior. Pray that the Christmas Eve service will be blessed with the presence of the Holy Spirit and that Jesus will be accepted as Savior for all those who need Him.

Continually overcoming,
Tim Calvin

Serving in December

Greeters:

- 4—John & Nora Altman (A)
- 11—Vincent & Nola Girardot(A)
- 18—Dean & Sue Smethurst (A)
- 25—Scott & Pam Hartman (A)

Communion Ministry:

- 4—Dean & Sue Smethurst
- 11—Larry Snavely
- 18—Jim & Pat McPeak

25—Jason Gregg

Prayer Warriors:

Deb Rhodes & Diane Altman

Welcome Center:

- 4—John/Nora Altman (9); Ron & Shellee Brown (9:45)
- 11—Lesley Shirkey (9); (9:45)
- 18—Jordan/Heather Day (9:45)



Birthdays & Anniversaries



- 2 Cindy Horton, Keira Suffel
- 3 Shellee Brown
- 6 Dick Newcomb
- 7 Nikki Hull
- 8 Krystal Thornton
- 9 Mason Thornton, Ellen Walker
- 10 Madison Hetrick
- 11 Doug Witt
- 12 Derek Murphy, Katrina Tonneas
- 14 Kennedy Dick
- 15 Henry Kidd, Samantha Murphy
- 17 Korbyn Gordon, Caity Karnes
- 18 Vickie Grimm, Anna

Trubey

- 19 Norma Stambaugh
- 21 Teresa Brown, Annie Engel, Amber Rogers
- 24 Todd Gambler
- 25 June Crowl
- 30 Cylas Day, Patrick Rendleman
- 31 Mary Lloyd, Tracy Rendleman

- 6 Jerry & Wanda Hug (41)
- 13 Terry & Cheryl Karnes (26); Gerry & Gail Wyrick (30)
- 16 Bob & Nancy Wagner (56)
- 23 Dave & Melissa Beerbower (33)
- 24 Dean & Esther Krill (69)
- 31 Jason & Erin Beals (11)



Family News

The church family extends her sympathy to Roy Koerner and family on the death of Judy.

Thanksgiving Dinner Recap

Our annual Community Thanksgiving dinner was

served November 24th. This year 110 meals were delivered, 155 were take-outs and 115 folks ate at the church. Many thanks to all who donated food, set up and served this meal to our community!



Loads of Love

Loads of Love is our new Change for Change project. We will be

serving the folds at Bryan's laundromat on Thursday, January 5th, 5:00-8:00 PM. To accomplish this, we will need \$300-500 in quarter! Place your quarters in the Change for Change pan in the sanctuary or the detergent bottles in the foyers. We have collected \$276.75 as of today. That leaves \$223.25 to bring us to the \$500 mark.

DECEMBER

Sun

Mon




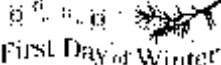



Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<p>1</p> <p><i>Decorating Our Church</i></p>  <p>8:30 AM</p>	2	3
<p>4</p> <p>8:00 Worship</p> <p>9:15 Sunday School</p> <p>10:15 Worship</p> <p>Deadline for Poinsettia orders</p>	5	<p>6</p> <p>10:00 Craft Group</p>	<p>7</p> <p>5:30 Supper</p> <p>6:15 Fusion</p> <p>6:30 Fusion</p> <p>6:30 Bible Studies</p>	8	9	<p>10</p> <p>8:00 Men's Breakfast</p>
<p>11</p> <p>8:00 Worship</p> <p>9:15 Sunday School</p> <p>10:15 Worship</p>	12	13	<p>14</p>  <p>All Church Caroling 6:15</p>	15	16	17
<p>18</p> <p>8:00 Worship</p> <p>9:15 Sunday School</p> <p>10:15 Worship</p>	19	<p>20</p> <p>12:45 Visitation Ministry</p>	<p>21</p>  <p>first Day of Winter</p>	22	23	<p>24</p>  <p>The Gift of Christmas Service 7:00</p>
 <p>Worship 10:15</p>	26	<p>27</p> <p>11:45 Lunch Bunch @ 4 Seasons, Bryan</p>	28	29	30	



FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Bryan, OH 43506

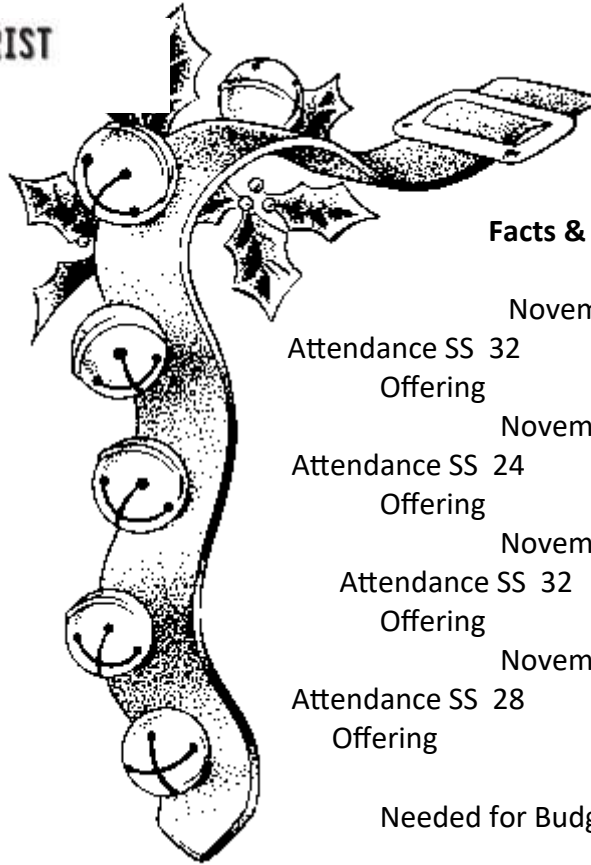
Phone: 419-636-3509
Fax: 419-633-7226
E-mail: firstcofc@cityofbryan.net

Love All, Worship One,
Make Disciples

Bryanfcc.org



Connect with us!



Facts & Figures

November 6

Attendance SS 32 Worship 44/122
Offering \$6,660.00

November 13

Attendance SS 24 Worship 44/122
Offering \$9,340.46

November 20

Attendance SS 32 Worship 60/110
Offering \$7,675.00

November 27

Attendance SS 28 Worship 45/108
Offering \$2,935.00

Needed for Budget \$5,828.86

Love All

Our Service Personnel: Kevin Bergman (GA), Lindsey Kaiser, Stewart Martin (NC), Josh Severs (Afghanistan), Josh Tonneas (MA)

Cancer: Gwen Acker-Dickinson, Nathan Bailey, Patrick Bailey, Chuck Barnes, Arlene Boyer, Randy Boltinghouse, Brent, Tim Bright, Sherry Buchsteiner, Jennie Case, Chuck, Gwen Acker-Dickinson, Weston DuBois, Carrie H., Molly Johnston, Kent, Chuck Lees, Ron Lewis, Norma Kuster, Tim Mavis, Aaron Narker, Connie Pence, Mary Pinckley, Jim Pringle, Elaine Purdue, Kathy Rittenhouse, Bob & Sue Secoy, Terry Shinaberry, Lyle Sna-

vely, Criss Sproles, Ron Stark, Dinah Stiltner, Amy Tobin, Jaime Trevino, Tammy, Joe Vaccaro, Linda Walker, Kathy Walton, Drew Wayman, Al West, Gloria Wright. *Other Concerns:* Jennifer Mavis, Brianna Lloyd, Amy Boyd, Trevor Bailey, Dale & Leona Puff, Neighborhood, Geri Cox, Dale Boyer, Danielle Strouse, Paul Newcomb, Asher Cravens, Brenda Ridgway, Doc Engel, Cindy Wolf, Zach Swisher, Madelon Salsbury, Esther Krill, Alex & Kendra Anderson, Mar-yann Mitchell, Tyler James, Charlotte Brandt, Henry Kidd, Janet McCarthy, Lola Pardee, Mary Jane Sweebe, Cheryl Towers;

Shut Ins: Hillside: June Crowl, Floyd Puffenbarger, Home: Linda Lewis Fairlawn Haven: Gerald Wetmore, Genesis: Geri Cox, Vivian Holdsworth, The Lakes of Monclova: Roger Ellis, The Commons of Providence Road: Barbara Hake.





Behold, I bring
you tidings of

**Great
Joy!**

*She wrapped him
in cloths and placed
him in a manger...*

LUKE 2:7, NIV

