

E-Messenger

First Church of Christ

Stolen with from my brother, Mark, without permission: Back in 1956 a show first aired called, "To Tell the Truth." The objective of the show was for a panel of celebrities to correctly identify a contestant who had an unusual occupation or experience. This "central character" was accompanied by two imposters who pretended to be the central character.

The celebrity panelists questioned the contestants to see if they could determine who was the genuine central character. The imposters were allowed to lie, but the central character was sworn "to tell the truth." After a period of questioning, the celebrity panel

chose who they believed had told them the truth and was indeed the true central character. It was kind of a fun game to play along with from home. Trying to determine, from the panel's questions, who was telling the truth was not an easy assignment. Some imposters were very convincing liars. It was not always very easy determining who was telling you the truth.

In many ways, "to tell the truth" is an exercise that is before us all the time.

Trying to distinguish what the truth is from the lies being circulated is a constant chal-

lenge. "Fake news" is a phrase that has been in the news a good bit these days. "Fake news" refers to a type of journalism that consists of deliberate misinformation published for the purpose of deceiving consumers. Determining what is honest, truthful reporting from "fake news" is not an easy exercise either.

Fake news is not something limited to political or social concerns. Fake news is rampant concerning spiritual issues as well.

The devil has been specializing in fake news since the beginning. To the woman the serpent said, "You will

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not certainly die, for God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." That was fake news.

Life's Path

"I feel like God is calling me down this path because I know He wants to fulfill my heart's desires and for me to be happy."

Yikes! Have you ever heard someone say that or something similar? That is a great example of Biblical interpretation gone wrong. Let's look at a couple of the concerns with the statement and then see where we should be going.

One of the biggest and most glaring problems with the statement

is that the focus of it is entirely "me". It's what I want God to do for me. God is my genie in the lamp and I want to take it out and rub the lamp and get my three wishes I have coming. I occasionally pray, I go to church at least once a month, and while I'm there I drop a couple of bucks in the offering. I am a better Christian than everyone I live around so I am entitled to some special treatment by

God. I'm not asking to win the lottery, just a couple of things to make me happy.

All of creation, including us, has one purpose. It's to bring honor and glory to God. It is certainly not the other way around, but so often we find ourselves acting as though God is our wish granter. It is true that God wishes to give you the desires of your heart, but it is for those who delight in Him (Psalm 37:4).

Growing into the will of God is where we need to be headed. To saturate ourselves with His Word, His Spirit and to continually draw closer to Him will help us remain in His will for our lives. Remaining in His will allows us to better understand what God is asking of us and where He is leading us. What He is asking us to do, as His children, is to simply be salt and light every day of our lives to bring the light of Jesus everywhere we go.

Serving in September

Greeters:

- 3—Bettie Finken (A)
- 10—John & Nora Altman (A)
- 17—Tom & Cindy Horton (A)
- 24—Scott & Pam Hartman (A)

Communion Ministry:

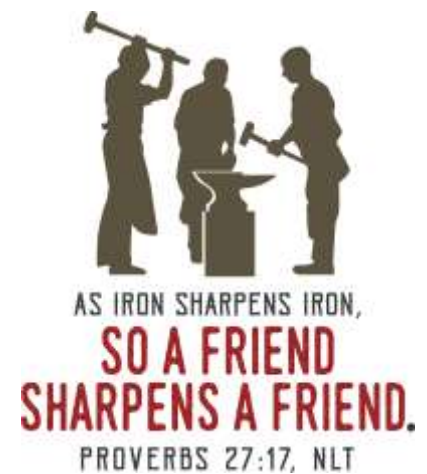
- 3—Jim & Pat McPeak
- 10—Brock Rohrer
- 17—Adam Perry
- 24—Bob & Mary Lloyd

Prayer Warriors:

Teresa Gambler/Marcia Gambler

Welcome Center:

- 3—John & Nora Altman (9); Ron & Shellee Brown (9:45)
- 10—Lesley Shirkey (9)



- 2 Gene Johns, Matt Nixon, Lydia Rogers
- 3 Karen Witt
- 6 Stacie Beerbower
- 7 Carter Dominique. Emily Hetrick
- 8 Tim Gordon
- 9 Drew Grimm, Luke Hill, Marilyn Lundy
- 12 Sabrina Ramey
- 13 Charlotte Brandt
- 15 Anne Bard
- 19 Derek Stiverson
- 20 Adaleigh Herendeen
- 22 Margie Olds

Family News

Sympathy

The church family extends her sympathy to:

- ♥ Keith & Kathy Whitman on the loss of their son, Kurt.

Congratulations!

- ♥ To Aimee Dickinson & Ben Wonderly on the safe

- 23 Kaitlyn Hesselschwardt, Pat McPeak
- 27 Bryan Tonneas
- 28 Kendra Reasor
- 29 Steve Lundy
- 30 Evelyn Deetz, Brigitte Kuszmaul, Jenifer Shaw



- 4 Brock & Tacha Rohrer (18)
- 7 Dale & Leona Puff (49)
- 9 Dean & Sue Smethurst (50), Matt & Miranda Wiese

- 11 Dan & Margie Olds (30)
- 13 Luc & Rachel Hesselschwardt (14)
- 15 Todd & Teresa Gambler (27)
- 24 Eric & Angie Murphy (23)
- 27 Ryan & Stacie Beerbower (3)

arrival of their son, Aiden Kenneth Wonderly, who was born Thursday, August 10th. Aiden weighed in at 7# 7 oz. and was 20 **1/2"**. **Maternal grandmother** is Gwen Acker Dickinson.

Ladies Bible Study

Get unstuck in your relationship with Christ with the **"Stuck" Ladies Bible Study** which starts Wednesday,

September 20th. Please sign up for the study (Senior Saints bulletin board). Kim can order the study guide for you. Deadline is September 15th. Cost is \$9. Please write checks to Kim. Or you can download as an ebook (interactive Bible study), or order from prime, or pick one up at Lifeway bookstore in Toledo. We will meet in the library at church.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship	4 LABOR DAY Offices Closed	5 9:15 Ladies Bible Study @ Seasons	6	7	8	9 8:00 Men's Breakfast @ 4 Seasons 6:00 Jr/Sr High Movie Night @ Rohrer's
10 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship	11 PATRIOT DAY	12 9:15 Ladies Bible Study @ Seasons 11:30 Senior Fair Day	13	14	15	16
17 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship	18	19 9:15 Ladies Bible Study @ Seasons 12:45 Visitation Ministry	20 5:30 Supper 6:15 Fusion 6:30 Adult Bible Studies	21	22	23 5:00 The Current
24 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship	25	26 9:15 Ladies Bible Study @ Seasons 11:45 Lunch Bunch @ Bob Evans, Defiance	27 5:30 Supper 6:15 Fusion 6:30 Adult Bible Studies	28	29	30
					9:30 5th Quarter	5:00 The Current



FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST

129 N. Walnut Street
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!

Office Hours: Monday-
Thursday 8:00 AM-5:00
PM



Facts & Figures

August 6		
Attendance SS		Worship 42/116
Offering		\$4,701.00
August 13		
Attendance SS 43		Worship 52/88
Offering		\$5,297.00
August 20		
Attendance SS 32		Worship 41/90
Offering		\$4,992.00
August 27		
Attendance SS 42		Worship 43/95
Offering		\$3,323.00
Needed for Budget		\$5,828.86

Love All

Our Service Personnel: 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, Andrew Dell, Weston DuBois, Carrie H., Molly Johnston, Kent, Chuck Lees, Ron Lewis, Norma Kuster, Tim Mavis, Aaron Nartker, Connie Pence, Mary Pinckley, Jim Pringle, Elaine Purdue, Kathy Rittenhouse, Bob & Sue Secoy, Terry Shinaberry, Lyle Snavely, Ron Stark, Dinah Stiltner, Amy To-

bin, Jaime Trevino, Tammy, Linda Walker, Kathy Walton, Drew Wayman, Al West, Gloria Wright. *Other Concerns:* Jennifer Mavis, Brianna Lloyd, Trevor Bailey, Dale & Leona Puff, Neighborhood, Geri Cox, Dale Boyer, Danielle Strouse, Paul Newcomb, Asher Cravens, Brenda Ridgway, Cindy Wolf, Zach Swisher, Cheryl Towers, Cunningham Family, Keller Garner, Gene Nash, Ginny Suffel, Marilyn Lundy, Cindy Horton, Sue Robson, Ken Hillard, Bob Lloyd, Teresa Johnson, Josh Tonneas, Simon Family; *Shut Ins:* Hillside: Floyd Puffenbarger, Home: Linda Lewis Fairlawn

Haven: Gerald Wetmore, Genesis: Geri Cox, , The Lakes of Monclova: Roger Ellis, The Commons of Providence Road: Barbara Hake.



FROM THE RISING OF THE SUN,
TO THE PLACE WHERE IT SETS, THE
NAME OF THE LORD IS TO BE
PRAISED.

-PSALM 113:3

iBelieve.com

The devil has been circulating fake news about God and his work on earth ever since. The devil's main objective is to deceive and keep people from discovering the way, the truth and the life that is found in Jesus Christ.

Jesus warned of this threat, "For false messiahs and false prophets will appear and perform great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect." Matthew 24:24 One thing that is critically important to realize is that not everyone speaking forth on behalf of God is telling the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.

Because there are pretenders, God had the apostle John write, "Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world." 1 John 4:1

The best thing we can do to tell who is telling us the truth, is to be like the Bereans who examined the scriptures daily to see if what the apostle Paul was telling them was true. (Acts 17:11) How good are you at telling who is telling you the truth?

Destined to win,
Larry Snavelly

God often calls us to follow a certain path, but a couple of things we need to remember about that path. First, the path that God is calling us on through His Holy Spirit will always concur with His Word. God will NEVER direct us on a path that in any way opposes His Word. Second, the path that God directs us to will be narrow, have difficulties, and will teach us to depend on Him more and more every day. In general, if we are on a path where the flow seems fairly easy and there are many people all going the same direction, we are probably on the wide path and need to take the first exit onto the narrow path. *There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death.* Proverbs 16:25.

God is not a genie. He leads us on a path that leads to Him while bringing others with us on the way. He is a loving father who cares intimately about us. Search your heart, listen to the call of the Holy Spirit, and step through that narrow gate. It will lead on a path of loving God, serving others, and growing closer to Him each day.

Continually overcoming,

Tim Calvin

