

E-Messenger

First Church of Christ

Hellbound Train

A Texas cowboy lay down on a barroom floor,

Having drunk so much he could drink no more;

So he fell asleep with a troubled brain

To dream that he rode on a hell-bound train.

The engine with murderous blood was damp

And was brilliantly lit with a brimstone lamp;

An imp, for fuel, was shoveling bones,

While the furnace rang

with a thousand groans.

The boiler was filled with lager beer

And the devil himself was the engineer;

The passengers were a most motly crew—

Church member, atheist, Gentile, and Jew,

Rich men in broadcloth, beggars in rags,

Handsome young ladies, and withered old hags,

Yellow and black

men, red, brown, and white,

All chained together—O God, what a site!

While the train rushed on at an awful pace—

The sulphurous fumes scorched their hands and face;

Wider and wider the country grew,

As faster and faster the engine flew.

Louder and louder the thunder crashed

And brighter and brighter the lightning

July Issue

Volume 4, Issue 7

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flashed;

Hotter and hotter the air became

Till the clothes were burned from each quivering frame.

Ripe for Harvest

In the 4th chapter of John, while Jesus is by a well in the middle of the day resting as His disciples had gone into town to buy food, a Samaritan woman comes by the well to fill her jar. Jesus tells her about herself. She has had five husbands; she is living with another man now. She thinks Jesus is a prophet, and she understands that her ancestors had worshipped on a nearby mountain. She also knows that the Jews required worship to take

place in Jerusalem. She is interested in the “living water” that Jesus offers her but does not fully understand and says that she knows the Messiah is coming and will then explain everything at that time. Jesus then tells her that He IS the Messiah!

At this point, Jesus’ disciples return from town and the woman leaves and goes into town. She tells others what she has heard and they all

follow her back to the well to meet Jesus. They meet Him that day and many Samaritans receive the salvation that only Jesus can give.

My question is why did the woman go to town and tell others? Did she know she was fulfilling the Great Commission? Of course not! The Great Commission had not yet been established. Then why did she go into town and tell others? She was not

known as a person of great wisdom or of immense popularity. She was somewhat of an outcast due to having had five husbands and currently living with a man who was not her husband. Yet she excitedly went back to town and told many people about what she had experienced.

We as disciples of Christ have experienced the same thing. We have had our sins forgiven. We are promised an eternity with

Serving in July

Greeters:

- 3—Ron & Ellen Walker (A)
 - 10—Bettie Finken (A)
 - 17—Scott & Anne Bard (A)
 - 24—Toby & Jane Runyan (A)
 - 31—Scott & Pam Hartman (A)
- Communion Ministry:

- 3—
- 10—Bob & Mary Lloyd
- 17—Dean & Sue Smethurst

- 24—Larry Snavely
 - 31—Jim & Pat McPeak
- Prayer Warriors:

- Sherry Trubey & Erica McNamara
- Welcome Center:

- 3—John/Nora Altman (9); Ron & Shellee Brown (9:45)
- 10—Lesley Shirkey (9); (9:45)
- 17—Jordan/Heather Day (9:45)

Nursery:

- 3—
- 10—
- 17—
- 24—

Birthdays & Anniversaries



- 1 Kaleb Hartman, Cindy Karnes
- 2 Lola Pardee, Carli Roughton
- 3 Marcia Gambler
- 5 Joan Brown, Jerry Hug
- 6 John Leppelmeier
- 7 Khloe Hartman, Leona Puff, Georgianna Weaver
- 9 Megan Rendleman, Ron Walker
- 10 Madelon Salisbury, Andrew Shirkey
- 12 Wyatt Garza, JoNell Gotshall, Theresa Kuzmaul, Adam Perry
- 14 Corey Herendeen, Carson Strouse

- 15 Jordan Day
- 21 Regina Kidd
- 22 Thayn Day
- 25 Bettie Finken
- 26 Chris Gotshall
- 28 LuAnn Jerger, Justin McNamara
- 29 Scott Bard
- 31 Mark Breining, Chris Trubey

- 1 Clayton & Brittany Slesman (10)



- 7 Jimmy & Krystal Thornton (9)
- 9 Steve & Marilyn Lundy (39)
- 13 Ron & Ellen Walker (31)
- 20 Dan & Deb Nixon (31)
- 21 Darrell & Shirley Kinnan (59); Dick & Theresa Kuzmaul (32)
- 25 Troy & Trisha Hug (1); Henry & Regina Kidd (52)
- 28 Sam & Lisa Nartker (4); Gene & Ruth Ordway (48); Kermit & Denise Riehle (31)
- 29 John & Janet Leppelmeier

Family News

The church family extends sympathy to the following families:

- ♥ Dave & Melissa Beerbower and family on the death of Dave's aunt, Frances Emanuel.
- ♥ Ron & Ellen Walker and family on the loss of Ron's brother-in-law.

♥ Sone & Amanda Contalee and family of the death of Amanda's father, Aaron Hanna, after a motorcycle accident.



♥ Janet McCarthy & family on the death of her husband, Bill.



Vacation Bible School
VBS is scheduled for August 22-26, 6-8:30 PM for Pre-K through 8th graders. Volunteers are needed. Please see Kelly Beerbower or Trisha Hug for more information.

JULY

Sun

Mon






Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

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<p>3</p> <p>8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship</p>	<p>4</p> 	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p>
<p>10</p> <p>8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> 	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p>
<p>17</p> <p>8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <p>12:45 Visitation Ministry</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>
<p>Mission Trip to Show Low, Arizona</p>						
<p>24</p> <p>8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> <p>11:45 Lunch Bunch @ The Barn, Archbold</p> 	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>
<p>31</p> <p>Unity Sunday 9:00 Breakfast 10:15 Worship</p>						



FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Love All, Worship One,
Make Disciples



Connect with us!



Facts & Figures

June 5	
Attendance SS 28	Worship 40/116
Offering	\$5,319.00
June 12	
Attendance SS 26	Worship 52/102
Offering	\$5,074.00
June 19	
Attendance SS 28	Worship 41/97
Offering	\$4,042.00
June 26	
Attendance SS 27	Worship 41/116
Offering	\$2,757.00
Needed for Budget	\$5,828.86

Love All

Our Service Personnel: Kevin Bergman (GA), Cheyenne Smith-Sutton (GA), Lindsey Kaiser, Stewart Martin (NC), Jessie Stillman (OH), Josh Severs (Afghanistan), Josh Tonneas (MA)

Cancer: Gwen Acker-Dickinson, Arlene Boyer, Brent, Tim Bright, Sherry Buchsteiner, Jennie Case, Chuck, Martin Collins, Gwen Acker-Dickinson, Diane Distan, Weston DuBois, Carrie H., Gene Johns, Molly Johnston, Kent, Judy Koerner, Chuck Lees, Marshall, Tim Mavis, Aaron Nartker, Connie Pence, Jim Pringle, Elaine Purdue, Kathy Rittenhouse, Bob & Sue Secoy, Gail Siebenaler,

Lyle Snavely, Dinah Stiltner, Jaime Trevino, Tammy, Joe Vaccaro, Linda Walker, Kathy Walton, Drew Wayman, Al West, Gloria Wright. *Other Concerns:* Jennifer Mavis, Brianna Lloyd, Amy Boyd, Jo Harman, Troy Hug, Trevor Bailey, Leona Puff, Neighborhood, Geri Cox, Dale Boyer, Danielle Strouse, Paul Newcomb, Asher Cravens, Brenda Ridgway, Annie Engel, Cindy Wolf, Brent & Natasha, Zach Swisher, Ben Riehle, Lola Pardee, Jordan & Kristy Karnes, Kirt & Kristy Whitman, Kelly Kill. *Shut Ins:* Fountain Park: Maribel Duckworth, Hillside: Floyd Puffenbarger,

Home: Linda Lewis, Fairlawn Haven: Gerald Wetmore, Genesis: Vivian Holdsworth, The Lakes of Monclova: Roger Ellis, Tendercare Health Center (MI): Georgianna Weaver.

(continued p. 1)

So I'll land you safe in the lake
of fire,

And out of the distance there
arose a yell,

"Ha, ha," said the devil, "we're
nearing hell!"

Then oh, how the passengers all
shrieked with pain

And begged the devil to stop the
train.

"Where your flesh will waste in
the flames that roar,

And my imps torment you forever-
ermore."

Then the cowboy awoke with an
anguished cry,

His clothes wet with sweat and
his hair standing high

But he capered about and
danced for glee,

And laughed and joked at their
misery.

"My faithful friends, you have
done the work

And the devil never can a pay-
day shirk.

Then he prayed as he never had
prayed till that hour

To be saved from his sin and
the demon's power;

And his prayers and his vows
were not in vain,

For he never road the hell-
bound train.

"You've bullied the weak, you've
robbed the poor,

The starving brother you've
turned from the door;

You've laid up gold where the
canker rust,

And have given free vent to your
bestly lust.

"You've justice scorned, and
corruption sown,

And trampled the laws of nature
down.

You have drunk, rioted, cheated,
plundered, and lied,

And mocked at God in your hell-
born pride.

"You have paid full fare, so I'll
carry you through,

For it's only right you should
have your due.

Why, the laborer always expects
his hire,

Destined to Win, Larry Snavelly

(Continued p. 1)

Him in heaven, and we have His
Spirit living in us. We should be
exceedingly excited about that! Yet,
do we go immediately into town, to
our neighbors, to our friends and
families and tell them about Jesus?
Where is our excitement? Where is
our boldness?

Unlike the woman at the well,
we have been commanded by Jesus
to go into all the world and make
disciples. Let's get excited about
this amazing gift we have been giv-
en. Let's tell others about Jesus so
we can help them find salvation and
escape the sentence of eternal hell.
The fields are ripe for harvest.

Continually Overcoming,

Tim Calvin

