# E-Messenger

#### First Church of Christ

## AVOIDING THE BLUES

Thank you for the many kindnesses you have shown us. The love offering is just one of the many ways all through the year we experience your love for us. Such love cannot be earned or deserved, so please know it is deeply appreciated.

On the radio I listened to a program on how to deal with the depression that often comes with the holidays. They covered several events that can happen in one's life that can lead to depression at this time. I am sure there are many more "events" that

time did not allow them to cover.

Much of the advice on how to beat the holiday blues had to do with staying active. It went beyond just doing your job; it had to do with helping others, serving others. If your health is such, help a neighbor with yard work or shoveling snow. They suggested volunteering 5% of vour time to service activity. Greet at the hospital, volunteer at the humane society, and they offered many other suggestions to

stay active and lift your spirits.

As ministries reorganize here at the church, there will be a number of new places for you to get involved. I hope we will each explore our area of giftedness, and be open to new ways of becoming involved in the kingdom of God. Who knows perhaps God will use such service to life a weary soul. God Bless and Happy New Year.

Destined to Win, Larry Snavely January Issue

Volume 2, Issue 2

#### Inside this issue:

January Servers 2

Birthdays & 2 Anniversaries

2

3

Calendar

Facts & Figures 4

Love All 4

### GOD IS IN CONTROL

I can remember when I was a kid thinking about the turn of the century. I remember thinking that I would be almost 40 years old when the year 2000 came. I would wonder if there would be flying cars, moving sidewalks, etc., pretty much all of the things I saw in the Jetson's cartoons. It seemed like it was so far off, and it would just never get here. We are now ready to start 2014 and as I look back over the years, I wonder how it has all gone by so quickly.

Some things are certain, God never changes and He is always in control. I think we either take for granted or simply don't understand the phrase "God is in control." He is the creator and the One who holds all things together. He is completely aware of every thought, action, and even every hair on our heads. He is never surprised by anything happening. God is in control.

We go through our daily lives planning, preparing, and working for specific outcomes, and we should do that, but we should also do it in complete confidence that through it all God's plan will be accomplished. How many times are bad things avoided in our lives by the hand of God while we are entirely oblivious to them? On the other hand, how many blessings are missed in our lives because we forget to ask God for them? Either way, we need to have a greater realization that God is in control.

How, then, do we accomplish something that our minds can barely comprehend? That is faith! We live each day knowing that all things will work together for our good and for His glory. We may not understand everything on this side of heaven, but we live with great assurance that through Christ we have eternity with Him and we have God watching over every single step we take. God is in control.

Continually overcoming, Tim Calvin

## Serving in January

Greeters:

5—Charlene Dean (A)

12—Gil & Carole Cramer (A); Cindy Perry (ND)

19-Vince & Nola Girardot (A)

26-Millie Kolts (A)

Communion Ministry:

5-Jason Gregg

12-Kevin & Barb Gallagher

19-Brock Rohrer

26-Adam Perry

**Prayer Warriors:** 

**TBA** 

Elevator/Lock Up:

Terry Hallett

Welcome Center:

5–John/Nora Altman (9); Ron & Shellee Brown (9:45)

12—Lesley Shirkey (9); Kevin/Barb Gallagher (9:45)

19—Shawn/Stephanie Ramey (9); Jordan/Heather Day (9:45)

26–(9); (9:45)



## Birthdays & Anniversaries



- 1 Kayson Buchanan, Mary Jane Sweebe
- 2 Sarah Snavely
- 3 Pat Koerner, Lin-

da Lewis, Don Suffel

- 4 Bob Stambaugh
- 5 Diane Altman, Mark Brandt
- 6 Joanne Allison, Pat Davis
- 9 Michael Bard
- 10 Haley Long
- 11 Betty Hoover, Marguerite Sibenaler
- 12 Jim Smith
- 13 Cayl Poncsak
- 14 Kathy Bergman, Tatum

Herendeen

- 17 Mike Robson, Rylee Tressler
- 20 Kerrigan Dick, Hayden Thornton
- 21 Kelly Beerbower, Olivia Breininger, Mason Frazer, Shane Ramey
- 22 Pam Hartman, Brock Rohrer, Mindi Roughton, Eileen Savage, Xander Tressler
- 23 Marlee Carroll, Lena Luke
- 24 Taylor Dominique, Ronnie Pinckley
- 26 Nathan Brown, Jennifer Mangen, Sam Nartker, David

Olds

- 27 Kasia Dick
- 29 Braxton Snavely
- 30 Darrell Kinnan
- 31 Alexa Brown, Ian Mangen



15 Alex & Natalie Smith

- 19 John & Nora Altman (6)
- 30 Bob & Norma Stambaugh (66)

# Family News

**Sympathy**: The church family expresses her sympathy to the following families:

- Bernice Rickard and family on the passing of Leo.
- Jerry & Wanda Hug and family on the death of Jerry's father, Pete Hug.

 Charlene Dean and family on the death of her ex-husband, Gene Dean.

**Katie Beerbower** will be studying abroad beginning in January. If you would like to send her a card or note during her semester, her address follows:

Katie Beerbower LCC International University Kretingos g. 36 LT-92307, Klaipeda Lithuania



Page 2 E-Messenger



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Church Offices Closed	2	3	4
5 8:00 Worship 9:15 Walter Smith 10:15 Worship 6:00 Gallagher Group 6:00 Snavely Group	6	7 10:00 Craft Group	8 5:30 Supper 6:15 Fusion (5- 12) 6:15 Breaking Free 6:30 Fusion (k- 4) 6:40 Adult Study	9 9:30 Senior Seekers	10	8:00 Men's Breakfast @ Four Seasons
12 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship 12:00 Rohrer Group 4:00 Lloyd Group	13	14	15 5:30 Supper 6:15 Fusion (5- 12) 6:15 Breaking Free 6:30 Fusion (k- 4) 6:40 Adult	16 9:30 Senior Seekers	9:00 5th Quarter  LJCA Sr. High V	18 Vinter Retreat
8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship 6:00 Gallagher Group 6:00 Snavely Group	20 9:30 Paintball	21 12:30 Visita- tion Ministry	22 5:30 Supper 6:15 Fusion (5- 12) 6:15 Breaking Free 6:30 Fusion (k- 4) 6:40 Adult Study	23 9:30 Senior Seekers	24	25
26 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship 12:00 Rohrer Group 4:00 Lloyd Group	27	28 11:30 Lunch Bunch @ Frankie's	29 5:30 Supper 6:15 Fusion (5- 12) 6:15 Breaking Free 6:30 Fusion (k- 4) 6:40 Adult Study	30 9:30 Senior Seekers	31 9:00 5th Quar- ter	

#### 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



#### Facts & Figures

December 1

Attendance S.S. 58 Worship 66/197

Offering

\$ 4.765.00

December 8

Attendance S.S. 60

Worship 68/135

Offering

\$4,508.00

December 15

Attendance S. S. 55

Worship 58/No Count

Offering

\$5,265.50

December 22

Attendance Worship 225

Offering

\$3,549.00

December 29

Attendance Worship 212

Offering

\$6,197.00

Needed weekly to meet budget

\$5,750.58

## Love All

Our Service Personnel: Kevin Bergman (GA), Jakob Buchanan (Korea), Jared Headley (CO), Randall Holmes (Afghanistan), Lindsey Kaiser, Nathan McCoy (Japan), Stewart Martin (CA), Jessie Stillman (OH), Josh Severs (NC), Ethan Shook (Afghanistan), Josh Tonneas (MA)

Cancer: Gwen Acker-Dickinson, Nancy Altaffer, Marvin Bailey, Mary Brodbeck, Martin Collins, Amy Curry, Dennis Holthues, Dale Huffman, Jenny, Gene Johns, Doug McClure, Gus Phillips, Debra Price, Elaine Purdue, Kathy Rittenhouse, David Robinson, Devin Rummel, Bob Secoy, Sherry, Ruth Ann Shetler, Lyle Snavely, Dinah Stiltner, Danielle Strouse, Barry Sweet, Joe Vaccaro, Bob Wagner, Kathy Walton Other Concerns: Ann Rittenhouse, Jennifer Mavis, Fred Tonneas, Evelyn Fox, Bill McCarthy, Pat Turnbull, Brianna Lloyd, Amy Boyd, Brittany Sleesman, Jo Harman, Troy Hug, Trevor Bailey, Linda Piper, Mary Neidhardt, Leona Puff, Neighborhood, Geri Cox, Danny Allison, Sandy Gordon, Deb Nixon, Adaleigh Herendeen, Sarah De-Groff, Wayne Stemen, LaVon Koerner, Robson/Kauffman families, Brock Minor, Fred Brandt, Walt Nixon, Amber & Justin

Stover, Larry Mocherman, Fran Mavis, Sophia Everett, Gavin Frye, Amy, Dale Boyer, Clara Garver, Katie Beerbower, Donna Bailey, Evelyn Winegard, Charlene Gambler, Dean Family, Phillips Family, Hartsock Family.

Shut Ins: Fountain Park:
Roger Ellis, Bernice Rickard,
Mildred Shannon, Hillside: Marguerite Siebenaler, Home: Marcena Bly, Linda Lewis, Evergreen: Frances Nyari Fairlawn
Haven: Gerald Wetmore, Bryan
Care & Rehab: Vivian
Holdsworth, Cleota Johnson