# E-Messenger

#### First Church of Christ

The US moved their embassy in Israel to Jerusalem. The decision has met with mixed reviews. Does this move play into God's divine plan?

God chose Jerusalem as a Holy City "The Lord will inherit Judah as his portion in the Holy land and will again choose Jerusalem" (Zech 2:12).

Jerusalem is located on the mountain where Abraham intended to sacrifice his son Isaac on the altar. As a result of God's intervention, Abraham became the father of many nations. (See Gen. 22:2.) Jerusalem was chosen as Israel's head-

#### Father,

We come before you today humbled and in awe of Your grace and mercy. Lord, we thank You for the way You have designed what a family is supposed to look like and the specific roles You have ordained to a mother and a father of how to lead their children. Yet Lord, through our sinful ways we have taken what You have made holy and created our own version of today's families. Because of this, our children are suffering. It is for the fathers, families, and children of our nation that we do pray today.

quarters by King David and is where Solomon built the first temple. (See 2 Samuel 5;7-9.) Jerusalem is where Jesus shed His precious blood for the sins of the world and where the resurrected Christ ascended into heaven. The Bible identifies Jerusalem as "the city of God" or "the city of the Great King" (Psalm 48). God loves Jerusalem, and Psalm 132:13-14 promises: "The Lord ĥas chosen Zion; He has desired it for His habitation. 'This is my resting place forever: here I will

## A Father's Day Prayer

Lord, we pray specifically for fathers and fatherhood across our land. Your Word clearly instructs fathers to bring up their children in the discipline and instruction of the Lord (Ephesians 6:4). God, we thank You for the men who are leading according to Your statutes and the ones that are laying their lives down for Your purposes. We pray that You will continue to use these men to lead their families and other men. We pray You will strengthen the fathers of our nation and that You will condwell, for I have desired it."

#### Jerusalem will be the object of intense opposition, and all the surrounding nations will come against it

"On that day, when all the nations of the earth are gathered against her, I will make Jerusalem an immovable rock for all the nations. All who try to move it will injure themselves" (Zechariah 12:3). It's not surprising that the Arab nations despise Jerusalem and violently demonstrate against

rayer tinue to empower churches, organizations, and individuals to invest in fathers and fatherhood for the sake of our

children. God, we pray for the single fathers out there; whether they are raising their children alone or even if they are doing the best they can with the time they have. We pray for strength, protection, wisdom, and discernment to help them through whatever trials they may be facing. Thank You Lord for these men and please guard their hearts and minds in Christ Jesus,

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any accomplishment there. Radical Muslims have vowed to exterminate the Jews and regain control of all Jerusalem. Any positive attention on Je-

help meet all of their needs, that they may experience Your peace that surpasses all comprehension.

Jesus, we pray for the dads out there who are being alienated from their children right now. We pray, oh Lord, that You would shield and shelter them from the pain and possibly the anger that may be rising up in them, for You to strike down the barriers that are hindering these dads from seeing their children. God, do not let this destroy them as men, fathers, or in their relationship with You. They need You in a mighty way and we pray You would

# Serving in June

#### Greeters:

3–Toby & Jane Runyan (A) 10–Scott & Pam Hartman (A) 17–John & Nora Altman (A) 24–Ron & Ellen Walker (A)

### Communion Ministry:

3–Bob & Mary Lloyd 10–Larry Snavely 17–Jim & Pat McPeak

### 24-Brock Rohrer

Prayer Warriors:

Deb Rhodes & Diane Altman

#### Welcome Center:

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

## Birthdays & Anniversaries



b1rthdays

- Lee Stemen David Hug
- Bonnie Slough
  - Tim Davis '
- Cheryl Karnes
- 8 Angi Davis 10 Deb Nixon
- 13 Dick Blinzler
- 14 Peyton VonDeylen
- 15 Lincoln Trubey
- 20 Kendra Anderson, Samara Calvin
- 22 Kermit Riehle
- 23 Ruth Ordway
- 24 Harmon Hetrick III
- 25 Callie Wolpert
- 30 Kelsey Long



- 7 Ronnie & Mary
- Pinckley (55) 8 Tim & Sam
- Calvin (33) 9 Jim & Pat



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- Jim & Pat McPeak (39)
- 16 Ben & Emillee Riehle (2)
- 19 Garry & Sandi Oberlin (47)
- 27 Greg & Traci Hartman (26)
- 28 Bob & Mary Lloyd (37)

# Family News

The church family expresses her sympathy to the following families:

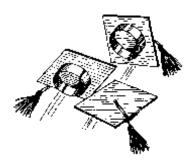
• Tanya Barnes and family on the death of Chuck.



## Congratulations!

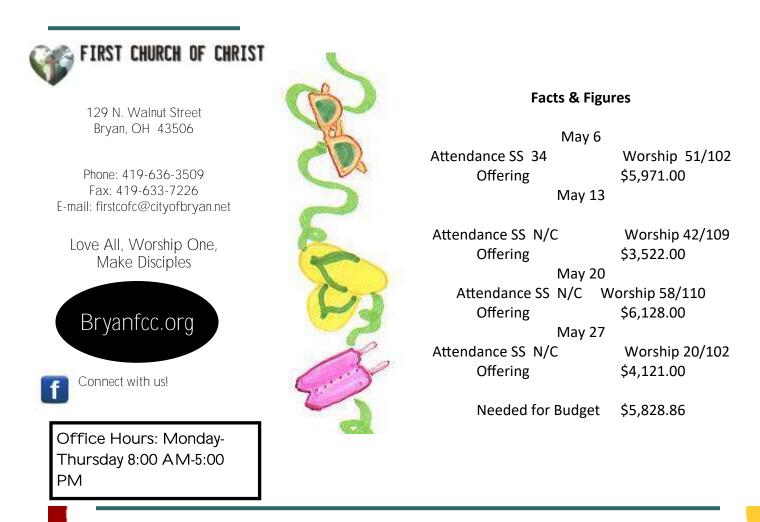
- To Bryce Gambler, Drew Grimm and Noah Rohrer on their graduation from Bryan High School.
- To Blake Kuszmaul on his graduation from Concordia University.
- To Andi Yahraus on her graduation from Indiana

University.





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A		2. 34		1	2 1:00 Noah Rohrer Grad Party @ Church
3 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Wor- ship 6:00 Larry's Life Group	4	5	6	7 9:15 Ladies Bible Study © Seasons	8 5:00 Drew Grimm Grad Party @ 414 W. South St.	9 8:00 Men's Breakfast @ Four Seasons 3:00 Bryce Gambler Grad Party @ Church
10 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Wor- ship	11	12	13	14 9:15 La- dies Bible Study @ Seasons 11:00 Lunch & Disc Golf	15	16
<ul> <li>17 Fathers Day</li> <li>8:00 Worship</li> <li>9:15 Sunday</li> <li>School</li> <li>10:15 Wor-ship</li> <li>6:00 Larry's</li> <li>Life Group</li> </ul>	18	19 12:45 Visita- tion Ministry	20	21 9:15 La- dies Bible Study @ Seasons	22	23
24 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Wor- ship	25	26 11:00 Lunch & Disc Golf 11:45 Lunch Bunch @ The Barn, Archbold	27	28 9:15 Ladies Bible Study @ Seasons	29	30



## Love All

*Our Service Personnel:* Lindsey Kaiser, Josh Severs (Germany), Josh Tonneas (TX)

Cancer: Gwen Acker-Dickinson, Nathan Bailey, Sue Bever, Arlene Boyer, Randy Boltinghouse, Brent, Tim Bight, Sherry Buchsteiner, Jennie Case, Chuck, Andrew Dell, Adam Farger, Carrie H., Molly Johnston, Kent, Chuck Lees. Ron Lewis. Tim Mavis, Aaron Nartker, Connie Pence, Mary Pinckley, Elaine Purdue, Kathy Rittenhouse, Bob & Sue Secoy, Terry Shinaberry, Lyle Snavely, Ron Stark, Dinah Stiltner, Amy Tobin, Jaime Trevino, Linda Walker, Kathy Walton, Drew Wayman, AI West,

Gloria Wright. Other Concerns: Jennifer Mavis, Brianna Pitts-Hill, Trevor Bailey, Dale & Leona Puff, Neighborhood, Dale Bover, Danielle Strouse, Paul Newcomb, Asher Cravens, Brenda Ridgway, Cindy Wolf, Zach Swisher, Cheryl Towers, Cunningham Family, Keller Gardner, Gene Nash, Ginny Suffel, Marilyn Lundy, Josh Tonneas, Kim Beek, Mary Jane Sweebe, Norma Stambaugh, Heather Kauffman, Merit Hahn, Mark Rhodes, Shirley Bard, Becky Wuebben, Marcia Gambler, Judy Yahraus, Riley Tressler, Alec Blinzler; Shut Ins: Genesis: Gloria Wright, Hillside: Floyd Puffenbarger,

*Home:* Linda Lewis, Lena Luke; The Commons of Providence Road: Barbara Hake.





rusalem infuriates Hamas, Hezbollah, and other terrorists' organizations.

#### Our Sovereign God is in control of the current events in Jerusalem

The fulfillment of Bible prophecy in Jerusalem illustrates that God is sovereign. Even when everything seems to be chaotic here on earth, and even when we can't precisely interpret prophetic events we can be assured that God is in control and He has the power to orchestrate all the evil of mankind to the triumph of His will in history. "For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. It teaches us to say 'No' to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live selfcontrolled, upright and godly lives in this present age, while we wait for the blessed hope-the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good" (Titus 2:11-14).

Destined to win,

Larry Snavely

show Yourself strong on behalf of anyone that is being alienated from their children and that You would reunite these families together.

Lord, we lift up the dads right now that are not stepping up to the plate as fathers, for whatever reason. Once again, we have allowed the evil one to get into our lives and wreak havoc on what You have said is good. We pray for these men to come to their knees and repent, that they would turn from their ways, seek You, and come to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. Father, we pray for their children and the moms who are <u>parenting</u> alone because of these men's decisions. We pray You would step in as a father to the fatherless and a defender of widows in these situations, that their story would be another testimony that nothing is too hard for You.

Finally, Father we lift up the men and women that are on the front lines in the battle for fatherhood and the war against fatherlessness. God, You clearly put leaders of all calibers in positions of influence: from the highest ranks to the least of these. However we know that with men these initiatives would fall short, but with You all things are possible. We pray for everything from the right funding for the programs to continue, to godly leadership from beginning to end. We pray for a revival of manhood and for fathers to lead their families by beginning each day on their knees. God Your Word says that You will turn the hearts of the fathers to their children and the hearts of the children to their fathers (Malachi 4:6). As our Creator, Savior, and heavenly Father, we believe that this will bear eternal fruit- that generational curses will become generational blessings, restoring our families back to the way that You intended.

We come into agreement as we read and speak this prayer out loud that this is a nation that is desperate not only for our earthly fathers to rise up to the challenge, but more importantly, that they need to follow You, Father, as their ultimate guide and example.

It is in the wonderful, precious, and matchless name of Jesus Christ that we pray, Amen.

Matt Haviland writes at <u>www.afatherswalk.org</u>. Continually overcoming, Tim Calvin

