

E-Messenger

First Church of Christ

³² When Mary reached the place where Jesus was and saw Him, she fell at his feet and said, **“Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.”**³³ When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, He was deeply moved in spirit and troubled.

³⁴ **“Where have you laid him?”** He asked. **“Come and see, Lord,”** they replied.

³⁵ Jesus wept.

³⁶ Then the Jews said, **“See how He loved him!”**³⁷ But some of them said, **“Could not He who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?”**

Those verses are pulled from John 11 where Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead. The shortest verse in the Bible is recorded here: Jesus **Wept.** **“Could not He who opened the**

eyes of the blind man have kept this **man from dying?”** Yes, Jesus could have kept Lazarus from dying. In fact, Jesus being God in human flesh, knew that He would soon raise Lazarus from the dead.

Why the tears?

Maybe, because it was never supposed to be this way? With sin came all sorrow, suffering, and death.

I wonder if Jesus

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still sees things that move Him to tears?

There is no greater honor on earth than to

A Pastor Writes to His People

Long-term relationships go through cycles: ups and downs, hills and valleys, good times and bad. That's true in our spiritual life, too. For many of us, our spiritual life begins with a very powerfully personal relationship with Christ. We can feel like we are on top of a mountain and have laid claim to the most im-

portant thing in all the world. And that strong and powerful feeling can stay with us and propel us for months and even years.

But I don't think I have ever found anyone who has said that they have been able to maintain that state of spiritual ecstasy throughout the

entire course of their life. Sooner or later, we find ourselves in a spiritual valley.

I talked to a woman the other day who explained her situation exactly like that. **“Yes, it's true,”** she said, **“I've been away from church for a long tie. But you know, it goes deeper than that. I've not**

really had much of a spiritual life for a good number of years now. I don't know why. I used to be one fire for the Lord. I couldn't get enough of church. I read the Bible all the time and prayed all the time too. I found ways to serve Crist every single day. But I guess the

Serving in February

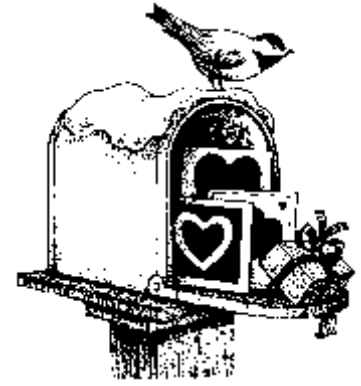
Greeters:

- 3—Dean & Sue Smethurst (A)
- 10—Bettie Finken (A)
- 17—Vincent & Nola Girardot (A)
- 24—Tom & Cindy Horton (A)

- 17—Jim & Pat McPeak
- 24—Brock Rohrer

Prayer Warriors:

- Kim Snavelly & Teresa Gambler



Communion Ministry:

- 3—Dean & Sue Smethurst
- 10—Larry Snavelly



- 2 Vincent Girardot
- 7 Jacob Manges
- 9 Esther Rosendaul
- 12 Cassidy Hughart
- 13 Ben Riehle
- 14 Dean Krill
- 19 Don Flower
- 21 Nora Altman, Joy Reidt, Esther Krill
- 24 Kayla Stiverson, Edith Wagner
- 25 Melissa Beerbower, Katie Sparks
- 26 Greyson Wolpert
- 27 John Altman

Birthdays & Anniversaries



- 4 Joe & Linda Roberts (24)
- 14 Tom & Cindy Horton (33)
- 26 Barry & Kelly VonDeylen (2)



Pancake & Sausage Supper:
The 11th annual Pancake & Sausage Supper, hosted by the Mission Team and the Pancake & Sausage Committee, will be held Thursday, March 14th, 4:30-6:30 PM. The free will offering will go toward the next Mission Trip. Frozen one-pound packages of Jacoby's sausage patties and casing links will be available for purchase for \$4.00 each.

Family News

grandparents are Dave & Melissa Beerbower.

SYMPATHY:

The church family extends her sympathy to the following families:

- ♥ Betty Hoover & Family on the loss of her son, Paul
- ♥ The family of Bonnie Slough.

- ♥ Dan & Dottie Yahraus and family, Don & Sue Hallett and family, Terry & Deb Hallett and family, Mike & Jody Strahle and family on the death of their mom, Joan Bauer.



Congratulations!

The church family rejoices with these families:

- ♥ Ryan & Stacie Beerbower on the safe arrival of August Loring. He was born Monday, January 28th, weighing in at 9# 3 oz. He joins big brother, Elliot. Paternal

February

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2  GROUNDHOG DAY
3 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship 6:00 Snavelly Life Group 	4	5	6 5:30 Supper 6:15 Fusion 6:30 Men's & Ladies' Bible Studies	7 9:15 Ladies' Bible Study @ Seasons 9:30 Senior Seekers	8	9 8:00 Men's Breakfast @ Four Seasons
10 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship	11	12	13 5:30 Supper 6:15 Fusion 6:30 Men's & Ladies' Bible Studies	14 9:15 Ladies' Bible Study @ Seasons 9:30 Senior Seekers 	15	16
17 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship 6:00 Snavelly Life Group	18 	19 12:45 Visitation Ministry	20 5:30 Supper 6:15 Fusion 6:30 Men's & Ladies' Bible Studies	21 9:15 Ladies' Bible Study @ Seasons 9:30 Senior Seekers	22	23
24 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship 11:35 Senior Saints Pizza Potluck 	25	26 11:45 Lunch Bunch	27 5:30 Supper 6:15 Fusion 6:30 Men's & Ladies' Bible Studies	28 9:15 Ladies' Bible Study @ Seasons 9:30 Senior Seekers		



FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Love All, Worship One,
Make Disciples

Bryanfcc.org



Connect with us!

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

Facts & Figures

January 6

Attendance SS 36 Worship 49/109
Offering \$6,959.43

January 13

Attendance SS N/C Worship 26/101
Offering \$4,217.00

January 20

Church cancelled due to inclement weather.

January 27

Attendance SS N/C Worship 27/111
Offering \$5,496.00

Needed for Budget \$5,828.86

Love All

Our Service Personnel:
Lindsey Carter (FL), Caleb
Lloyd (Japan), Josh Severs
(Germany), Josh Tonneas (TX)

Cancer: Gwen Acker-
Dickinson, Nathan Bailey,
Sue Bever, Tim Bight, Brent,
Sherry Buchsteiner, Jennie
Case, Chuck, Andrew Dell,
Adam Farger, Carrie H., Molly
Johnston, Kent, Chuck Lees,
Ron Lewis, Tim Mavis, Aaron
Nartker, Connie Pence, Jane
Perry, Mary Pinckley, Elaine
Purdue, Kathy Rittenhouse,
Bob & Sue Secoy, Elizabeth
Shetler, Terry Shinaberry, Lyle

*Snively, Bernice Speiser, Ron
Stark, Dinah Stiltner, Amy
Tobin, Jaime Trevino, Linda
Walker, Kathy Walton, Drew
Wayman, Al West, Gloria
Wright. Other Concerns:*
Jennifer Mavis, Brianna Pitts-
Hill, Trevor Bailey, Dale &
Leona Puff, Neighborhood,
Arlene Boyer, Dale Boyer,
Danielle Strouse, Paul New-
comb, Asher Cravens, Brenda
Ridgway, Cindy Wolf, Zach
Swisher, Cheryl Towers, Cun-
ninghams, Keller Gardner,
Gene Nash, Ginny Suffel,
Marilyn Lundy, Kim Beek,
Mary Jane Sweebe, Crystal

*Sweebe, Shirley Bard, Joshua
Taylor, Keely Strouse, Joy
Reidt, Edgerton Community,
Dakota Kittle and family,
Case Hartman, Mary Garver,
Cindy Horton, ; Shut Ins:*
Home: Linda Lewis, Lena
Luke; The Commons of
Providence Road: Barbara
Hake, *Genesis:* Gloria
Wright.





‘newness’ of it all wore off and I just lost interest.”

But then she said, “I feel something stirring in me again. Could it be the Holy Spirit? And I feel like I want to come back and start walking on my spiritual journey again.”

She really put into words what all of us experience if we enter into a relationship with the Lord. It doesn’t stay on the mountaintop forever. There are valleys and great stretches of desert. We could very well “drop out” and even move in a different direction.

But those cycles don’t last forever and more often than not there come brand-new stirrings in the heart. What would it mean for you to “fall in love all over again” with the One whom Revelation 2:4 calls our “first love”? This is a great time to come back home to the Lord, your first love, and renew at an even deeper and more seasoned level the most important relationship any of us will ever have in life. —Norman Neaves

be a part of God’s Church.

When was the last time you were awestruck by the fact that you are part of Christ’s body? Have you ever marveled at this privilege?

For no one ever hated his own flesh,
 But nourishes it, Just as Christ does the church,

Because we are members of His body.

Let’s be a Church where, when Jesus looks at us, it is not tears but joy.

Destined to win,
 Larry Snavelly

