

# E-Messenger

First Church of Christ

**“When I take my wife** out to eat on a date, she **won’t let me face the** TV in the restaurant. She knows I get distracted watching whatever is on. It could be sports or it could be a special on knitting, I still get sucked in. And **I don’t really see the** problem with it. If there is a lull in the conversation and we **don’t have anything to talk about, what’s the** harm in watching a little TV? I never really understood why this was an issue until one night when we went out to eat, and I got distracted watching two couples at different tables. At one table was a young couple clearly in love. They may have been newlyweds, but my guess is they were still dating. They were sitting on the same side of the booth, snuggled

up, talking nonstop, laughing at each other’s jokes. **Their food** was getting cold. **They didn’t care.** Next to them was this elderly couple, **and I’m guessing** they had been married for decades. They did not say a word. Nothing. I watched as they just sat there in silence, not saying anything. I finally pointed this out to my wife, **“and I said, “Look at that. Isn’t that kind of** sad? It starts off this way, with this couple just talking, talking, so much to say, so much to share, and then decades later you have this elderly couple just sitting there in **silence. It’s sad.”** **And my wife said, “I think it’s kind of sweet.”** I kind of

nodded my head in silence, trying to be agreeable, but was more confused than ever. Then it hit me, or at least I think it **did. It’s sweet because they didn’t** have to say anything. Being together, focused on one another, even in silence, was a picture of the kind of relationship she wanted. If you asked me, I would have pointed to the fact that I took her out on a date to a nice restaurant as evidence that I am a good husband, but as **far as she’s concerned that doesn’t mean much. If she doesn’t** have my attention, **she doesn’t even** qualify it as a date. We could go to the nicest restaurant in town and I could give her an expensive gift,

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but none of that will mean anything if she **doesn’t feel like “I just want to be** with her, know her, and let her know me. More than my words, more than my thoughtful acts, she wants my heart. She wants **to know me.”** **“Really, that is an** indicator of **God’s love for us.** More than he wants our acts of piety, more than

## Serving in February

### Greeters:

- 2—Scott & Pam Hartman
  - 9—Bettie Finken
  - 16—Vincent & Nola Girardot
  - 23—Todd & Teresa Gambler
- ### Communion Ministry:
- 2— Larry Snavelly
  - 9—Jim & Pat McPeak
  - 16—Adam Perry
  - 23—Dave & Melissa Beerbower

### Prayer Warriors:

Kim Snavelly & Teresa Gambler

### Elder Schedule:

- 2—Mark Rhodes
- 9—Larry Snavelly
- 16—Dave Beerbower
- 23—Dave Cunningham

### Nursery:

2—Lisa McCoy

- 9—Teresa Gambler
- 16—Jane Runyan
- 23—

### Children's Church:

- 2—Cindy & Caity Karnes
- 9—Todd Gambler
- 16—Luc & Rachel Heselwardt
- 23—Tracy Rendleman



## Birthdays & Anniversaries



- 2 Vincent Girardot, Sawyer Von Deylen
- 7 Jacob Manges
- 9 Esther Rosendaul
- 12 Cassidy Hughart
- 14 Maxton Sprow
- 21 Esther Krill
- 24 Miles Manges, Edith Wagner
- 25 Melissa Beerbower
- 27 John Altman



- 5 Ron & Karen Roose (48)
- 14 Tom & Cindy Horton (34)
- 26 Barry & Kelly Von Deylen (3)



## Family News

### SYMPATHY

The church family extends her sympathy to the following families:

- ♥ The family of Millie Kolts.
- ♥ Troy & Trisha Hug & family on the death of **Trisha's grandmother,**

Bernice Spieser.

### Inclement Weather Policy:

Level 1: All services will proceed as scheduled.

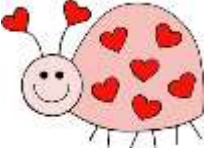
Level 2 at 6:00 Sunday morning: All services will be cancelled.

Level 3: All services will be cancelled.

Wednesday Nights: If school is closed, we are closed or as we deem necessary.

Please check the following sources for church news: WBCL and our church website ([www.bryanfcc.org](http://www.bryanfcc.org)).

# February

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <p><b>IT'S LEAP YEAR!</b></p>						
<p>2 8:00 Wor-ship 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship 11:45 Chili Cookoff 6:00 Snavely Life Group</p>	3	<p>4 10:00 Craft Group</p>	<p>5 5:30 Supper 6:15 Fusion 6:30 High School 6:30 Adult Bible Stud-ies</p>	<p>6 9:15 Ladies Bible Study @ Seasons 9:30 Senior Seekers</p>	7	1 8 8:00 Men's Breakfast
<p>9 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship</p>	10	11	<p>12 5:30 Supper 6:15 Fusion 6:30 High School 6:30 Adult Bible Stud-ies</p>	<p>13 9:15 Ladies Bible Study @ Seasons 9:30 Senior Seekers</p>	<p>14</p> 	15
<p>16 8:00 Wor-ship 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship 6:00 Snavely Life Group</p>	<p>17</p> 	<p>18 12:45 Visita-tion Ministry</p>	<p>19 5:30 Supper 6:15 Fusion 6:30 High School 6:30 Adult Bible Stud-ies</p>	<p>20 9:15 Ladies Bible Study @ Seasons 9:30 Senior Seekers</p>	21	22
<p>23 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship</p>	24	<p>25 11:45 Lunch Bunch</p>	<p>26 5:00 Supper 5:30 Leave for Skating 6:00 Skat-ing 6:30 Adult Bible Stud-ies</p>	<p>27 9:15 Ladies Bible Study @ Seasons 9:30 Senior Seekers</p>	28	<p>29</p> 



# FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Love All, Worship One,  
Make Disciples



Connect with us!

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

Facts & Figures			
January 5			
Attendance SS	30	Worship	50/90
Offering			\$4,486.00
January 12			
Attendance SS	32	Worship	39/79
Offering			\$3,387.00
January 19			
Attendance SS	36	Worship	40/83
Offering			\$5,595.00
January 26			
Attendance SS	36	Worship	62/73
Offering			\$5,612.00
Needed for Budget			\$5,149.15

## Love All

*Our Service Personnel:*  
Lindsey Carter (FL), Caleb Lloyd (Japan), Josh Severs (S. Korea), Katie Sparks (PA), Josh Tonneas (TX)

*Cancer:* Gwen Acker-Dickinson, Joyce Bailey, 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 Narker, Mary Pinckley, Elaine Purdue, Steve Ringer, Bob & Sue Secoy, Elizabeth Shetler,

Terry Shinaberry, Dean Sme-thurst, Lyle Snavely, Norma Stambaugh, Ron Stark, Dinah Stiltner, Amy Tobin, Linda Walker, Kathy Walton, Drew Wayman. *Other Concerns:* Jennifer Mavis, Brianna Pitts-Hill, Trevor Bailey, Dale & Leona Puff, Neighborhood, Arlene Boyer, Dale Boyer, Danielle Strouse, Paul Newcomb, Asher Cravens, Brenda Ridgway, Cindy Wolf, Zach Swisher, Cheryl Towers, Keller Gardner, Gene Nash, Marilyn Lundy, Kim Beek, Shirley Bard, Joshua Taylor, Keely Strouse, Ken Idle, Carson

Strouse, Annie Engel, Gene Crawford, youth ministry, Ramon Alpaugh; *Shut Ins:* SKLD: Gloria Wright; *Home:* Annie Engel, Ken Idle, Linda Lewis, Edith Wagner; Ottawa Riverview: Barbara Hake, Hawthorn Glen: Roy Koerner.







he wants our adherence to religion, more than he wants our observance of rules and rituals, more than he wants our words of affection, he simply wants to know us and for us to know him. And ultimately that's how our relationship with him will be defined. And if that isn't there, all the prophesying, exorcisms, and miracles in the world won't matter."

Excerpt From: Kyle Idleman. "Not a Fan Updated and Expanded."

Destined to Win,  
Larry Snavelly

**Washington's wisdom has been an inspiration for large numbers of our leading men and women in every decade since his time. He had the uncanny foresight of seeding to build a nation upon the bedrock strong patriotism, unquestioned integrity, opportunities for all, high ideals, and love of God. May our great land, conceived in prayer for peace, bring new concepts of living to all the people of the world.**

Love is a fabric which never fades, no matter how often it is washed in the water of adversity and grief.

Forgiveness is not an occasional act; it is a permanent attitude.

—Martin Luther King

