

E-Messenger

First Church of Christ

My niece was going to the gym to work out. On her way there she decided to stop at a store and pick up a couple things really quick. The store was busy, so it took a little longer to get a couple of items and she was frustrated. When she went to check out, she swiped her card which always works on the first time and it was rejected. Then it was rejected a second time and third time, but on the fourth time it finally worked. Frustrated by the whole thing she went to leave the store; that's when she passed by a cart that had a young child standing in the cart. As the child tries to get out of the cart, he begins to fall right into the arms of my niece. Was the store busy that day to slow down my niece? Did her card not work on the first, second, and third swipes just to slow her down enough

that she could be right there to catch that little guy before he would crash to the floor? I like stories like that, and I encourage all of us to see God in all the ways He wants to be working in us, around us, and through us.

I shared that story in the church office with a couple of ladies, and they were both grateful for the Lord watching over that little guy that day. One of the women in the office made the obvious point, but what about those times when it seems like, well, the Lord wasn't there.

I find Acts chapter 12 a remarkably interesting chapter in the Bible. Most of us have heard at least a couple of sermons on one of the stories that is recorded in

Acts chapter 12; it's Peter's miraculous release from prison. But that is not the only story recorded in Acts chapter 12. There are actually three stories in Acts 12.

The first story reads like this, "about that time King Herod Agrippa began to persecute some believers in the church. He had the apostle James, John's brother, killed with a sword. When he saw how much this pleased the Jewish leaders, he arrested Peter during the Passover celebration and imprisoned him, placing him under the guard of four squads of four soldiers each. Here his intention was to bring Peter out for public trial after the Passover. But while Peter was in prison, the church prayed very earnestly for him.

July Issue

Volume 9, Issue 7

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Acts 12:6-19 records the story of Peter's miraculous escape from prison, and we preach a lot of sermons, rightfully so, about this powerful act of God. I wonder if James' family asked questions like, "Well, where was God for James? Did the church not pray for James and is that why he did not experience a miraculous release from prison? Is there a divine plan at work

Serving in July

Greeters:

7—None
14—None
21—None
28—None

Communion Ministry:

7—None
14—None
21—None
28—None

Prayer Warriors:

Sherry Trubey & MaKenzie Mang-
es
Elder Schedule:
5—Larry Snavelly
12—Dave Beerbower
19—Dave Cunningham
26—Jim McPeak
Nursery:
7—None

14—None
21—None
28—None

Children's Church:

7—None
14—None
21—None
28—None

Birthdays & Anniversaries



- 1 Kaleb Hartman, Cindy Karnes
- 3 Marcia Gambler
- 5 Elliot Beerbower, Joan Brown, Jerry Hug
- 6 John Leppelmeier
- 7 Khloe Hartman, Kolden Kuszmaul, Leona Puff
- 9 Megan Rendleman, Ron Walker
- 10 Madelon Salisbury
- 12 Wyatt Garza, JoNell Gotshall, Theresa Kuszmaul,

- Adam Perry
14 Carson Strouse
16 Larry Sanders
21 Regina Kidd
25 Bettie Finken
26 Chris Gotshall
28 LuAnn Jerger, Justin McNamara
29 Scott Bard
31 Reid Wonderly



- 13 Ron & Ellen Walker (35)
19 Terence & Beth Clinga-

- man (6)
20 Dan & Deb Nixon (35)
21 Darrell & Shirley Kinnan (63), Dick & Theresa Kuszmaul (36)
25 Henry & Regina Kidd (56), Troy & Trisha Hug (5)
28 Gene & Ruth Ordway (52)
29 John & Janet Lep-
pelmeier (48)
30 Gary & Teresa Brown (32)

Family News

SYMPATHY

The church family extends her sympathy to these families:

- ♥ Jeff & Lisa McCoy & family at the pass-





ing of Jeff's father, John McCoy.

- ♥ Larry & Marilyn Sanders & family on the **death of Larry's father, Harry Sanders.**
- ♥ Gene & Ruth Ordway **on the passing of Gene's brother, Alan.**

Congratulations!

The church family rejoices with Tim & Samantha Ryan on the safe arrival of Cadance Mae. Cadance made her debut on Thursday, May 28th, weighing in **at 6# 13.9 oz. and 18.5"**. Delighted maternal grandparents are Eric & Angie Murphy.

JULY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8:00 Worship 10:15 Worship						8:00 Men's Breakfast @ Four Seasons
8:00 Worship 10:15 Worship						
8:00 Worship 10:15 Worship						
8:00 Worship 10:15 Worship		11:45 Lunch Bunch				



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



Love All

Our Service Personnel:
Lindsey Carter (FL), Caleb Lloyd (Japan), Josh Severs (S. Korea), Braxton Singer (MS), Katie Sparks (PA), Jessie Stillman (OH), 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 Narkter, Ruth Ordway, Mary

Pinckley, Elaine Purdue, Steve Ringer, Bob & Sue Secoy, Elizabeth Shetler, Terry Shinaberry, Dean Smethurst, Lyle Snavelly, Norma Stambaugh, Ron Stark, Dinah Stiltner, Amy Tobin, Linda Walker, Kathy Walton, Drew Wayman. *Other Concerns:* Jennifer Mavis, Trevor Bailey, Neighborhood, Arlene Boyer, Dale Boyer, Danielle Strouse, Paul Newcomb, Asher Cravens, Brenda Ridgway, Cindy Wolf, Zach Swisher, Cheryl Towers, Keller Gardner, Gene Nash, Kim Beek, Joshua Taylor, Keely Strouse, Carson Strouse, Gene Crawford, youth

ministry, Tracy Rendleman, Danny Hull, Ashley Grimm; *Shut Ins: SKLD:* Gloria Wright; *Home:* Barb & Ramon Alpaugh, Shirley Bard, Annie Engel, Ken Idle, Linda Lewis, Marilyn Lundy, Dale & Leona Puff, Edith Wagner; Ottawa Riverview: Barbara Hake, Hawthorn Glen: Roy Koerner.





Breathe.

"Repent therefore and return, that your sins may be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord." Acts 3:19

that God would simply ask us to trust by faith, even if we are not able to completely understand?'

In a world that cries out for everything to be equal, and fair, and just, and right, you don't have to read the Bible very long to understand that's not how this world is going to be, not by our human standards of equality, and fairness, and justice. That is not new to the human condition. That is in part why Paul wrote to the church in Romans 8:28, "and we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God and who are called according to His purpose for them."

Destined to Win,
Larry Snavelly

Loving God, we thank you – the true Father of our country – for the blessings of this land and the gifts of cultures around the world. Prompt us to strive for justice for all, at home and abroad. Remind us, in the words of the hymn, that "this is our Father's world" and that your goodness prevails. Amid tragedies and conflicts, guard us against despair. Help us focus on the kindness evident daily: from generous neighbors to conscientious public servants (because most are). On Independence Day and every day, "O let [us] ne'er forget that though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the Ruler yet." Amen.

–Sandy Hyland

**"If you want to touch the past,
touch a rock. If you want to
touch the present, touch a
flower. If you want to touch
the future, touch a life."**

—Author unknown

If we
confess
our sins,
he is
faithful + just
to forgive our sins
and to
cleanse us
from all
unrighteousness.

1 John 1:9

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