

E-Messenger

First Church of Christ

2020-It is just a number. It is just a year, but now has taken on the context of a curse. Pandemic, political craziness, racial unrest, financial burdens, looking for someone or something to blame and probably the worst—inability to be with friends and family—**NO HUGS!**

While listening to our son-in-love, Joel, preach about the Song of Advent, it became clear that throughout this year there have been so many more gifts of gratitude than the presented negativity of other's perceptions of all our lives.

RESTING—How many of us have said, **“I just wish I could slow it all down,” maybe not you, but we have said it too many times.** The hectic pace of life can overtake our time and derail our ability to see the best that God offers. This 2020 has given us the reason and the ability to truly SLOW down

learn a new kind of rest.

REFLECTING—In this slow down, we have chose to reflect on the things that bring us joy. Our family, our friends, our church, and our life groups. Reflection gives us an opportunity to clear our the noise and chaos of what we are experiencing. Reflection brings remembrance and appreciation to us in a clearer perspective.

REQUESTING—Learning to ask for assistance when we need it, which is harder than we thought. AND being open to asking if someone we care about needs some help. RESTORATION—While reflection brings meaning, restoration brings active rebuilding of what has been broken or misplaced. Some of

what we found in this time is the restoration of our relationship with each other and HIM. Restoring focus on how important the experiences we have lived through have crafted our relationship. In this focus, we have learned to appreciate each other all over again.

REJOICING—Our season of rejoicing is one that allowed us to:

1. Spend time in leaning into our faith and Lord. Early morning ritual of coffee and quiet time has become a valuable moment in our day.
2. In rejoicing actively, it reminds us of the promises God makes in His Word of hope for the future.
3. Remembering that we are SO not in control, really of any-

February Issue
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thing. There is a peace in knowing you do not have to have all the answers, and probably did not have them in the first place.

4. It is not our timing...we can sit back and relax on the timing that we cannot change.

RENEWAL—Reminding ourselves that this too shall pass. It may not look like what we think, or we

Serving in February

Prayer Warriors:

Kim Snavely & Teresa Gambler

Elder Schedule:

7—Dave Beerbower

14—Ryan Beerbower

21—Dan Gallagher

28—Jon List

Nursery:

7—1st—Angie & Eric Murphy

SS—Kelly & Barry Von Deylen

2nd—Jane Runyan

14—1st—Stacie & Ryan Beerbower

SS—Cody & Ashley Grimm

2nd—Ashley Knepper

21—1st—Jon & Kristi

SS—Beth & Terence Clingaman

2nd—Stacie & Ryan Beerbower

28—1st—Sandi Oberlin

SS—Deb Rhodes

2nd—Teresa Gambler

Children's Church:

7—TBA

14—TBA

21—TBA

28—TBA



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 (49)
- 14 Tom & Cindy Horton
(35)
- 26 Barry & Kelly Von
Deylen (4)



Family News

SYMPATHY





The church family extends her sympathy to Garry & Sandi Oberlin on the passing of Sandi's sister, Bonnie. We also send our sympathy to Bryan & Katrina Tonneas

on the passing of Bryan's brother, Steve.

Attention Senior Saints: Given the current situation with COVID, all Senior Saints activities will

be put on hold until April. Hopefully, at that time, we will be able to gather together for Lunch Bunch and Craft Group without the worry of illness. We hope to see you all soon.

FEBRUARY

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-----|----------------------------------------------------|-----|
|  | 1 |  | 3 5:45 Supper 6:30 Youth Life Groups | 4 | 5 6:30 Children's Ministry Prayer Gathering | 6 |
| 7 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship | 8 | 9 | 10 5:45 Supper 6:30 Youth Life Groups | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship | 15  | 16 | 17 5:45 Supper 6:30 Youth Life Groups | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship | 22 | 23 | 24 5:45 Supper 6:30 Youth Life Groups | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship |  | | | | | |



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

Bryanfcc.org



Connect with us!

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

Facts & Figures

January 3

Attendance SS 26 Worship 36/54
Offering \$5,494.86

January 10

Attendance SS 23 Worship 32/44
Offering \$3,186.48

January 17

Attendance SS 17 Worship 29/47
Offering \$11,403.39

January 24

Attendance SS 17 Worship 38/42
Offering \$2,661.00

Needed for Budget \$5,149.15

Love All

Our Service Personnel:
Lindsey Carter (FL), Caleb
Lloyd (Japan), Josh Severs (S.
Korea), Braxton Singer (NC),
Katie Sparks (PA), Jessie Still-
man (OH), Josh Tonneas
(TX)

Cancer: Gwen Acker-
Dickinson, Joyce Bailey, Na-
than Bailey, Sue Bever, Tim
Bight, Brent, Sherry
Buchsteiner, Jennie Case, An-
drew Dell, Adam Farger, Car-
rie H., Molly Johnston, Kent,
Chuck Lees, Ron Lewis, Tim
Mavis, Jim McPeak, Chloe
Merrilet, Crystal Miller, Aaron

Nartker, Ruth Ordway, Mary
Pinckley, Anna Pitman, Elaine
Purdue, Steve Ringer, Bob &
Sue Secoy, Elizabeth Shetler,
Terry Shinaberry, Dean Sme-
thurst, Lyle Snavely, Norma
Stambaugh, Ron Stark, Amy
Tobin, Linda Walker, Kathy
Walton, Drew Wayman. *Oth-
er Concerns:* Jennifer Mavis,
Trevor Bailey, Neighborhood,
Arlene Boyer, Dale Boyer,
Danielle Strouse, Asher Cra-
vens, Brenda Ridgway, Cindy
Wolf, Zach Swisher, Cheryl
Towers, Keller Gardner, Gene
Nash, Kim Beek, Joshua Tay-
lor, Keely Strouse, Carson

Strouse, Gene Crawford, chil-
dren's ministry, Danny Hull,
Jim McElfresh, Bryan Tonneas,
Cindy Webber, Curt Bennett,
Kevin Ayre, Jim Bowman,
Dick Blinzler; *Shut Ins:*
SKLD: Esther Rosendaul,
Gloria Wright; *Home:* Barb
& Ramon Alpaugh, Shirley
Bard, Annie Engel, Linda
Lewis, Marilyn Lundy, Leona
Puff, Edith Wagner; Ottawa
Riverview: Barbara Hake,
Hawthorne Glen: Roy
Koerner.





want it to, but it will pass. Spring will come, our lives may return to the craziness that we came from or maybe, just maybe, this time out has given us a new outlook on what is important and how to remember that when we are heading back to “normal.”

What is important to us, is YOU. You are getting this because you are loved. The moments we have shared are cherished and this season of celebration would not be special without you.

May God continue to bless you, your family, and your home mightily!

Destined to Win,

Larry Snavelly

(excerpt from a Christmas letter)

Inclement Weather Policy

Level 1: All services will proceed as scheduled.

Level 2 at 6 AM Sunday: 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).

