

# E-Messenger

## First Church of Christ

*From Bob Russell's blog:*

The New York Jets entered the 2023 football season with high expectations after signing all-pro veteran quarterback Aaron Rodgers as a free agent in the off-season. Coaches and fans eagerly anticipated the season and were sure this would be their year to go to the Super Bowl.

However, the pre-season hype was short-lived. This past Monday night, in front of a packed MetLife Stadium and over 22 million watching on television, Aaron Rodgers was injured on just the fourth play of the game. Rodgers tore his Achilles tendon, ending his season and fans' hopes that he would take them to a Super Bowl.

Since a torn Achilles tendon requires surgery and usually a year of rehabilitation, there's some doubt the 40-year-old quarterback can recover sufficiently to play again. Last Monday night's NFL game was billed as a must-see sporting event but became one of the sadder stories in recent sports history. Even those who are not New York Jets

fans can sympathize with everyone impacted by Aaron Rodgers' injury.

James 4:13-16 cautions: *"Now listen, you who say, 'Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money.' Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. Instead, you ought to say, 'If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that.' As it is, you boast in your arrogant schemes. All such boasting is evil."*



Aaron Rodgers' frustrating experience should remind us of the uncertainty of life. None of us knows what will happen on the next play, at the next intersection, or during tomorrow's medical test. So, it is

imperative that we put our primary hope in God and not in the uncertain trophies of this world.

After sin was introduced into the Garden of Eden, this world became an unsettled, unfair, and often cruel place. So, be realistic about your future plans, and humbly put your hope in that which is eternal and dependable.

That is why Jesus advised us, *"In this world, you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world"* (John 16:33). Jesus did not say it was wrong to make future plans or to get excited about the future. On the contrary, He taught us to make the most of the talent entrusted to us and encouraged us to calculate costs before starting a project. Yet, each day, we must humbly acknowledge our mortality and reliance on God's grace.

The Apostle John wrote, *"Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Fa-*

October Issue

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*ther is not in them. For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world. The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever" (1 John 2:15-17).*

This world is not to be our primary focus because it is temporary, uncertain, and painful. But God is eternal, faithful, and merciful. And, in the end, His judgment will be fair and equitable. When we *"Set our minds on things*

## Serving in October

### Deaconesses:

Pam Hartman & Angie Murphy

### Elder Schedule:

1—Mark Rhodes  
8—Larry Snavelly  
15—Dave Beerbower  
22—Doug Haase

### Nursery:

1—1st—Doug & Vickie Grimm; SS—Barry & Kelly Von Deylen; 2nd—Cody & Ashley Grimm  
8—1st—?; SS—Kim Snavelly & Jessica Arend; 2nd—Kim Snavelly & Alma Thornburg  
15—1st—Ashley Knepper; SS—

Kim Snavelly; 2nd—Kim Snavelly & Alma Thornburg  
22—8:00—Deb Rhodes; SS—?;  
2nd—Adam & Sarah Perry  
29—2nd—Kim Snavelly & Alma Thornburg



## Birthdays & Anniversaries



3 John Garver  
5 Sandi Oberlin  
7 Jacob Karnes  
9 MaKenzie Manges  
11 Josh Tonneas  
14 Garry Oberlin, Tatum Subasic  
18 Deb Rhodes  
21 Lydia Sprow  
22 Nathan Gambler  
23 Brandon Gambler, Doug Grimm, Terry Karnes,

Steve Tressler  
24 Amanda Beck, Cindy Perry  
28 Mary Garver, Dottie Hallett, Gene Ordway  
31 Tom Horton, Nancy Wagner



3 Brian & Amber Rogers (25)  
4 Todd & Cindy Karnes  
13 Ramon & Barbara

Alpaugh (66)  
15 Mark & Char Brandt (39)  
20 Bryan & Katrina Tonneas (39)  
30 Terry & Deb Hallett (47)



## Family News

### SYMPATHY

The church family extends her sympathy to Mark & Deb Rhodes and family on the death of Mark's mother, Marge Rhodes.

Keep praying, but be thankful that God's answers are wiser

than your prayers. —William Culbertson

As it is the business of tailors to make clothes, and of cobblers to mend shoes, so it is the business of Christians to pray.

—Martin Luther

Attention Senior Saints:

We will do Lunch Bunch on Tuesday, 10/24 at 11:45 AM at the Defiance Pancake House. Please meet there.



# OCTOBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship	<b>2</b> 9:30 Senior Seekers	<b>3</b> 10:00 Craft Group	<b>4</b> 10:00 Ladies Bible Study 5:30 Supper 6:15 MOPS 6:15 Youth Groups 6:15 Adult Bible Study		<b>6</b> 	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship 11:30 Board Meeting	<b>9</b> 9:30 Senior Seekers  20°	<b>10</b> 5:00 Mission Meeting	<b>11</b> 10:00 Ladies Bible Study 5:30 Supper 6:15 Ladies Bible Study 6:15 Youth Groups 6:15 Adult Bible Study	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship	<b>16</b> 9:30 Senior Seekers	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 10:00 Ladies Bible Study 5:30 Supper 6:15 MOPS 6:15 Youth Groups 6:15 Adult Bible Study	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 	<b>21</b> 
<b>22</b> 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship	<b>23</b> 9:30 Senior Seekers 20°	<b>24</b> 11:45 Lunch Bunch	<b>25</b> 10:00 Ladies Bible Study 5:30 Supper 6:15 Ladies Bible Study 6:15 Youth Groups 6:15 Adult Bible Study	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 9:00 Breakfast 10:15 Worship 6:00 Pino Neglia 	<b>30</b> 9:30 Senior Seekers	<b>31</b>				



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

September 3

Attendance SS	Worship 44/72
Offering	\$5,427.16

September 10

Attendance SS	Worship 44/90
Offering	\$4,788.35

September 17

Attendance SS	Worship 57/80
Offering	\$4,706.16

September 24

Attendance SS	Worship 45/82
Offering	\$

Needed for Budget \$5,020.19

## Love All

### *Our Service Personnel:*

Austin Brandeberry (GA), Lindsey Carter (FL), Patrick Rendleman (GA), Josh Severs (AL), Braxton Singer (NC), Jordan Thornburg (GA), Katie Sparks (PA), Wesley Tressler (CO).

*Cancer:* Gwen Acker-Dickinson, Nathan Bailey, Marcia Baumgartner, Sue Bever, Tim Bight, Brent, Jennie Case, Andrew Dell, Adam Farger, Carrie H., Jim Henson, Molly Johnston, Kent, Chuck Lees, Ron Lewis, Mark & Carrie, Chloe Merrilet, Rexann McCrary, Crystal Miller, Ruth Ordway, Mary Pinckley, Anna Pitman, Elaine Purdue, Mike Roose, Sue Secoy, Terry Shinaberry, Annette Snavely, Lyle Snavely, Amy Tobin, Linda Walker, Kathy Walton,

Drew Wayman, Raegan Wonderly. *Other Concerns:* Jennifer Mavis, Trevor Bailey, Neighborhood, Arlene Boyer, Danielle Strouse, Brenda Ridgway, Cindy Wolf, Zach Swisher, Cheryl Towers, Gene Nash, Kim Beek, Joshua Taylor, Gene Crawford, children's ministry, Danny Hull, Cindy Webber, Kevin Ayre, Kathy Moog, Marsha Fisher, Marty, John Fry, Jackson Wolph, Shawn Roose, Fran Mavis, Nathan Ray, Nehemiah Haase, Raymond Folk, Randy Fisher, Braxton & Trish Snavely, Annie Engel, Jason Gregg, Henry Kidd, Nikki Hull, Ryan Yahraus, Khloe Hartman, Joanne Allison, Martha Hardy, Tommy Morr, Sandy Partee, Dave Stutzman, Bill Brewer,

Dottie Vogel song, John Lepelmeier, Bob Lloyd; *Shut Ins:* Bryan Healthcare: Esther Rosendaul; *Fairlawn Haven:* John Altman; *Fountain Park:* Esther Krill; *Hillside:* Annie Engel, Charlene Gambler; *Home:* Ron & Linda Lewis, Marilyn Lundy, Leona Puff, Edith Wagner





# ISAIAH 40:31

<sup>31</sup> BUT THEY THAT WAIT UPON THE LORD SHALL RENEW THEIR STRENGTH; THEY SHALL MOUNT UP WITH WINGS AS EAGLES; THEY SHALL RUN, AND NOT BE WEARY; AND THEY SHALL WALK, AND NOT FAINT. -KJV

*above, not on earthly things"* (Colossians 3:2), we are better equipped to cope with severe disappointment because we understand this world is not our home. Plus, it allows us to enjoy life's victories more fully because they are not the source of our identity.

Destined to win,  
Larry

# 20°

**This is a men's leadership training group** that will be lead by the Elders. The group will meet on Mondays October 9, 23, November 13 and 27, 6:30-7:30 PM at the church. All men are invited to attend.

## Missionary Presentation

Pino Neglia will be with us Sunday evening, October 29th, 6:00 PM. He will be reporting on the work in Italy and Albania, including Christmas boxes for the kids in Albania which we are supporting. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.



A western-themed Harvest Festival party is planned for Sunday, October 29, 5:00-7:00 PM. There will be games, food, costume judging, and lots of candy. Don't miss out on this fun event!



Candy donations are needed and welcomed. Please put donation in the container by Karen's office.

*O taste and see  
that the LORD  
is GOOD!*  
Psalm 34:8