



FIRST Church Of Christ

September 2024 NEWSLETTER

A crotchety, middle-aged woman was known for griping and complaining about everything, especially her husband, who just couldn't seem to do anything right. One day, however, she began attending church with a neighbor, and before long, she decided to become a member and was baptized. Everyone rejoiced in her conversion.

But her husband was disappointed that there seemed to be very little change in her disposition. She continued her constant complaining and remained highly critical of him. One day, the despondent man remarked to a close friend, "I don't mind her being born again, but why did she have to come back as herself?"

The Apostle Paul taught that if we are truly born again, our disposition should be significantly transformed. *"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control"* ([Galatians 5:22-23](#)). The indwelling of the Holy Spirit should produce a harvest of positive and pleasant attitudes.

Jesus said, *"No good tree bears bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit. Each tree is recognized by its own fruit"* ([Luke 6:43-44](#)). A genuine Christian will inevitably produce the fruit of the Spirit.

Of course, it takes time for a tree to bear fruit. It's a process that can be time-consuming and sometimes painful, as old, ingrained habits need to be pruned away. Even with healthy roots and regular care, a tree doesn't bear good fruit overnight. However, over time, Christians should naturally develop a more positive and pleasant attitude toward others and life.

There is something seriously wrong with someone who claims to be a follower of Christ but, years later, still exhibits a negative, sour spirit. Either that person is not truly born again, or the Holy Spirit hasn't gained much control of their life. Jesus Christ should make a significant difference not just in our beliefs and behavior but also in our attitude.

Interestingly, when Paul lists the acts of the sinful nature, many are sins related to our disposition: *hatred, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissension, factions, and envy* (see [Galatians 5:19-21](#)). According to Paul, these sins of attitude are just as much evidence of carnality as witchcraft, drunkenness, and orgies. Paul warned, *"If you keep on biting*

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Office Hours:

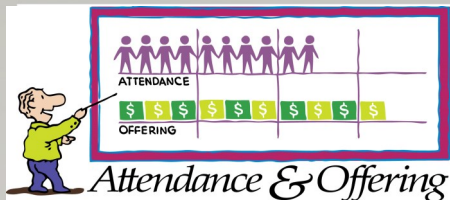
Monday—Thursday
8:00 AM-5:00 PM

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August 4

Attendance 50/86
Offering \$4,901.72

August 11

Attendance 50/105
Offering \$3,941.14

August 18

Attendance 50/87
Offering \$ 371.12

August 25

Attendance 46/85
Offering \$ 368.75

Needed for Budget:
\$4,967.69



September Servers

Deaconesses:

Brienne Hetrick & Teresa Gambler

Elder Schedule:

1—Larry Snavelly
8—Doug Haase
15—Seth Ramey
22—Mark Rhodes
29—Larry Snavelly



Nursery:

1—1st—Ashley Knepper; SS—Kim Snavelly; 2nd—NEED

VOLUNTEER!

8—1st—Ashley Knepper; SS—Cody & Ashley Grimm;
2nd—NEED VOLUNTEER!

15—1st—Ashley Knepper; SS—Shaun & Jessica Ar-
end; 2nd—Jessica Arend & Julia Haase

22—1st—Ashley Knepper; SS—NEED VOLUNTEER!; 2nd—
Sharon Blinzler

29—2nd—Kim Snavelly

Christ is enough

Though never ordained, H.A. Ironside (1876-1951) was a prolific Bible teacher and preacher. Inspired by Dwight L. Moody, he began delivering sermons at age 16. While still a teenager, he worked his way up to captain in the Salvation Army. But he soon had a breakdown from preaching more than 500 messages per year — and from feeling burdened by sin.

After Ironside recovered, his ministry blossomed. He pastored Moody Church in Chicago for 18 years while continuing his evangelistic travels. Most importantly, he learned to rely on Christ alone, not on his own merit.

"Christ *and* ... is a perverted gospel, which is not the gospel," wrote Ironside. "Christ without the *and* is the sinner's hope and the saint's confidence." He concluded, "For salvation itself, Jesus is not only necessary, but he is enough."



September

BIRTHDAYS

2 Gene
Johns,
Matt

Nixon

3 Sharon Beerbower, Mick
McElfresh

4 Terence Clingaman

5 Alec Blinzler

7 Carter Dominique, Emily
Hetrick

9 Drew Grimm

11 Gil Cramer

12 Sabrina Ramey

13 Char Brandt

14 Charlie Clingaman

16 Sandy Partee

20 Evelynn Murphy

22 Claire Clingaman, Margie
Olds

23 Pat McPeak

30 Evelyn Deetz, Brigitte Kuszmaul



September

ANNIVERSARIES

7 Gil & Carole Cramer (56)

11 Dan & Margie Olds (37)

15 Todd & Teresa Gambler (34),
Mick & Sue McElfresh (12)

24 Eric & Angie Murphy (30,
Drew & Ashley Grimm (2)

SYMPATHY

The church family extends her
sympathy to the following:

- Dick & Theresa Kuszmaul and family on the death of Dick's sister, Denise Smith.
- Dick Newcomb and family on the death of his son-in-law, Bob Ruihley.

Love All

Our Service Personnel: Austin Brandeberry (HI), Zachary Perkins (TX), Josh Severs (AL), Jordan Thornburg (GA), Katie Sparks (PA), Wesley Tressler (Korea). **Cancer:** Gwen Acker-Dickinson, Nathan Bailey, Marcia Baumgartner, Sue Bever, Tim Bight, Brent, Mark & Carrie Campo, Andrew Dell, Adam Farger, Carrie H, Terri Hug, Molly Johnston, Kent, Chuck Lees, Ron Lewis, Rexann McCrary, Chloe Merri-let, Crystal Miller, Ruth Ordway, Mary Pinckley, Anna Pitman, Elaine Purdue, Mike Roose, Sue Secoy, Terry Shinaberry, Stu Short, Annette Snavelly, Kortney Subasic, Amy Tobin, 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, children's ministry, Danny Hull, Cindy Webber, Kevin Ayre, Kathy Moog, Marty, John Fry, Jackson Wolph, Shawn Roose, Fran Mavis, Nathan Ray, Nehemiah Haase, Randy Fisher, Jason Gregg, Nikki Hull, Ryan Yahraus, Khloe Hartman, Martha Hardy, Ellen Walker, Dave & Terri Hug, Mike Green, John Leppelmeier, Ronnie Pinckley, Ron Carter, Sue Smethurst, Tommy Morr, Rob Warfield; **Shut Ins:** **Bryan Healthcare:** Esther Rosendaul; **Fairlawn Haven:** John Altman; **Hillside:** Annie Engel, Charlene Gambler; **Home:** Ron & Linda Lewis, Leona Puff.



Upcoming EVENTS

Craft Group
9/3/2024

Momco (MOPS)
9/7/2024

20°
9/10/2024

Lunch Bunch
9/24/24



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Website:

www.bryanfcc.org

SENIORS MINISTRY

We will do Lunch Bunch on Tuesday, 9/24 at 11:45 AM at Luna's Evening Star in Ney. Please meet there.

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for your prayers, cards, visits and other acts of kindness during my illness this summer. A special thanks to JoHeli and my family for caring for me 24/7 even with the possibility of getting infected. It is wonderful to be part of a loving, caring church. Thanks again.

Love, Janet (McCarthy)



and devouring each other, watch out, or you will be destroyed by each other" ([Galatians 5:15](#)).




That's why the New Testament identifies a bad attitude as one of three behavior problems that church leaders must confront. The teaching of false doctrine ([2 Timothy 2:17](#)), the committing of immorality ([1 Corinthians 5:1-7](#)), and the spreading of divisiveness ([Titus 3:10](#)) are all treated as spiritual malignancies.

Compare the crotchety middle-aged woman in the first story to another woman, an 85-year-old Christian widow, who was the pride of her church. Her sweet spirit and positive attitude made her beloved by all. One day, after she said something that brought a smile to her circle of friends, someone remarked, "Hazel, you are beautiful!" She quickly retorted with a twinkle in her eye, "Well, I should be—I've been a Christian for nearly 80 years!"

This is the spirit all believers should aspire to emulate. The more we mature in Christ, the more the fruit of the Spirit should be evident in our lives. True spiritual growth is reflected not only in our actions and beliefs but also in our attitudes.

Destined to Win, Larry

SEPTEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship	2 	3 10:00 Craft Group	4 5:30 Supper 6:15 Momco 6:15 Club 225 6:15 Adult Bible Study	5	6	7
8 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship 	9	10 6:30 20°	11 5:30 Supper 6:15 Ladies Bible Study 6:15 Club 225 6:15 Adult Bible Study	12	13	14
15 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship	16 9:30 Senior Seekers	17	18 5:30 Supper 6:15 Momco 6:15 Club 225 6:15 Adult Bible Study	19	20	21
22 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship 	23 9:30 Senior Seekers	24 11:45 Lunch Bunch	25 5:30 Supper 6:15 Ladies Bible Study 6:15 Club 225 6:15 Adult Bible Study	26	27	28
29 Unity Sunday 9:00 Break-fast 10:15 Worship	30 9:30 Senior Seekers				