



FIRST Church Of Christ

May 2026 NEWSLETTER



From Bob Russell's Blog

Last Sunday on Truth Social, President Trump shared an AI-generated image of himself dressed in a robe, his hand on the head of a sick man, a glowing orb in his other hand. The image appeared to depict the president as a Christ-like healer. The next day he deleted it, after evangelical and Catholic allies who usually defend him said the image was blasphemous. The president later suggested he had thought it depicted him “as a doctor.”

I don't know whether the president genuinely missed the religious imagery there. I can't see his heart. But I can speak to what was on the screen — and what was on the screen was just flat out wrong.

Christ alone is to be worshipped. No president, no party, no pastor — and no preacher, either — stands in His place. Any meme, picture, or portrayal that depicts someone else as Christ is offensive.

The Bible records what can happen when a leader receives praise that belongs only to God:

“On the appointed day Herod, wearing his royal robes, sat on his throne and delivered a public address to the people. They shouted, ‘This is the voice of a god, not of a man.’ Immediately, because Herod did not give praise to God, an angel of the Lord struck him down, and he was eaten by worms and died” (Acts 12:21-23).

Notice — Herod didn't claim to be God. He just accepted the praise of people who said he was. That was enough. The lesson there isn't only for kings; it's for any of us who ever stand in front of a crowd. People say flattering things. We have to know how to hand the praise back upward where it belongs.

Over the years I've sat across the table from some very famous and influential leaders. I've talked with each of them about the same temptation — the one that comes when people start treating you like more than a man. Pride rarely announces itself. It usually slips in dressed as a compliment. Sometimes it slips in dressed as a meme. Either way, the wise leader hands the praise back to God before it has time to settle.

“All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, ‘God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.’ Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time” (1 Peter 5:5-6).

That's a word not just for leaders, but for all of us.

Readers of this blog know that I have been critical of Donald Trump because of his pride. Over the years I've warned that it hurts him — and that it hurts the cause he says he serves. This week's incident is one more reminder. Scripture calls us to honor the office God has entrusted to a leader, but not to follow him into every place he goes. Those are two different things, and we lose something important when we let them blur together. Supporting a leader well means honoring the office and telling the truth when something is off.

Solomon understood the order:

“My son, fear the LORD and the king, and do not join with those who do otherwise, for disaster will arise suddenly from them, and who knows the ruin that will come from them both?” (Proverbs 24:21-22 ESV).

The Lord first. The king second. Never one mistaken for the other.

In this ISSUE

May Servers
page 2

Facts & Figures
page 2

Birthdays & Anniversaries
page 3

Love All
page 3

Calendar
page 5

Office Hours:

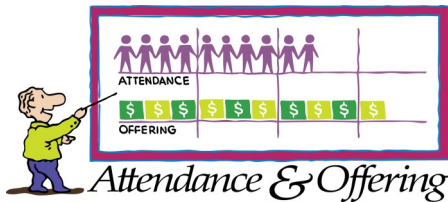
Monday—Thursday
8:00 AM-5:00 PM

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April 5

Attendance 81/128
Offering \$5,336.30

April 12

Attendance 48/81
Offering \$4,299.34

April 19

Attendance 51/109
Offering \$9,065.45

April 26

Attendance 45/102
Offering \$4,160.99

Needed for Budget:

\$5,099.21

Congratulations!

The church family rejoices with Mitch & LuAnne Stanley on the birth of their grandson, Jack Peterson Stanley. Jack arrived Friday, March 20th. He weighed in at 6# 13 oz. Elated parents are Andrew & Ann Stanley. He joins big brother Luke and big sisters, Lyla & Maren.



May Servers

Deaconesses:

Cindy Horton & Jane Runyan

Elder Schedule:

3—Mark Rhodes
10—Larry Snavelly
17—Dave Beerbower
24—Doug Haase
31—Seth Ramey

Heartfelt 
THANKS
TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!

Nursery:

3—SS—NEED VOLUNTEER; 2nd—NEED VOLUNTEER
10—SS—Kim Snavelly; 2nd—Kim Snavelly
17—SS—Kim Snavelly; 2nd—Sharon Blinzler
24—SS—NEED VOLUNTEER; 2nd—Janet McCarthy & Deb Rhodes
31—SS—NEED VOLUNTEER; 2ND—NEED VOLUNTEER

Greeters

1st—TBD; 2nd—Diane Altman

The apostle Peter, writing to believers under a vicious dictator, said it tighter still: *“Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honor the emperor”* (1 Peter 2:17).

Fear God. Honor the emperor. They were never meant to be on the same line.

One of the battle cries of the Revolutionary War was *“No King but King Jesus.”* It’s worth remembering this week. Whatever the office, whatever the policies, whatever the moment in history, Jesus is the only King who never falls, never disappoints, never needs replacing.

Whatever the president’s intent last Sunday, the picture itself was the kind every Christian — including those who have supported the president — should have the courage to call by name.

I am not an advisor to President Trump. But if I were to advise him, I would paraphrase an iconic political quote and tell him this: *“Mr. President, I have committed my life to serving Jesus Christ. Sir, I know Jesus. Mr. President, you are no Jesus Christ. Yet none of us are... the Good News is there is forgiveness and there is healing for even the most prideful of hearts.”*

Destined to Win, Larry



- 2 Linda Hill
- 3 Gail Wyrick
- 8 Deb Hallett, Dick Kuszmaul
- 10 Ron Brown, Brienne Hetrick
- 12 Norma Lorentz, Kortney Subasic
- 13 Nikki Fisher
- 14 Megan Rockey
- 15 Troy Hug
- 19 Isaiah Knepper
- 20 Kim Snavely
- 22 Cate Clingaman, Mary Pinckley
- 26 Scott Hartman
- 28 Tanya Barnes, Cadance Ryan
- 29 Janet Leppelmeier, Ezra Murphy
- 31 Vickie Rhodes



- 15 Doug & Vickie Grimm (33)
- 16 Jacob & MaKenzie Manges (11)
- 21 Joe & LuAnn Jerger (38)
- 25 Steve & Connie Tressler (58)
- 25 Harm & Brienne Hetrick (24)

***Congratulations!**
Dave & Karter Brown (father/son) were baptized together on Sunday, April 19th. They sit in front of the sound booth during 2nd service. Stop by and welcome them.*

Love All

Our Service Personnel: Zachary Perkins (IN), Jordan Thornburg (NE), Katie Sparks (PA). **Cancer:** Gwen Acker-Dickinson, Nathan Bailey, Marcia Baumgartner, Tim Bight, Brent, Mark & Carrie Campo, Andrew Dell, Adam Farger, Carrie H, Brienne Hetrick, Molly Johnston, Kent, Chuck Lees, Tim McKown, Lora Manon, Chloe Merrilet, Crystal Miller, Ruth Ordway, Mary Pinckley, Elaine Purdue, Mike Roose, Sue Secoy, Terry Shinaberry, Stu Short, Annette Snavely, Holly Sprow, Kortney Subasic, Amy Tobin, Shelby Vanderpool, Kathy Walton, Drew Wayman; **Other Concerns:** Jennifer Mavis, Trevor Bailey, Neighborhood, Danielle Strouse, Brenda Ridgway, Cindy Wolf, Zach Swisher, Cheryl Towers, Kim Beek, Joshua Taylor, children's ministry, Danny Hull, Cindy Webber, Kevin Ayre, Kathy Moog, Marty, John Fry, Jackson Wolph, Fran Mavis, Nathan Ray, Nehemiah Haase, Randy Fisher, Jason Gregg, Martha Hardy, Ellen Walker, Ronnie Pinckley, Tommy Morr, Pat Northcut, Nikki Taylor, Tim Gordon. Sharon Brewer, Shawn Gambler, Kerry Phillips, Tootie Bowman, Maverick Fields, Greg Rhodes, Garry Oberlin, Sharon Beerbower, Deb Taylor, Mary Barton; **Shut Ins: Fountain Park:** Chuck & Madelon Salisbury; **Hillside:** Charlene Gambler; **Home:** Charlene Dean, Linda Lewis, Norma Lorentz, Leona Puff, Nola Girardot; **Parkview Edgerton:** Garry Oberlin, Sharon Brewer.



Upcoming EVENTS

20^o–5/3/2026

9:15 AM

Craft Group

5/12, 10:00 AM

Momco-5/6

6:15–7:15 PM

Volunteer Appreci-
ation-5/13

5:30–7:30 PM

Lunch Bunch

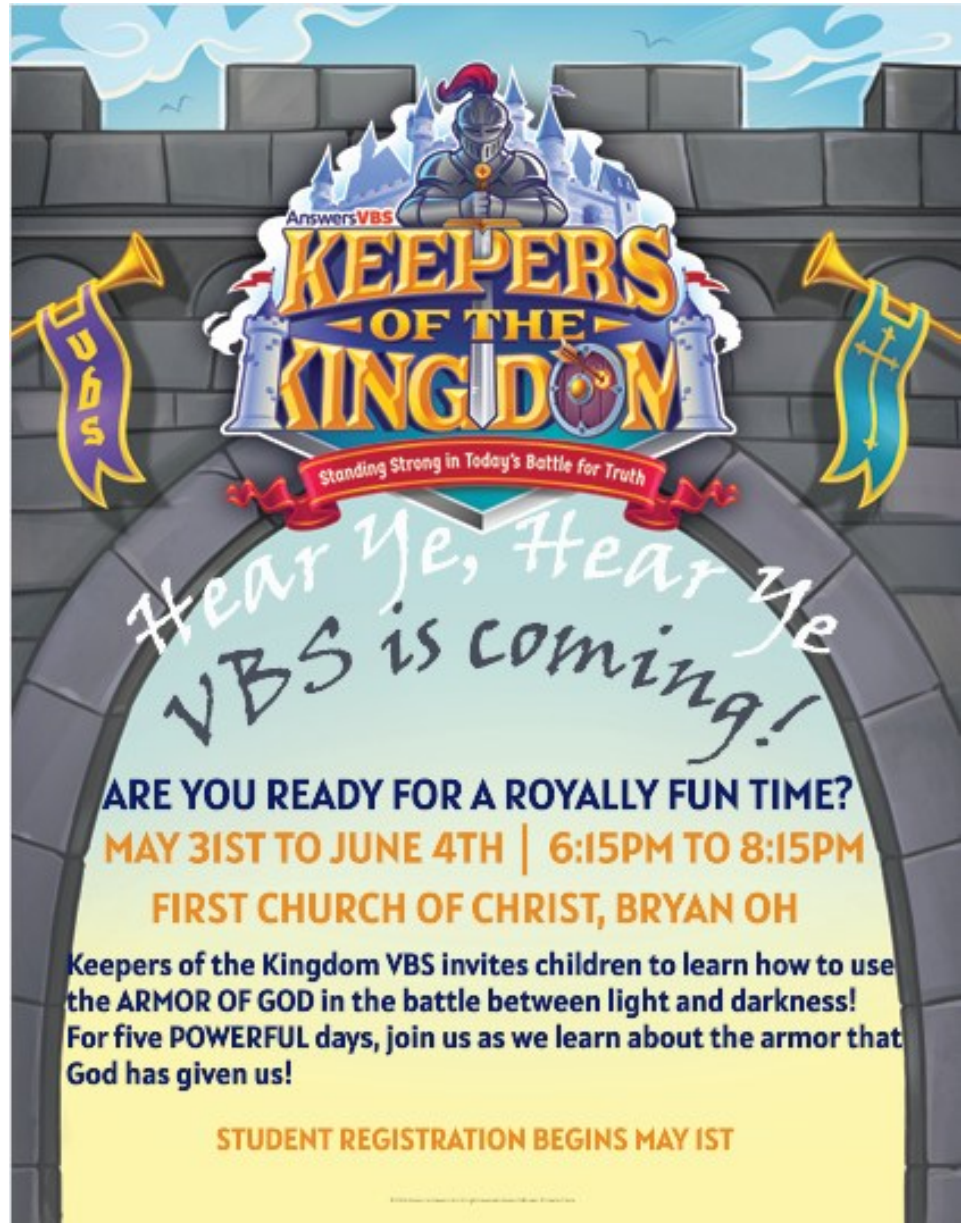
5/26/2026

11:45 AM @
Frankie's



SENIORS MINISTRY

We will do Lunch Bunch on Tuesday, 5/26 at 11:45 AM at Frankie's. Please meet there.



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YouTube—[bryanfcc](https://www.youtube.com/bryanfcc)



MAY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 	2
3 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship	4 9:30 Senior Seeker	5	6 10:00 Ladies Bible Study 5:30 Supper 6:15 Club 225 6:15 Adult Bible Study	7	8	9
10 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship	11 9:30 Senior Seeker	12 10:00 Craft Group	13 10:00 Ladies Bible Study 5:30 Volunteer Appreciation	14	15	16 
17 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship	18 9:30 Senior Seeker	19	20	21	22	23
24 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship	25 	26 11:45 Lunch Bunch	27	28	29	30
31 8:00 Worship 9:15 Breakfast 10:15 Worship						

