

THE WITNESS

Circleville First Church

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September 2022

Issue 274

Jay Neff, Senior Pastor 740/804-1482
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Andrew Byerly, Music/Worship Ministries 740/601-7405

Kiera Yaniga, Director of Children Ministries 614/371-6366
Lisa Burroughs, Director of Youth Ministries 740/412-4149

Kim accepts new position

Kimberly (Kim) Peters recently accepted the position of Circleville First Church Office Manager, where "I manage the church office and help organize **Pastor Jay's** day." Lol. How did she get this job? "Prayer," she answered.



Kim and her husband, **Durk** will be married 24 years on October 17 and have one daughter, **Kaitlynn Peters**. They have been attending Circleville First Church at least 20 years. "When Durk and I got married, **Ruth Johnson** was still living beside of Durk and we became fast friends and she very frequently asked us to please start coming to her church and we finally obliged. And are so happy we did. It felt like home."

"I was saved at ten years old at Welch Ave Freewill Baptist Church," stated Kim. She serves our church on the safety team and also helps in the nursery.

"PINK is my favorite color," she replied and her favorite food is "pretty much anything good lol, my favorite meal is probably cabbage, fried potatoes, soup beans, cornbread and onions." Kim enjoys eating at Red Lobster and Proverbs 3:5-6 is her favorite Bible verse. "I don't really have a hobby, I have tons of interests though, I love anything to do with animals, flowers, reading and old cars. My favorite car is a 79 Camaro Berlinetta." Her dream vacation is being in the mountains, those of Gatlinburg, Tennessee.



Be Intentional

CFC has new custodian

"I am the church custodian, I keep everything tidy," said **Keitha Wilbur**, who recently took over this position after **Bobby Dollison** stepped down. Thank you, Bobby for a job well done.



She said that she prayed three years for a position and then **Pastor Jay Neff** asked her if she was interested.

Keitha has been married to her high school sweetheart, **Wesley**, for 11 years. They are the parents of **Neveah** and **Nilani**. They have been attending Circleville First Church "4 years this month," she said. When asked how she came to attend our church, Keitha answered, "**Roxanne Bryant** posted on my status to come join her in service!"

"On September 17, it will be 4 years that I was saved at this church!" she stated. "I used to do ASL for past churches I had grew up in. I also used to love to sing. I love helping with youth! Now I help where I am needed at CFC," added Keitha.

Her favorite color is orange and her favorite food is Thanksgiving dinner, but enjoys eating at Chinese restaurants. Matthew 5:8 is her favorite Bible scripture. Her dream vacation would be to Jerusalem and 87 lx hatchback mustang tops her list for favorite cars.



Keitha declared, "I'm a softball coach; I love to have fun and be silly. I love to color with gel pens, read and most importantly, I LOVE to be outside in nature. I can craft, but not very many know how creative I truly can be."

"I love our church; I love God and our people. I'm so blessed to finally be a part of a church that loves me and my family as much as I do them!! I could never thank all the ones who have helped

(continued on page 2)

CFC new custodian (con't from page 1)

us along the way to get this far! Thank you for praying over us, it's been working! I'm a true living testament of never giving up and keeping your faith! We don't always understand it, but we have to remember God knows what's best for us always!" Keitha testified.

"but if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin." 1 John 1:7 KJV

Kitchen delights

Since September weather can still be warm, I'm sending another recipe for a salad. This is from CFC cookbook sent in by **Dixie Derexson**.

FRUIT SALAD



- 3 apples - chopped
- 1 can of crushed pineapple
- 1 cup of walnuts
- 1 large jar of Maraschino cherries - chopped
- 3 cups of miniature marshmallows
- 1 large container of Cool Whip

Mix all above ingredients together in a large bowl. This is better to eat if refrigerated for 1 hour or so.

For an after-school snack - another recipe from Dixie Derexson

ICE CREAM JELL-O

Put three (3) scoops of ice cream in dessert glass. Pour your favorite flavor of jell-o (warmed) over the ice cream. If it's strawberry ice cream, pour strawberry jell-o over the top.

Make sure the jell-o is warm.



submitted by **Nancy Johnson**

Men's Prayer Meeting

Saturday mornings 8 am

Men's Prayer Breakfast—dismissed for September

Candy Bouquets are available for any occasion; located on the back table. They are ready to go, grab one or two and place your payment in the pre-marked envelop.



Guess What? You will be helping missions! **Proceeds benefit missions.** See **Cathy Marck** for questions.

Jokes of the month

Why did the pig stop sunbathing?

Because he was bacon in the sun.
(sent to me from Larry Keller)



After you die, what part of the human body is the last to stop working?

Your pupils, they dilate.
(sent to me from my daughter)



We all get heavier as we get older because of the information in our heads. So, I'm not fat, I'm just intelligent and my head couldn't hold any more and is filling up the rest of me!



That's my story and I'm sticking to it!

submitted by **Bobby Dollison**

Thank you for your service!



Pray for **Sean Baldwin, James Benner, Bob Byerly, Travis Cotton, Addison Coy, Ryan Dean, Elijah Garrison, Zachary Haddox, Trent Holbrook, Brittany Mozingo, Jake Richards, Andrew Williams and Tanner Wilson** as they serve our country. Don't forget to pray for their families.



CFC Kids

Our Back-to-School Family Fun Night on August 12 was a huge blessing for us and the community! Thank you for the prayers, donations and volunteers!

Our next family night will be October 28 with our Biblical Trunk 'n Treat! This event will run from 6:30-7:30 pm in the church parking lot. Join us for a night of passing out candy while your car as a Bible story! Need an idea? Noah's ark, Jonah and the whale, Daniel and the lion's den or even the Christmas story can be great stories to tell with your decorations!



submitted by **Kiera Yaniga**

Verse of the month

2 Know Him More

"Because you have obeyed My command to persevere, I will protect you from the great time of testing that will come upon the whole world to test those who belong to this world." Revelation 3:10 (NLT)

submitted by **John Adams**

Summit

September 16 & 17

"Walking Fearlessly"
Speaker: Mike Holbrook

You are invited to attend—You are a leader!
Everyone is a leader!

September 16 at 7 pm
September 17 at 9 am & after lunch

Lunch provided by our youth group for a donation

Help Needed: to do a deeper cleaning of the church on the last Monday of each month from 8 am – 12 noon. If you are willing to help, a sign-up sheet is at the Information Desk. THANK YOU for VOLUNTEERING!!

Kentucky mission trip update

"Thank you to the church for supporting Larry and me as we represented Christ and our church," stated **Sam Davidson**. He and **Larry Gillian** travelled on a missions trip to Dawson Springs, Kentucky from July 30 - August 5.

This was Larry's first missions trip and he stated, "I just want to get closer to God and feel the Holy Spirit." Now Sam said that he has been on four mission trips. He went on to say, "I continue to go on mission trips to serve others. No matter if it's in the States or out of the country, people hurt in many ways. There are also numerous opportunities to minister for CHRIST!" Larry was asked if he would go on another missions trip.

"I want to go on another one," he quickly and excitedly responded with a smile on his face, "does that answer your question?" He added, "At our first devotion time, the leader from Praying Pelicans Mission spoke slowly because the people there talk slower than we do, with a draw. He said, 'Yes' like this 'Yaayes'."

While in Kentucky the team built 2 1/2 decks and painted the entire inside of a house. Larry added that Sam painted and another church cleared brush from the property but he was not a part of that. Larry said that the leader of the construction site (he was on the missions trip), was "Top Gun", he knew exactly what he was doing to build the decks, measuring several times.

"My most memorable moment was to watch Larry work and be able to witness for Christ. Also playing with one of the home owners' granddaughter and having the grandmother tell me that she doesn't normally open up to new people," Sam concluded. One moment that Larry will always remember, "As one of the ladies was praying over us for safe traveling home, she said, 'I felt a burning fire, I could feel the Holy Ghost in you,'" he said.

Hog Roast

Saturday, October 1

4 – 7 pm

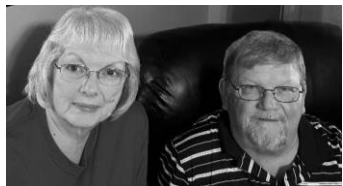


"God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind." 2 Timothy 1:7



Getting to know your church neighbor

Hi! My name is **Bob Dollison**. My wife, **Jean** and I have been married for 45 years. We have a son, **Kyle** and a daughter, **Courtney**. We have three grandsons. **Ewan** is a sophomore at



Ohio University-Athens. **Logan** recently graduated from Logan Elm High School and **Gavin** is in the third grade. They keep our lives interesting! We have lived in Circleville for about 30 years.

Circleville First Church has been home to our family since I was a young boy. I remember and appreciate my Sunday school teachers and children's leaders that influenced my life. My family heritage is here. My parents, grandparents, aunt and uncle and other family members have or still attend here. I love this church.

I was drafted into the United States Army just after graduating from Logan Elm. I served from 1972-1974. Part of that time I was stationed in Germany. The Vietnam War was coming to an end. Our unit was put on stand-by to go there, but thankfully we never got that call. Shortly after getting discharged from the Army, I began working at Purina Mills here in town and worked there for 23 years until the plant closed. I eventually retired from Aleris (formerly Reynolds Aluminum) in Ashville, Ohio. The past 2 ½ years I've served as custodian here at CFC and truly enjoyed serving the church, but now I have passed that baton off to someone younger.

I co-teach the "Connections" Class with **Chris Tener**. I don't have the talent to play any instruments, but I like to sing. I've been helping out on our praise team and singing in our cantatas for several years. My favorite song is *Glory Road* because Jesus is our ONLY hope! My favorite group is the Gaither's and my favorite Bible account is Daniel in the lion's den.

For a couple of years in my mid-20's, I drifted away from my relationship with Jesus. I had broken my wrist playing back-alley football and the Lord faithfully used that to wake me up and draw me to Himself. Jean and I were baptized together in a pond on Stoutsville Pike.

I enjoy golfing, fishing, jigsaw puzzles and helping others. I love being a part of this church.



Meet **Joy Atwood**, who has been singing on the worship team since about 2008 and is a physical therapist. She and her

husband, **Eric** have been married for 21 years. Their daughter, **Carly** is 13 and an 8th grader at Westfall Middle School. They live in Jackson Township, outside of Circleville.

"Eric and I first attended Circleville First Church in June 2001, about 6 months after we were married. After a few years hiatus, we returned about 10 years ago. Eric was in a wedding at CFC and met **Pastor Mike Holbrook**. We came for a visit briefly after being married as we were looking for a church and Eric had liked Pastor Mike when they met," Joy stated.

Her favorite musical group is For King & Country; she has seen them in concert 6 or 7 times. She enjoys singing "anything with a really good harmony!" Orange tops her list for her favorite color, even though she likes all colors she said. What does Joy like to eat? She answered, "Pizza, shrimp, steak, I like almost everything and I'm NOT a picky eater!" Joy likes to eat "on my patio on a beautiful evening." Gardening, painting rocks, and medical missions to Haiti are a few activities she enjoys.

Joy was raised in a Christian home in Amanda, Ohio and first accepted Christ into her life as a child in the mid 1980's at Amanda United Methodist Church when she was about 12 years old. "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new ever morning; great is your faithfulness." Lamentations 3:22-23. "We sang this verse in a version of a song when I was a kid. It reminds me that we get a new 'do over' every day," she remembers.



The story of Joseph when his brothers come to him in Egypt and his reunion with his brothers is a biblical story that Joy likes, as well as lately, she has been loving Esther as well, with God using her to save the Jews.

"I went to Haiti the first time in 2015 with 12 others from CFC. I returned to Haiti in 2016 when Tonya Neff and I joined another team. It was on that trip that God called me to medical missions. I have returned to Haiti with Healing Haiti's Elder Care Program in 2018, 2019, 2020 and twice in 2021. In 2021, I became an Elder Care Advocate with Healing Haiti," says Joy.

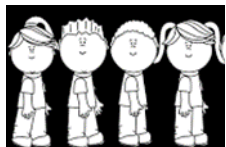
"Ephesians 2:10 says, 'For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.' This verse has been what has led me in my medical mission trips," Joy concludes.



Circleville Community Mission news

Circleville Community Mission pastoral team **Randy and Cathy Haddox** share how the summer have been busy. Busy with a Revival, Ice Cream Social, Fishing trip, Baptism at Tar Hollow State Park and summer long VBS, God's Zoo which ended with a back-to-school theme, (fish swim in schools, you know). This was probably the children's favorite.

They saw it as playing school, but the goal was waking their brains with reading, writing and arithmetic before real school starts. By the end, younger children were able to print their



names on a line, while older youth could write their names in cursive. Each night, children received a school supply.

Program consisted of younger children using puppets and teens dressed in

costumes, such as a Turtle, Dolphin, Fox, Duck, Frog, Groundhog and a Lion. All singing and sharing what they learned throughout the summer. Few that shared were 12-year-old, **Isabel** shares she could relate to the story **Miss Kendra** told about the sparrow. The sparrow doesn't worry about food of where he will sleep, God takes care of him. She says she finds comfort knowing if a little sparrow is important to God, then she knows God will be with her when she starts a new school year as a seventh grader.

Another child, 7-year-old, **Stephen** shared he learned from Jonah and the big fish (Daphne the dolphin), what he learned was not to run away or God might send a fish to swallow him. Fifteen-year-old



Jayden tells what she learned from Daniel and Lion's Den was God send angels, sometimes angel like people to help his children to be brave in life's challenges. Sisters, **Maddy and Ali** ages 7 and 9 tell that Noah's ark taught them to always obey God.

Through VBS, we gained three children. Yeah!

September is here, meaning working on craft entries for 2022 Pumpkin Show. Not sure what that might be, if you have any suggestions, please reach out to **Peggy Smith**.

Praise Report: another family found housing. The family of 10 children who lost their home in a fire in February, now have housing. Praise God!!!



We started out with five families and now we are down to one family in need.



Thank you, Circleville First Church for your prayers.

One of the older children, 17-year-old, **Larissa**

shared how God kept her family together, how they always had food, might not always liked what they ate, but they always had food, always had a place to sleep, may have been crowded, but they were safe, God was and is good.

Eight-year-old, **Makenzie** commented that if God can answer prayer requests four times, He can answer one more. **Prayer request:** one family left, mother of three girls need housing.

submitted by pastoral team **Randy and Cathy Haddox** and CFC representative **Peggy Smith**

Nine baptized

Matthew 3:11-17 states that if a sinless man (Jesus Christ) was willing to be baptized, we should follow His example.



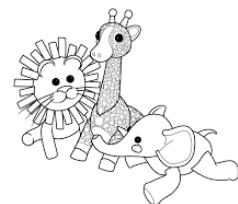
On July 31, **Pastor Jay Neff** with the aid of **Tim Tener** baptized 9 individuals including 3 children, 1 teen and 5 adults. **Ron Cutright**, brother and sister, **Jack George** and **Josie George**, children of **Seth and Ashton** and grandchildren of **Doug and Betty**; **Dee Dee Haddox**, **Lisa McCain**, **Bradley Neff**, **Devin Parmer**, **Michelle Parmer** and **Kevin Presler** were baptized. Congratulations!!

Shoebox Ministries

Items of the month

Stuffed Animals

Please place items in the box on the Ohio Street side of the sanctuary



"It seems unlikely that sharing the love of Jesus Christ with children all around the world can be done through a shoebox. However, each year, Samaritan's Purse reaches millions of impoverished children with shoeboxes filled with basic necessities, toys and love."

-taken from The Power of a Shoe Box by Pastor Jonathan Morgan, The Advocate-March/April 2016

submitted by **Darline Gose**

We have peace, hope and victory because of Jesus



Hope Strong

Hebrews 6:19

We have completed our pilot programs in the Circleville and Teays Valley school systems. It is evident that God has blessed this ministry. Doors have been opened, people have stepped forward and children are being shown the love of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

We are looking forward to reaching many more students in the Fall of 2022. We will need your support more now than ever as we plan to increase our ministries throughout our four county school systems.

We are currently prayerfully seeking volunteers, site locations, transportation needs and financial increase as the Lord continues to increase the body of our ministry.

If you are willing to serve in any of the aforementioned areas or if you have any questions, please contact our director, Miki Dawson at 740/637-9319 or email hopestrong@gmail.com

We would welcome any opportunity to be able to speak to you or your congregation about our ministry.

Hope Strong Pickaway School Ministries

FEARLESS

Things your mother should have told you

1. Squirrel Away! To keep squirrels from eating your plants, sprinkle your plants with cayenne pepper. The cayenne pepper doesn't hurt the plant and the squirrels won't come near it.
2. Flexible vacuum-To get something out of a heat register or under the fridge add an empty paper towel roll or empty gift wrap roll to your vacuum. It can be bent or flattened to get in narrow openings.
3. Reducing Static Cling-Pin a small safety pin to the seam of your slip and you will not have a clingy skirt or dress. Same thing works with slacks that cling when wearing panty hose. Place pin in seam of slacks and guess what! ... static is gone.
4. Measuring Cups-Before you pour sticky substances into a measuring cup, fill with hot water. Dump out the hot water, but don't dry cup. Next, add your ingredient such as peanut butter and watch how easily it comes out. (Or spray the measuring cup or spoon with Pam before using).

5. Foggy Windshield? Hate foggy windshields? Buy a chalkboard eraser and keep it in the glove box of your car When the windows fog, rub with the eraser! Works better than a cloth!

6. Re-opening envelopes-If you seal an envelope and then realize you forgot to include something inside, just place your sealed envelope in the freezer for an hour or two. Viola! It unseals easily.

7. Conditioner-Use your hair conditioner to shave your legs. It's cheaper than shaving cream and leaves your legs really smooth. It's also a great way to use up the conditioner you bought but didn't like when you tried it in your hair.

8. Goodbye Fruit Flies-To get rid of pesky fruit flies, take a small glass, fill it 1/2' with Apple Cider Vinegar and 2 drops of dish washing liquid; mix well. You will find those flies drawn to the cup and gone forever!

9. Get Rid of Ants-Put small piles of cornmeal where you see ants. They eat it, take it 'home,' can't digest it so it kills them. It may take a week or so, especially if it rains, but it works and you don't have the worry about pets or small children being harmed!

10. Dryer Filter-Even if you are very diligent about cleaning the lint filter in your dryer it still may be causing you a problem. If you use dryer sheets a waxy build up could be accumulating on the filter causing your dryer to overheat. The solution to this is to clean your filter with a toothbrush and hot soapy water every 6 months.

submitted by Joellen Byerly





September

September 5 Labor Day

September 11 NEVER FORGET...
Youth Rally 6 – 8 pm
 at Circleville First Church

September 16-17 Summit “Walking Fearlessly”
 with Mike Holbrook
 September 16 at 7 pm
 September 17 at 9 am & after lunch
 Lunch provided by youth group for a donation

September 22 WELCOME FALL!!!

I will praise Him! A year and a half ago I went to see a kidney doctor. After running tests, the doctor told me that I was in Stage 4 heading for Stage 5, which meant dialysis. After working with this doctor, on July 28, he told me I was now in Stage 3 heading for Stage 2! God's miraculous hand reached from heaven and touched me! You want to talk about God's healing!

submitted by **Don Brown**



20 Rules of Wisdom

1. God wants spiritual fruit, not religious nuts.
2. Dear God, I have a problem, it's me.
3. Growing old is inevitable, growing UP is optional.
4. There is no key to happiness. The door is always open.
5. Silence is often misinterpreted, but never misquoted.
6. You do the math. Count your blessings.
7. Faith is the ability to not panic.
8. Laugh every day, it's like inner jogging.
9. If you worry, don't pray. If you pray...don't worry.
10. As a child of God, prayer is kind of like calling home everyday.

11. Blessed are the flexible for they shall not be bent out of shape.
12. THE MOST IMPORTANT THINGS IN YOUR HOME ARE THE PEOPLE!
13. When we get tangled up in our problems, be still; God wants us to be still so He can untangle the knot.
14. A grudge is a heavy thing to carry.
15. He who dies with the most toys is still dead.
16. We do not remember days, but moments. Life is moving too fast -- so enjoy your precious moments.
17. Nothing is real to you until you experience it, otherwise it's just hearsay.
18. It's all right to sit on your potty every now and again. Just be sure to flush when you are done.
19. Surviving and living your life successfully requires courage. The goals and dreams you're seeking require courage and risk taking. Learn from the turtle, it only makes progress when it sticks out its neck.
20. Be more concerned with your character than your reputation, because your character is what you really are, while your reputation is merely what others think you are.



submitted by **Jerry Parish**

Try a Sunday School class,
 stay where you fit in and feel comfortable

JOY (just older youth)



Gold City Concert at West Broad Street Nazarene Church in Galloway will be held on September 11 at 6 pm.

If you are interested, a sign-up sheet is at the Information Desk.

Venita



Fall Word Search

Find all the words below.

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 A C U N R O C B E U Y J O F I Y R Z G P
 T R M U M C I A A T K B O O M H C U B I
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APPLECIDER
 COOL
 FOOTBALL
 LEAF
 SCARECROW

AUTUMN
 CORN
 HALLOWEEN
 PUMPKIN
 THANKSGIVING

COLORFUL
 FALL
 HARVEST
 RAKE
 TURKEY

Autumn is Here!