

# THE WITNESS

## Circleville First Church

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## Getting to know your church neighbor

"I have been a part of the website team since the inception around 2017. I manage the website by keeping the sermon information up to date and loading new information," **Aaron Yaniga** explained. In addition, he cooks for the Easter breakfast each year as well as the men's prayer breakfast.



Aaron has been attending Circleville First Church since 2005. When asked how he came to CFC, he answered, "My future wife made me come." He has been married to **Kiera** for 15 years and they are the parents of **Ian and Caleb**.

Aaron works for the State of Ohio as a benefits data manager. "I look at spreadsheets all day. Also own a photography business," he said. Aaron enjoys cooking, photography and listening to audio books. When he tells something about himself, he responded, "I'm tall."

His favorite song is *Reckless Love* enjoys *Angels Fall Sometimes* by Josh Turner "because the song that reminds me of my wife." Aaron's favorite color is red, he likes to eat at Chipotle and his favorite food is General Tso's Chicken. He lists 1 Peter 5:7 as his favorite Bible verse.

"As a third grader at Vacation Bible School, I had this giant Roman road flip book from the 80's, but it had the information needed for me to get saved," recalled Aaron.

"God will carry you through if you trust that he has the best intention overall. In 2008, my wife and I prayed about how to (con't on page 2)



Children's Christmas Program

## Glorious Night

December 11

10:45 am

Christmas Cantata  
December 18

10:45 am



## Christmas Fellowship Dinner

December 18

6 pm

## Christmas Eve Service

8 pm

## Christmas Morning Service

10 am

Sunday School-dismissed



## Getting to know... (con't from page 1)

trust more in God. We ended up buying a house in April, finding out she was pregnant with our first born in May and was a single-family income. Got laid off in October the week before Pumpkin Show during the economic recession. It gave just enough time to help my in-laws with Pumpkin Show and actually interviewed with a company during the early part of the Pumpkin Show. By the end of the Pumpkin Show, I had an offer of employment from a more stable company with better pay and benefits than previously had. From that moment on we learn to trust more in God's ultimate plan. It hasn't failed us at all," Aaron declared.

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

## Men's prayer meeting

"Men meeting to fellowship in prayer for the needs of our church and our church families; praying over the sanctuary, church ministries, the nation," stated **Bob Dollison**, who leads this group.



**All men are invited:** bring your sons, friends, relatives. They meet in the church sanctuary on Saturdays at 8 am.

**John Adams** stated, "We have devotional time, go over prayer requests, pray around the altar; then we walk the aisles and pray over the pews. It is important to come together and pray for our church, family and country."

This ministry has been a part of our church since the 1950's, started by **Dick Bost, Floyd Catron, Grayson Ferguson, Delbert Holbrook and Glenn Leatherwood**. "It is a call to pray for God's presence in our church and community," explained Bob.

Now, these men do take time to "break bread;" on the third Saturday of the month, breakfast is served at 8 am in the Ferguson/Clark Hall. Bob said, "Feeding the body and soul with a devotional speaker as well as fellowship;" John continued that the men also pray and have devotions.

"Just a good old time of gathering and praying," said John. So, if you are male and are interested in participating in this ministry, just show up to the sanctuary on Saturdays at 8 am.

If you have questions or need more information you can **contact Bob Dollison, John Adams, Tom Byerly, Larry Keller, Pastor Jay Neff or any leader of our church.**

**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 envelope.



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

## 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. Please pray for their families.

## Penny March for Missions



December 4

## Verse of the month



Isaiah 9:6 (NLT) "For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. The government will rest on his shoulders. And he shall be called: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

submitted by **John Adams**

## Fearless



## The Pumpkin Show, the Pumpkin Show...

Well, the Pumpkin Show has come and gone at least until next year... But some of our congregation participated in various events at the Show.

Vroom! Vroom! **Jaxson**, 5 year old great-grandson of **Paul and Sharon Vance** took third place in the Big Wheel Race at the Circleville Pumpkin Show! Good Job!!!

**Don Brown** showed his gardening skills, he entered and took third place for his single marigold.

**Debbie Thompson** took first place for her cactus daliah, second place for her rose and autumn foliage and 2 third places for 2 fruited branches.

**Venita Daft** baked her way into first for her pumpkin cake, first for her German chocolate cake and second place for her angel food cake.

**Sydnee Steck** won several first places at this year's Pumpkin Show for: Lego Japanese cherry blossom tree, Easter egg tree, cheetah push pin, shell water fall, 3D kangaroo, 3D owl, wood pumpkins in a box, 3 painted turtle rocks, hello fall rock and bee kind rock.

She also placed second for: pressed 4 & 5 leaf clovers, DIY Japanese mini house, shell frame and raspberries. For two bracelets and potatoes, she received third place as well as honorable mention for shells in sand with cork.

**Kristie Steck** took first place for crochet Baby Yoda and raspberries; second place for two mask (sunflower and coffee); third place for painted family rock, hickory nuts and purple peppers and honorable mention for her hummingbird nest and mini quilt/quilt rack (pinwheel).

What talents we have! Congratulations to all!!  
Until next year...



## Kitchen delights

It's almost December and soon will be time for baking; especially cookies for parties at school, work, church, around home, etc. Here are a couple of my favorites. I got the recipes from Circleville First Church cookbook (1981).

## SNICKERDOODLES

originally from Faye Moore

½ cup of butter or margarine, softened  
½ cup shortening  
1 ½ cup sugar  
2 eggs  
2 ¾ cups flour  
2 tsp. cream of tartar  
1 tsp. baking soda  
¼ tsp. salt



Mix thoroughly butter, shortening, sugar and eggs. Blend in flour, cream of tartar, soda and salt. Shape dough by rounded teaspoonful into balls and roll in mixture of:

2 Tbsp. sugar  
2 tsp. cinnamon

Place about 2 inches apart on ungreased cookie sheet. Bake at 400 degrees for 8 to 10 minutes. Remove immediately from sheet. Makes 6 dozen.

## SUGAR COOKIES

originally from Shirley Raymond



3 cups flour  
1 cup margarine  
¼ tsp. salt  
3 unbeaten eggs  
1 tsp. baking powder  
1 tsp. vanilla  
1 ¼ cups sugar

In large bowl, mix together dry ingredients. Add margarine, mix with fork. Add eggs and vanilla. Roll out and cut with cookie cutters. Bake at 350 degrees for 8 to 10 minutes or until bottom of cookies are a light brown.

### Icing:

1/3 cup of margarine  
3 cups of powdered sugar  
3 Tbsp. of milk  
1 ½ tsp. of vanilla



Blend until smooth. Spread onto cooled cookies. Have fun decorating them.

submitted by **Nancy Johnson**



## Shoebox Ministries

The church yard/bake sale held on November 5 was a success! The total raised for Shoebox Ministries was \$974. Circleville First Church was able to send 300 shoeboxes this year. Around 20 volunteers helped sort, pack and load shoeboxes.



Thank you to all who participated in sending shoeboxes to needy children. It takes people to donate items, donate cash and

donate yard sale items and baked goods; others to prepare for the sale and work that day. It takes people to set up, tear down, sort and pack items and load boxes. Thank you to each and every one who helped in any way! I could not be able to do this without your help!

submitted by **Darline Gose**

## CFC Kids

Trunk 'n Treat on October 28 was a success this year with 225 kids. That means we were able to touch 225 lives of 225 children, not to mention the adults who brought them. Thank you for making a difference in our community!

### Christmas is approaching quickly!

**CFC Kids need your help!** We need gift bags, tissue paper, decorations and items kids can pick out to give to their families for Christmas. These may be new or gently used items. The kids will be able to pick out gifts for those they love on December 18.

Please help and place your donations in the tote at the back of the sanctuary



submitted by **Kiera Yaniga**

## Men's Prayer Meeting

Saturday mornings 8 am

## Men's Prayer Breakfast

December 17  
8 am

## Wish list



Circleville First Church is in need of a wooden nativity set for outside the church. If an individual or a team of individuals would be interested in making this nativity set, please contact **Kathy Blue 614-580-5568 or Joellen Byerly 513-680-6012.**

## Baby dedication

Matthew 19:14 says, "Then Jesus said, 'Leave the children alone, and don't try to keep them from coming to Me, because the kingdom of heaven is made up of people like this.'"

On October 30, **Samantha Frazier**, daughter of **Zach and Sarah**, little sister to **Ezekiel** and granddaughter of **Jack and Sheila Brown** was dedicated to the Lord by **Pastor Jay Neff**.



"Let the little children come..."

## For we were all baptized...

"For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body-whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free-and we were all made to drink of one Spirit." 1 Corinthians 12:13

On October 30, three of Circleville First Church Kids were baptized by **Senior Pastor Jay Neff** with the assistance of **Director of Children's Ministries Kiera Yaniga**.

**Aiden Evans**, grandson of **Phillip and Crystal Evans**, **S'sence Gilbert**, daughter of **Donna Payne** and **Camden Snyder**, son of **David and Michaela Delacio** each gave a testimonial of why he/she wanted to be baptized. They publicly confirmed their relationship with Jesus and they professed their love for Him.



Jesus said, "...Let the little children come to Me. Don't stop them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these." Mark 10:14



## Joke of the month



submitted by **Bobby Dollison**

## Circleville Community Mission news

**Christmas program** - December 18

**Happy Birthday Party for Baby Jesus** - December 25

**New Year Eve party for children and youth** - December 29

**Song Fest scheduled for New Year Day service** – January 1

CFC Representative **Peggy Smith** commented on how she enjoyed watching the children at CFC collecting coins during their morning service. With that in mind, we too, will begin a penny march once a month for children ministries. For November, children who were collecting coins were dressed as turkeys; in December, they will be dressed as red-nosed reindeer.



**Baptism report.** Six people were baptized. A baptism was held during the summer for those able were immersed in Tar Hollow State Park or perhaps the word is submersed in warm, 94 degrees water.

For others who were interested, but could not participate due to health issues, a special service was held in November. These folks were baptized with bottles of water. The expression on their face, maybe **Pastor Cathy** should have not used cold water from the refrigerator.

Back by popular demand, Children's Pizza Contest! Children commented that it was too easy to earn pizza and would like it to be more challenging, so the contest will run from one month to two months and points were 8, but



they suggested 20.

**Question:** What Christmas is all about? This was asked to youth, children and adults. **Rebecca**, an adult shares, besides Christ's birthday, to her Christmas is about pretty scenery and Christmas music. Her daughter, **Ava**, a middle schooler, responded that Christmas is about good food, being with family and Christmas is about celebrating that she is a child of God. **Barb Snider** also agrees being with family is good way to spend Christmas.

High schooler **Jayden** says that Christmas is the love and kindness all around us. Her sister, **Crystal**, who is in middle school replies, Christmas is about family, love and God.



**Nick**, an adult, tells besides Christ's birthday, Christmas is a time of celebration.

**Peggy** shares, Christmas is a time for family to gather and talk about the old time, when they were growing up, talking about snow ball fight and building snowmen.

**Pastor Randy and Cathy** share two things, one, watching children's expressions when they hear for the first time the true reason for Christmas. Second thing, when Christmas day falls on a Sunday, church gathering to celebrate His birthday.



Younger children were asked, "If you were invited to Jesus' birthday party, what gift would you give?" First grader, **Ali**, drew a halo, commenting that Jesus deserves a halo while ten-year-old **Abby**, says that she would give little Jesus her stuffed teddy bear. First grader **Zoe** writes that she would give Jesus one of her brother's action figure dolls and **Riley**, ten years old, would give Baby Jesus a toy train and eight-year-old **Ember** tells how she would give Jesus a toy angel. Second grader, Stephen says he would give Jesus \$10,000 so he could get what he wanted and middle schooler, **Isabel** answered that she would give Jesus a baby horse, so if his legs got tired, he could ride him. Another middle schooler, **Ava** says she would give Jesus lots of love and affection.

## Prayer request

Housing for a mother with three sweet girls.

Prayer for 2-year-old Kenneth who is having multiple surgeries

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



## You are a bad cook if...

- The last time you tried to make toast the kitchen caught on fire.
- Your apple pie bubbled over and ate the enamel off the bottom of the oven.
- You make tuna noodle broccoli surprise for your family and the surprise is that it glows in the dark!
- Your homemade bread can be used as a door stop.
- The leftover crumbs make a great replacement for kitty litter.
- Those annoying pest control companies keep pestering you, wanting to buy and patent your recipe for candy and Christmas cookies.
- You forget and leave a gallon of your homemade ice cream on the porch overnight during a record busting heat and the next afternoon, not only is it still solid, but it tastes better.
- You hate rice, but you keep finding it floating around in your beef stew.
- Your kids know what exactly peas porridge in a crockpot nine days old tastes like.
- The EPA requires that all your garbage cans be marked with large bright red 'biohazard' symbols.
- You use the smoke alarm as a cooking timer.
- You consider it a culinary success if the pop-tart stays in one piece.
- Your dog goes to the neighbors' to eat.
- Your family buys Alka Seltzer and Kaopectate in bulk.
- When you barbecue, two of your kids hold water guns and the third stands ready by the phone with 911 on speed-dial.
- Your family automatically heads for the dinner table every time they hear a fire truck siren.
- Your microwave display reads "TILT!"
- Your two best recipes are meatloaf and apple pie, but your dinner guests can't tell which is which.
- You've used three boxes of scouring pads and a bottle of Drano and a crowbar, and that macaroni and cheese still won't let go of the pan.

- You make tuna noodle surprise and the surprise is that it glows in the dark and melts the silverware.
- Your family prays AFTER they eat!

\*\*\*\*\*

## Top 10 things to say about a holiday gift you don't like

10. Hey! There's a gift.
9. Well, well, well...
8. Boy, if I had not recently shot up 4 sizes, that would've fit.
7. Perfect for wearing in the basement.
6. Wow, I hope this never catches fire!
5. If the dog buries it, I'll be furious!
4. I love it, but I fear the jealousy it will inspire.
3. Sadly, tomorrow I enter the federal witness protection program.
2. To think I got this the year I vowed to give all my gifts to charity.
1. I really don't deserve this.



\*\*\*\*\*

A father and his son were looking at a nativity scene in a London gallery. It was Titian's world-famous painting of the scene at Bethlehem. The boy said, "Dad, why is the baby lying in such a crude cradle in a pile of straw?"

"Well, Son," explained the father, "they were poor, and they couldn't afford anything better."

Said the boy, "Then how could they afford to have their picture painted by such an expensive artist?"

submitted by **Jerry Parish**

**Brandon Burroughs** who served 4 years in the Army's infantry was omitted from the CFC veteran's list. I apologize for the omission. Thank you for your service.

If anyone else is serving or has served in the United States military, please contact Kay Agin at [aginkay@yahoo.com](mailto:aginkay@yahoo.com)





## Circleville mission trip

On Saturday, December 3, the T-n-T (Twenties & Thirties Group ages 20-39) will meet at Joy House Coffee Shop at 202 North Pickaway Street at 10 am – noon. Please text Kathy Blue 614/580-5568

### You can help with this ministry Donations are needed!

Small Bibles, Christian books, crosses, Christian adult activity coloring books, pens, crayons, colored pencils, small notebooks, flyers about help services & free meals, bottled water, flip top canned food (if possible), easy open foods, granola bars, snack cakes, boxes of cereal, instant foods, bags of chips, candy, canned soups/fruits/vegetables, nuts, canned ravioli, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant for men & women, tissues (small packs), shampoo, conditioner, hand soap (bagged), toilet paper, paper towels, flashlights, batteries, tarps, blankets, lighters, rain ponchos, tents, socks, hats, gloves, scarves, candles/matches, Wal-Mart/grocery bags, dog or cat food and can openers.

Please place donations on the round table in the overflow

On November 13 our own **Keitha Wilbur** praised the Lord with sign to song. She gracefully shared her talent, signing to “Just Give Me Jesus.” Thank you for serving as you praised God!

## Christmas Day schedule

**Sunday School--Dismissed**  
**Worship Service** 10 am \*Please Note Time\*\*  
**Evening Service**—dismissed

December 26---**Church Office**—closed

Coming in January to the fellowship hall  
near you...

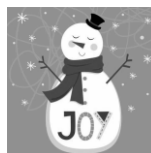
Chili Cook-off



- 12 --3 Men's Prayer Meeting** 8 am  
**20's-30's Circleville Mission for Homeless**  
at 10 am Joy House Coffee
- 12 -- 4 Penny March for Missions**
- 12 --10 Men's Prayer Meeting** 8 am
- 12 -- 11 Children's Christmas Program**  
**Glorious Night** 10:45 am
- 12 --17 Men's Prayer Breakfast** 8 am FC Hall
- 12 -- 18 Cantata *Unto you a Child is Born*** 10:45 am  
**Church Christmas Fellowship** 6 pm
- 12 -- 24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service** 8 pm
- 12 --25 Happy Birthday, Jesus!**  
**No Sunday School**  
**Worship Service** 10 am \*\*Note Time\*\*  
**Evening Service**—dismissed
- 12 -- 26 Church Office**—closed
- 12 -- 31 New Year's Eve**

## JOY (just older youth)

The JOY group had their Thanksgiving/Christmas dinner on November 19 at the Pickaway Country Club. It was a great evening with 39 attending.



We enjoyed a delicious buffet meal and some fun games. The winner of the finding game was **Larry Keller**. We had 3 brave guys who allowed their wives to cover them with shaving cream.

They were supposed to look like Santa Claus!! I will say, some were very creative and really got into it! The couples were **Shawn & Kathy Blue, Terry & Patsy Shaffer and Larry & Ruth Keller**. Everyone voted on the best Santa. Winners were Terry and Patsy. Thank you, all for being such good sports. The wives loved it!!!

**Pastor Kevin Behrer** did fantastic job with our devotions. **Jenny (Dexerson) McCalla** led us in a couple Thanksgiving and Christmas songs. Everyone left with a door prize and some (con't on page 8)



## JOY

(con't from page 7)

other special items. What a great evening of fun and fellowship!

The committee will meet in January to plan the coming year. If you have any ideas, please let me know. This is such a wonderful group that we truly love. Prayers appreciated for all. Several with health issues. Merry Christmas to all! Remember the reason for the season and make someone a very Merry Christmas.

Love,  
**Venita**



## Surrender

## Proverbs 23:26

Teachers' Version

### 'Twas The Daze Before Christmas



'Twas the days before Christmas,  
And all through the school,  
The teachers were trying  
To just keep their cool.

The hallways were hung  
With Christmas art  
(Some made in November to get a head start!)  
The children were bouncing  
Off ceilings and walls,  
And seemed to forget  
How to walk in the halls.

When out of the teacher's lounge  
With "jingle bell jewels,"  
The teachers looked festive  
Enforcing the rules.

Suddenly, from down the hallway  
There came such a chatter,  
The principal went in  
To see what was the matter.



The teachers were hiding  
And trying to refuel,  
On coffee and cookies  
And treats from the Yule.



When what to their wondering  
Ears do they hear,  
But the ringing of school bells  
-It's the children they fear!

More rapid than reindeer  
The little ones came,  
And the teachers all shouted  
And called them by name;



Walk, Vincent! Walk, Tanner!  
Walk, Tyler and Sammy!  
Sit, Jamie! Sit, Laura!  
Sit, Tara and Tammy!

To your desks in the room!  
To your spots in the line!  
Now walk to them! Walk to them!  
No running this time!

So straight to their places  
The children all went.  
With fear of detention  
Where they could be sent.

With manuals of lessons  
Cradled in arms,  
The teachers began  
To use all their charms.

But the lessons presented  
All fell on deaf ears.  
The children were thinking  
Of Santa's reindeer!

With a toss of their hands  
They put manuals aside,  
Went straight to the cupboards  
Where videos hide.

And laying their finger  
On the TV remote  
They sat back to write  
Their last Christmas note.

But you could hear them exclaim



At the end of the day -  
Have a wonderful, happy and  
L-O-O-O-O-O-NG HOLIDAY!!!

submitted by **Jerry Parish**

