THE WITNESS

Circleville First Church

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March 2023 Issue 280

Jay Neff, Senior Pastor 740/804-1482 Jim Daft, Evangelism & Seniors Ministries 740/474-7353 Andrew Byerly, Music/Worship Ministries 740/601-7405

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Getting to know your church neighbor

Pa rum pum pum pum...



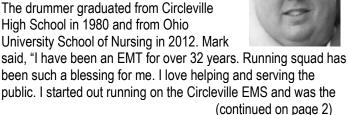
The drummer seat became vacant on the worship team when Rich Sutherland stepped down. (Thank you, Rich for serving). Mark Agin sat down to fill it.

Mark began attending Circleville First Church when "I tagged along with Kay when we were dating in 1980." He has been a part of the worship team at various times "the first time was probably 10 to 15 years then I was gone for a couple years and been on and off depending on my work schedule for probably the past 5 or 6 years. I actually helped Bobby Dollison run sound for a while before that."

He and his wife, **Kay** have been married for 41 years next month. They have 2 adult sons, Bradney who is married to **Kaylee** and **Cameron**. The couple have 4 grandsons: **Bronson** who is 14 and is a freshman at Logan Elm, Kingston who is 10 and is in 5th grade, Lincoln is 7 and is in the 1st grade and **Quinton** who is also 6 and is in kindergarten.

Mark resides in Circleville where he was born, raised and lived his entire life. He works at the Pickaway County Sheriff's Office as a 911 Communications Officer for 5 years this month.

The drummer graduated from Circleville High School in 1980 and from Ohio University School of Nursing in 2012. Mark







"It's not about me," stated Tom Byerly, who recently started the Care Ministry. Jesus states, in John 15:5, "I am the vine, you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit, apart from me you can do nothing."

"The purpose of this ministry is to be the church to God's people who have difficulties attending regular services. This is done by regular home visits, reassuring them that they are loved and prayed for," stated Tom.

He continued, "It is not fully developed yet, but we have started." Right now, the team consists of Tom Byerly, Dee Bevan, Harry Brown, Sharon Harper, Carl & Vickie Moore and Randy & Betty Petitt. They are currently serving 14 people in their homes. "We visit, talk with them, read scripture, present any church material, spend time and ask if they have any prayer requests and with their permission, bring the requests to the church. We just want them to feel connected to the church as well to God. We are all still church family," said Tom.

Sharon Harper said that she has not visited anyone, she's just getting started. She wanted to be a part of this ministry because of my mom who had visited people in their homes in the past. Mom was a part of this church and became unable to attend. Sharon doesn't want people feel lonely and forgotten. She said that just a simple visit or card will let others know that they aren't forgotten.

Dee Bevan has made a home visit and "I really enjoyed it." She said that Tom called and asked if she would be interested; "I (continued on page 2)



Getting to know,,,

(con't from page 1)

chief for a while. In 1999, I went to Pickaway Township Fire Department where I was involved in starting up the EMS service. I retired from PTFD in January 2022.

His favorite color is purple, "pizza by far" tops his favorite food list and but also enjoys eating at Texas Roadhouse. In addition to playing drums, he joked (even though it is true) that he is also the delivers brownies to the benevolence dinners. He said, "Being a part of my grandsons' activities are fun but tiring. Listening to music has always been one of my favorite things to do. I am an avid Buckeyes, Reds and Browns fan."

Favorite song? "I have a few that I can consider favorites I Speak Jesus, So Will I, Oceans and Graves into Gardens," stated Mark.

He went on to say, 'I like playing to I Speak Jesus. I believe the musicians I have the privilege to play with, are great musicians. When they get into a song like this, you can get into a rhythm and just let your feelings flow thru the music." Mark likes to listen to Hillsong, Elevation Worship, Mercy Me and Crowder.

"I started playing drums at the age of 4. I remember at a young age listening to the Davis Demons Drum Corp marching in the

Pumpkin Show parades and the drum cadences they played. I would drive my parents nuts constantly tapping my fingers on the table. My grandfather, **Carl Agin**, who was an auctioneer, purchased me a drum at an auction and the rest is history," Mark reminisced.

Psalm 46:10 is Mark's Bible verse which says, "He says, 'Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth'."

"Approximately 23 years ago at Circleville First Church, **Cathy Haddox** knew through conversations with Kay that I under conviction. After a very emotional sermon, Cathy came up and grabbed my arm and said, "let's go."

Mark testified, "When I realized the voice in-side me was God giving me answers to questions or feelings, I quit ignoring them.



When I lost my job every time Kay and I turned around the words from Psalm 46:10, "Be still and know that I am God" would appear. We live by this each day; it never fails."

SURRENDER

Care Ministry...

(con't from page 1)

said, 'yes'." She has taken a handmade cross to someone and said, "God just puts it in my mind and I do it."

Randy Petitt said, "I love it, it's what God wants us to do. It is a blessing to them, but to me too. We are showing how great God and His love is as we to go to into their home. It is so much more (to go into the homes) than a couple minutes in the aisle at church, you get to know them and how much we have in common, even though we are different."

The team is also wanting to expand and include a follow up with those in our congregation who has missed a couple of services.

"We are reaching out to folks letting them know that they are loved, missed and prayed for. We want them to understand that they are still a part of our church, their church and they can are still connected to the church," Tom remarked. Then added, "as we visit in their homes, we want them to understand that they can also reach out to those who come into their home, they can share with them, the love of Jesus."

Tom re-emphasized, "It's not about me, it's a team. We want to be the hands and feet of Jesus; the church being the church and sharing the love of Jesus."

What a blessing box



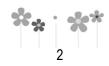
Don't forget: We have a blessing box at the side of the Ferguson/Clark Hall. You can help fill it with food to feed our community in need. Canned goods especially pop-top cans, snacks as well as personal items, hats, gloves, coats, blankets can be placed in the box. Thank you for your support!

Verse of the month

"My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." 2 Corinthians 12:9 NKJV

submitted by John Adams

Proverbs 23:26



Men's Prayer Meeting

Saturday mornings 8 am

Men's Prayer Breakfast



March 18 8 am

Speaker: Shane Roese

Shoebox Ministries
Items of the month

STUFFED ANIMALS

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





Thank you for your service!



Pray for Sean Baldwin, Bob Byerly, Travis Cotton, Addison Coy, Ryan Dean, Elijah Garrison, Zachary Haddox, Trent Holbrook, Brittany Mozingo, Jake Richards, Anthony

Romeo, Andrew Williams and Tanner Wilson as they serve our country. Please pray for their families.

Chili cook-off/Cake auction

The 7th Annual Chili Cook-Off/Cake Auction was held on February 4 in the Ferguson/Clark Hall. The evening was filled with hot chili, in more ways than one, as well as an entertaining cake (well, actually it was dessert) auction.

The competition was tight this year with 17 chili entries. Again, this year, there were three categories traditional, specialty and spicy. **Jean Dollison** took

the traditional chili category as **Tom Byerly** won for his specialtybrisket chili and **Jim Senig** for his spicy chili. After the chili tasting and voting took place, it was time for the auction for desserts of all sorts. Our own first elder, **Tim Tener** graced us with his auctioneering abilities. As bidding wars became a reality, laughter, yes, laughter, lots and lots of laughter was heard within the walls of the fellowship hall.

Tim auctioned cakes which included: chocolate cake with peanut butter icing, Heath bar, German chocolate, pineapple upside down, red velvet, carrot cake, Italian cream cake and cherry chocolate. There were lemon cupcakes, funfetti cupcakes and Oreo cupcakes up for bid as was yeast rolls, banana nut bread birthday cake whoopie pies and rhubarb cobbler. Pies of any variety included: blackberry, cherry, apple, Dutch apple, raisin, sugar cream, pecan, blueberry, pineapple and black raspberry. The cookies up for auction were: peanut butter chews, strawberry chocolate chip cookies, snickerdoodles, chocolate chip and even red velvet cookies.

Last year (in 2022) was a record-breaking year, the total raised



was \$3,095. Now this year, 48 items were auctioned; 14 items sold for \$100 or more! The highest item was a sugar cream pie going for \$500! The auction raised \$3,880!! All for missions!! WOW!!

The grand total raised for the evening's festivities with admission, monetary donations and the dessert

auction was...drum roll please... \$4,445!! How Good is Our GOD??!!!

Thank you to Caleb Graul and Bradley Neff who numbered about 2,000 chili sample cups and Cathy Marck who scrubbed all the potatoes and transported all of the purchased items to the fellowship hall. Carly Atwood who aided in the shopping, as well as made all of the peanut butter sandwiches; Gregg, Marsha & Lydia Colahan and Melba Seevers who helped set up including tables, making drinks, baking potatoes and setting out all food and accompaniments. Tom & Joellen Byerly for bringing hot dogs and buns. Tim Tener who stepped in to serve as auctioneer on short notice due to illness. And to everyone who competed in the cook-off with their chilis, those who donated baked goods and those who cleaned up.

Between the Christmas sacrificial offering and the chili cook-off, the people of Circleville First Church have given over \$10,000 for missions!! A portion of this money supported the CCCU missions that serve in various locations with World Gospel Mission. Other proceeds will go toward future short-term mission trips.

Thank you for your sacrifice, making this year's chili cook-off the biggest success ever!



Kitchen delights

Hash Brown Potato Casserole

2 lb. frozen hash browns (thaw 1/2 hr.)

- 1 can cream of chicken soup
- 1 stick melted butter
- 8 oz. grated cheddar cheese
- 1 medium onion (chopped)
- 1 pint sour cream



Mix all together and top with crushed cornflakes or potato chips. Bake 350 degrees for 1 hr.

submitted by Nancy Johnson

SURRENDER

CFC Kids

CFC Kids Needs:





*Individual packaged snacks

*Movie theater style boxes of candy for prizes

*Candy for Easter egg filling (no nuts please)



submitted by Kiera Yaniga

Circleville First Church

17th Annual Spring Auto Show

Sunday, May 7

For information contact:

Durk Peters (740) 225-0964 Don Brown (740) 474-9634 Ronnie Harper (740) 497-2650 Dan Bevan (740) 601-4334



Visit Us @ circlevillefirstchurch.com



Circleville Community Mission news

Circleville Community Mission pastoral team, Randy and Cathy Haddox shared that last year's kite flying was such a hit. The children will begin this month with a Kite Contest, the children can earn points for attending and will receive a kite.

The contest will end with each child participating in an afternoon of kite flying, scheduled for the first nice day in March.

Miss Cathy likes celebrations and for the coming month, a party is scheduled for the arrival of spring. With spring comes spring cleaning. This year's focus is craft cabinets and freezers.

Due to necessity, during Sunday service the children remain upstairs with the adults. They will receive a packet to give busy hands something to do. There will be a blank page for them to list things they see, hear or wonder. Those with the most questions or observations earn a treat. What is exciting is, very few work on the packet and focus more on the message and making their list.



Since the children are included in the service, the beginning of Sunday night, Miss Cathy calls out, "OHHH Bible Child". This child gets

to use the microphone, all stands as he or she reads the praise passage. Kids seem to look forward and strive to be the Bible child for the service.

Wednesday and Thursday nights, children enjoy fun evening of crafts, games, story and with many not having dinner yet, a child friendly meal is served.

Upcoming events

Easter celebration - April 1 - as you walk through the basement, boxes and boxes filled with eggs are guickly piling up.



VBS - Circus theme for June and July with program scheduled for August 6.

Prayer requests

- *Two families need housing
- *Pastor Randy had surgery and would appreciate prayers

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

Penny March for Missions -- March 5



Nothin' but net

What do you do on a winter's Friday night? Well for the past four years **Caleb Graul**, now a senior, could be found serving as manager for the Westfall High School's boys' basketball team.

The last basketball game of the year was held on February 10. On this night, Coach Christian Meister permitted Caleb to dress and play in the game as it was Senior Night. He was the first out of the locker room for warm-up. The announcer introduced the seniors as well as the rest of the team and now...introducing Caleb Graul!

Caleb tipped off the ball and then it happened...Caleb made a deep 3-point shot from 5 feet behind the 3-point line! He was so excited! The excitement could be felt and heard all over the gymnasium; Caleb ran down the court as his teammates ran to him and tackled him!

This shot was all over Facebook, the Scioto Post and the Columbus Dispatch! Wow! What a night! What a shot!
Oh, by the way, Westfall won 69-48.

Congratulations Caleb!!

Can you serve?



Do you have a couple of free hours once a week? Are you interested in serving the people of Pickaway County? Do you wish you could actively be the

hands and feet of Jesus? If you answered yes to any of these questions then you might come meet our team at the Emergency Clearinghouse Food Pantry.

The Food Pantry is located at 722 Clinton Street and is in need of volunteers. If you are able to help stock shelves, scoop pet food, check dates on cans or organize; we can use your help! Stop in any day, Monday -Friday between 1-4 or Thursday between 1-6 and ask to see the Daily Coordinator and she will show you around.

We are also in need of canned beans (Pinto/Kidney/Baked/etc), canned vegetables and canned soups. You can either drop these off at the pantry during the hours mentioned above or drop them off at church on the round table in the library.

submitted by Kristie Steck

The mission, vision, values...

The Mission, Vision, Values are proudly displayed at the back of our sanctuary. Yet I am not sure how many of you are aware of how those came to be. Three years ago, during our Summit we felt lead that the focus needed to be on giving us focus for the future in a word form that would be helpful to every member and attender that walked through the doors. It was at this time the Mission, Vision, Values were birthed. The Elders of the church then felt it would help to give focus to our board meeting for these to be displayed at the top of our agenda which were they have gone ever since. Next, we wanted to get them out in front of the congregation in way they could see and know them this happened about year half ago on the back of the bulletin. Finally, with the focus of our world and the lack of Biblical integrity in main line churches I believed it would be important to have the Mission, Vision, Values posted on the back wall for all to see and remember. God is doing a great work in our church, and I believe it do to the focus we have given to these truths in the past few years. May God continue to challenge our hearts for His holiness and guide us to new depths with Him.

Our Mission

Helping people Know, Grow and Go in Christ's Love!

Our Vision

To <u>Relentlessly</u> know Christ and make Him known in our **Community.**

Our Values

*Believing the Bible is God's Word. It's accurate, authoritative and applicable to our everyday lives. 2Timothy 3:16

*Focusing on bringing people to Christ both near and far. Matthew 28:19-20

*The power of Prayer. 1Thessalonians 5:17 – Colossians 4:2-3

*Worshiping together in His presence. Romans 12:1

*Helping our family develop their God-given ability to serve others. Mark 10:45

*Seeking to look like Jesus. Matthew 6:33

submitted by Pastor Jay



Begins March 14





It's a boy! Elias Eugene Byerly was born to Andrew and Megan and big sister, Allie on February 20. He weighed 7 lbs. 10 oz. Proud grandparents are **Tom and Joellen** Byerly. Congratulations!!

March 5 - Movie night

March 19 - Youth Rally 6 pm at Crossroads Church

March 31 & April 1 - 2023 Fusion at Indiana Wesleyan University



Joke of the month

Newfie Medical Dictionary

The study of paintings Artery Bacteria Back door to cafeteria

What doctors do when patient dies Barrium

What you do after 8 Benign Ceasarean Section A neighborhood in Rome Searching for kitty Catscan Colic A sheepdog Coma A punctuation mark

Dilate To live long Enema Not a friend

Quicker than anyone else Fester

Fibula A small lie

Labor Pain Getting hurt at work A doctor's cane Medical Staff Morbid A higher offer

Cheaper than day rates **Nitrates**

Node I knew it

Outpatient A person who has fainted Pelvis Second cousin to Elvis

Post Operative A letter carrier

Recovery Room A place to do upholstery

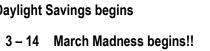
Rectum Nearly killed him Secretion Hiding something Seizure Roman emperor Tablet A small table Terminal Illness One plus one more Opposite of you're out Urine

submitted by Bobby Dollison



Check out the **Candy Bouquets** 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.

- 3 3JOY—Dinner & The Hoppers' Concert
- 3 5Penny March for Missions
- 3 6**National Oreo Day**
- **Daylight Savings begins** 3 – 12



- Happy St. Patrick's Day
- Men's Prayer Breakfast 8 am Speaker: Shane Roese
- Youth Rally 6 pm at Crossroads Church
- 3 20Spring begins!!
- 3 26Movie Night 6 pm FC Hall
- 3 29 Vietnam War Veterans Day
- 3 31 Youth—2023 Fusion at Indiana Wesleyan University



Daylight Savings begins March 12

Don't lose site of who is in control

What do you call a bear without any teeth? A gummy bear!

Does anyone need an ark? I Noah guy!

To whoever stole my copy of Microsoft Office, I will find you. You have my Word!

What sound does a witches car make? Broom Broom

submitted by Jerry Parish

