

THE WITNESS

Circleville First Church

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February 2025

Issue 303

Jay Neff, Senior Pastor 740/804-1482
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Tanya Patrick, Director of Children Ministries 614/353-4690
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Getting to know your church neighbor



Chad and Linda Howard will celebrate their 10th wedding anniversary on May 2. They are the parents of 7 adult children and 11 grandbabies-beginning with the kids and their families: **Ryan Howard**, he has **Rowan**, age 5 and **Ryker** who is 2; **Kathy Howard**, she has **Carter** who is 8 and **Avery** 5 years old; **Kelsey Howard** has **Aria** age

7, **Easton** is 4 and the twins **Colton and Hunter**, they are a year old; **Kyle Howard** is married to **Rachel** and they are the parents of **Eliza**, 7 and **Juniper** who is 4 months; **Lia Howard** currently has fur babies; **Miranda Howard** currently has no kids and lastly is **Nora Roese** who just had **Hadley**, born December 9, 2024 with her fiancé **Robbie Rolfe**.

Linda said that they live outside of Kingston, in the country. Chad has lived here since 1995 and she moved there in 2013. "Chad does home repairs for himself and also helps a buddy out. I work full-time as a substance abuse counselor in Columbus and Waverly and have been a licensed massage therapist since 2007. I do massages on Saturdays most weekends," she stated.

In the past, Chad has volunteered as a firefighter/EMT-I/rescue diver for 27 years at Saltcreek Tarlton Volunteer Fire Department but has also worked with Colerain FD and Pickaway Co Fire and Water Rescue. At one time, he owned a towing company for about 15 years after closing his business and went to work for Vest Towing and Scioto Valley Wrecker Service.

Linda has also volunteered as an EMT-B for about 7 years at Saltcreek Tarlton Volunteer Fire Department. She also has worked full time as a massage therapist since graduating in (continued on page 2)

CIRCLEVILLE FIRST CHURCH
436 E. OHIO ST. CIRCLEVILLE OH 43113



SUNDAY,
FEBRUARY 16
5:30PM | COST \$5.00

Traditional, Spicy & Specialty
(plus a potato bar!)

All proceeds benefit the
CFC Missions Department

*Cool prizes for the best
chili in each category!*

IS YOUR CHILI UP FOR
THE CHALLENGE?



To donate a chili or dessert,
please sign up at the
Welcome Desk and plan
to arrive early! Doors will
open at 5:00pm for set up.

Romans 12: 1-2

"Therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, I urge you to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God; this is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may discern what is the good, pleasing, and perfect will of God."



Getting to know (con't from page 1)

2007 and worked in the Hocking Hills massaging at the different cabins for about 8 years until she opened her own shop at her home. Linda added, "I went back to school in 2018 and earned my associate's degree in criminal justice and criminology then went on to earn my counselor's license and have been working in addiction since 2020." She plans to go back to school soon.

Chad recalled that he was saved many years ago at St. Phillips. He and Linda have been attending Circleville First Church for approximately 1 ½ - 2 years. "We know **Tim Tener**. We attended Crossroads for a short time but didn't seem like it was a good fit and wanted to find another church and here we are," recalled Linda.

Chad's favorite color is clear (lol) while Linda likes purple, blue and green and likes chicken and pasta while Chad enjoys hibachi. The couple likes Texas Roadhouse, Linda went on to say, "I also am a big fan of Casa Del Taco."

"I like Elevation Worship music, but I also like 80's rock. Chad likes just about anything," stated Linda. Chad's birthday is March 28 and Linda's is November 4. The couple said that they love camping, hiking, backpacking and riding motorcycles. She said, "Chad dives and I snorkel; we both are NRA firearm instructors (we teach concealed carry weapon classes) and love going out back to shoot on our range; we are both martial artists and teach martial arts as well as teaching self-defense techniques to women to help empower them to not be a victim." A class will begin on January 31.

Linda laughed, "Chad's talent is you never know what you're going to get with him. I guess my talent is putting people to sleep on the massage table."

When asked to tell something about yourself, Linda shared, "On January 3, 2010, a 6-year-old boy fell into an icy pond after being at a birthday party and Chad was the diver who found him. The little boy wasn't the same and we can document that he was under for at least 1 hour and 30 minutes, but he got several awards for it. Alex lived for another 7 years and his family were grateful they had that extra time with him. He also touched so many lives coming to their rescue whether it be in a tow truck or in the fire/EMS service."

As for Linda, she recalled, "When I was a kid, I wanted to fly airplanes so my parents paid for lessons and I got my student pilot license about the same time I got my driver's license. And yes, I needed a phone book to sit on and a pillow behind my back so I could see out the cockpit."

Donations needed for our community cupboard



a tote is located in the overflow for donations

Bible study

Come as you are to Bible study is held at **1 pm on Wednesdays in the Ferguson/Clark Hall**. So, come as you are...to Wednesday Bible Study!



Thank you for your service!



Sean Baldwin, Bob Byerly, Sgt. Travis Cotton, Addison Coy, Ryan Dean, Elijah Garrison, Zachary Haddox, Trent Holbrook, Brittany Mozingo, Jake Richards, Andrew Williams and Tanner Wilson are serving our country. Please pray for them and their families.

Men's Prayer Meeting - Saturdays at 8 am

Men's Prayer Breakfast

February 15

8 am FC Hall

speaker: Pastor Jeremiah Martindale



Verse of the month

"Let not your heart be troubled. You are trusting God, now trust in me." John 14:1 (The Way) The Living Bible

submitted by **John Adams**



TRANSFORMATION



Kitchen delights

I found a recipe that is simple and easy to make.

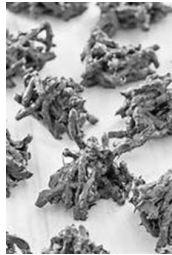
Peanut Butter Shoestring Haystacks

- 2 cups peanut butter
- 1 (12 oz.) package semisweet chocolate chips
- 1 (11 oz.) package butterscotch chips
- 1 tsp. canola oil
- 3 cups shoestring potatoes



Combine peanut butter, chocolate chips and butterscotch chips in a microwave safe bowl; stir until melted, about 8 minutes. Stir in oil.

Remove from the heat and mix in potatoes until well combined. Drop by rounded spoonful onto waxed paper-lined baking sheets.



Refrigerate until firm, about 2 hours.

submitted by **Nancy Johnson**

valentine's Day is coming soon...

If you need of a gift...**Candy Bouquets**

Bouquets are located in the back of the church. The cost is \$10 apiece; the money benefits missions. Envelopes are provided for your payment and can be placed in the collection boxes. There are also floral sticks and cards/stickers you can add to your bouquet as a gift card or greeting card.



Thanks to all who have donated toward this ministry.

submitted by **Cathy Marck**

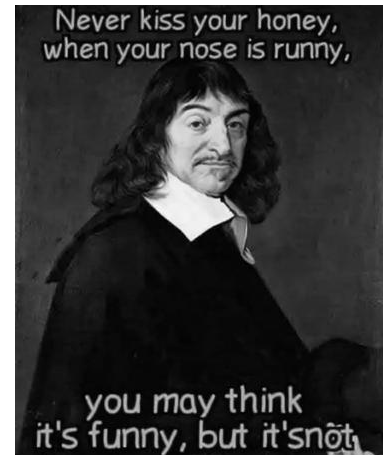
No Penny March – please use the coin boxes

Ministries at Circleville First Church will continue,
but changed a bit.

Jokes of the month



A policeman sees a blonde driving and knitting at the same time. Aggravated, he pulls up beside her, rolls down his window and yells, "Pull over."
The blonde yells back, "No silly, it's a scarf."



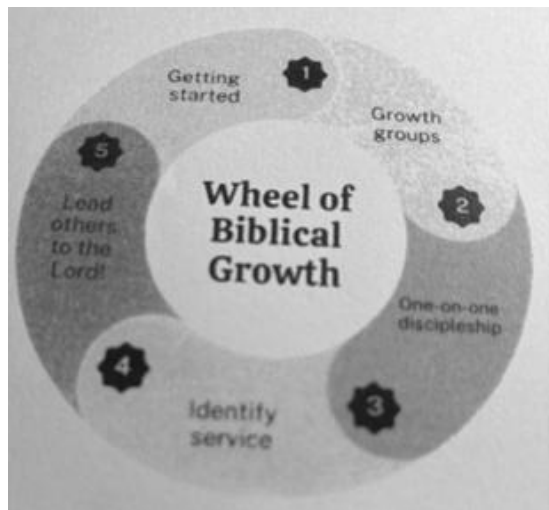
submitted by **Bobby Dollison**

Mark your calendars!

Summit
March 21-22-23

Church Services to be in held in the FC Hall beginning on February 16





Getting started class

A six-week class taught by **Pastor Jay Neff** will begin on February 16 at the Growth Group hour (Sunday School).

So, what does this class entail? This is a class geared towards people who are new to the church and new Christians.

Topics will include walking through basic Christian faith, information on our church and the denomination, as well as how to connect to an adult growth group.

So, if you are new to our church or a new Christian, this is the class for you!

Ladies Self-Defense Classes

January 31 – February 28

Friday evenings

6 pm

Ferguson/Clark Hall

Sign up at the Information Desk



No cost for individuals, however if you would like to donate to the cause, donations accepted.



Security Team

Sound/Video Team

CFC kids corner

Hey Y'all

from the CFC Kids Corner

The kids are doing great! However, due to construction of the church sanctuary, **there will be NO Penny March in February, March or April.** I will be giving the kids and the adults coin boxes (in their Sunday School classes) to take home and return on Easter! Like to color?



Teachers are needed for CFC Kids. Prayerfully consider helping to teach Jesus to our kids. You will get far more than you give. If you are willing to volunteer, see Tanya.

submitted by **Tanya Patrick**

21 Days of Prayer

begins February 2

Monday—Friday at 6 am

Saturday—Sunday at 7 am

Thank you!

Thank you for giving to the Lord...so the song goes. That is just what **Larry Keller, Ryan Delozier, Jean Dollison**

and **Bob Dollison** has done. Bob said, "It started with **Pastor Jay Neff** asking me to head up a painting team to paint a big Sunday School room for **Pastor Jeremiah Martindale**. By the time we finished, we painted a total of 4 rooms."

He added, "Pastor Jay made sure we were supplied with all we needed to get the job done. There is more painting left to do, down the road. It is nice to see how much cleaner the rooms look after the painting was finished."

"We are thankful to do this job for Jesus and for our wonderful church family," Bob concluded.



Thank you for a job well done and for the serving!

JOY (Just Older Youth) Ministry will have their activities on the third Saturday of the month when scheduled. Watch for details for upcoming events.



Chili Cook-Off/Dessert Auction

February 16
5:30 pm



Cost; \$5 per person



Crock pots of chili needed: traditional, spicy and specialty

To donate a chili or dessert please sign up at the Welcome Center and plan to arrive early. Doors open at 5 pm for set up

All proceeds benefit CFC Missions Department

1 – 31 **Ladies Self-Defense Class**
6 pm FC Hall



2 – 2 **21 Days of Prayer begins**
Happy Groundhog Day

2 - 4 **Ladies Lunch** at 11 am - Lunch at OCU dining room—
large building in the back of the campus—
enter far right doors

2 – 7 **Ladies Self-Defense Class** 6 pm FC Hall

2 – 14 **Happy Valentine's Day!!**



2 – 16 **Getting Started Class** begins (for 6 weeks)
Chili Cook-Off 5:30 pm FC Hall



2 – 17 **Presidents' Day**

2 – 18 **Ladies Night** in the Ferguson/Clark Hall - food, fun &
fellowship

2 – 21 **Ladies Self-Defense Class** 6 pm FC Hall



2 – 28 **Ladies Self-Defense Class** 6 pm FC Hall

Feed My Starving Children

March 1

Portsmouth, Ohio

Spots are available for volunteers



So, what is this Feed My Starving Children? Well, founded in 1987, Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) is a Christian non-profit that provides nutritionally complete meals specifically formulated for malnourished children. The process is as follows: donations are given by people to fund the meal ingredients. Volunteers hand-pack the meals. Meals are then donated to partner organizations around the world, where kids are fed and lives are saved!



The organization's founder, Richard Proudfit, had traveled to Honduras after a 1974 hurricane and witnessed the survivors' misery. In 1987, he assembled scientists from General Mills, Cargill and other companies to create a food product that provided all the nutritional requirements to sustain the famished. The group created a winning formula of rice, soy, dehydrated vegetables and chicken flavoring—plus vitamins and minerals—that is still used today.

In July 2015, a team of 13 from Circleville First Church traveled to Titanyen, Haiti with Healing Haiti. At the site of the mass grave from the January 2010 earthquake, the male members of the team handed out MannaPack meals to the Haitians who have come out of their homes in the mountains to receive the meals. These meals were so precious and needed by this community that there were outbreaks of arguments and squabbles over getting the meals.

We have had many opportunities over the past several years to serve at MobilePack events.

You have an opportunity to help with this ministry: March 1 in Portsmouth. Spots are available. See Joy Atwood for more information.



submitted by **Joy Atwood**

Coming in May

Church Rummage Sale for Shoebox Ministry



Start saving your items for the church rummage sale benefitting Shoebox Ministry. We will take good clean used items or new items you never used. Sorry, no appliances or mattresses. Thank you.



Ladies, what's coming up...

Mark your calendars

Tuesday, February 4 - Ladies Lunch at 11 am - Lunch at OCU dining room— large building in the back of the campus— enter far right doors

Tuesday, February 18 - Ladies Night in the Ferguson/Clark Hall - food, fun & fellowship

Tuesday, March 4 - Ladies Lunch at 11 am – Lunch at El Palomar (Wal-Mart Plaza)

Tuesday, March 18 - Ladies Night in the Ferguson/Clark Hall – food, fun & fellowship

submitted by **Joellen Byerly**

Spring (ECL) Ladies Retreat

March 14 & 15

Deer Creek Lodge

Speaker: Dr. Tammy Smith
Music: Amber Sparks Kasper

Registration Cost: 4 to a room \$150 each
3 to a room \$175 each
2 to a room \$200 each

For questions or to return your registration forms with partial payment: see Hannah Martindale, Tonya Neff or Joellen Byerly by January 29. We will collect final payment and mail it all in as a church together by March 1.

Shoebox items of the month



Ivory soap & washcloths



Try a Growth Group class (Sunday School), stay where you fit in and feel comfortable

Brain teasers

Study the five brain teasers. Then, see if you can answer without looking at the answers.

1. A murderer is condemned to death. He has to choose between three rooms. The first is full of raging fires, the second is full of assassins with loaded guns, and the third is full of lions that haven't eaten in 3 years. Which room is safest for him?

2. A woman shoots her husband. Then she holds him under water for over 5 minutes. Finally, she hangs him. But 5 minutes later they both go out together and enjoy a wonderful dinner together. How can this be?

3. What is black when you buy it, red when you use it, and gray when you throw it away?

4. Can you name three consecutive days without using the words Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, or Sunday?

5. This is an unusual paragraph. I'm curious how quickly you can find out what is so unusual about it. It looks so plain you would think nothing was wrong with it. In fact, nothing is wrong with it! It is unusual though. Study it, and think about it, but you still may not find anything odd. But if you work at it a bit, you might find out. Try to do so without any coaching!

submitted by **Jerry Parish**

Answers...

1. The third. Lions that haven't eaten in three years are dead.

2. The woman is a photographer. She shot a picture of her husband, developed it, and hung it up to dry.

3. Charcoal. This one is tricky. Only old-timers can remember using coal for heating...

4. Sure you can: Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow!

5. The letter "e" - the most common letter in the English language - is missing from the entire paragraph! This one was hard. If you got this one - give yourself a pat on a back!

