

THE WITNESS

Circleville First Church

436 East Ohio Street
Circleville, Ohio 43113
(740) 474-2250 circlevillefirstchurch.com

March 2026

Issue 316

Jay Neff, Senior Pastor (740) 804-1482
Andrew Hottinger, Associate Pastor (740) 403-3166
Andrew Byerly, Music/Worship Ministry (740) 601-7405

Kim Buchanan, Director of Growth Groups (740) 701-6105
Lisa Burroughs, Director of Youth Ministry (740) 412-4149

2026 Chili Cook-Off & Ruth Ann Tener Memorial Dessert Auction

2026 Chili Cook-Off/ Ruth Ann Tener Memorial Dessert Auction will be held on **March 1** at 6 pm in the Ferguson/Clark Hall.

Proceeds benefit Circleville First Church mission department and the summer mission trip to Dominican Republic.



Crockpots of chili and desserts are needed. There are 3 categories for the cook-off competition: traditional, spicy and specialty.

Crockpots of chili arrives at 5:30 pm and dinner at 6 pm. The cost of admission is \$5 per person.

The dessert auction has been named in memory of **Ruth Ann Tener**. **Tim Tener** said, "Serving was Mom's heart. She would make anywhere from 12-16 pies. We are to serve with the talents we have, that's what Mom did. If it's baking, then bake. If it's hospitality, then serve; whatever the Lord has placed on your heart, your interests and talents." Psalm 34:8 states, "Taste and see that the Lord is good."

If you want to compete in the cook-off or if you want to donate a dessert, the sign-up sheet is located at the Information Desk.

Sign-up sheet available for: set-up, servers and clean-up.



See Joy Atwood for more information.

It's Lunch Time for the Crossroads Christian Academy Warriors

Lunch time is Monday-Friday 11:45 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. in the Ferguson/Clark Fellowship Hall

and **you are invited**...not to eat, **but to serve**.

That's right, you can serve the Lord by serving the students!

How does this work? The food is prepared at Crossroads Church, Home of the Warriors, then delivered to the F/C Hall, where the students who attend CCA at CFC eat their lunch.

What do servers do? Servers prepare tables with table service items and the food and drinks that are delivered. When the students arrive and after prayer, servers serve students and staff as they make their way down the food line.

Everyone pulls together to clean up. Students apply life skills to tidy up, and servers tend to light kitchen duties. Together we make an awesome team!

How can you serve? Lunches arrive around 11:30 a.m. each day. Servers arrive shortly before. Drop in any day you would like to help serve. Cleanup is complete and we are out the door by 12:30 p.m. or shortly after.



Come, meet the students and be a part of this new ministry.

submitted by **Sue Stonerock**

Sabbath

Penny March – March 1

Calling all men...

Men's Prayer Meeting

Saturdays 8 am

Hey, you guys!!!

Men's Prayer Breakfast

March 21

8 am FC Hall

speaker: Tommy Fletcher



Gender segregated morning meal

Gender segregated morning meal (wording--compliments of Joy Atwood) also known as men's prayer breakfast.

Men taking time to "break bread;" on the third Saturday of each month, breakfast is served at 8 am in the Ferguson/Clark Hall with **Aaron Yaniga** in the kitchen.

"I stepped into the kitchen after **Ronnie Harper** stepped out (sometime in 2018 or 2019); I was his back-up, **Tim Tener** serves as my back-up. At this time, **Kiera** (my wife) and I were already in charge of the Easter breakfast," Aaron stated.



Each month Aaron cooks breakfast for 20-30 men. He continued that he prepares breakfast comfort foods that varies from month to month. But makes it special in November when he cooks caramel apple French toast bake and in December

prepares prime rib breakfast steaks. Yum!!

"I cook some at home, my specialties are wings, pulled pork, homemade bacon, anything on the smoker," said Aaron.

"God works it out, there is always enough for everyone," Aaron stated, "No sign-up is necessary, just show up to this gender segregated morning meal."

Bible study

Wednesdays at 1 pm Ferguson/Clark Hall

Operation Christmas Child



Items for March

TOYS

Reminder: Shoeboxes are available all year round. Please contact Brittany Graul for a box(es) and details.

Verse of the month

"But God shows undeserved kindness to everyone. That's why He appointed Christ Jesus to choose you to share in his eternal glory. You will suffer for a while, but God will make you complete, steady, strong and firm." 1 Peter 5:10 CEV



submitted by **John Adams**

Community cupboard needs

**Pasta & Sauce,
Peanut Butter & Jelly**



a tote is located in the overflow for donations

Thank you for serving our country...

Please pray for our country, our leaders and all of our military and their families as they serve but especially **Sean Baldwin, Bob Byerly, Ryan Dean, Zachary Haddox, Oscar Knece, Brittany Mozingo, Tim Sauers, Andrew Williams and Tanner Wilson.**



"Blessed is the man who does this, and the son of man who lays hold on it; Who keeps from defiling the Sabbath, and keeps his hand from doing any evil."

Isaiah 56:2

Leadership Summit

March 13 at 7 pm
March 14 at 9 am- 2 pm
March 15 at 10:45 am

speaker: Ryan VanArsdalen

Lunch provided by youth group

God’s people to advance His Kingdom, even amid challenging circumstances.

When contacted for an update, Pastor Luis Gonzalez shared the following testimony: “We give glory to God that the Lord is in control of everything. The church here in Mariana, the brothers and sisters, are safe at home and continue working with the children. We are going through this process of government change, but we are trusting in the Lord. We also praise God that the brothers and Pastor English in Brazil are continuing to serve the Lord faithfully as well.”

Church Extension

Churches of Christ in Christian Union 21 Days of Prayer: March 1 -21

Great Commission Call to 21 days of prayer and fasting.

Each day at 3:16 pm, please stop and pray for the lost and for God to send laborers into His harvest.

Fast: We ask each participant to fast one meal per week and use that time to meet with God.

Great Commission Offering for Church Planting
May 17, 2026

Great Commission Celebration at Mount of Praise
June 22, 2026

CHURCH EXTENSION CHURCHES OF THE MONTH:

New Church Plants in Venezuela and Brazil

Recent developments in the nation of Venezuela have captured international attention and underscored the uncertainty facing many communities around the world. While these events may feel distant to some, the Churches of Christ in Christian union, particularly through the Caribbean District, remain closely connected to the people and ministries serving faithfully in the region.

Over the past year, Shekinah Place Church in Trinidad has demonstrated remarkable Great Commission faithfulness by sponsoring two new church plants in Venezuela and one new church plant in Brazil. These ministries stand as a powerful testimony to the global reach of the gospel and unwavering obedience of

The Gospel Advances in Uncertain Times

This testimony reminds us that the Church of Jesus Christ is not hindered by political uncertainty, national transitions, or difficult circumstances. In every season, God remains sovereign, building His Church, strengthening His people, and extending His love to families and communities across the world. In Brazil, the ministry led by Pastor English reflects ongoing discipleship, community outreach, and faithful service. Likewise, the churches in Venezuela continue their work with courage and perseverance, trusting fully in the Lord’s provision while ministering to children and families.

We praise God for Shekinah Place Church and its willingness to invest in global church planting for God’s glory. Their obedience to the Great Commission serves as an example of missional faithfulness and Kingdom-minded leadership.

Thank you, Reverend Dean for this update and the privilege to share it with Circleville First Church.

Sincerely,
Cathy Marck Church Extension President

submitted by **Cathy Marck**, Church Extension President

Try a Growth Group class at 9:45 am,
stay where you fit in and feel comfortable

2026 Chili Cook-Off & Ruth Ann Tener Memorial Dessert Auction

March 1

6 pm
Ferguson/Clark Hall

Cost: \$5 per person

Ladies lunch

Nine ladies braved the cold and snow for our lunch in February.

The next lunch will be at **Zanzi's Pizza** on **Tuesday, March 3 at 11 am.**

Please call Diana at 740.497.4042 if you have a question or need a ride.

submitted by **Diana Moore**



Youth Missions Trip

Dominican Republic

June 23-30



The work team is being formed. They will be building a house. Contact Seth George for more information.

Mark your calendars!



Tuesday, March 3 - Ladies Lunch - at Zanzi's Pizza at 11 am

March 20-21 – Ladies SCD – **I Am** – conference

Sunday, March 22 - ECL Fundraising Lunch

Cost is \$5 per person/ \$20 for family

Donations are always appreciated

Saturday, April 25 – Crossroads Ladies Conference -**Joy of the Journey** - registration needed, \$25.00 if early bird registration is met, T-shirts will be available. Information will be found on the Welcome Center table. (As soon as I receive it).

Thursday, May 21 - Ladies Night at 6:30 in the Fellowship Hall, bring a friend and snack to share. This will be a Make-it-Take-it Night.

June 4, 5, and 6 Rummage Sale for Samaritan's Purse. Men are welcome to join us for this one. We will start set up on May 31. So, start setting aside all of your "good used" items you no longer want. We **will not** accept mattresses or large appliances and make sure all clothing is appropriate. We don't want to advertise "things of the world".

submitted by **Joellen Byerly & Diana Moore**

Kitchen delights

This recipe is from CFC cookbook by Linda Grisso

Chili Cheeseburger Pie

1 pkg. Durkee meatball seasoning mix
1 lb. ground beef
1/2 cup chopped onion
1/2 cup evaporated milk
1 Tbsp. chili powder
1/2 cup catsup
1/2 tsp. oregano
1 tsp. salt
1 unbaked 10" pie shell
1/4 tsp. pepper
1 tsp. Worcestershire sauce
1 1/2 cup shredded American cheese



Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Brown ground beef and onion. Pour off grease. Stir in seasoning mix, milk, catsup, chili powder, salt, oregano and pepper.

Spread in pie shell. Place pie pan on cookie sheet and bake 20 minutes. Remove from oven and top with a mixture of cheese and Worcestershire sauce.

Bake 10 minutes longer. Let stand 10 minutes. Serves 6.

submitted by **Nancy Johnson**

Jokes of the month



--The doctor said my sugar was too high. When I got home, I moved it to a lower shelf; it's much more accessible now.

--Went to the doctor yesterday with a suspicious looking mole. He said they all look like that and I should have left him in the garden.

--I am often mistaken for an adult because of my age.

submitted by **Bobby Dollison**

Stories from Elizabeth's Hope

Not As Planned

It was a Monday. Normally, my Mondays are packed with emails, administrative work, follow up texts, charting and ultrasounds. But this particular Monday I had no ultrasounds on my schedule. That changed quickly.

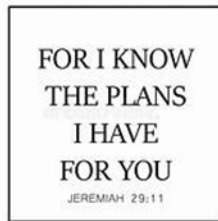
Early in the day, a client came in with the news that she was pregnant and unsure of her dates. I was asked if I could provide her with an ultrasound. Not long after, I got a text from a client I had scanned a month earlier. Her OB appointment had been postponed because of snow and now she faced several more weeks of waiting. She asked if she could come in for a rescan.

Both women arrived at their scheduled times, each excited about her pregnancy. But the images we saw were not what we hoped for. Certain findings didn't look normal. While I cannot diagnose miscarriages, sometimes the screen hints at difficult possibilities. Only time will reveal whether these pregnancies will continue. We pray for these women and these pregnancies.

My Monday did not go as planned. But even when our plans shift, we trust that these babies were planned and created by a loving God.

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11

Kristie Steck BSN, RN
Mobile Nurse Manager
Elizabeth's Hope



Baptism Sunday will be held on **April 19** during the morning worship service at 10:45 am. For anyone wanting to take the next step in their faith to be baptized.

"It is not what we EAT but what we DIGEST that makes us STRONG.

Not what we GAIN but what we SAVE that makes us RICH.

Not what we READ but what we REMEMBER that makes us LEARNED.

Not what we PROFESS but what we PRACTICE that make us CHRISTIANS."

submitted by **Nancy Johnson**

ECL Fundraising Lunch

Sunday, March 22

We will be having an awesome meal provided by the ladies who attended the retreat along with cookies, (provided by ladies who could not make it) and drink. Cost is \$5.00 per person \$20.00 for family. **Donations are always appreciated.** What is the awesome meal? Well perhaps some meatloaf, pulled pork, or casseroles galore, but there will be something there for everyone's palate.



**Update we made almost all of the money we needed to pay half the expense of the retreat. This meal should put us over the top.

***We will start the meals up again in August/September through February for our next year's retreat. I think everyone who attends the meals really enjoys a good \$5 meal and the fellowship.

submitted by **Joellen Byerly**

Coming soon...

Dinner with Friends



We will start this back up in March/April.

Sign up will be in the Welcome Center on a purple paper.

This is a way to meet others from our church and build relationships. If your home is too small don't worry, we will have host families with larger homes to meet at. Don't let that hold you back. Your group will pick the night or afternoon which is best for you all to meet – these dates are very, very flexible depending on schedules. The last 4 months we have had over 30 people involved with Dinner with Friends and everyone has enjoyed it. Tom and I have done this for a while, I choose the meat and/or theme and everyone volunteers to bring something to share. It is a time to talk and laugh and eat.

Questions? Joellen Byerly 513-680-6012

Membership class

Anyone interested in becoming a member of the church, Pastor Jay Neff and Pastor Andrew Hottinger will be taking the time to explain what biblical membership looks like. Classes will be held on **Wednesday evenings at 7 pm** in the library: **April 15, April 22, April 29, May 6 and May 13.**



Interested in learning more about your walk with Jesus? More about the Bible? More about what we believe and how to pray? If you have any questions please feel free to contact **Tom Byerly at 614-440-**

4301 and he can partner you with a mentor that would love to take this journey with you. It is a 10-week study, you and your mentor pick the time and date. Those who have done this in the past are glad they did. Just ask one of 20+ who took the journey last year.

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- 3 – 1 **Penny March**
Chili Cook-Off/Ruth Ann Tener Memorial Dessert
Auction 6 pm FC Hall
- 3 – 3 **Ladies Lunch** at Zanzi's
Pizza at 11 am
- 3 – 8 **Daylight Savings Time**
begins
- 3 – 13 to 15 **Leadership Summit**
speaker: Ryan VanArsdalen
- 3 - 13 **Leadership Summit** 7 pm
- 3 – 14 **Leadership Summit** 9 am –2 pm
Lunch provided by youth group
- 3 – 15 **Leadership Summit** 10:45 am
- 3 – 15 **Evening Service** – dismissed
- 3 – 20 & 21 **Ladies SCD – I Am** – conference
- 3 – 21 **Men's Prayer Breakfast**
8 am FC Hall
JOY- Pizza/Game Challenge
- 3 – 22 **ECL Fundraising Lunch**
- 3 – 29 **Palm Sunday—Hosanna!!**
Communion 10:45 am
Concert of Prayer 6 pm



March 17



March 8 Daylight Savings begins

-Why shouldn't you tell secrets when our clock is around? Because time will tell.

-When is it impossible to plant spring flowers? When you haven't botany! --from Ruth Keller

-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!

-The bad news is that I accidentally took the wrong medication today. The good news is I'm now protected from heartworms and fleas for the next three months.

-Got hospitalized due to a peekaboo accident. They put me in the ICU. ---from Tim Tener

-Yesterday I accidentally swallowed some food coloring. The doctor says that I'm ok, but I feel like I've dyed a little inside.

submitted by **Bobby Dollison**

Car Show...Coming soon

First Day of SPRING - March 20

If you're taking a beating, cheer-up;
God is just stirring the batter to bring you a blessing!

submitted by **Nancy Johnson**

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