

# THE WITNESS

Circleville First Church

436 East Ohio Street  
Circleville, Ohio 43113

(740) 474-2250 circlevillefirstchurch.com



December 2021

Issue 265

Jay Neff, Senior Pastor	740/804-1482
Jim Daft, Evangelism & Seniors Ministries	740/474-7353
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
Seth George, Director-Second Chance Ministries	740/475-9351

## It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year

Many tasks come with the Christmas holiday season. Shoveling and playing in snow, decorating cookies and Christmas trees, shopping and wrapping gifts, cooking and spending time with loved ones just to name a few. Christmas music gives us a way to share joy and liven up the holiday season. What is your favorite Christmas song?

**David Dollison** stated, "I like a lot but a favorite is *Silent Night*." *O Holy Night* is **Dan Namawicz's** favorite Christmas song and **Jason Seat**



enjoys *Silent Night*. "*Grandma Got Run Over By a Reindeer!*" exclaimed **Bradley Neff**. **Alivia Dyke** likes *All I Want for Christmas is You* while **Alexis Dyke** likes *Last Christmas*.

**Cathy Marck** and **Anjanette Fox** also choose *O Holy Night* as a favorite Christmas song. **Loretta Gibson** likes to hear *Hark the Herald Angels Sing*. **Peggy Smith** shared, "I like to sing *Silent Night* and *It Came Upon a Midnight Clear*." **Brittany Graul** admitted, "I love them all." **Adrian Sadlak** enjoys *Deck the Halls* and **Kathy Blue** chooses *Silent Night* as a favorite Christmas song. **Ed Hatfield** likes *Jingle Bell Rock* and

as her favorite Christmas song and **Joellen Byerly** exclaimed, "I like ALOT! of them!!" **Chris Tener** enjoys *Joy to the World* and **Michael Groleau** stated, "I like them all but I really like *Christmas Shoes* sung by Casting Crowns."

In the hustle and bustle of the holiday season, may we find joy in music, whether in songs that bring a smile or songs that rejoice and celebrate the true meaning of the season, Jesus Christ our Savior.

submitted by **Sue Stonerock**

## Children's Christmas Program

December 12 10:45 am



Christmas Cantata  
**Song of Joy**

December 19 10:45 am

## Church Christmas Fellowship

December 19  
6 pm FC Hall

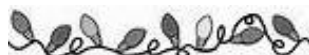


Christmas Eve Service  
8 pm



**Marilyn Hatfield** stated, "I like *O Holy Night* sung by **Don Gose**." **Don Brown** claims *Mary Did You Know* and *Silent Night* as favorites while **Dee Brown** enjoys *Joy to the World*. "All of them" are **Sarah Davidson's** favorite Christmas songs and **Venita Daft** stated, "I like them all." **Caleb**

**Graul** enjoys *Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer*. "I like *Star of Bethlehem*", said **Donna Johnson**. **Billy Hodges** likes *Spirit of Christmas* by Ray Charles while **Amy Hodges** enjoys *O Holy Night*. **Becky Bailey** selected *Silent Night* and *Little Drummer Boy* as her favorites. **Dee Bevan** named *The Hallelujah Chorus*



## Getting to know your church neighbor

**Aaron Senig** lives in Stoutsville and has been playing bass guitar for Circleville First Church's worship team for eight years. He has been attending our church "since I was a child," along with his parents, **Jim and Anita** and brother, **Adam**.

Aaron has a girlfriend of four years, **Tanda Moore** and a step-daughter, **Kirin**. He is employed by Trimold Injection Molding. "My hobbies include classic cars, flying RC airplanes and helicopters; collecting anything military related such as World War II firearms, World War II helmets and helping my girlfriend take care of her race horse," stated Aaron.



He does not play any other instruments and added, "I sing only in my car by myself." Aaron was saved in 2013, "with my parents and brother all at the same time."

*Thank you, Aaron for your using your talents for the Lord!*



## Home of the free because of the brave!

*Thank you for our service!*



Serving our country: **Sean Baldwin, James Benner, Bob Byerly, Travis Cotton, Addison Coy, Elijah Garrison, Zachary Haddox, Trent Holbrook, Brittany Mozingo, Jake Richards,**

**Andrew Williams and Tanner Wilson**. Thank you for your sacrifice! Please pray for our military men and women.



## Men's Prayer Meetings

Saturdays 8 am



## Men's Prayer Breakfast

December 18 8 am

Ferguson/Clark Hall



WISEMEN  
Still  
SEEK HIM

## Getting to know your church neighbor

**Adam Senig** has been playing guitar for the Circleville First Church worship team for eight years. He said, "I sing in the choir and by myself. I play clarinet and trying to learn the fiddle."

Adam has attended our church regularly for eight years and off/on his whole life. He has a four-year-old daughter, **Elizabeth Grace** who attends preschool. He is the son of **Jim and Anita Senig** and has a brother, **Aaron**.

He lives in Circleville and has lived here all of his life except for two years in Stoutsville. Adam works for Schneider National as a truck driver. He also a volunteer EMT (Emergency Medical Technician) at Clearcreek Township Fire.

In 2013, Adam along with his parents and brother was saved in his grandparents' house.

In his spare time, Adam enjoys model building; radio control planes, cars and helicopters; classic cars; motorcycling; target shooting and firearms collecting. "I like all things retro, vintage, antique and historical," concluded Adam.



*For your talents and dedication, Adam, thank you for serving!*



## Second Chance Ministry

December 3 & December 13

7 pm



# OOPS!

In November's "The Witness" a list of veterans from Circleville First Church was run. **Ron Neuhauser** was omitted from this list. I apologize to

Ron for this oversight and want to assure you that it was unintentional. We THANK you for your service.



## Comfy corner creations

### Peppermint Oreo Cookie Cake Balls

- 1 package of Oreo Cookies or 40 Oreos—finely crushed
- 1 8 oz. package of cream cheese
- 2 semi-sweet chocolate bars—melted (I use white and milk chocolate chips from Wittich's)
- Crushed candy canes

Crush the Oreo cookies in a Ziploc bag. Reserve 3 tablespoon to sprinkle on the cake balls. Mix the cookie crumbs and cream cheese. Shape into 1-inch balls. Freeze 10 minutes. Dip balls in melted chocolate and place on cookie sheet lined with parchment paper or wax paper. Use toothpicks for easy dipping. Sprinkle with crushed candy canes and cookie crumbs. Refrigerate 1 hour.

submitted by **Sharon Harper**



I would like to take a moment to **THANK Sharon Harper** from the bottom of my heart for her dedication and dependability in writing the Comfy Corner Creations column. She has opted to step down; I just want her to know how much she is appreciated and to thank her for making the newsletter possible. **Thank you, Sharon!**



Did you know? **Allie Byerly**, daughter of **Andrew and Megan** and granddaughter of **Tom and Joellen**, is involved in gymnastics at the YMCA. This is her third year and competes at Level 3. Allie recently competed and took first place in every event and also first overall. **Congratulations!!**



## Children's Christmas Program Practice

December 11 10 – 11:30 am

## Services--dismissed

Sunday, December 26 Evening Service  
Wednesday, December 29 Mid-Week Service

The Children's Ministry will be doing a "**Secret Santa**" again this year where kids could pick out gifts for their family members for free. We need donations for this project. Last year we had donations of small tool kits, house decorations, pens, flashlights, ornaments, candles—typically items you can pick up at the Dollar Tree. The kids can give these to their parents and family members. A tote is in the overflow area; donations are needed by **Sunday, December 12.**



## Holiday Open House "Tour of Homes"

Thursday, December 9

6 pm

Tour of Homes is back this year! The homes on tour will be: **Tom & Joellen Byerly, Pastor Jay & Tonya Neff, Skip & Dorcas Morrow and Adam & Kim Polley.**

The evening will begin in the Ferguson/Clark Hall at 6 pm with refreshments and an ornament exchange. We will leave the fellowship hall at 7 pm to begin the tour of homes.



There is no charge for the evening's event, however a love offering will be taken up to assist someone from our church.

A sign-up sheet is located at the Information Center, please sign-up by Sunday, December 5.

## Feed My Starving Children

Jackson, Ohio

Dates to be determined

See Joy Atwood for more information

Sunday morning worship service is available on DVD. If you are interested in receiving a DVD of the service, please contact the church office at 740/474-2250.



## Operation Christmas Child

On Tuesday, November 16, Circleville First Church sorted items for the Shoebox Ministry; the next evening, Wednesday, November 17, we packed boxes. This year we provided 447 boxes!

I would like to thank everyone who participated this year in making the Shoebox Ministry possible. To those who donated items through-out the year; packed individual boxes; helped set up and sort; those who helped pack all the boxes and load in truck for me—Thank you so much! A special **thank you** to **Lisa Burroughs and the youth department** for all their help.



submitted by **Darline Gose**

## Who's who in CFC Kids...



Director of Children Ministries **Kiera Yaniga** has been a part of Circleville First Church (CFC) since 2000. She married Aaron 14 years ago and the couple are the parents of Ian, 12 and

Caleb, 9. "I have been a stay-at-home mom since 2013. Aaron and I have recently started our own sports photography business," stated Kiera.

"My parents, **Darline and Don Gose**, decided to attend Circleville First Church in 2000 when they felt a church change was needed for our family. I attended until Aaron and I got married and moved to Newark for a year. In 2008 we bought our first house in Canal Winchester and started driving back down to Circleville First Church," said Kiera.

As Director of Children's Ministries for the past 4 years, Kiera oversees ages 3-5th grade. She teaches on Sunday mornings and plans all events such as Vacation Bible School and Trunk 'n Treat.

In 2016, Kiera led the Vacation Bible School (VBS) at our Williamsport location. Then **Pastor Jay Neff** asked her if would lead VBS at CFC that year. She added, "**Chris Moyer** and I graduated from Ohio Christian University together; I started helping her on



Wednesday nights and helping lead events with her. At the end

of 2017, Chris was expecting their 3rd child and resigned her position as Director of Children's Ministry. I was then asked to take over the program."

At People's Faith Chapel in 1998, Kiera was saved. She continued, "My first time ministering to children was in the summer of 2001 at the age of 17. I went on a mission trip to Mexico City with the CFC youth group. We helped in a with VBS and a basketball camp. I knew then that it was what I was called to do though I didn't know in what capacity. I graduated from Ohio Christian University, December 2006 with a degree in early childhood education and taught preschool until I became a stay-at-home mom. When we moved to Circleville, I was asked to help with the CFC children's ministry and later take on the volunteer role as children's ministry director."

**Thank you, Kiera for loving Jesus and for sharing and loving our children!!**

Place your tithes and offerings  
in one of the boxes  
located on the back-sanctuary wall



## Jokes of the month



I discovered something...don't buy snow tires in the summer, they will melt off before winter gets here.

\*\*\*\*\*

Why shouldn't you tell jokes while you're ice skating?  
The ice might crack up

\*\*\*\*\*

What do you sing at a snowman's birthday party?  
Freeze a jolly good fellow!



submitted by **Bobby Dollison**

Watch the service live stream on youtube at  
circlevillefirstchurch on Sunday mornings at 10:45

*How can I pray for you today?*





## BREEZE coming soon...

BREEZE, a user-friendly software management tool, will be an addition to Circleville First Church. Databases will be created for the church as a whole and for various church ministries, making it easier to perform a variety of tasks.

The program will originate in the church office. It will take a few weeks to implement the BREEZE program. Once the program is in place, up and running, it can be used for church wide emails and texts as well as individual ministries; this is basic capabilities. It has the ability to keep financial records, print labels plus so much more.

General information from you will be needed to begin this process: name, address, phone/cell number, birthday and email address. This user-friendly software will not be implemented until the first of the new year.



- 12 – 3 **Second Chance Ministry** 7 pm FC Hall
- 12 – 9 **Holiday Open House "Tour of Homes"**  
6 pm FC Hall
- 12 – 11 **Children's Christmas Practice** 10 – 11:30 am
- 12 – 12 **Children's Christmas Program** 10:45 am
- 12 – 17 **Second Chance Ministry** 7 pm FC Hall
- 12 – 18 **Men's Prayer Breakfast** 8 am FC Hall
- 12 -19 **Christmas Cantata** *Song of Joy* 10:45 am  
**Church Christmas Fellowship** 6 pm FC Hall
-  12 – 24 **Christmas Eve Service** 8 pm
- 12 – 25 **Merry Christmas!**  
**The Savior is born!!**
- 12 – 26 **Evening Service**-dismissed
- 12 – 29 **Mid-Week Service**- dismissed
- 12 – 31 **New Year's Eve**



## Aaron & Hur prayer closet

If you are willing to participate in the **Aaron & Hur prayer closet**, please sign the calendar on the Welcome Center table.

### Sweater her choice

My mother once gave me two sweaters for Christmas. The next time we visited, I made sure to wear one.



As we entered her home, instead of the expected smile, she said, "What's the matter? You didn't like the other one?"

### Christmas Riches

Rick, my husband and I had a hectic holiday schedule encompassing careers, teenagers, shopping and all the required doings of the season.

Running out of time, I got the stationer to print our signature on our Christmas cards, instead of signing each one.

Soon we started getting cards from friends signed, "The Modest Morrisons," "The Clever Clarks," and "The Successful Smiths."



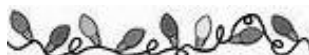
Then it hit me.

I had mailed out a hundred cards neatly imprinted with "Happy Holidays from the Rich Armstrongs."

submitted by **Jerry Parish**

"The Witness" staff wishes you

*Merry Christmas*





**We celebrate the birth of Jesus on Christmas Day.**