

THE WITNESS

Circleville First Church

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

March 2025

Issue 304

Jay Neff, Senior Pastor
Jeremiah Martindale, Associate Pastor
Andrew Byerly, Music/Worship Ministries

740/804-1482
740/440-1423
740/601-7405

Tanya Patrick, Director of Children Ministries 614/353-4690
Lisa Burroughs, Director of Youth Ministries 740/412-4149

Due to the weather

Chili Cook-Off/Dessert Auction

has been rescheduled

March 2

5:30 pm

Ferguson/Clark Hall

Cost: \$5



There are 3 categories: Traditional, Spicy & Specialty
(plus a potato bar)



Cool prizes for the best chili in each category!

All proceeds benefit the CFC Missions Department

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

Feed My Starving Children

March 1 Portsmouth, Ohio

Contact Joy Atwood for questions

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."

The Summit



The **Summit** is an annual training session; it will be held on **March 21 & 22** in the Ferguson/Clark Hall. Our own **Pastor Jay Neff** will present the topic: Transformational Leadership.

Summit will take place on **Friday, March 21 at 7 pm** and on **Saturday, March 22 from 9 am – 11:30 am and 12:30 – 2 pm**. Lunch on Saturday will be provided by Circleville First Church's youth group for a donation.

Everyone is encouraged to attend! This includes all church leadership: board members, growth group (Sunday School teachers), youth leaders, children's workers, worship team members, greeting team captains and members, as well as everyone else. You might not think you are a leader, but you are. Someone is watching you, so therefore, you are a leader.

See you at the Summit!!

Daylight Savings Time begins March 9

Spring forward 1 hour before going to bed the night before



Evening membership class

If you are interested in becoming a member of Circleville First Church, a class will begin on **March 5 at 7 pm** in the library. The class will be taught by Pastor Jay Neff.

Members will be received on April 13.

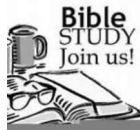
Donations needed for our community cupboard



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 Mazingo, 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

March 15

8 am

FC Hall

speaker: Tim Tener



Verse of the month



Isaiah 59:1 (NLT)

"Listen! The Lord's arm is not too weak to save you, nor is his ear too deaf to hear you call."

submitted by **John Adams**

TRANSFORMATION



Kitchen delights

Tortilla Soup

from **Joellen Byerly**

- 1 large chopped onion
- 1 tsp. chopped garlic (or more if you wish)
- 1 cup chopped celery
- 1 cup chopped carrots

Cook in 32 oz. chicken broth for 15 to 20 minutes.

Add:

- 1 can (14.5 oz.) diced tomatoes with jalapeno
- 1/2 cup salsa
- 1 Tbsp. dry taco seasoning
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 2 cups cooked shredded chicken (about 2 breasts)
- 1 can corn
- 1 can Negro beans - rinsed and drained
- 1 Tbsp. lime juice (optional)

Simmer.

Optional Toppings: tortilla chips, fresh cilantro, shredded cheese, chopped avocado. (I have used turkey instead of chicken many times).

submitted by **Nancy Johnson**



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.

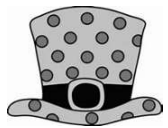
Thanks to all who have donated toward this ministry.

submitted by **Cathy Marck**

No Penny March –
please use the coin boxes



Jokes of the month



What does a leprechaun eat for lunch?
A ba-larney sandwich.

How did the leprechaun get to the moon?
In a sham-rocket!

Why shouldn't you borrow money from a leprechaun?
Because they're always a little short.

What do you get when you cross a four-leaf clover with poison ivy?
A rash of good luck.

What makes close friends like a four-leaf clover?
They're hard to find.

sent from **Ruth Keller**
submitted by **Bobby Dollison**



Annual Car Show

May 4

JOY (just older youth)

Mark your calendars!

March 7

Carry-In Dinner 6 pm FC Hall
Devotion – Pastor Jay Neff



April 13

Concert & Meal (at York Steakhouse)
Leaving the church at 2 pm

May (Date to be announced)

Dinner Theater in Springfield, Ohio

June (Date to be announced)

JOY Night at Mount of Praise

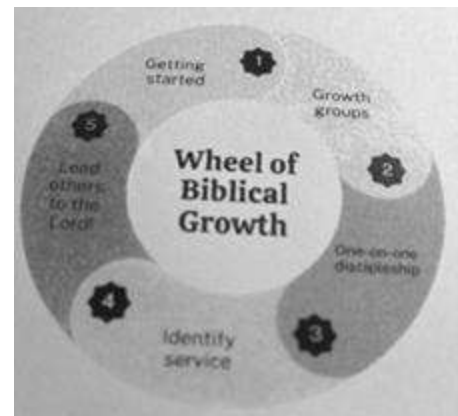
July (Date to be announced)

JOY Night at Nippen



August 15

(Outdoor Drama) Tecumseh!



THANK YOU

Security Team

Sound/Video Team

Feed My Starving Children

March 1 Portsmouth, Ohio



Growth groups

(Sunday school)

Pre-School (ages 3 – kindergarten) – Teacher – Sam Davidson
Sub. Kim Buchanan & Tanya Patrick

Elementary (Grades 1-3) – Teachers – Penny Hixenbaugh

4th & 5th Grade Girls and Boys –Teacher - Ashton George
Sub. Michaela Delacio

6th, 7th & 8th Grade Girls and Boys – Teachers – Jeff Johnson &
John Adams

Senior High School -- Teacher – Joy Atwood Sub. Lisa
Burroughs & Seth George

TNT (Young Adult/Recent Graduates/Young Married Couples)–
Teacher – Jeremiah Martindale

WWJT (Young Adult) – Teachers: Terra Neff & Kyra Sass

Connection Ministries (Room A) – Bobby Dollison & Chris
Tener

Building Disciples (Ferguson/Clark Hall) - Carl Moore, Larry
Keller, Blake Neff & Tom Beavers

Basic Christianity (Library) - Frances Curry Sub. Crystal
Evans

Getting Started – (Room B) - a rotating 6-week class – Teacher-
Pastor Jay Neff

Nursery: Director: Kourtne Hildreth & Ashton George

Sunday School Superintendent - Kim Buchanan



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

Ladies, what is coming up next?

Mark your calendars

Tuesday, March 4 – Ladies Lunch at 11 am - we will meet for
lunch at Ohio Christian University. Dining Hall is located in the
largest building in back of campus. Enter in the far-right doors.



Tuesday, March 18 - Ladies Night at 6:30
pm in the Ferguson/Clark Hall. Tanya Patrick
has some great activities planned for that
night. Bring a snack to share and a friend.

Tuesday, April 1 - No fooling we will meet for
Ladies Lunch at 11 am at Ohio Christian University.

Saturday, April 12 - Ladies Day Out. We are taking the van
and going out for shopping and lunch, details to follow. We
haven't done this for a while, I for one, am looking forward to it.

Saturday, May 3 - Ladies Conference at Crossroads – details
to follow. Last year we took a group of about 15. Let's aim for
25+ this year. It was wonderful and inspiring.

Tuesday, May 6 – Ladies Lunch at 11 am - we will meet for
lunch at Ohio Christian University.

Tuesday, May 20 - Ladies Night at 6:30 pm in the
Ferguson/Clark Hall. We are having a **Bridal Shower for Terra
Neff and Mason**. If you cannot attend, please just pass your gift
along. Details to follow.

CFC kids corner

Hey Y'all

The kids are doing great! However, due to
construction of the church sanctuary, **there will
be NO Penny March in March or April**. Please
continue to fill the coin boxes for missions—to be
returned on Easter!



HELP!!!! 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

Chili Cook-Off/Dessert Auction

March 2

Crock pots of chili needed: traditional, spicy and specialty
Desserts needed

All proceeds benefit CFC Missions Department



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.

Set your calendars for the first weekend in May. Start collecting good, clean, usable items which you no longer need. Someone else may need and want them. Last year we raised over \$2,500 for this ministry. This year let's shoot for over \$3,000. So, when you are Spring cleaning, don't forget...Thank you.



We've been looking for the **Ladies Blessing Bag** that was started over a year ago however, it has stopped circulating.

Is it possible that you have it and forgot about it? If so, could you please start circulating it again or just give it to Joellen Byerly or Megan Byerly (piano player) so we could continue sharing the blessings.

Thank you so much – Ladies ECL.



To those clearing the sidewalks of snow and ice, making them safe!
YOU ARE APPRECIATED!!!

thank you

The Summit

March 21 at 7 pm

March 22 from 9 am – 11:30 am & 12:30 – 2 pm

Ferguson/Clark Hall

speaker: Pastor Jay Neff

3 – 1 **Feed My Starving Children**
Portsmouth, Ohio



3 – 2 **Chili Cook-Off/Dessert Auction** 5:30 pm
FC Hall



March

3 - 4 **Ladies Lunch** at 11 am –
Ohio Christian University

3 – 5 **Membership Class** at 7 pm in the library
Ash Wednesday

3 - 7 **JOY Carry-In Dinner** 6 pm FC Hall



3 – 9 **Daylight Savings Time** begins

3 – 14 & 15 **ECL Retreat** Deer Creek Lodge

3 – 15 **Men's Prayer Breakfast** 8 am FC Hall
speaker: Tim Tener



3 – 17 **Happy St. Patrick's Day**

3 – 18 **Ladies Night** at 6:30 pm FC Hall
March Madness begins



3 – 20 **First day of Spring!**

3 – 21 **Summit** 7 pm FC Hall
speaker: Pastor Jay Neff

3 - 22 **Summit** 9 – 11:30 am & 12:30 - 2 pm FC Hall
speaker: Pastor Jay Neff
Lunch provided for donation by our youth group

3 – 23 **Evening Service**—dismissed

3 – 30 **Communion** 10:45 am



This is a list of CFC ministries. You can use this list as an ongoing prayer tool to assist you during your prayer time. Please keep all people, events and activities in prayer as planning and preparing are ongoing.

- Nursery
- Sunday School Department
- J.O.Y. Ministries
- T & T
- Benevolence Committee
- Aaron & Hur Prayer Closet
- Men's Saturday morning prayer
- Women's ECL
- Adult and children Christmas and Easter Cantatas
- E.D.G.E. (Evangelize, Disciple, Grow and Equip) Team
- Christmas Card Boxes
- Operation Christmas
- Blessing Box
- CFC Yard and Bake Sale
- Penny March for Missions
- CFC Annual Car Show
- Chili Cook-off and Cake Auction
- Trunk or Treat
- Nipgen Camp
- Easter Prayer Vigil, Easter breakfast, Easter services
- Summer Community Events Vacation Bible School & other activities
- Personal Evangelism
- CFC website
- 1 On 1 Discipleship
- Praise and Worship Team
- The Witness
- Security Team, Audio/Video Teams, church grounds and inside decorating volunteers
- Circleville Community Mission
- CCCU Missionaries
- Candy Bouquets
- Tithe and Offerings
- Dinner with Friends
- Work Teams
- Prayer Chain

submitted by **Sue Stonerock & Larry Keller**



March Madness
March 18 - April 7



Our Vision

To Relentlessly know Christ and make Him known in our community.

Our Mission

Helping people *know, grow and go* in Christ's Love!

Our Values

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

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

*The power of Prayer. 1 Thessalonians 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



My brother-in-law was a lay minister, so when his sister wanted a small, casual wedding, she asked him to officiate. He had never performed a marriage ceremony before, so he decided to ask his pastor for advice.

"My sister has asked me to marry her," he began, "and I'm not sure what to do."

The minister answered, "Try telling her you just want to be friends."

On a crisp fall afternoon, my four-year-old son was helping rake leaves in the front yard of our farmhouse. I glanced up just in time to see a flock of geese flying over and pointed out how they flew in a formation shaped like a V.

He patiently watched them as they disappeared over the horizon and then turning to me and asked, "Do they know any other letters?"

Did you hear about the new body wash from the people who make Head and Shoulders?

They're calling it Knees and Toes.

submitted by **Jerry Parish**

