

FIRST Church Of Christ

April 2024 NEWSLETTER

A member of our church posted this on their Facebook page.

A good little bit before we moved in, we saw a tiny little mouse in the attic. We never saw any signs of it anywhere else in the house. Even after we moved in, we looked for signs, but nothing.

A couple of weeks after we moved in, we started smelling the weirdest, most off-putting smell and it was always near plumbing (bathroom, water heater, etc). We tried everything. Cleaned thoroughly, and flushed the lines thinking it might have been stagnant water because the water was on way before we moved in so we thought that could be it. Even thought it might be the treatment plant. To no avail.....

Yesterday morning I walked through the kitchen, right past the dishwasher barefoot. I was headed to the laundry room to start laundry and was DISTRACTED. Derek walked RIGHT BEHIND ME, following my steps. He saw faint movement and looked down. And there it was, a small rat snake. He picked it up and took it outside. He came back in and said, "There was your smell". Rat snakes put off an awful odor as part of a defense mechanism. He had been in our house for at least 2-3 weeks. Since he's been out.....no smell. He came in looking for a mouse. That mouse was valuable to him. He wanted it and he came looking for it.

I asked Derek how he thought it got in. And his response got me thinking this morning. He said, "He could have slipped in when any of us left the door cracked just a bit". As we were moving, or kids going in and out, maybe walking out to the grill. It was small and sneaky and very well could have slipped right past us and us not even know he got in.

So, this morning the Holy Spirit said to me, "Do you see what can happen when you're distracted? How quickly the enemy can sneak in your door, and slither right past you? If he thinks there is something valuable there, he is going to try to sneak in and take it".

And that's how it happens. We miss one church service that turns into 6 months. We have one drink that leads back into an old lifestyle. We send one text that leads to an affair. We tell one fib that turns into a trail of lies and deceit.

The signs were there. I smelled the smell. (Anyone that knows me understands this). I knew there was an enemy in the camp. But I



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Office Hours:

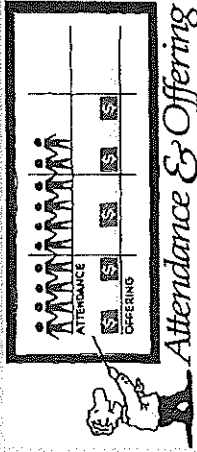
Monday—Thursday
8:00 AM-5:00 PM

www.bryanfcc.org

419-636-3509 (office)

419-633-7226 (Fax)

firstcofcc@cityofbryan.net



Attendance & Offering

March 3
 Attendance 53/81
 Offering \$5,996.14

March 10
 Attendance 38/89
 Offering \$2,806.16

March 17
 Attendance 51/99
 Offering \$5,419.72

March 24
 Attendance 45/85
 Offering \$271.73

Needed for Budget:

\$4,967.69



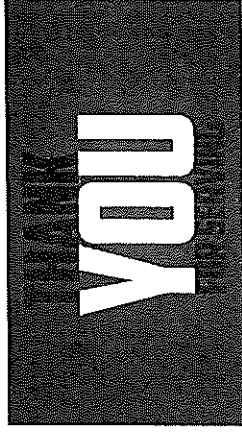
April Servers

Deaconesses:

Pam Hartman & Angie Murphy

Elder Schedule:

7—Dave Beerbower
 14—Doug Haase
 21—Mark Rhodes
 28—Larry Snavely



Nursery:

7—1st—Ashley Knepper; SS—**VOLUNTEER NEEDED**;
 2nd—Deb Rhodes & Janet McCarthy
 14—1st—Ashley Knepper; SS—Kim Snavely; 2nd—Kim
 Snavely & Sharon Blinzler
 21—1st—Ashley Knepper; SS—**VOLUNTEER NEEDED**;
 2nd—Cody & Ashley Grimm
 28—1st—Ashley Knepper; SS—Jessica & Shaun Arend;
 2nd—Jessica Arend & Julia Haase

What does the church do best?

What does the church do best that no other organization on earth can do? We tell the story of Jesus Christ. We try to preserve the truth of God's incredible love for His creation. Who can tell the truth about the Father better than the members of His own family?

No school, no business, no government, no other institution can adequately describe our God. So we come together each Sunday. Like at a weekly family reunion we share family stories, the memories, and we create new memories, inviting others to be part of this great family.



—Jim Tinkey



2 Sophie
Beck, Dan
Nixon
6 Tootie

Bowman

9 Julia Hull

18 Cameron Ryan

19 Curt Bennett, Lucy Gienger

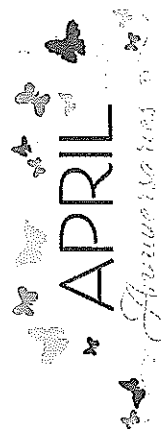
21 Trisha Hug

24 Wendy Garza

26 Barbara Alpaugh

29 Shirley Kinnan

30 Terry Hoffman, Joe Jerger



12 Bill &
Sharon
Brewer
(44)

13 Ron & Linda Lewis (56)

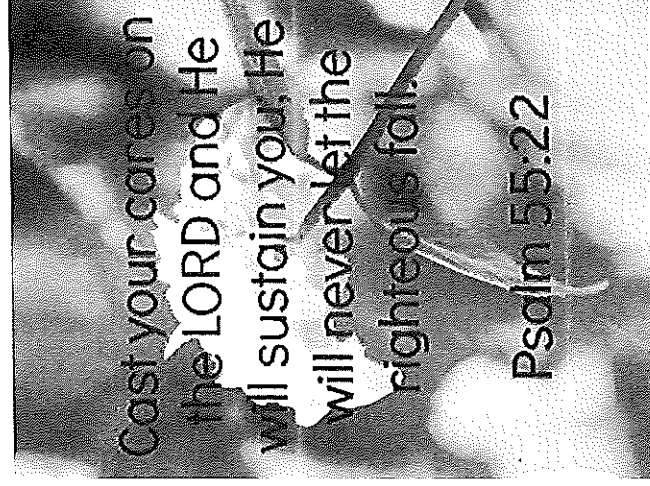
15 Shawn & Marcia Gambler (12)

19 Rich & Sherry Trubey (38)

24 Bobby & Christie Woodart (3)

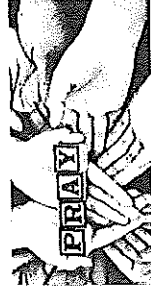
SYMPATHY

The church family expresses her sympathy to the family of Edith Wagner.



Love All

Our Service Personnel: Austin Brandeberry (HI), Josh Severs (AL), Braxton Singer (NC), Jordan Thornburg (GA), Katie Sparks (PA), Wesley Tressler (CO). **Cancer:** Gwen Acker-Dickinson, Nathan Bailey, Marcia Baumgartner, Sue Bever, Tim Bight, Brent, Jennie Case, Andrew Dell, Adam Farger, Carrie H., Jim Henson, Molly Johnston, Kent, Chuck Lees, Ron Lewis, Mark & Carrie, Chloe Merrillet, Rexann McCrary, Crystal Miller, Ruth Ordway, Mary Pinckley, Anna Pitman, Elaine Purdue, Mike Roose, Sue Seccoy, Terry Shinaberry, Stu Short, Denise Smith, Annette Snavely, Amy Tobin, Linda Walker, Kathy Walton, Drew Wayman. **Other Concerns:** Jennifer Mavis, Trevor Bailey, Neighborhood, Arlene Boyer, Danielle Strouse, Brenda Ridgway, Cindy Wolf, Zach Swisher, Cheryl Towers, Gene Nash, Kim Beek, Joshua Taylor, , children's ministry, Danny Hull, Cindy Webber, Kevin Ayre, Kathy Moog, Marty, John Fry, Jackson Wolph, Shawn Roose, Fran Mavis, Nathan Ray, Nehemiah Haase, Raymond Folk, Randy Fisher, Annie Engel, Jason Gregg, Nikki Hull, Ryan Yahraus, Khloe Hartman, Martha Hardy, Tommy Morr, Bill Brewer, Ellen Walker, Grace Slagle, Dave Hug, Nikki Fisher, Joanne Allison, John Leppelmeier, Ron Lewis, Dave & Connie Cunningham, Mike Green; **Shut Ins:** Bryan Healthcare: Esther Rosendaal; **Fair-lawn Haven:** John Altman; **Fountain Park:** Esther Krill; **Hillside:** Annie Engel, Charlene Gambler; **Home:** Ron & Linda Lewis, Leona Puff.



Upcoming EVENTS

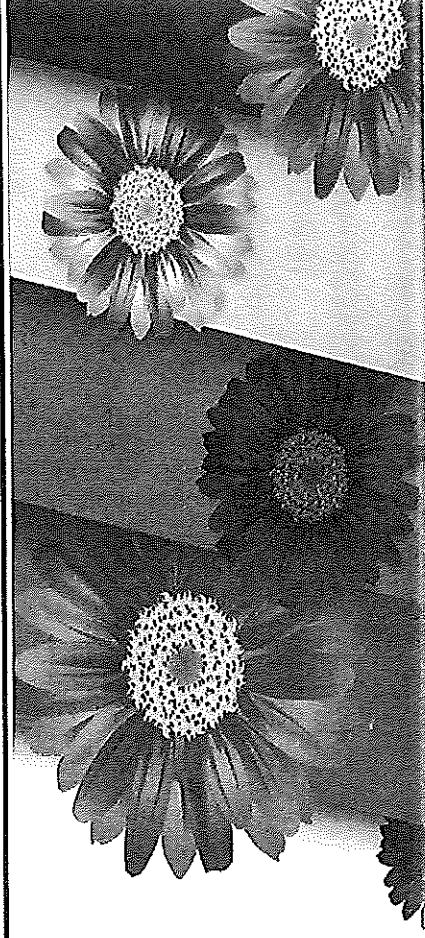
Craft Group
4/2/2024

20° (Men's Leader-
ship Training)
4/9/2024

Lunch Bunch @ Ap-
plebee's in Defiance
4/23/2024

SENIORS MINISTRY

We will do Lunch Bunch on Tuesday, 4/23 at 11:45 AM at Applebee's in Defiance. Please meet there.



**The winter is past. The flowers appear
on the earth; the time of singing has come.**

Song of Solomon 2:11-12

was too "busy" to continue to look. So, I just cleaned around it to try to make it "better".

If Satan can't have you, he'll distract you. Once you are safe in the Father's arms and your name is written down, he can't have you, so he tries to distract you. He tries to interrupt your holy living; he tries to break up your family; he tries to corrupt your mind, and he tries to fill you full of bitterness and unforgiveness.

LISTEN TO ME: He tries to stop you from getting any other names in that book!!!!!! He tries to stop you from witnessing. He tells you you can't. He ruins your witness through lies.

Don't leave the door cracked. Lock it down. Be on guard. Put that armor on first thing. Stay prayed up.

"The thief's purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full." John 10:10 NIV

"Finally, be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes." Ephesians 6:10-11

"For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in heavenly places." Ephesians 6:12 NKJV

"I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you. However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven." Luke 10:19-20 NIV





Follow us on Facebook

Website:

www.bryanfcc.org

Destined to Win, Larry

APRIL

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 9:30 Senior Seekers	2 10:00 Craft Group	3 10:00 Ladies Bible Study 5:30 Supper 6:15 MOPS 6:15 Club 226 6:15 Adult Bible Study 7:30 Praise Band Practice	4	5	6
7 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship	8 9:30 Senior Seekers	9 6:30 20°	10 10:00 Ladies Bible Study 5:30 Supper 6:15 Ladies Bible Study 6:15 Club 226 6:15 Adult Bible Study 7:30 Praise Band Practice	11	12	13
14 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship	15 9:30 Senior Seekers 	16	17 10:00 Ladies Bible Study 5:30 Supper 6:15 MOPS 6:15 Club 226 6:15 Adult Bible Study 7:30 Praise Band Practice	18	19	20
21 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship	22 9:30 Senior Seekers	23 11:45 Lunch Bunch	24 10:00 Ladies Bible Study 5:30 Supper 6:15 Ladies Bible Study 6:15 Club 226 6:15 Adult Bible Study 7:30 Praise Band Practice	25	26	27
28 8:00 Worship 9:15 Sunday School 10:15 Worship	29 9:30 Senior Seekers	30				