I was watching a special about Mr. Rogers the other night. He was an amazing man! I say that knowing the day and age into which I make that reference, and the kind, considerate way he addressed and lifted up children. It seemed that the world in which he chose to place himself was determined to find the flaw that would expose him as a hypocrite, or at least a failure to his own ideals. Television production tends to try to bring down its moral heroes. But that is what made him so amazing. He simply lived by his principles and convictions to the very end of his life. And now, in this documentary, I observed, even under careful scrutiny his life as a strong male influence in the lives a millions of children has stood the test of time; even though it was expressed in tones only slightly louder than a whisper. Even though his message of acceptance and kindness was expressed by puppets and in simple songs. Even though his mild manner and gentle affection for the children who hung on his every word brought him scorn and ridicule, many times from the evangelical community he represented so well. He simply lived his convictions til the end!

WoW! I want to do that with my life, don't you?

PS: Other documentation attests to the millions of moms who watched from the kitchen doorways of their homes, every day, waiting to hear Mr. Rogers tell them: "You're special to me... I like you just the way you are!" (as tears rolled down their cheeks)

Upward and Onward,

John

"Helping people become Christ-Centered in their daily lives."

### **Converse Church of Christ**

P. O. Box 413, 301 E. Wabash St Converse, IN 46919 765-395-3361 www.conversechurch.org NON-PROFIT ORG. U.S. POSTAGE PAID Converse, IN 46919 PERMIT NO. 21

John Clark, Senior Minister; Joe Wisley, Family Life Minister; Jeff Thompson, Associate Minister; Jordan Delks, Student Minister; Joy Elzinga & Becky Middlesworth, Interim Children's Ministers; Shane Tracy, Worship Minister; Connie Percifield, Worship Minister; Pam Green, Kids Hope Director; Kerry Highley, Office Manager



Melissa and I were thankful this past week for the opportunity to get away to a cabin outside Gatlinburg, Tennessee for a few days. It has become one of our favorite things to do. We love the mountains, we love the chance to relax and hike some trails, and most of all, we love the chance to not have to be on call 24/7 for the four bundles of joy that share our address. After a couple days of relaxing and getting out into the woods, we spent a few hours walking and browsing the shops in downtown Gatlinburg. Anyone who knows me knows the idea of walking into multiple trinket and souvenir shops is about as exciting as giving 17 toddlers drum sets and telling them to make beautiful music! So, by the second or third shop I was content to let Melissa search out the perfect coffee mug and just put my mind on autopilot. As she was buying said perfect coffee mug my eyes wandered to a shelf and landed on the one thing in the entire town that jumped out at me. It was a little wooden bear (of course because we are in the Smokies and everything has to be either about bears or moonshine) with the words, "The quieter you become, the more you hear." And now he sits on my desk.

Now, I'm pretty confident whoever came up with this little bear and slogan wasn't thinking about our walk with Christ. It was probably designed to be some sort of reminder that mountains give you life or cosmic energy or some weird thing like that. However, to me it was a much-needed reminder to just slow down, set aside my crazy schedule, and remember to focus on the one thing that is truly life-changing, my relationship with the Father. It's little wonder there are so many folks sitting in our churches who feel little to no connection with our Lord. When we never take time to become quiet, we are never able to hear what He has to say, and more than that to just be blessed by His presence. Time and time again during His life on Earth, Christ was found retreating to the quiet spaces, setting aside a crazy schedule that required Him to fulfill countless prophecies in His brief time on Earth, just so He could sit and listen to the Father. For Jesus, this practice seemed as normal as breathing. I'm not sure about your schedule and obligations, but mine have never been anywhere close to as important as saving the entire universe! And yet, I still find myself getting drawn into being so busy I can stop hearing from the Father. Not so with Jesus. The Son of God, and our Brother if we're in Christ, set the perfect example for us on when life is crazy. Far from letting busyness take Him away from the Father, it only drew Him closer. May that be the same for us...for you.

"Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where He prayed."

Mark 1:35

"But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed."

Luke 5:16

"Therefore Jesus answered and was saying to them, 'Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing by Himself, unless it is something He sees the Father doing; for whatever the Father does, these things the Son also does in like manner."

John 5:19

Joe

Volume 10, Issue 3 March 2019

#### MOPS ANNUAL SILENT AUCTION

MOPS (Mothers of preschoolers) is pleased to announce our annual basket silent auction! This year will feature some exciting themed baskets that just might fit what you need as a gift for Mother's Day, Father's Day, graduation, wedding, bridal shower or perhaps a treat for yourself. Baskets will be on display and available for bidding in the gym on April 7<sup>th</sup> and April 14th. Silent bidding will close following the services on April 14<sup>th</sup>. A big thank you to Life Groups who are contributing items for the baskets! All proceeds of the silent auction benefit our C3 MOPS group.

Here's a sampling of some of the baskets being featured: A Taste of Grant County, Inspiration for the Soul, Car Care, Let's Do Coffee, Dig It, Picnic in the Park, Dog's Day, Relax and Unwind, Grilled to Perfection. Road Trip and Hairs to You.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR C3 MOPS PROGRAM!!

**Miriam Circle**—will meet on Tuesday, March 5, 1:30pm in Room 21. The lesson is Ruth 1:1-22 and the lesson leader is Catherine Johnson. Dottie Brookshire is the hostess. DON'T forget to pick up the study guides and program books at the Welcome Center.



SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 2019 8:30AM—5:00 COST: \$10/PERSON BREAKFAST AND LUNCH PROVIDED Hear great speakers via this simulcast! Come join us!

### **CCC Memorial Scholarship**

Applications for the 2019-20 Memorial Scholarships will be available beginning March 3, 2019 and are due March 31, 2019.

Application packets will be available at the Welcome Center, the church website and the church office. Applications are limited to those college students that have been members of Converse Church of Christ for at least 2 years and will have completed 2 years of full time study and be considered a Junior or Senior in college for the 2019 fall term.

Thank You, Kevin Summers

C3 would like to send as many kids as possible to The Ark Christian Ministries for a summer camp opportunity. 1 way we do that is by covering 1/2 the cost of all campers who attend C3 and all Kids Hope students. For some, the rest of the cost is still unattainable. We have a camp scholarship set up for those who need the extra help. That fund was used up last year. Please consider donating to the C3 camp scholarship fund. You can place your donations in the offering plate and mark it "CAMP SCHOLARSHIP FUND"

Thank you for making a kingdom difference.

Pam Green



### **Senior Saints**

Wednesday, March 20th
11:30am—Luncheon
12:30pm—Lee Green
Indiana State Entomologist
Reservations required
Sign up in Life Groups rooms, at the Welcome
Center, bulletin boards or church office.

### Women's Bible Study

Wednesday's beginning
March 6th
9:30– 11:00am
Leaders: Nancy Knee, Linda
Middlesworth and Reta Walker



Financial Peace University
begins Monday, March 4th
6:00pm ~~ Room 23
Contact Brian Pence
for more information at



Everyone
needs a place
to start and
here at C3 that
place is our
Square 1 class.
Square 1 will
help you see

what we are all about and how we have a place just for you here at C3. This class also serves as an "on-ramp" to C3 membership.

Square 1 will meet Sunday, April 28th at 12:00pm in the Old Chapel. We will serve you lunch and have child care available for your kiddos.

Please RSVP on the C3 app, at our website or email Jeff Thompson at jthompson@conversechurch.org by April 21st.

# Baskey Sileny Aucylon

benefitting the HAITI MISSION TEAM

# Sunday, March 3rd

C3 Gym

Special Preview Sunday, February 24th

### Basket items:

Embroidered Gifts
Handmade Gifts
Local Artwork
Baby Gifts
Stained Class Creations
Essential Oils Products
Norwex Cleaning Products

Asst. Gift Certificates
Homemade Sugar Scrubs
Knitted Dishcloths
Pottery from Autumn
Pence & Ethan Brainerd
Apple Pie by Dana

Hueston

## **Prayers & Praises**

*Kim & Sam Hollies*—death of niece, Wayne & Carolyn Kitch's daughter and son-in-law

Continue to Prayer for: Bo Castanon, Jean Cooley, Tara Dieterman, Mary Jane Dill, Ryder Dodson, Leeanna Fansler, Sharon Floyd, Rich Gamble, Tyler Hagan, Brad Harts, Beth Holt, Chuck Lawson, Susie Middlesworth, Cynthia Mullinix, Jim Needler, Glenna Smith, Sue Smith, Jack Strange, Terry Anderson, Angie, David Bowman, Grace Braun, Mike Cassidy, Steve Dazzell, Nancy Floyd, Ronda Garrett, Ron George, Jeff Graf, Betty Guy, Lori Haalck, Harley, Katie Harrison, Lowell Harter, Heidi, Mark Horner, Ruthie Sommers Horner, Dana Hudson, Kim Jentes, Jillian, Cooper Johnson, Evan Johnson, Mark Krabbe, Cindy Linn, LouAnne, Ken Machala, Sarah Matthews, Paul McGuire, Leo Melle, Hadlea Mendenhall, Michelle, Nancy, Nici, Susan Phillips, Ann Pond, Bob Preusz, Teresa Ratliff, Laudi Reffett, Fred Richards, Betty Richey, Jean Rohrer, Gina Rolfs, Scott, Michelle Scrafton, Kristy Sellers, Jerry Smith, Judy Smith, Dawn Staggs, Heidi Vance, Suzanne Werner, Stephanie Walls, Jan Waters, Will & Julie White, David Christian Wittrock, Terri Zimmerman



Sunday March 10th

# CCC Attendance & Giving

	2/3/2019	2/10/2019	2/17/2019	2/24/2019
Worship	465	492	440	465
Life Groups	266	279	289	252
General Fund, Missions & Building Fund	\$ 15,822.32	\$ 19,949.00	\$ 8,891.00	\$ 11,457.00
Designated Missions	\$ 2,115.00	\$ 4,081.00	\$ 2,682.00	\$ 1,850.00
Ark Christian Ministries				
Easter/Thanksgiving/Other				
Total	\$ 17,937.32	\$ 24,030.00	\$ 11,573.00	\$ 13,307.00