



# Perry Christian Church

## The Crier—May 2017

Volume 9, Issue 5

### Why Be a Christian?

Like the lyrics to the musical Carousel:

**“March roared in like a lion, a whipp’n up the water in the bay; then April cried and stepped aside; and along came pretty little May.”**

Whew! Easter festivities are behind us and June will soon be **“busting out all over.”** The lazy days of summer are just around the corner. But if you remember the musical, when **June is busting out, that’s** when things really start hopping.

The Leadership Team is back in swing and the way they are **“bust’n out all over”** you would think it is Summer! The Leadership Team has seen a need for change in the way we greet people Sunday morning. For helping everyone feel welcome and excited to be part of Sunday Worship, the Leadership Team has created a Greeters Ministry. Sunday, Donna did a great job inviting everyone

who feels led to greet members and guests to be part of the ministry (see the article on page 2 entitled – The Greeters Ministry).

Another area of concern for the Leadership Team is helping people to tell their story of how God has touched their life so others can grow their faith. We see in the book of Acts when Peter addresses the crowd after Pentecost about 3000 joined the church that day. How did that happen? Peter explained how God’s Son had touched his life personally.

So if we are looking to help others to have a personal relationship with God, how do we tell others about God’s hand in our lives? That was the main discussion of the meeting. How do we in the 21st century get that personal face to face experience relayed to others so they too can have the experience of God in their lives? There was only one solution to that question, and it was just

like in Peter’s day, tell others about how God has moved in your personal life.

The biggest barriers to sharing God with others seems to be: we are afraid the person for whom we are giving our testimony will ask us a question we can’t answer; or we don’t really recognize God’s hand in our lives; or what about the inconsistencies in the Bible? These are all fears designed by the adversary to keep Christians quiet, paralyzed, and in fear of rejection. The answers to the questions above are the same today as they were for Peter.

What if the person for whom we are giving our testimony asks us a question we can’t answer? There are 3 simple replies: 1) I don’t know the answer to your question, but I will find out and get back to you, 2) come to church and that will be answered for

*(Continued on page 2)*

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#### Special points of interest:

- Greeters Ministry
- Family Fun Night



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you, 3) let's you and I go to the pastor and ask your question.

### **What if we don't really recognize God's hand in our lives?**

This is the number one reason people have a hard time believing in God. **The way to see God's hand in your life** is to start thanking God for the little things: safe travel, favor for a good parking place, protection or help in times of trouble, give thanks for your good health, give thanks for your children, and give thanks each day for waking up. One of the lessons that was learned at the Thursday night "Go Fish" Bible study was: **God Loves us, God gave His Son for us, we believe in God's Son, and we receive from God.** Start believing God is working in your life, and start giving thanks to God for the smallest of favors. Then we will receive the cour-

age to share our life experiences.

What about the inconsistencies in the Bible?

**Inconsistencies don't necessarily** mean falsehoods. We all know that bystanders can watch the same accident and each will give a different account of the event. Each person recounts what is important to them. Debating inconsistencies are a distraction from the truth that: The Word of God became incarnate in Jesus of Nazareth, Jesus died for the sin of the world, Jesus rose from the dead on the 3rd day, Jesus promised we can have eternal life with Him in heaven if we believe in Him, and Jesus will come back for us. And because Jesus did what He said He would do, we can believe all the promises and teaching Jesus has given to us to help us understand how we here on earth relate to God the Father in heaven.

We need to be about intentionally reaching out to others with the Good News that Jesus saves us after death, but also that Jesus came to give us life here on earth more abundantly. And the definition of abundantly is: regardless of our circumstances we can have peace, freedom, joy, and love in our lives. And when we find this peace and love in Christ, we will bust out with joy telling others what God has done for us.

Our main purpose here on earth is to help others find God. We are like beggars telling other beggars where to find bread. And that bread is the bread of life: Jesus the Christ.

May your days be blessed as you spread the gospel with those who are seeking what we Christians have found.

Blessings,  
Pastor Janet

## WORSHIP

### GREETER MINISTRY

Next Sunday, God will prompt hundreds of thousands of people in the United States and around the world to visit a church for the first time. The Sunday after that, He will do it again. God is consistently blessing His church with regular guests. Is our church ready to show our guests intentional hospitality? These guests need to feel comfortable and welcomed, and when they leave we should be proactive in giving them a return invitation they will

find hard to refuse.

To help welcome our guests, we **are looking for a team of greeters...** greeters with smiling faces and happy attitudes. The greeter is one of the first impressions of our church to a new person. Being a greeter is not



Greeter Ministry

difficult, does not take a lot of time, but it is important. We'll be getting together soon to set up a team of greeters, make a schedule, and to understand just what is expected of the greeter. If you would consider being part of this important group, please talk to Judy Bartlett or Donna Van Boxel. The more prepared a church is to receive guests, the more guests God will send.

Donna Van Boxel  
Greeter Ministry  
Co-Leader

## FELLOWSHIP

### FAMILY FUN NIGHT

Please join us for our next Family Fun Night on Saturday, May 20, 2017 from 5-7 p.m.

There will be fun games inside or outside - depending on the weather. Plenty of food will be

available and, of course, family time together.

In May and June, we will be collecting school supplies for our "stuff the backpack" project. Donations are welcome even if you don't attend family night. See the list on the sidebar for suggestions. Please let us know if you will attend and how

many. Reply on Facebook, call the church and leave a message (259-4821) or call Carole Martin (259-2257) with reservations. Hope to see you there.



## DISCIPLESHIP



The Women's Thursday Bible Study will begin on Thursday evenings from 6:30-8:00 starting on May 18<sup>th</sup>. We've chosen another Andy Stanley 4-week study entitled, "Address the Mess." If you want more information, speak with Penny Harrison, and please let her know if you'd like to order the book for approximately \$6.00.

## MISSION

### PROJECT HOPE

This month for Project Hope Saturday Side Dish we will be making "Sub Sandwiches". Here's what we need:

- 2 lbs. bologna
- 2 lbs. salami
- 2 lbs. any type sliced cheese

For lunches this month, we need:

- 5 loaves of bread
- 55 slices of ham
- 55 slices of cheese
- 3 bags of 20 individual bags of chips

Cash donations are used for the purchase of fresh fruit.

The food prep will take place on Thursday, May 18th at 6:00 p.m.

Someone is needed to deliver the meals on Saturday, May 20th at 6:45 p.m.

Sign up is located on the bulletin board.

As always, we appreciate the donations and help given to this mission project, but probably not as much as the clients and staff of Project Hope. Read their latest thank you note on page 7 of this newsletter.

Susan Callahan and Brenda Carr



## "Stuff the Backpack"

Items that appear on most school lists are:

- wide ruled notebook paper
- No. 2 pencils
- Hand held pencil sharpeners
- single subject spiral notebooks
- crayons
- washable markers (not the "scented ones")

Other items that appear on some lists (but not all) are:

- post it notes
- glue sticks
- stick pens - blue or black



# MAY 2017

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3 9a Community Mission	4 2p Prayer Team	5	6
7 9:30a Worship 10:45a Fellowship 11:00a Sunday School	8 7p Trustee Mtg.	9	10 6p Elder Mtg. 7p Board Mtg.	11 10a Regional Finance Team— Pastor in Columbus 2p Prayer Team	12	13
14 <b>Mothers' Day</b> Bring items for school backpacks 9:30a Worship 10:45a Fellowship 11:00a Sunday School	15	16	17	18 2p Prayer Team 6p Project Hope Food Prep 6:30p Bible Study	19 12p Ruby Brewer Internment	20 5-7p Family Fun Night 6:45p Project Hope Food Delivery
21 9:30a Worship 10:45a Fellowship 11:00a Sunday School	22 Newsletter Articles are due	23 6p Leadership Team	24	25 2p Prayer Team 6:30p Bible Study	26	27
28 9:30a Worship 10:45a Fellowship 11:00a Sunday School	29	30	31		June 4 <i>Graduation Sunday</i>	



## May Service Schedules

## May Birthdays



	Worship Leaders	Elders	Greeters	All Month
7	Carole Martin	Vicki Wakelee Carole Martin	Carole Martin Vicki Wakelee	Deacons *Aaron Brewer Bob Wright *Head Deacon
14	Penny Harrison	Rick Bartlett Earl Johnson		Sacristan Penny Harrison
21	Don Bartlett	Carole Martin Vicki Wakelee	Linda Warfield	Counters Frankie Blanchard Connie Smith
28	Laurie Martin	Linda Warfield Joann Rombough		Hostesses Pat Johnson

1
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3
4   Alexa Collins
5   Laurie Martin
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12
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16
17
18
19   Linda Warfield
20
21
22   Cassy Helmick
23
24   Penny Harrison
25   Pat Boehnke
26   Sydney Martin
27
28
29   Mindy Polzer
30
31

*For now the winter is past,  
 the rain is over and gone.  
 The flowers appear on the  
 earth;  
 the time of singing has come,  
 and the voice of the turtledove  
 is heard in our land.  
 Solomon 2:11-12*



## CWM

Many thanks to Glenn and all the men who helped prepare and serve the 50 meals for our All Daughter's Banquet. The salad bar was fantastic, the lasagna was delicious and of course everyone loved making their own ice-cream sundaes!

Our Ladies Night Out is going to be a pot-luck dinner at the church on June 7<sup>th</sup>. We are hoping that Haley Richardson will be sharing some more of her missionary experiences with us. More info will follow.



Ladies Night Out!

Our Bible Study, *Go Fish*, was so good that we have decided to do another Andy Stanley study, *Address the Mess*. It will be on Thursday evenings from 6:30-8:00 starting on May 18<sup>th</sup>. Let Penny Harrison know if you'd like to order a book for approximately \$6.00.

Also, the *Go Fish* DVD is available to borrow if you were unable to attend or missed some of the sessions.



Plans are well underway for our annual Fundraiser which will be held at the Perry Community Center on October 15<sup>th</sup> from 4:00-7:00. This is an all-church event and we hope everyone will want to participate in some way. Carole Martin and Penny Angeloro will have suggestions for Chinese Auction baskets and Thurlene Lawson will have a list of food items needed. They also need volunteers for their teams. Of course, we will also have tickets to sell and flyers to distribute. The day of the event, we will need people for set-up and clean-up, to sell raffle and 50/50 tickets and to help greet our guests. It takes many hands to make this a successful event so please let us know how you can help!

Laurie Martin, Team co-chair

## THIS & THAT

### CALLING ALL GRADUATES!

Do you know of anyone affiliated with Perry Christian Church who is graduating this year? It could be high school or college. Please let Pastor Janet know so that we may honor them on Sunday, June 4th.

God wants us to know that life is a series of beginnings, not endings. Just as graduations are not terminations, but commencements. Creation is an ongoing process, and when we create a perfect world where love and compassion are shared by all, suffering will cease.

—Bernie Siegel







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## May 2017 Newsletter



Pastor Rev. Dr. Janet Mers  
Worship 9:30am  
Fellowship 10:30am  
Sunday School 11:00am  
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Phone (440) 259-4821  
Website [www.perrychristianchurch.org](http://www.perrychristianchurch.org)