

Volume 17, Issue 6

134 E. Mound St., Circleville, OH 43113

June/July 2019

# **CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES**

*Chance Campbell*, Grandson of Ann & Blaine Keckley, graduated from Fredericktown High School on May 17.

*Madelyn June Clark (Maddy),* daughter of Tami Clark and the late Eric Clark, graduating from Circleville High School. She will be attending Kent State University in the fall majoring in Speech Pathology.

*Neal Davis*, son of Larry and Roxanne Davis, recently graduated Summa Com Laude from the University of Findlay with his Bachelor of Science degree in Exercise Science and minor in Coaching. He will continue to take Masters classes in Education and Business and play his Sr. Football Season this fall before getting married the end of December to Markie Wippel, who also recently got her Bachelor degree in Business from Ohio Christian University. They will be moving in the winter to wherever Neal gets a job on a college coaching staff.

3 Granddaughters of Zach and Marian Hallum:

*Brenna Hallum*, received her medical degree from Kent State on May 17. *Lily Hallum*, graduated from Mason High School, Mason, Ohio, on May 19. *Sarah Charest*, is graduating from Concord-Carlisle High School, Concord, MA, on June 1.

*Marlee K. Martin*, daughter of Stephanie Jones-Jordan of Circleville and Rodney Martin of Amanda and granddaughter of the late Sandy and Lois Jones, graduated with her Masters of Public Administration with a concentration in Leadership and Public Policy from Ohio University. Marlee is a 2012 graduate of Logan Elm High School and a 2016 graduate of Shawnee State University, where she had the opportunity to study abroad at a sister university in Ifrane, Morocco. It is Marlee's goal to dedicate her time and effort to the growth and development of Pickaway County and continue to serve, to the best of her ability, the community that gave so much to her. She thanks her family, both relation and church, who have supported her in every endeavor.

*Tate Shannon*, son of Barry and Ann Shannon and grandson of Marie Gamertsfelder and the late Neal Gamertsfelder, graduating from Teays Valley High School. He plans to attend Tulane in New Orleans. Interested in chemical engineering.

*Morgan Tomlinson,* daughter of Todd and Jennifer Tomlinson, graduating from Logan Elm High School. She plans to attend Wright State University and pursue a career in nursing.



# **No Exceptions**

One of the most important and least known stories in the New Testament is from Acts 10. The book of Acts begins with Jesus sending the disciples to be his witnesses to the ends of the earth. After an initial growth spurt on Pentecost, the disciples remained in and around Jerusalem. The church was not witnessing to the ends of the earth as Jesus commanded. But where the church fails to go, the Spirit has long since been. In Acts 10, Peter has a vision that changes everything. He saw a sheet descend from heaven that was filled with all kinds of unclean animals. Leviticus commands God's people to not eat these animals, lest they become unclean and unholy. Yet Peter hears a voice that says, "Get up, Peter; kill and eat" (10:14). He refuses. He knows the scriptures and does not want to defile himself. Then the voice from heaven says, "What God has made clean, you must not call profane" (10:15). It takes him a while, but Peter eventually gets the message. The biblical commands around food-however they were intended-are now excluding people from God's family, and God does want anyone excluded. Peter understands this vision is about more than just food. He knows it's about people. Peter says to Cornelius, a Gentile centurion, "God has shown me that I should not call anyone profane or unclean" (10:28). This is a striking statement. I'm not sure the church has ever fully taken it to heart. Could it be that through Jesus' ministry, God has made everyone clean? It takes the church a while to get on board with this new inclusive vision, but eventually the gospel goes forth to the ends of the earth, tearing down the barriers that exclude.

Two thousand years later, the message of the gospel has reached more and more people, yet the barriers of exclusion remain. Paul declares that in Christ, the differences of race, wealth and gender are negated (Galatians 3:28), yet those dividing lines remain stubbornly in place. Old tribal identities are reemerging in our world today that threated to divide us and our community. The people of God must resist these divisions and declare the radical message of inclusion that Peter discovered—we dare not call anyone unclean. In May, our Session adopted a new Statement of Welcome:

We love who Jesus loves...no exceptions. We believe God made us very good, and we trust the Spirit to lead us home. We seek to love and celebrate one another just as we are. All are welcomed here!

This is our message to Circleville. There are no exceptions to God's love. All are welcome here. Of course, it is easy to write a statement like this. It is much harder to live it. Talk is cheap, and love is costly. Yet this church is the most welcoming, generous group of people I have ever known. You are more than prepared to live this message. There are people in our community who have been told in no uncertain terms that they are unclean. Some of you have been told that as well. But the good news is that you are loved just as you are. Now we are commissioned by the risen Christ to share the good news in our word and deed that God already loves us, just as we are...no exceptions.

Pastor Joel

## **NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT**

#### Meet the Bowen Family

Brian, Jodi & Brennah Bowen are three of our newest members. Brian and Jodi grew up in Chillicothe and were high school sweethearts. They both are graduates of the University of Cincinnati with Brian earning a degree in engineering and Jodi earning a BA in history. Jodi also began working toward her teaching certificate at UC but completed it at Ohio University-Chillicothe after their third child started kindergarten. The Bowens lived in Cincinnati for 16 years but decided to move to Chillicothe in 2008 to be closer to family. Rounding out the active Bowen family are: daughter Kaleigh, a fourth year student at Ohio University who will finish studies in her major and will complete studies in her minor in one more year; Seth, age 19, is a first year student at OU-C; and Brennah, age 16, is a high school sophomore. Brian is currently a structural engineer at the VA in Chillicothe, and Jodi has found her passion as a fourth gradereading/language arts teacher in McArthur (Vinton County School District). Welcome to the Circleville Presbyterian Church, Brian, Jodi and Brennah!

## A MINUTE FOR MISSION

Habitat for Humanity is always in need of volunteers. They are currently working on a home close to Southeastern School on Saturdays and Mondays. By simply swinging a hammer, you can help build a world where everyone has a decent place to live. Sam Wilson is happy to provide details.

Hope House still works to help others but funding continues to be a struggle. In March and April, 49 individuals were helped by their services. Since opening their doors, Hope House has provided a night of shelter and sleep to over 1500 people. Mission will have a brunch on July 14 to raise funds for Hope House.

Mission continues to provide financial assistance to the community for utility bills. While funding is limited, we still use all possible resources to help others. We are thankful that Clare, Sue, Alice, Sarah, and Doyle give their time to offer assistance.

## SAVE THE DATE!

Join your church family for a delicious brunch to benefit Hope House on July 14<sup>th</sup> following worship. We hope you can come!

Are you looking for a place to donate furniture?

Compassion Furniture Bank 9800 US 22 E Stoutsville, OH 43154 Seth and Tammy Myers

740-207-1528

#### SINGLE WOMEN'S GROUP

The Single Women's Group meets for lunch on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month. During the summer we plan to visit restaurants beyond Circleville. We'll meet at Church at 11:00 am and carpool to our destination. Please join us for a meal and fellowship. Contact Barb Hull for details.

## THANK YOU FROM THE KITCHEN

We have been busy in the kitchen this year with many activities. We served the Rotary Rural Urban Day Luncheon on February 28, the first Lenten Lunch on March 27, the Bar Association Administrator's Luncheon on April 24, the Presbyterian Women's May Luncheon on May 1, and the Rotary Law Day Breakfast on May 7. None of these would be possible without your help! So thank you for everything you did to make these events so successful: shopping, baking, cooking at home and at church, setting tables, creating beautiful center pieces, serving, washing dishes and pots and pans, and washing table cloths. We are quite a team and your efforts are deeply appreciated. The proceeds from these events are used by the Congregational Care Team and Presbyterian Women to support their activities and the work of our church.

## THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who helped in anyway with May Luncheon. It takes many volunteers and you are greatly appreciated! We could not do this every year without the cooperation and hard work of each of you. Our success happens due to the efforts of many. Thanks again,

Marie Gamertsfelder

## THANK YOU NOTES

Thank you for the cards, visits, and your prayers as I journeyed from totally independent living in my condo to assisted living in Brown Memorial Home in what I call "The Penthouse Suite" -room 204. Short visits are welcome in the future. Diane Berger

Diane Berger Brown Memorial Home 158 E. Mound St. Room 204 Circleville, OH 43113-1702

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Dear Friends,

To say "Thank You" just doesn't seem to cover how much I appreciated the cards, phone calls, and food. What was the best was the warm welcome the Sunday I returned to church. Love to All.

Doris Yamarick

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#### Dear Friends,

Several months ago my life was turned upside down in a way I could never have imagined. Cancer, a word you never want to hear. A word that scares the daylights out of you. However, the Lord shows me constantly that I am in His hands. He shows me through your calls, visits, meals, cards, thoughts, and most of all your prayers. Thank you, they mean so much to me. Thank you Pastor Joel for your visits which always make me feel so much better. I miss you all and will be back just as soon as I can. Please keep praying for me. You bless me. Judy Corbett

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Phone for Doris Gruebel Bob Gruebel 614-848-5120

Dear Church Family,

We would like to thank our church family for their kindness after the passing of our mother Nancy Weitendorf. Thanks for the hugs, cards, food, music, flowers, technology, celebration of life service, and shared memories. Family of Nancy Weitendorf.

#### NEW ADDRESS

Marilyn Spence 241 Alexander Lawrence Drive Pickerington, OH 43147-1478

## **HOPE HOUSE NEWS**

Hope House has received its 501(c)(3) status! We will be panhandling on the streets of Circleville on June  $22^{nd}$  from 9-1. Please look for us at the busy intersections around town. If you would like to help that day, contact Clare Hall or Sam Wilson.

If you would like to make a cash donation please send it to:

Hope House of Pickaway County PO Box1071 Circleville, Ohio 43113

Gifts of needed supplies or gift cards to Walmart can also be given to Clare or Sam and we will deliver them.

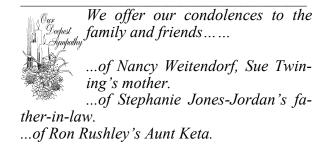
Your continued support of this important community mission is both needed and greatly appreciated.

### COMMUNITY KITCHEN - SUMMER HELP WANTED

The Presbyterian dates for Community Kitchen this summer are the 4th Wednesday of each month (June 26, July 24, August 28) and the 1st Friday of each month (June 7, July 5, August 2). If you are able to help, please contact Alice Harker (474-4435). Individuals, families, and youth who may not be able to help during the school year are urged to consider helping this summer. We meet at 4:00 to setup and are finished with cleanup by 6:00. Many of you have helped with Community Kitchen each month or when you were able and I am thankful for your willingness to help with this local mission project. The warm, friendly smiles you offer those who dine with us and the words of kindness you share are deeply appreciated. The love of Christ shines through each of you!

#### **ROOM USAGE**

If anyone wishes to have a meeting or event at church, please contact the office so that the calendar can be checked to make sure that there is space available. You can find the Building Use Forms on the bulletin board in the office.





School's out or almost and it's the time of year we get to enjoy summer fun!! Our church is participating with a cooperative VBS among 5 local churches!! You are invited and encouraged to participate. We will need donations of materials, helpers to provide guides for small groups and some extras to help with the stations. Pastor Joel will be leading the Bible Discovery station this year! We are excited to see how this will "ROAR" into our community and share the Love of God with everyone.

The important details you need

Where: Trinity Lutheran Church

When: June 23-27, 2019

Time: 5:00 for dinner and 5:30-7:30 for the program.

Who can come? All children from preschool to 5<sup>th</sup> grade are encouraged to participate.

Who Else!! Older youth are needed to for helpers, guides and encouragers for the young ones.

How do I register? There are forms available at the church on the entry table or let us know and we can e mail you a copy!

**How do I sign up to help?** Let Julie Calder (740-601-0481) or mail to: jcalder@accentcare.com and let her know you are available and willing or give your name and contact info to the church office.

This project takes many hands and hearts to share God's live with everyone.

Let's ROAR into the hearts of our children and have an experience you will not forget!



134 East Mound Street PO Box 147 Circleville Ohio 43113 740-474-4791 Fax - 740-474-1404 E-Mail - circpres@frontier.com

Website – www.circlevillepresbyterianchurch.com

Please remember to contact the church office with your new address. As bulk mail, the Pres-Line is not forwarded and is returned to the church for a fee.

## ADDRESS SEVICE REQUESTED

**Non-Profit** Organization **U S Postage Paid** Circleville ŎH 43113 Permit Number 195



# Looking ahead to August/September.....

## August

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- Communion 18 Rally Day
  - Back to Regular Schedule Pickaway Manor Service

## September

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- Communion
- 2 Labor Day
- 15 Pickaway Manor Service
- Presbytery Mtg—Delaware (Liberty) 17
- Oct./Nov. Pres-Line Deadline 20

