

Cridersville Chronicle
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FEBRUARY 2017

From the desk of Pastor Casey Irwin

"How often has the Christian community of which you are a member prayed for boldness to declare the gospel? Probably not very often since we don't place great value on boldness to declare the gospel. But what if we did? What difference would it make in our lives, our congregations, and the communities in which we live? The early disciples found that praying for boldness gave them the wisdom, the faith, and the power to live faithful and effective lives. What are we praying for today?"

- Reuben P. Job

As we've spent all month praying for boldness, this quote struck me as a powerful statement on what God has promised. In the book of Acts, the disciples spent time closeted together in prayer, until God prompted them to action through the coming of the Holy Spirit. God opened opportunities for believers in the Old and New Testament, through the history of the church, and in our every day. So what are we really praying for today? What do we expect from our boldness, our personal lives of faith, our congregation, and our community? Keep praying, not just for our lists of requests, but for God to act through us and others to bring the kingdom of God to the world.

Worship and Study at Home Through the Winter

Struggling to get out in the cold and ice? Watch the worship video through our church website or Facebook page. Sunday service is posted every Monday.

Not sure how to connect to the website? Contact the church office for a DVD copy of worship.

Spending time with God, reading Scriptures, and growing in faith sounds a bit daunting, but as you go about your day, write out some of your favorite verses to post around your home or workplace. As you move about, spend time with each of these, saying them out loud, praying them to God, and even memorizing the Scriptures. Let God's promises sustain your soul and bring you peace.



Liturgist

- 5) Kathy Krites
- 12) Jane Bowersock
- 19) Betsy Wagner
- 26) Youth

Nursery

- 5) Jerry Johnson
- June Reichelderfer
- 12) Steve Humes
- Julie Smith
- 19) Susie Dailey
- Angie Gierhart
- 26) Marcia Clay
- Alyssa Drexler

Power Express

- 5) Debbie Schroeder
- 12) Jill Wierwille
- 19) Jim Schroeder
- 26) Josh Conley

See page 2 for ushers

Greeters

5) Ernie & Jenny
Numbers

Jean Fox

Jane Bowersock

12) Larry & Bea
Musser

Sue Hinegardner

Cindy Weaver

19) George & Kathy
Krites

Gene & Neita

Border

26) Billy & Janet Pack

Linda Nixon

Deb & Frank Oen

Ushers

Terry & Susan Bay

Rick & Connie Rees

Membership Class

If you've been active in our congregation, and ready for another step in your faith journey, you're to join Cridersville UMC in membership, as a public commitment to growing in faith as a part of this body. As a member, you would be making your ongoing presence and support an intentional commitment to this faith community with your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service, and your witness.

The 2-part membership class is scheduled for February 19 & 26 from 2-4 pm at the parsonage.

Contact Pastor Casey to get connected or ask further questions

--- casey.ann.irwin@gmail.com 419-645-5652

Women's Bible Study

Join us for community, caring, and life change through the biblical story of Joseph.

2nd and 4th Wednesdays 9-10:30 am in the music room. Children are welcome in the nursery or music room.

Youth Soup Luncheon

Support our youth group on Sunday, February 12 after church for a soup luncheon to raise funds for Lakeside Summer Camp.

The luncheon is on a free will donation basis.

All the church is welcome to stay and enjoy the food and fellowship.

Book Notes

Picture this: small Indiana Town; church - Harmony Friends Meeting; Quaker pastor (Sam); a congregation that could try the patience of Job!!!! Sam, good pastor that he definitely is, is having some doubts about his faith. And quite frankly the attitudes and actions of several of his "flock" would test anyone's patience, and maybe even one's faith! That being said, you will love some of the church members and you will laugh at (with) some members, and some you will want to shake the stuffins' out of them!!!!!! All in all, if you like gentle Christian fiction you will like "JUST SHY OF HARMONY", by Philip Gulley. A delightful book!

Two books by Kim Vogel Sawyer.

1. A WHISPER OF PEACE. Ostracized by her tribe because of her white father, Lizzie Dawson lives alone in the mountains of Alaska, practicing the ways of her people even as she resides in the small cabin her father built for her mother. Clay Selby has always wanted to be like his father, a missionary who holds a great love for the native people and has brought many to God. Clay and his stepsister, Vivian, arrive in Alaska to set up a church and school among the Athbascan people. Clay is totally focused on this goal...until he meets a young, independent Indian woman with the most striking blue eyes he's ever seen. But Lizzie is clearly not part of the tribe, and befriending her might have dire consequences for his mission. Will Clay be forced to choose between his desire to minister to the natives and the quiet nudging of his heart?
2. A HOME IN DRAYTON VALLEY. Fed up with the poor quality of life in 1880 New York, Tarsie Raines encourages her friends Joss and Mary Brubacher to move with their two children to Drayton Valley, Kansas, a booming town hailed in the guidebook as the land of opportunity. She offers to help with expenses and to care for Mary and the children as they travel west by wagon train. But when tragedy strikes on the trip across the prairie, Tarsie is thrown into an arrangement with Joss that leaves both of them questioning God and their dreams for the future. As their funds dwindle and nothing goes as planned, will Tarsie and Joss give up and go their separate ways, or will God use their time in Drayton Valley to turn their hearts toward him?

"Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful." Colossians 3:15



February Birthdays

- 4) Bea Musser
- 5) Cindy West
- 6) Ken McCaslin
- 10) Aaron Wagner
- Janet Pack
- Ciera Rumbaugh
- 11) Eric Pierson
- 14) Marie Snider
- 19) Lisa Katterheinrich
- 20) Evan Humes
- 21) Kari Houser
- 24) Jane Plummer
- Rick Rees
- 25) Taylor Lucas

Anniversaries

- 11) Dave & June Reichelderfer
- 12) Gene & Neita Border
- 13) Steve & Margie Humes
- 24) Kaye & Ora Seese

Ch-Ki-Lo Food Pantry

Ch-Ki-Lo Food Pantry served food to 468 persons in December, which included 90 families for Christmas.

The yearly total for medicine bottles was 3,494 and \$59.60.

In December, 6 went to pack senior boxes at the WOFB and in January, 8 were there.

The Christmas distribution day was cold and icy but we served almost 90 families and the Christmas gifts brought for the angel tree were handed out. There were several coats, gloves, hats and sock that patrons were glad to get. Thanks to all who contributed!

Cridersville's partnership with Family Promise ended on a positive note in December when we served 2 families at Faith Christian Church. The one family was placed in their apartment last week and were so thankful!

The Souper Bowl of Caring is going on and now we know the teams (both those at Cridersville UMC and the NFL)!! So bring your money to help lead your favorite team to victory!!

There will be an Open House and Volunteer Appreciation Reception at the Food Pantry on Sunday, February 12 from 2:00-4:00 pm. Everyone is welcome to come see the facility!



Souper Bowl of Caring

February 5th brings our fundraising to a close, as we cheer on the teams at the Super Bowl. Last year we raised \$2,649.00 for the Chi-Ki-Lo Food Pantry ministries in Cridersville. Can we top that total in 2017? Vote with your dollars for your favorite team and feed families in need of a hand up this winter.

AFC- "Jedi" Jerry Johnson and Jim Schroeder

NFC- Pastor Casey Irwin and Susie Dailey

To celebrate the victories for the kingdom of God, the team at Chi-Ki-Lo Food Pantry invites you to attend and Open House and Volunteer Recognition on February 12 at the Food Pantry (510 E. Sugar St.) from 2-4 PM. Refreshments will be provided. Please contact the church office if you need transportation.



January Attendance & Offerings

Date	Attendance	Sunday School Attendance	General Fund Offering	Capital Improvements
December 25	96	10	\$2,576.00	\$25.00
January 1	89	9	\$3,237.00	\$80.00
January 8	106	28	\$3,515.00	\$45.00
January 15	108	18	\$1,877.00	\$25.00
January 22	140	34	\$3,288.00	\$45.00

God's Conversation Hearts

Those familiar conversation hearts that show up every February can be more than just trite romantic or friendly sayings. Use them to remind you — or to teach a child — of the greatest love of all: God's love for us, which empowers our love for others. For example:

- **TRUE LOVE:** What love is truer than giving up one's only Son so people might have everlasting life? (John 3:16).
- **MINE:** Jesus knows us intimately, as a shepherd knows his sheep. No one can snatch us from him (John 10:27-29).
- **FOREVER:** God loves us with an "everlasting love" (Jeremiah 31:3).
- **LOVE ME:** The greatest commandment is to love God with our whole being (Luke 10:27).
- **TRUST ME:** "Let not your hearts be troubled." We can count on Jesus, now and for eternal life (John 14:1-3).
- **SWEET TALK:** God's words are sweeter than honey (Psalm 119:103).
- **BE GOOD:** We show our love for Christ by keeping his commands (John 14:15).
- **CALL ME:** God longs to be in fellowship with us. We can talk to him anytime in prayer (Jeremiah 33:3).
- **FRIENDS:** The greatest love involves laying down your life for your friends (John 15:13) — precisely what Jesus did.
- **#1:** "We love because [God] first loved us" (1 John 4:19).



Children's Movie Night



**All children are invited to a movie night on
Saturday, February 18,
5-7 pm.**

Bring your sleeping bag and pillow.

Wear your favorite pajamas.

(you can bring your parents if you want but it's not mandatory)

Watch Zootopia and eat popcorn.

Have FUN!

Nursery Help

Would you like to serve in our nursery, caring for our youngest worshippers? We are currently looking for volunteers as early as February. Commitment is once every 6-8 weeks. If you are interested in serving please see Courtney Raines or email her at Courtneyannie88@gmail.com



CH-KI-LO FOOD PANTRY

2016 Report

Ch-Ki-Lo Food Pantry
Charity-Kindness-Love

510 E. Sugar St.

Cridersville

Telephone (419) 645-4878

Hours of Operation: Tuesday- Wednesday- Thursday

9 am – Noon

Ch-Ki-Lo Food Pantry is a choice food pantry in which the people are able to select their own food and have control over what they eat.

It serves the 45806 area and parts of the 45895 around Cridersville

In 2016 the food pantry distributed food to

1,285 families.

Of these:

785 individuals were Senior Citizens
over 60 years of age

1,775 were between the ages of 18-59

1,120 were children

For a total of 3,680 served

In 2016 the pantry handled 75,545 pounds of food at a cost of \$15,033.07

54,813 lbs were from the West Ohio Food Bank

1,328 lbs were acquired from the Postal Drive

928 lbs from Cridersville School

2,704 lbs from local churches

15,772 lbs from misc. individuals, businesses & organizations

A total of \$13,303.07 was donated by other churches, organizations, businesses and individuals.

We received Memorial Fund donations totaling \$1,230

Cridersville Lions Club - \$500

We distributed over 82 hats and 115 gloves donated by Faith Christian Church, St. Matthew's Church & Faith Circle at Cridersville UMC

Note: Cridersville UMC collected \$2,649 from the Souper Bowl of Caring

Couches Needed

The youth group is looking for smoke free and in good shape couches for the youth room at the church. Contact Jeff or Mel if you have one that you would like to donate.

Year-End Contribution Statements

2016 Year-end Contribution statements are available in the Ministry Center. Contact the church office if you would prefer to have those emailed to you.

**OUR
DEEPEST
SYMPATHY**

Family of Glen Snider

Before All Else Fails

In *Too Busy Not to Pray* (InterVarsity Press), Bill Hybels cites reasons that prayers may seem to go unanswered (unconfessed sin, selfishness and so on). The most common cause, though, is prayerlessness:

“People often tell me how they have attempted to address a pressing need,” Hybels writes. “They have gone to counselors, read self-help books, claimed biblical promises, practiced self-discipline, confided in Christian friends, practiced assertiveness or submission or self-denial or positive thinking, even read books about prayer — and their need is still not met.” But when asked if they’ve prayed “fervently and regularly” about the matter, the answer is usually no.

James 4:2 says, “You do not have because you do not ask God.” So instead of thinking “When all else fails, pray,” try this: “Pray before all else fails.”