

“News From Home”
Perry Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
302 East Salling Street, PO Box 479
Perry, MO 63462



May / June 2024

“Our little time of suffering is not worthy of our first night’s welcome home to Heaven.”

Samuel Rutherford

“I have been driven many times to my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had nowhere else to go.”

Abraham Lincoln

“Heaven is full of answers to prayers for which no one ever bothered to ask.”

Billy Graham

“God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks in our conscience, but shouts in our pains; it is His megaphone to rouse a deaf world.”

C. S. Lewis

“I have held many things in my hands, and I have lost them all, but whatever I have placed in God’s hands, that I still possess.”

Martin Luther

“Some prayers are followed by silence because they are wrong, others because they are bigger than we can understand.”

Oswald Chambers

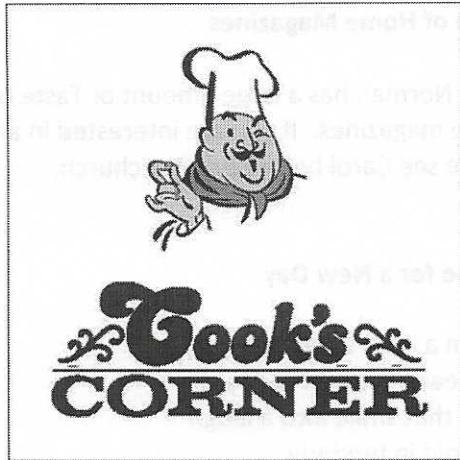
September 3, 2018

Perry Christian Church Youth Stock Food Pantry

On Sunday July 28th, a four part series centered on John 6:35 was begun at Perry Christian Church. The Young Disciples, during their message, were challenged to remember how many people in their own community lacked basic needs such as bread. Pastor Nancy gave each a paper bag with instructions to decorate as they saw fit and then solicit the congregation and their friends and neighbors for food items for the Perry Food Pantry, housed at First Baptist Church in Perry. On the 26th of August, the bags were delivered to the Food Pantry by the Young Disciples before their Sunday school classes. They were given a tour of the pantry and thanked for their gift of giving that would benefit many people in their community. After the Sunday morning service, everyone was invited to a pizza party in the church basement to celebrate the wonderful outreach of our young people. As you can see, much more food was collected than could fit into their artfully decorated bags! Thanks to these young servants of God!



Thanks to Pastor Nancy Kellstrom for this story.



Hamburger Casserole – Pauline Seelow

- 1 lb. hamburger
- 1 can tomato soup
- ½ bottle ketchup
- 1-1/2 cup celery, diced
- 1 c. chopped onion
- 2 tbsp. shortening
- 1 pkg. French fries

Simmer onion and celery in shortening until tender. Add browned hamburger; be sure to drain the grease. Add soup and ketchup, salt and pepper to taste. Place in baking dish and spread French fries over the top. Bake until fries are golden brown.

Cinnamon Rolls – Arlen Provancha

- Rhodes frozen cinnamon rolls (12 count)
- ½ cup sugar
- ½ cup brown sugar
- 5 tbsp. butter, melted
- ½ cup vanilla ice cream, melted

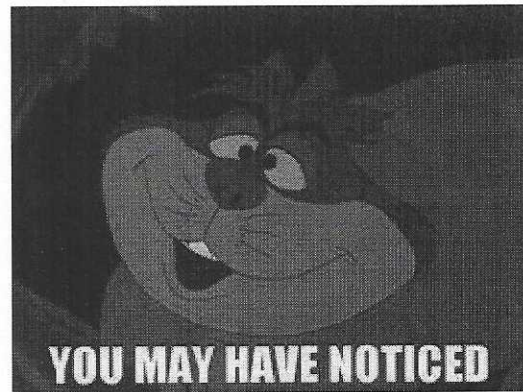
Grease a 9x13 dish. Place rolls in the pan. Heat the two sugars, butter and ice cream. Boil for 1 minute. Pour over rolls. Place in oven overnight. Bake the next morning at 350 for 25-30 minutes. Frost with icing provided with the Rhodes cinnamon rolls.

FROM THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

The Stewardship Committee is busy planning our 2024 events. Everyone is welcome to attend our events and we are always looking for volunteers if you are interested in helping.

2024 Events:

- May 4 Bake Sale at IGA in Perry
- July 4 Parade
- July 21-25 VBS at Perry Christian Church
- Sept. 14 Fish Fry
- Dec. 7 Breakfast with Santa



Many of you have noticed that there is now a Keurig in the kitchen and coffee pods available. Coffee is available to enjoy during Sunday School classes or during our church dinners however, we ask that you do not bring it upstairs to the sanctuary during morning worship.

Thank you!



Please join us for a carry in dinner on Sunday, May 5th following the morning worship service. We ask that you bring a dish or two to share with others and join us for a wonderful meal and great time of fellowship.

Paul Mitchell Young will be our speaker on May 5th so this will give you time to visit with him after service. Invite a friend to come along with you!!



1901 - Fenced church grove and built hitching racks

1902 – Protracted meeting held in October in the light of the moon. Struck by lightning October 12th.

1903 – Foundation completed for new church building.

1904 – Cornerstone laying in April. Special train for visitors.

1905 – Dedication in July, F.M. Rains, Cincinnati, OH – special train. Hired J.M. Bailey.

1908 – Purchased 50 Christian Church hymnals at \$.40 each. Bought pump for baptistry. Purchased piano for \$260 from John Dye.

1920 – New roof and new panes in windows.

1923 – Purchased parsonage from Miss Bettie Armstrong. Erected closet for ladies only on grounds.

1925 – Exchanged parsonage for D.A.B. White property.

1947 – CWF paid for redecorating.

1948 – Installed heater in baptistry.

1952 – Had 20th anniversary for Brother John W. Golden. Ellen Elam painted the scene in baptistry.

1955 – Repaired windows \$610 St. Loius Art Glass. Presidents of CWF and Division 1 & 2 are made Board members.

1956 – CWF redecorated basement

1957 – Gave scholarship to Don Slaughter (CWF). Installed new furnace for \$1,100.

1958 – New church doors. Bulletin board in the yard given by the Cum Double Class.

1959 – First candlelight communion held.

1960 – First (?) oyster supper held. Winner's Class widened the front steps.

1961 – Men of the church held a ham and bean dinner. New chairs purchased for the basement by the CWF. Held ice cream supper. Purchased a new organ in December.

1962 – CWF painted the kitchen. Installed the telephone. Put drapes in the baptistry. Held ordination services for Don Slaughter.

1963 – Organized Division III for young married women. Installed hand rail on the front steps. Bought new tables for the basement.

1964 – Purchased mimeograph. Dedicated the parsonage on July 26, 1964. Nativity scene placed in December 1964.

1966 – New steps built at the side door. Choir robes made for the children. Garage doors installed on parsonage. Built wall between the living room and kitchen at the parsonage.

1973 – Redecorated the church.

1975 – Purchased choir robes.

1976 – Bought lot adjoining the church.

1979 – Laid new carpet.

1980 – Fixed church roof.

1981 – Did tuck pointing.

Perry Community Vacation Bible School

Perry Christian Church

July 21-July 25

6 pm - 8 pm

MARK YOUR CALENDAR



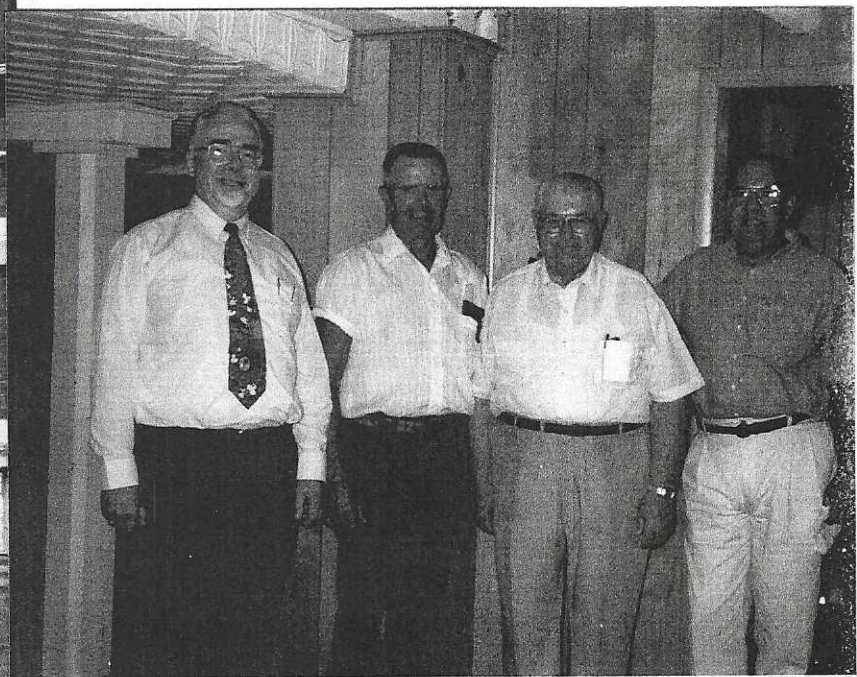
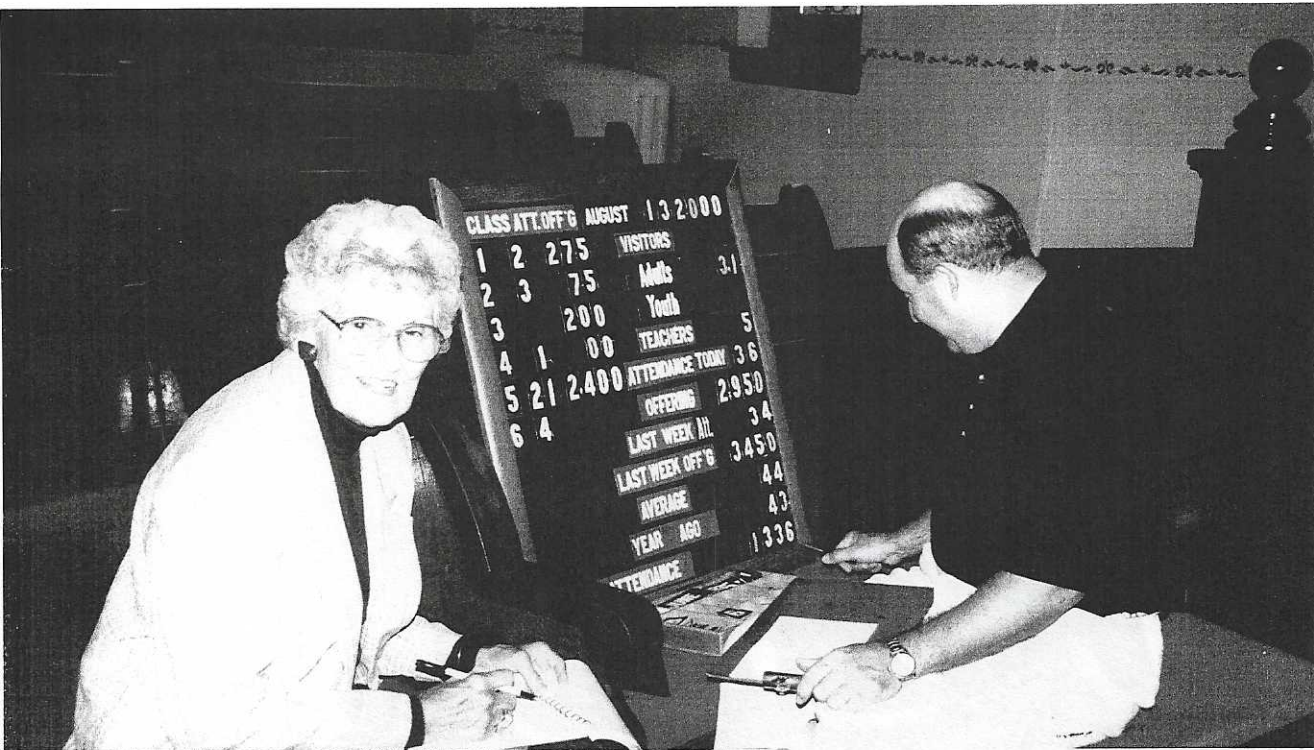
If you are able to donate any item(s) to be sold at the Stewardship Bake Sale, please see Glenna Johnson or any Stewardship Committee member.

GRAUDATES HONORED

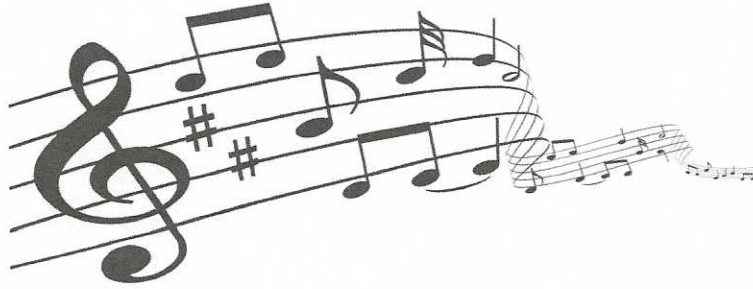
We will honor our 8th and 12th grade graduates on Sunday, June 9th during our morning worship service. A carry in meal will follow the morning service.

Our 8th grade graduates are Ethan Brown and Tanner Eisele. Our high school graduates are Trenton Brown, Chloe Foster, Andrew Holmes and Caytlyn Provanca.

Congratulations to all!!!! We are proud of you.



↑ JUNE 19, 1994
 FATHER'S DAY



Arlen notes

It is hard to believe that summer is upon us, and the official summer vacation season starts in approximately four weeks on Memorial Day. Now if we could only convince the weather to cooperate!

I will be looking for individuals or groups who are willing to provide music specials for the Sunday service this summer. Do you have friends, nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, children, grandchildren or great grandchildren visiting this summer and would like to have them share their talent with the church? Now is the time for that to happen. Please understand that music specials don't have to be singing; it can be playing an instrument such as piano, organ, guitar, violin, dulcimer, flute, trumpet, recorder, etc.

As always, if you have suggestions for songs you would like to have included in the church service or during the special music time, please let me know. I do ask that you write them on paper and give it to me. As I have often said, my mind has very good intentions to remember, but in reality it doesn't do a very good job of completing that intention. You may request songs to be sung by the congregation as part of the church service or songs to be sung as specials. Please note that I'll need the title of the song and whether you want it as a special or a congregational number. I will try to honor all requests that I can. Please remember that I must be able to locate accompaniment for the song.

A Mother's Day Card From God

By Ray Scott

Proverbs 31:10: A wife of noble character who can find? She is worth far more than rubies.

"Mother's Day"! I have a PROBLEM with Mother's Day! It is not that I do not LIKE Mother's Day ... or that I DISAGREE with it ... or that I DREAD it. My PROBLEM is ... that I do not know how to preach a good Mother's Day sermon. Mother's Day is perhaps (for me) the most difficult sermon to preach all year. WHY is it so HARD to preach a Mother's Day message? BECAUSE ... While Mother's Day can be an incredibly happy, joyous day ... it can also be an incredibly sad day ... a day of pain & grief. Not everybody looks forward to Mother's Day.

Maybe you have recently lost your mother ... and you are experiencing the pain of your loss.

Maybe you have lost a child ... and your heart grieves on Mother's Day.

Maybe you are having difficulties with your Mother ... your Mother was not the IDEAL Mother we like to preach about ... and you have bad memories of your Mother.

Maybe you have some guilt feelings about your motherhood ... and you have children problems ... or marriage problems.

Maybe you were never able to have children ... and Mother's Day is not a joyous occasion for you.

Maybe you never had a real mother ... and were raised in a foster home, or by relatives.

Maybe you are a single Mom ... and are struggling with being a good Mother to your children.

Not every home is like the "Cleavers" ... or the "Brady Bunch" ... or "Father Knows Best" ... or the "Ozzie & Harriet Nelson Family." Maybe your home is more like the "Ozzie Osbourne Family" than it is the "Ozzie Nelson Family"! Some of you have been raised in good Christian homes ... HAVE wonderful parents ... and ARE wonderful parents. I thank God for you ... and you should thank God, too ... AMEN? TODAY, I want to ENCOURAGE each of you ... especially the Mothers. Each of you have been affected by Motherhood in 1 way or another ... for good or bad. Everyone here either: HAS a mother ... HAD a mother ... IS a mother ... is MARRIED to a mother ... or KNOWS a mother. Motherhood has affected you in 1 way or another. I have a message for you today, this Mother's Day, from God. I want to read to you "A Mother's Day Card Sent From God." Most Mother's Day Cards have a little message printed inside of them. You go to great care to pick out one that matches your sentiments for your mother. It is important what is written in a Mother's Day Card. If you buy a CHRISTIAN card, there is usually a verse of Scripture printed in the card. That is what God's Mother's Day Card has in it. Mothers have an exceedingly difficult job ... more of a MINISTRY than a job. God does not bless you with Motherhood ... then leave you to hang out to dry. He's given you His Word ... to encourage you ... help you ... bless you ... comfort you ... give you direction. This is God's Mother's Day Message to you ... pick out the verse that applies to you, as a Mother ... it is God's message to you:

1.- WHEN YOU FEEL DISCOURAGED MOTHERS ...

Have you ever been ISCOURAGED? Motherhood is not for the weak or faint-hearted, IS IT? Mothers need a lot of encouragement ... on a daily basis. Listen to what God writes on the inside of His Mother's Day Card to you:

You will find the following in Isaiah 40:28-31

When you want to give up ... DON'T! WHY? Because God "understands" - 40:28b

Can you identify with 40:29? Here is your word of encouragement from God - 40:31, 41:10

MOTHERS, when you get DISCOURAGED, open up God's Mother's Day Card, and read His message to you ... and then you can say along with the Apostle Paul ... "I can do all things through Christ, who strengthens me." - Philippians 4:13

2.- WHEN YOU FEEL ANGRY MOTHERS ...

Have you ever gotten ANGRY with your kids? If you have not, you need to be nominated for sainthood! Listen to what God has written on the inside of His Mother's Day card to you:

Ephesians 4:26: In your anger do not sin. Do not let the sun go down while you are angry.

Refocusing on Fatherhood

By Mark Strong

Matthew 3:13-17: Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John. But John tried to deter him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" Jesus replied, "Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness." Then John consented. As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."

God the Father is present with his Son

The first truth we see in the passage as it relates to fatherhood is that God the father is present with his son. "As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on him" God the Father did not abandon his Son, Jesus. The Bible tells us that when Jesus came out of the water the Holy Spirit descended and rested on him. Yes, the Spirit was the empowering agent in Jesus' ministry. However, this was also a sign that God was present with his Son! His Spirit was resting on Jesus. He was not going to leave him fatherless—God the Father would always be there for his Son. If God thought it important to let the whole world know that he was present with his Son, how important is it for fathers today to be present with their children? As a dad you do not have the luxury of just wimping out. Fathers, your children need you! Make an inward resolve to fight through the barriers whether they are real or just your excuses. God was present with his Son, and he can give you the grace, strength, and courage to be present with your children. A good father is a present father.

God the Father acknowledges his Son

In the passage, we also see God the father acknowledging his Son. He thunders these words, "This is my son ... " Speaking from heaven, God the Father makes a bold declaration to the world saying, "This is my son!" In essence, he is saying, "No one make a mistake about it, he belongs to me. I am his Father, and he is my Son!" God the Father leaves no ambiguity surrounding his relationship to Jesus Christ. Jesus is clear on who is his Father and so were those who heard the Father speak. Just as God acknowledged his Son, natural fathers are expected to do the same. In an age where many children do not even have a father's name on their birth certificates, this ritual speaks volumes to the importance and the need for father to acknowledge their children. God the Father acknowledged his Son, as dads we have the responsibility and the privilege of acknowledging our children too.

God the Father loves his Son

In the passage, we also hear and see God expressing his love for his son. "This is my Son, whom I love ... " God's love for Jesus was not only mere words and sentiment. His love for Jesus was expressed through tangible ways and actions. God the Father lived in close proximity to Jesus to know what he needed. In the Lord's Prayer (Matt 6:9-13) by teaching us how to pray, Jesus

shows us how our loving Father is committed to meeting our needs as his children. Here are a few brief observations from the prayer:

He is *present and attentive* (Our Father who is in heaven) He *desires the best for his children* (His kingdom come and will be done) He *provides for his children's daily needs* (Give us our daily bread) He *forgives his children* (Forgive us our debts) He *protects his children from evil* (deliver us from evil)

God the Father affirms his Son

In these verses, the Father is also affirming his Son. God tells the world, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."

Affirmation is powerful and we all need it desperately. Time will not permit us to talk about all of the causalities and heartaches of life people have experienced in search of healthy affirmation. I find this phrase of the text so amazing! Here, God tells the world, that Jesus is his Son whom he loves and that he is "well pleased." Think about it for a moment. At this point in Jesus' life, he has not ...

Preached a sermon Healed the sick Raise the dead Cast out any demons Called, and disciples
Died on the cross Risen from the grave

However, the father validates him *not* for what he has done or for the future works he will do. The Father affirms Jesus solely because of who he is—his beloved Son! You may long for the affirmation of your father. I want to tell you are not flawed or unlovable! Though your earthly father may never affirm you, your heavenly Father will. It was God the Father's pleasure to affirm Jesus and it is his pleasure to affirm you! Hear these words today! You are his child, he loves you, and he is well pleased! Dad's make sure you take the time to speak these life-giving words to your children too. They desperately need to hear them.

Refocusing on fatherhood

Today, you may be a person who is living with a father wound. Your earthly father may have failed you, but God will not. He promises to be the Father you always wanted and needed. Just as he opened the heavens to proclaim his love for his Son Jesus, he will touch the pain in your heart and pour out love and mercy to heal your deepest wounds.

Today, you may long to be a better father to your children. Follow the example of your heavenly Father. Be present with your children physically and emotionally. Find creative ways to let your children know that they are yours and that you would not trade them for the world.

Understand—yes, you are not perfect, but who is? Stop beating yourself up over your shortcomings. Rely on your loving Father to give you the grace you need to be the father he wants you to be. He will help you to be present, acknowledging, loving, and affirming to your children.

Today, your heart may be burdened for the many fatherless children living in your extended family, church, or community. Allow the Father's heart to become your heart. Find a child to whom you can be a mentor, become a big brother, a surrogate dad, or a grandpa. Be there for them and share the heart of your heavenly Father with them. Let them know how valuable they are, and how much God and you love them! There is no need to try to be a pro; just being present in a kid's life is invaluable. Remember, your prayers make a difference in the lives of the fatherless too.

The time to refocus on fatherhood is now, and by our heavenly Father's wonderful grace, get active, and make a difference!