

# Newsletter

#06 | November 1, 2023



## Kirksville First Assembly of God

### From Bobbie's Desk...

#### A Grateful Heart

As I sat here thinking and praying about what I was going to write about, I was reminded that this month is Thanksgiving and I have MUCH to be thankful for.

Recently, I had to say a tear-full goodbye to my "boy" (Bruiser) of 17 years. He'd run his race. He'd been the loyal sidekick and faithful friend all of his life. Yes, I'm extremely sad but, I was very blessed to have such an unconditional love with the boy I loved so much.

I grumble, moan, gripe, etc. because life is so "unfair", but sometimes I just have to stop and remember where I've been and the blessings I've experienced to straighten myself upright. I am reminded to be grateful for where I am now and the blessings that surround me.

I am reminded of the most important thing and that's my relationship with Jesus Christ. I know I wouldn't be sitting here typing this today without it. The many challenges I've faced in life cannot and will not ever compare to what Christ did for me on that cross. When I think about it, I am overwhelmed with love and gratitude.

I am also reminded of where I've come from - from just a few years ago. My life had been shattered and I was struggling to pick up the pieces. My family had been my biggest strength in pulling me through the worst time of my life. I am forever grateful for my family.

There could be an autobiography written just on blessings Jesus has done for me and through me. There are more blessings than room on paper. One thing I know for sure is I'm grateful for this life I'm living. My boy, Bruiser, makes me think of **2 Timothy 4:7**: "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, and I have remained faithful." - and I am determined to do this with a grateful heart.

#### What's Inside

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# Ministry Updates

## *Connect Ministry*

The Connect Team has grown. We started with a few people that said, "Yes!" to being greeters. Now we have people working the Welcome Center giving out gift mugs and being a great source of information about our church.

But, we could use some more volunteers with this ministry. If you'd be interested in helping, talk to Bobbie

## *Small Group Ministry*

The Bible Engagement Project is going strong. We are getting ready to start Volume 3: Session 1. If you haven't joined a class, but are still interested, let the office know.

Jenifer Robbins teaches it on Wednesday evenings and Jason Dennis teaches it on Sunday mornings.

## *Missions/Outreach Ministry*

The Missions/Outreach team had their first meet and greet. Special thanks to Jayne Sherman, Meta Robie, Lois Helton, and Jenifer Robbins for providing the hot dogs and treats. Another special thanks to those who came to help: Tiffany Ellis, Addie Ellis, Ron Bolter, Denita Ackley, Al Sack, Wes and Aimee Carter, and Eldon and Twyla Tracy. Bro. Eldon provided us with encouragement and a special word.

We will continue to reach out to our neighbors for different events and fellowships. God has big plans for this ministry for the community around us.

We will keep everyone posted of future events/outreach ideas.

**MEET**  
**and**  
**GREET**

# Pastor's Thoughts

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The church is made of disciples. But if those disciples are not making disciples then the church is going to plateau and decline. A disciple of Jesus is one who follows the ways and teachings of Jesus outlined in the Gospels, the New Testament and the rest of the Bible. A disciple of Jesus should live a life that is Christ-centered, Bible-engaged, Spirit-empowered, and Mission-participating. And disciples are charged with making more disciples who are Christ-centered, Bible-engaged, Spirit-empowered, and Mission-participating.

-Pastor Shawn



# Dates to Remember

guest  
speaker

**Sunday, November 12, 2023:** Jason Dennis will be speaking.

**Sunday, November 19, 2023:** Thanksgiving Meal



HAPPY  
thanksgiving

**Thursday, November 23, 2023:** Thanksgiving Day

## Birthdays

- **Blytha Ellis** 11/4
- **Arlene Fast** 11/9
- **Rick Boyd** 11/21
- **Brice Kelso** 11/7
- **Angela Meintz** 11/10
- **Linda Shada** 11/26

## No Anniversaries

# Pastor Appreciation

On Sunday, October 22 we were able to honor Pastor Shawn with a meal, cards, and fellowship as a way to say, "Thank You" for everything he does for the church. We've been blessed to see the growth, strength and perseverance from when Pastor Shawn took on the role of Interim Pastor to now, Lead Pastor. Only God, those who have stepped into that role and their families see and experience the blessings and challenges a pastor goes through to shepherd the flock.

As a church, we have a responsibility to the pastor and his family. We need to be present, learning and growing - and also serving right along side the pastor and his family. The pastor needs to know he has support from every angle of his congregation and to know he's not on this journey alone.

We are blessed to have a great pastor and family, plus to have congregants who are present, learning and growing, and involved. Below are a few photos from the appreciation luncheon.



# November 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Family Night 6:30 p.m.	2	3	4  <b>Blytha Ellis</b>
5 Connection Groups 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:40 a.m. Connection Groups 6:00 p.m.	6 Overcoming Setbacks 6:30 p.m. College/Career 7:00 p.m.	7  <b>Brice Kelso</b>  Ladies Bible Study 5:30 p.m.	8 Family Night 6:30 p.m.	9  <b>Arlene Fast</b>	10  <b>Angela Meintz</b>	11
12 Connection Groups 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:40 a.m. Prayer Meeting 6:00 p.m.	13 Overcoming Setbacks 6:30 p.m. College/Career 7:00 p.m.	14	15 Family Night 6:30 p.m.	16	17	18
19 Connection Groups 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:40 a.m. Fellowship Meal 6:00 p.m.	20 Overcoming Setbacks 6:30 p.m. College/Career 7:00 p.m.	21  <b>Rick Boyd</b>  Ladies Bible Study 5:30 p.m.	22 Family Night 6:30 p.m.	23 Office Closed  <b>Thanksgiving Day</b>	24	25
26 Connection Groups 9:30 a.m. <b>Linda Shada</b>  Worship 10:40 a.m.	27 Overcoming Setbacks 6:30 p.m. College/Career 7:00 p.m.	28	29 Family Night 6:30 p.m.	30		