



The

Relator

February 2018

"Salute one another with a holy kiss.
The Churches of Christ salute you!"
Romans 16:16

Volume LXX – EDITION 6



Cosma's
Corner

**For the eyes of the Lord
range throughout the earth to
strengthen those whose
hearts are fully committed to
him. 2 Chronicles 16:9**

I used to be a die hard Cleveland Browns fan when I was in Jr. High and High School and even into college life; however, when the team abandoned Cleveland and went to Baltimore I abandoned the Browns. It was somewhat an easy transition since I was a die hard fan and had been dying hard for many years. Now that they have been back in Cleveland for quite a few years I have renewed my interest in watching them from time to time, especially when they play Pittsburgh (just can't beat watching some very old rivalries).

Some would say that I was not a fan ever, yet I would disagree. I was a fan as long as things were somewhat hopeful, but I was not invested. I mean really if you are a fan of any NFL team does it not perturb you that the players are not really fans but for a time, for the time that they are paid to be part of the

team. I guess that is why I have become a fan of college football. There just seems to be more commitment to the team from the players and the games are always so unpredictable.

Some people are true fans. These people know every stat from every decade for every player and not just for their team alone but for the entire league. They will pay a week's salary or more for a ticket to a game. And they will brave any weather to be there to be part of the crowd for the event.

Still most fans sit safely in the stands cheering, but they know nothing of sacrifice and the pain of the field.

I think Jesus has a lot of fans these days. Fans who cheer for him when things are going well, but who walk away when it's a difficult season.

Jesus was never interested in having fans (a.k.a. enthusiastic admirer). When he said follow people had to trust him and give up everything including themselves. Some wouldn't do it even with Jesus looking them in the eyes ... literally.

Kyle Idleman writes in His book **Not a Fan** these words: *My concern is that many of our churches in America have gone from being sanctuaries to becoming stadiums. And every week all the fans come to the stadium where they cheer for Jesus but have no interest in truly following him. The biggest threat to the church today is fans who call themselves Christians but aren't actually interested in following Christ. They want to be close enough to Jesus to get all the benefits, but not so close that it requires anything from them.*

I concur. The question is: Will you be a Fan or Follower of Christ Jesus?

**From One Hoping to Be More Than A Fan
To Those I Hope are Not Just Fans**

**Come check out our Sermon Series as we explore Peculiar People who
are committed to the Commission of Submission. 10am Sundays.**



Monthly Newsletter Published by Phillips Christian Church, Salem, Ohio

reflections..

"What Do I Have?"

What do I have, Lord, that you would need me as a servant?

Eyes, he said,
to see the beauty in all that I've made —
and my children as they travel life's highway.

Hands, he said,
to reach out and touch hurting souls,
to give a hug or encouraging pat on the back.

Feet, he said,
to lead my children through this world of strife
and to help them run from sin and follow me.

Mouth, he said,
to lift up your voice and sing praises to me
so others may hear the joy in your heart.

Ears, he said,
to listen to my still, small voice of love
and to hear my children when they cry for help.

Heart, he said,
so you may know the full love of my Spirit
and love my children as I have loved you.

—Thomas Butler



February Calendar

Feb 4th ... 8:00 am Trustees Meeting

Feb 11th ... 8:00 am Elders Meeting

Feb 18th ... 8:00 am Board Meeting

Perfect Attendance

(January 2018)

Family FUNday School

Jenna Crum, Beverly Evans, Ben Fowler, Robin Janofa, Gavin Kelly, Grant Kelly, Bill Kelly, Carl & Judy Merriman, Linda Miller, Cody Opsitnik, Missy Opsitnik, Gail Phillis, Jr., Rorie Reiter, Lynn & Brenda Schmidt, Jack & Bonnie Vincent, Bob Shinn



"The biggest communication problem is we don't listen to understand, we listen to reply."

With Special Thanks

Dear Phillips Christian Church Carolers,
What a delight and pleasing surprise. So many carolers to celebrate in song the season for us a very warm & joyous treat to share with families from PCC.

A Special Thanks to all that gave up their time at such a busy time of the year.

Again Thank you,

The Kelly's, Richard & Verna

P.S. Also, Thanks for the fresh flower arrangement.
It graced our holiday table.



February ANNIVERSARIES

19

Bill & Missy Opsitnik

3	Jack Vincent, Sr.
3	Gail Lea Phillis
5	Bill Wildman
6	Mike Phillis
8	Glen Huston
9	Karen Benson
15	Jack Vincent, Jr.
17	Kaylie Shinn
28	Tom Miller



February BIRTHDAYS

Our Nation

Lost Souls

Bill Wiley (health issues)

Steve Singer (blood condition)

Bill Bohannon (back problems)

George Faull (pray for strength)

Northeast Ohio Bible College

Loni Grisez and her Family

Tom Miller (Caprice Health Care)

Mary Long (COPD)

Nancy Moore (Salem Hospital)

Michelle Dangel (cancer)

Bill Reynolds (broken hip)

Zac Carter (facing lung surgery, starting chemo)

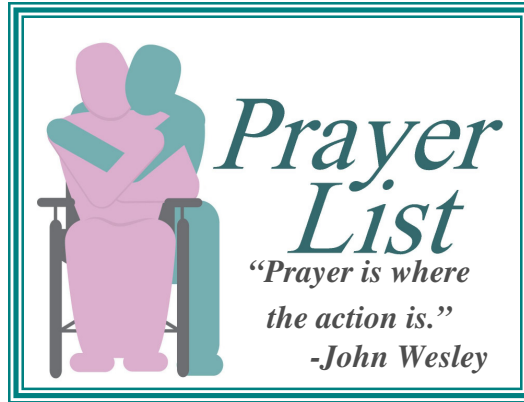
Baby Elijah (heart function normal-heart repair next –PTL!)

Mandy Fitch (dialysis; needs kidney transplant)

Our Congregation

Nathaniel Davis (immune system problems)

Mary Lou Eberhart (health problems)



Laura and Nicole Clunen

Elizabeth Thatcher (health problems)

Gladys Laughlin (health problems)

Renee Baker (cancer)

Jean Fluharty (cancer numbered have lowered)

SERVING IN THE MILITARY

Joel Newburn & Family, Poland

Kyle Stephenson & Family, Germany

Joe Phillis

OUR SHUT-INS

Bess Staubs

Pat Kalbfell (Essex)

Wanda Huston (Allay)

Ada Bailey

Nita Floor (Courtyard)

Nick Cosma (Crandall)

Jim Webber (heart problems)

BENEVOLENCE

[buh-nev-uh-luh-nis] noun 1. desire to do good to others; goodwill; charitableness: to be filled with benevolence toward one's fellow creatures. 2. an act of kindness; a charitable gift.

On **Sunday, February 11th**, we will be receiving a **special offering** for the benefit of our **Benevolence Fund**. You may also indicate your donation on your offering envelope or in your check memo. Let's keep our spirit of benevolence going for the entire week by showing our love to others. Send someone a valentine or card, call someone that you haven't talked to for a while, bake some extra cookies and take them to an elderly neighbor, smile and say thank you to the cashiers you come in contact with. Show the community that Phillips Christian Church is **"A Church With A Heart"**.

WHEN YOU GIVE

TO THE NEEDY,



DO NOT LET YOUR

LEFT HAND KNOW

WHAT YOUR RIGHT

HAND IS DOING.

MATTHEW 6 : 3

Meeting needs

"My neighbor's material needs are my spiritual needs," said 19th-century theologian Israel Salanter. In other words, when someone else suffers hunger and poverty, when people endure a natural disaster and lack shelter, when another human being is sick or injured — in all such cases, God calls us to action. And God knows that whatever we do to meet those material needs will meet our spiritual needs at the same time.

It might be our spiritual need to expand our horizons into neighborhoods, cultures or situations where we're uncomfortable. We might need to grow in love for people different from us. By serving others, we might find our own sagging spirits nurtured with a sense of well-being or even joy. And as we reach out to help, surely we'll notice others doing the same thing, and our spiritual need for renewed faith will be met.

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SERVICES:

SUNDAY

9:00 am ... Sunday School

10:00 am ... Worship

WEDNESDAY

7:00 pm ... Adult Bible Study & Youth Group

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



www.phillipschristian.org

*Thanks to Cody Opsitnik
for updating our website !
It now contains archives of
each Monthly Relator back
to 2014 !! Take a Look !*



10 Biblical Ways to Love

1. Listen without interrupting. "To answer before listening — that is folly and shame" (Proverbs 18:13).
2. Speak without accusing. "Be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry" (James 1:19).
3. Give without selfishness. "The righteous give without sparing" (Proverbs 21:26).
4. Pray without ceasing. "We have not stopped praying for you" (Colossians 1:9).
5. Answer without arguing. "Better a dry crust with peace and quiet than a house full of feasting, with strife" (Proverbs 17:1).
6. Share without pretending. "Speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of ... Christ" (Ephesians 4:15).
7. Enjoy without complaining. "Do everything without grumbling or arguing" (Philippians 2:14).
8. Trust without wavering. "[Love] always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres" (1 Corinthians 13:7).
9. Forgive without punishing. "Forgive as the Lord forgave you" (Colossians 3:13).
10. Promise without forgetting. "A longing fulfilled is a tree of life" (Proverbs 13:12).