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

October 2014

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Phillips Christian Church

**COSMA  
CORNER**

As the day draws nearer I am getting very excited. As the day approaches I am thinking of the great potential that Phillips Christian Church has after 185 years of faithful service to win more souls for Christ. As the time for the event is in the foreseeable future I reflect on the past and realize this same event not long ago led to the baptism of one individual here at PCC, and changed this person's life for eternity.

Friends, I am speaking of our **Friend Day** coming up on **Sunday, October 12**. This truly is a day that could change your friend's life or your friends' lives for all eternity. Proverbs 17:17 says that **A friend loves at all times**. What better way can you show a friend the love than to lead them into an eternal relationship with the one who first loved them. Jesus demonstrated what a true friend was when he said that a true friend would lay down his life for another and then he did just that for all of us. Friendship had been demonstrated throughout Scripture from one of the greatest friendships of all time ... David and Jonathan's bond ... until the time Jesus sent out his disciples two by two to turn the world upside down for him. Jesus knew once again that man did not need to be alone he needed friends.

Friends of PCC we are not intended to do life alone and neither are our friends. And real life begins with a relationship with Christ Jesus.

I would that we set a goal of 185 people for Friend Day in our congregation's 185th historic year. That at first, even to me, seemed a little far-fetched. Until I realized that we can easily come close to such a goal if we first have faith like the size of a mustard seed and move that mountain, and when we realize that we already will come very close to that goal if each of us, young and old, are successful in bringing just one friend. And we already know that some will bring more than that.

So look through Jesus' eyes as he stood on the hill as recorded in Matthew's gospel and saw all the people as sheep without a shepherd scattered to come hear him preach and it says, **He had compassion on them**. Compassion is a great place to start when establishing forever friendships.

As the day draws near I am getting very excited. As the events unfold in the foreseeable future and the not so foreseeable future I see history in the making. And as the hope of heaven gets closer to a present reality, I am hopeful that we are wanting to join with our friends in the forever of event of that eternal party in the presence of our Savior and Friend.

From One Friend to Another

**TRAITS OF FRIENDS**

--copied

In *Confessions*, St. Augustine (A.D.354-430) called human friendship "a nest of love and gentleness."

He wrote of the many joys of Christian friendship: "To make conversation, to share a joke, to perform mutual acts of kindness, to read together, to share in trifling and in serious matters, to disagree though without animosity—just as a person debates with himself—and In the very rarity of disagreement to find the salt of normal harmony, to teach each other something or to learn from one another, to long with impatience for those absent, to welcome them with gladness on their arrival. These and other signs...act as fuel to set our minds on fire to forge unity."

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12<sup>TH</sup> IS "FRIEND DAY". BE A FRIEND AND BRING A FRIEND!!!**

**ANNIVERSARY CORESPONDENCE**

Sept. 15, 2014

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

I remember moving to Salem, OH in I believe 1956 or 1957. Memory doesn't serve me as well as it once did. We moved with our baby, Vikki and our little dog, Penny. I remember everyone being so nice to us; treating us like family. Of course, looking back, I realize we were not much more than children,

I remember the town of Salem was in the midst of celebrating a centennial and most of the men had beards! I also remember when they all shaved I could hardly recognize them!

My Larry has been gone almost 13 years now. I still miss him terribly. We had an almost perfect marriage. We were of like precious faith.

I send you all Greetings in the name of Jesus our Lord and Savior.

May the church remain faithful until the Lord comes back!

In His Love,  
Phyl Wigal

(Larry Wigal was our first full time minister)

9-15-14

My Dear Friends at Phillips Christian Church,

Gene and I were fortunate to have worshipped in the old white frame church building. I can still see the structure of those pews. Sort of like family boxes. People could enter from right or left but couldn't cross over the middle permanent dividers.

Excitement ran high as God allowed the building of the new House of worship. Oh, how the men labored with such pride as the ladies cheered them on.

Dedication Day found tears of joy freely flowing as Mr. Charlie Mills (Professor from Lincoln Bible Institute in Lincoln, Illinois) delivered the message from God's word.

Also, still in my mind are the tears of sadness as people watched an era of their lives being replaced when the old structure was removed. Understandability so!

The Gene Marvin family was the first to move into the brand new parsonage. We were truly blessed.

Our freezer was always full of meats, fruit and vegetables because you folks share so bountifully with us.

The taste and aroma of Anna Windle's homemade cinnamon rolls is ever present today.

Many were the times when different ladies would ask to keep Darla for a few hours so I (Jackie) could go calling with Gene and have a mommy break.

Remember when our TV set was carried to the backyard and chairs were carried down the hill? We all watched the Vernon Brother's first showing of "Homestead U.S.A". They still talk of that.

Larry Snyder showed Gene how to trap for muskrats. That was a great relaxing time for your preacher—as was picking apples in the Vincent's Orchard.

If only more Christians were so dedicated to serving the Lord, as what Barbara Phillis has been with the Relator. And that is praise to the many youth leaders & Sunday School teachers, also.

It causes great joy to see the fruits of all of our combined ministries. When young people go on to schools of higher learning—whether religious or secular—we know our labors were not in vain.

Since I can't attend the 185<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration, I enclosed a small offering. Maybe this \$185.00 check can purchase something in Gene's memory.

Loving thanks for so many fond memories. My prayers are with you serving our Jesus,

Jackie Marvin  
1071 Alpine Drive  
Deltona, FL 32725  
386-574-0991

~~~~~  
Were you here for our 185<sup>th</sup> celebration—you should have been.

It started out delicious (the donuts) then went to the power point of how our church came to be and to see all our friends from days gone by. It brought tears to my

eyes to see the people who helped make us into the solid core of our church by teaching us not only how to live our lives on a day to day basis but most importantly how to live according to the Bible. Now we have pictures of our new Christian friends to show off on our 195<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

Thanks to Judy Merriman for all the scanned pictures of our "friends" and Cody Opsitnik for the historical pictures. Cody was snapping away that day. These two work with our power point presentations.

So to all the people who were involved in planning and took their time to order donuts, pick them up, pick up the helium and blow up the balloons, and remembering to get the balloons, the music that was specially picked out for the 185<sup>th</sup>. Many were involved—so thank them starting with the Sunday School officers.

Best was seeing the pews with all the people enjoying the day!

Marty Snyder

P.S. Thanks to our God who gave us the sunshine!

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**THANK YOU**

The Sunday School Department would like to thank all who participated in any way with our 185<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. It was a wonderful day!! We started with a Donut and Coffee fellowship followed with a short historical overview. Cody Opsitnik prepared a power point with pictures of past events and activities.

As a prelude to our worship service Judy Merriman made a power point of our members, past and present, while Missy Opsitnik sang the song "Friends Are Friends Forever". It was wonderful to remember those who have gone on and to thank God once again for their "faithful service".

The service continued with some old standard hymns and special music by Marty Snyder and Missy Opsitnik singing "The Lighthouse". Our message was brought to us by Bob Laughlin, our minister from 1992 through 2004.

We concluded the morning with a balloon launch. Each balloon had a tag attached with the church's name and address stating the reason for the launch and a request that the tag to be returned and receive a gift. So far no tags have been returned.

A group picture was taken by photographer Cindy Parker. We'll have more info on that soon.

None of this would have been possible without the examples of "faithful service" portrayed by those who established our congregation in 1829 and the continued faithfulness of those who followed them down through

the years. Our doors have never been closed on a Sunday in 185 years.

Our goal now is to continue in that same "faithful service" for as long as it is God's will.

***"If you really believe the Christian gospel—God behind us, His cause committed to us, His power available for us—then proclaim it, live it, implement it, for humanity's hope depends upon it. It is, indeed, a faith for tough times."***

--Harry Emerson Fosdick

**WOMEN OF CHRIST**

-Diana Reiter

We were back together with our Women of Christ group on Saturday, September 25. Nine of us "toured" Amish country with our great van driver Brenda Schmidt (thanks!). It was a fun day of fellowship and just looking around at that beautiful shops and area we have not far from us.

Some of us almost got left there because a certain "writer" of this article doesn't know her left from her right? But Brenda and Robin finally saw us all walking towards them so we got to hitch a ride home. Those of you who couldn't make it, that's okay because we just may do it again.

On our way to Amish county, we talked a little about our next few months' activities. We decided that we would like to do a cookie exchange in December. We will let everyone know details closer to that time. But be thinking of some good Christmas cookie recipes to make and exchange for someone else's!

In January, we will meet and have a speaker. Everyone still wants to have our annual Valentine's Night Out in February too.

Again, all the ladies of our church are welcome to come join us. We'd love to have you. Hope to see all of you at our next meeting!

***"Next to the Word of God, the noble art of music is the greatest treasure in the world."***

--Martin Luther

**STITCHES & GIGGLES FOR OCTOBER**

--Robin Heestand

We will be meeting a different time and day from last year. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, October

21<sup>st</sup> from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. Bring the current project you are working on.

Also, we are going to make lighted jars with silk leaves. Bring pint jars and loose silk leaves. I found my leaves at Michaels.

Thanks to all of you that have made the hats and booties for Akron Children's Hospital. It will be an on-going project.

***"From childhood God has been laying His fatherly hand upon us, and always in benediction."***

--H. E. Manning

**YOUTH NEWS**

--Robin Heestand

On October 19<sup>th</sup> we will be headed to Detwiler's Farm. Meet at the church at 1:30 pm. Cost is \$5.00 and includes the corn maze and a hay ride. If it is raining we will watch a movie at the church.

***"No man ever got very high by pulling other people down...Don't knock your friends. Don't knock your enemies. Don't knock yourself."***

--Alfred, Lord Tennyson

**RELAY FOR LIFE**

--Marty Shinn

Our Fall Fun Fest table is Salem was a success. For a change there was no rain and the temperature was wonderful. We raised over \$400 in our quest to find a cure for cancer.

The next fundraiser is a "Fall Harvest Soup Sale". Our soups will feature vegetables from our harvests. Potato, vegetable, etc. We haven't worked out all the details yet but mark your calendar for October 24<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 pm to

6:00 pm. Place your order and plan on letting us do your cooking that evening.

***"Prayer is the place where burdens change shoulders."***

--copied

**IN NEED OF DAILY PRAYER**

**Our Congregation**  
**Our Nation**  
**Unspoken Needs**  
**Lost Souls**

**Northeast Ohio Bible College**

- Betty Windle Davis** (surgery for broken ankle, improving) [Wiley]
- Nathaniel Davis** (immune system problems) [Wiley]
- Bill Wiley** (health problems)
- Bill Cartwright** (cardio physical therapy) [Wiley]
- William Worgull** (cardio physical therapy) [Wiley]
- Sophie Null** (cancer) [Wiley]
- Gary Flamino** (cancer) [Wiley]
- Landon and Ethan Redmond** [Faloba]
- Kim Redmond** (health problems) [Faloba]
- James & Shirley Redmond** (health) [Faloba]
- Margaret Greier** (health problems) [Faloba]
- John Samuel Faloba** (successful surgery for hip) [Faloba]
- Bob Roberts** (cancer) [Faloba]
- Barb Biggins** [Faloba]
- Pat Mansfield** (back problems) [Miller]
- Maxine Vincent** [Miller]
- Jay Lafferre** (Parkinsons) [Miller]
- Mary Lou Eberhart** (kidney problems) [Evans]
- Kasey Colian Haying** (surgery) [Evans]
- Bill Bryan** (lung problems) [Bryan]
- Kathy Taucher** (ALS) [Stratton]
- Julianne Poynter** (hip surgery scheduled for October 27th) [Poynter]
- Joy Fearigo** (stroke—please pray for speech) [DiBaggio]
- Jeff Strange** (brain tumor) [Strange]
- Alexandra, Olivia, Avery Campbell** (Alyson & Devon Campbell's premature triplets born at 26 weeks, growing but still in NICU) [Hennard]
- Burt Sutter** (cancer) [R. Kelly]
- Ellie Wright** (vision problems)
- Tom Miller** (successful heart surgery, problems with back)
- Don Huston** (surgery pending)
- Barbara Phillis** (successful cataract surgery)
- Bill Yeager** (pending surgery for colon cancer)
- Karen Mraz** (SRMC)

**SERVING IN THE MILITARY**

- Tim Huston**, Kuwait; **Joe Phillis**; **Ron Walling** (Wiley);
- Joel Newburn**, Germany; **Kyle Stephenson** (Schmidt);
- Clinton Barnhart**, Kuwait (Phillis); **Paige Wyss** (Faloba)

**OUR SHUT-INS**

- Jim Dorsey**; **Bess Staubs**; **Pat Kalbfell**; **Bob Bryan**;
- Dorothy McFadden** (Phillis); **June Williams** (Merriman);
- David Phillis**; **Margie Bell**, (Floor); **Martha Crookston** (Shinn); **Barbara Strange** (Essex I)

***"Faith goes up the stairs that love has made and looks out the window which hope has opened."***

--Charles Spurgeon

**PERFECT ATTENDANCE FOR SEPTEMBER**

--Robin Janofa, Sunday School Secretary

- Little Lambs:** Gavin Kelly, Grant Kelly
- Little Angels:** Missy Opsitnik
- Curious Kids:** Marty Shinn, Emma & Kristie Dennison
- Jr. High:** Sheldon Cosma, Anthony Dibaggio
- Teens:** Cody Opsitnik, Emily Cosma, Dominic DiBaggio

**Homebuilders/Loyal Sons & Daughters:** Don Huston, Ada Bailey, Gail Phillis, Sr., Gail Phillis, Jr., Bill & Marty Snyder, Carl & Judy Merriman, Robin Janofa, Bill Yeager, Bev Evans, Bob Shinn, Jack & Bonnie Vincent, Carol Kelly, Lynn & Brenda Schmidt, Linda Miller, Janet DiBaggio

***"Sometimes questions are more important than answers."***

--Nancy Willard

**WHAT'S A CHRISTIAN TO DO WITH HALLOWEEN?**

--copied

These days, children associate Halloween with trick-or-treating and candy. But centuries ago, Christians named the night before All Hallows' Day (All Saint's Day) "All Hallow's Eve." As the faithful prepared to remember people who were entrusted to resurrection life, they adopted various traditions to poke fun at death.

Around the world, Christians observe Halloween differently: In Poland kids pray aloud while walking through forests to comfort souls of the dead. In Spain, tolling church bells remind people to remember the saints. In Finland, so many people light candels in cemeteries that the observance is called "sea of light." Although some Christians steer clear of Halloween, others use it as an evangelism opportunity and provide entertainment alternatives such as harvest parties.

No matter your views, you can remind children that, though it is fun to pretend, we can always be ourselves with God. Whatever our features and flaws, we need not and cannot hide from God behind masks. God made us in his holy image and loves us as his holy—*hallowed!*—children.

# ~ October 2014 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b>* Denotes services that are held at the same time each week</b></p>			<p><b>1</b> *7:00 pm Bible Study &amp; Youth Group</p>	2	3	4
<p><b>5</b> 8:00 am Trustees Meeting *9:00 am Sunday School *10:00 am Worship</p>	<p><b>6</b> <u>BIRTHDAY</u> Lucy Cosma</p>	7	8	9	10	11
<p><b>12</b> 8:00 am Elders Meeting 10:00 am "Friend Day"</p>	13	14	<p><b>15</b> <u>ANNIVERSARY</u> Cade &amp; Emily Shoff</p>	16	17	18
<p><b>19</b> 8:00 am Board Meeting 9:00 am Annual Congregational Meeting 1:30 pm Youth Outing  <u>BIRTHDAY</u> Joe Phillis</p>	<p><b>20</b> <u>BIRTHDAY</u> Dan Bartels</p>	<p><b>21</b> 1:00 pm Stitches &amp; Giggles  <u>BIRTHDAY</u> Evan Cosma</p>	22	<p><b>23</b> 2:00-6:00 pm Relay For Life " Fall Harvest Soup Sale"</p>	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

# PHILLIPS CHRISTIAN CHURCH

35459 SALEM GRANGE RD

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*Sheldon Cosma, Minister*

*Phone: 234-567-7273*

*Church: 330-332-4467*

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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**



**Pass on the word of encouragement  
in an honest compliment**

**Pass on the look of encouragement in  
a generous smile**

**Pass on the touch of encouragement  
in a hearty handshake**

**Pass on the kindness of  
encouragement in a thoughtful deed**

**And let the encouragement of Christ  
flow through you.**



*... Campbell*  
"Must've been a candy apple. I can't believe Adam and Eve would do us in for plain fruit."