

AUGUST 2024

Back to school prayer

Lord please protect all the children
as they approach another school year.
Help them learn and achieve
and conquer without fear.
Give them the protection they need
each and every day.
Teach them Lord and guide the way.
Give them favor and courage.
Help them to never feel discouraged.
Give them patience, understanding and
motivation for success.
Help them all Lord and may
they all be blessed.

In Jesus name,

Amen

By: Laura Porras



Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Philippians

(This is an article I wrote in the summer of 2021, but I felt it was just as applicable today!)

It's a VBS verse. A Sunday School verse. One of the verses you hear a million times growing up in church. "*Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice.*" What does rejoice even mean? I don't hear many people saying the word, "rejoice" much these days. Dictionary.com defines rejoice as: to be glad; to take delight. Ok, the Bible tells us we should delight in the Lord! That makes sense. I understand that! However, the real translation is something like, "*Rejoice in the Lord when things are going great; rejoice when you feel like it!*", right? Or maybe, "*Rejoice in the Lord when God answers my prayer the way I want Him too; rejoice when you're happy!*"?

God doesn't really mean for us to rejoice in all circumstances does He? Clearly whoever wrote this did not understand what hard times were... Did not understand what it meant to go through something difficult and continue rejoicing... Oh wait. Let's not get too far ahead of ourselves. The Apostle Paul wrote this verse, didn't he? And Church, can you tell me where he wrote it from? That's right, prison. Jail. And I don't mean cushy 2024 United States jail, I mean first century prison cell, chained to the wall, telling a scribe what to write for you, going to the bathroom wherever you could, no guarantee you were eating that day, darkness in a dungeon from dawn until dusk, jail. And now we realize again the importance of context to reading Scripture. How much more does it mean for us to read the words, "*Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice.*", when we realize Paul says these words from this type of prison?

The hope he shows in Jesus, His Lord, the faith! And for him to go on in verses 5-9 to talk about how we shouldn't be anxious about anything is simply astounding. How could anyone take delight in anything while locked up in a prison cell? How could anyone be glad at a time like that? How could anyone rejoice during such immense pain and sorrow!? How? By putting His full trust in Jesus. Paul knew that no matter how bad things got, His God was the winner in the end. He knew that even if he died, he died for something that was more than worth dying for.

Church, I have to ask. Do we have that kind of faith? Do we have that kind of joy, peace, and trust in Jesus? I know for a fact that I do not at times. We like to put our God in a box, and take Him out on Sunday mornings to admire Him, when He should be the almighty Lord of our universe every waking moment of every

Pastor Zach's Article (cont.)

day. We can't even begin to comprehend His vast love, might, power, majesty, mercy, and strength. He is the GREAT I AM. The Creator, our Savior, the one for whom the angels sing all day and night, *"Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord God Almighty!"*. Ask yourself, do you worship Him like He is THAT God? Do you rejoice that you can go through struggles for Him? Or is He the God you put in the box and get out on Sunday morning?

Thanks and God Bless
Zach Long
BeRomans12
"Together - We Build

FAMILY MATTERS

We extend our sympathy to . . . Don & Kathryn Clapper and their family with the passing of Kathryn's brother, Jack Strait. Mr. Strait passed away on Saturday, July 27th.

Thank you . . . for all of the school supplies donated to the students at MACS. We appreciate your generosity!

Thank you . . . to everyone who helped in any way with VBS — We had a great week! Over 90 children were in attendance throughout the week!

SHUT INS

Mrs. Allie Swank
729 Lynnwood Drive
Minerva, OH 44657

Mrs. Dorothy Birney
c/o St. Luke's
4301 Wooddale SE
Minerva, OH 44657

Bill & Linda Becknell
3275 Union Ave. SE
Minerva, OH 44657

Mr. George Horvath
c/o St. Luke's
4301 Wooddale SE
Minerva, OH 44657

Mrs. Mary Jo Hardman
c/o St. Luke's
4301 Wooddale SE
Minerva, OH 44657

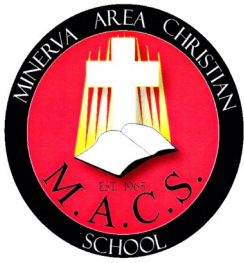
Mr. Don Shields
c/o Minerva Healthcare
1035 E. Lincoln Way
Minerva, OH 44657

Mrs. Lois Hawkins
c/o Centreville Village
1082 Kensington Rd. NE
Carrollton, OH 44615

C.I.Y. MIX & V.B.S. PHOTOS!



MINERVA AREA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



What a beautiful summer we have had this year! Plenty of sunshine and warm weather has made it a memorable season. As we move the calendar to August, the staff of MACS is excited about the new school year. If you have not seen, we have made many changes to the school over the past few months. Thank you to all who helped with the projects in the school wing. We have improved and created spaces to accommodate the increase in our enrollment

We are happy about reaching more families this school year and excited about the growth of the ministry. We want to thank the congregation for their support and prayers. We truly believe that God has a plan for the school. This year we will be serving over 130 children and their families. This would not be possible without your generosity and support!

We appreciate all of the school supplies that have been donated to our students. They will be put to good use as we start back to school on August 21st. We ask for your prayers for staff, students, and families as we head towards the start of the year. We have many new faces and we ask that you pray for a smooth transition for new staff members and our young first year students.

We look forward to an extraordinary year of partnering with local families to help their children know more about the amazing love that Jesus Christ has for them! Have a wonderful month!

"Start children off on the way they should go,
and even when they are old they will not turn from it." Proverbs 22:6 NIV

Upcoming Events

MACS Board Meeting Tuesday, August 13th at 5:15 pm
First Day of School Wednesday, August 21st

AUGUST CALENDAR

Aug. 2 - Blood Mobile 11 am - 5 pm
Aug. 6 - 24/7 Bible Study 6:30-7:30 pm
Aug. 13 - MACS Pre-School Open House
6:00 pm
Aug. 13 - 24/7 Bible Study 6:30-7:30 pm
Aug. 13 - Home Dept. Meeting 7:00 pm
Aug. 14 - MACS K-8 Open House 6:00 pm
Aug. 15 - Deacons Pantry 9 - 10:30 am
Aug. 18 - CIY Brunch after am worship
Aug. 20 - 24/7 Bible Study 6:30-7:30 pm
Aug. 21 - MACS K-8 First Day of School
Aug. 21 - 24/7 Bible Study 6:30-7:30 pm
Aug. 27 - 24/7 Bible Study 6:30-7:30 pm
Aug. 30 - MACS No School & Office Closed
Sept. 2 - Office Closed

CIY BRUNCH

SUNDAY, AUG. 18th

Immediately following morning
worship.

The Brunch is on a donation
basis. All donations go to help
defray the cost of CIY (Christ
In Youth) trips.

Thank you for your support.

NO BOARD MEETING IN AUG.

A Teacher's Prayer

God grant me wit & wisdom,
Stand beside me through each day,
As I teach and guide my students,
And help them find their way.
Please give me strength and patience,
And help me do what's right,
To lead them by example,
Toward a future
Sure & bright!

DEACONS PANTRY

Each month our Deacon's Pantry distributes food and some paper products to 12 - 15 families. If you are able to pick up a few non-perishable items to donate it would be greatly appreciated. Some of the items we need are: tuna, soups, canned vegetables, fruit, ramen, peanut butter, mac & cheese, pasta & sauce, saltine crackers. Monetary donations are always welcome. We will be making our distribution on Thursday, August 15th, if you are able to help see Jay Harsh.



PRAYER LIST

Reagan Abner
 Jennifer Allen
 Alice Archer
 Christa Archer
 Kassadee Archer
 Bill & Linda Becknell
 Doug Bell
 Dan Bergman
 Dorothy Birney
 Arlene Brown
 Shirley Catlett
 Don Clapper
 Lora Crabtree
 Donna Dennis
 Janet Greathouse
 Mary Jo Hardman
 Larry Hartshorn
 Lois Hawkins
 Todd Hetherington
 Betty Hoopes
 Evelyn Hopkins
 George Horvath
 Marilyn Humphries
 Lee Iden
 Leroy Kibler
 Rory & Nancy King
 Mary Long
 Herb & Pat Lowery
 Sondra Lowery
 Scoo & Dolores McCully
 Jean Miller
 Shea Mitchell
 Connie Morris
 Sheila Murray
 Eric Prowe
 Heidi Randall
 John & Sandy Russell
 Sally Shaw
 Gene Schmucker
 Kathy Schmucker
 Gary Schotts
 Lynette Shatzer
 Kathy Shaw
 Sally Shaw
 Don Shields
 Dean Shotwell

Midge Snyder
 Allie Swank
 Carol Thomas
 Jeremiah Ward
 Marge Warrick
 Richard Wickersham
 Les Willison
 Eva Wolf

Military: CSM Jesse Clark; Sgt. Kurt Warrick
Please let us know about Military updates/corrections.



ASX (Grades 1-5) will resume
 Thursday, Sept. 5th 3:30 - 5:00

AWANA (Grades K-5) will resume
 Sunday, Sept. 9th 5 - 6:30 pm

FLIP (Bible Study for Grades 4-6) will resume
 Tuesday, Sept. 17th

CIY Brunch Sunday, Sept. 22nd
 right after our morning
 Service with our
Congregational Meeting to follow
 at approx. 12:30 pm.

ATTENDANCE

	<u>July 7</u>	<u>July 14</u>	<u>July 21</u>	<u>July 28</u>
Worship	119	131	139	101
Bible School	56	58	70	52

FINANCIALS

Financial Information
 Available upon
 request

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

300 West Lincoln Way
 Minerva, Ohio 44657

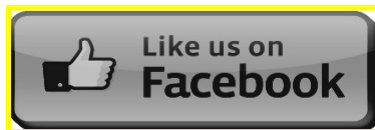
July 30, 2024

Church

minervafcc@hotmail.com
 Celebration 10:15 am
 Sunday School 9:00 am
 Sunday Evening 5:00 pm

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m.- 4:00 pm
 Monday-Friday
 330-868-4151

Minerva First Christian Church
MinervaFCC.com

**Staff**

Zach Long
Associate/Youth Minister
 330-417-4834
 zlong7@yahoo.com

MFCC Office
 330-868-4151
 minervafcc@hotmail.com

Minerva Area Christian School
 330-868-5728
 fccmacs@hotmail.com

MACS Administrator
 Mr. Chris Stoffer
 330-936-5723
 Stoffer.chris@yahoo.com

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1 Tucker Keaton</p> <p>3 Chelsea Oberly
Barbara Patterson
Jordan & Cassandra Vert
11 years</p> <p>4 Shirley Catlett
KayD, Unkefer</p> <p>8 Cassandra Vert</p> <p>10 Brad & Rachael Snyder
11 years</p> <p>13 Betty McIntosh</p> <p>14 Kelly Shaw</p> <p>15 Butch Vandegrift</p> | <p>18 JoD. Unkefer
Libby Mathis</p> <p>19 Mike Lowery</p> <p>21 Connie Morris</p> <p>24 Debbie Harsh</p> <p>25 Sondra Houze</p> <p>26 Larry & Diana Palmer
46 years</p> <p>28 Jeanette Smith
Dave & Donna Dennis
51 years</p> <p>29 Jacob Unkefer</p> |
|--|---|

SERVE THE LORD WITH GLADNESS!

	Aug. 4	Aug. 11	Aug. 18	Aug. 25
Comm. Meditation	Dave Bush	John Long	Jordan Vert	John Russell
Ushers	John Georg	Bob Palmer	Mike Fountain	Chip Syme
Deaconess	Sandy Doppleheuer	Sandy Doppleheuer	Sandy Doppleheuer	Sandy Doppleheuer
Shut-In Teams	Brad Snyder & Matt Zahn	John Long & Bruce Doppelheuer	Zach Long & Mike Fountain	Jordan Vert & Jay Harsh