



Perry Church of the Nazarene

news

August 2017



The Luckiest People in the World

I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart and, whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God's grace with me. God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus. - Phl 1:3-8 NIV

Are there people in your life who by merely thinking of them bring joy to your heart? Whenever they come to mind, you are grateful for them? How lucky it is to have such people in our lives.

In the 1964 Broadway musical "Funny Girl," Barbara Streisand belted out that "people who need people are the luckiest people in the world." I would suggest that the Apostle Paul describes something much better than that. Paul says that the mere thought of the Philippian believers fills his heart with thankfulness and joy. People who find joy in people are the luckiest people in the world. But of course, for Paul this isn't luck. It's not that he just happened to run into joy-producing persons. Rather, Paul clarifies the source of his joy and gratefulness. Though he and these Philippian believers were partners in the great mission of the gospel and shared so much with each other, Paul declares by oath that his fondness for the Philippians is the very affection of Christ. Christ is loving the Philippians through Paul. The love of Christ was the source of his great joy and thankfulness for the Philippian believers.

This is Christian love- Christ's love coursing through us. This is the joy that Jesus bestowed to his disciple. *"I have told you this so that my joy may be*

in you and that your joy may be complete. My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you." - Jhn 15:11-12 NIV Perfect joy is Christ's love flowing through us to one another. And yet, our sinful nature wars against this. We seek happiness in our self, in our successes and pleasures. We seek other people to give us happiness, to fill the void that only God can fill. Our happiness falters when they fail us. People who need people are not the luckiest people in the world. Needing someone is not the same as loving them. Needing people can cause us to become demanding and possessive.

The joy that Jesus offered his disciples, the joy that Paul testified to, is a heart filled with the love of God, flowing out to others. Genuine, pure, selfless love is not something we can conjure up on our own. It comes from the Holy Spirit. Paul prays that love of Christ would abound in the Philippians. May this be our prayer and aim every day.

"Breathe on me, Breath of God
Til' I am wholly Thine
Until this earthly part of me
Glows with fire divine."

-Edwin Hatch

Pastor Tim

August 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Soccer Camp	2 SRES D Playgroup	3	4	5
6 Church Picnic	7	8 Church Board Mtg	9 SRES D Playgroup	10	11	12
13	14 Parking Lot Repairs	15 Parking Lot Repairs	16	17	18	19
20	21	22 Tiger's Night	23 Teen: Back to School Bash	24	25 Teen Summer Retreat	26 Teen Summer Retreat
27 Teen Summer Retreat	28	29	30 Bible Quizzing Starts	31		

August Classes and Activities

Summer Playgroup

Wednesday, Aug 2 . 9-10am

Our church is hosting the Shiawassee RESD's summer playgroup for children birth to five years old (siblings are welcome too) which includes play, activities, and a snack. Contact Emily Smith, Morrice Kindergarten teacher at smithe@morrice.k12.mi.us for more information.

Parking Lot Repairs

Aug 14 & 15

Weather permitting, our church parking lot repairs have been scheduled for August 14 & 15. Access to the parking lot will be unavailable during that time. Visitors should park at the bus barn and walk to the church.

Download our Mobile App

Our church has a free mobile app available for iOS and android devices. Find the app, "Perry Nazarene" in the iTunes app store or Google Play. The app offers many useful features including scripture delivery, event information and Sunday messages. Use the QR code to the right or call the church office for help.



Mission Books

Check out the mission books on the resource table in the sanctuary. These books are published by Nazarene Missions International and usually written by missionaries in the field. The books provide eyewitness accounts of the work of the Church of the Nazarene in various world mission areas. Sign out one of these mission books/CD's today!

Children’s Bible Quizzing

Wednesdays (Starting Aug 30) from 6:30-8:00pm

Children's Bible Quizzing is a fun Bible study with scheduled competitions for children in grades 2nd-6th. The goal of Children’s Quizzing is for children to know our God of the Bible. This year we are studying Matthew! The kids will learn about Jesus, God's son sent to save us, and travel with Him as He teaches about the kingdom of God. Kids will learn the importance of following Jesus and sharing their faith with others! Contact our Quiz Director, Sarah Bawks, for more information or call the church office to make contact.

Service Opportunity

Wednesdays at 7pm

From fall through spring, we serve a meal before all of our Wednesday evening services. Each year, this time proves to be a significant opportunity in the life of the church as people connect and share time with one another. In addition to fellowship, we are also able to feed children and teens in need before they head to service. We need volunteers who would like to serve in the ministry. Opportunities include head cook, assistant cook, and clean-up crew. If you are interested or would like more information, contact the church office or Pastor Tim.

Church Picnic

Sun, Aug 6 . Noon

Join us for an all church picnic on Sunday, August 6th after the second service. All of our soccer camp players and families are invited to the picnic as well. Our cooks will put together a great picnic with all the fixings. Families are welcome to bring a dessert to share. Mark your calendars; we look forward to a great celebration with you!

Summer Sermon Series

Jesus loved to tell stories. His stories, called parables, did more than entertain the crowds. These stories shattered false illusions about God and the life we have been given. When Jesus was born into Bethlehem, he entered in the middle of a long story of the people of Abraham. God had been revealing himself through his mighty acts and his word for centuries. But over the years, the people had grown deaf to the revelation of God. They had grown proud of their heritage and confident in their self-righteousness. To get past their defenses, Jesus told these simple stories with unexpected meanings. The stories called people to repent and fully embrace the Kingdom of God. Today, if we open our ears to the parables, we will hear an invitation to live in God’s kingdom of love and grace.

Real Life Student Ministries August Events

Soccer Camp Afterglow

Wednesday, August 2nd, 8-11pm

For one night during soccer camp, we’ll have an afterglow at the Brawner’s home (127 Morrice Rd, Morrice). Any teens 7th-12th grade are welcome to come (regardless of whether they helped with soccer camp or not). There will be sand volleyball, yard games, a bon fire, and board games. Bring a snack or a 2-liter to share!



Back to School Bash

Wednesday, August 23rd from 6:30-9pm

The teens will have one last hurrah before school begins! We will have some group games as well as a bunch of yard games as well. There will be hotdogs and drinks available, and everyone can bring a snack of your choice (salty or sweet). Hope to see you there!

Summer Retreat

August 25th-27th

The Teens will be getting away for a camping trip at Pioneer County Park in Muskegon right on Lake Michigan! Most of us will leave at 4pm Friday, but there is also an option to leave Saturday morning if you are involved in the Friday night football games. We will return Sunday evening. There will be beach time, team building/challenges, and a scavenger hunt along with some services around the camp fire. The cost is \$40 a person (which covers food, lodging, and gas); teens won’t need money for meals on the way there or back (that is included in the cost). Money is due no later than Sunday, August 20th. This is always an unforgettable weekend together and you do not want to miss it!





news

Each Week in August

Sunday morning

9:30 Worship
Adult Sunday School
Children's Church

10:45 Worship
Adult Sunday School
Teen Sunday School
Children's Sunday School

Wednesday evening

7:00 Adult Bible Study
Real Life Student Ministries
Almost Olympics

Paid nursery staff is available during all service times.



Faith Promise Pledges

Each year, our church sets a goal of money to raise in support of World Missions through the Church of the Nazarene. The primary way we reach this goal is through "Faith Promise" offerings, received weekly, bi-weekly or monthly. This year, our goal is \$22,000. We are receiving pledges from individuals and families who are being led to support our Faith Promise goal. Pledge cards can be picked up in a pew or on the table in the narthex and returned to Pastor Tim.

Perry Church of the Nazarene
3100 W. Ellsworth Road
Perry, MI 48872
(517) 625-3400
www.perrynazarene.com

Pastor Tim Harmon
Lead Pastor
pastortim@perrynazarene.com
Pastor Lonny Bumgardner
Worship and Ministry to Children
pastorlonny@perrynazarene.com
Pastor Aaron Brawner
Youth Pastor
pastoraaron@perrynazarene.com
Stacy Smith
Ministry Assistant
stacy@perrynazarene.com

Perry Church of the Nazarene
Mission Statement:
We exist to lead as many as possible to
become devoted followers of Jesus Christ.