



E- Circuit News

November 1, 2017



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The Voices of Ohio

THE VOICES OF OHIO, a dynamic, exciting, professional adult vocal show group will present a performance in the sanctuary of the Carrollton First United Methodist Church on **Sunday, November 19 at 2:00 pm**. Performing a wide variety of contemporary and traditional music, The Voices of Ohio has a repertoire that includes music that celebrates the American heritage and spirit, a variety of pop, rock, country, show tunes, songs of faith and patriotic music.

Admission is free. Love offering will be received. Join in a time of fellowship at the conclusion of the concert with **Eat Desserts First** followed by a light meal in the church's fellowship hall.

Child Baptisms

Sunday, October 8, 2017 @ The Bridge

Sunday, October 22, 2017 @ Yellow Brick Church

Colton Galbraith

William Dodds, Cruz Noble, Luke Wrona

A GROWING IN GRACE MOMENT... Storms

--Emily J. Ulman

We were discussing the storms within while gathered around a kitchen table filled with snacks and Bibles. After having watched *The Shack* film together the week before, this week our group was going over its resource guide. Referring to the verse in Nahum 1 about God's promise to be our Refuge in times of trouble, the scene mentioned from the film was the one where Mack was in the row boat in the serene lake. Suddenly the clear water turned dark and ominous. Mack became afraid and his boat began to sink. The storm raging around Mack was actually coming from within Mack, his lesson being that when he trusted Jesus, his storm within calmed and peace was restored.

A line from the guide struck me, "Imagine if, in a tornado or hurricane, instead of running for the storm shelter, you started opening all of the doors and windows in your house, letting the storm inside." Upon reading this, I couldn't help but to recognize that this description too accurately described a much prayed for person in my life. The storm within appears to rage on agonizingly and peace and calm seem void. I find this painfully troubling to watch.

That same afternoon I was sitting in my car at the bottom of an exit ramp just off the interstate. While waiting at a red light, a flash of fur in my rearview turned my attention to two buck whitetails running together from the park at my right. Across the exit and straight up the steep incline to my left, they headed toward six lanes of busy midday traffic. As I sat helplessly watching them all I could do was mutter, "Oh, Lord! Oh, Lord!" Upon reaching the top, the sight of the fast moving vehicles seemed to deter the deer momentarily and they turned to run alongside the guardrail. I hoped for an instant that they had come to their senses and would turn back, but it wasn't so. Just as my light turned green, the two animals leapt the rail and disappeared from my view. Shaken, I turned left at my light and drove under the overpass. Just as I was driving out from under the other side, I watched horrified as one of those bucks came falling from above and landed beside my car, only a car lane away. In shock at what I'd just witnessed, I slowed to a stop and sat there in my car yelling "Why!" at the deer while it laid on the pavement twitching and unconscious.

So many thoughts raced through my mind, "What else is going to come falling down here? How big of a vehicle did it take to send that 200 pound animal flying? What happened to the other buck? How many cars are involved in a deer/vehicle pile-up on top of that bridge? How in the world did that thing make it across all those lanes? Why! Why did those deer do such a stupid thing?"

Since then, I've realized that watching people we care about struggle in their inner storms without running for refuge to the One who can and wants to calm our storms, is a lot like watching those crazy deer. The feeling of helplessness is prevalent. The fear is real. I can see where they are headed and I am powerless to change it. My instinct is to pray though. I can pray to the One who is all-powerful.

I was reminded of something in church yesterday that I needed to know. There was a beautiful baptism of little ones. A dedication of their young lives to be brought up to learn about and love the Lord, so that one day they may choose Christ for themselves. The part of the service I needed reminded of was about the community of believers around them praying for them throughout their lives. This person who has been weighing so heavily on me was also baptized as a young one. Prayers have been going up for a long time. I am not alone in my praying. It was good to remember this.

Something my Lord has made me realize through all of this is that the storm I see raging and am so bothered by is also raging within me. I am not trusting that in His perfect timing He has all of this in His capable hands. The peace that I have been so desperately hoping for others to find in Christ has been blocked within me as I choose to fear rather than to trust. The scene in the movie was about me. What a wake-up call.

"Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, 'Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!'"
Mark 9:24 NKJV

Operation Christmas Child

Collection Sunday for our shoeboxes is **Nov. 12**. On that day our boxes will begin a journey that begins in Carrollton, will take them to a warehouse in Charlotte, NC and then to all points of the globe with a message of love and the saving love of Jesus Christ. Be part of the adventure this year!



Christmas Parade

If you are interested in participating in the Carrollton First UMC/The Bridge parade entry, please contact Pastor Kimberly or the church office by Sunday, November 12.

**Parade is Saturday, November 25 at 1:00 p.m.*



One Way Youth will have a craft table at the Carrollton HS Band Craft Show on **Saturday, Nov. 4**.

All crafts at their table have been made by the youth. Support the One Way Center and the CHS Band. Craft show is from 10am-3pm at the high school.

One Way Youth Center Fundraiser

Thank you Emily Ulman & Pieces With a Purpose and everyone who purchased a decal. 73 decals were purchased with **\$142.52** being raised for the Center.

Poinsettias

Order Forms will be in the bulletin this Sunday.

Order deadline is Monday, November 27

Cost is \$8.50 per plant



Thank you for your generosity to the Quin Hill family. As of October 30, **\$1,320** has been donated. House payments for November, December, January and *possibly* part of February will be made on the family's behalf.



Vision 20/20 Report & Recommendations

You have by now received a letter which included the Vision 20/20 report and recommendations that were also presented to the congregation on Sunday, October 22. As a reminder, below are the recommendations.

Recommendations

1. Hire a part-time (15-20 hr. / week) Youth Leader to focus on Middle School and High School aged youth at Yellow Brick Church and the Bridge.

Responsibility: Pastors, Stewardship & Finance, SPRC

2. Hire a part-time (15-20 hr. / week) Christian Education Director to focus on growing the Sunday School at Yellow Brick Church and to coordinate all other Christian Education programs, and train and coordinate volunteers at Yellow Brick Church and Bridge Kidz at the Bridge

Responsibility: Pastors, Stewardship & Finance, SPRC

3. Hire a part-time (15-20 hr. / week) Worship Leader for the 8:15 Blended Worship Service.

Responsibility: Pastors, Stewardship & Finance, SPRC

4. Recruit a Social Media / Graphic Design person from within the church to develop a social media presence for both Yellow Brick Church and the Bridge.

Responsibility: Pastors

5. Facilities Committee

Request a Committee be appointed and charged with looking into possibilities for meeting future facility needs, particularly needs for handicap accessibility.

Responsibility: Administrative Council Chairperson in consultation with Pastors

Request funding to support and empower this Committee's work come from the Allensworth Estate funds currently held in the General Fund.

Responsibility: Administrative Council, Trustees, Stewardship & Finance

If you would like to discuss these recommendations or have questions, please contact one of the pastors for an appointment. ***Please pray as we move into the future seeking God's direction.***

Our mailing address is:

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