

# Good News From Chardon

March 1, 2020  
Issue 9



128 Maple Ave. 440-286-5505

## A Strong Sense of Family

By Neal Pollard

Trevor Matich was being interviewed on ESPN radio, asked about why he thought that Clemson had built such a strong football program in the last few years. His quick response was, "They have built a strong sense of family." He talked about how Head Coach Dabo Sweeney and his staff wanted players to see their coaches not just as coaches but also as husbands and fathers. Consequently, the coaches' families spend a lot of time around the athletic facilities or hanging out with the players. They have intentionally built a strong family environment that doesn't compartmentalize but rather coalesces. Recruits talk about sensing it when they make a visit, but, more importantly, players on the roster speak just as strongly about it.

How many teams make such an emphasis isn't clear, but you don't seem to hear that said often enough. While I find such human interest stories heartwarming, it makes me wonder, "Do people describe our congregation with similar terminology?" Are we creating, developing, and nurturing a strong sense of family?

The early church definitely majored in that priority. From the time the church of our Savior was established, we find this emphasis (Acts 2:42-47). Often, New Testament writers spoke of the church with family terminology (Eph. 2:19; 3:15; 1 Tim. 3:15; 5:1-2; Ti. 2:1-8; etc.). The church exists as a subcommunity within the broader community around them. People from that broader community are looking for greater intimacy and meaningful relationships. One place they often turn is to various churches. Whether through our efforts to evangelize or through their seeking that brings them within our walls, we have an opportunity to expose them to a "strong sense of family."

But, by being faithful to New Testament teaching, we offer this in the context of truth rather than error. We cannot settle for simply offering truth, as eternally vital as that is. Along with it, we must love, embrace, and work to incorporate them into our family. God has His church designed to follow His written will in the context of a tight-knit, spiritual family. A true sense of family will draw them into a relationship with us. It will better open their hearts and minds to being drawn into a relationship with Christ. The net effect will be greater than a national championship. It will be many, many souls won to eternal life. We cannot afford to miss the opportunity to be spiritual family!

Neal Pollard preaches for the  
Bear Valley church of Christ in Denver, CO

### Schedule of Services:

**Greeting:** Mark  
**Song Leader:** Myron  
**Opening Hymn:**  
1A—How Great Thou Art  
**Opening Prayer**  
Ray  
**Hymn:**  
255—O to be Like Thee!  
**Scripture Reading:**  
Larry  
Acts 2:40-47  
**Hymn:**  
289—The Breaking of Bread  
**Lord's Supper:**  
Dale & Ryan  
**Hymn:**  
376—Beautiful Isle  
**Sermon:** Mark  
**Invitation Hymn:**  
647—Almost Persuaded  
**Closing Hymn:**  
55—Take Time to be Holy  
**Closing Prayer:**  
Tom

# PRAYER LIST

\*Larry and Ruth were not feeling well last week.  
 \*Pat and Ron. Their daughter Bonnie is home from the hospital after suffering four TIAs.  
 \*Richard and Rosemary.  
 \*Gary & Cindy and their family. Sara had her baby last Sunday morning.  
 \*Juanita's sister Betty.  
 \*Mary and her family.  
 \*Nina's brother, James. Tom and Nina will be in TN visiting with him for the next two weeks.  
 \*Robert and Sara  
 \*Juanita and her family.  
 \*Dale, his mother and his cousin Jayna and her family.  
 \*Zarna and her family.  
 \*Ray, Rebecca, and Steven.

Mar. 1—Bible Study 10 am Dale  
 Mar. 1—Worship 11 a & 6 p Speaker: Mark  
 Mar. 1—Business Meeting  
 Mar. 7—Ladies Day Fishinger Rd.  
 Mar. 8—Bible Study 10 am Dale  
 Mar. 8—Worship 11 a & 6 p Speaker: Mark  
 Mar. 8—Daylight Savings Time  
 Mar. 8—Potluck  
 Mar. 8—b. Dale

Answer to Puzzle: the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.

# A Vital Church Grows

Scripture Reference: Acts 2:40-47

ABOUT	ACCORD	ADDED	AMONG
ANYONE	APOSTLES	BAPTIZED	BELIEVED
BREAD	BREAKING	COMMON	CONTINUED
DAILY	DIVIDED	DOCTRINE	EVERY
EXHORTED	FAVOR	FELLOWSHIP	GENERATION
GLADNESS	GOODS	HAVING	HEART
PEOPLE	PERVERSE	POSSESSIONS	PRAISING
PRAYERS	RECEIVED	SAYING	SIMPLICITY
STEADFASTLY	TEMPLE	TESTIFIED	THINGS
THOUSAND	THROUGH	TOGETHER	WONDERS
WORDS			

F T H E D A G D L D O S T E D A R A  
 A E D D D I E N E A P N U N N M P G  
 C D L D E Z V U I R D O O I A O E L  
 C H E L I V N I A Y D I B R S N T A  
 O D A T O I I Y D N A S A T U G O D  
 R T P V T W E E O E S S L C O B E N  
 D A D N I R S I C T D E H O H R X E  
 B E O E S N T H E E S S E D T E H S  
 T C I C V A G A I H R S U R C A O S  
 R H H F R E D D A P R O V A F D R I  
 A L R E I F I B S I M P L I C I T Y  
 E Y N O A T T L R E H T E G O T E T  
 H E H S U O S E E E S N E S E W D H  
 G O T W E G R E M B A W O N D E R S  
 E L S G N I H T T P B K O M O O E I  
 Y N P R A I S I N G L G I R M Y O S  
 P E O P L E S R E V R E P N D O N G  
 Y R E V E A V E D A I L Y D G S C A

Hidden Message: \_\_\_\_\_

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When I hear somebody sigh, 'Life is hard,' I am always tempted to ask, 'Compared to what?'

**SUNDAY: Bible Class — 10:00 am; Worship — 11:00 am; Evening — 6:00 pm**

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**Pod Cast: [Chardon.podbean.com](http://Chardon.podbean.com)**