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Community news

The Times Leader

Football theme enters church

- [‘God’s Game Plan for Your Life’ found in Morristown worship](#)

By BRIAN COOK, Times Leader Staff Writer

LOOKING FOR a place to find meaning in this crazy world? What about faithful friends that will walk through thick and thin. Well there is a good chance you will find that at Real Life Community of Faith, United Methodist Church, in Morristown.

The laid back, comfortable atmosphere allows people to be who they are and be comfortable while hearing the Lord’s word.



Members from For Real Life, United Methodist Church, gather with Pastor Ashley Barker, seated at center, to set up for their football themed service.

Worship services are housed at Union Local Elementary School and tailored to the community using a contemporary style. The ingredients are lively singing, upbeat music, open relationships with the people around you and the simple proclamation of Jesus Christ’s love.

Services are led by newly ordained Pastor Ashley Barker of Cadiz. The 25-year old Ohio Valley native knows the area very well and is doing a six-week football themed sermon called “God’s Game Plan for Your Life.”

“We cover all aspects of life from relationships with people, getting your finances in shape, you becoming healthy and talking about your work life,” Barker explained. “People are in need of some direction and this is one way to go at it.”

Sunday’s sermon will be the second part of the series that will deal with having a relationship with God. It will be followed in the following weeks with relationships with other, Sept. 23; finances, Sept. 30; physical life, Oct. 7;

Prior to worship on Sunday mornings, a prayer team meets to pray for the building up of the community and church. This group meets twice a week to pray for God's guidance and to lift up the special request of others. Barker continues to invite people to come with prayer request and to learn what it means to have an active and powerful prayer life.

"I see great things in store for the people of the valley and would love to be apart of that," Barker said. "I've always had a love for the Ohio Valley. Being back around is a blessing."

There will also be "Kid's Impact" and "Youth/Young Adults" meetings on Sunday as well.

The "Kids's Impact" group are pre-school through sixth grade students which meet during the regular service to learn about Jesus Christ and how to follow him.

According to Barker, the "Youth/Young Adults" meet at 10:15 a.m. to find a meaningful opportunity to grow and develop into fully devoted Christians. The group also meets throughout the month at different locations.

Also coming this fall at Real Life:

∫ TBA – Mind You Own BU\$INE\$\$\$. MYOB is a four-week study that combines Biblical teachings about money with practical steps to achieving total financial freedom and spending smarter. Whether you've got your finances pulled together or they're about to fall apart. MYOB was developed to help people learn when it comes to money, in God we definitely trust.

∫ Saturday, Sept. 29 – The Real Life Band will be performing on a float in the Barnesville Pumpkin Festival Parade at 2 p.m. The group will be playing worship music and celebrating the beginning of fall.

∫ Sunday, Oct. 1 – Real Life will be celebrating their fourth birthday after the regular worship service.

∫ Saunday, Nov. 4 – Friend Day. Remember to "fall back" and invite a friend to worship service.

∫ Sunday, Dec. 16 – The kids of Real Life will be bringing together their children's Christmas program during regular worship. The children will be celebrating the Lord's birth.

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