

August, 2018

# COURIER

211 Schmitt Drive  
Waverly, Ohio 45690  
Phone 740-947-2905

E-Mail: [bpattersonpresbychurch@yahoo.com](mailto:bpattersonpresbychurch@yahoo.com)



176<sup>th</sup>

Church Anniversary Celebration

Sunday, September 23, 2018

Special Worship Service

Dinner on the Grounds following worship

Period Concert by the 73<sup>rd</sup> Ohio Volunteer  
Infantry Regiment Band

8:



18)

## JOE'S NOTES

*"Do you not have eyes, and fail to see? Do you not have ears, and fail to hear? And do you not remember?"*

(NRSV Mark

As I write these words there is a soft and very welcomed breeze streaming in my office window. It is affording me a much needed respite from the recent heat and humidity. I recall the words of the old hymn: *"For the beauty of the earth, For the glory of the skies, For the love which from our birth Over and around us lies;"*

Recently, I was home one morning getting ready to come to church savoring one final cup of coffee. I looked out on the back porch and saw something that was quite amusing. My dog Bonnie who is such a gentle loving soul yet somehow pride's herself in being a quite excellent guard dog (while at the same time being a bit afraid of her own shadow). was asleep while on guard duty. There was a planter on the porch railing and I noticed some odd movement. As I looked closer, I saw the most unusual thing. There was a chipmunk in the pot searching diligently for food. I moved closer to the kitchen window and noticed that there was a second chipmunk also in the planter. The chipmunk had positioned itself as though it appeared it was sort of peeking around the plant staring in a fix manner at Bonnie as she dose peacefully and yet totally unaware.

The whole affair reminded me of those old Walt Disney Chip and Dale cartoons. It was totally fascinating to me to watch these two furry creatures intensely gazing at Bonnie. They were taking turns as one dug in the soil in the plant the other would stare intently at Bonnie. Then in a few moments at some unseen cue they would shift roles and the other would start digging while its partner in crime would take on the role of the look out.

Later as I drove to church I realized what a blessing that scene was for me. The tranquility of the scene, the unimportance of it, the commonality of it all was somehow reassuring to me. In the complexity of our lives these days there are a multitude of opportunities for us all to stop and just smell the roses. In our busyness too often we fail to just pause and take the time to be aware of and give thanks to God. Taking in even if just for a moment all the simple and seemingly insignificant things around us everywhere which speak of the beauty of life and living that sometimes we seem to forget and unintentionally ignore due to all our busyness. So here's my challenge for you and for me. Let us pledge to at least once a day pause and take in one thing that can remind us of the nearness of God. Then let us just take a moment to pray just giving thanks to our awesome God for the beauty of that single moment.

Until next time, keep me in your thoughts and prayers and know I will be doing the same.

See You in Church!

Joe

# THIS MONTH

**Wednesday, August 1 - 11:30 a.m.**  
Prayer Group

**Thursday, August 2 - 10:00 a.m.**  
Fellowship Committee Mtg.

**Sunday, August 5 - 10:00 a.m.**  
Worship -Communion  
(Deacons' Offering)

**Monday, August 6 - 3:00 p.m.**  
Special (Discernment) Committee

7:00 p.m. "AA" Mtg.

**Wednesday, August 8 - 11:30 a.m.**  
Prayer Group

**Thursday, August 9 - 9:30 a.m.**  
Worship Committee Mtg.

**Sunday, August 12 - 10:00 a.m.**  
Worship followed by a Pot-Luck Dinner  
and Special; Introduction to our new  
Website by Sherry Sapienza and Report  
from the Special (Discernment)  
Committee - m Ham, Dessert,  
Beverage and Table Service provided.

**Monday, August 13 - 9:00 a.m.**  
Staff Meeting

7:00 p.m. "AA" Meeting

**Tuesday, August 14 - 1:30 p.m.**  
Evangelism/Mission Committee Mtg.

3:15 p.m. Member Care Mtg.

**Wednesday, August 15 - 11:30 a.m.**  
Prayer Group

**Thursday, August 16 - 10:30 a.m.**  
Communion at Bristol Health Care

**Sunday, August 19 - 10:00 a.m.**  
Worship

**Monday, August 20 - 7:00 p.m.**  
"AA" Mtg.

**Wednesday, August 22 - 11"30**  
Prayer Group

**Thursday, August 23 - 9:00 a.m.**  
Retired Pastors Breakfast at Bristol  
Village Café

**Sunday, August 26 - 10:00 a.m.**  
Worship

**Wednesday, August 29 - 11:30 a.m.**  
Prayer Group

3:00 p.m. Session Mtg.

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## HAPPY AUGUST BIRTHDAY:

August 8 - Florence Vonderohe  
13 - Jean Frank  
15 - Cal Tysen  
22 - Nel Diehlman  
25 - Karen Henderson  
26 - Toni Rail  
28 - Susan Thomas

## HAPPY WEDDING ANNIVERSARY:

August 4 - Janet & Oscar marsh  
7 - Wanda & Lew Stratton  
26 - Betty & Ivan Sumey  
28 Evelyn & Gary Baker  
Irene & Jim Clark

The Discernment Committee, also known as the Special Committee of Session, was formed with this stated purpose: "...is to lead to a completed Mission Study that will lead to the Election of a PNC (Pastor Nominating Committee) and the completion of a Mission Information Form (MIF) to be used in the search and calling process of the next pastor." The seven volunteer members were commissioned on June 10, 2018. The first meeting was May 30 and there have been three meetings since that. We started out slowly, in order to clarify why we were meeting and what our charge (intent, authority, purpose and task) is. I believe we have been gaining momentum as individuals and a group as we share more with each other.

So far, we have studied the MIF, Focus Points (Heritage, Leadership, Connections, Vision and Identity), individual and congregational spiritual types, ways to encourage whole -congregation involvement in this process, Quickinsite (data about our community from the Presbytery's new Internet program), read UNBINDING YOUR HEART about learning new ways to share our faith, realized the difference between decision-making and discernment. We continue to study these in more depth.

We have been listening and asking and thinking.

We are to a point--wait for it...

**YOU** have a part now. **YOU** have a turn! Please plan to be at church on August 12. Immediately afterward we will have a potluck /fellowship meal together and a congregational meeting where we will give you some further details about how you can help us in our charge.

Details will revolve around helping to form our church's timeline of its "cloud of witnesses". It will also revolve around our Core Values and our Beliefs/Values. These are "what we stand for". They represent how we present ourselves. They are things we are not willing to eliminate from our lives. We filter our decisions through them. We believe that these are what should drive our understanding of our congregation and should also drive the pastor whom we will call later.

See how important it is for you to be at the meeting? We want your core values and beliefs/values to be included. This is the future of our beloved church. Think of what you see our church becoming in the next 5 years or 10 years. Exciting! Please be there on August 12.

Written by Barbara Pettit for the committee: Barbara Early, Bud Hobday, Linda Milam, Kitty Neely, Tom Patterson, Barbara Pettit, Rosann Severding and Pastor Joe Fields

For August Courier

## Bridgehaven to Close by Elaine Oser Zingg

Bridgehaven, the only homeless shelter in Pike County, located at 109 West Second Street in Waverly, will be closing its doors on December 31, 2018. Bridgehaven is one facet of the Work of the Pike County Outreach Council of Churches founded in 1968 by the Rev. Roger Kelsey, pastor of our church, and Fr. Grimes of St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church.

Our church was also involved in the establishment of Bridgehaven which was purchased in 1996 and opened its doors in March of 1997. First Presbyterian Church contributes \$1,200 a year to the support of Bridgehaven, \$3,000 a year for the work of the Outreach Council, and volunteers at the Food Pantry.

According to annual reports we receive each year as one of the supporting churches, in 2016, 115 homeless people stayed in Bridgehaven for 2,839 shelter nights, during which 11,356 meals were served to them. That number increased to 143 people in 2017. During their stays these people received shelter, support, advocacy, friendship, and empowerment.

Bridgehaven is closing for financial reasons. The Outreach Council needs \$135,000 a year to pay its six paid staff, run Bridgehaven and the Pike County Food Pantry, and provide emergency services to some of the county's poor residents. For 2018 the Council received a \$45,000 grant from the state, but insufficient monies from contributions and fund raising events to cover the remaining monies needed to fill out its budget.

Judy Dixon is retiring July 28<sup>th</sup> after serving as Director of the Pike County Outreach Council of Churches for 30 years. Ray Osborn will take over as Acting Director of the Outreach Council, and Autum Topping will move over from Bridgehaven to be Manager of the Food Pantry. Four paid staff will have to be laid off later this month. In exchange for free room and board, a full time volunteer will manage Bridgehaven until it closes at the end of 2018.

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### **It's Time to Begin Again!**

On FPC Chancel Choir will begin rehearsing on Tuesday, September 11th from 3:45-5:00.

Our music work includes helping to lead our worship services (from September through May) through hymn singing as well as by our presentation of choral introits, benedictions and anthems. The selections we sing include music from early church history (i.e. Gregorian chant) through gospel, classic and contemporary.

Everyone is welcome to come join us and become a part of this musical fellowship!



Presbyterian Women AUGUST 2018

## PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN PLAN A NEW YEAR OF STUDY AND SERVICE -

The **traditional PW OPENING DAY** will be **Wednesday September 5** at the Church beginning at **10:30 a.m.** A time to visit if you've been considering participating. We will meet for business and an intro to the new study, **GOD'S PROMISE**. We'll hear about the August national PW Churchwide Gathering. **Barbara Pettit will be our leader.** We'll close with a potluck finger food lunch.

Monthly Circle meetings will begin the

**First Wednesday in October. 1:30 – 3 p.m.**

We're trying **something new!** We will meet together to enjoy refreshments and organize for Mission and special events and then break into Circles for Study. Meetings will be at the **Bristol Village Resident's Cottage**, corner of Fifth and Oak.

Mark your calendar now for PW activities beginning this fall.

Wednesday Sept. 5 10:30 a.m. at the Church

October 3, November 7, 1:30 at the Resident's Cottage

December 5 Annual All Church Advent Potluck

New Year 2019

January 2, February 6, March 6, April 3, May 1

1:30 at the Resident's Cottage

June 5 - Year Close out Celebration at the Church

## PW TRYING A NEW ORGANIZATION PLAN

Circles, Esther and Martha Mary, will continue and will study together. See Program book for listings. The Coordinating Team(CT) will plan activities and lead Business meetings each month. Your 2018-19 **CT** officers: Moderator, **Kay Puckett**; Secretary, **Barbara Pettit**; Treasurer, **Audrey Tysen**; Mission Coordinator and Nominating, **Karen Henderson**. Hostesses will work together and Study leaders will act as Circle leader for that meeting.

Let's give it a try !!!!!!!

KP

WEDNESDAY 11:30 A.M.

Drop by the Church for an informal half hour of Prayer.

What do we do?

Meet in front of the Lord's Table

Gather names for prayer

Read a Scripture passage

Offer informal prayers

Remember our Mission Workers

Adjourn before noon.

This prayer is one we offer and invite you to  
Join in praying for the life of our church.

(Cut it out and stick it on the fridge.)

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#### A PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH

Book of Common Worship

Almighty and ever-living God,  
Ruler of all things in heaven and earth,  
Hear our prayer for this congregation.  
Strengthen the faithful,  
Arouse the careless,  
And restore the penitent.  
Grant us all things necessary for our common life,  
And bring us all to be of one heart and mind,  
Within your holy church;  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

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### Church Office Deadline-

Articles for the bulletin have to be in the Church Office by Tuesday of each week. If not, they will not be included in the bulletin.

The same applies for the "Courier". Articles received after the deadline, will not be included.

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September "Courier" Deadline is Monday, August 27<sup>th</sup>

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## HINTS FOR COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

### SIGN UP ON THE KIOSK CHART

If you're a single person, find a helper or two to sign up with you. Get acquainted with the kitchen. Take a few minutes after church some Sunday and see what's in those cupboards and drawers.

### REMEMBER COFFEE WILL BE MADE BY SOMEBODY ELSE

A few people prefer to do this themselves and that's okay. But why not make it easier on yourself and let the Fellowship Committee do it.

ALAS! At the end of Coffee Hour, emptying, rinsing, and drying the inside of the coffee pots (with paper towels) is your responsibility, but a Fellowship Committee member can help you with this task.

### COLD BEVERAGES

You can chill pitchers with water and juice ahead of time. We usually offer water and a sugar-free drink or juice. We avoid red and purple juices for fear of carpet stains, and we label the sugar-free drinks.

### WHAT, AND HOW MANY, SNACK ITEMS

Two or three simple snacks are plenty. Just about anything – finger foods are preferred. Suggestions: Cheese/crackers, chips/dip, nuts, pretzels, cookies, brownies, non-messy bars, fruit, cut-up veggies, etc. In addition, put out a sugar-free item (“fish” snacks and sugar-free cookies are often available in the kitchen). Whatever you choose, we'll be happy!

### CLEAN UP

Cover and date pitchers of left-over sugar-free drink (toss out small amounts). Load dishwasher (which will be run sometime during the week). Take home and wash used cloths, etc., and return them as soon as possible.

If you notice we are running out of an item, mark it on the chart kept on the refrigerator.

**ALL OF OUR COFFEE HOUR HOSTS/HOSTESSES ARE GREATLY  
APPRECIATED!**

[Submitted by Fellowship Committee: Audrey Tysen and Bob Penrose, co-chairs]

July 2018



## DID YOU SEE THE NEW BOOKS FOR THE CHILDREN OF PIKE COUNTY?

New children's books for the Pike County Public Libraries have been purchased and are currently being taken to the main branch as well as the two branch libraries in the county. They will have book plates placed in them with a message offering them to the children of Pike County from their friends at the First Presbyterian Church. Thanks to your generosity to the Pentecost Fund which we received in May this is possible.

Flyaway Books ([www.flyawaybooks.com](http://www.flyawaybooks.com)) is the new imprint for children's books. Flyaway focuses on themes of diversity, inclusion, self-esteem, kindness, compassion and care for our world. The books by world-class authors feature breathtaking multicultural illustrations that will help kids deal with tough issues.

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*Wearing your name tag tells visitors that you  
welcome them.*

!!



*The local food pantry would welcome some  
cereal this month.*

!!

---from Mission and Evangelism

For those who desire to contribute to "The Least We Can Do," special offering envelopes are available on the table in the back of the sanctuary. Take as many as you will need for the rest of the calendar year (such as one for each month or each quarter).

"The Least We Can Do is to give more" is our annual special offering that is given to Presbyterian missionaries like Esther Wakeman in Thailand and the Mark Hare family in Haiti. Thank you!

### **WE NEED YOUR SUGGESTIONS!**

The Worship Committee wants to make better use of our available projection system during Sunday morning worship. Our goal is to enhance worship, so we are looking for images, stained glass designs, paintings that will support, not detract from, the rhythms of corporate worship. Would you help us out by suggesting images we might project during the different parts of the service: Preparation and Gathering; Time of Confession and Pardon; Listening for God's Word to us in Scripture and the Sermon; time of Prayer Concerns and Prayer itself; the Offering of Gifts and of Ourselves; Holy Communion; Final Blessing and Going Forth.

If you have any thoughts about possible images, please share them with Sherry Sapienza or Otto Zingg. You may also just write a short note and put it in the Offering Plate or in the Church Office. Thanks for taking time to think about ways to deepen our visual experience as a worshipping community!

GENERAL ASSEMBLY NEWS  
**A little GA silliness is good for the soul**

*Yukon Presbytery commissioner pens a poem*  
by the Rev. Matt Schultz  
Pastor, First Presbyterian Church, Anchorage, Alaska

I am the very model of a modern Presbyterian.  
My mastery of language has been rated near  
Shakespearian.  
My worship style is orthodox, eschewing the heretical.  
My preaching's not exciting but at least it's exegetical.  
My 3-point sermons never leave a point that's unattributed.  
And my communion elements are properly distributed.  
All hymns composed since 1800 I consider "recently."  
I never make a motion out of order or indecently.  
I've walked with silent patience in a hundred robed processionalists.  
I call the church connectional and also quite confessional.  
In short, in things pertaining to ecclesial criterion  
I am the very model of a modern Presbyterian  
We often hold a modern major General Asemble-y  
And it is as dysfunctional as any modern family.  
Our polity is lib'rally conservative sectarian.  
The breadth of our perspectives makes us quasi-Unitarian.  
My capital campaigning raises funds for the facility.  
My pleas to raise attendance have the flavor of futility.  
And though I'm anti-sexist to the best of my ability,  
I think that my tall steeple is a symbol of virility  
My youth group is outnumbered by my surly centenarians.  
I cite the Greek and Hebrew to impress the Seminarians.  
In short, in things pertaining to ecclesial criterion  
I am the very model of a modern Presbyterian.

## MEMBERS IN MINISTRY

July 31, 2018

### Ministers for Community: Every Member

Pastor: Joseph Fields, Jr.

Secretary: Barbara Patterson

Clerk of Session: Elaine Zingg

Choir Director: Karen Henderson

Organist: Patricia Penrose

Treasurer: Robert Neely

### Ministers for Vision and Mission: Session:

#### Class of 2018

Elinor Hodder

Barbara Patterson

Audrey Tysen

#### Class of 2019

Evelyn Baker

Don Netzley

Bob Penrose

#### Class of 2020

Tom Hlasten

Tom Patterson

Barbara Pettit

## MINISTERS FOR MEMBER CARE: DEACONS

Irene Clark

Bud Hobday

Ann Oyer

## MINISTERS SERVING IN OTHER PLACES

Pike County Outreach Council of Churches

Mark, Jenny, Kella Rosa & Anika Estela Hare Papay,  
Haiti

Esther Wakeman, Payap University, Chiang Mai  
Thailand

### At Bristol Health Care

444 Cherry St. Waverly, Ohio 45690

Jackie Barnes - 123

Tom Frank - 309-A

Virginia Hartwell - 3

Shirley Pryor - 14

Earl Todt - 117

### The Gardens

Lois Hardy - 202

Patty Todt - 212

At Home Bud Hobday, Mack and Jean Earnhardt,  
Janet and Oscar Marsh, Irene Noble,

### In Other Places

Judith Harrell, Kitty McCollam,

In Military Service - Sarah Kolb, and Kacie Lee  
Sarah Kolb, Kacie Lee,

## August Worship Assistants:

August 5 - Audrey Tysen

12 - Kay Weir

19 - Jim Clark

26 - Betsy Hall

## August Greeters:

August 5 - Evelyn and Gary Baker

12 - Karen andn Bruce Henderson

19 - Judy and Allen Wollenberg

26 - Audrey and Cal Tysen

## August Ushers:

August 5 - Kitty Neely, Barbara Pattersor  
Margi Russell, Ralph Strickland

12 - Iva Bailey, Ann Oyer

Volunteers

19 - Bud Hobday, Ivan Sumey,

Dimitry Sergay

26 - Iva Bailey, Ann Oyer

Volunteers

## August Coffee Hour Hosts:

August 5 - Donut Sunday

12 - Fellowship Meal

19 - Evelyn and Gary

Baker

26 - Barbara Taphorn

## August Counters:

August 5 - Mike Milam and Ruth  
Karner

12 - Jim Clark/Kay Weir

19 - Betsy Hall/Nancy

Seward

26 - Don Netzley/Barbara

Pettit

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
211 SCHMITT DRIVE  
WAVERLY, OHIO 45690

Address Service Requested

## Amen Corner

