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**First Presbyterian Church**

# **Courier**

**February 2022**

**211 Schmitt Drive  
Waverly, OH 45690  
Phone 740-947-2905**

# MEMBERS IN MINISTRY

December 26, 2021

## MINISTERS FOR THE COMMUNITY: EVERY MEMBER

**Pastor:** Jane B. Johnson

**Secretary:** Bobbie Hall

**Clerk of Session:** Elaine Zingg

**Choir Director:** Karen Henderson

**Organist:** Patricia Penrose

**Treasurer:** Michael Milam

## MINISTERS FOR VISION AND MISSION: SESSION:

**Class of 2022**

**Class of 2023**

**Class of 2024**

Pat Mikelson

Tom Hlasten

John Mikelson

Glenn Rudie

Susan Thomas

Barbara Pettit

Barbara Taphorn

Elaine Zingg

## MINISTERS FOR MEMBER CARE: DEACONS

Barbara Patterson   Bob Penrose   Bob Penrose

## COMMITTEES:

**Discipleship and Worship:**

**Evangelism & Mission:** Pat Mikelson

**Fellowship:** Barbara Taphorn

**Finance & Stewardship:** Susan Thomas

**Member Care:**

**Nominating:** Pat Mikelson

**Personnel:** Glenn Rudie

**Presbytery:** Barbara Pettit

**Presbyterian Women:** Barbara Taphorn

**Property:** Barbara Pettit

**Technology/Communication:** John Mikelson

## MEMBERS SERVING IN OTHER PLACES:

- Pike County Outreach Council of Churches
- Mark, Jenny, Kella Rosa, and Aika Estela Hare  
*Papay-Costa Rica*
- Jim McGill, *Sudan*



We are open for worship in the church at 10:45 am.

Masks are required.

Fellowship Hour has been suspended until further notice. We also continue to have worship on line each Sunday morning at 10:45 am. You can tune in by your computer or telephone.

If you are using a computer to connect: Open your computer browser (Internet Explorer or Chrome) Enter <https://zoom.us> 542 773 5626 in the address bar. Follow screen instructions. Password: 6NgnrH

If you are using a phone to connect, dial

312-626-6799 and then enter ID: 542 773 5626#. When prompted for a password enter 355142#.

# THE GIFT OF STILLNESS

John Steinbeck wrote, “What good is the warmth of summer, without the cold of winter to give it sweetness.” If we never felt sorrow, would we experience the deepest of joys? In every season of life, God’s gifts are plenteous, if only we have eyes to see them.



this forced stillness is a gift. It gives me the opportunity to exhale, breathing out my anxieties – anxieties about all the things “to do.” We can be so busy “doing” that we forget about “being.” Being in the moment, recognizing all the small blessings along the way. Before we know it times flies by, and we look back and think “where has time gone.” But for a few moments in the stillness,

I know some people dread the snow of winter, but it gives us permission to slow down – to bask in the quiet, at least for a few moments. It displays the awesomeness of our Creator who blankets the ground in white beauty, and reminds us that we are really not in control. Surrounded a by a sea of white, I’m reminded of Psalm 46:1; “Be still and know that I am God.”

Being still is a challenge for me. My mind runs twenty miles a minute. It flits from one topic and task to the next, so

I look in wonder at the One who makes all things new with thanksgiving that I’m included in that newness.

So, when it snows, as it did a few days ago, I don my boots, coat, and gloves and wade into the white beauty blanketing my yard. I lift my thoughts in praise to my Heavenly Father saying; “Thank you for the beauty around me; for the quiet that beckons me to receive Your rest.”

~ Jane

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“THE WORLD is charged with the Grandeur of GOD.  
It will flame out, like shining from shook foil . . .”

~Gerard Manley Hopkins

# OUR SESSION AT WORK | ELAINE OSER ZINGG

Typically, a lot of time and energy at the first Session meeting of each new year is devoted to saying goodbye to those officers who have completed their active involvement and welcome to those who have been elected to replace them. Some positions, such as Clerk of Session, Treasurer, Corporation President and Vice-president and Nominating Committee members get elected for one year at a time. Others, such as Ruling Elders, and Deacons, get elected for three years at a time. The latter get listed as members of a class that will end three years later; so the Elders and Deacon going off in January were members of the Class of 2021 and those coming on are listed as Class of 2024. The advantage of this system is with Elders and Deacons you can always tell when they began serving, how many years they have to go, and when they will end, or take a break from, their active involvement.

Our church's By-laws used to provide that Elders must stay off of Session for one year before being re-elected for another three years. That provision was amended a couple of years ago to allow an Elder to be elected for three years two times in a row before having to go off Session for one year. The first time that provision was used was in 2020 when Tom Hlasten and Tom Patterson both decided to go for a second three year term and were elected to the Class of 2023. In Tom Patterson's case, he was asked to do it so he could finish overseeing the upgrading of the

manse. That done, he resigned this December. This year, Elaine Zingg decided to go for a second consecutive three years. So, Audrey Tysen, Kay Weir, and Elaine Zingg have gone off the Class of 2021 and John Mikelson, Barbara Pettit, and Elaine Zingg have been elected to the Class of 2024.

Back in October, Session met three times. One was its regular monthly meeting, and twice to begin planning for the future. The first planning meeting was to flesh out our five primary goals for the next five years; the second was to begin to create an action plan for achieving these goals. Since October we have continued that process, holding a regular Session meeting once each month and another to work on the planning process.

The following are the five goals we developed in October: 1. Session will continue to act as a planning body that is discerning and assessing God's path forward for our congregation. 2. We will intentionally develop additional Lay Leaders. 3. We will increase our technology capabilities and expand our current use of Zoom and social media to connect with congregants and a wider community. 4. We will better engage and integrate into all facets of our target communities: Bristol Village, Waverly, and Pike County. 5. Our congregants will grow spiritually and learn new ways to share our faith and invite visitors to come to our church for worship and events.

# NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION: EXERCISING?

OTTO ZINGG

My hunch is that most of us, upon entering one New Year or another, vowed to EXERCISE more in the future. What if our resolution this year was not so much to lose physical pounds as to gain spiritual weight?! The idea of toning up our spiritual well-being reflects the very nature of faith itself. As Pastor Jane said from the pulpit on January 2:

Faith is not just something that we have; rather, faith as a verb means that believing is a decision we make over and over again ... Robert Kysar in *John, the Maverick Gospel* says, "Faith is a continuing dynamic, not a state of being."

This understanding of the Christian faith is what I know as "experiential theology" - as contrasted with propositional or analytical theology, with which most of us grew up. Faith is greater than something we believe; it is being engaged in a deepening relationship with God and others and is a process of growth. Faith is more a matter of doing than it is of dogma.

Jane Johnson reminded us that, according to one scholar,

John 1:12 is literally translated "believing into Jesus." "When we speak of being "into" something or someone, we imply commitment,

investment, passion. We use the saying all the time – she's so into him, or my sons are really into football, or my daughters are really into dance. It implies personal commitment and passion.

This kind of deep and ever-growing connection is what our faith as Christians is all about, for it affects everything in life. And it is not something we can say we "have," once and for all time.

...discipleship involves not only "following" but also "abiding" with or remaining in Jesus... Jesus is our life. He is the sustenance of our faith. We just don't eat once and think we can survive, do we? No, we must continually feed ourselves healthy food in order to stay well and strong. In the same way, we must continually feed our faith for it to be strong and vibrant.

So, in these early months of 2022, might we think about what it would entail to "tone up" spiritually? And what a difference it might make for us?



~ Send your spiritual stories and practices for this Courier column to [drdeholben@gmail.com](mailto:drdeholben@gmail.com)

# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



## **JOHN GEDEON** (left)

John recently moved from his Lake White home of 42 years to Bristol Village. He is retired from a 30-year career at the A-Plant in Piketon, where he worked in Public Relations and as the Employee Activity Coordinator. He then worked as a credentialed substance abuse counselor for 15 years and as a substitute teacher for 18 years. Currently John serves on the Board of the Directors of the Counseling Center in Portsmouth which covers four counties. He was two sons, one who lives in Latham and the other near Detroit. And he has three grandchildren. Welcome, John!

## **Martha Whitehouse** (middle)

Originally from the Chillicothe area, Martha moved to Bristol Village with her husband and has been a resident for over 20 years. She comes to FPC from The First Christian Church in Chillicothe where she was a very active member for over 50 years. Martha is the mother of six children, including twins. She is a lively 93-year-old who enjoys her daily walks, teaching the line dancing class and playing in the bell choir. She also enjoys visiting her children, who of whom live in Florida. Welcome, Martha!

## **Jewel McCliment** (right)

Jewel grew up in rural York County, PA. She graduated from Ohio University with a degree in social work. Jewel's entire career has been devoted to finding good homes for children. In 1985 Jewell became the Director of the Pennsylvania Adoption Exchange where she helped create PA's Adoption Medical History Registry and a Foster Parent Registry. Jewel has received national recognition for her work for Adoption Advocacy. She has traveled extensively and loves gardening, especially growing roses. Jewel moved from Harrisburg, PA to Bristol Village where she is settling in with her little dog, Piper. Welcome, Jewel!



### **Bobbie Hall & Dave Tallman**

Bobbie grew up in Cincinnati, OH while Dave grew up in Los Alamos, NM. They met in Santa Fe, NM and moved just outside Bristol Village in 2021. Bobbie has worked as a graphics designer, teacher, and substance abuse counselor. This past October she started working as the church secretary at FPC. Dave has had a 40-year career working as a computer programmer. Bobbie and Dave also parent their twin, 16-year-old sons, Isaac and Daniel. Bobbie enjoys any sort of arts & crafts while Dave likes anime and is learning Japanese. Welcome Bobbie and Dave!



### **David & Melissa Stinnett**

Both David and Melissa grew up and settled in Columbus, Ohio. David was a member of the U.S. Air Force serving in Okinawa. After a 25-year career in telecommunications, Dave and Melissa started DMS Communications. Both Dave and Melissa were active in the Obetz Christian Church founded by Melissa's father. Melissa also operated an in-home daycare and then worked for the Grove City Walmart in shipping and receiving. Melissa's interests include music, and she has already enhanced our services with her beautiful voice. She also enjoys interior décor and nature. In retirement, David enjoys sports and needlework. Welcome, David and Melissa!

# LOCAL MISSION SUPPORT

In addition to the \$1000 Matthew 25 Grant awarded to the Western High School HOPE 180 program, the Mission and Evangelism Committee provided support for the following 2021 Matthew 25 applicants:

- **TIGER BY THE TAIL 4-H CLUB  
WAVERLY INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL  
Susan Prall, Guidance Counselor**

**\$300** seed funds for Tiger by the Tail 4-H, a new in-school club for students who do not have the financial and transportation means to participate in regular 4-H clubs. Research shows that when students participate in extracurricular activities they perform better academically, socially, and emotionally. Goal is to provide a safe space for kids to feel a part of a group, form positive relationships with peers and adults and work on setting goals and working together to meet those goals. This program is scheduled to be held during lunch hour. The participants will govern their club and have a choice of interesting small group projects.

- **LEARNING TO MOVE, MOVING TO LEARN  
ROSS-RIKE EDUCATIONAL SERVICE DISTRICT  
Elissa T. Wiseman, Occupational  
Therapist**

**\$300** support to provide special needs preschool units with necessary tools/equipment to increase movement opportunities within the classroom daily routine. "When language is combined with movement, learning increases by 90 percent." The goal is to enable preschool special needs students to enter regular kindergarten classes and improve their life-long independence and opportunities. The equipment purchased will be used by preschool units for many years.



- **KINSHIP PLACEMENT HOME STUDIES**  
**PIKE COUNTY CHILDREN SERVICES BOARD**  
**Lisa Roberts Executive Director**

**\$300** support to help place children in temporary custody with relatives or other kinship options instead of foster care. These children are at risk, or have experienced abuse, neglect, or dependency. Background checks of all adults (18 and older) are required to place kids with grandparents, aunts, and uncles, etc. The Children Services Board partners with the community to strengthen and empower families through prevention, education, advocacy, and supportive services to promote family stability and permanency for children.

- **COPE PROGRAM WAVERLY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Terri Dunham**

**\$411** support for COPE program. The goal of COPE is to break the cycle of generational poverty and make sure that every student has the ability to graduate from high school and continue their education or enter the workforce. COPE annually works with over 100 Junior and Senior High students and their families. This program encourages and facilitates these kids' ability to engage in after-school activities, such as sports and band. COPE also provides students with immediate food, hygiene and clothing needs as well as emotional support. COPE works with a multiple of other government and non-profit agencies to facilitate employment, transportation, and critical family needs to stabilize the family lives of the students. This includes working with pregnant students and new mother students to ensure they complete their studies and support them through the challenges of pregnancy and raising a child. COPE also works closely with Community Action GRIT and SPARK programs, which provide employment assistance for students. COPE often keeps in touch and supports students after they have graduated. COPE was the recipient of the 2020 atthew 25 \$1000 Grant.



# MISSION GIVING IN 2021

<b>Mission Giving from Congregants</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Non Budget</b>
Pike County Outreach	\$14,410.00	\$3,050.00	\$11,360.00
Bridgehaven	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	
One Great Hour of Sharing	\$6,825.00	\$2,800.00	\$4,025.00
Pentecost	\$933.00	\$720.00	\$213.00
Peacemaking	\$1,316.00	\$562.00	\$754.00
Pentecost/Peacemaking Local plus HOPE Clinic Budget plus Non-Budget			
YMCA - Hurt to Hope	\$500.00		
Garnet A Wilson Public Library	\$250.00		
Waverly Intermediate - 4-H	\$300.00		
Pike Ross ESD	\$300.00		
Christmas Joy	\$1,755.00	\$1,000.00	\$755.00
Mission Personnel - Mark Hare	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	
Mission Personnel - Jim McGill	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	
Mission Personnel - Dr Daniell	\$250.00		\$250.00
The Least We Can Do	\$2,490.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,490.00
Presbytery Mission	\$1,742.00	\$1,742.00	
Synod Mission	\$26.00	\$26.00	
General Assembly Mission	\$832.00	\$832.00	
Presbyterian Disaster	\$620.00		\$620.00
Presbyterian Gift Catalog	\$250.00		\$250.00
COPE	\$1,561.00		\$1561.00
COPE Thanksgiving	\$625.00		\$625.00
COPE Christmas	\$775.00		\$775.00
Hunger Walk	\$2,030.00		\$2,030.00
Presbytery Pastor Emergency Fund	\$160.00		\$160.00
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$41,950.00</b>	<b>\$15,732.00</b>	<b>\$24,868.00</b>
<b>McCluggage Fund Dividends</b>			
Matthew 25 Grant - Western Schools	\$1,000.00		
HOPE 180			
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>		
<b>LittleJohn Endowment Dividends</b>			
Bridgehaven	\$478.27		
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$478.27</b>		
<b>Total Mission Giving in 2021</b>	<b>\$43,428.27</b>		

# **SOUPER SUNDAY - FEBRUARY 13**

## **VOTE FOR THE TEAM YOU WANT TO WIN THE SUPER BOWL**

Bring your donations of soup on that Sunday. Each can or item equals one vote.

The donations will be counted and announced at the end of the service.  
All donations will be taken to the Pike County Food Bank.

Needed: Tomato soup and cream soups (however, they have plenty of Cream of Mushroom). Crackers are welcome as well.

## **BOOK CLUB – COME JOIN US!**

**WEDNESDAY JANUARY 26 at 4pm**  
**GARNET A. WILSON PUBLIC LIBRARY**

The Garnet A. Wilson Public Library of Pike County will be restarting its Book Club in January. It meets on the last Wednesday of each month, except for the months of November and December. Meeting time is 4:00 upstairs at the Waverly branch. Discussion lasts about an hour. The

books are selected by the group and include fiction and non-fiction books. The library is looking for new Book Club members. We enjoy our discussions and includes "book lovers" from Waverly and surrounding Pike County. Questions? Call the Library or Kitty Neely, 740-947-5980

## **LIBRARY**

### **CHILDRENS VALENTINES CRAFTS**

If you have old shoe boxes, coffee cans, oat canisters, cereal boxes, tissue boxes or similar items, the library would love to have them. All branches will be working on take-home, Valentine-box kits to give out next month. The library can also use any old scrapbook items, old or unused craft items, stickers, craft sticks, glitter,

or any craft items like that. The library is always so appreciative of donations and will put the items to good use! Thank you so much! You may put donations in the box at church in the library/coat rack area or in a temporary box on Barbara Pettit's porch.

# PRIVATE FUND TO SUPPORT SUDAN MISSION

You won't find it listed in the Annual Report booklet. But we want our First Presbyterian Church members and friends to know that our finance department "houses" a special fund that helps support the Presbyterian Mission Network in Sudan and in South Sudan.

In 1997, Bruce and Karen Henderson volunteered to spend eight weeks during the summer in Khartoum, Sudan, teaching at the Nile Theological College. This English-speaking college was established in 1989 for the purpose of training Sudanese Christians to become pastors and teachers.

Dr. John Hamlin, retired Presbyterian missionary and Parish Associate at First Presbyterian Church in Waverly, had researched the opportunities for short-term service in Presbyterian Missions. At the November, 1996 meeting of Scioto Valley Presbytery, Dr. Hamlin announced that the mission committee of the presbytery was willing to send someone to teach at NTC in Sudan.

Dr. Henderson was selected to be the volunteer. At that time, Bruce was the pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Granville, Ohio. That congregation agreed to allow him to take that missionary assignment by using his summer

vacation plus accumulated study leave. Also, the church members collected an offering that would pay the airfare for Karen to accompany him.

What began as an one-time experience turned into five trips to teach at NTC and approximately 50 visits to churches in the presbytery to inform congregations about our Presbyterian mission in Sudan. Most of those churches became enthused after seeing slides and hearing reports about the fastest growing Christian church in the nation. At that time, it was known as the most dangerous country in the world for Christians to live. Many congregations and individuals responded with financial contributions. Thus, the Sudan Fund was established. The primary use of the fund has been to give yearly scholarships.

In 2005, Sudan elected to divide into two nations: Republic of Sudan (North) and South Sudan (South). Both nations have an NTC campus. This past year, 2021, has been very difficult financially in South Sudan. During the final four months of the year the faculty and staff at NTC served without pay. Our Sudan Fund sent three thousand dollars to help relieve this crisis. If you desire further information, please contact the Hendersons.



# WORSHIP AND DISCIPLESHIP COMMITTEE

Your Worship and Discipleship Committee is asking for help in preparing our worship space for services. Please contact Karen Henderson (klhhen2@gmail.com; 740-258-9625; 740-835-8880) if you can help in any of the following ways

Weekly/Occasionally:

- Straighten the worship chairs (including chairs at the round tables) after worship
- Assure hymnals are in place at each chair
- Collect used bulletins and disposable communion cups
- Water church potted plants

Seasonally:

- Replace side colored banners (advent, Christmas, Christmastide, general (green), lent, Easter)
- Place standing banners (i.e. banners used this past Christmas) around sanctuary
- Set-up sanctuary for special services (i.e. Ash Wednesday) (DOES NOT INVOLVE MOVING TABLES)

## GREETERS SCHEDULE

February	Joyce & Doug Holben Barbara Taphorn
March	Evelyn & Gary Baker Barbara Taphorn
April	Barbara Early Allen Wollenberg Barbara Taphorn
May	Bobbie Hall Barbara Taphorn (3rd Greeter needed)



# FEBRUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> Bible Study 4 pm	<b>3</b> Worship & Discipleship 10 am	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Mission & Evangelism 1:30 pm <hr/> Bible Study 4 pm	<b>10</b> Session Planning 9:30-11:30 am	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Fellowship 1 pm	<b>15</b> Presbytery 3 pm	<b>16</b> Session 1:30 pm <hr/> Bible Study 4 pm	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> Black History Worship Service	<b>21</b> President's Day office closed	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Bible Study 4 pm <hr/>	<b>24</b> Prime Time Gardening 6 pm	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> Every Time I Feel the Spirit--musical & literary heritage of African Ameri- cans	<b>28</b>					



**Remember in Prayer:**

Marilyn Beilstein  
Dan Beilstein  
Judy Wollenberg  
Glenn Rudie  
Wanda Stratton  
David Boyer  
Bud Hobday  
Janet Marsh  
Dimitry Sergay

**Bristol Health Care:**

Judy Wollenberg - 312  
Bud Hobday - 125  
Janet Marsh - Fast Track  
Dimitry Sergay - 114

**Bristol Apartments:** 600 E Fifth St  
George Hartwell - 193

**Birthdays:**

Barbara Patterson - 5  
David Boyer - 15

**Anniversaries:**

Bobbie Hall & Dave Tallman - 16



EST.



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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH OF WAVERLY

211 Schmitt Drive  
Waverly, OH 45690

# The Amen Corner

