



First Presbyterian Church

# Courier

March 2022

**211 Schmitt Drive  
Waverly, OH 45690  
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# MEMBERS IN MINISTRY

February 27, 2022

## 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#.



# A MEDITATION ON LENT

## Lent Begins on March 2

Have you ever wondered what the word 'Lent' means? It comes from the Old English word *lencten*, meaning springtime. A closely related Old English word is *lengan*, from which we get our word 'lengthen'. The days are getting longer; spring is just around the corner; the frozen earth of winter is about to warm and thaw. But Lent is really about a deeper kind of thaw: the warming of our frozen hearts.

Lent is also a time of sharing, even in some small way, in Christ's sufferings so that we may also experience the power of His resurrection (Philippians 3:10-11). The crux of the matter is this -- what is the disposition of our hearts?

Years before the birth of Christ, King David learned that a humble heart was welcomed by God. He sinned greatly in first taking another man's wife and then having her husband, placed on the front lines of battle to be killed. Yet, when Nathan the prophet confronted him with his sin, he said I have sinned against the Lord, and in Psalm 51:10, he cries out;

**"Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me."**

I invite you to prepare yourselves for a journey of the heart this Lenten season. Be open to the grace that enables your growth. Draw near to God through times of prayer and fasting, through serving others in love and by reading and meditating on the Scriptures.

To help on your journey, join us each Wednesday in person or via zoom at 4 PM for a Lenten Bible Study: Learning Forgiveness, join us for Sunday morning worship for our sermon series "Good News," attend the Lenten Retreat on Saturday, March 19th, and our Ash Wednesday Service March 2 at 4 pm. Our Maundy Thursday Service is on Thursday, April 14 at 4 pm.

*Soli Deo Gloria*  
*God's story shaping ours.*  
*In Christ, one and many...*  
*Serving with love...*  
*Proclaiming the Word,*  
*Fulfilling the Work,*  
*Transforming the World.*  
*To God alone be the glory!*

Pastor Jane



# 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.

# WERE YOU WONDERING . . .

AUDREY TYSEN

Some of us at 1st Presbyterian Church have been hearing things about a committee that meets about once a month, and are wondering What is this “Planning Committee” anyway?

It all began when the PNC (Pastor Nominating Committee) met during 2021 and were encouraged to develop goals for our church – what we would like to see our future pastor help us in achieving as a church. When the committee approached possible candidates, they were given access to the goals and other documents that would describe our church history, where we are at the present time, and what we would like our church to be in the future. In essence, we became a goal-centered body of believers.

And so, our Rev. Jane Johnson was given access to our website and the information about our church when we were considering her to be our church pastor. Her own goals as a pastor were very much like ours – and this became a very important indication that she would be our pastor. And so, when she came here, she made plans to guide our church to achieve our goals. She decided to meet with a “Planning Committee” on a regular basis (usually once a month); the committee would consist of the 9 Session members, plus the 5 on the PNC, and others (such as committee members); and, of course,

anyone interested would be welcome.

When we first met, we considered the goals that were presented when the PNC was searching for a pastor, and so we used these as a basis for specific goals for our church at this time. At our meetings, we have been mostly “fleshing them out” with explanations and workable ways to achieve these goals:

- (1) Session will continue actively 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, encourage and invite visitors to come to our church for worship and events.

Sometime in the future, there will be a more detailed report of the results of the labors of this committee. With God’s help, we can meet our goals.

# **SOUPER SUNDAY**

Thanks to several people who made it happen: Linda and Mike Milam, Doug Holben, Bobbie Hall, Betsy Hall, and all the people who donated.

Two hundred cans or packages of soup were collected on Souper Sunday for the Pike County Outreach Food Pantry. Each vote represented one can of soup. The final tally was 186 for the Bengals and 14 for the Rams. While the vote didn't help our Bengals, we can be proud of our 200 can donation to the food pantry.

# **PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN**

March 2, 1:30 pm at the church

Lesson 6 from  
"What My Grandmothers Taught Me"

Leaders will be Elaine Zingg and Barbara Pettit.  
Hostesses will be Karen Henderson and Barbara Taphorn

There is still a need for birthday cards and blank cards to distribute at the Bristol Health Center. They may be given to Barbara Pettit or Barbara Taphorn..

# **ADULT CLASS STUDIES**

The adult class studies during the Lenten season (Mar 6 through Palm Sunday) will focus on a number of names and titles for Jesus which appear in the four gospels. This should be a challenging, nurturing, and inspiring time for members of the group as we engage in discussions about significant biblical concepts and key portions of the Bible. Everyone is invited to attend at 9:30 Sunday morning for this series that will open our minds to a greater understand of this one who came from heaven to dwell among us.

# **LENTON RETREAT**

## **“EMBRACING THE INCARNATION”**

**Saturday, March 19**

**9:30 am - 3:30 pm**

The season of Lent is a time for reflecting on our faith as Christians and how It might impact us daily. This workshop is not as such a “retreat” from life, but is intended to move us towards a deeper ind of living. Participants will learn about forms of Christian meditation and experience different ways of listening to scripture to the Word beyond the words.

Come with a curious mind, an open heart, and a journal or pad of paper to write on. We will also be sharing a light lunch as part of the retreat. The Rev. Otto Zingg will facilitate this event.

## **WOW, WHAT A SURPRISE!!!**

I was awestruck, surprised and humbled on Sunday, February 13, when Pastor Jane presented me with the very generous gift from the congregation.

I not only appreciate the gift cards and money but all of the kind words written on the many beautiful cards I received.

It is an honor and a privilege for me to be able to use my God given talent to

serve Him through music. It is my hope and prayer that I can continue to do so for many more years to come here at the First Presbyterian Church of Waverly.

So to all of my dear friends here at the church, THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU from the bottom of my heart.

Blessings, Pat Penrose

# LENTEN PRACTICES FOR FAMILIES

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p>Activities based around the traditional “three pillars” of Lent: Prayer (P), Fasting (F), and Service (S). On prayer days, use the word provided to inspire a prayer you write, draw, or sing. Activities are suggestions; modify for your own family.</p>		<b>MARCH 1</b>	<b>2</b> <i>ASH WEDNESDAY</i> (P) HOPE	<b>3</b> (F) No TV or screens today (except homework).	<b>4</b> (S) Make a card for someone who needs extra love.	<b>5</b> (P) GIVING
<b>6</b> <i>1st SUNDAY IN LENT</i> (F) No snacks between meals today.	<b>7</b> (S) Do something kind for a neighbor.	<b>8</b> (P) GRATITUDE	<b>9</b> (F) Only water to drink today.	<b>10</b> (S) Get 5+ items for a food bank (deliver Sat before Palm Sun).	<b>11</b> (P) JESUS	<b>12</b> (F) Eat very simple meals for breakfast, lunch and dinner.
<b>13</b> <i>2nd SUNDAY IN LENT</i> (S) Pick up litter outside your house or at a park.	<b>14</b> (P) SPIRIT	<b>15</b> (F) Do not use toys that require batteries or electricity.	<b>16</b> (S) Call someone and tell them you are thinking of them.	<b>17</b> (P) HOLY	<b>18</b> (F) Do not listen to music in the car.	<b>19</b> (S) Take a treat or meal to someone.
<b>20</b> <i>3rd SUNDAY IN LENT</i> (P) PATIENCE	<b>21</b> (F) No desserts or treats today.	<b>22</b> (S) Say something nice about each person in your family.	<b>23</b> (P) DESERT	<b>24</b> (F) No TV or screens today (except homework).	<b>25</b> (S) Invite someone to your house for dinner.	<b>26</b> (P) JOURNEY
<b>27</b> <i>4th SUNDAY IN LENT</i> (F) No snacks between meals today.	<b>28</b> (S) Give someone real or paper flowers.	<b>29</b> (P) SERVICE	<b>30</b> (F) Only water to drink today.	<b>31</b> (S) Draw a picture for someone and mail it.	<b>APRIL 1</b> (P) FRIENDSHIP	<b>2</b> (F) Eat very simple meals for breakfast, lunch and dinner.
<b>3</b> <i>5th SUNDAY IN LENT</i> (S) Write someone a thank-you note.	<b>4</b> (P) GOD	<b>5</b> (F) Do not use toys that require batteries or electricity.	<b>6</b> (S) Learn something about another country or culture.	<b>7</b> (P) MERCY	<b>8</b> (F) Do not listen to music in the car.	<b>9</b> (S) Deliver food bank items.
<b>10</b> <i>PALM SUNDAY</i> (P) PEACE	<b>11</b> (F) No desserts or treats today	<b>12</b> (S) Buy dog or cat food for an animal shelter (deliver Sat).	<b>13</b> (P) KINDNESS	<b>14</b> (F) No TV or screens today (except for homework).	<b>15</b> (S) Plant a tree or flowers.	<b>16</b> (S) Deliver animal items.

# AN UPDATE ON C.O.P.E.

The school staff for the COPE program have had a challenging month dealing with Covid cases and snow days. Pray for their renewal of strength, commitment, and vision (for Jeremy Peters, Brack Montgomery, and Terri Dunham).

After Pastor Jane, Pat Mikelson, and Otto Zingg put together video interviews, along with the COPE staff and Superintendent of Schools, Ed Dickens, Ron Johnson edited and produced two videos – one emphasizing the church’s partnership with the COPE program, the other focused just on the program itself. Our thanks to Ron for his expertise and efforts on our behalf.

The first video of our work as a congregation with COPE has already

been put on a Facebook page for the national Presbyterian Church’s Matthew 25’s program and has already (as of February 11) had over 70 viewers. We will also be making that video available to interested churches in the Presbytery with the following YouTube title:

“Matthew 25 Grant Recipient COPE - Community Outreach Parental Engagement Program - <https://youtu.be/HXvfyhygPE>. You are welcome to go to YouTube and google the title to see this video about your ministry in partnership with the schools.

The second video, focused just on the work of COPE, will be shared with other schools in Pike County as well as the Foundation for Appalachian Ohio. Doing this will hopefully constitute another small step in our efforts as followers of Jesus to address the systemic poverty in our area.

## C A R E

**C**ompassion

**A**ffirming

**R**estoring

**E**ncouraging

### **GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP – CARE**

I’ve received more than one request to begin a grief support group for our congregation. Anyone who is interested in helping to facilitate the group and anyone interested in attending, please contact me, [pastor.1stpc.waverly@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.1stpc.waverly@gmail.com).

Pastor Jane

# REPORT TO SESSION ON PRESBYTERY MEETING HELD VIRTUALLY BY ZOOM

**February 15, 2022**

As usual, it is so good to go to Presbytery meetings to see how the 87 churches in our Presbytery work together. Of course, I enjoy seeing people I know. Of the 111 people there, I saw some you may know: Bob Armstrong, Gary Baker, Christine Burns, Joe Fields, Jane Johnson, Ron Johnson, and Charlotte O'Neil. It will be so good to see them in person soon.

Worship service consisted of a video, "Love Never Leaves" from Work of the People.

Executive Presbyter, Rev Jeanie Harsh, reported that the office is functioning with usual hours. The weekly email newsletter arrives early Thursday morning with information of the life and ministry in our Presbytery. Churches may submit information by email by Wednesday to Dagmar Romage ([dagmar@psvonline.org](mailto:dagmar@psvonline.org)).

A Memorial Moment was held for Rev Charlsie Ramsey who died suddenly on February 3rd. She has been here several times as a speaker for BV Vespers and for PW. She preached in Southern Ohio and was well known. We already miss her!

Rev Chip Hardwick, Synod Executive spoke about programs in Synod that promote the goal of trying anything to

equip and support leaders who engage in God's work. Some of these are: support groups for leaders, ("Race, Science and the Church" February 16 and 23 from 12-1:30); preaching seminars; boundary training (not just for pastors but for staff and volunteers); Adaptive Leadership workshops (August through November—address adaptive challenges, work on them and report the next month); "Not Just Sundays" (coming in the Fall—working as a hybrid church); higher education scholarships (deadline is March 5, 2022). Contact Chip at [chip@synodofthecovenant.org](mailto:chip@synodofthecovenant.org) or 309-530-4578.

James Rissler with the Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program updated] us on its services. There was much detail in his presentation. I plan to get something in writing to bring to Session and give to Finance and Stewardship Committee for reference.

Julie Oswald was examined for ordination after presenting her Statement of Faith. She stressed that we do not go into our communities to pat ourselves on our backs but to form relationships. I this does not lead to talking about church then the cantacts have seen God in their lives at least once. She was unanimously voted for ordination. There were 19 changes in call and two retirements celebrated.

## **PRESBYTERY MEETING (continued)**

Rev Luke Choi updated us on Board of Pensions. There is a new medical plan for members of PPO, EPO, and HDHP for personal support called "Care Navigation." This partners BOP with Quantum Health to help members navigate through everyday issues and more complex issues, including claims and billing questions. Members will be receiving information shortly. Luke's email is [LChoi@pensions.org](mailto:LChoi@pensions.org) and phone is 609-575-6321.

Mark Parsons, Moderator of Commission for Congregational Life, reported on the letter sent to Clerks of Session and Pastors, outlining how this commission works with congregations for church development assistance and congregational training and support. Each church will have a liaison who will work with it on facilitation conversations about its future; celebrating milestones; mourning difficulties; supporting initiatives with funding, guidance and prayer; cheering it on and lifting it up as each church seeks to be faithful to Christ's call to be the church today.

Jim Hines of Commission for Presbytery Operations presented the complete treasurer's report for 2021. Two items had second readings, were voted and passed. One is the Operating and Financial Policy Manual and the Presbytery of Scioto Valley. The second is the Presbytery of Scioto Valley Investment Policy.

Kathi Bubb of Commission for Nurture and Outreach reported that the PIE (Partners in Education) videos are now on YouTube for education. She announced a listing of opportunities:

- February 19th from 10-11:30 on Zoom will be the discussion of the Presbytery's new Anti-racism Policy
- There are four weeks in March for Matthew 25 Action Steps. The fourth week will be Poverty in Central Ohio with Michael Wilkos from the United Way (March 26 r4om 10-11:30. Register on link on calendar at [psvonline.org](http://psvonline.org).)
- There is a challenge to churches to participate in and record 2022 hours of service to others in the community between April 18 and June 4. More on this coming soon.
- Presbyterian Women Winter Gathering is on Zoom on Saturday, February 26 at 9:30 am. Register by February 25 to [mjpool53@gmail.com](mailto:mjpool53@gmail.com) with name, name of church, phone number and email address.
- Enter April 23 on your calendar for PW Spring Gathering
- There is a Presbytery Prayer Group wwhich meets by phone for 15 minutes each Tuesday morning at 10 am. Contact Alice Philips at [revalp@neo.rr.com](mailto:revalp@neo.rr.com).
- Sadly, the sumer Presbyterian Youth Triennium 2022 was canceled.

The Global Mission Network of Scioto Valley Presbytery is sponsoring two

## **PRESBYTERY MEETING (continued)**

sessions (March 12 & 26 from 10:30-noon) on the book, **FREEING CONGREGATIONAL MISSION**. The book outlines how we might move toward more faithful ways of mission. The two authors are directing the World Mission Institute at Pittsburgh Seminary. Register with Jon Carlisle at [rejoncarlisle@gmail.com](mailto:rejoncarlisle@gmail.com).

Mark Gauen of the Ministry Initiative Board reported on the grant awarded to Fredericktown Presbyterian Church for expanding the church's vitality. It received \$40,000 to upgrade its kitchen for lunch, games and conversation for the community.

Three people were elected to Presbytery commissions. Those elected to be our representatives to 2022 General Assembly: Ruling Elder Commissioners are Sara Ebinger from Gallipolis First and Ella Brian from Indianola; Young Adult Advisory Delegate is Isabella Eileen Crego from Circleville.

At the last in-person meeting (February 2020) Presbytery had approved formation of Discernment and Design Administrative Commission. It met once. Then Covid and the loss of two

commission members delayed other meetings. The commission convened recently. Its moderator will restaff it to reach the required 9-12 members so it can begin working again.

Jim Wilson spoke for the Coordinating Team. In order for more diversification on Commissions and broader Ruling Elder participation in Presbyterian meetings, it was decided at the last Presbytery meeting to try meeting on Sundays. This will be tried for the May 1st meeting. Jim asked congregations to email him with any ideas on this question: "What steps can the Presbytery take to live into it's anti-racism policy—are there actions, programs, resources or other steps you suggest the Presbytery take to make this policy part of who we are as a Presbytery?"

Evening Prayer from **THE BOOK OF COMMON WORSHIP** sent us out with God's Call and God's Peace.



Respectfully  
Submitted,  
Barbara Pettit,  
Commissioner

*Presbytery meeting  
at Newark Second  
Worship*

# MARCH

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> ASH WEDNESDAY Presbyterian Women 1:30 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 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 Bible Study 4 pm	<b>17</b> Newsletter Deadline	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Lenten Retreat EMBRACING THE INCARNATION 9:30am - 3:30pm
<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Bible Study 4 pm	<b>24</b> PIZZA WITH THE PASTOR	<b>25</b>	
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>		



**Remember in Prayer:**

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

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

**Birthdays:**

Barbara Patterson - 5  
David Boyer - 15

**Anniversaries:**

Bobbie Hall & Dave Tallman - 16

**Bristol Health Care:**

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

## GREETERS SCHEDULE

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



greeters