



First Presbyterian Church

Courier

December 2022

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

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MEMBERS IN MINISTRY

October 30, 2022

MINISTERS FOR THE COMMUNITY: EVERY MEMBER

Pastor: Jane B. Johnson

Secretary: Bobbie Hall

Clerk of Session: Elaine Zingg

Choir Director: Audrey Tysen

Organist: Patricia Penrose

Pianist: Keats Rivas

Treasurer: Michael Milam

MINISTERS FOR VISION AND MISSION: SESSION:

Class of 2022

Pat Mikelson

Glenn Rudie

Barbara Taphorn

Class of 2023

Tom Hlasten

Susan Thomas

Class of 2024

John Mikelson

Barbara Pettit

Elaine Zingg

MINISTERS FOR MEMBER CARE: DEACONS

Barbara Patterson Bob Penrose Irene Clark

COMMITTEES:

Discipleship and Worship: Pastor Jane

Evangelism & Mission: Pat Mikelson

Fellowship: Barbara Taphorn

Finance & Stewardship: Susan Thomas

Member Care: Pastor Jane

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:

- Allen Wollenberg, 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 10:15 am. Masks are optional, but recommended. Fellowship Hour after worship has resumed. We continue to have worship on line each Sunday morning at 10:15 am. You can tune in by your computer or telephone.

If you are using a computer to connect: Open your computer browser (Internet Explorer, Chrome or Safari) 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#.



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

We are now in the season of expectation and hope - Advent. The word "Advent" comes from the Latin word "adventus" meaning "coming." Christ's coming is three-fold: His coming as the Christ Child in Bethlehem, His coming in our midst in the here and now, and His final coming in glory. Scripture tells us that "God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself (2 Corinthians 5:19)." What greater love can be expressed than this!

That is what John the apostle was contemplating when he said; "How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of

God! And that is what we are...Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is (1 John 3:1-2)."

As we approach the coming New Year, let's be alert for all the ways Christ is in our midst in the here and now, moving, molding and shaping us into people through whom His love and light can shine, and let's help others to discern his coming as well. May God's love and grace be yours during this holy season,

Pastor Jane



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OUR SESSION AT WORK

ELAINE OSER ZINGG

Because we are fast approaching the end of 2022 and the beginning of 2023, the Session approved two dates for holding congregational meetings following our morning worship services.

The first of these is Sunday, December 18, 2022 when we will have a short Congregational Meeting for the purpose of voting on a slate of church officers for 2023. Our Nominating Committee is recommending these 5 persons for next year's Nominating Committee – Patricia Mikelson, Barbara Pettit, Audrey Tysen, Jim Clark, and Rosann Severding. The Committee recommended Ruling Elder Joyce Holbein for the empty slot in the Class of 2023; and three Ruling Elders for the Class of 2025 - Patricia Mikelson, Jewell McCliment, and Barbara Taphorn. Pat and Barbara will be going for a second three-year term without a one year break pursuant to By-Law Article III (4). Barbara Patterson is nominated for Deacon, Class of 2025. Patricia Mikelson is nominated for 2023 Corporation President and Susan Thomas for 2023 Vice President. J. Michael Milam is nominated for 2023 Treasurer for the church and Corporation and Elaine Oser Zingg for 2023 Clerk of Session and Corporation Secretary. Additional nominations of qualified persons may be made from the floor at a congregational meeting by any qualified voter, provided

permission to nominate them has been obtained.

The Annual Congregational meeting at which a booklet of committee and other reports will be available for discussion and questions is now scheduled for Sunday, January 22, 2023 following the worship service.

Property Committee held a church clean-up day Saturday, November 19, 2022 from 10:00 to 12:00 at which Session Committees sorted out where to place their belongings, and what should be trashed, sold, or donated. Prior to this event, pursuant to an insurance representative's direction, floors were taped to ensure that nothing was placed within 30" around furnaces and electrical panels. This space is to be kept clear at all times to avoid possible fires or electrical shorts.

At its November meeting, Session also approved the 2023 church budget. It will appear in the Annual Congregational Meeting Booklet, but does not require further approval. Treasurer Mike Milam also reported that he had joined more than 30 community members who attended a recent Pike County OSU Extension meeting where our church received good publicity from a positive discussion of our pollinator habitat.

One Way to Reflect the Perfect Gift

God's perfect gift to his world was giving himself to be our Savior and Lord. Fully human and fully God, Jesus became God's perfect gift to humanity.

One of the ways we can celebrate the birth of Christ is to reflect the way Jesus would live as one of us. The Christmas Joy Offering is a Christ-like way we can show the love of God to particular persons in the world.

The Offering distributes gifts equally to the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions. This program provides critical financial support to retired church workers and their families who are experiencing special needs.

The second half of this Offering supports and honors students in Presbyterian racial and ethnic schools and colleges who are preparing to use their lives in the service of Christian leadership. These schools of higher education have been supported by our denomination for 140 years.

The Christmas Joy Offering has been a Presbyterian tradition since the 1930s. Our congregation will contribute to this tradition through our church budget and by individual contributions. Special offering envelopes will be available during December.



Financial Report

Our income for October was \$15,589.71 (12-year average is \$13,577). Our expenses for October were \$14,749.28 (12-year average is \$11,738). This leaves us with a gain of \$840.43 for the month, but we remain \$5,429.06 in the red for the year.

There were no significant or unusual expenses during the month.

Keep in mind that according to our detailed financial analysis for our

Five-Year Plan, we anticipated deficits in each of these five years. A realistic guess is that we will have a deficit this year of between \$5,000 and \$10,000 in our Operating Budget. We have financial resources to cover these anticipated deficits.

As of November 16, 2022, twenty-three pledges have been received for a total \$105,470.



37th Annual Hunger Walk

"Board Officers

- President: Val Francis, First Baptist Church
- Vice-President:
- Treasurer: Kim Riffle, Calvary Baptist Church
- Secretary: Jeri Lagnese, St. Mary's Catholic Church

Pike Outreach Staff

- Techia Potter, Executive Director
740-947-7151
- Autumn Topping, Food Pantry Coordinator
740-947-7151
- Sherre Kinnison, Shelter Coordinator
740-941-4348.

There is always a need for **Volunteers** at both the Food Pantry and the Shelter. If interested please call one of our Coordinators

FOOD PANTRY HOURS:
MONDAY-FRIDAY
8AM-2:45PM

In the month of September the Pantry fed 2468 households which is equivalent to giving out 54,117 meals.

Bridgheaven provided shelter to 26 people in the month of September.



October 16th was the 37th Annual Hunger Walk. We'd like to thank all those who participated in helping to make this a success. Special thanks to the Waverly Band for once again leading the Walk and our banner carriers from Western School. Western and Piketon Schools collected food items the week before the walk and had 3143 items to donate. To the Antique Tractor Club and all our neighbors and friends that supported Pike Outreach by participating in the walk, we thank you. For those who could not be there but have supported Pike Outreach through donations the past year we thank you also. We could not feed the families we do without all the businesses and individuals of Pike County who continually support our effort.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- November 12-10am-3pm-Craft Show at Grace United Methodist Life Center-supporting Pike Outreach Food Pantry
- November 17-Tree Lighting in Waverly
- December 2-3-Winter Wonderland Festival Sponsored by Pike Community Fund-Location to be announced.

PCUSA CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

The Christmas Joy Offering has been a cherished Presbyterian tradition since the 1930s. The Offering distributes gifts equally to the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions and to Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. The Assistance Program provides critical financial support to church workers and their families. Presbyterian-related schools

and colleges provide education and leadership development while nurturing racial and ethnic heritage. This has been a Presbyterian commitment for nearly 140 years. This offering is supported by our budget. If you want to make an additional personal donation, please write Christmas Joy in the note line on your check.

COPE CHRISTMAS GIFTS AND THANKSGIVING

Thank you for your very generous response to provide Christmas gifts for the two families (four girls) and for providing Thanksgiving meals and vacation foods to thirty COPE families. To date your gifts total \$2,280. Of this \$903 is for Thanksgiving and COPE food for kids at home over the holidays. And you will provide a very joyful Christmas to these four girls. Each will receive a new school outfit, a sweater, pajamas, and a pair of boots and shoes in addition to special gifts including books, Squishmallows, makeup and mirrors. And because of your generosity each family will receive a gift certificate to Bob Evans and Little Caesars Pizza. A special thank you to Jewel McCliment, Emma Edgington and a “mystery shopper” for donations of clothing, books and other gifts as well as Barbara Taphorn and Pat Penrose for wrapping these gifts. COPE is deeply appreciative of First Presbyterian’s support of these families and the COPE program.

PIZZA WITH THE PASTOR

On November 17 we hosted two individuals interesting in learning more about First Presbyterian. This is a result of our welcome outreach to newcomers in Bristol Village. Our Advent services

will be announced on BVTv and in the BV Bugle newsletter. Please help greet any visitors. Our warm and friendly congregation is contagious!

EVELYN BAKER MEMORIAL FUND

The Baker family (Gary, their children Lynette and Tom Grimaldi, Dean Baker, and grandchildren, Justin Grimaldi and Michael Grimaldi) established the Evelyn Baker memorial Fund in remembrance of Evelyn who left us far too soon. To honor Evelyn's life-long interest and active involvement in enriching and improving the lives of children, the

Baker family has dedicated this fund to be used for the Matthew 25 projects for the benefit of children in Pike County. As of October 31, total donations to this fund were \$5,645. Evelyn surely would have been honored to be thought of in such a meaningful way. Now her mission of helping the community and especially the children will continue.

FPC ANNUAL MATTHEW 25 GRANT

On November 30 the Mission Committee meets to select the recipient of the 2022 Matthew 25 Grant of \$1000. We received ten applications this year – all worthy projects that are focused on improving the lives of children in Pike County.

Our criteria are as follows: The program

- Helps break through the structural barriers that keep children and youth in Pike County in poverty situations.
- Provides hope and support (family, mentor, school) for children and youth on their journeys to become thriving, optimistic, independent adults and contributing members of society. This includes the ability to achieve better long term educational, economic, health, family stability and personal

emotional experiences and outcomes.

We also consider the number of children and youth impacted, the staff and leadership strength of the program, and the potential for program success, i.e. the clarity of purpose and how the program will be carried out. An aspirational goal is the potential of immediate volunteer involvement and ongoing partnership with FPC.

The Matthew 25 Annual \$1000 Grant is funded by the McCluggage Fund. Depending on the dividends received through this fund, other applicants may receive partial support as well. Now the Evelyn Baker Memorial Fund will provide additional ability to increase our financial support to enhance the effectiveness of these programs. What a blessing this is.

FPC AWARDED \$2,500 MATTHEW 25 GRANT FROM THE SYNOD OF THE COVENANT

This fall our PCUSA Synod offered a grant opportunity to fund Matthew 25 programs. We applied to support the Western HOPE180 afterschool program to help 16- and 17-year-olds become responsible drivers and receive their drivers' licenses. This program allows these kids who live in a remote rural area to become independent and find jobs. The benefits are many – these kids must successfully complete an on-line drivers ed program, have on-site driving instruction,

and pass their drivers tests. They achieve these goals, gain in confidence in the ability to negotiate in the adult world, get work experience and skills help their family finances. This program, which started in 2021, has worked so well that now HOPE180 has 25 teenagers who are working towards these goals. We just received the news that FPC was awarded \$2500 to support the HOPE180 program. This is wonderful news!

FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS FOR DECEMBER

**RICE AND PASTA
DRIED AND CANNED BEANS
CANNED TUNA FISH**

Please leave in FOOD PANTRY box near front door

COPE AT WAVERLY HIGH SCHOOL

**MICROWAVE MAC AND CHEESE
DEPDORANT – MALE AND FEMALE
BODY WASH**

Please leave in COPE box near front door

PRESBYTERY REPORT - NOVEMBER 20, 2022

BABSY PETTIT

As usual, it is so good to go to Presbytery meetings to see how the 87 churches in our Presbytery work together. There were about 100 attendees in person and on Zoom. I really enjoy seeing people I know—some from previous churches, PW and Southern Ohio. Some you may know were Christine Burns, Jane and Ron Johnson, Jeannie Harsh, Janice Hilkerbaumer, Priscilla Hare and Joel Esala. I had to meet via Zoom because I was leader for Vespers at Bristol Village. I will be so happy when I can meet and greet people in-person.

We were called to worship by prayer and the reading of Hebrews 12:18-29. We were challenged to consider “Which Mountain Is for You?” The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper was observed.

Executive Presbyter, Jeannie Harsh, stated that this is a very special day because she is moving to retire at the end of the year after more than 22 years served in several positions of our presbytery. She looks forward to being a retired member of the Presbytery, “sitting in the pews” for meetings and serving in other capacities. She assured us that the remainder of the staff is committed and will continue to serve.

Stated Clerk, Bill Gause, stated that the amendments will be discussed next meeting. They are ready to be read on the website. He praised the hospitality of Grove City First Presbyterian and its Presbyterian Women as they host this meeting.

Synod Executive, Chip Hardwick, spoke by video. He said that \$50,000 of Matthew 25 grants were given out in the Synod. Three grants were in our Presbytery—Cap City, First Presbyterian Logan and (HURRAY) First Presbyterian Waverly. He reported that since Christmas is on Sunday, Synod is working on a virtual service as a Sabbath for Christmas Day. We are welcome and encouraged to use this to give our pastors a break after Advent season.

Coming up on February 1, 2023, 10-11:30 AM on Zoom, is a preaching workshop “Hybrid Preaching at its Best” with Rev. Peter Henry, of Davidson College Presbyterian Church.

The Discernment and Design Administrative Commission reported that it is working to accomplish its charge of forming a new purpose statement and designing the final charge. It has completed the data collection and survey validation stages. In January through March, it will formulate the purpose statement and the new model using information gathered. In May it will

PRESBYTERY REPORT (continued)

generate the final report including findings, vision, and strategic plan. The scripture they use often is Isaiah 43:19: "Behold, I will do a new thing, now it shall spring forth; shall you not know it?"

Commission for Church Professionals moved to allow Hilliard Presbyterian Church to consider Stated Supply Pastor Katie Kinnison to become their installed Pastor. Motion was passed. There was an examination of Greg Menssen for candidacy. Vote was in favor. Christine Burns, Pam Gillette and Liz Tietz were commissioned for Presbytery-wide service.

Commission on Nurture and Outreach reported the success of the Cap City Helping Hands Coats for Kids. We were reminded:

- YouTube Channel <https://www.youtube.com/c/SciotoValleyPresbytery>) with videos on officer training, global mission, curriculum selection, Presbyterian Women gatherings, Matthew 25 programs, and more.
- Neighborhood Mission Grants for hands-on ministry of up to \$2000.
- Presbytery-wide Prayer Group each Tuesday at 10 AM by phone: call 240-591-0333 and when prompted enter code 783190#.

PIE (Partners in Education) Leadership Training Day is set for January 21, 2023, from 9-3 in person at Worth-

ington Presbyterian Church. Cost is \$15 including lunch. Six workshops will be offered: Church Leadership Training, Generational Theory, Exploring Spiritual Direction, Re-inspiring Connections, Vital Congregations, and Justice Tourism and the Land of Jesus.

Commission for Presbytery Operations described its search for a transitional presbyter. After the job description was sent out, 32 interested people submitted paperwork. Four became semi-finalists, two became finalists. The person called is Kathleen (Kathy) Nice. She has been given a 1-year appointment beginning on January 1, 2023. This may be extended.

There was a first reading of a motion to amend the Manual of Operations so that each commission may remove an elected member who misses a stated number of meetings. The second reading of the Budget for 2023 was completed and discussed. The budget 2023 was voted favorably. There is no increase in per capita.

Nominating Committee reported full 2025 classes in the commissions and coordinating team. Moderators and Treasurer positions are filled for 2023. Presbytery meetings for 2023 are on Tuesdays at 3:30 PM: February 21, May 16, September 19, and November 14. Locations are yet to be determined. The committee welcomes any ideas of how to get more diversity into the meetings.

PRESBYTERY REPORT (continued)

There was a short recognition for Jeannie Harsh as this was her last presbytery meeting as the Executive Presbyter. She embodies energy, intelligence, imagination, and love. She has brought us from a contentious spirit to love. God is not done using her gifts. We look forward to how God will move in her life and how she will act in the world's life. A gift of

a week at her favorite vacation spot was presented. Watch for more details on an event in Jeannie's honor on December 13 from 4-7 PM at Clintonville Womens' Club.

Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Babsy Pettit

A NOTE FROM THE PRESBYTERY **DAGMAR M. ROMAGE**

You don't want to miss out on this Opportunity, Partners in Education (PIE Event)

From the Presbytery of Scioto Valley:

Mark your calendars for Partners in Education (PIE) Leadership Training Day!

Our PIE Training Day will be held at the Worthington Presbyterian Church on Saturday, January 21, from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

There is something for everyone, with workshops on:

- Church Leadership Training.
- Generational Theory and the Church.
- Exploring Spiritual Direction.
- Re-Inspiring Connections.

- Vital Congregations.
- Justice Tourism.

PLUS, information on how our churches are living into Matthew 25 **AND** a keynote speaker on Vital Congregations. The cost is \$15 which includes lunch, check out the flyer and register at <https://psvonline.org/events/partners-in-education-pie-event/>

Thank you for your help by sharing this opportunity for education and fellowship.

Peace and Grace,
Dagmar M. Romage

The Presbytery of Scioto Valley
4131 North High Street, Suite B
Columbus OH 43214-3001
614-847-0565
www.psvonline.org

CHRISTMAS CARDS NEEDED

Christmas cards are needed for all of our COPE kids. Please give to Barbara Taphorn.

A BIT OF HUMOR

At our weekly Bible study, the leader asked an elderly gentleman, Walt, to open the meeting with prayer. Walt did so in a soft voice. Another man, straining to hear, shouted, "I can't hear you!" Walt replied, "I wasn't talking to you."
—Richard Steussy

○

Giving a sermon one Sunday, I heard two teenage girls in the back giggling and disturbing people. I interrupted my sermon and announced sternly, "There are two of you here who have not heard a word I've said." That quieted them down.

When the service was over, I went to greet people at the front door. Three adults apologized for going to sleep in

church, promising it would never happen again.

○

My sister's dog had been deaf and blind for years. When she started to suffer painful tumors, it was time to put her down. As I explained this to my seven-year-old son, he asked if Jazzy would go to heaven.

I said I thought she would, and that in dog heaven, she would be healthy again and able to do her favorite thing: chase squirrels.

Jacob thought about that for a minute, then said, "So dog heaven must be the same as squirrel hell."

GREETERS

December Allen Wollenberg
Jewell McCliment
Barbara Taphorn

January Karen & Bruce Henderson
Barbara Taphorn

LITURGISTS

December Bobbie Hall



DECEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 Worship & Discipleship 10 am	2	3
4	5 Property Committee 10 am <hr/> Fellowship 1 pm	6	7 Mission & Evangelism 1:30 pm <hr/> Advent Dinner 7 pm	8 Clergy Breakfast 9 am	9	10 Officers Training 10 am - noon
11	12	13	14 Finance Committee 10 am	15 Newsletter Deadline	16	17
Pastor Jane on Vacation						
18 Congrega- tion meets to elect officers after service	19	20	21 WINTER BEGINS <hr/> Session 1:30 pm	22 Prime Time Gardening 6:00	23	24 CHRISTMAS EVE <hr/> Christmas Eve Service 7 pm
25 CHRISTMAS Christmas Day Service 10:15 am	26	27	28	29	30	31 NEW YEAR'S EVE

In Our Thoughts & Prayers



Remember in Prayer:

Gary Baker
Marilyn Beilstein
Dan Beilstein
David Boyer
Pam Clark
Jim Clark
John Dawson
Susan Fuller
Jerry Hall
Karen Henderson
Bud Hobday
Janet Marsh
Don Netzley
Ann & Paul Oyer
Martha & Ed Pool
Jeff & Nancy Sapienza
Dimitry Sergay
Lew Stratton
Angie Strewsbury
Dave Tallman
Julia & Kara Washington
Sharon Weaver
Judy Wollenberg
Elaine Zingg

Bristol Health Care:

George Hartwell - 105
Bud Hobday - 125
Janet Marsh - Fast Track
Don Netzley - 108
Dimitry Sergay - 114
Judy Wollenberg - 312

Birthdays:

Ruth Karner - 1
Pat Mikelson - 1
Babsy Pettit - 6
Maurice Bailey - 14
Rosanne Severding - 25

Anniversaries:

Mack & Jean Earnhardt - 25
John & Pat Mikelson - 29



The "Tapestry Ladies" gathering for worship.