



**First Presbyterian Church**

# Courier

**January 2023**

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

## **In This Issue**

- From the Pastor's Desk
- Presbyterian Women
- Matthew 25 Grant awarded to Pike Outreach Council of Churches
- McCluggage Funds Support Local Programs
- Evelyn Baker Memorial Funds Support Matthew 25 Programs
- A Bit of Humor
- Calendar

# MEMBERS IN MINISTRY

January 1, 2023

## 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 2023**

**Class of 2024**

**Class of 2025**

Tom Hlasten

John Mikelson

Pat Mikelson

Susan Thomas

Barbara Pettit

Jewell McCliment

Joyce Holben

Elaine Zingg

Barbara Taphorn

## MINISTERS FOR MEMBER CARE: DEACONS

Bob Penrose Irene Clark Barbara Patterson

## 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

Christmas time brings a flurry of activities that can be both joyful and exhausting – decorating, shopping, planning family celebrations, alms giving, special concerts and worship services. Yet, with all the preparing we can fall into the trap that secular society has laid for us. The season is not about the biggest sale, the largest present, or the best tasting mincemeat pie. It's about the greatest gift ever given! Jesus! His name means "God is Salvation;" Immanuel, meaning God with us!

This gift of love did not come wrapped in ribbons and garland, but was heralded by heaven's angels. Joy to the world, the Lord has come, let earth receive her King! By human standards his arrival didn't bring much attention at all.

The Kings of kings was born incognito. He did not come as those who awaited him thought. He didn't burst onto the scene demanding attention and praise. Yet, those who experienced his birth were brought to their knees in wonder and praise.

This Christmas season [and Christmas is a season, not a one day celebration] let us reflect anew on the miracle of Christ's birth – God with us, and now God within us through the gift of the Holy Spirit! Let us move through this holy season with wonder and praise for the amazing grace of God who first became one of us

and then became sin for us, so that we could become the righteousness of God in him. With the angels let us sing "Glory to God in the highest!"

Pastor Jane



This edition of the First Presbyterian Church Courier sponsored by

## BRISTOL VILLAGE



National Church Residences

660 East Fifth Street • Waverly, Ohio 45690 • 740-947-2118

# PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

## PAT PENROSE

PW Circles will meet on Wednesday, January 4 at 1:30 at the church. **Kay Puckett** and **Pat Penrose** will be the leaders to continue our study of Celebrating Sabbath Lesson 4, *Sabbath and Surrender*.

If you have not given your Thank Offering, it can still be given at the January meeting.

December was a busy month. Our annual Advent dinner was enjoyed by 30 people and we were once again able to enjoy a covered dish dinner with many delicious food dishes. We appreciate all those who made it happen. Thanks to the Esther Circle for setting up the room and the beautiful table decorations, to the Martha

Mary Circle for the job of clean up, to all those in the program: **Bruce and Sampson, Geri, Karen, Melissa, Pat, Sherry, John** on sound, and all who joined us in our Christmas Carol sing-a-long. It was a great way to begin our ADVENT season.

The donations of warm things for the Georgie Harris House were delivered. Thanks to **Irene Clark** for being in charge of this project and to those who helped her.

Thanks to **Barbara Taphorn** who directed the delivering of cookies with her bell ornaments to shut-ins. Thank you to those who baked and helped deliver cookies.



# **2022 MATTHEW 25 GRANT AWARDED TO PIKE OUTREACH COUNCIL OF CHURCHES**

The 2022 Matthew 25 \$1000 Grant was awarded to Pike County Outreach Council of Churches to provide support services for homeless families with children who seek shelter at Bridgehaven Homeless Shelter. Bridgehaven is a sixteen-bed emergency shelter that accepts men, women and their minor children. The shelter staff provides comprehensive case management to shelter residents including referrals for medical, behavior health and dental appointments as well as assisting with housing and employment applications. The shelter also works closely with local educational programs that can provide ongoing training to shelter

residents in areas such as personal care, nutrition, money management and interviewing skills. As Bridgehaven continues to work diligently to meet the needs of those experiencing homelessness, the shelter is now housing more families with children, and for longer periods of time. For this reason, they have begun working more closely with the families to identify needs that are specific to the children. The Matthew 25 funds will be used to meet these needs including direct care supplies, securing necessary documentation of school enrollment and appointments and additional training for parents.

## **JANUARY FOOD PANTRY NEEDS**

**ANY CANNED FRUIT**

**EXCEPT FOR APPLESAUCE**

**TOOTHPASTE**

**SHAMPOO**

**NOT CONDITIONER**

Please put these items in the Food Pantry cart inside the front door.

# **ADDITIONAL McCLUGGAGE FUNDS SUPPORT LOCAL PROGRAMS**

This year an additional \$2000 of McCluggage dividends was available to support local programs that facilitate better life outcomes for children in Pike County. These programs were funded:

## **\$1000 TO WESTERN HIGH HOPE180 DRIVERS EDUCATION PROGRAM.**

This program was awarded the 2021 Matthew 25 grant. HOPE180 is an afterschool program for Jr. and Sr. High School students. These students live in a very rural area that experiences generational poverty. Over 90% of all students in the Western School District are very low-income house-

holds, often headed by a grand-parent. Completing the Driver's education program and obtaining a driver's license help these kids gain independence, accept responsibility, obtain jobs and increase household income.

## **\$500 TO TAMMY JONES, OSU EXTENSION EDUCATOR FOR FAMILY AND CONSUMER SERVICES.**

Tammy works tirelessly to provide educational programs for all schools (all grades), Bridgehaven Homeless Shelter, the Food Pantry, as well as seniors. Her programs include mental health subjects such as how to cope with stress (tailored for different ages/life-stages), nutrition, shopping and cooking, budgeting and financial management and developing lifetime

healthy habits. Her grant-funded position does not include funds for ingredients and materials. Our funds will enable her to purchase ingredients for her Healthy Snacks program, through which she teaches students how to make nutritious, good tasting, easy to make snacks. An example of a healthy snack is whole-wheat tortilla rolls with peanut butter and bananas.



## **\$500 TO PIKETON HIGH SCHOOL LEGO CLUB**

These funds allow the new Lego afterschool Club to purchase additional advanced Lego kits. By taking the financial burden off the members of the club, all high school students, regardless of their economic situation, can feel comfortable joining. These Lego kits support the concept of STEAM (Science, Technology,

engineering, art and math). Depending on the size of the kits, students will work independently, in pairs and/or in small groups. These activities encourage critical thinking, imagination and creativity, as well as inspire kits to expand career interests in STEAM areas.

## **EVELYN BAKER MEMORIAL FUNDS SUPPORTS MATTHEW 25 PROGRAMS**

The Baker family created the Evelyn Baker Memorial Fund to support Matthew 25 projects. Evelyn was the initiator of First Presbyterian's commitment to the PCUSA Matthew 25 initiative. Throughout her life, Evelyn was devoted to helping children thrive, whether through enriching their spiritual lives, their educational achievements, through initiatives to alleviate hunger both in our communities and in the world, through recovery programs to stabilize adults and families, and through programs that provided skills and opportunities, emotional and economic stability, healthy relationships and trust and hope in their future. She was the guiding star of our Matthew 25 initiatives at First Presbyterian. This year the Mission Committee has selected three programs to receive funds from The Evelyn Baker Memorial Fund:

### **\$1000 TO COPE AT WAVERLY CITY SCHOOLS.**

The first program to receive a Matthew 25 Grant in 2020, COPE works with the students and families of Waverly City Schools. COPE's goal is to give students a more stable environment so they can concentrate on their studies and successfully graduate from High School. COPE works closely with other governmental and non-profit to ensure the family receives resources to make the home life of the family a calmer setting and less stressful. They support

the students in school attendance, educational achievements, activities such as sports and music, social and emotional needs, employment outside school, as well as providing them with food, clothes and other necessities. First Presbyterian has been an active partner with COPE for the past three years, and these funds will supplement COPE's very important efforts.

## **\$500 TO THE MAGIC CLOSET, JASPER ELEMENTARY, PIKETON**

The Magic Closet provides support and clothing needs for PK to 4th grade students who need items to meet their basic needs. By meeting these needs the students can feel relaxed and ready to learn given that they are prepared equally to their peers. New students are given anything they need that they may not have on the First Day. Children can shop for free in the

closet and select a coat, shoes, school supplies or some items needed for school purposes. It is especially important to replace broken shoes, respond to physical accidents that require a change of clothes or to help children with socks, underwear, and gloves. Students know whatever they need it will appear and greet them in The Magic Closet.



# A BIT OF HUMOR

Jesus, Moses, and an old man go golfing.

The first one to tee off is Moses. He smashes the ball and it is heading right for the water hazard before the green. Moses raises his club, the water parts, and the ball makes it to the green.

Jesus gets up to swing, cranks it out, and it is headed for the water hazard. Jesus closes his eyes and prays. The ball skips across the water and lands on the green two feet from the hole.

The old man's turn comes and he drives the ball. The ball looks like it is going to drop directly into the water. A fish jumps from the water hazard swallowing the ball, as an eagle drops from the sky, grabbing the fish. As the eagle

flies over the green, a bolt of lightning strikes the eagle, making it drop the fish. As the fish hits the green, it spits out the ball and the ball falls into the hole, making a hole in one.

Jesus looks at Moses and says, "I really think I'm leaving Dad at home next time!"

---

Sharma, my cousin, was telling me about an evening service at the church we've both attended for years. She and her husband usually sat in the back, but this time they moved up front to be sure to hear the Scripture reading. They sat beside a longtime church member who cheerfully said, "Good to have ya with us! Where y'all from?"

Taken by surprise, Sharma mumbled, "The back."

# GREETERS

January Karen & Bruce Henderson  
Barbara Taphorn

# LITURGISTS

January Tom Hlasten  
February Karen Henderson  
March Glenn Rudie



# JANUARY

| SUN  | MON                                     | TUE       | WED  | THU  | FRI       | SAT       |
|--|---|-----------|--|--|-----------|-----------|
| <b>1</b><br>NEW YEAR'S DAY                 | <b>2</b><br>Property Committee<br>10 am | <b>3</b>  | <b>4</b><br>Mission & Evangelism<br>1:30 pm<br><hr/> Bible Study<br>4 pm           | <b>5</b><br>Worship & Discipleship<br>2 pm   | <b>6</b>  | <b>7</b>  |
| <b>8</b><br>Annual Reports Due             | <b>9</b><br>Fellowship<br>1 pm          | <b>10</b> | <b>11</b><br>Finance<br>10 am<br><hr/> M&E<br>2:30 pm<br><hr/> Bible Study<br>4 pm | <b>12</b><br>Clergy Breakfast<br>9 am        | <b>13</b> | <b>14</b> |
| <b>15</b>                                  | <b>16</b><br>MLK BIRTHDAY               | <b>17</b> | <b>18</b><br>Session<br>1:30 pm<br><hr/> Bible Study<br>4 pm                       | <b>19</b><br>Newsletter Deadline             | <b>20</b> | <b>21</b> |
| <b>22</b><br>Annual Congregational Meeting | <b>23</b>                               | <b>24</b> | <b>25</b><br>Bible Study<br>4 pm   | <b>26</b><br>Prime Time Gardening<br>5:30 pm | <b>27</b> | <b>28</b> |
| <b>29</b>                                  | <b>30</b>                               | <b>31</b> |  |  |           |           |

## **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](http://www.psvonline.org)

# A BIT OF HUMOR

Jesus, Moses, and an old man go golfing.

The first one to tee off is Moses. He smashes the ball and it is heading right for the water hazard before the green. Moses raises his club, the water parts, and the ball makes it to the green.

Jesus gets up to swing, cranks it out, and it is headed for the water hazard. Jesus closes his eyes and prays. The ball skips across the water and lands on the green two feet from the hole.

The old man's turn comes and he drives the ball. The ball looks like it is going to drop directly into the water. A fish jumps from the water hazard swallowing the ball, as an eagle drops from the sky, grabbing the fish. As the eagle

flies over the green, a bolt of lightning strikes the eagle, making it drop the fish. As the fish hits the green, it spits out the ball and the ball falls into the hole, making a hole in one.

Jesus looks at Moses and says, "I really think I'm leaving Dad at home next time!"

---

Sharma, my cousin, was telling me about an evening service at the church we've both attended for years. She and her husband usually sat in the back, but this time they moved up front to be sure to hear the Scripture reading. They sat beside a longtime church member who cheerfully said, "Good to have ya with us! Where y'all from?"

Taken by surprise, Sharma mumbled, "The back."

# GREETERS

January Karen & Bruce Henderson  
Barbara Taphorn

# LITURGISTS

January Tom Hlasten  
February Karen Henderson  
March Glenn Rudie



# JANUARY

| SUN                        | MON   | TUE       | WED   | THU   | FRI       | SAT       |
|----------------------------|---|-----------|---|---|-----------|-----------|
| <b>1</b><br>NEW YEAR'S DAY | <b>2</b><br>Property Committee<br>10 am<br><hr/> Fellowship<br>1 pm | <b>3</b>  | <b>4</b><br>Mission & Evangelism<br>1:30 pm | <b>5</b><br>Worship & Discipleship<br>10 am | <b>6</b>  | <b>7</b>  |
| <b>8</b>                   | <b>9</b>  | <b>10</b> | <b>11</b><br>Finance Committee<br>10 am     | <b>12</b><br>Clergy Breakfast<br>9 am       | <b>13</b> | <b>14</b> |
| <b>15</b>                  | <b>16</b><br>MLK BIRTHDAY   | <b>17</b> | <b>18</b><br>Session<br>1:30 pm             | <b>19</b><br>Newsletter Deadline            | <b>20</b> | <b>21</b> |
| <b>22</b>                  | <b>23</b>   | <b>24</b> | <b>25</b>                                   | <b>26</b><br>Prime Time Gardening<br>6:00   | <b>27</b> | <b>28</b> |
| <b>29</b>                  | <b>30</b>   | <b>31</b> |   |   |           |           |

# In Our Thoughts & Prayers



## **Remember in Prayer:**

Maurice Bailey  
Gary Baker  
Marilyn Beilstein  
Dan Beilstein  
David Boyer  
Pam Clark  
Jim Clark  
John Dawson  
Susan Fuller  
Jerry Hall  
Karen Henderson  
Bud Hobday  
Janet Marsh  
Marty Miller

Don Netzley  
Ann Oyer  
Martha & Ed Pool  
Jeff & Nancy Sapienza  
Dimitry Sergay  
Lew Stratton  
Angie Strewsbury  
Dave Tallman  
Julia & Kara Washington  
Sharon Weaver  
Judy Wollenberg  
Elaine Zingg

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

## **Birthdays:**

Bob Penrose - 8  
Kay Weir - 15  
Barbara Taphorn - 16  
Marilyn Beilstein - 17  
Mack Earnhardt - 20  
George Hartwell - 29

## **Bristol Health Care:**

George Hartwell - 105



*All decked out in poinsettias*

EST.



1842

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH OF WAVERLY

211 Schmitt Drive  
Waverly, OH 45690

## The Amen Corner



**“My real estate agent found me this place. I said I wanted a home  
that requires no yard work, no painting, no snow shoveling.  
A place where the weather is perfect and neighbors  
never complain about my music...”**