



First Presbyterian Church

Courier

July 2023

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

In This Issue

- A Note from the Pastor
- Our Session at Work
- Congregants' Care
- Mission & Evangelism
- Jim McGill
- Calendar
- Remembering in Prayer

MEMBERS IN MINISTRY

June 25, 2023

MINISTERS FOR THE COMMUNITY: EVERY MEMBER

Pastor: Jane B. Johnson

Secretary: Bobbie Hall

Clerk of Session: Elaine Zingg

Choir Director: Edy Panjaitan

Organist: Patricia Penrose

Pianist: Edy Panjaitan

Treasurer: Michael Milam

MINISTERS FOR VISION AND MISSION: SESSION:

Class of 2023

Tom Hlasten

Susan Thomas

Joyce Holben

Class of 2024

John Mikelson

Barbara Pettit

Elaine Zingg

Class of 2025

Pat Mikelson

Jewell McCliment

Barbara Taphorn

MINISTERS FOR MEMBER CARE: DEACONS

Irene Clark

Barbara Patterson

COMMITTEES:

Discipleship and Worship: Pastor Jane

Evangelism & Mission: Pat Mikelson

Fellowship: Barbara Taphorn

Finance & Stewardship: Susan Thomas

Congregant Care: Joyce Holben

Nominating: Pat Mikelson

Personnel: Pat Mikelson

Presbytery: Barbara Pettit

Presbyterian Women: Pat Penrose

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 O'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 follows after worship. 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#.



CONTINUING EDUCATION IN AUGUST

REV. JANE JOHNSON

As a part of their terms of call, Presbyterian ministers get two weeks for study leave each year. More and more as the years go by, it is challenging to find worthwhile continuing education opportunities. Scioto Valley Presbytery has given me the opportunity to attend what I think will be a wonderful training event the first week in August – Mediation Skills Training Institute taught by the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center.

This is a 5-day event that is designed to equip church leaders with the knowledge and skills necessary to deal effectively with interpersonal, congregational, and other forms of group conflict. It also includes a component on congregational mediation and consultation, placed within the context of family systems theory.

Conflict is an inevitable part of life, whether in the home, school, community, church, or workplace. Having the skills to function effectively in emotionally intense, conflicted situations is important for all of us, especially those of us who are leaders. I look forward to this learning opportunity.

Here is what my study leave and vacation schedule looks like for the rest of the year.

Study Leave –

July 30 -August 5 – Mediation Skills Training Institute/ Lombard Mennonite Training Center

Vacation –

May 8, 15, 22 (Monday–already taken)

July 5, 6, 7 (3 days)

September 12 – 19 (week + 1 day)

November 21, 22 and 24

December 26 and 27

This is three weeks. The fourth week I will reserve if I need a day or two sometime due to fatigue since I am still in recovery mode. If I don't need it, I'd like to use it in 2024, which Kathy Nice said was fine with Session approval. I may need to save a week of study leave for 2024 also. Study leave can be saved for up to three years.

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

OUR SESSION AT WORK

ELAINE OSER ZINGG

Our Session met on Wednesday, June 21, 2023, and as part of Mike Milam's financial report we made a minor adjustment to where we record payment of the church's property taxes. The church owes taxes on the wooded portion of its property that is located behind the church and runs down to the creek, and on its manse. These payments had been registered separately under Church Property Taxes and Manse Maintenance. It did not make sense to list taxes under manse maintenance. So, we approved combining the amounts and placing them under an account named Property Taxes. This does not change the total amount budgeted for 2023.

Session also approved purchasing a new clothes washer for the manse as the old one that is there gets stuck in the wash cycle and will not move beyond it. We also discussed the need to get the upholstered seats of the chairs in the sanctuary cleaned as they are getting

dirty as a result of having a series of accidents happen in them.

We received pastor Jane's Pastor's report in which she lists all of her recent phone calls to, and home and hospital visits with, church members/friends. She also pointed out that after completing the eight weeks of disability leave the insurance company approved, she used three Mondays in May, which were part of her contractual vacation days, to rest at home to build physical endurance for her return to full time pastoral duties.

As part of my Clerk's Report, I had Session approve Ann Oyer's request to remove her name from our membership roll as she has joined Calvary United Methodist Church where her late husband. Paul Oyer, had been a member prior to his death.

Our next Session meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 19th.



Holy Trinity, detail of Iconostasis in Greek Catholic Co-cathedral of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Zagreb, Croatia

CONGREGANTS' CARE

JOYCE HOLBEN

Our committee met on Monday, June 19, 2023 at the home of Irene Clark at 1:00 pm. The purpose of the meeting was to divide the church member/-friend roster so that visitations and greetings can occur more regularly.

This report indicates rather large numbers since the Session did not meet in May. I offer this combined report:

Eleven Couriers were delivered. Three errands were run. Five cards were sent. 32 visits in homes and hospitals were made. 12 telephone calls were

made. Several e-mails and texts were sent. 17 casual visits occurred. Three deliveries of food were made. 13 transportations were made, and five services were attended. Home communions were taken by Pastor Jane and an elder, for a total of 12 participants.

Our committee continues to rely on accurate reporting of other Session members to help us be certain we are getting folks visited. Thank you to the Session members in this regard. Please continue to pray for our members and friends.

A BIT OF HUMOR

Reporters interviewing a 104-year-old woman:

“And what do you think is the best thing about being 104?” the reporter asked.

She simply replied, “No peer pressure.”

~~~~~

I feel like my body has gotten totally out of shape, so I got my doctor’s permission to join a fitness club and start exercising. I decided to take an aerobics class for seniors. I bent, twisted, gyrated, jumped up and down, and perspired for an hour. But, by the time I got my leotards on, the class was over.

~~~~~

My memory’s not as sharp as it used to be. Also, my memory’s not as sharp as it used to be.

~~~~~

Know how to prevent sagging? Just eat till the wrinkles fill out.

~~~~~

It’s scary when you start making the same noises as your coffee maker.

~~~~~

These days about half the stuff in my shopping cart says, “For fast relief.”

# FOOD PANTRY

The Food Pantry is greatly in need of

## RAMEN NOODLES (LOTS)

## CANNED OR DRIED NAVY, PINTO & KIDNEY BEANS



## CANNED CHILI BEANS



## GARNET A. WILSON SUMMER READING PROGRAM

This year the PCUSA Pentecost funds donated \$342 to support the Library's summer reading program. Held in June and July, the reading program encourages children to read and use the library. The program includes reading and craft activities as well as snack time.





# MISSION CONNECTIONS

A program of Presbyterian World Mission • [pcusa.org/missionconnections](http://pcusa.org/missionconnections)

Summer 2023



## The Well Watered Garden

**Jim McGill**  
*Mission co-worker  
serving in Niger*

Dear friends and family,

I have just returned to Maradi, Niger, to assist with pump and storage installations on a few 1 Evangelist/1 Well boreholes. The power of the ‘Multiple-Use Services’ upon which the programme is based is already coming to fruition at the well at Gangara. Many villagers are now coming to the taps at the church to collect safe water. The small, irrigated garden started in January is now producing onions and tomatoes, groundnuts, and peppers, moringa, and pumpkins! The fruit and nitrogen-fixing trees both in the nursery and planted within the garden are doing very well. Cattle, sheep, goats, as well as three geese belonging to the village, are being given water from the well. And, most importantly, people passing by have been amazed by the garden and are stopping to chat with M. Souleymane Labo, the Gangara church elder who is the gardener. We would like to say thanks to all for supporting the EERN in its WASH programme that has allowed this programme to begin.

The last couple of months have provided quite a change from the normal routine, as first I was able to attend ABIDJAN 2023 in the Ivory Coast, and afterward traveled to Louisville for the Presbyterian Mission Agency’s (PMA) Vision Convocation. In both the Conference and the Convocation, it was wonderful to be with friends with whom I have worked for many years, as well as to meet in person those with whom I have become acquainted through email and internet conferences.

ABIDJAN 2023 was in February, and our EERN WASH Programme Manager, Madame Saratou Djadi, the President of Niger’s Association des Acteurs de la Filiere de Boues de Vidange

(AAFBV) (translated to be the Association of Stakeholders in the Sewage Sludge Industry), M. Ibrahim Yerima, the President of the newly formed association of manual emptiers of sludge pits within Niamey, M. Oumarou Magagi, and I formed a team representing Niger while joining more than 3,500 other participants. ABIDJAN 2023 was a joint convention that included both the 21<sup>st</sup> African Water Alliance (AfWA) Congress and the Faecal Sludge Management 7 (FSM7) Conference. I am grateful that our attendance was made possible through both continuing education and WASH for Africa support from PC(USA). While the focus of ABIDJAN 2023 was primarily on sanitation, we were able to meet with Dr. Alison Parker of Cranfield University who presented research related to aquifer recharge in Kenya and India. We were able to discuss the depletion of the aquifer near Maradi and are expecting to work together with her and her colleagues in addressing recharging the aquifer there.

The FSM7 sessions included financing sanitation options, emptying and transportation of faecal sludge, as well as Faecal Sludge Management technologies and methods – all very relevant to our work with the pit emptiers in Niamey. An important connection strengthened during FSM7 was meeting with Practica, a WASH organization from the Netherlands that is busy refining their ‘Push-Pull’ (PuPu) pump that can empty the pits that trucks cannot access. The EERN is planning to work with Practica to help M. Ibrahim Yerima



Harvest time at the garden at Ganagra on April 25, 2023, three months later after planting. Joel Labo (l) designed and implemented the water system including the irrigation. Souleymane Labo (r), Gangara church elder and the gardener.



get a bank loan to purchase a PuPu pump. After this purchase, M. Ibrahim will hire manual emptiers like M. Oumarou Magagi to work the machines to provide the services - giving manual emptiers the potential to have better compensation for much safer work while gaining respect from their communities.

A key takeaway from Abidjan for me was from a statement by Dr. Sasha Kramer, one of those long-time friends related to WASH in Malawi. She co-founded SOIL (Sustainable Organic Integrated Livelihoods) in Haiti, whose mission is to create fair economic opportunities in under-resourced communities. Dr. Kramer has found that while less than a third of their income comes from services



Mme Saratou Djadi and I at the Faecal Sludge Conference 7 in Abidjan

and products, SOIL has been able to find sustainable subsidies to cover the balance. We have seen that some communities with whom we work are already overburdened, and this connection emphasized that we should not forget to search for sustainable subsidies that will ensure fair wages for providers while maintaining quality sustainable access to WASH products and services.

In March, all Presbyterian Mission Agency (PMA) staff were called to Louisville for the PMA Vision Convocation. We were able to spend a couple of days with our Africa Team, which was wonderful. The rest of the week was time to be together with PMA colleagues, many of whom we were meeting in person for the first time. The highlight of the Convocation for me was a call made by Rev. Anthony Jermaine Ross-Allam, Director of the newly created Centre for Repair of Historical Harm. His call asks all of us to come together, to learn and work towards healing together. Rev. Ross-Allam's call that we will not be able to move forward if any person is excluded was clear. This is a message of unity that, if heard, will, I believe, bring the changes we are striving for.

After Louisville, I had planned to spend a week with the family at Mission Haven in Decatur and finish up some of the medical examinations that were started during the December visit. My stay was extended for another week for further examinations, which allowed me to be with family for Easter. Our family Easter celebration always includes some of the Passover dishes and traditions, as Jodi's Latvian Jewish grandmother taught her the traditions to be passed down through generations. What a blessing to have been able to share this time together with the family. We are grateful for all your prayers and especially ask for your prayers for peace for the people of Sudan.  
Jim

## Thank you for reading our letter!

*Please consider supporting Presbyterian Mission through our ministry. We are grateful for your prayers, personal communication and financial support.*

**Gifts may be sent to:**

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)  
P.O. Box 643700  
Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700

On the memo line, please write:

"In honor of Jim McGill's ministry—E132192" (individual giving)  
"In honor of Jim McGill's ministry—D500115" (congregational giving)

Give online: [pcusa.org/james-and-jodi-mcgill](https://pcusa.org/james-and-jodi-mcgill)

For more ways to engage in Presbyterian Mission, please email [mission.support@pcusa.org](mailto:mission.support@pcusa.org).

*Thank you for your faithful support.*



# 42 LIFE LESSONS

Written by Regina Brett, 90 years old, of the Plain Dealer, Cleveland, Ohio .

To celebrate growing older, I once wrote the 42 lessons life taught me. It is the most requested column I've ever written. My odometer rolled over to 90 in August, so here is the column once more:

1. Life isn't fair, but it's still good.
2. When in doubt, just take the next small step.
3. Life is too short – enjoy it..
4. Your job won't take care of you when you are sick. Your friends and family will.
5. Pay off your credit cards every month.
6. You don't have to win every argument. Stay true to yourself.
7. Cry with someone. It's more healing than crying alone.
8. Save for retirement starting with your first pay check.
9. When it comes to chocolate, resistance is futile.
10. Make peace with your past so it won't screw up the present.
11. It's OK to let your children see you cry.
12. Don't compare your life to others. You have no idea what their journey is all about.
13. If a relationship has to be a secret, you shouldn't be in it...
14. Take a deep breath. It calms the mind.
15. Get rid of anything that isn't useful. Clutter weighs you down in many ways.
16. Whatever doesn't kill you really does make you stronger.
17. It's never too late to be happy. But it's all up to you and no one else.
18. When it comes to going after what you love in life, don't take no for an answer.
19. Burn the candles, use the nice sheets, wear the fancy lingerie. Don't save it for a special occasion. Today is special.
20. Over prepare, then go with the flow.
21. Be eccentric now. Don't wait for old age to wear purple.
22. The most important sex organ is the brain.
23. No one is in charge of your happiness but you.
24. Frame every so-called disaster with these words 'In five years, will this matter?'
25. Always choose life.
26. Forgive but don't forget.
27. What other people think of you is none of your business.
28. Time heals almost everything. Give time time.
29. However good or bad a situation is, it will change.
30. Don't take yourself so seriously. No one else does..
31. Believe in miracles.
32. Don't audit life. Show up and make the most of it now.
33. Growing old beats the alternative — dying young.
34. Your children get only one childhood.
35. All that truly matters in the end is that you loved.
36. Get outside every day. Miracles are waiting everywhere.

*Continued on inside back cover*

# JULY

| SUN                                                                      | MON                         | TUE                                               | WED                      | THU                                                                  | FRI | SAT |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|
|                                                                          |                             |                                                   |                          |                                                                      |     | 1   |
| 2<br>Adult Studies<br>9:15 am<br>Worship<br>10:15 am                     | 3<br>Bobbie's<br>Vacation   | 4<br>INDEPEN-<br>DENCE<br>DAY<br>Office<br>Closed | 5                        | 6                                                                    | 7   | 8   |
|                                                                          |                             |                                                   |                          | Jane's Vacation                                                      |     |     |
| 9<br>Adult Studies<br>9:15 am<br>Worship<br>10:15 am                     | 10                          | 11                                                | 12<br>Finance<br>10 am   | 13<br>Clergy<br>Breakfast<br>9 am<br>Session<br>Reports<br>due       | 14  | 15  |
| 16<br>Adult Studies<br>9:15 am<br>Worship<br>10:15 am                    | 17                          | 18                                                | 19<br>Session<br>1:30 pm | 20<br>Prime Thyme<br>Gardening<br>5:30 pm<br>Courier<br>Articles due | 21  | 22  |
| 23<br>Adult Studies<br>9:15 am<br>Worship 10:15 am                       | 24                          | 25                                                | 26                       | 27                                                                   | 28  | 29  |
| 30<br>Adult Studies<br>9:15 am<br>Worship 10:15 am<br>Jane's Study Leave | 31<br>Jane's<br>Study Leave |                                                   |                          |                                                                      |     |     |





**Remember in Prayer:**

|                   |
|-------------------|
| Tom Patterson     |
| Maurice Bailey    |
| Gary Baker        |
| Marilyn Beilstein |
| Dan Beilstein     |
| Sue Brondell      |
| Jim Clark         |
| John Dawson       |
| Monica Dawson     |
| Jean Earnhardt    |
| Glenn Franklin    |
| Jerry Hall        |
| George Hartwell   |
| Ruth Karner       |
| Janet Marsh       |
| Marty Miller      |
| Barbara Patterson |

|                       |
|-----------------------|
| Pat Penrose           |
| Babsy Pettit          |
| Steve Rhoades         |
| Jeff & Nancy Sapienza |
| Nancy Seward          |
| Lew Stratton          |
| Angie Strewsbury      |
| David Stinnett        |
| Melissa Stinnett      |
| Sue Thomas            |
| Julia Washington      |
| Kara Washington       |
| Allen Wollenberg      |
| Judy Wollenberg       |
| Ruth Wonnell          |
| Elaine Zingg          |

**Bristol Health Care:**

George Hartwell - 105  
 Bill Johnson - 113  
 Janet Marsh - 24  
 Nancy Seward - 205  
 Judy Wollenberg - 312

**Birthdays:**

Barbara Early - 3  
 Allen Wollenberg - 15  
 Dave Tallman - 22  
 Martha Miller - 29  
 Glenn Rudie - 29

**Anniversaries:**

Allen & Judy Wollenberg - 6

## 42 LIFE LESSONS (continued from page 7)

- |                                                                                          |                                                           |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| 37. If we all threw our problems in a pile and saw everyone else's, we'd grab ours back. | 39. The best is yet to come...                            |
| 38. Envy is a waste of time. Accept what you already have not what you need.             | 40. No matter how you feel, get up, dress up and show up. |
|                                                                                          | 41. Yield.                                                |
|                                                                                          | 42. Life isn't tied with a bow, but it's still a gift.    |

## GREETERS

|        |                                                  |
|--------|--------------------------------------------------|
| July   | Audrey & Cal Tysen<br>Barbara Taphorn            |
| August | Sherri Sapienza<br>Gerri Prod<br>Barbara Taphorn |



EST.



1842

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH OF WAVERLY

211 Schmitt Drive  
Waverly, OH 45690

## The Amen Corner

REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT BIBLE GATEWAY



Thanks to Josiah Gilman

05-02-2007

LEPERS ... I HEAL LEPERS