



First Presbyterian Church

Courier

August 2023

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

In This Issue

- Opportunity of a Lifetime
- September Visit to FPC by a Palestinian Christian
- Mission and Evangelism
- Bread for the World
- Financial Report
- Calendar
- In Our Prayers

MEMBERS IN MINISTRY

July 27, 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/Communi-

cation: 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 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: 6NgrH



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#.

OPPORTUNITY OF A LIFETIME

Most of us have a bucket list of things we'd like to do or places we dreamed of going. One of the places I dared not put on my list was the Holy Land. We just couldn't afford it, so I never fathomed we'd have an opportunity to go. I've seen pictures and heard stories from our friends who were fortunate enough to go. I've watched documentaries, but just never thought it was possible for us.

But God is a God of grace and surprises! A few weeks ago, I received a message from Rev. Mary-Gene Botlier, a retired minister of our Presbytery who is heavily involved in peacemaking efforts including hosting the International Peacemakers who visit our presbytery and leading study pilgrimages to Israel, Palestine, and Jordan.

One such pilgrimage is being co-sponsored by Scioto Valley Presbytery, which is our presbytery, and Miami Valley Presbytery, a presbytery in southwestern Ohio. Mary-Gene invited Ron and me to join the trip from November 29 - December 16, and

offered to raise the funding for us to join the pilgrimage if we made a commitment to go. Wow! What an opportunity!

How's the fundraising going? The cost of the pilgrimage is \$3,599 plus airfare and flight insurance. Mary-Gene made requests to several churches in the presbytery to sponsor us as well as a presbytery committee. Indianola Presbyterian Church, Covenant Presbyterian Church, Broadstreet Presbyterian Church and Granville Presbyterian Church have agreed to sponsor us. I also sent out a sponsor letter to 20 friends and family members and the response has been great! The presbytery has received \$1,500 on our behalf. God has opened the door and is making it possible for us to walk through it. We are very grateful!

What does a study pilgrimage entail? Here's the description from the brochure.

Palestinian Christians call for pilgrims to the Holy Land to live out their faith as they visit. This entails going

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OPPORTUNITY OF A LIFETIME (continued)

beyond exploring ancient sites to learning about our siblings in the Holy Land today—their joys and struggles—so that we might reflect the teachings of Jesus Christ as we sojourn in the land where he walked.

This study pilgrimage will both travel to sacred spaces in Jesus' ministry and connect with amazing leaders and communities in the Holy Land, so that once we "come and see" we will be prepared to "go and tell." Participants should expect to engage in a series of study sessions in preparation for the trip. Following the Israel/Palestine trip, there is an optional Jordan extension, exploring the fascinating and breathtaking sites of Madaba, Mt. Nebo, Petra, Umm Ar-Rasas and Jerash."

We will visit:
Jerusalem,
Qumran:
Mount of
Olives,
Garden of
Gethsemane,
Via Dolorosa,
Holy
Sepulcher;
worship at
Church of the
Redeemer,
Dome of the
Rock, Al Aqsa
Mosque,
Western Wall;
in Bethlehem:

Bethlehem Bible College, Dar Al-Kalima, Church of the Nativity; Dheisheh Refugee Camp; in Hebron: Old City, Ibrahimi Mosque, Glass Factory, Tent of Nations, Israeli Settlement, Nazareth, Tiberius, Jaffa and many other sites and places.

I will be away the first two Sundays in December. On December 3, there will be the Hanging of the Greens worship service and on December 10, Rev. Otto Zingg will be preaching and there will be communion. I will be sharing our pilgrimage experiences with the congregation during some special gatherings, as well as at Bristol Village Enrichment Hour in April.

I look forward to sharing this life-changing experience with you!



OPPORTUNITY OF A LIFETIME (continued)



Judean Desert, the Holy Land



Jerusalem Walls at night

SEPTEMBER VISIT TO FPC BY A PALESTINIAN CHRISTIAN

On Saturday, September 16, our congregation will host a workshop with Amira Barham, a Palestinian Christian who has been working with refugees from Israel for some years. She brings skills in music and theater to help bring comfort and emotional healing to both Palestinian children and health care professionals.

The workshop, which begins at 10:30 am, will include a short video on historical background, a presentation by Ms Barham on her work, questions and discussion, plus an opportunity to let Congressional representatives know your opinion on relevant legislation. The workshop will conclude with a luncheon at noon.

Also, on Wednesday before, September 13, at 1:00 pm, at the church, there will be the film "Wrestling Jerusalem" showing the personal struggle of a Jewish playwright over the Israeli-Palestinian issues. For those who can make it, this film will be good preparation for Saturday's workshop.

This is a unique opportunity that will help



Amira Barham

us as people of faith understand a situation of ongoing turmoil and suffering. And to consider possible responses. Please put these dates on your September calendar and sign up for the Saturday luncheon when the registration sheet goes up later in August.

The Wednesday film and the Saturday workshop are open to everyone, so think about inviting your friends.



MISSION & EVANGALISM

THE FOOD PANTRY NEEDS YOUR DONATIONS OF:

CANNED VEGETABLES

Green Beans • Corn • Peas
Mixed Vegetables • Potatoes

Please donate regular sized cans

CANNED FRUIT - any kind!

Peaches • Pears • Fruit Cocktail

Please donate regular sized cans

GRACE UMC RUMMAGE SALE

SATURDAY AUGUST 12 9-3PM
ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE FOOD PANTRY!

DONATIONS ACCEPTED at Grace UMC
MONDAY - FRIDAY
AUGUST 7 thru August 11
10am - 5pm



THANKS TO YOU, MOMENTUM BUILDS IN CONGRESS

In villages in Africa, children are eating lunches that enable them to make the most of their schooling. In areas facing severe hunger, emergency food aid is reaching people in a timely manner. Here in the United States, families are able to buy additional groceries.

All this is made possible by the U.S. Farm Bill, an enormous package of legislation adopted by Congress. Three-quarters of Farm Bill funding underwrites SNAP (the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program) which benefits one in eight Americans.

Over the years, thanks to you and other Bread for the World members, improvements to the Farm Bill have made it more effective. Now, with your support and involvement, Bread for the World is urging Congress to reauthorize the Farm Bill—and to make changes that will make food systems more sustainable and equitable, including increasing access to SNAP.

Improving the Farm Bill is critical. Emergency SNAP benefits have expired in 35 states, districts, and territories, and food prices are high. More and more families are struggling to put food on the table.



THANKS TO YOU, MOMENTUM BUILDS IN CONGRESS

(continued)

To persuade Congress to reauthorize the Farm Bill, Bread for the World has worked with Republican and Democratic leaders in Congress. Bread has organized dozens of regional webinars and arranged more than 100 meetings with key stakeholders. The regional webinars and other meetings have mobilized congregations and other groups to organize letter-writing events as part of Bread for the World’s 2023 Offering of Letters. During the June 12-13 Advocacy Summit, Bread members visited congressional offices. The Summit included religious leaders from across the country.

Matt Gross, Bread for the World’s director of organizing, commented, “The response to our regional webinars and the outpouring of letters has been inspiring. Members of Congress are seeing a surge of support for the reauthorization of the Farm Bill.”

In the weeks ahead, Bread for the World will organize opportunities to meet with members of Congress when they return home for their summer recess. Increased financial support—including giving a response to the summer matching gift campaign will help underwrite these additional steps to push for reauthorization of the Farm Bill.

FINANCIAL REPORT

OPERATING BUDGET

| | APR | MAY | JUN |
|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| INCOME | \$6,807.69 | \$7,584.52 | \$10,086.79 |
| EXPENSES | \$10,941.17 | \$15,376.08 | \$15,159.24 |
| MONTH NET | -\$4,133.48 | -\$7,791.56 | -\$5,072.45 |
| YEAR NET | \$3,572.53 | -\$4,219.03 | -\$9,291.48 |

This chart shows the income and expenses for our Operating Budget for the second quarter. We anticipate that we will be in the “Red” at the end of the year. This is in line with our 5-year analysis. We do have reserves to cover our losses.

AUGUST

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|---|------------------------------------|-----|--------------------------|--|-----|-----|
| | | 1 | 2 M&E 2:30 pm | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Jane's Study Leave | | | | | | |
| 6 Adult Studies 9:15 am Worship 10:15 am | 7 Congregants' Care 10:00 am | 8 | 9 Finance 10:00 am | 10 Clergy Breakfast 9 am Session Reports due | 11 | 12 |
| 13 Adult Studies 9:15 am Worship 10:15 am | 14 | 15 | 16 Session 1:30 pm | 17 Courier Articles due | 18 | 19 |
| 20 Adult Studies 9:15 am Worship 10:15 am | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 Prime Thyme Gardening 5:30 pm | 25 | 26 |
| 27 Adult Studies 9:15 am Worship 10:15 am | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 W&D 10:00 am | | |



Remember in Prayer:

Maurice Bailey
Gary Baker
Marilyn Beilstein
Dan Beilstein
Sue Brondell
Jim Clark
Jeanne Conrad
John Dawson
Monica Dawson
Jean Earnhardt
Glenn Franklin
Jerry Hall
George Hartwell
Avery Johnson
Jonathan Johnson
Joshua Johnson
Ruth Karner
Janet Marsh

Marty Miller
Barbara Patterson
Tom Patterson
Pat Penrose
Babsy Pettit
Gerri Prod
Steve Rhoades
Jeff & Nancy Sapienza
Nancy Seward
Lew Stratton
Angie Strewsbery
David Stinnett
Melissa Stinnett
Kay Weir
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:

Cal Tysen - 15
Karen Henderson - 25
Susan Thomas - 28

Anniversaries:

Ken & Marilyn Beilstein - 20
Jim & Irene Clark - 28

GREETERS

August Sherry Sapienza
 Gerri Prod
 Barbara Taphorn

LITURGISTS

August Diane Zwick





FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH OF WAVERLY

211 Schmitt Drive
Waverly, OH 45690

The Amen Corner

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Thanks to Nick Hengeveld (See 1Samuel 17)

03-28-2003

DAVID VS. THE SPAMMERS