



First Presbyterian Church

Courier

November 2023

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

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MEMBERS IN MINISTRY

November 5, 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

Class of 2024

Class of 2025

John Mikelson

Pat Mikelson

Susan Thomas

Barbara Pettit

Jewell McCliment

Joyce Holben

Elaine Zingg

Barbara Taphorn

MINISTERS FOR MEMBER CARE: DEACONS

Tom Hlasten

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#.





NOVEMBER FOCUS ON EVANGELISM

REV JANE JOHNSON

This November our focus will be on the dreaded “E” Word – Evangelism. The word that causes many church goers to shake in their boots. Even though Evangelism carries a lot of baggage and emotion, it is one of the primary works of the Church. Jesus’ command to go into all the world and make disciples of every nation still stands. On November 5th, we will begin a three week sermon series entitled “You’re

Invited.” It focuses on our witness and mission to the world.

Central to evangelism is love of neighbor, which we’ve looked at in the sermon series “The Art of Neighboring” and hospitality. How might we extend hospitality in the household of God – the Church? This is the question we will consider hopefully in some new and fresh ways. I hope you will join me.

This edition of the First Presbyterian Church Courier sponsored by

BRISTOL VILLAGE



National Church Residences

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OUR SESSION AT WORK

ELAINE OSER ZINGG

Due to declining health issues, on October 23 members Jim and Irene Clark left Bristol Village and moved to the NCR facility in Chillicothe that better suites their needs. The Clarks joined our church in 2014 and they have both been very actively involved. Jim was ordained as a Ruling Elder and joined the Session as part of the Class of 2017. He also served as a valuable member of the Finance and Stewardship Committee for several years. Irene was installed as a Deacon in the Class of 2018, has faithfully visited members of our congregation for many years. She was a member of the Class of 2024 when they moved. Irene was also active with our Presbyterian Women's group. It has been a blessing to know them over the years, and we will miss them.

At the October Session meeting we spent a little time being brought up to date on necessary repairs being made to the Manse. For a while the two bathroom sinks had been backing up. It was determined that there was a broken pipe behind the wall in the upstairs bathroom, and when the wall was taken down a lot of mold was discovered. The church had to hire a company that specializes in mold removal and pay for the Johnsons to live in B.V. housing while the mold was chemically removed as spores in the air can get into their lungs and make them sick.

Additionally, we continue to work on planning begun in September to reduce

the number of Ruling Elders serving in the Session from 9 to 6 which makes more sense as we are losing active members through deaths (8 this year) and decreasing energy that comes with increasing age. To complete this process, we have amended some by-laws and have scheduled a short congregational meeting following worship on February 5th as it requires congressional approval to complete that process. To maintain 9 elders on session we have been electing 3 new Elders to a class three years in the future so that one third of the session is rotating on and 1 off each year. We will not elect any new Elders in 2024, and begin electing one 3-person class of Elders that will only serve for 2 years thereafter.

We also set out some scheduling changes for the next couple of months. The Wednesday afternoon Bible Study is going well, and will continue through November 15th when it will be replaced November 29 – December 27th by an Advent noon lunch and study of "Pausing on the Road to Bethlehem, a Spiritual Journey Through Advent". On December 6th at 5:30 pm the Presbyterian Women will hold their annual Advent Dinner so there will not be a noon program that day. The Hanging of the Greens will occur December 3rd. Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday this year, and so on December 24th in addition to the usual Sunday morning service there will be a 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service.

FAREWELL TO OUR FRIENDS OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Your friendship and prayers have sustained us, on numerous occasions during the past ten years. Please keep us on the prayer list and you will be in our prayers. We hope you will visit us in our new home.

Keep in touch,
Love,
Jim and Irene Clark
141 University Dr., Apt. 115
Chillicothe, OH 45601



CONGREGANTS' CARE COMMITTEE

Congregants' Care Committee. Thank you to all who have been reaching out to those in our congregation who are celebrating special events or experiencing challenging times in their lives. We can be the Lord's Light in the lives of many people! J.R.R. Tolkein has written: "The world is indeed full of peril and in it there are many dark places. But still there is much that is fair. And though in all lands, Love is now mingled with grief, Love still grows, perhaps, the greater." In I Corinthians 13, we read that Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails. –Share Christ's Love!

3RD QUARTER FINANCIAL REPORT

OPERATING BUDGET

	JUL	AUG	SEP
INCOME	\$11,980.43	\$10,578.50	\$13,057.98
EXPENSES	\$14,712.87	\$14,005.90	\$16,800.73
MONTH NET	-\$2,732.44	-3,427.40	-\$3,742.75
YEAR NET	-12,023.92	-15,451.32	-19,194.07

This chart shows the income and expenses for our Operating Budget for the third 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.

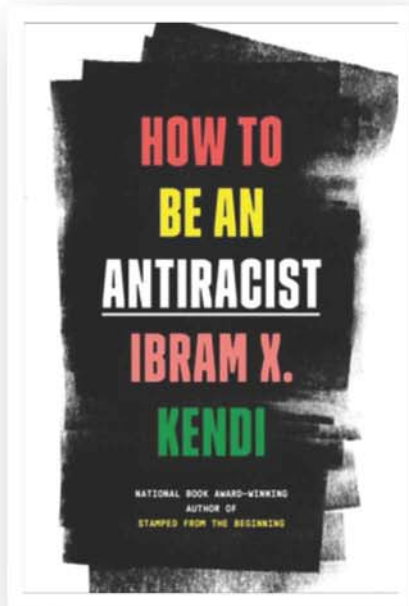
MARK HARE AND JENNY BENT
PCUSA Mission Coworkers in Costa Rica
December 10th



*How numerous are your works, Lord!
You have made them all wisely;
the earth is filled with your creations.
All of them look to you
to provide them their food at the proper time.
They receive what you give them;
when you open your hand,
they are filled with good things. Psalm 104: 24, 27, 28*

Dear friends,

We are living in a time of climate crisis. Our way of living is destroying God's creation. I just finished listening to Ibram X. Kendi's "How to Be an Antiracist." It is an incredible book, and it made me think about the connections between racism and our destruction of the natural world. I would like to introduce you to two new phrases that have been pinging around in my head: ecological destructivist and ecological anti-destructivist.



regeneration of the natural world. My question for myself, my family and for you is, which will we choose to be?

Almost all of us want to be part of something bigger than ourselves. Psalm 104 is filled with God's love for God's creation. God yearns for us to be ecological anti-destructivists. The Earth Care Pledge program, housed in the office of the Presbyterian Hunger program is one great option. Please contact Jessica Maudlin (jessica.maudlin@pcusa.org) to find ways of becoming involved.

Thanks to each of you for your prayers for us and for our world, and for your dedication to being part of God's mission.

Mark

An ecological destructivist is someone who expresses an idea that supports harm to or destruction of the natural world, and/or who, through action or inaction, supports policies and activities that result in harm or destruction to the natural world. An ecological anti-destructivist is someone who expresses an idea that supports care for and regeneration of the natural world, and who supports policies and participates in actions that eliminate harm to and support



COPE OFFERING FOR THANKSGIVING DINNERS AND CHRISTMAS GIFTS

COPE kids and their families often fall short of food, especially during holidays when kids cannot get breakfast and lunch at school. And while they struggle to provide food and the basic necessities, many families find it impossible to celebrate the season with gifts.

Our congregation has been so generous with offerings to provide these families with a Thanksgiving dinner – turkey and all the fixins – as well as additional foods for kids during their days away from school.

This year Session has approved sponsoring four children to receive Christmas gifts – a new warm outfit, shoes, and a few special “wish list” presents. COPE Thanksgiving and Christmas is supported by a Thank Offering only. Please consider helping again this year with your personal offering. Please mark your check with a notation COPE THANKSGIVING/CHRISTMAS.

If you would like to volunteer to help select gifts and or wrap presents, just let Pat Mikelson know. 614-330-9634.

BRIDGEHAVEN SUPPORT – THANK YOU!

Because of you....

- Bridgehaven received \$500 from our PCUSA Peacemaking/Global Witness offering will provide 10 housekeeping kits for families and individuals moving from Bridgehaven homeless shelter to more permanent housing.

- An additional \$5,713 was donated to support Bridgehaven’s program. We pray for this critical program to continue to be there for Pike County’s families who experience homeless.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

TOILET PAPER

BABY AND TODDLER DIAPERS

FEMINE HYGINE PRODUCTS

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

On Wednesday, November 1, @ 1:30 pm, the women of our church will continue this year's BIBLE study, SACRED ENCOUNTERS. Featuring Luke 8: 43-48, this session is called 'A Bleeding Woman Encounters Christ' and it will be led by Kay Weir. The hostesses are Betsy Hall and Joyce Holben. All women are encouraged to attend; anyone is welcome, so bring a friend!



THANKOFFERING

Sponsored by Presbyterian Women, the Thankoffering is given annually and internationally to express commitment to justice and love with thankful hearts. While the women of our Church are committed to sharing their gifts of money and love, we have traditionally opened this opportunity to the congregation to give generously with gratitude to God for all our blessings. Envelopes for your gifts will be provided on the tables at the back of the church, and checks may be written to Presbyterian Women with

Thankoffering written on the memo line.

We will hear more about the Thank-offering and its far-reaching effect in the weeks ahead during minutes for mission and during the presence of missionaries Mark Hare and his family right here in our own sanctuary. All of this is possible through our own PW group, but the larger Thankoffering itself will occur throughout the PCUSA churches in the land. Please pray that all will give cheerfully!

GREETERS

November

Gretchen & Gary Crabtree
Barbara Taphorn



LITURGISTS

November

December

January

Karen Henderson

Bruce Henderson

Irene Martin

NOVEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 Disciple- ship Class 4 pm	2 W&D 1:30 pm	3	4
5 Adult Studies 9:15 am Worship 10:15 am Terri Dunham from COPE speaks at Fellowship Hour	6 Fellowship Committee 1 pm	7	8 M&E 2:30 pm Disciple- ship Class 4 pm	9 Session Reports due Clergy Breakfast 9 am	10	11 VETERENS DAY
12 Adult Studies 9:15 am Worship 10:15 am	13 Jane at Presbytery Church Professionals Retreat	14 Finance 10 am	15 Session 1:30 pm Disciple- ship Class 4 pm	16 Prime Thyme Gardening 5:30 pm	17	18
19 Adult Studies 9:15 am Worship 10:15 am	20	21	22	23	24	25
Pastor Jane's Vacation						
26 Adult Studies 9:15 am Worship 10:15 am Pastor Jane's Vacation	27	28	29 Noon Advent Lunch & Study	30	1	2 Set up for Hanging of the Greens

In Our Thoughts & Prayers



Remember in Prayer:

Maurice Bailey
Gary Baker
Marilyn Beilstein
Dan Beilstein
Irene & Jim Clark
Jeanne Conrad
John Dawson
Monica Dawson
Jean Earnhardt
Glenn Franklin
Bobbie Hall
Jerry Hall
George Hartwell
Bruce Henderson
Liv M.
Janet Marsh

Jewell McCliment
Marty Miller
Barbara Patterson
Tom Patterson
Pat Penrose
Babsy Pettit
Steve Rhoades
Jeff & Nancy Sapienza
Rosann Severding
Nancy Seward
Lew Stratton
Angie Strewsbury
David Stinnett
Melissa Stinnett
Sue Thomas
Martha Whitehouse

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:

Lew Stratton - 5
Tom Hlasten - 12
Kay Puckett - 23



EST.



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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH OF WAVERLY

211 Schmitt Drive
Waverly, OH 45690

The Amen Corner

