



First Presbyterian Church

Courier

June 2024

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

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MEMBERS IN MINISTRY

June 2, 2024

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 2024

John Mikelson

Barbara Pettit

Elaine Zingg

Class of 2025

Pat Mikelson

Jewell McCliment

Barbara Taphorn

MINISTERS FOR MEMBER CARE: DEACONS

Tom Hlasten

Barbara Patterson

COMMITTEES:

Discipleship and Worship: Pastor Jane

Evangelism & Mission: Pat Mikelson

Fellowship: Barbara Taphorn

Finance & Stewardship: Mike Milam

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
- Bob and Kristi Rice, *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: 6NgrnH

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#.





Clergy Breakfast, April 2024

Congratulations to Geri Prod for winning the Hospice Volunteer of the Year award given by National Church Residences Congratulations also to **Rosann Severding** for being a nominee for the same title.

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

Actually, I was not present at the May Session meeting as Otto and I were in New Jersey for a reunion with his five siblings and one cousin, and other events. However, I have read the excellent minutes produced by Babsy Pettit in which she stated that the Session began discussion on what to do with the manse now that Pastor Jane has moved from it because of continuing health issues presumed to be caused by conditions in the manse. In light of this, I am sharing some of the history of our current manse.

The property located at 310 East North Street was purchased from the estate of James Emmitt by William S. Gehres and Joseph A. Gehres in 1895. According to fire insurance maps, the church's manse was built sometime between 1897 and 1911. Joseph Adam Gehres and Mary Hewitt Gehres lived in the house with their children Mary Willard Gehres, Irma Gehres, Hewitt Gehres and Lloyd Gehres. Irma Gehres married Leo W. Lorbach in 1918. Irma and Leo Lorbach had two children: a daughter who died shortly after birth and a son who drowned in his twelfth year.

On January 16, 1951, Irma and Leo Lorbach signed a deed transferring ownership of 310 East North to the Trustees of Waverly Presbyterian church, in which they stated that they were "the sole and only heirs at law" of Joseph A. Gehres (who died in 1945) and his widow, Mary H. Gehres (who died March 24, 1950). In October of 1951 nine unknown heirs filed case No. 14-Civ-91 claiming an interest in the

manse property. They were unsuccessful, and the Common Pleas Court quieted title to the church. In a brochure produced by the church marking the 55th Anniversary of the Manse, and released Sunday, June 4, 2006, it was stated that the manse was given to the church by Irma Gehres Lorbach and Leo Lorbach "together with her brothers, Hewitt and Lloyd Gehres..." Irma Gehres Lorbach also had the house next door to the manse, which is now the Botkin Funeral Home, built as a member of the Gheres family owned a lumber mill. She also established a Manse Endowment Fund with an initial \$25,000 bequest which has helped pay for various renovations and improvements over the years.

That brochure also states, "The manse property comprises two parcels, the one the house sits on running about two thirds the distance from North Street to Emmitt Avenue. The other parcel, which abuts Emmitt Avenue, was originally part of the Ohio and Erie Canal, The State of Ohio conveyed the land to the church in 1968 by a deed signed by Gov. James A. Rhodes."

In January of 1992, the church's Board of Trustees member Theodore H. Bates wrote to Lloyd Gehres' daughter, Mary Jane McCormick, and asked her to contact the heirs of Lloyd and Hewitt Gehres and ask if they would be willing to release any contingent interest they might have in the manse property. He stated that his request was to prepare for some future

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PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

There are two bits of information to give from our PW:

- The first bit is our regularly scheduled, June end-of-the-year meeting on Wednesday, June 5, beginning at 10:30 and ending with a salad lunch. Everyone is to bring a salad. The CT will provide dessert.
 - Lesson #9, People Encounter Jesus Through the Work of the Disciples, will be given by our own Pastor Jane:)
 - Prior to this lesson, we will be sharing the names of the missionaries each of us has chosen to “adopt” through prayer.
 - Our day will include the Installation of our new PW officers.
- The second opportunity has to do with a Special Zoom PW meeting that was presented with 3 guest speakers who visited Palestine from February 13-23. Below are the notes of this meeting which include a link of the recording of the meeting as well as a link for more information.

Palestine/Israel Special May PW Zoom Gathering

CALL TO ACTION:

PRAYER:

- For Release of hostages and detained Palestinians
- Against hatred and fear
- For the end to US complicity (i.e. tax dollar support of military aggression weapons)

ADVOCATE: FOR

- An immediate ceasefire.
- The end of military aid to Israel.
- The stopping of land seizures in Palestine.

GIVE TO:

- Alrowwad Cultural and Arts Society.
- UNRWA (UN Relief and Work Agency (for Palestinians) which feeds more of the hungry in Gaza than any other organization.

MORE INFORMATION:

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/story/israel-palestine-mission-network>

Link of Palestine PW Zoom Meeting: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t0wrQ7dc_VU&t=21s

May God bless and guide us as He continues to call us into mission.

COPE NEEDS

We are asking for any donations of hygiene products over the summer to start the new school year off. We have run considerably low at this time.

- Mens and womens deodorant (travel size is fine)
- shampoo, conditioner, body wash
- mens body spray
- hair ties, bobbie pins
- safety pins
- tampons (plastic dispenser),

- hair brushes
- dental floss
- tissues

Any assistance will be greatly appreciated.

Terri Dunham



SOUPS
Chicken & Noodle
Vegetable
Cream of Chicken
Broccoli Cheddar

CANNED GOODS
Vegetables
Chili
Pasta & Sauce

PERSONAL HYGIENE
Shampoo
Body Wash
Deodorant

PRESBYTERY MEETING HELD AT LONDON FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH VIA ZOOM

I was so pleased to be able to attend Presbytery meeting even though I had to meet via Zoom. I love and prefer to see people in person—old friends from Columbus and Licking County church and newer friends from the southern part of our Presbytery and others I have met in Presbytery events. This is the first meeting held since the changes were made in organization on April 1. There are some transitioning changes that are moving along in an expected slow way but are moving well. There were some technical difficulties with the sound being connected, going off, and being reconnected. I have checked my minutes with the article of the Transitional General Presbyter included in the “Mid-week E-News” on May 23, 2024. If you have questions or concerns, contact me and I will work to find the answers.

We were called to worship by prayer and Isaiah 5:7-9 & 18-24. **Rev. Mary Gene Borteler** and **Rev. Rick Nutt** led the service. They traveled to Palestine recently with 32 other Presbyterians. They reported on the history and their trip, standing in solidarity with Christians displaced because of the Israel/Hamas War.

Kathy Nice, Transitional General Presbyter, reported that she has visited all but 22 of the 83 churches in our presbytery. She continues to visit and plans to visit all before she leaves her position. She said none are alike BUT they all meet on Sun-

day morning. LOL. She, **Emily Corzine**, **Dagmar Romage** and perhaps others of the administration will be meeting with regional groups of churches. The first two are July 11 at Jackson and July 16 at Portsmouth. We are invited to meet them there. Watch the “Mid-week E-News” for details. Our presbytery has a new vibe—please pray for it. Kathy encourages anyone with a passion for creative things in mission and ministry to let her know. She announced a scam that is happening in churches—an email comes to the church that someone has died and wants to donate a piano. So, send shipping money and the piano will be sent. SCAM!

Emily Corzine, Presbyter for Congregational Life and Transitions, has been in her position for 90 days. She has been out meeting people and churches. She preached in Waverly on Sunday, May 26th. She talked about creative ministry and empowerment for change. There is new training available for Mission Study Report and for Pastor Nominating Committee.

Bill Gause, Stated Clerk, reported that a Minutes-Review Team is being formed; volunteers are requested. He let us know that electronic meetings are appropriate but email meetings are not.

Chip Hardwick, Executive of Synod of the Covenant, named the ministry focus ar

eas for 2025-2028. A new synod ministry is being developed to use the gifts of lay people for preaching and other responsibilities. The Synod will be hiring a full-time Associate for Racial Justice. Applications for Higher Education School for Christian Leaders are available June 1. Preaching workshops continue first Wednesday of each month. Boundaries Training continues. Chip can be reached at 309-530-4578 and at chip@synodofthecovenant.org.

Jim Wilson reported for the new Committee on Representation. This is for the welcoming and safety for God's children with an emphasis on welcoming immigrants. Some of the key areas of service delivery will be pastoral care and advocacy, encouraging congregations to be welcoming, humanitarian aid, education and language assistance programs, ministries to and for immigrants. This will begin with a Resource Directory. Jim asks for help with the directory and a contact person at each church. "To thrive and to know Christ better!" Jim is located at Worthington church.

Rev. Jeff Jannes, Commission on Preparation for Ministry, introduced **Wilberforce Amaning**, Columbus Ramseyer Presbyterian Church, to be examined for Candidacy. Wilberforce was examined and approved.

Todd Tracey, Commission for Ministry, presented the Minimum Terms of Call for 2025 for first reading; second reading and voting will be in August. He noted that the Board of Pensions is changing many things that will impact our churches. In August after more study, the changes will be

brought to Presbytery for further information and discussion. Rev. Nancy Dumford was examined and approved for Transfer of Ordination from Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians (ECO).

Luke Choi, Board of Pensions, spoke on the new benefits plan to serve the changing church. He was in a remote location on Zoom and spoke softly with many slides. I did not follow all this in the way I would like. There will be more opportunities to learn the new benefits. The slides he had and more are available at seasonofrebuilding.pensions.org. Click on "2025 Decision Guide for Minister Benefits." Luke's contact information: 609-575-6321 and Lchoi@pensions.org. The Board of Pensions can be contacted at 800-773-7752. It is possible to contact Luke to get the best plan for our situations.

Bob Armstrong, Presbytery Council, mentioned "Ardor and Order." The motion to adopt the Revised Manual of Operations" (second reading) was voted on and passed as amended. Bob challenged us to find places where we can find God at work; then reflect on "What is your hope for the church?"

Jim Hines, Commission for Presbytery Operations presented the Treasurer's Report. The first Annual Andy Award was awarded to **Amos Loveday** who was instrumental in the St. Andrew Legacy Fund when St. Andrews folded in a planned, creative way. There was a motion made on behalf of the Kingston Mt. Pleasant congregation who indicate that they are no longer Presbyterian and that they do not want to be dismissed to another Reformed

denomination. Motion also included to release all PSV claims to their real estate in exchange for a payment of \$12,500 from the new Mt. Pleasant Church. Motion passed. There was a motion to form an Administrative Commission to work with Frankfort, Concord Church. Nominees were named. Motion passed. A motion was made to elect Ordination Exam Readers. Names were listed. Motion passed.

Mary Gene Boteler, Commission for Justice, Outreach, and Education, reported that most of its work intersects with our presbytery's commitment to Matthew 25 and our commission's call to justice is an evaluative metric to employ for all activities/programs. The commission is working on a new Neighborhood Mission Grant proposal which should be available in early June. Partners in Education (PIE) is scheduled: on January 11, officer training (elders and deacons) will be held at two locations—one in the south and one in Columbus; on May 1 an event focusing on education will be held; registration will be \$20. PCUSA International Peacemaker from Palestine, Zoughbi Zoughbi, will be in our presbytery September 17-20. Grove City Church will host a presbytery-wide dinner on September 19 at 6 pm. The rescheduled Israel/Palestine Pilgrimage will be November 6-19. Email Mary Gene Boteler for information: mgboteler@gmail.com. The Presbyterian Peacemaking Program is co-sponsoring two webinars on Confronting Christian Zionism. You may watch the first webinar and register for the second webinar at www.presbyterianmission.org. The Older Adult Rally will be held at London FPC on Saturday, October 19 from 9-3 pm. Speaker is Leslie Baltimore

from Susie's Helping Hands; registration fee is \$15.

The next Presbytery meeting is on August 20, 2024 at 3:30 at First Presbyterian Church in Chillicothe.

Closing Prayer and adjournment at 7:10 pm sent us with God's call and peace.

A new feature—between reports gifts were given to those in attendance. After the meeting a fellowship gathering was held at a local restaurant to get to know fellow presbyters and enjoy free appetizers. Wow, more reasons I would rather be in person!

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara/Babsy Pettit,
Commissioner to Presbytery

OUR SESSION AT WORK (continued)

possibility that a "future pastor might have too large a family for the house, or perhaps for disability reasons might prefer a one-story house, or as is increasingly the case, a pastor might wish to own his own home." The heirs agreed to Mary Jane McCormick's request and affidavits were prepared and signed.

Irma Gheres Lorbach died on August 30, 1989 at the age of 97 years, and is buried in Evergreen Cemetery.

JUNE

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2 Adult Studies 9:15 am Worship 10:15 am	3	4	5 Presbyterian Women 10:30 am Bible Study 4 pm	6 W & D 1:00 pm	7	8
9 Adult Studies 9:15 am Worship 10:15 am	10	11	12	13 Clergy Breakfast 9 am Finance 10 am Session Reports due	14	15
16 Adult Studies 9:15 am Worship 10:15 am	17	18	19 Juneteenth Office Closed	20 Courier Articles due Prime Thyme Gardening 5:30 pm	21	22
23 Adult Studies 9:15 am Worship 10:15 am	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						



Remember in Prayer:

Maurice Bailey
Gary Baker
Marilyn Beilstein
Dan Beilstein
Joe Blair
Irene & Jim Clark
Jeanne Conrad
Gretchen & Gary
 Crabtree
John Dawson
Monica Dawson
Jean Earnhardt
Glenn Franklin
Betsy Hall
Jerry Hall
George Hartwell
Bruce Henderson
Elinor Hodder
Sherlene Keefer
Jewell McCliment

Pat Mikelson
Lynn & Eric Miller
Barbara Patterson
Tom Patterson
Pat Penrose
Babsy Pettit
Steve Rhoades
Glenn Rudie
Jeff & Nancy Sapienza
Rosann Severding
Family of Nancy Seward
Lew Stratton
David Stinnett
Melissa Stinnett
Tony & Mary Stinnett
Dave Tallman
Allen & Judy Wollenberg
Ruth Wonnell
Elaine & Otto Zingg
Diane Zwick

Bristol Health Care:

George Hartwell - 105
Bill Johnson - 113
Judy Wollenberg - 312

Birthdays:

Bill Johnson - 12
Otto Zingg - 13
Pat Penrose - 14
Irene Clark - 19
Jim Clark - 24
Judy Wollenberg - 24
Jean Earnhardt - 28

Anniversaries:

Barbra and Tom Patterson - 6
Mike & Linda Milam - 10
Cal & Audrey Tysen - 12
Jane & Ron Johnson - 15

GREETERS

June

Sherry Sapienza
Geri Prod
Barbara Taphorn

July

Karen & Bruce Henderson
Barbara Taphorn



LITURGISTS

June

Allen Wollenberg

July

Irene Martin

August

Karen Henderson

September

Bruce Henderson

The Amen Corner

