

August 2017

The Cornerstone News

First Presbyterian Church, Paulding Ohio

Volume 3 Issue 8



OUT OF THE SALTSHAKER: Which Comes First, the Children or the Nursery?

Guest writer: Barb Searing

There are a couple of familiar verses in Matthew about children: "Let the little children come to me and forbid them not, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." and "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me." There is also a church corollary to the age-old chicken or the egg question: Which comes first, the children or the nursery? That question has actually recently been answered!

The NURSERY needs to come first, and plans are underway for our nursery to re-open for ages infant to 5 year olds on Sunday, Sept. 10th when fall schedule resumes.

Two people... a teen and a grandma (or mom!).... will be in the nursery during worship, from 10 am until the last child is picked up. Even if there is no child downstairs at 10:15, these volunteers will be in place in case someone becomes restless and needs to come to the nursery partway through the service. There is no intention to 'ban' children from the sanctuary.... they are indeed very welcome. The idea is to ease the stress for parents and to give them options. (See a fuller article elsewhere in this newsletter.)

Now, as Paul Harvey used to say on the radio, here is the REST of the story!

Back in February, I had, well, a vision.....no angels, no music, no blinding lights, but a vision, for lack of a better term ... that 5 families, possibly including our new pastor's family, would be coming to our church in September. My first thought was..... WOW! And then.... REALLY? And then.....somebody needs to do something. And then ... well, YOU are Somebody. And finally Don't doubt that this can be true. Instead, claim that it IS true.

So, I started to share this grand dream with the Christian Ed elder, Rhonda, and with Session, and during 'prayer for our church' on Wednesday mornings, and with church friends. It has been amazing to watch the whole idea begin to unfold.... hmmm... probably a God Event! The next step seemed to be "Get the nursery open".

Lots of little and big confirmations about needing the nursery arose over the next weeks and months:

*In April, while I was in the church kitchen being the 'coffee hostess' for the Is This the Time? coach training, I heard the speaker out in the fellowship hall say, "What would happen if 5 families came to your church

this fall? Would you be ready?"

Almost my exact words!

*Jeff and Sherie announced they were expecting little Zane in September.....confirmation!

*Rhonda's granddaughter Autumn has been in church pretty regularly, and Crafts and Nices and Clines and Crosslands have visiting grandkids ,.....they might want to use a nursery!

*And now, 6 months after this conviction was first laid on my heart, a pastoral candidate with a little baby visited last weekend! Whether Ian is 'the one' who becomes our pastor or not it feels like more confirmation!

I invite everyone to join me in anticipating new families coming, and claiming the promise of new families. There are surely more things we will need and want to do to be ready for children. Opening the nursery in September is a big start in that direction.

And I ask all you grandmas and moms to consider coming to the shower on Aug. 12 and to volunteer to serve alongside a teen in the nursery one Sunday this fall. (See separate article about the nursery inside.)

Barb Searing

August 2017



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Thu	Thu	Thu	Thu
		1	2	3	4	5		
			Prayer for our church at 9:00 am in Annex		N.A. meeting at 7:00 in the basement			Gideon Auxiliary 9am to 2 pm
6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
David McMaster Communion			Prayer for our church at 9:00 am in Annex		N.A. meeting at 7:00 in the basement			Shower for Nursery and light lunch 10:30
13	14	15	16	17	18	19		
Steve Heilshorn		Session 7:00	Prayer for our church at 9:00 am in Annex		N.A. meeting at 7:00 in the basement			
20	21	22	23	24	25	26		
Pastor Dan			Prayer for our church at 9:00 am in Annex		N.A. meeting at 7:00 in the basement			
27	28	29	30	31				
Pastor Dan			Prayer for our church at 9:00 am in Annex		N.A. meeting at 7:00 in the basement			

August Birthdays
 3rd - Stan Searing
 3rd - Sherie Summers
 6th - Jillene McMichael
 11th - David Beatty
 12th - Jeff Clark
 13th - Jacob Fife

17th - Jaden Verfaillie
 17th - Alex Straley
 26th - Barb Searing
 28th - Samuel Henson
 29th - Jamie A. Smith (Jim & Doris Smith son)

August Anniversaries:
 5th - Carol and Art Razo
 7th - Don and Ruby Crossland
 14th - Scott and Danielle Haas
 20th - Joel and Joy Coughlin

28th - Dan and Dianna Karlstadt

If your birthday or anniversary is not listed, or is listed incorrectly, please get the correct information to the office ASAP. Thanks!

Session Highlights

Due to scheduling changes, the highlights from the July meeting will be included in the September newsletter. Stay tuned.



Hard Working Ice Cream Freezing Men

Pictured above preparing the ice cream for John Paulding Days are Paul PUNCHES, Bill HURTI, Dave NICE (Photo 1) and in the next photo are Dan KARLSTADT, Jeremy FIFE and Matt REINECK. There were others there to work but not in the picture. Thanks to them and the women who mixed (Becky CRAFT, Barb SEARING, Rhonda SMALLEY, Jane NICE and Sue PAULUS) and the man with the strength to carry the buckets for them, Jeff SUMMERS, the ice cream was delicious!



Following the parade on Thursday night: the crowd makes all the hard work worth while. "Thanks to the team that put up the tent, carried, served, washed, smiled, counted money and all the other many, many jobs needed to get the work done.

EPC Response to Feedback

The EPC Leadership Team has announced that, in response to feedback from churches, it has decided to NOT change the 'per member asking' to a percentage of the church budget and an 'expectation', as previously reported in Session highlights in our newsletter. An example of our denomination's responsiveness to feedback.

This is a change from Session Highlights in a previous newsletter.



It's Beginning...

The workers came Tuesday, July 25, to begin the construction on the garage, the porch and the pavilion. It is fun to watch out the office window and see the change. Drive by and check it out as the work progresses.

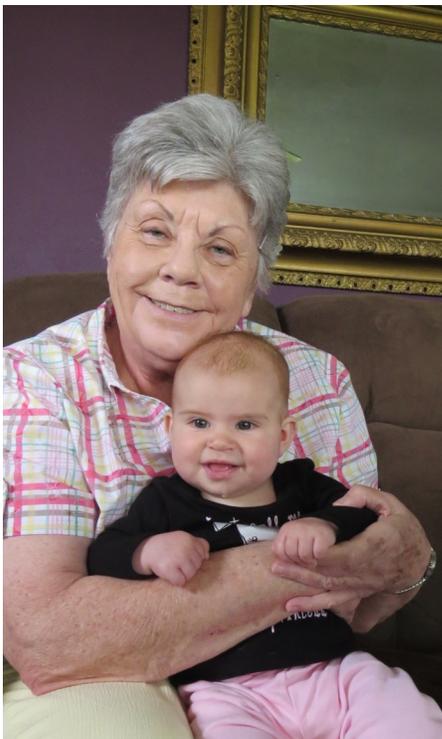
Property Committee Seeking Funds

It was decided at the congregational meeting in May to continue to seek funds for the new garage. This will keep the church from having to use a lot of money from the Nicelly Fund.

Donations may be put in the offering plate or mailed to the church (PO Box 366, Paulding OH 45879) with garage fund written in the memo line.

Easter Lily Revisited

Think back to Easter. Remember hearing that you could plant your lily and it would grow in your flower garden? Here is proof in Phyllis Crossland's garden at the Bittersweet Inn. Next year, let's see how many photos we can get of replanted, blooming lilies. Thank you, Phyllis.



Cara Lou Strahley and Great Granddaughter

Cara Lou hold Carly Jane Arnett, the daughter of Kelly Zartman Arnett and Tyler Arnett of NC. Kelly is the daughter of Angela (Strahley) Zartman and Tony Zartman of Payne, Ohio.

Kelly's twin brothers, Jeremy and Travis Zartman were baptized in our church by Rev. Becker.

Nursery Shower

A nursery 'shower' is being planned for Saturday, Aug. 12th at 10:30 am.

A 'registry list' of wished-for items for the nursery has been created. An insert will be in your bulletin a couple of times for you to RSVP to the shower and/or pick an item you plan to donate.

Unlike your typical shower, with playing games and opening presents, this shower will be a combination of bringing your unwrapped 'gift'; signing up for a week to serve in the nursery; hearing the guidelines and youth worker policy reviewed; cleaning and sorting nursery items; and signing a covenant for youth workers that is part of our church's policy manual.

Exactly like other showers, a light luncheon will be served!

It is hoped that anyone who is planning to participate in this ministry in some waymom, grandma, or teen...will plan to attend. Need more information? Contact Barb S at 419-399-3204 (home), 419-769-0327 (text/cell) or barb@searingfamily.com.





A Long Weekend Visit with the Ferguson Family

Ian and Alyssa Ferguson spent a long weekend in Paulding, visiting with the members of the church, the Ministerial Association and touring our community. They are pictured here visiting with Session members, spouses and guests.

Speakers for August

Guest speakers scheduled for the month of August are: Dave McMaster on the 6th, Steve Heilshorn on the 13th, and Pastor Dan Young on the 20th and 27th. Jumping ahead to September, we are attempting to organize a visit from Ron and Donna Schumacher on Labor Day weekend.



Club Volleyball Nationals

Fort Wayne's Summit league attended the club volleyball National Tournament in Orlando FL. The girls played well, but did not place in the tournament.

Kristen Razo is pictured. She plays the setter position.



Ladies Do Lunch Program for this summer:



1st Ladies Do Lunch on June 15, 2017

Pictured above: Cindy Koenig, Barb Searing, Marcia Wiebe, Ila Steele, Rhonda Smalley, Jane Nice, Darla Cline, Christine Fife and Deb Ripinski.



2nd Ladies Do Lunch July 20, 2017

Pictured above at the Wassenburg: (in the circle) Darla Cline, Marlene Buehler, Rhonda Smalley, Jill Straley, Barb Searing and Sue Paulus

Thursday August 10 at noon:

We will be doing a potluck luncheon at church. Let's all bring the recipes so we can share. Following lunch (1:00) I have invited Geniece Shuff Schaber from Funky Junk in the Country to teach us how to milk paint. She will be supplying all supplies and the vintage inspired tool box for us to paint on for the minimal fee of \$15. She will teach us the difference between glazing and waxing. She has seven spaces at Maumee Antique Mall and one space at LouisiAvenue in Perrysburg where she sells her refurbished pieces of furniture and objects that she lends her talents to. She also teaches milk painting classes at Monclova Community Center.



Sprucing up the Neighborhood!

There have just been lots and lots of laughs regarding this toilet sitting by the back door of the cottage. It has been reinstalled, so no longer sitting there. But the photo with the TP on it simply had to be run. This is the last one, promise!



Decorated bottles drying at the Wassenburg as the ladies enjoyed their lunch in the Bistro, downtown Van Wert.

Do You Have a Favorite Verse of Scripture?

The Worship Committee has decided that for this summer, people from the congregation are invited to share their favorite scripture with just a short explanation of why that verse or those verses are your favorite. Are you willing to do that? If so speak to a Worship Committee member: Sue Crossland, Rhonda Smalley or Sue Paulus

There are four Sundays left to sign up. Don't miss this opportunity to share your love of your God and His Word.



Caring & Sharing Food Pantry

Thank to all who have so faithfully donated to the Food Pantry over the past two months when a very busy church agenda and family vacations are our priority.

Suggestions for August donations are:

Breakfast items - cereal, breakfast bars, and canned fruit

Snack & Lunch items - peanut butter, tuna, crackers, pop corn, jelly

Always and ever needed are Hygiene Items - shampoo & conditioners, deodorant, body lotions, hand sanitize gels, toothpaste & brushes, soap (body & laundry).

Note: Chief Market coupons you may have received in the mail for August include many of the above needed items. What great timing! Thanks so much, Becky



Thank you to the Paulding Ministerial Association for the Pulpit Swap that took place on Sunday July 23. Our congregation heard a terrific message from Pastor Merlyn Winters, First Christian Church. Each pastor spoke on Ephesians 4:1-16, Unity in the Body of Christ. What a terrific picture of unity, as the pastors were all willing to share their pulpits with another pastor



Nursery News

As you read on the front page, and heard in worship a couple of weeks ago, plans are underway to have our nursery open for children infants through 5 years old, starting Sept. 10th when fall schedule resumes. Here is a little about how this is intended to look:

Two people... a teen and a grandma (or mom!)..... will be in the nursery during worship, from 10 am until the last child is picked up. Parents will sign their child in, and pick their child back up. Parents will leave their cell phone number so that they can be texted during worship if they need to return to the nursery before the

service is over. Children can be brought to the nursery anytime during worship.

Four teens (Erin, Anna, Kristen, Julia) have committed to being in the nursery one Sunday per month.....someone on the 1st, Sunday, the 2nd Sunday, etc. The teen's job will be to interact and love on the kids, and also to provide the physical labor for the day.....boosting a 2 year old for a diaper change, taking a 4 year old to the bathroom, getting up and down and up and down, picking up all the toys at the end.

The grandma/mom will also love on the kids..... talking, coloring, reading books, playing with toys, cuddling, rocking babies but will not need to do physical labor! What a plan! Each of you out there know your abilities and your limitations. It is hoped that, if you feel able and are willing, you will commit to serve one Sunday between September and New Years in the nursery.

.Please, grandmas and moms, consider volunteering to serve alongside a teen in the nursery one Sunday this fall. You can do this by attending the nursery shower on Sat., Aug. 12 and picking your date, or by contacting Barb Searing (barb@searingfamily.com , 419-399-3204 home, or 419-769-0327 text/cell).



Paulding OH 45879
Corner of Caroline & Cherry,
First Presbyterian Church
Summer Schedule
Praise Music 9:15
Worship Service 9:30

First Presbyterian Church

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Phone: 419-399-2438
Secretary's e-mail: fpcpaulding@gmail.com (new)
www.firstpresbyterianpaulding.com (new website)

firstpresbyterianpaulding.com

In Essentials, Unity.
In Non-Essentials, Liberty.
In All Things, Charity.

