

September 2017

## The Cornerstone News

### First Presbyterian Church, Paulding Ohio

Volume 3 Issue 9



#### OUT OF THE SALTSHAKER: Message from *Home Touch*

We send *Home Touch* to our home bound church family members every week

**Home Touch** Sunday, Aug 20, 2017

Scripture Reading: Genesis 45:1-15

I was traveling recently by air from Portland, Oregon to San Francisco. As the time for boarding approached, I noticed that several passengers were showing signs of nervousness and stress.

They stood up and walked around. Then they sat down and fidgeted. They checked the passenger lists on an overhead monitor. Sometimes, they approached the gate agent to ask a question.

I soon understood that these passengers who showed so much anxiety were standby passengers. Their place on the plane was not assured. Consequently, they were filled with dread and doubt, and in turn, they paced and fretted—until their fate was announced. Some got on the flight and some didn't.

Their worried behavior was in stark contrast to those who had boarding passes in their hands. They were about to take a flight and their seats were assured.

These people were hopeful and expectant. They were relaxed and confident. They conversed amiably with fellow passengers and friends. They were excited, looking forward to the adventure that lay ahead at their final destination.

We, too, as believers are relaxed and confident. We've been assured a place on a flight for which God is our Pilot. We are excited and confident. We know that a place has been prepared for us, according to the gospel of John (14:1-2).

We have every reason to be confident. The Bible says that we can transfer our burdens and cares to Jesus. The Apostle Paul reminds us not to worry about anything but to submit our cares to God (Philippians 4:7).

So there is no reason for believers to fret and worry about what lies ahead. We know that our

lives are in God's hands, and what better place for them to be!

-Timothy Merrill

*Prayer: Ever-present God, thank you for your daily assurances. Thank you for the knowledge that my life is safe in your hands. In Jesus Name, Amen.*

When I read this, it made me think about what we have been doing as a congregation: waiting and trusting. We are excited. We are confident that God has our whole pastor search in His hand. We have no reason to fret and worry about what lies ahead. It is all in God's hands. Thank you Lord for being in control.

Last comments by Susan Paulus

THOUGHT: Sleep in peace tonight. God is Bigger than anything you will face tomorrow. - Dave Willis

# September 2017



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
				N.A. meeting at 7:00 in the basement	5th Quarter Party Nazarene's hosting 9-11:30	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Ron & Donna Schumacher Communion Lunch following service			Prayer for our church at 9:00 am in Annex Choir Practice 7:00	N.A. meeting at 7:00 in the basement		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Pastor Dwayne Richardson		Session 7:00	Prayer for our church at 9:00 am in Annex Choir Practice 7:00	A. meeting at 7:00 in the basement	Presbytery Meeting, Lafayette IN	
					Flat Rock Creek Festival, Chili Booth	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Ian Ferguson  Cont: Flat Rock			Prayer for our church at 9:00 am in Annex Choir Practice 7:00	N.A. meeting at 7:00 in the basement		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Steve Heilshorn			Prayer for our church at 9:00 am in Annex Choir Practice 7:00	N.A. meeting at 7:00 in the basement	5th Quarter Party Presbyterian's hosting 9-11:30	

September:  
 3<sup>rd</sup> - Brendon Verfaillie  
 5<sup>th</sup> - Jeff Fishbaugh  
 8<sup>th</sup> - Sue Dotterer (Jim & Doris Smith daughter)  
 10<sup>th</sup> - Doris Smith  
 10<sup>th</sup> - David Nice

10<sup>th</sup> - Ron VanAtta  
 11<sup>th</sup> - Bob Mayer  
 11<sup>th</sup> - Steve St. John  
 14<sup>th</sup> - Phyllis Crossland  
 19<sup>th</sup> - First Presbyterian Church  
 22<sup>nd</sup> - Doug Smalley

Sept. Anniversaries  
 2<sup>nd</sup> - Ron and Mary VanAtta  
 19<sup>th</sup> - First Presbyterian Church

20<sup>th</sup> - Reba Hurtig and Eric Jones  
 23<sup>rd</sup> - Larry and Becky Fishbaugh  
 28<sup>th</sup> - Dan and Jill Straley

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

## Session Highlights For July and August

The Pastor Nominating Committee left their 7/26 meeting to join the 7/26 Session meeting (just across the room!) to share their decision to extend a call to Ian Ferguson to become our next pastor. Since that night, Ian has accepted our invitation, and will return to Paulding the weekend of Sept. 15-16-17. He will be attending Presbytery on the 15th-16th, and will preach during worship on Sept. 17. A congregational meeting will follow that service, at which time everyone will hear the details of the offer, and those on the active member roll will vote on asking Ian Ferguson to serve our church as pastor. There will be formal announcements of this meeting, and a letter from the PNC introducing Ian, in the coming weeks.

The Worship committee was praised for filling the pulpit with inspirational and timely speakers. The August-September list was/is: 8/6 Dave McMaster, 8/13 Steve Heilshorn, 8/20 Dan Young, 8/27 Dave McMaster, 9/3 Ron and Donna Schumacher (Wycliffe missionaries), 9/10 Dwayne Richardson, 9/17 Ian Ferguson (pastor candidate), 9/24 Steve Heilshorn. On September 10th, church services return to 10:15 am praise singing and 10:30 am worship, with Sunday School at 9 am. Several more individuals are willing to be trained on the sanctuary sound system to provide back up to Jeff Summers and Joe Reineck. Steve Heilshorn will help with training.

The Mission committee is excited to have Schumachers, missionaries that we have supported for many years, use the Sept. 3rd service to share their work with Wycliffe Bible Translators in the Philippines. Light refreshments will follow so that people can visit with them more.

The Christian Ed committee has been working toward having the nursery open for business beginning Sept. 10 when we return to fall schedule. Session approved hiring Hartzog Lumber make some physical improvements. A nursery 'shower' was held Aug. 12th with many items donated. Guidelines for those volunteering in the nursery were shared by Dianna Karlstadt, who will serve as coordinator. Teen volunteers are in place to serve each week. Moms and grandmas are being asked to serve one Sunday between 9/10 and 12/ 31, so that one adult and one teen will be in the nursery each week. Sunday School will also kick off on Sept. 10th, with a theme of "Build Your Kingdom Here".

The Congregational Life/Outreach committee is exploring the purchase of a tall 'sail-type' welcome flag to be posted outside the Caroline Street doors each Sunday, as well as for other activities. They also plan to enlist greeters to welcome folks in the hallway by the coat racks each week. If you would be willing to do this on occasion, please let Barb Searing know. A new 5th Quarter season in our parking lot begins 8/25. Our partner churches this year are 8/25 1st Christian, 9/1 Nazarene, 9/29 is our own turn, and 10/6 St Paul Lutheran, with Branch Fellowship providing the sound each time. The Presbyterian Chili booth will again serve up yummy chili and bottled water at the Flat Rock Creek Fall Festival on Sept. 15-16-17.

The Nominating committee (Dave N, Matt, Judy R and Marlene B) will be seeking people to serve as elders and deacons soon. For Session, Ed Cline's one-year in the class of 2018 will be filled, plus one 3-year term for the class of 2020. (Barb Searing has agreed to serve a second term.). On the Board of Deacons, one 3-year term is up for renewal. (Jane Nice has agreed to serve a second term.)

The Property committee reports that the garage is going up. Thanks to the initial anonymous donation and financial support since then, the withdrawal needed from the Nicelley Investment Fund to complete the funding was \$16,000. This is well under the \$22,000 approved at the congregational meeting about the garage. Any additional donations received toward the garage can replace Nicelley principal that was withdrawn. There was a sump pump failure in the cottage basement as well as an air conditioning problem just before the Fergusons visited. The pump has been repaired (\$1750). The air conditioning could be repaired for \$1800, or, for \$2800, a new system with a 10 year warranty could be installed. It was decided at the July meeting that replacement was the wiser choice, and that perhaps we could delay that expense since fall is coming. However, with Fergusons coming again and hopefully staying in the cottage, it was decided to go ahead with this repair now. The security system for the ramp entrance door has been a more expensive challenge than anticipated, costing \$2700 vs \$1500 first planned. It is functioning, but the possibility of 'boosting' the wifi signal is being explored.

The Daily Bread Food Bag project, coordinated by Becky Fishbaugh, was funded through the end of 2017. These bags are not a 'food bank', but are back-up for emergency situations where people come to the church who have fallen through the cracks and need help.

Narcotics Anonymous meetings were approved to be held in the basement each Thursday evening. After a trial period of several weeks, it was decided to extend the agreement for 6 more months. Having these meetings available in Paulding is a huge support to Judge Beckman's Drug Court program. Dave and Jane Nice are the church hosts. Also related to Drug Court, it was approved to collect \$5 gift cards for Paulding businesses for the Drug Court reward basket during August.

It is time for 1st Wednesday suppers to resume. Speakers from missions and community programs that we support will continue to be invited for the first several months.

Approval was given for a Candidates Breakfast sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce. This will be held in our Fellowship Hall on Tuesday Oct. 3 at 8:30 am. We will also host a Day of Prayer for Andrew Brunson who has been in a Turkish prison for one year as of Oct. 7. The Prayer Shawl group will coordinate this. Watch for details.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barb Searing, Clerk of Session



The Second Chance Narcotics Anonymous group has been meeting in our church basement every Thursday evening since July. Attendance has grown and group members sincerely appreciate the comfortable space and our willingness to host. Session has approved continuing to host the meetings for another six months and will review the schedule again at that time.

Participation in Judge Tiffany Beckman's Drug Court has grown as well. Only those who have served jail time qualify for Drug Court and admittance is granted at the judge's and other legal officials' discretion. Attending support meetings is a requirement for Drug Court participants, so having local meetings is very helpful for those who do not have cars or valid driver's licenses.

A big THANK YOU to all of our church members who donated \$5 gift cards for the Drug Court reward basket in the month of August! The month isn't over yet and we already have over 20 gift cards. The judge will be amazed and the participants will be very grateful. Thank you for your generous donations to this cause!

Also, thank you to all of the members of our congregation who have offered to help open up the church and be here during the Narcotics Anonymous meetings. One of the participants recently marveled at how far he has come. "I can't believe I am talking to people like you, let alone in a church!" he told us. God is good!

Dave and Jane Nice



Lauren Hill has moved into the dorm at University of Findley.



Isaac Nice is back at Trine University starting his junior year. He is excited to be living in an on-campus apartment this year with three of his friends.

Also returning to campus this fall are Megan Reineck and Kacie Karlstadt. All of our students need to know that their church family is praying for them.



## Celebrate our New Building!

It has been great fun to sit at the desk and watch the building come together: watching the straw hats blend in with the modern electrified equipment has been quite interesting. We will have a few more pictures next month as it should be completed by then.

## Speakers for September

Guest speakers scheduled for the month of September are: Ron and Donna Schumacher on the 3rd, Pastor Dwayne on the 10th, Ian Ferguson on the 17th and Steve Heilshorn on the 24th,



**SEPTEMBER 15 - 17, 2017**  
PAULDING COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS  
PAULDING, OHIO

It is that time of year again! The First Presbyterian Church will be selling chili and water at the Flat Rock Creek Fall Festival September 15-17. If you have not already signed up to work a shift, look for a clipboard soon!



## Ladies Do Lunch Program that took place 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 26, 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: with our replicas of vintage tool boxes. Great fun, thanks Darla



## Financial Update

In July we paid:

- Monnier Remodeling \$1,000 toward the Cottage restroom remodel project.
- Don and Perry's \$300 for linoleum for the Cottage restroom remodel project.
- Schweller Electric \$2,719.71 for a Door Bird security system.
- Dangler Excavating \$3,633.55 for stone and ground preparation for garage project.
- Habegggers Ace Lumber \$8,222.20 for materials for garage project
- Sam U. Schwartz \$6,400 in labor for garage project.
- Kohart Recycling \$300 for a dumpster at the garage project.
- Ian Ferguson \$1,107.48 to reimburse air fare for a pastoral visit.

Carol Razo, Treasurer



## Do You Have a Favorite Verse of Scripture?

**It has been suggested that we continue with the Favorite Scripture as we go into fall and winter. Are you interested? Do you think it is a good idea? Share your thoughts with a Worship Committee member:**

**Sue Crossland, Rhonda Smalley or Sue Paulus**

**Thanks to those who were willing to share with us this summer: Barb Searing, Phyllis Lutz, Dave Nice, Rhonda Smalley, Sue Paulus, Jane Nice, Brent Fishbaugh, Darla Cline, Darwin Cline, Kristen Razo, Marlene Beuhler, Jeremy Fife, Betty St. John and one still needed as this is written for September 3rd.**



## Caring & Sharing Food Pantry

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

Suggestions for September 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).



### Update on Mara Vielma:

Mara is at home under close loving supervision. She is ready to start a new home schooling plan this fall.

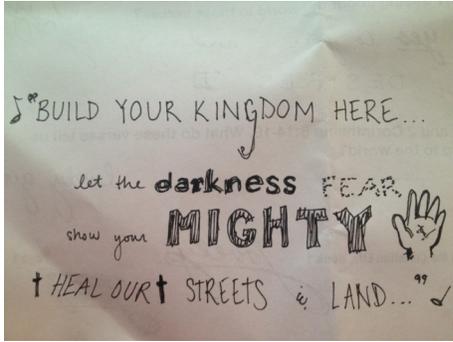
Violet says “I am so thankful to all of you for the things you did to help when Mara was missing. The prayer vigil was amazing. Sometimes I’m not too good at saying thank you anymore. But a huge thank you for your prayers and all your help.”

What a blessing for our church to be available to assist this family while they were in such a painful situation.



5th Quarter parties for teens in 7th - 12th grades will again be spearheaded by our church, courtesy of the Congregational Life/Outreach committee. All parties will be held in the Presbyterian parking lot, rain or shine. Should the weather not cooperate, the festivities will move inside. (That, thank the Lord, has only happened once!) The dates for 2017 are: !! Friday, Aug. 25 (First Christians hosting) !!! Friday, Sept. 1!! (Nazarenes hosting) Friday, Sept. 29!! (Presbyterians hosting) Friday, Oct. 6!! (St. Paul Lutheran hosting) !!!! There is a home game on Friday,

Sept. 15th. There will be NO 5th Quarter that night, as it is the same weekend as the Flat Rock Creek Fall Festival, and many of the youth and the churches will be involved with that major Paulding event. We will need church volunteer ‘hosts’ to assist the other churches on ‘their’ nights. We will be looking for adult supervision, help to set up and clean up, provisions of prizes, pop, and food for “our” week, Sept. 29. We have great church partners again in First Christian (bringing the fire pits and straw bales for seating) and Branch Christian Fellowship (providing the music videos). Other partners this year are the Nazarene Church and St. Paul’s Lutheran Church. We are so blessed to have the community behind this project for our youth. Find ‘5th Quarter’ on Facebook and ‘like’ it to keep up with what’s new!



**Everyone is encouraged to attend**

the Sunday School Kick-off on Sunday, September 10, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. This year's theme is "Build Your Kingdom Here", which is the praise song we will be singing each week during this exciting time of transition with our new pastor! Very yummy refreshments will be served and then Sunday School classes will begin at 9:15 a.m.

Adult Class with Jane Nice (Bud Koenig, substitute), which meets in the Fellowship Hall, studying the Book of Acts

Adult Class with Paul Panches, which meets in the middle Sunday School room in the Fellowship Hall, studying the video series "Walking Through The Bible" with Ray Vanderlan

High School class, which meets in the Youth Lounge

Elementary/Junior High class, Rhonda Smalley will be available to teach in the left Sunday School room in the Fellowship Hall, studying "Show Me Jesus" curriculum

So, bring your Bibles and invite your friends and family to come along with you to enjoy Sunday School and Worship service together!

Women's Ecumenical Christmas Banquet and Program



This year, in just three short months, our Women's Group will be hosting the annual Christmas Dinner for the women of the community. This is a significant anniversary, but the number escapes me as I write this. We need help spreading the word, so talk to your friends from other churches. A planning meeting will be scheduled in a few weeks. Pray that we have a celebration worthy of our Lord.

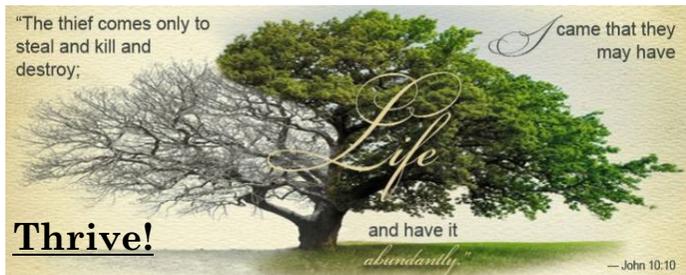


Our speaker: Carrie Gaul of Revive Our Hearts Ministries.

**Saturday October 28, 2017  
36th Annual Women's Retreat**

Carrie Gaul from Revive the Heart Ministries is returning to bring us a three part series titled *Thrive* based on John 10:10. There will be special music, a catered lunch and lots of warm fellowship.

Look for your detailed flyer in the mail in early October but write the date on your calendar now you don't miss it.



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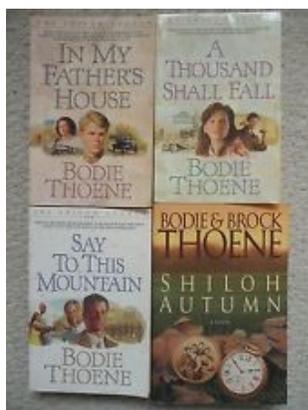
On Oct. 7, 2016 Andrew Brunson and his wife, Norine, were summoned to a local police station in Izmir, Turkey. At the time, this didn't seem like anything to be worried about. The couple, originally from North Carolina, had lived for 23 years in Turkey's third largest city, where Andrew was the pastor of the Izmir Resurrection Church, a small protestant congregation of about 25. The Brunsons had raised three children in Turkey and had applied for permanent residency. They went willingly to the police station, thinking they were finally going to get it.

Instead, Andrew and Norine were taken into custody, accused of missionary activities "against national security," and told they would be deported. Norine was released on Oct. 9 and so far has been allowed to stay in Turkey, but almost a year later, Andrew remains locked up. On Dec. 11, he was moved to a counterterrorism center and charged with "membership in an armed terrorist organization." A judge ordered that he be detained rather than deported.

It will be a year on October 7 since Andrew Brunson was taken prisoner in Turkey. Session approved a day of prayer by our church for him and Norine on that Saturday. The church will be open twelve hours for prayer and there will be a sign-up sheet to come in person and pray or commit to pray at half hour intervals.

Thanks much, Becky.

## Lighthouse Library News: Check It Out...



For our readers who enjoy Bodie and Brock Thoene books, we have a new series ordered and on its way to our bookshelves: the Shiloh Legacy Set which has three books. This historical fiction takes place in the United States between WW1 and WW11. we presently have Shiloh Autumn which is related to these new books.

While in Alaska, Becky and Larry Fishbaugh purchased *Granite* for our library. It is a beautiful story about a woman and her sled dog, Granite. With persistence, hard work and determination, Granite overcame health challenges to go on and win the Iditarod Race as the lead dog many times. All ages will enjoy it and may find it useful to teach courage, endurance, compassion and kindness to

children.

Is there a book you would like to see in our library? Please give your ideas to Judy Robinson or Marlene Buehler.



Cornerstone News



*Paulding OH 45879  
Corner of Caroline & Cherry,  
First Presbyterian Church*

Sunday School 9:00  
Praise Music 10:15  
Worship Service 10:30

*Fall and Winter Schedule  
begins Sunday September 10.*

## First Presbyterian Church

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

