

April 2018

## The Cornerstone News

### First Presbyterian Church, Paulding Ohio

Volume 4 Issue 4



## Thoughts from Ian...

Do you have an idea for a title for Ian's monthly column? If so, let him know. It would be fun to have lots of suggestions and offer a reward to the one he chooses.

I want to say a big thank you to everyone who attended my ordination and installation service on March 18<sup>th</sup>. It was a wonderful weekend! Our families had a great time visiting Paulding. Everyone was so welcoming that I had multiple people from out of town comment on how friendly our church community was to them. Thank you for the love you have shown our son, Samuel. He loves the attention you give him and exploring our church. Alissa and I loved the song on Sunday morning. We feel part of the Paulding First Presbyterian family.

Those of you who attended the ordination know that my dad was able to give the message during my ordination service. It was not only a wise message for pastors but for all Christians. Christians must believe in a big God. God is not only good, he is great. We must be "big Godders." God is more powerful than we can imagine. Nothing is too wonderful for him. When we make God small, we are rejecting the God of the Bible.

A couple months ago on a cold rainy day, Alissa and I heard a knock on the door. We opened the door to find a kind, young man I will call Nick. Nick had come to our door evangelizing for his religion, the Jehovah Witnesses. His question for us was "Is the world out of control?" In a sense, he was asking if we were "big Godders." He seemed a little surprised at our response, "No! God is in control." Thinking that God had put Nick into our lives for a reason, we invited him in to talk.

Nick was honest and kind as we talked. We were hopeful that if he was a "big Godder" too then we could

have a very good conversation. Did Nick really believe that God was big and powerful enough to preserve the Scripture as he promised? Is God who he says he is (i.e. Father, Son, and Holy Spirit)? Is God big enough to deal with our sin and save us? Was Jesus the BIG GOD or was he a small god?

Without going into all of the details, Nick was not a "big Godder." For instance, even though he greatly respected Jesus, his understanding of Jesus was too small. The Bible clearly teaches that Jesus is God. Just take the Gospel of John as an example. In John 1:1, the Word, which we see is Jesus later in the chapter, is with God from the beginning and is God. In John 20:28, Jesus is addressed as Lord and God. These bookends affirm what is taught throughout the Gospel as Jesus declares himself to be the great I AM (John 8:58). Instead, Jehovah Witnesses believe Jesus to be a small god. Jesus is a created being. As a creature, he is unable to fully save us.

Nick is not without hope because God is powerful and able to save. Alissa and I have prayed that Nick would come to know the big God of the Bible. We pray for all of us to have a high view of Jesus. Jesus is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being,

sustaining all things by his powerful word (Hebrews 1:3). Jesus is the beginning and the end (Revelation 22:13). The fullness of God dwells in him (Colossians 1:19).

I am excited to see what God is going to call us to do over the next few years. Sometimes it may seem too much for us but it will never be too much for God. Let's be "big Godders."



# April 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> Easter Sunday  Communion	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> N.A. meeting at 7:00 in the Youth Lounge  Prayer for the community at the Senior Center 7:00	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Women's Board 7:00	<b>11</b> Choir Practice 7:00	<b>12</b> N.A. meeting at 7:00 in the Youth Lounge	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Epidemic of Hope Faith Event Trinity Friends 7:00 Van Wert
<b>15</b> Epidemic of Hope Niswonger Performing Arts Center 7:00	<b>16</b> Prayer vigil for Andrew Brunson 2-7	<b>17</b> Session 7:00	<b>18</b> Choir Practice 7:00	<b>19</b> N.A. meeting at 7:00 in the Youth Lounge	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Choir Practice 7:00	<b>26</b> N.A. meeting at 7:00 in the Youth Lounge	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 5th Sunday Offering	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>				

April Birthdays:

3<sup>rd</sup> - Joseph Reineck

4<sup>th</sup> - Brock Verfaillie

5<sup>th</sup> - Candi Koenig

10<sup>th</sup> - Megan Fife

10<sup>th</sup> - Nikki Verfaillie

16<sup>th</sup> - Caitlin Pennington

21<sup>st</sup> - Samuel Ferguson

23<sup>rd</sup> - Paul Punches

29<sup>th</sup> - Deston Verfaillie

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

## Session Highlights March

At the March 20th Session meeting, elders.....

\*applauded having our newly ordained Teaching Elder, Ian, as the moderator of the meeting, and thanked Dave Nice for serving as acting moderator for the past 13 months

\*encouraged Pastor Ian to apply for the EPC scholarship that aids small churches in sending representatives to General Assembly. Registration opens April 1.

\*were reminded that the Personnel committee (Bud, Dave, Jeff) is meeting with Pastor Ian monthly. They support Ian's request to spend a portion of his established office hours working out in the community. ie coffee shop, McDonald's, etc.

\*received a report from the Mission committee (Darwin & Darla Cline, Linda Reineck, Christine Fife) that the church continues to support these from the permanent missions funds: Wycliffe Bible Translators (Schumaker's & Schwartz's), two EPC missionaries (Bailey's & Mindling's), ABWE missionaries (Taber's), and Village Missions (Cleland's). They are also discussing a local day mission project.

\*thanked Jeff and Sherie Summers for filling in during two NA meetings, and Ian and Alissa Ferguson for attending one Drug Court session while the Nice's were out of town

\*were updated on the kitchen fire suppression incident. When Snow's Fire Protection Service was conducting the annual inspection of our kitchen system, it was accidentally set off, coating the kitchen floor, cabinets, ranges, Bunn coffeemaker, etc. in foam. Over several visits, clean-up has now been completed by Snow's, and the coffeemaker has been replaced. Thanks to Bud, Sue P, Darla, and Brent F for their time and many contacts to get things back to normal. An insurance claim has been filed and then put 'on hold', in case issues arise in the coming months related to this event.

\*learned that the Property committee is currently Bud Koenig and Dan Karlstadt. These men need more committee members! (See related article.)

\*approved hiring Leon Goyings to complete yardwork around the new garage....tilling, leveling, seeding, and strawing...per his estimate of \$980.

\*heard that the parking lot lights are all working well now; that estimates and timing on possible boiler re-

placement are being worked on, as the boiler control panels are on 'borrowed time'; and that the committee will be reviewing the adequacy of our insurance coverage with Straley Insurance.

\*learned that new banners for the parking lot light poles, and a new welcome flag for the Caroline Street entrance have been ordered through Brune Printing and will be here in two weeks.

\*added the Brad Hurtig motivational program/concert on Friday, October 26 in coordination with Paulding Schools to the church calendar. (see related article)

\*were reminded of the Good Friday and Easter Sunrise services by the Ministerial Association

Submitted by Barb Searing, clerk of Session

### THE PRICE

You gave all, dear Jesus, and we couldn't see  
The breadth of Your giving, willing and free,  
The price You would pay despite desperate plea:  
Death, Resurrection, God's holy decree.

You went without whimper. No word did You say.  
You knew what would happen and went anyway.  
Hematohidrosis, blood-sweat from the prey:  
The Lamb, Great I Am, went to slaughter that day.

Thorns piercing Your scalp, on Calvary's stalk  
We raised high our Savior—and gawked:  
Flailed and nailed, assailed and mocked  
Mangled and strangled, in anguish and shock.

Your courage to suffer we can't comprehend  
And more, in the knowing, You'd do it again.

Edith D. Plettner  
Copy write 2016



Edith, better known as DeeDee, is a member of the Defiance Writers' Group that meets at Defiance College monthly on the 3rd Monday. All interested in writing are welcome to attend.

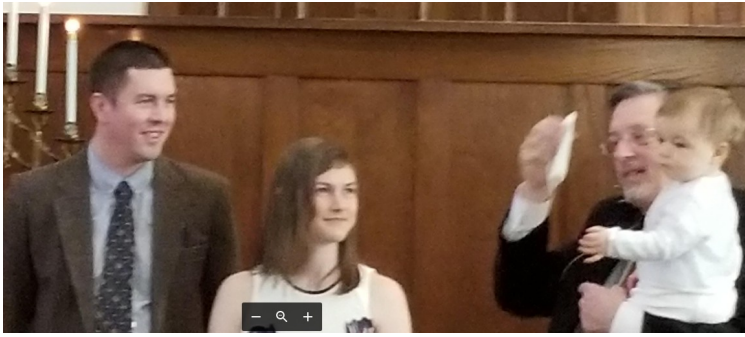




Service of ordination for  
***Ian Michael Ferguson***  
 Sunday March 18, 2018







The Sacrament of Baptism  
***Samuel Cary Ferguson***  
 Sunday March 18, 2018





## Preparing a Lenten Lunch

The Women of the Methodist Church served lunch on Wednesday March 14. The eight people shown here are a good representation of the number of people it takes to get the lunches ready and served. Thanks to each church for participating.

## Caring & Sharing Food Pantry

The same things are needed each month, but during this cold weather it seems that skin care items for all ages is important. Also as the weather warms, think spring cleaning.

Brent is delivering donations to the pantry for Becky until she is able to take this responsibility back.

Thank you for generosity to this need in caring for our local residents.



## Ways to Serve in April

**volunteer**  
*do good, feel good*

Volunteer in the nursery: Call Dianna Karlstadt 419-670-2948 We have babies every week now, and adults are needed. The ever-famous clip board will be at the top of the steps, take a look and sign up.

Are you comfortable welcoming people? We could use greeters to say "Welcome" each Sunday Morning

Suggest a favorite hymn, call Sue Paulus 419-399-5533 or Sue Crossland 419-399-5943 or put a note in the collection plate.

Sign up to bring flowers for a Sunday service. The Flower Chart is on the wall in the hall outside of the fellowship hall doors.

## Science Fair Excellence!



Megan Harpel and Sydney Reineck each received an Excellent rating at the Ohio Northern University District Science Fair.

Kirkmont Center's  
Early-Bird Discount  
extended through April 11!



Full confession time: We were a little slow in getting out the Camp Brochure this year. Since some folks learn about Kirkmont Center's camp offerings only through that brochure, we are extending the \$40 Early-Bird Discount through Monday, April 11.

Have a blessed Easter. And register for camp!





Matt Ferguson reading a letter from Ian's twin brother.



Dave Nice speaking for Session

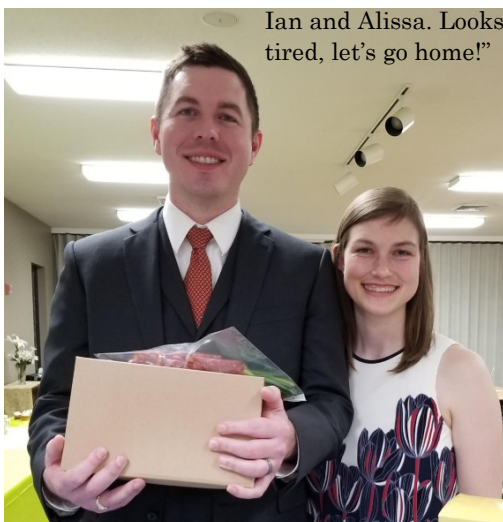


Sue Crossland our MC for the evening's festivities.

The Party Following...



Pictures of a portion of the crowd...



Ian and Alissa. Looks like "I'm tired, let's go home!"



Christine Fife, one of the women keeping the food tables full



Two of our guests from Presbytery

## Noteworthy items from February

In February we:

- Paid the first half of our Per Member Asking - Midwest Presbytery \$507 (78 members x \$13 divided by 2) Office of General Assembly \$897 (78 members x \$23 divided by 2)
- Paid Wiredapple Graphic Design \$300 for sound system training.
- Paid Metalink Technologies \$300 for fiber line installation for internet service.
- Paid \$300 to NOCAC for the warm hearts warm homes program.
- Paid \$1,020 each to our six missionaries:
  - Wycliffe Bible Translators - Ron & Donna Schumacher, Brian and Beth Schwartz
  - EPC - Benjamin & Monica Bailey, Tim and Karen Mindling
  - ABWE - Don & Karen Taber
  - Village Missions - Chris Cleland
- Made an annual payment to Metalink Technologies of \$812.45 for internet service.
- Withdrew \$8,588.63 from the Nicelley investment, which was allocated as follows:
  - \$4,815.00 to reimburse property maintenance expense for a waterline project
  - \$2,236.58 to cover the deficit balance in the Garage Replacement Fund
  - \$1,537.05 remaining was deposited to the Nicelley Income Fund

Carol Razo, Treasurer



## \$5.00 Gift Cards Needed

**We are again collecting \$5.00 gift cards from local businesses for the Drug Court Reward Basket. Please place cards-local businesses only-in the basket at the top of the stairs before Easter.**



## God's Share Program

Susan and Phyllis Crossland deliver three boxes from the church to God's Share Program in Florida. With them are Phyllis's brother, Alan, and his wife, Barb, along with Kim (founder of the program) and her husband Don.

For more information of God's Share Program, what they need and how we can support them, see the bulletin board in the hall.



The Property Committee is looking for a couple of new members.

You don't need to be a "handy" person to serve with this group- anyone willing can contribute. To my knowledge we have never had a lady on this committee- If one of you gals would like to "break the glass ceiling" we would welcome you! Contact Bud Koenig for more information [419-789-2810](tel:419-789-2810)

The good news is IT'S SPRING!! The bad news is that before next heating season the church will need a new boiler system. Cost will be in the \$35,000 range. The Property Committee is currently researching and getting quotes. Please consider giving to this needed project.





## Continue in prayer

A court in Turkey has accepted a 62 page indictment against EPC Teaching Elder Andrew Brunson on terrorism related charges. Prosecutors are asking for a 35-year sentence. His trial is scheduled to begin April 16. We will host a prayer vigil here that day. See enclosed flyer for information.

You can read the full report on EPConnection.

## PNC and Pastor Ian



Pictured above are the members of the Pastor Nominating Committee: (standing left to right) Jane Nice, Alex Straley, Stan Searing, Brent Fishbaugh, Susan Crossland; (seated) Judy Robinson, Pastor Ian Ferguson, Bud Koenig. This group of people did a lot of praying and listening to the Lord during our time without a pastor. The proof of their prayer is the loving Ferguson family that the Lord has brought us.

## Brad Hurtig Motivational Program/Concert October 26

Brad's group will present a motivational program/music to the junior and senior high students in the school during the school day Friday; and a Christian band event in the school after the football game that night. This date is the last home game, and this event will serve as the culmination of the 5th Quarter series for 2018.

Students at the concert Friday night will be invited to our church for worship that Sunday morning, 10/28, where Brad will be preaching. Our church is the hosting church and will be seeking your support to cover the \$850 fee for that total weekend. Stay tuned for details.



Join Darryl and Tracy Strawberry of Strawberry Ministries, Pastor Jerry O'Brien from Faith Harvest Ministries and members of the Ohio Attorney General's Outreach Team and Woodhaven Ohio for a powerful and cutting edge event in response to Ohio's current OPIOD/Drug Crisis.

Strawberry Ministries, Harvest Recovery Ministries and the Office of the Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine invite you to the

## EPIDEMIC of Hope

**Tri-County Main Event**  
**Sunday, April 15, 2018**  
**Niswonger Performing Arts Center**

**Youth Event: 4-5 PM**  
**Main Event: 7-9 PM**  
**Doors open at 6 PM**

**Faith Event**  
**Saturday April 14, 2018**  
**Trinity Friends Church**  
**Evening Event: 7-9 PM**

**Doors open at 6 PM**

The **Epidemic of Hope** promises to be a night of education, enlightenment, equipping and hope. Be a catalyst for change!



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

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

## First Presbyterian Church

PO Box 366  
Corner of Caroline and Cherry Street  
Paulding OH 45879

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

[firstpresbyterianpaulding.com](http://firstpresbyterianpaulding.com)

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