

The Cornerstone News

First Presbyterian Church, Paulding Ohio

Volume 4 Issue 9



Thoughts from Ian...



What do you do when you are expected to wait on something? How are you when you have to wait

in traffic, in a line at the grocery store, or at the restaurant for your food? I know what I do, I often distract myself to get my mind off the wait. So, I recently found myself at a restaurant with my wife and child fiddling with my silverware as we waited for our food. When we are out at restaurants, Samuel always keeps a close eye on the waiter and looks out for any food headed our way. He can be quite vocal about his expectations and I was hoping that the food would come before he started getting too loud. Samuel was hungry, as we could tell from his babbling. Then, something surprising happened.

Samuel reached out his hands. One reached out towards me and the other towards Alissa. He was not satisfied until he had our hands in his and then with one last look around for incoming food, he bowed his head. Alissa and I shot each other a confused glance. After a moment with his head bowed, Samuel raised his eyes and looked around again for the food. Samuel did this a few times and we realized what he was doing. Before every meal, Alissa and I hold his hands like this and pray. Since Samuel is in the habit of

praying with us as he waits for his meal, he must have thought that if we prayed then the food would be shortly on its way.

As I was thinking about this cute moment shared in the restaurant that day, I remembered how Jesus, in Luke 18:16-17, said "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it."

Part of what this means is our humble dependence on God. Like children, we are called to rely on our Good Father for what we need. Part of this humble dependence is expectation that God will work in our lives. As we go through times of waiting, we should come to God in prayer, anticipating God's provision. James 1 teaches us, we should not be double-minded in our prayer but know that all good gifts come from God. So, we should pray with expectancy.

Now, this does not mean that we will receive everything we desire. Instead, God promises that through prayer, as we remain in our connection with him, God will do whatever we ask in order to bear much fruit (John 18:7-8).

So, next time you are expected to wait on something, no matter how agonizing, remember to pray expectantly with humble dependence of God. When we do, we can have confidence that God will bear fruit in us so that the world may know that we are his disciples.



September 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 Communion	3 Labor Day	4	5 First Wednesday meal 5:30 and service 6:15 Choir 7:00	6 Ladies Bible Study in the Fellowship hall N.A. meeting at 7:00 in the Youth Lounge Prayer at the Senior Center 7:00	7 5th Quarter Party	8 4-H I
9 First Sunday of Fall Schedule	10	11 Women's Board	12 Choir 7:00	13 N.A. meeting at 7:00 in the Youth Lounge	14 Drug Court Presbytery meeting Warsaw, IN	15
16 Anniversary Sunday	17	18 Session 7:00	19 Choir 7:00	20 N.A. meeting at 7:00 in the Youth Lounge	21	22 4-H meeting 9- noon Flat Rock Creek Festival
23 Flat Rock Creek Festival	24	25	26 Choir 7:00	27 N.A. meeting at 7:00 in the Youth Lounge	28	29
30 Fall Family Fun Fest, Searingss' Pond 4-7						

September Birthdays:

3rd - Brendon Verfaillie
 5th - Jeff Fishbaugh
 8th - Sue Dotterer (Jim & Doris Smith daughter)
 10th - Doris Smith
 10th - David Nice
 10th - Ron VanAtta

September Birthdays:

11th - Bob Mayer
 11th - Steve St. John
 14th - Phyllis Crossland
 19th - First Presbyterian Church
 22nd - Doug Smalley

September Anniversaries

2nd - Ron and Mary VanAtta
 19th - First Presbyterian Church
 20th - Reba Hurtig and Eric Jones
 23rd - Larry and Becky Fishbaugh
 28th - 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

At the Aug. 21st Session meeting, elders:

*heard from Pastor Ian that, beyond his 2 week vacation, he preached at the House of Love for Pastor Dwayne to be away, participated in the joint VBS at the Nazarene church, and made 5 nursing home visits. He reports that the Ministerial Association is making some transitions as Pastor Karen Stetins, who headed that group, has left the Lutheran Church for a call in California.

*accepted the recommendation of the Property committee to delay boiler replacement another year. The discussions with the three bidders have opened up some new possibilities that should be explored before final action is taken, making waiting seem wise.

*learned that the Property committee will be meeting at the end of August with two groups that specialize in restoration of older buildings to begin gathering information about what is needed to deal with water penetration and brick deterioration.

*were updated on the sixth season of 5th Quarter parties this fall (see separate article)

*heard that the Personnel group continues to have great discussions with Pastor Ian, and that they will conduct an annual pastoral review this fall.

*learned that the Nominating committee will be filling two elder positions, two deacon positions, and one at-large seat on the nominating committee this fall.

*noted fall changes coming. 1st Wednesday community suppers will resume on Wed., Sept. 5th with a chili tasting event at 5:30 and worship to follow. Regular fall worship schedule will begin on Sun., Sept. 9, with Sunday School resuming with a kickoff that morning at 9:00; praise singing at 10:15 and worship service at 10:30.

*discussed who might attend the next Presbytery meeting on Fri-Sat, Sept. 14-15 in Warsaw, IN with Pastor Ian.

*approved Sun., Sept. 30, 4-7 pm as a date for a Fall Family Fun Fest at Searings' pond. Rain date will be Sun., Oct. 7.

*approved the use of the Fellowship Hall by Crafts for a wedding shower Sat., Nov. 10

Submitted by Barb Searing, Clerk of Session

Sunday School Kickoff!

Join us at 9:00 Sunday September 9th for a light breakfast, great conversation and then Sunday school classes.



On Friday October 26th, Brad will be bringing a message of encouragement to a Paulding High School assembly. That evening his band will present a Christian rock concert at the school following the home football game. This is our 5th Quarter party for that week.

At the concert all in attendance are invited to attend a worship service on Sunday. If they have a home church, the teens and their families are encouraged to attend there. If they have no home church, they will be invited to attend here.

Please pray for Brad, his team and our responsibilities during this full weekend.

**Brad Hurtig is
Coming!**





5th Quarter

The sixth season of 5th Quarter parties is upon us.

The dates for 5th Quarter events in our parking lot this fall are Friday, September 7; Friday, October 12; and Friday, October 19 in our parking lot. There is also a home game on Friday, Sept. 21, but this is Flat Rock Creek Fall Festival weekend, and there is no 5th Quarter this week.

We have four partner churches for these three dates in our parking lot: First Christian Church, Branch Christian Fellowship, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, and Bible Fellowship Church. These partner churches will be funding all the pop and pizza this year, and bringing a significant part of the adult supervision. A uniformed reserve officer is also being hired to be present each evening.

The 'grand finale' for this year's 5th Quarter events will be on Friday, October 26. Brad Hurtig is a young motivational speaker (and Bill and Becky's nephew) who, as a high school student, lost both hands in a devastating accident. Brad will give a motivational talk during the school day at Paulding Schools. Then, after the football game, Brad and his backup band will present a Christian concert in the high school

auditorium, which will be the 5th Quarter event for this night.

We are so thankful for the enthusiastic response of Paulding Schools to our request for them to welcome Brad's presentation team to the school. At the end of the concert, students will be encouraged to attend their home church, if they have one, on Sunday, October 28, or to come to our church where Brad will be speaking during worship. If you are interested to learn more about Brad, check his website, bradhurtig.com.

The Congregational Life/Outreach committee is requesting your support in several ways. Please indicate your willingness on the clipboard.

Needs from our congregation are:

- *cash donations toward the Brad Hurtig concert fee (\$850)
- *several Presbyterian adults to be at church while youth are here (9-11 pm) to support the partner church for that night
- *someone to hang out in the Fellowship Hall to be 'a presence' as kids come and go to the restrooms
- *a night owl to help put things back away at 11 pm
- *someone to put up and take down the banners advertising these events
- *firewood, if you have plenty
- *someone to come Saturday morning and move the firepits and sweep up straw



From 2016



Samuel loves big noisy trucks. He's ready to take off in one right here.



Wednesday September 5th

We begin our First Wednesday meals in September.

Invite friends and family to join us at 5:30 pm.

This month:

Chili made by several people in the congregation. We will work it out so that you can taste each one, or if you know your favorite, just have a large bowl of that one. As always, these meals are open to the public at no charge.



Please continue in prayer for Pastor Andrew Brunson. God is working by getting him into house arrest and out of prison, He is also using Andrew's faith to speak to the world.

Remember those who are in prison as though in prison with them. Hebrews 13:3

Caring & Sharing Food Pantry

The needs as we "go to press" seem to be canned vegetables and instant potatoes. As always, cleaning supplies and hygiene items are needed. Thanks!



Art Razo struggles with his 80 lb halibut



Vacationing in Alaska

Art, Carol and Kristen Razo spent two weeks in August in Prince William Sound, Evan Island, with Tiffany Razo who is on staff at a Salmon Hatchery in the Sound. Obviously, Art put in some fishing time. Part of that huge halibut made it back to Ohio where their family had a wonderful fish fry, then watched a slide show of photos from the trip.

In the photo below you get a taste of what the scenery is like, what Tiffany gets to see every day. What an adventure.



Art and Carol Razo after getting back to shore with the halibut



Fall Family Fun Fest

The congregation is warmly invited to the Searings' pond/barn for a Fall Family Fun Fest on Sunday, Sept. 30 (rain date Sunday, Oct. 7). Enjoy a campfire, pumpkin decorating, a walk around the pond or through the woods, some warm cider, perhaps a hayride.... all things fall!

The event is planned for 4-7 pm, with a potluck supper to be enjoyed at 5:30. Come for the whole time, for dinner, or whatever works for you. This is a great event to invite your neighbors to, or your kids' friends, your grandchildren.....everyone is welcome to enjoy some Presbyterian fellowship.

A nursery thank you

It has been a year now since the nursery re-opened. I would like to acknowledge the teens who have faithfully served



each week; the many moms/grandmas who have taken a turn or two or five to serve in the nursery; and Dianna Karlstadt, who accepted the role of coordinator and has lined up workers, added whimsical decorations, taken away the trash, and generally kept things maintained. It has meant a lot to me personally, and to our church, and to our youngest members, for the vision of getting the nursery up and running again to have been so completely realized.

If you have spent even one morning in the nursery with Samuel and Zane and some other little friends, thank you. If you haven't and would consider doing so, please contact Dianna Karlstadt or sign up on the clipboard.

Another Beautiful Baby!



Charles and Cara Lou Strahley welcomed their newest grandson Beauden Alexander Strahley on July 22, 2018. Beau joins brothers Connor (almost two) and Jaxon Cook (Eight years). His parents are Scott and Jill Strahley.

Music in the Mountains

Sue Crossland recently attended "Music in the Mountains" in eastern Pennsylvania sponsored by the JW Pepper company for musicians and worship leaders. It was a 3 day workshop to celebrate and fellowship together, read new music for choirs, and get recharged for the upcoming seasons. It began with a vesper service to renew baptism and to refresh spirits followed by many sessions of sight reading music. There were concerts and many opportunities to network with fellow church musicians. One of the main purposes in going was to finally meet Don Besig and Nancy Price who wrote the song "There is Joy in My Heart" as commissioned by our choir several years ago to celebrate Sue's years of service. Unfortunately, Don suffered a stroke the



week before and was unable to attend.

Pictured with Sue is Nancy Price.

Sue says, "It was a wonderful experience - I might even go again!"



Ladies Do Lunch

At the Vagabond in June: starting with Samuel and going right we have Sue Crossland, Phyllis Crossland, Leslie Heilshorn, Betty St. John, Phyllis Lutz, Sue Paulus, Jane Nice, Martha Punches, Marlene Buehler, Justine Holtsberry, Ruth Eschbach, Roaslie Todd, Karen Cooper, Jill Straley and Alissa Ferguson.

After our very noisy (as you can imagine!) lunch, we headed north to Sherwood where we went through Straley Insurance office, then settled into the break room for a luscious ice cream dessert.

Once the dessert appeared, we were joined by Paul Punches, Ron Cooper and Dan Straley.



Pastor Andy Gilman preached for Pastor Ian while he was on vacation during July. Thank you, Andy

September 9th will be the first Sunday of the Fall Schedule! This means that Sunday School will start at 9:00am followed by the worship service at 10:15am. Join us for a 7-week study through the book of Ruth. Pastor Ian and Alissa will be leading this series. Everyone is welcome to join us for this study.

"God can seem distant when dreams fade, people die, or careers fail. It may feel like He slammed the door in your face and walked out for good. No one knows the feeling of abandonment more than Ruth and Naomi. Their story begins with the worst—death, famine, and poverty. And God remains silent.

But the book of Ruth doesn't end with despair. The story brims with hope because God works on behalf of the two widows in ways they least expect. In this 7-part series, Bianca Juárez Olthoff, speaker and author of *Play with Fire*, teaches through Ruth to show how God moves behind the scenes in our lives. On the surface, this book tells the story of two widows and a kind landowner. Even more, it teaches us about God's faithfulness, love, and providence.



Sharon Tubbs comes to our retreat through a sequence of God incidents. Our own Ruth Eschbach heard Sharon speak at her daughter's church in Florida. Ruth mention how much she had enjoyed Sharon's presentation to Becky Fishbaugh, who wasn't able to advance the idea of inviting Sharon due to her illness. Before her death in June, Becky shared Sharon's information with the Women's Fellowship Board here, who contacted Sharon, who said "Yes!" With God's handwriting all over this retreat speaker, we are surely in store for something special. (Submitted by Barb Searing)



First Presbyterian Women Host their 37th Annual Retreat

Session 1: The Scraps

"And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them." Romans 8:28 NLT

Session 2: The Covering

"At that moment their eyes were opened, and they suddenly felt shame at their nakedness. So they sewed fig leaves together to cover themselves."

Genesis 3:7 NLT

Session 3: The Filling

"For we are Gods masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago."

Ephesians 2:10 NLT

Do you struggle with insecurity, doubt or shame from your past? Do you wonder why God allows certain circumstances in your life? Do you question your purpose? This year's retreat will help you discover answers to these and other questions, while ushering you closer to understanding God's will for your life. Sharon Tubbs on "Big Mama's Quilt: Finding Beauty in the Patchwork of Your Life"

Saturday October 27th, 2018, 9:00 to 2:00 pm

First Presbyterian Church, Paulding Ohio

"Big Mama's Quilt: Finding Beauty in the Patchwork of Your Life"

By Sharon Tubbs

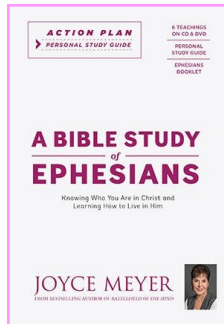
Registration fee: \$20.00, register by Wednesday October 17, 2018

Ladies Circle Fall Bible Study

Ladies Circle Bible Study is starting September 6th. Each Thursday the church will open at 6:30 pm for coffee and fellowship. At 7:00 we will begin the Bible Study with a time of prayer. Our video teaching is by Joyce Meyer, Christian author and teacher. She uses her wit, common sense and Holy Spirit inspired teaching to help us apply the truth of God's Word in our lives. Joyce will break the book of Ephesians down into two distinct sections. Chapters one through three explain our relationship with God and how much He loves us, while the last three chapters focus on our behavior as Christians.

Jill Straley will be leading the group through the study guide on Ephesians.

At the top of the stairs is a sign up sheet and an envelope in which you can leave your \$5.00 to cover the cost of the book. Please sign up, take home a study guide, grab your Bible and join the Circle of Women for Christian growth, laughs, coffee and conversation.



Noteworthy actions taken in July include:

- Creation of a Memorials Fund.
- Payment of \$1,520 to Kirkmont Center for 4 youth who attended Camp Rejoice.
- Transfer of \$820.94 from the Ice Cream Tent to the Weaver Camp Fund to cover the cost of Camp Rejoice. The Weaver Camp Fund has been depleted.
- Payment of \$925 to Window Creations to restore a round stained glass window.

Submitted by Carol Razo, Treasurer



Flat Rock Creek Fall Festival

Come out and enjoy some chili at the church's booth at the festival. You may also sign up to work a 2 hour shift September 21, 22, or 23. You won't want to miss the fun.



Children's Church

A discussion meeting was held on the Sunday that the newsletter was distributed regarding resuming Children's Church in September. Watch for information in the bulletin



Join us on Sunday September 16th as we celebrate our church's 143rd anniversary and honor our 50 year members. Watch for more information.



Wednesday September 5th at 6:15

We are invited by the Lord to spend some time with Him in worship, praise and prayer following our meal. A meditation will be presented by Pastor Ian.



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

Fall Schedule begins September 9th
Sunday School begins the 9th at 9:00 am
Praise Music: 10:15
Worship Service 10:30

First Presbyterian Church

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

