

The Cornerstone News

First Presbyterian Church, Paulding Ohio

Volume 6 Issue 2



Thoughts from Ian...



Rancho 3M, children's school and orphanage, in Guadalupe, Mexico was the destination for our mission trip for the second year in a row. Some of you may know the history of this orphanage and how it is a testimony to God leading and faithfulness for over 50 years.

In the late 1960s, Irene Logsdon (who was 47 at the time) was working at the YWCA in Alton, IL in the area of older women ministries when God spoke to her through a prayer group she attended. The message was for her to go to Mexico to start an orphanage and she, someone who had never been married and never had any children of her own, would be known as a mama to hundreds.

Irene had doubts that the message was from God because it didn't make sense. She did not speak Spanish and she had no experience with children. She often recalled how she had only changed one diaper by that time in her life and her nephew immediately got out of it. She decided God would have to confirm this leading in some dramatic way for her to seriously consider it.

A short time later, a friend named Marietta, who did not know about Irene's message from God, told Irene that in her small group they felt God leading them to tell Marietta she was to go help Irene with some missionary work. A short time later,

Irene and Marietta were off to Juarez, Mexico where they worked at an orphanage. It wasn't long until Irene felt restless at her work. Eventually, she realized God had told her she was to start an orphanage, not work at one.

Irene pulled together some money and purchased a couple old buildings in an area about an hour from Juarez. Irene and Marietta worked at getting these old buildings transformed for housing and feeding children. When she was nearly finished, she began praying to God, "An orphanage is not an orphanage without any children. Where am I to get children?"

Soon a plane came out of the sky, landed in the empty field near her childless orphanage, and taxied up to her gate. A man got out and asked if he could leave the plane there as he had some business to do in a nearby town. She agreed.

After the man left, some law enforcement officials showed up and asked about the plane. They told Irene they suspected the pilot was involved in drug smuggling and asked if they could stake out the plane from inside her empty buildings. She agreed.

The pilot never returned for the plane. There was a newspaper reporter for the largest newspaper in Juarez who had tagged along with the police to cover the arrest. Since there was no story about an arrest he asked Irene if he could file a report on what he had learned about Irene and the orphanage she was starting. Irene thought the article would be some small blurb buried in the paper but it turned out to be ½ of page on the story was on page 2. From that day forward there never was shortage of children for the orphanage. Rancho 3M officially took in their first child on March 17, 1969. She was the director until 2001 (32 years) when Dean Adamek took over.



Irene, a woman who had no children of her own was known as mama to hundreds of children. She departed this life in 2001, just a few weeks after Dean took over. One vision Irene had for the orphanage was to start a Christian school. Since her death, to the glory of God and in thanks for Irene's life, a Christian school has been built and now has children K – 8th grade attending from the orphanage and surrounding town.

Irene's story is an amazing example of God working in unexpected ways in someone's life. I (Ian) was able to meet Irene on one of my first trips to Rancho 3M. It was incredible to meet a woman of such faith and dedication to God's work. I have been down to the orphanage over a half-dozen times through the years and it is always a good experience and there is always good work to be done.

In James 1:27, he says "religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world." Living holy lives and caring for those in need are ways we practice the faith we proclaim. Thank you for supporting our trip. You may find out more about what is happening now by going to their website at <http://www.rancho3m.com/>



February 2020



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Communion	3	4	5 Choir practice 7:00	6 N.A. meeting at 7:30 in the Youth Lounge	7	8
9	10	11	12 Choir practice 7:00	13 N.A. meeting at 7:30 in the Youth Lounge	14 	15
16	17	18 Session 7:00	19	20 N.A. meeting at 7:30 in the Youth Lounge	21	22
23	24	25 Writers' Group 7:00	26 Ash Wednesday Noon lunch Evening meal and service	27 N.A. meeting at 7:30 in the Youth Lounge	28	29

Feb. 1- Sydney Reineck

Feb. 2 - Mattea St. John
Baker

Feb. 10 - Dan Karlstadt

Feb. 11- Charles Strahley

Feb. 12- Susan Paulus

Feb. 15- Marty Crossland

Feb. 15- Maely Crossland
Alexander

Feb. 15 - Jim Smith Jr.

Feb. 15 - Arlene Cline

Anniversaries:

Feb. 16—Ken and Judy
Robinson

We have new people that I have no birthday or anniversary information for, we love including everyone. Please give info to the office.

Session Highlights

At the January 21st Session meeting, elders:

*met with Jeff and Becky Riley regarding joining the church. Rileys had attended the recent membership class, and will be received as new members during worship in the coming weeks.

*heard a presentation by Deputy Dave Cline from the Paulding County Sheriff's Department regarding church security steps the church may want to consider

*dealt with organizational matters for 2020 (see separate article).

*learned that a program was given about 5th Quarter at Kiwanis during January, and that the Kiwanis Club of Paulding County has donated \$1000 toward the program. There was a basketball 5th Q at the school Jan. 17, and will be a second one on Feb. 21.

*were reminded of the Rancho 3M mission trip Jan. 27- Feb. 1. Six people are going.

*decided to continue the year 2020 with 5 elders vs 6, as Ken Robinson has resigned his position. The nominating committee will be seeking a replacement for deacon Don Crossland, who stepped down in December.

*heard that Lenten Lunches will begin on Wed., Feb. 26 (Ash Wednesday) at noon in our Fellowship Hall, and continue for six total weeks. Various churches from the Ministerial Association will provide the meal and the devotional. Lenten Suppers will also be held each of those evenings, with various groups within the church providing the supper. The Presbyterian Church will be the first lunch, and Women's Board the first supper.

*approved the use of our lower level by NA (Narcotics Anonymous) on Thursday evenings during 2020.

*endorsed the placement of information about our church in the Historical Book being published in conjunction with the 200th anniversary of Paulding County this year.

*considered who might attend the next Presbytery meeting Feb. 21-22 in Lebanon, OH. No commissioners were elected that evening.

*learned that the deacons board will be making more care visits with Pastor Ian in the coming months.

Organizational Matters for 2020

At the January 21st Session meeting, Barb Searing was again appointed as clerk, and Carol Razo as treasurer.

Committee assignments for elders are:

Christian Education: Bud Koenig

Worship: Sue Crossland

Personnel: Bud Koenig

Missions: Larry Fishbaugh

Finance: Matt Reineck

Nominating co-elders: Larry Fishbaugh & Bud Koenig

Congregational Life: Barb Searing

Property co-elders: Sue Crossland & Matt Reineck

(Bud Koenig is the person to talk to for observed needs)

Women's Board: Barb Searing

Please note that the elder on each committee is the conduit to Session, and does not necessarily chair the committee.

If you have an interest in various areas and wish to contribute or serve on a committee, these are the people to talk to! Any committee would welcome your participation.

Submitted by Barb Searing, Clerk of Session

First Wednesday Meal and Service

Wednesday February 5th

5:30 meal, 6:15 service



**Donate to the
Caring & Sharing
Food Pantry**

The need is great as winter approaches. Please donate any item that you think you might use in your home as that same item will be needed in most homes. Also needed are personal hygiene items, household cleaners and paper product.

Partial Schedule for Lent 2020

Ash Wednesday: February 26th Noon meal served by the Presbyterian Church, mediation by Pastor Ian Ferguson

Evening meal at 5:30, Women's Fellowship, Ash Wednesday mediation by Pastor Ian

Wednesday March 4th: noon meal by Divine Mercy

Wednesday March 11: noon meal by First Christian Church

Wednesday March 18: noon meal by St. Paul Lutheran

Wednesday March 25: noon meal of Paulding Nazarene

Wednesday April 1: noon meal by United Methodist Church

Palm Sunday April 5

Maundy Thursday April 9, evening service here

Good Friday April 10, Church of the Nazarene at noon

Easter Sunday April 12, United Methodist at 7:30 AM

Watch for more information in the March newsletter.



Pastor Dwayne Richardson spoke to us on the last Sunday in December. We welcomed his message on following the Lord and stepping out in faith. Thank you, Pastor!



From the Warm Fuzzy Tree

Each of the four stacks pictured have just about 75 items in them. That means that elementary

schools in Paulding, Oakwood, Grover Hill and Antwerp will have a nice selection of long elastic waist pants, gloves, hats, both boys and girls undies and socks. Thank You!



Do you know which member of our congregation painted the beautiful nativity that we use every Christmas? Answer on page 5



Help our less fortunate Paulding neighbors afford their utilities this winter. Contributions will be rolled into one check by the church and forwarded to the Paulding County office of Northwest Ohio Community Action which will administer the funds to Paulding families for utilities, rent, or emergency services. Checks should be made out to the church, please put Warm Hearts/Warm Homes in the memo line. 100% of these funds will be used in Paulding County. The Women's Fellowship Board, which started this project in 2005, will match donations made during February and March, up to \$1000. Thank you

**Make your dollar count:
Matching funds for donations up to \$1,000.00
Warm Hearts/Warm Homes**

Letter from Presbytery of the Midwest, E.P.C.:

Or the real reason we see a white and orange envelope in the box of giving envelopes:

Dear Church Leadership Teams,

We want to extend thanks to all the churches of the Midwest Presbytery for your faithfulness as stewards of God's grace. An indication of that faithfulness is shown in your sending Per Member Asking check to the Presbytery and General Assembly on an ongoing basis. Another indication is shown in sending your members to serve on our various committees as well as on General Assembly Leadership Teams. We are looking forward to fulfilling the financial offerings and celebrating the volunteer involvements as we come to the end of the year.

Here is what we have done with the gifts from your churches:

- We have helped candidates and ministers prepare for their examinations and calls to churches;
- We have supported church planting and revitalization within the Presbytery;
- We have continued to provide support for the ministry work in the Inner City of Detroit;
- We have provided support to World Outreach Partners working among ethnic groups in our region and around the world;
- We have provided pastoral care for pastors and churches who have reached out to us;
- We have provided meaningful and relevant content at our Presbytery meetings;
- We have launched a new approach to the State Clerk's office with two new staff who are assisting us to establish vision and provide relational support while at the same time carefully overseeing the administrative details of our work;
- We have added Tech support for our Website and distance meetings

FINANCIAL TIDBITS FROM DECEMBER		
Designated Gifts:		
Amount	Purpose	
\$30.00	Altar Ministry Fund	
\$32.00	Building rental	
\$2,000.00	Bricks N Boiler Fund	
\$1,200.00	Mission Trip Fund	
\$1,000.00	Foreign missionaries	
\$324.34	Nicelley investment dividend	
\$100.00	In memory of Mary Louise Matson	
\$1,000.00	Organ Repair Fund	
Notable Expenditures:		
Amount	Payee	Purpose
\$100.00	Gods Share Program	Anonymous donation
\$135.00	Paulding Chamber of Commerce	Annual membership
\$1,600.00	Ian Ferguson	Air fare for mission trip
\$2,825.50	Custom Audio Concepts	Repairs to sound system
\$676.00	Fitzenrider Air Force One	Check thermostat operation
\$100.00	Dwayne Richardson	Guest speaker
\$22,228.00	Schlatters	Boiler installation



Information from Carol Razo, Treasurer

From page 4: our beautiful nativity set was painted by member Mary McMaster.

First Presbyterian Church

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

firstpresbyterianpaulding.com

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

Phone: 419-399-2438

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

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

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