

The Cornerstone News

First Presbyterian Church, Paulding Ohio

Volume 6 Issue 10



Thoughts from Ian...



It is October, but our mission team is already considering what can be done for our next mission trip in 2021. In a normal

year, I would recommend Rancho 3M again, but traveling across the country by plane and crossing borders is greatly complicated by the continued COVID pandemic. I hope we serve again at Rancho 3M, but 2021 may not be the year for it.

As I was remembering our last trip to Rancho 3M, I thought of all the work we were able to complete. Many of the buildings around the orphanage were sanded and stained to fight against the harsh sun. A building was built which will be used to teach the children how to weld in hopes to keep them out of poverty as they graduate out of the orphanage. Eric, a man who had grown up in the orphanage, had a floor and roof built for his house by our team. I am thankful for the skilled men and women who helped make this work possible.

Looking back, I sometimes laugh at how little I know about construction work. Most of my week was spent on the project for Eric's house. I often held a ladder or board for someone as they cut wood or hammered in a nail. I

hailed wood and cut material to length. As we worked, I overheard the skilled workers talking about the work being done.

Their words were gibberish to me. These plans sounded like "Let's make sure to cheek cut into that barge rafter before we get to the king stud." None of their lingo made sense to me and it seemed a little over the top to call me "king stud", but I will take it. I was always thankful when they explained their plans to me (which they often did). I learned a little bit and I could see how the project was coming together. I felt as though I was part of the team. Technical terminology could have made me feel like an outsider, but their gracious explanations helped to include me in our shared mission. This can happen in the church as well.

There are many "churchy words" that are used only in our worship, Bible studies, and praise songs. But how many of us, or those we are welcoming into our community, feel like a volunteer holding a board as people around us chatter on about "barge rafters and cheek cutting." My concern is that I have sometimes settled for using "churchy words" without considering that others, let alone myself, have forgotten what these terms mean. How am I excluding others in knowing

and worshiping God when I let "churchy words" get in the way? Maybe you can relate.

As we serve and worship together, I hope I don't sound like sanctified gibberish. If I do, please ask "What do you mean by that?" In your life, as you talk about God with friends and family, I encourage you to reflect on your words as well. There is a real danger if we retain the frameworks and vocabulary of cultural Christianity while having lost touch with their substance. Lay aside sanctified gibberish. In so doing, maybe we can learn about God in new ways. Maybe others will feel less like outsiders and more included in our shared mission to make disciples of all people. It could be a small step in all of us laying some of our pretentiousness aside and being gracious to one another.

Certainly, we must continue to use large words that carry theological weight: propitiation, justification, atonement, righteousness, regeneration, trinity, incarnation, and redemption (among others I can't think of right now). Each of these stands for important Biblical concepts but I will continue to try to speak of God in ways that draw us together in our shared mission to know God and make him known. I hope you will too. Let's not get lost in "churchy words."

October 2020



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
				NA meets at 7:00		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Communion			Church Anniversary: Free ice cream 4-7			
			Zoom Bible Study 8:00 to 9:00	NA meets at 7:00		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Update on Power2Change			Session 7:00			
			Zoom Bible Study 8:00 to 9:00	NA meets at 7:00		Power2Change Meeting in the fellowship hall
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
		Writers' Group 7:00	Zoom Bible Study 8:00 to 9:00	NA meets at 7:00		
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
				NA meets at 7:00		

October
 1st - Marlene Buehler
 1st - Chantz Verfaillie
 4th - Terry Buehler
 10th - Adam Leever
 12th - Tim Cline
 12th - Don Crossland

21st - Jennifer (Mayer)
 Thompson
 23rd - Justine Holtsberry
 24th - Bill Hurtig
 26th - Marcia Wiebe
 29th - TJ Wiebe
 30th - Jeremy Fife

Oct. Anniversary
 12th - Jason and Andrea
 (Smalley) Retz
 30th - Harry and Marcia Wiebe

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

Please give me all birthdays and anniversaries! Sue P.

Session Highlights

At the September 15th Session meeting, elders:

-gathered, spread around the Fellowship Hall in socially-distant fashion, with all 5 elders plus Pastor Ian attending in person (that was a first!)

-heard that, **financially**, the past month's giving was up some, while expenses were down some. Thank you all for your continued support.

-received a report from the **Mission committee** outlining a means to make decisions on adding missionaries to support, and a way to keep in touch with those we currently support. The Caring and Sharing Food Pantry is seeking local church representation on their board. Judge Wehrkamp is working on a juvenile mentorship program and has reached out to churches in this regard as well. (see separate articles).

-approved a motion to receive the **anonymous gift of the Caserta property** at 310 N. Williams St. pending final agreement being reached with the gifter. (see separate article)

-agreed to celebrate the **church's 145th birthday by passing out ice cream** in drive-through fashion on Wed., October 7.

-decided to use \$2700 from the 'undesignated memorials' fund to make **livestream updates**. Pastor Ian will be setting this up with support from a tech person from Gateway Church, Findlay. The Metalink internet service was also upgraded to have a good livestream connection.

-were reminded of our church offering **chili at the fairgrounds** during the Fall Festival food drive-through event on Saturday, Sept. 19, 10 am - 7 pm.

-received the Pastor Review form to fill out and return to Personnel elder Bud Koenig as the **pastor's annual evaluation** begins.

-heard that, while JW Taylor Construction has the contract to do remodeling in the **upstairs of the cottage**, no work has begun yet.

-approved having Dwight Stoller from **Power2Change** make a 10-minute presentation before or during worship. Ian will work to set that up.

-learned that the next **Presbytery of the Midwest meeting** will be October 9-10 at Southport Church, south of Indianapolis. It will be offered in person and virtually. Pastor Ian plans to attend virtually. Our church can have 3 commissioners to represent us at the meeting. Contact Ian if you are interested.

Submitted by Barb Searing, Clerk

A Huge Blessing and Surprise

Our church has been blessed by an anonymous benefactor with the property of our "church neighbor", Jane Caserta, who passed away earlier this year. This amazing and generous gift is being made, in the gifter's words, as an 'unconditional gift' in hopes that it can be 'used to glorify God'. The donor has been working with Pastor Ian as the point of contact to preserve anonymity and confidentiality.

Once all the legal and financial T's are crossed and I's are dotted, the donor intends that the house be razed, the garage left standing, and that the property be transferred to the church in the form of a grass lot.

Many thanks to our generous benefactor from a grateful church. Time will tell how God leads us in the using of this incredible gift.



Count your many
blessings: name them
one by one.
And it will surprise
you what the
Lord has done.

Prayer Requests

Pray for all Paulding County essential workers and first responders

Phil, Joan, and Lynn hospitalized at St. Rita's with COVID. Joan is Kenny Robinson's sister, Lynn is Joan and Phil's oldest son.

Briley, Noneman's great granddaughter, still no report back on her tumor from several weeks ago Jake, Noneman's grandson, late teens, has been sick for 3 to 4 months with no diagnosis. He is too weak to stay upright, has labored breathing

Carrie Ferrier, Cindy Koenig's sister, benign tumor, she has an appointment at Mayo Clinic in September

Scott St. John, had his second chemo treatment Thursday and it went well

Tutti Johnson, back issues

Frankie Taylor, complications following surgery ave Foltz, waiting for double lung transplant, plus heart transplant

Paul PUNCHES

John and Dawn Relyea

Melinda J.

Bob Noneman, He is not in the hospital, and is scheduled for colon surgery on Oct. 7th

Arlene Cline, Darwin says she is doing very well

Kim and Dan Sutton, Dan is currently cancer free but still can't swallow, keep praying

Montaize Armstrong, severe pain from auto wreck 3 years ago; he requests that we leave him on the prayer list. He can tell when people are praying.

Jim Smith

Eileen Thomas: Ruby Crossland's mother

June Koenig

Our national leaders

The family of Betty St. John

The family of Lee Sunday, former member of this church

The family of Alice Heilshorn, mother of Steve Heilshorn

The family of Alice Heilshorn

So many battling various cancers:

Ken Wagner

John Relyea

Page Gillett

Scott St. John

Bob Egler

Mary Becker

Patty Radel

Joe Bowyer

Nancy Stoller

Bob Noneman

Pray this week for:

Pray for the country as we prepare for elections Mandy, Paulding Drug Court participants

For all of our church family, that we reach out to those who are lonely.

Praise: Arlene Cline is doing very well, thank you, Jesus!

Update on Power2Change

On Sunday October 11, Dwight Stoller will be here to give us a ten minute update on what is happening in the Power2Change program. Seventeen of the local leaders will be meeting in our fellowship hall for a dinner and news of the direction the program is heading on Saturday October 17.

You will want to be here or listen on line to hear this exciting information.





**Plan your
Vote!**

Election Day is November 3rd. Our first step towards voting is to be sure that we are registered to vote. Ohio is a state that removed some voters from the rolls several years ago. You can verify your status by looking on-line, or you can call the Election Board office at 419-399-8230. The last day to register to vote in Ohio is Monday, October 5th. Early voting in person begins October 6th at the office on E. Perry Street in Paulding.

I volunteered through the Senior Center to drive people to the early voting site, and thought that I might offer the same service to our members here at the church providing you live in Paulding or Defiance County. I am also willing to come get

you and let you hand deliver your absentee ballot if you would rather vote that way. Hand delivery takes away the risk of not having your ballot arrive in time to be counted since the possibility of slow postal service seems to be a controversial subject right now.

Originally, I thought that I could come pick up your ballot and take it to the box outside of the Election Board office, but I discovered that for some reason you have to deposit your own ballot into the box, whether it be by mail or dropped into the box outside of the office.

If you would like help getting to the voting site, or delivering your absentee ballot, call me at 419-439-0032, after October 6th.

Let me know if I can help you Plan Your Vote. *Susan Paulus*

FINANCIAL TIDBITS FROM AUGUST		
Designated Gifts:		
Amount	Purpose	
\$200.00	Agape Fund	
\$183.11	Nicelley investment dividend	
\$100.00	In memory of Shuba Daniels	
\$300.00	127 garage sale lot rental	
\$871.00	127 garage sale proceeds	
Notable Expenditures:		
Amount	Payee	Purpose
\$240.00	Lima Pipe Organ	Organ repairs
\$142.32	Current Office Supplies	Copy paper
\$157.28	The Hubbard Press	Offering envelopes
\$130.00	Dwayne Richardson	Guest speaker fee plus mileage
Budget vs Actual Income:		
\$93,864.67	Budgeted Income	
\$88,621.99	Actual Income	
(\$5,242.68)	Difference	



From treasurer, Carol Razo

Zoom Bible Study began September 23rd



These are confusing times for many Christians. In this 5-session series, Larry Osborne introduces us to a man forced to live in a fast-changing and godless society. This man faced fears about the future, concern for his safety, and the discouragement of a world that seemed to be falling apart at warp speed. That man was Daniel, and with the power of hope, humility, and wisdom, he not only survived, but thrived.

Each session also includes real-life stories of people struggling to thrive. Though Daniel lived thousands of years ago, he has much to teach us today. Join us as we study the book of Daniel in this condensed Bible study series. Wednesday nights 8:00-9:00pm, September 23rd through October 28th. Look for an email or talk to Ian (217-710-6836).



Memories
of Summer



A tutorial in seafaring navigation given by Matt Reineck. It seems that Henry (on left) says, as usual, “Full speed ahead”, while Samuel (on right) is completely comfortable being in charge of the boat.



Sunday School started September 13th

Where do you turn when the world around you grows dark? In this study of the Gospel of John, Dr. Tony Evans encourages us to turn to Christ by reminding us of the two purposes for the beloved disciple's book—that we would believe in Jesus and find life in his name. Despite what our culture may argue, there is only one hope that is truly trustworthy and that is our savior, Jesus Christ. So, join us as we walk through this twelve-session series that will draw you back to the essential truths of our faith and the life found in our king.

As we switch to the Fall schedule, our worship service will move to 10:15am and Sunday school will begin at 9:00am on Sunday mornings. Our Fellowship hall is large enough to practice social distancing and other safety measures. You are invited! Jump in, you will like it!

Mourning the loss of our
long-time member and wonderful friend

Betty St. John

Date of death: September 26, 2020

Date of service: Tuesday
September 29, 2020 at the
First Presbyterian Church in Paulding



145th Anniversary Celebration

This church is celebrating our 145th anniversary this year. Due to the pandemic, we are not being able to do all that we had planned but we are still wanting to do something to celebrate. So, on Wednesday, Oct. 7th, the historical committee at our church will be distributing free scoops of ice-cream out of the alley behind our church from 4:00 to 7:00. So, plan on swinging by and grabbing a scoop as we celebrate all of these years of God's faithfulness, with many more to come. (more details to come!)



Black Swamp Community Drive Through

Beautiful weather, chili was a sell out. Saturday, September 19, 2020, at the Paulding County Fair-ground. All proceeds go to the Church Mission Fund. Thank you Dave and Jane, and Clete and Audrey for the hours of labor you contributed.

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 at 9:00
Worship Music 10:15
Worship Service 01:30:30

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