

ADVOCATE

First Presbyterian Church
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June 2018



Outdoor Worship Service

Sunday, June 17, 10:30 a.m.

Plan now to attend our Outdoor Worship Service on Sunday, June 17. Instead of worshipping at church, we will worship at the Antrim Shelter in Heritage Park on West Main Street in Westerville. This beautiful park allows us to experience God in a different setting.

Worship will start at 10:30 a.m. (15 minutes later than our usual starting time in order to allow people time to travel from church to the park), and we'll have a potluck picnic lunch afterwards. Bring lawn chairs for sitting, if you wish, and a dish to share for the picnic. Child care will be provided for the little ones. See you there!

New Picture Directory—Final Photo Session Scheduled

There will be one more photo session for our new picture Directory on Wednesday, June 27 from 1:00-8:00 p.m. If you have not had your photo taken, you may sign up on-line (see link on our web-site), or you may call Bonnie Moses.

Dedication Sunday



On April 29, we held our Building Dedication Service. We had wonderful music, inspiring messages, a presentation of the “Key” to the new addition, and as shown above, a special recognition for our Project Manager, Jim Hines.

At the time of the Dedication, the project was not quite done, but that did not dampen our spirits as we celebrated not only what had been done, but also what remains before we can fully occupy and use our new space. Thanks to everyone who helped with the Dedication Service and the reception that followed.

As May transitions into June, we are still in the process of moving things into our new space. We still need help so if you are able to move boxes and other items or clean up what is moved, please talk to Rev. Gauen, Rev. Hicks, or Jim Hines.

Keys

As part of our renovations, we are in the process of re-keying the entire church. Anyone wanting or needing a new key should see, call, or email Jim Hines. The ***KNOX STREET DOOR will NOT be re-keyed until the end of June*** in order to give everyone time to request new keys. Please note that I will be out-of-town from June 1 to June 17.

Jim Hines

Liturgist Luncheon

Sunday, June 3, at 11:30 a.m.



Liturgists assist the preacher by reading scripture and leading the congregation in the various parts of the worship service. We have many members who volunteer to be liturgists, and we are grateful for their gifts. Many other members might feel called to this ministry but might hesitate because they are not sure what to do or how to do it.

To encourage more people to become liturgists and to thank those who have been liturgists this past year, the Worship Committee is hosting a Liturgist Luncheon on Sunday, June 3, at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Room. In addition to a scrumptious meal, the veteran liturgists and those who are considering becoming liturgists will review the practices and procedures of assisting in worship. If you are a veteran liturgist or interested in becoming one, we ask that you sign up for this luncheon by Friday, June 1, so that we know how many people to expect. Questions? Call Rev. Gauen, 614-882-3155.

2018 General Assembly to Convene in St. Louis

The 223rd General Assembly (2018) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) meets June 16–23 in St. Louis, Missouri.

The GA is the national gathering of our denomination and is made up of delegations of teaching elders and ruling elders in equal numbers from each Presbytery in the country. The delegates will decide upon the important issues facing the denomination, first in committee deliberations and then in plenary sessions. The decisions they will make will address Presbyterian theology, worship, mission work, financial concerns, and more. In addition to the formal business of the denomination, GA provides an opportunity for the many and various Presbyterian organizations to meet and promote their ministries.

The first action of the GA will be the election of the moderator, who will not only chair the GA, but will also serve as our denomination's ambassador for the next two years. This year, three sets of candidates are up for consideration for this post: Ruling Elder Chantal Atnip of the Presbytery of Carlisle (New Jersey) with Rev. Ken Hockenberry (Presbytery of Chicago) as her vice-moderator; Rev. Eliana Maxim (Presbytery of Seattle) and Rev. Bertram Johnson (Presbytery of New York City) running as co-moderators; and Ruling Elder Vilmarie Cintron-Olivieri (Presbytery of Tropical Florida) and Rev. Cindy Kohlmann (Presbytery of Boston) also running as co-moderators.

You may follow the proceedings of the General Assembly by logging on to the Presbyterian Church (USA) website: www.pcusa.org. You may also receive a daily email of news from the General Assembly by following the "General Assembly Newspaper" link on the pcusa website.

Welcome to Our New Member!

Theresa Putnam

We welcome Theresa to First Presbyterian Church. She is Bill McCormick's neighbor and has already pitched in to help clean the church following our construction. Theresa says that she hopes to "become a more caring and giving person while being surrounded by a giving church family."

Youth and Family Activities

Vacation Bible

School

July 9-13, 10am-12pm



Mark your calendars for July 9-13, 10am-12pm. We will be hosting our annual Vacation Bible School. Our theme will be "Splash Canyon," and we will talk about how God takes care of and provides for us. We will take preschool ages up through 5th grade. Come join us for fun and fellowship.

Not a kid but want to get in on the fun? Please see Rev. Heather Hicks for volunteer opportunities. We are also accepting craft supplies. If you would like to sponsor a craft for one of the five days, please see Rev. Heather for details about what supplies we will need.

We can't wait to see YOU there!

Ladies Night Out

June 19, 6:30

Rusty Bucket, 400 Polaris Pkway, Westerville



Join us the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm for food and fellowship. Bring a friend!
Please RSVP to Kim Hunt.

Fabrics of Faith

Our next Fabrics of Faith meeting is Monday, June 4, 1:00 - 2:30. The room will be announced in church on Sunday, June 3. (Be there!)

The reason for the extra meeting is Quilting Class, led by Ann McElhaney and Karen Hogarth. Contact them with questions.

This class, to begin on Friday, June 29, at 10:00 AM, will be a treat for participants. So sign up on the page in the notebook at the secretary's station in the Gathering Room. Once you've signed up, Karen and Ann will contact you with what materials you need. If you have questions, contact one of them.

Even if you don't want to quilt, come on June 4 to see what's happening. We have a really great group of people—and we have a lot of fun!



Deacons' Corner

It is with a sad but grateful heart that the Deacons say thank you to Gigi Elliott, Holly Harvey, Karen Gaines, and Cheryl Doherty for their years of service. The members of First Presbyterian Church and fellow Deacons have greatly appreciated their dedication, prayers, ideas, caring, notes, and calls! We wish you well wherever God leads you next.

We welcome Carol O'Kane, Marcy Eves, Debra Gamble, and Penny Epley as they begin their service as Deacons. Thank you for your willingness to serve the members of this church in this way.

Summer Activities & Fellowship Fun!

The Membership, Evangelism & Events Committee (M.E.E.) is planning a fun summer of events for the entire congregation. All of the outings are planned outside of our walls in a variety of settings.

GOLF OUTING – Saturday, June 23, 10:00 am – (lunch afterward)

We will play at the Big Walnut Golf Course, 6638 St. Rt. 61 in Sunbury. The cost will be \$12.00 for 9 holes including cart. The Nortons have invited participants to a picnic lunch afterward at their cabin. (Directions will be given to golfers when they arrive at the golf course.) Please sign up by June 17 so we can let the course know how many golfers to expect.



Questions? Contact Lane Hough.



BIKE OUTING - Saturday, July 28, 10:00 am–1:00 pm

This outing was new last year, and all the participants asked that we repeat it. We will gather at the Genoa Township McNamara Park East Entrance (4900 Old 3C Highway). There will be two bike courses – one for intermediate riders (on trail) and one for advanced experienced rides (on road). Helmets will be required. Families with children can participate as well. A picnic lunch will follow as we gather back together. Pat & Carol O’Kane have agreed to again organize the route. Please sign up so we know how many to anticipate for lunch.

CLIPPERS GAME – Sunday, August 5 4:05 pm, Huntington Park

This is a great outing for all ages and requires no athletic ability! Cost of general admission tickets is \$10 for adults and \$7 for seniors and children. Bob Place will again coordinate this activity. He will purchase tickets for those who have signed up and paid him ahead of time. Please sign up and pay Bob for your tickets by Sunday, July 29. Those who wish to car pool from church should be at the church and ready to leave by 2:30 pm.



CANOE TRIP – Saturday, August 25

Pat & Carol O’Kane will plan this event. They are looking at some new sites this year for the outing that sound exciting! Details to follow in upcoming *Advocates*.

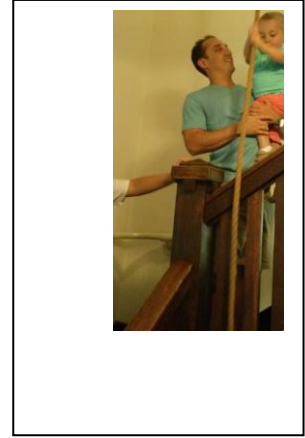


RING OUR BELL!

6:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Dates: June 22 – July 27 – August 24

For the last several years, our church has offered children and adults the opportunity to ‘Ring Our Bell’ on each Fourth Friday evening. Volunteers pass out coupons to interested families while other volunteers greet the children and their families at our front door and show them how to ring the bell. Seeing the enthusiasm of the young bell ringers is a treat for any volunteer.



This simple activity has proven to be effective in raising community awareness of our church, not to mention a good social time for our members. ‘Ring Our Bell’ will continue each 4th Friday throughout the summer months.

WE NEED SOME VOLUNTEERS to help the children in ringing our bell and other volunteers to pass out coupons on the street to invite them in to the church. This involves about 2 hours of time.

Sue Ann and Denny Norton will coordinate and schedule volunteers to help with this activity. If you are interested in helping, please contact the Nortons.



THURSDAY Dine-Out Group

Thursday, June 7, 6:30 pm

On **THURSDAY, June 7**, at 6:30 pm, we will go to the Cap City Diner (614-478-9999) in Stoneridge Shopping Center in Gahanna. We chose Thursday because Cap City will no longer take our reservation for Fridays and because most of you can likely come on Thursday since most are retired. Let us know if you cannot come because of a conflict.

We had a great time at Cap City when we went there last summer, and we hope that you and your friends will be able to join us. Cap City is located at 1301 Stoneridge Drive at the end of the shopping center and is close to the Gahanna Theater. Get there from I-270 by exiting on east Morse Road, going 2 miles, and turning right into the Stoneridge shopping center. They have salads (\$7-13), large plate dinners (\$15-20) and sandwiches (\$9-12). Contact Jim Hines or Bob Place. Your response is always appreciated and saves us from making follow-up phone calls.

Adult Growth and Development

| ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN | | | |
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| Activity | When | Where | What |
| Tuesday Morning Bible Study | Tuesdays, 9:30-11:00 am | Knox Meeting Room | “Bible Double Talk” – This summer we’ll explore passages from different books of the Bible that cover the same topic so that we can enjoy the richness that our Holy Scriptures provide. Led by Rev. Gauen |
| 4 th Monday Discussion | 4 th Mondays, 7:30 p.m. | Knox Meeting Room | The Fourth Monday group will not be meeting in June. Join us when we resume on July 30 in the Knox Meeting Room. |
| The Library Class | Sunday Mornings 9:00-10:00 a.m. | Fellowship Room | We are beginning a new study based on the book, <i>Strength to Love</i> , a collection of MLK Jr's sermons. This class meets in the Back Room of the Fellowship Hall. |
| Circle 4 Women | 3 rd Thursdays, 11:00 am | Raisin Rack 2545 W. Schrock (at the corner of Schrock and Cleveland) | Our Presbyterian Women’s group usually meets monthly for fellowship and Bible study. However, Circle 4 is taking a break for summer. We will not meet in June, July, or August, and we will resume in September. Elaine Foley is our study leader. |



Pastor's Page

Dear Friends:

Every spring, First Presbyterian Church elects officers to be our servant leaders. This past April, we elected Lane Hough, Diana Westfall, and Kim Wise as new ruling elders and Penny Epley, Marcy Eves, Deb Gamble, and Carol O'Kane as our new deacons. They will be installed in worship on June 3. I ask that you surround them with your prayers as they begin their ministry on behalf of this congregation. As these leaders begin their terms of service, so ends the terms of three Elders and four Deacons. I would like to thank these retiring officers for their gifts of time and talent to this church.

Bev Etling: Bev completes six years on Session where she served as chair of the Membership and Evangelism Committee. During her tenure, this committee merged with the Events Committee, forming the Membership, Evangelism and Events Committee (M.E.E.). This committee sponsored a host of special events and welcomed dozens of new members to our fellowship. Bev also led the Nominating Committee for a couple of years.

Kelley Flynn: Kelley has served three years on Session as the Elder for Christian Education. She was instrumental in leading us through the transition in CE Directors and for maintaining the high quality of programs during this transition and during the building project.

Gary Hinzman: Gary spent six years on the Session, directing the Outreach Committee. He was an avid spokesman for our special offerings and for the mission projects of the church, including the youth mission trips. Gary also served for four years as the head of the Personnel Committee, during which time he helped us find a new CE director.

Cheryl Doherty: Cheryl is finishing two years as a Deacon, during which she watched over about 20 households of our congregation. Cheryl will be ending her deacon ministry, but she will be continuing her ministry as an usher and greeter on Sunday mornings.

Gigi Elliott: Gigi completed six years as a Deacon, which was challenging due to her battle with cancer. Despite her health concerns, she was still able to minister to the members of this church, and her positive attitude continues to be an inspiration to the rest of us.

Karen Gaines: Karen has served three years as a Deacon. In addition to faithfully tending to her parish families, Karen oversaw the Home Communion Program by which the Deacons bring the sacrament to those who are unable to attend worship.

Holly Harvey: Holly is retiring after serving for three years as a Deacon. Holly was devoted to her parish members and helped with all of the special functions of the Deacons. In addition, Holly has become one of our church photographers. Her photos help us to remember and celebrate our church events and activities.

While these seven officers have now left behind their official duties, they do not leave behind their ordination as Ruling Elders and Deacons. And in that capacity, we will continue to draw upon their wisdom, energy, and faithfulness.

I will be on vacation twice in June: Wednesday, June 6-Monday, June 11; and Monday, June 25-Friday, June 29. Our Parish Associate, Rev. Kristin Schutte will provide pastoral care while I am gone. On Sunday, June 10, Rev. Mary Jane Hitt will be our guest preacher.

Yours in Christ,