

# ADVOCATE

First Presbyterian Church  
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[www.westervillefirstpresbyterian.org](http://www.westervillefirstpresbyterian.org)

July 2018

## 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 5<sup>th</sup> 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!**

## Session Elder Assignments for 2018-2019

Jack Anderson – Membership, Evangelism & Events  
Linda Barr -- Communications  
Matthew Borth – Membership, Evangelism & Events  
Doug Dunlope – Administrative Services  
Jim Hines – Administrative Services, Personnel  
Lane Hough – Stewardship & Finance  
Lori Lampel – Stewardship & Finance  
Bill McCormick – Outreach, Nominations  
Phil Nussdorfer – Worship & Music  
Diana Westfall – Worship & Music  
Kim Wise – Christian Education  
Janet Withers: Clerk (non-voting)



## Notice of Congregational Meeting

The Session of the Church has called a Special Congregational Meeting for Sunday, August 5, at 11:15 a.m., immediately following the worship service to elect a new elder. At its June meeting, the Session accepted with regrets the resignation of Julie Seward from her position as elder and offers many thanks for her year of service. The Nominating Committee will find and present someone to complete Julie's term of service.



## CONSTRUCTION UPDATES

We had some GOOD NEWS on construction/renovation project this week = the elevator passed its final inspection with the State of Ohio and will be available for use on Sunday, June 24!

The project still has not passed the City's final occupancy inspection, but we're down to only 2 minor items remaining:

1. We're awaiting the installation of a "duct heater" in the "make-up air duct" for the boiler room. The duct heater won't actually be needed until heating season next fall, but the City insists that it be installed now.
  - Duct heater is shipping this week and will be installed next week.
2. Handicapped parking signs – actual signs / not just pavement markings
  - A contractor friend of mine donated 2 handicapped parking signs, and Mike Etling installed them on Saturday. One issue down.

The City was willing to issue a temporary occupancy permit, BUT it would cost the Church an additional \$200 non-refundable fee, and we would need to post a \$1,000 bond with the City -- refundable once the heater was installed. After conferring, Mark and Mike decided we should save the \$200 and just wait for the heater to be installed.

AND >>> the City inspector said we could start "occupying" the space.

So, the elevator will be in service on June 24, Mark's allowed to move into his new office, Heather and Linda can move into their new digs, and we can finally use the Blue Room!

Jim Hines

PS: As part of our renovations, we are re-keying the entire church. Anyone wanting or needing a new key should see, call, or email Jim Hines.

# **New Co-Moderators are elected at the 223<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church**

The Presbyterian Church (USA) General Assembly took place from June 16-23 in St. Louis, Missouri. The highlight of every GA is the election of a Moderator, or as was the case this year, Co-Moderators. Below is an excerpt from the PC(USA) news service about the two women who were elected as Co-Moderators of our denomination.

It took commissioners four ballots Saturday evening to elect an English as a Second Language (ESL) teacher and a mid-council executive as the Presbyterian Church (USA)'s second-ever co-moderators. Vilmarie Cintrón-Olivieri of the Presbytery of Tropical Florida and the Rev. Cindy Kohlmann of the presbyteries of Boston and Northern New England gained their victory at 9:01 p.m. Central Time. Following their election, the new co-moderators were immediately installed by the co-moderators of the 223<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly by the Revs. Denise Anderson and Jan Edmiston, as well as the Rev. J. Herbert Nelson, II, stated clerk of the General Assembly. Cintrón-Olivieri's family displayed the Puerto Rican flag as the two new leaders were being installed, honoring the place where she lived until 2011.

Cintrón-Olivieri is an ESL teacher and a ruling elder at First Spanish Presbyterian Church in Miami. Last year she was moderator of the Presbytery of Tropical Florida. She was a Youth Advisory Delegate to the 205<sup>th</sup> General Assembly in 1993, and was asked at age 19 to serve on the session of Caparra Terrace Presbyterian Church in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Kohlmann has pastored congregations in Ohio and Massachusetts. She's currently resources presbyter for the Presbyteries of Boston and Northern New England. As resource presbyter, she designs leadership training opportunities, connects pastors and congregations with local and denominational resources, and has helped start sometimes difficult conversations about structure and vision in the midst of change.

"We are deeply honored by your confidence," Kohlmann told commissioners following their installation. "We will seek God's will in all we do, praying that the Spirit will blow us to new places – all because of our common love for Christ, who is our lord and savior."

Ministry can look different in some of the small New England towns where Kohlmann serves two presbyteries. One example: Leeds, Maine, a town of about 2,300 people where the town's church and gathering place "took the locks off the door and unlocked the internet." Now the church is full of "unchurched" people – students doing their homework after school and "a gym full of people."

"Sometimes we get tied to our buildings," Cintrón-Olivieri said. "Maybe we need to see what is happening in the community to rethink the structures we have."

"We want to invite the church into deeper faithfulness, including languages and cultures and many identities and orientations, all of which reflect the breadth of God's creation," Kohlmann told commissioners.

"I look different, and sometimes I feel that way too," Cintron-Olivieri said. "But we need to keep showing up, even around people who don't think like we do. We need to concentrate on what we cherish and what we share. If we do that, we can claim to be walking with God."

More information on the General Assembly can be found at [www.pcusa.org](http://www.pcusa.org).

# Compassion and Caring

The Compassionate Friends (TCF) is a self-help group supporting parents, grandparents, and siblings after a child dies. We have the highest dues of any organization – the death of a child. TCF has existed since the mid-1970s with about 800 chapters around the world. The website is [CompassionateFriends.org](http://CompassionateFriends.org), and many people find it helpful to be involved in the computer chat rooms that are offered. Ages of the children who have died vary from 0 to grown adults. We became involved with the organization when our oldest daughter, Michelle, died in 1996. Meetings in the Columbus area are at Ascension Lutheran Church on Morse Road just west of Karl Road. We meet on the second Tuesday of every month at 7 pm, and we are available for all family survivors of the death of a child.

At a typical meeting, we have 25-40 people (mostly parents), and we start by going around the circle, sharing our name, our child's name and age, the date and cause of death, a short characteristic of the child, and names of surviving siblings. If a person cannot share, he or she is welcome to pass. We usually have 3-8 new people at each meeting. It is very hard for most new attendees. We break into two groups to give everyone more chances to talk (this is what really counts in the healing process). We share questions and ideas that might or might not be related to the night's topic for the evening, such as Anger, Guilt, Triggers, Surviving the First Year, Coping With the Holidays, Joy in Remembering, Effects on Family Relationships, Beyond Surviving, Effects on Job, Stigmatized Deaths (suicide, drug overdose), Music in Grieving, Etc.

The two groups go for about 1.5 hours, and then we stop for a closing circle and refreshments. Then people can bring up things with specific people. Everyone is gone by 10 pm.

Every 2-3 months, TCF meets at a local restaurant for an informal supper, which is open to all members. We have a special candlelight service attended by 70-100 family members in early December to brace ourselves for the holiday season. We have a picnic/flower release at a local park in June. A woman's lunch takes place every fourth Thursday, and a woman's weekend retreat occurs in early October. There is also a national 2-day convention where about 1500 people attend. This year it is in St. Louis in late July.



We communicate in TCF by email and phone. We are available for **ANY** grieving parent or sibling, and we find that the more people attend meetings, the more thoroughly they can work through their grief and move on to more meaningful lives. However, it is hard work, and many people come a few times and then stop. If you know of any grieving family, please tell us so we can invite them to a TCF meeting

Bob and Mary Place

# Ladies Night Out

**Tuesday, July 17, 6:30**

This month: Local Cantina, 667 N. Cleveland Ave. (near the intersection of Cleveland Ave and Polaris Pkwy, in the same building as Starbucks)



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

## Habitat's Tapestry of a Town Sunday, July 29, 1-5 pm

Hey, everybody! The 7th annual Tapestry of a Town will take place on Sunday, July 29, from 1:00-5:00 p.m. Presented by Westerville Habitat Partnership, the event includes ten historical sites to visit this year - including three enchanting personal homes. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased after church on the three Sundays leading up to the Tour from John Cameron, Sue Ann Norton, or Bernie Simpkins. A SWAG bag will be given to each person buying a ticket - - until they're gone.



All proceeds go to Habitat for Humanity. For more information or to buy tickets online, go to [Westervillehabitat.org](http://Westervillehabitat.org)

# **Paying for Our Beautiful New Addition and Renovation**

The total cost of our project is expected to be \$2,439,116. This entire amount is covered by three sources:

- \$837,674 donations made before 2015 earmarked for capital improvement
- \$1,368,659 Capital Campaign pledges
- \$232,783 money we “borrowed” from ourselves (from scholarship and Mission funds)

People are being very faithful in completing their Capital Campaign pledges, paying \$1,069,579 as of June 2018. The remaining \$299,080 in pledge payments will be made through January 2020.

We will complete payments to our contractors, architect, and all vendors this summer using donations already received and a “bridge loan” we obtained from the Presbyterian Church. We will finish paying off the bridge loan in January 2020, when final Capital Campaign pledges are received. If pledge payments come in early, we will pay off this loan early and save on interest payments.

The Stewardship and Finance Committee and the Session are working on a plan to pay ourselves back, to restore the funds we borrowed internally.



## **Fabrics of Faith**

Fabrics of Faith will meet on Monday, July 16, from 1:00 – 2:30, on the lower level at the church.

Who's invited? Everyone who's interested in doing needle projects, supporting church members and/or friends, and socializing with others from our church. Come; bring your friends and projects. Learn what we're up to.

Questions? Call or email Beckey Stamm. See you there!

## *Summer Activities & Fellowship Fun!*

The Membership, Events, and Evangelism Committee has a few more fun activities coming up for the rest of the summer.



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

We will gather Genoa Township McNamara Park East Entrance (4900 Old 3C Highway – **by the RED BARN!**)

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.

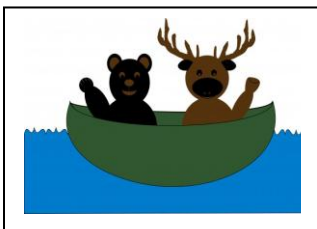
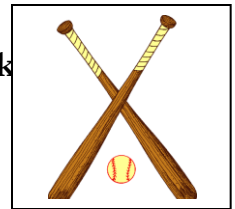
### **CLIPPERS GAME –Sunday, August 5, 4:05 pm, Huntington Park**

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 sign up and pay 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 arrive and be ready to leave by 2:30 pm.



### **CANOE TRIP – Saturday, August 25**

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



## ***RING OUR BELL!***

6:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Dates: July 27 – August 24 (Fridays)

**WE NEED VOLUNTEERS** to help the children ring our bell, along with other volunteers to pass out coupons on the street to invite people into the church. This involves about two hours of time. We have only two more months of doing this wonderful activity. This has proven to be effective in raising community awareness of our church, not to mention also being a good social time for our members.

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.



## **Friday Dine-Out Group**

**Friday, July 13, 6:30 pm**

This month, the Dine-Out Group is going to Olive Garden on Polaris Parkway, a half mile west of I-71. All church members and friends are invited to attend. We will gather by 6:30 on Friday, July 13. Please let Jim Hines or Bob Place know whether you are coming as soon as you can. The cuisine is a cross section of American dishes, and prices are moderate.

# Adult Growth and Development

ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN			
Activity	When	Where	What
Tuesday Morning Bible Study	Tuesdays, 9:30-11:00 am	<b>Knox Meeting Room</b>	“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 <sup>th</sup> Monday Discussion	4 <sup>th</sup> Mondays, 7:30 p.m.	<b>Knox Meeting Room</b>	This month we will meet on the <u>Fifth Friday</u> --be sure to join us on Monday, <u>July 30</u> , from 7:30-9:00 p.m. in the Knox Meeting Room as we discuss <i>Faith in Words</i> , a collection of writings by a variety of Presbyterian authors.
The Library Class	Sunday Mornings 9:00-10:00 a.m.	<b>Knox Meeting Room</b>	We are studying the book <i>Strength to Love</i> , a collection of MLK Jr's sermons.
Circle 4 Women	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursdays, 11:00 am	<b>Raisin Rack</b> 2545 W. Schrock (at the corner of Schrock and Cleveland)	Our Presbyterian Women’s group usually meets monthly for fellowship and Bible study. <b>However, Circle 4 is taking a break for summer.</b> 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:

I rode in the elevator today! That's right THE ELEVATOR—the one that was at the core of our building expansion project, the one for which we have waited patiently these many months, the one that finally passed all the inspections—that elevator. And I invite all of you to ride in it as well, especially all of our members and friends who have been unable to worship with us because of the construction.

We are basically done with our construction project. We are now in our new space, and we are learning how to use it in new and creative ways. Our grounds are now grass again, ready for church activities out on our shaded lawn. Heather is now in her new office at the back of the Sanctuary and I am in my new office on the second floor of the new addition. Our secretary, Linda, has moved up from the lower level to her new spot in our Gathering Room, ready to welcome all of you who come to visit during the week.

Some things still need to be addressed, such as coat racks and window coverings. And we are still in the process of moving into some of our spaces. And other spaces will continue to evolve as we get used to our new patterns of use. But overall, we are done, and we have done well.

So this is a good time to say again, "Thank You." Thank you to our Project Manager, Jim Hines, who shepherded this project for a year and a half. Thank you to Mike Etling, who stepped in when Jim was gone and helped with some of the electrical work. Thank you to Matt McConaha, who helped us get started on the construction phase of this project. Thank yous also go to the rest of the project team, which included Lori Lampel and Bill McCormick.

We owe a big thank you to Dave Beeman, who served as the architect on this project and helped to solve many of the problems we discovered during construction. Thanks also to Laurie Piersall, also one of our architects who helped us formulate a design for the new addition.

We need to thank several people who stepped in to help with various aspects of the project including Roger Pulley, who particularly helped with the boiler system; Tom Eschelman, who oversaw the landscaping portion of the project; Phil Nussdorfer, who helped with our telephone and internet upgrades; Debbie Dunlope, Sharon Davis, Ann McElhaney, and Beckey Stamm, who served as our furnishings committee; Doug Dunlope, who helped coordinate things with our Administrative Services Committee; Dave Stamm, Bill McCormick, Doug & Debbie Dunlope, and others who painted and repaired areas outside of the construction area; all the people who packed and moved items to the Hannah Mayne House for storage and all those who are helping to move all those things back; Linda Lemity, who worked without complaint in a temporary secretary's office in the Fellowship Room; Heather Hicks, who worked without an office for over a year; Lisa and Susan Tennant, who tended our children in a temporary nursery; Lyn Meyer, who worked without an organ for several months; Earl Linhart, who adjusted his choir practices when construction intervened; and Barb Klingman who tracked the finances of this project.

But perhaps the biggest thank you is to all of the members and friends of First Presbyterian who have supported this project and continue to do so. I continue to thank God that I am here with such wonderful, faithful people.

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mark L. Lauer". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "Mark L. Lauer" which appears in a serif font.