

ADVOCATE

First Presbyterian Church
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September 2019

Rally Day 2019

Sunday, September 8

10:15 a.m. - Worship

Bibles Dedicated

Chancel Choir Anthem

5:00 p.m. - All-Church Picnic, Church Lawn

Bring a dish to share; meat and drinks will be provided. Kids will enjoy games and activities planned by the Christian Ed team.

(in case of rain, we'll move inside!)

Rally Day is also the kick-off for the Dine-With-Nine Fellowship groups. These small groups meet once a month for dinner at members' homes. Groups are shuffled each year so that participants can enjoy the company of other First Presbyterian members.

Please talk to Bob Place if you want to be in a Dine-With-Nine group this year.

Sundays in September

9/1	Labor Day Weekend	“Words to Live by: Self-Control” <i>Communion</i>
9/8	Rally Day	“The Word of God: The Bible” <i>Dedication of new pew Bibles</i> <i>Bibles given to three-year-olds and 4th graders</i> <i>Chancel Choir</i>
9/15	Nursery Recognition	“The Word of God: The Story”
9/22		“The Word of God: The Incarnation” <i>Mission Moment: The Beloved Community</i>
9/29		“The Word of God: Living It” <i>Mission Moment: The Peacemaking Offering</i>

Blessing of the Backpacks Sunday, August 11

During the service on Sunday, August 11, Rev. Gauen blessed the children’s backpacks, including those used by our Backpack Bounty program. We are helping the children of the church get ready to go back to school, physically and spiritually!



New Bible Dedication

Sunday, September 8



Thanks to the work of the Worship and Music Committee and donations from many of our members, we have new pew Bibles for our sanctuary. We will now have a uniform set of Bibles that can be used in our worship services. The new Bibles are the New Revised Standard Version, considered to be one of the best translations of the ancient Biblical texts. We will also have several large-print Bibles available at the back of the sanctuary for those who would like the larger type.

You are encouraged to come early to the sanctuary on Sundays and read from these Bibles as part of your preparation for worship. You are also welcome to read along with the liturgist when the morning lessons are being presented. From time to time, Rev. Gauen or our other preachers may invite you to open the Bible to a particular passage during the sermon.

You may also stop by the church during the week and enjoy our sanctuary as a meditation spot, using the Bible to read a psalm or a story about Jesus. The new Bibles will be dedicated on September 8, which is also Rally Day.

Bible Presentation for Children

Sunday, September 8

Each fall, First Presbyterian Church presents new Bibles to our three-year-olds and to our fourth graders. Three-year-olds get a children's Bible featuring many Bible stories in picture book form. The fourth graders get a study Bible that they can use and keep for the rest of their lives.

These Bibles are presented during "Especially for Children" on Rally Day, which is September 8 this year. We will also be dedicating our new Pew Bibles this year, which makes the presentations especially meaningful.

If your child has turned three since last September or is going into fourth grade this fall, please let our Youth and Family Director, Rev. Heather Hicks, know by Wednesday, Sept. 4. If your child did not receive a Bible last year and should have, also let Heather know, so we can make sure he or she gets one this year.

Symposium: Finding Comfort in Discomfort Saturday, October 12, 9 am – 1 pm

Save the date for this symposium: “Finding Comfort in Discomfort: Identity, Power, Privilege. Finding my place and respecting yours.” This event is sponsored by St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, Otterbein Office of Social Justice & Activism, The Martin Luther King Jr. Legacy Project. The location will be announced later. Questions? Ask Mary Lee Jones.

Westerville Farmers' Market Church Parking, Saturday, September 21 and 28

Last June, the Westerville Saturday Farmers' Market moved from its usual location on Grove Street by the Otterbein Campus to the city parking lot south of our church. The city will be moving the Farmers' Market to the south parking lot again this month. On two days, September 21 and 28, the Farmers' Market will be held south of Thomas Alley and our church building. Our parking lot will be available for vendors and shoppers from 8:00 a.m. until noon on both those days.

Crop Walk Sunday, October 13

The annual CROP walk will be on October 13 in Worthington. We are combining the Worthington and Westerville walks since Westerville is now charging us \$300 for use of a city park for the walk. More details will appear in future issues of the *Advocate*. Last year, we once again won the Golden Sneaker award for the most money raised by an organization, and we will likely win again this year—with your help!



Communion Volunteer Opportunity

The Worship Committee is seeking volunteers to prepare and set up communion for the current church year. Our congregation celebrates communion the first Sunday of each month and an additional three to four times during Advent and Lent. The preparation and set-up works best if two people, a couple or two individuals, complete the needed tasks. Please check your calendar and sign up for the date that fits your schedule. Instructions and training for first-time volunteers will be provided. There is a sign-up sheet in the notebook in the Gathering Room. If you have any questions or need more information, please contact Linda Backus.

New Policies Adopted by Session

First Presbyterian is required by the Presbytery of Scioto Valley and our insurance agent/company (Benchmark Insurance / Cincinnati Insurance) to have written policies addressing the following topics:

- Child and Youth Protection
- Sexual Misconduct



According to the Presbytery's attorney, it is "important that all churches have a policy, but it is also very important that the policy be something that the Church can live with and abide by." We researched the policies adopted by other churches and presbyteries and used the best of those to create policies for First Presbyterian. During this process, we kept coming back to the attorney's guidance to make sure the policies weren't too cumbersome or too restrictive – that they were something we could live with.

Session reviewed drafts of the policies at its June meeting and made a number of suggestions for revisions. The revised policies were then approved/adopted by the Session at our meeting on August 12. The EFFECTIVE DATE for the policies is OCTOBER 1, 2019.

If you're interested in reading the policies, copies of both are available at the reception desk in the Gathering Area. They will also be posted on the church website. The key points of both policies basically document much of what we already do at First Presbyterian and really don't make any significant changes to our operation.

IMPORTANT -- The new policy requires an application and background checks for anyone working with children or youth. **HOWEVER, for ALL OF YOU who are already working with the youth**, the policy has a "grace period" whereby we can register you without background checks – basically "grandfathering or grandmothering" your participation. Anyone currently working with the youth needs to complete a short-form application. After the grace period for current members, anyone new to working with the youth will need to complete the longer form (required references, etc.) and undergo a background check.

SO >>> PLEASE >>> if you're already involved with the youth (JAM, VBS, Discovery Zone, etc.) >>> PLEASE complete the short-form application and leave it in Heather's mailbox or at the reception desk. If you have any questions regarding these new policies, please see Jim Hines or another member of Session.

Ladies' Night Out

Tuesday, September 17, 6:30 pm

The September Ladies Night Out will be at the Winking Lizard (614-423-3616), 496 Polaris Parkway, near the intersection of Cleveland Avenue and Polaris. All women of the church—and their friends--are welcome. Can you see the lizard in the photo? He lives at the restaurant! Please contact Diana Westfall to tell her you are coming. We do have fun!



Dine-Out Group

Friday, September 13, 6:00 pm

On Friday, September 13, we will gather at 6:00 pm (earlier time!) at **Carfagna's** (2025 Polaris Pkwy., Columbus, 614-848-4488). Everyone is welcome although they are limiting us to the first 30 people to sign up because their restaurant is not too large. From the church, take Highway 3 to Polaris Parkway. Turn left toward Polaris Town Center. The restaurant is on the left just a little before you reach I-71. It has a standard, moderately priced menu, which you can view on its website. Please let Jim Hines or Bob Place know whether you can attend so we can identify the first 30 who respond.

OUTREACH

Pike County Food Pantry, Thornville Clothes Closet, and Rehoboth Used Clothing are the three places that receive the food, clothing, toys, household, and other items that are donated by the members and friends of this congregation.

Each of these places is different from the other two. Similarities are that they all are run by volunteers, they distribute these donated items free to all, and their "customers" are in need and are very appreciative of the help our congregation sends them. They all cannot thank you enough. Keep up the good work!! Thank you!

Sharon and John Davis

Youth Activities



Rally Day

Sunday, September 8

The 2019-2020 school year has officially begun, and we are ready to celebrate the start of our Sunday School program. Everyone is invited to join us for Sunday School, beginning on Sunday, September 8. Adults will meet at 9:15am in the Library on the top floor. The children (kindergarten through 5th grade) will meet upstairs in the “Heart Room” after our children’s focus time during the service. Middle and high school students are welcome to come at 9:15am and meet in the youth room downstairs.

At 5:00 p.m., we are inviting everyone to bring a covered dish to share for the church’s Rally Day picnic. The Christian Education team will supply the meat, buns, and condiments. Please see Rev. Heather Hicks to sign up for a dish to share. If the weather remains nice, we will meet outside on our lawn with fun outdoor activities. If it is rainy, we will meet downstairs in our fellowship area with indoor activities.



Discovery Zone
Wednesday, October 2, 5-7pm

Our Discovery Zone will start on Wednesday, October 2, 5pm-7pm. Come join us as we engage in Bible study, fun, and a meal. The program is for children ages preschool through 5th grade. Adults are welcome to join us for dinner at 6:30pm. This year, our program will feature the “Growing in Grace and Gratitude” lesson plan from the Presbyterian curriculum. We hope to see you and your kids as we learn about God and enjoy time in God’s presence.



Kids, Youth, and Family Sign-up Sheets

Dear families, as a church, we recognize that although our children will grow into the church of tomorrow, they are also part of the church today. We want to make sure they feel that way by participating in several options for community participation and service.

For our young families, we are asking that two children sign up to greet other children each week during worship. We will need a child (and parent) at each entrance to our sanctuary to pass out the activity bags and welcome children and their families into our worship space.

Older children (3rd through 5th grades) will be called upon to be acolytes beginning in October, lighting our worship candles and doing readings for the opening of worship.

For our middle and high school youth, we are asking that they sign up to lead the “Especially for Children,” which the youth will do once a month.

Our youth have so much to offer our church, and we want them to know that they are just as much a part of our community as our liturgists, elders, and ushers. Please see the sign-up book in the Gathering Place to reserve your child’s spot. Thank you so much for being a part of our church family.

Rev. Heather Hicks

Staying in Touch



Do you have a college student or another family member who is far from home and would like to hear from church members? Please send his or her name and whatever contact information is comfortable to Linda Barr. We’ll share this information in the next *Advocate* so church members can send a birthday card, a short note, and so on.

Notes from Central Ohio Area Agency on Aging's Presentation on Services for Seniors



Were you able to attend this June meeting, organized by our Deacons? If not, Deb Gamble took these notes to record the information presented by Patty Callahan, a social worker from COAAA. This organization covers eight central Ohio counties, with case managers who develop care plans and contract out services with area providers. If you call COAAA on behalf of a family member or someone else who has a case manager, make sure that person has given a release to allow the case manager to talk with you. COAAA's phone number: 1-800-589-7277. Web site: <http://www.coaaa.org/cms/>

Some of the services available in community: (Call to see if funding is available, as it varies by service.)

- 1) Chore services - heavier cleaning and minor repairs.
- 2) Caregiver resources – includes respite care for a short period of time: help with bathing and housekeeping. Also offers adult day care services (half a day) and short-term care in a facility (around 4-5 days.) COAAA will contract with the facility or whoever provides the care.
- 3) PASSPORT program - sometimes referred to as “long-term care Medicaid.” Only the income of person enrolling is taken into consideration. Thus, the spouse can preserve his or her assets. The aim is to provide services at home, so people won't have to move into a nursing home. It takes about three weeks to do an assessment, and 60 days for services to start.
- 4) Emergency response systems – call buttons, medication reminders, and smoke detectors. On a sliding fee scale.
- 5) Home health aides – help with bathing, dressing, feeding, and light housekeeping. Costs around \$21-25 an hour, 2-4 hour minimum.
- 6) In-home therapists – Medicare will cover this service, but the person needs to be home-bound.
- 7) Nurses – provide medical care and medical monitoring. Skilled nursing needs a doctor's orders.
- 8) Meal programs –\$6.50/meal. Hot or frozen meals can be delivered, to be pulled out as needed.
- 9) Home modifications – “universal design” – includes design for ramps, space for wheelchairs, rocker switches, door levers, grab bars, bed and bath on first floor. Patty has seen the Passport program practically pay for new bathroom.
- 10) Hospice – typically called in way too late. It never hurts to have an assessment - think of it as another layer of care. Can be in a person's home or a nursing home. Some respite care is offered by volunteers.
- 11) Equipment – if medically necessary, such as wound dressing. Medicare may pay.

- 12) Telephone reassurance – thru Sheriff’s department – if no one picks up in the home, they will send someone out.
- 13) Franklin County Senior Options (has sliding fee scale) and Sourcepoint in Delaware County both provide services.
- 14) Transportation services – on COAAA’s website is a list of providers. Ambulettes are fee-for-service. Westerville Senior Center and Sourcepoint provide some transportation – priority is given to medical trips. No on-demand service – the person needs to enroll first.
- 15) Adult protective services – for those 60 years and older. You can anonymously report exploitation, abuse, and scams. Authorities will investigate self-neglect but will honor a person’s right to make bad decisions if they understand the consequences.

Other professionals who can help cope with problems that often accompany aging:

- 1) Senior Move Managers – professional organizers who help with packing and decisions on what to keep.
- 2) Geriatric Care Managers – good for long-distance caregivers. They do will do assessments, develop a care plan, and organize home care. They are paid for their time with an hourly rate for aides. They will see that family member gets to appointments, etc.
- 3) Elder law attorneys – familiar with Ohio Medicaid Law; they can offer financial advice.
- 4) Proseniors.org – legal aid for Ohio seniors - free half-hour consult on phone for someone with issues with Medicaid, condo associations, etc. This organization has templates for living wills, etc., on its website.

COAAA has many publications and guides that you can download from its website, <http://www.coaaa.org/>, or call 614-645-7250 to request a printed copy.

Help Needed for the Manna Café Project

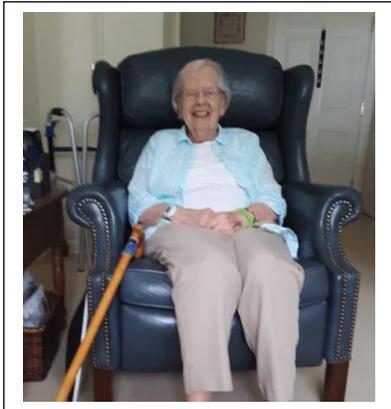
After four years of coordinating Manna Café dinners, Glenna and John Cameron are planning to retire at the end of this calendar year. The last dinner they will oversee is on November 13. If you think you might be interested in coordinating these dinners, Glenna or John (or Sharon Davis) would be happy to talk with you.

Recipes, shopping lists, sign-up sheets, and other written suggestions are available to assist you. Hands-on experience during the November 13 dinner this year can also be provided. Coordination of the dinners can be split up among interested parties if it is not possible for someone to undertake all four dinners in one year.

You will be very glad you decided to help with this worthwhile church outreach!

Surrounded by Ministers!

What would life be like as a preacher's kid and then a preacher's wife? Dorothy Butz's father, her uncle, her husband, two brothers-in-law, and a brother of a brother-in-law were or are all ministers! Growing up as a PK, Dorothy says that she was always on display. "If I did anything wrong, one lovely lady from the church would tattle to my mother!" When Dorothy and her husband were first married and living in Cleveland, Dorothy didn't want to just stay home all day, so she got a job at the May Company. Some of the women at her husband's church lashed out at her: "A minister's wife does not work!"



Despite all this "monitoring," Dorothy has enjoyed her life. She and her husband, Rev. Robert Butz, were married 53 years and have five children. Now she has twelve grandkids and three great-grandkids. However, none has gone into the ministry!

At one point, Dorothy's father, Rev. Earl Jackman, was Secretary of the Presbyterian Sunday School Missions in the United States and Alaska (not a state at the time). The family lived in Leonia, NJ, back then. Rev. Jackman traveled a lot, working with missionaries. One of these missionaries developed an alphabet for a native Eskimo community in Alaska and used it to translate the Bible for them. Rev. Jackman invited the missionaries home for dinner when possible. Dorothy enjoyed listening to the dinner conversations, but she was often reminded that children are to be seen, not heard.

Dorothy helped write a book about her father: *Earl Jackman, The Man with the Little Black Book*. His little black book listed the names and addresses of all his missionaries, along with their birthdays and anniversaries so he could send cards. Dorothy says he always carried this little book with him, tucked into a pocket.

Rev. Jackman began writing the book that later bore his name in order to create a record of the Presbyterian Church's missionary work in Alaska. He wrote a chapter on each village, and Dorothy typed the manuscript for him. However, he died before the book was finished, so Dorothy and her older sister completed it. You can borrow this book from our church's library!

Rev. Dr. Robert Nicholson from the Seattle Presbytery recently used Rev. Jackman's book to track down Dorothy. He is interested in learning more about her father's missionary work. He also hopes to help prevent the closing of Petersburg Church in Alaska. Rev. Nicholson is seeking funds to buy a sign so that this church, now with only 30 members, will be more visible in the community and attract new members, a goal for churches everywhere.

Dorothy's husband, Rev. Butz, served in a number of churches, including the small Ohio communities of Ada and Dola. One of his churches, Eastminster in Columbus, is sadly closing this month. Rev. Butz served as an interim minister for our church, after Rick Koster and just before Jane Mykrantz. Some of our members may fondly remember Rev. Butz.

Dorothy has been a member of First Presbyterian for nearly 30 years and now lives at Feridean Commons, north of Westerville. Watch for her smile on Sunday mornings!

Blessing of the Animals Service

Sunday, September 22

6:30 p.m. on the Church Lawn

The Youth of First Presbyterian Church invite you and your pets to our Blessing of the Animals Worship Service. Animals are an extension of the family and very much beloved by their owners. By honoring the significance of these special family members, we provide joy and comfort to their owners - and the pets benefit as well. And we are reminded that God created all the creatures of the earth. The service will be held outside on the church lawn and will be canceled in the event of rain. Bring yourself, your pet (pets must be on a leash or in a carrier), and a lawn chair. You may even bring a picture of your pet, if your pet doesn't travel well. People without pets are welcome, too! We'll share dessert after the service.

Words to Live by...

My Temper

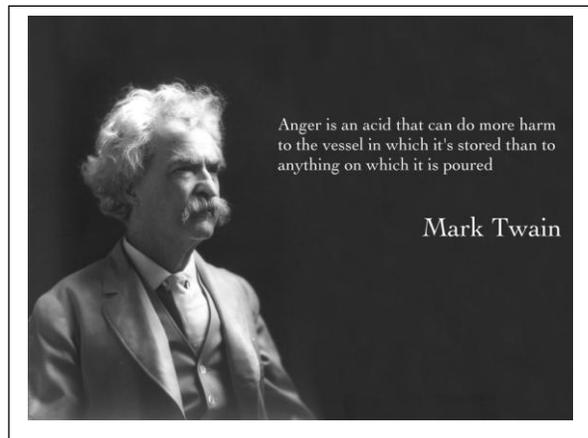
When I have lost my temper
I have lost my reason, too.
I'm never proud of anything
Which angrily I do.

When I have walked in anger
And my cheeks are flaming red,
I have always uttered something
That I wish I hadn't said.

In anger I have never done
A kindly deed, or wise,
But many things for which I know
I should apologize.

In looking back across my life
And all I've lost or made,
I can't recall a single time
When fury ever paid.

Unknown (offered by Bev Etling)



Readers: please do share other poems or short articles that will help inform or uplift us! Send them to lindabarr27@yahoo.com.

ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN			
Activity	When	Where	What
Tuesday Morning Bible Study	Tuesdays, 9:30-11:00 a.m.	Knox Meeting Room	New Study for the Fall: The Book of Matthew. Join us as we explore the first book of the New Testament, where we find the Beatitudes and the Great Commission. Led by Rev. Gauen.
4th Monday Discussion Group	4 th Mondays, 7:30 – 9:00 p.m.	Knox Meeting Room	We are examining the cultural divide in our country through the book, <i>Strangers in Their Own Land</i> by Allie Hochschild. This month, the class will be held on the fourth Monday, September 23. Led by Rev. Gauen.
Sunday Seminar (formerly called the Library Class)	Sunday Mornings 9:00-10:00 a.m.	Library	The Sunday Adult Class will resume on September 8 with a new study on the book <i>Holy Envy: Finding God in the Faith of Others</i> , by Barbara Brown Taylor.
Circle 4 Women	3 rd Thursdays, 11:00 a.m.	Knox Meeting Room	Our Presbyterian Women's Group meets monthly for fellowship and Bible study. Please join us on September 19. Led by Elaine Foley.

Adult Growth and Development

Youth Fellowship for September

Sept. 8 - Rally Day, All Church Picnic – Take your family to the Rally Day Picnic, 5:00 p.m. at the Church!

Sept. 15 - Presbytery Youth Event with Rev Jimmie Ray Hawkins – We will join hundreds of Presbyterian Youth from Central Ohio at the Gahanna Presbyterian Church for food and fun and an inspiring message by Rev. Hawkins, the head of the Presbyterian Social Witness Program, who will speak about how youth can make a difference in our world today. Meet at the church at 4:00 p.m. We will return at about 7:30 p.m.

Sept. 22 – Blessing of the Animals – We are bringing back this special worship service that was created by the youth several years ago. Youth will gather at 4:00 p.m. to set up for the service (a pizza dinner will be provided), and then the

youth will lead the service, which begins at 6:30 p.m. Have your parents bring your pet to the service.

Sept. 29 - Corn Maze – Once again we will conquer the Maze! We'll meet at the church at 11:30 a.m. for lunch and then head to Lynd's for the Corn Maze. Cost is \$11.00.



Pastor's Page

Dear Friends:

Over this past summer I have been preaching a series called “Words to Live By,” in which I offered several Bible-based words as guides for our life as Christians. About halfway through the summer, a couple of people asked me how many words I was planning to do and I told them nine. They then asked me what the remaining words were, and I told them that they could find them in a single verse in the Bible. That verse, which some of you may have figured out, is Galatians 5:22, where Paul says: “The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.”

Paul is telling the Galatians what the life of faith looks like, and while these nine words are not the only ones that would describe a Christian, they are nine pretty good ones. And certainly, the first one, *love*, is fundamental to our understanding of God and how God expects us to orient our life. Christian author Donald Grey Barnhouse sees love as the key to understanding all of Galatians 5:22 and put it this way in this poem:

*Love is the key.
Joy is love singing.
Peace is love resting.
Long-suffering* is love enduring.
Kindness is love's touch.
Goodness is love's character.
Faithfulness is love's habit.
Gentleness is love's self-forgetfulness.
Self-control is love holding the reins.*

** In the original Greek of Galatians, the word for patience can also be translated as “long-suffering.”*

May you find the fruits of your life to be self-control, gentleness, faithfulness, goodness, kindness, patience, peace, and joy. And most of all, may you make love the key.

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark L. Gauer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Presbytery duties for September:

September 5- I will chair a meeting of the Ministries Initiative Board, which was established to help the Presbytery partner with churches to create new and exciting ministries for Christ.

September 10 - I will be meeting with the Presbytery Moderator to prepare for the upcoming Presbytery Meeting.

September 17 – This is the meeting of the Presbytery at Liberty Presbyterian Church in Delaware County. I will be part of a Pre-Presbytery session for new commissioners to the Presbytery, and I will moderate a portion of the meeting.