



LIFELINE

Pastor's Prayers

I enjoyed leading the Adult Sunday School class these past four weeks. We talked about the biblical practice of the Sabbath as a day of rest, because God rested from the work of creation (Exodus 20:11), and also as a day of freedom from slavery, because God liberated the Israelites from slavery in Egypt (Deuteronomy 5:15).

Christians do not place quite the same emphasis on the Sabbath as do observant Jews, but the Fourth Commandment is still in our Bible and we are still called to observe it. This is very counter-cultural, and there is no Christian consensus on what Sabbath observance should be.

Therefore, as our class reflected on what the Sabbath means for us today, we decided that we should focus on doing something that gives us rest. This might be different for each person, but could help us honor the commandment.

Here are some suggestions from the class for how we might observe the

Sabbath: Attend worship; listen to music; don't make a to-do-list for the day; take a walk in nature; keep busy (as opposed to vegging out); don't watch the clock; try to be conscious & mindful; take a break from email & social media.

By the way, the Adult Sunday School class is open to everyone! We gather c. 8:45 to share prayer concerns, then start our discussion. Please check the bulletin or the *Lifeline* for the current class topic, or talk with Denise Lo Cicéro.

Exodus 20:8-11: Remember the Sabbath day, and keep it holy. For six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and consecrated it.

(Continued on Page 2)

(Continued from Page 1)

Deuteronomy 5:12-15: Observe the Sabbath day and keep it holy, as the Lord your God commanded you. For six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, or your son or your daughter, or your male or female slave, or your ox or your donkey, or any of your livestock, or the resident alien in your towns, so that your male and female slave may rest as well as you.

Remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the Lord your God brought you out from there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm; therefore the Lord your God commanded you to keep the Sabbath day.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Karen

*** Dear God, Help us to honor the commandments that you have given us for our well-being. May we find life-giving ways to observe the Fourth Commandment even in this day and age. Amen.*

Memorial Gifts

Gifts in memory of Terri Thompson have been received from John and Chris Eubel, Warren and Darla Thompson, and Ray Wylam.

Jane Bigelow remembered Ruth McBride.

Membership

If you are interested in becoming a member of First Presbyterian, please talk with Pastor Karen Cassedy. The membership process is as follows: a) you attend a membership class or individual instruction in what it means to be Presbyterian; b) you meet with Session, who approves your membership; and c) you are presented in worship and make a proclamation of faith. You don't have to wait for a membership class to be announced — talk to Pastor Karen when you are ready.



CLERK'S CORNER

Session Recap January 16, 2018

Karen led our opening devotions with a responsive reading excerpt from *A Celtic Evening Liturgy (A Wee Worship Book, Fourth Incarnation)* which included a bible passage from John 8:12. Prayers for Joys and Concerns were shared followed with prayer to begin our meeting.

Karen welcomed our two new Session members, John Haynes and Diane Sondergelt.

Troy Oliver reviewed the final 2017 Financial Report prepared by Carolyn McMillan: Total income for November and December 2017 was \$ 55,389.33; total expenses, \$ 41,759.92; net, (\$-13,629.41). Final 2017 totals: income \$219,996.02; expenses \$260,592.07; net (-\$40,596.05).

The 2018 budget was approved in November, with some changes subsequently made by CLS. Troy distributed an updated copy with those changes. Troy distributed a copy of the 2017 treasurer's report which will be printed in the Annual Report. A suggestion was made to include the new mission budget policy. Troy will add this policy statement to the report.

Session approved:

Approved the November 2017 meeting minutes noting one correction. The word 'offices' should have been 'officers.'

Approved the annual PCUSA report. The membership roll total is 112.

Elected Kathleen Seewer as Clerk of Session.

Elected Officers of the Corporation for 2018:

President: Julie Brown

Vice-President: Bill McMillan

Secretary: Kathleen Seewer

Treasurer: Troy Oliver

Approved collecting a *Souper Bowl* offering on February 4 with 100% of the proceeds to the *FISH* program or St Vincent de Paul homeless shelter.

Approved Michael Seewer as Elder Commissioner to the Presbytery Meeting on February 10 at Memorial in Xenia. On second motion, approved Michael Seewer as Elder Commissioner for all 2018 Presbytery meetings.

Approved the date of February 13, 2018 for the next Session meeting.

Approved hosting College Hill at Ash Wednesday worship on February 14, and joining College Hill for Maundy Thursday worship on March 29.

Approved calling a Congregational meeting on October 14, 2018 to elect new officers.

Approved Pastor Karen Cassedy's vacation from February 19 – 28. Worship committee will find a replacement for Sunday February 25.

Additional Information:

Marlene Acus	Nominating
Julie Brown	Operations (chair) Administration Fellowship & Mission
John Haynes	Administration Stewardship
Bill McMillan	Property
Art Myers	Property
Troy Oliver	Treasurer
Shirley Schlafman	Congregational Life & Service (chair) Christian Education
Michael Seewer	Personnel (chair) Worship
Diane Sondergelt	Fellowship & Mission

Clerk's Corner Session Recap (continued from Page 2)

We reviewed the FPC Events Calendar from January 16 – February 20. Changes or additions were noted, such as the change in the February Session meeting, and the addition of the Meet & Eat on February 18 with setup planned on February 17.

Building Security: Exterior doors will be locked during services, except the main entrance.

Presbytery Report: A new Executive Presbyter was elected on January 16, 2018. The Reverend Terry Kukuk will start in March.

Save The Date – Sunday Feb. 18

Please save the date, for our next Meet-N-Eat. Immediately after worship on Feb 18, we will be serving a breakfast type menu followed by an exciting murder mystery game.

Please join us to find out who dunit!
More details to follow.

Please see Julie Brown or Diane Sondergelt for more info.

Mission Update: Our 2017 Ministry to Homeless Children and Families in Fairborn

You are truly making a difference in our community! Having just finished writing our final report for the Synod New Covenant Grant funds we obtained for 2017, I can tell you that, together with both monetary and in-kind donations from the congregation, we have been able to serve over 400 homeless children/families in the Fairborn City Schools during calendar year 2017. We have been able to help several families, including a total of 28 children, to transition out of the “homeless” category. Your generous donations of more than 877 food items are gratefully appreciated! The excitement on Gretchen Wudke’s face when she loads her van with groceries for the families is a joy to see. Some of the other things we’ve been able to provide are: temporary lodging, transportation, toiletries and non-perishable items, help getting utilities turned back on, replacement birth certificates, eyeglasses, school fees, and a special software program called Credit Recovery. Above and beyond all of those specific items are the many hours that so many of you have dedicated to shopping, maintaining the pantry on-site, and volunteering in the schools in so many different ways. Thank you all for a job well done, that continues every month!

- Denise Lo Cicéro, Education and Mission Coordinator

CY 2017 FINANCIAL REPORT

Fifth Third Bank

Checking	\$40,682.56
Savings	<u>26,640.47</u>
	\$ 67,323.03

General Electric Credit Union (+ \$4152.54 CY)	\$154,925.01
(3 CDs @ \$51,641.67 each/mature Oct. 2021)	
New Covenant Mutual Funds (+ \$9,948.16 CY)	\$ 64,509.61
Davis Funds (+ \$20,275.06 CY)	\$111,814.09
TOTAL 12/31/17	\$398,571.74

CY 2016 Compared to CY 2017:

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>
Income	\$282,422.93	\$219,996.02
Expenses	<u>314,811.76</u>	<u>260,592.07</u>
Net	(\$ 32,388.83)	(\$ 40,596.05)
Planned Expenses (CY)	\$267,835.00	\$271,705.00
Pledged (CY)	\$154,668.00	\$164,688.00
Operating Income (CY)	\$238,475.93	\$192,967.99
Year-End Capital	\$404,786.75	\$398,571.74

Adult Christian Education News

Sunday Mornings: Our February topic is yet to be chosen. Why not show up for class and be surprised?! Or you may check the Sunday bulletin for more information. All are welcome! (This class gathers at 8:45 a.m. in the Boardroom.)

Tuesday Mornings: Woody Ensor continues to lead this weekly Bible study over breakfast at Foy's Grill. Again, all are welcome! (This group meets at 7:00 a.m., before heading out to their various volunteer and other commitments.)

Thursday afternoons: Our study of *Cultural Literacy for Religion: Everything the Well-Educated Person Should Know* meets on Thursdays at 1:00 p.m. in the lounge. Upcoming topics are:

Date	Class
Feb. 1	The Life and Community of Jesus
Feb. 8	Catholic and Orthodox Christianity
Feb. 15	Protestantism and Christianity Today
Feb. 22	Muhammad, Qur'an, and Islamic Civilization
Mar. 1	Unity in Islam: The Five Pillars
Mar. 8	Forms of Islam: Diversity Among Muslims

Questions? Please see Shirley Schlafman or Denise Lo Cicéro. All are welcome!

Ash Wednesday: Feb. 14

We will be hosting supper at 6:00 p.m. and a worship service at 7:15 p.m. with guests from College Hill Community Church in Dayton. First Pres will provide the meal and College Hill will bring desserts. Please sign up on the poster outside the lounge so we will know to set a place for you!

School Pantry Needs Food

Single-serving foods such as Hormel "Compleat," mac & cheese cups, noodles, etc., would be much appreciated, as would jams or jellies (we have plenty of peanut butter).

FAIRBORN PRIMARY SCHOOL CHESS CLUB REPORT

Last year our church received a significant donation to help financially support the founding of the Chess Club at the primary school. The club enables the children to learn not only how to play chess, but how to improve their math, vocabulary skills, concentration, self-esteem, problem solving, patience and good sportsmanship. They practice year round and recently attended a Math Plus event in Hilliard. Our Fairborn primary students won the chess scrimmage with a score of four and a half. Players get one point for a win and half a point for a draw. The photo below is of the children competing in Hilliard. We are proud to be a part of this program to enhance the learning experiences of the children and development of behavior and character. We continue with our reading program, support of Ernie's Boutique to supply new and used clothing, COSI, and other programs requiring your volunteer support. Please consider placing March 7, 2018 on your calendar to help with COSI. Also please watch for our fundraiser in March selling Meadow View Garden Center gift cards to help sponsor our school projects....We would appreciate your support.

"Volunteers are ordinary people with extraordinary hearts."





Happy Birthday!

Feb	1	Iris Berry
	2	Jim Hill
		Diane Sondergelt
	4	Charles Ryan
	5	Eliza Haddix
	7	Arthur Lewis
	9	Marilyn Löw
	10	Cassandra Locke
	12	Linda Keller
	13	Harriet Ensor
	14	Ardene Roberts
	19	Jody Hoag
	20	Marge Gehring
		Verna Schivley
	21	Donna Kulhanek
Mar	10	Art Gooray
	13	Mark Priaulx
		Norm Willoughby
	17	Joyce Burnette

SAVE THE DATE IT'S COSI TIME AGAIN

Please mark your calendars on March 7, to volunteer for our day of COSI at Fairborn Primary School. We will be spending the day instructing approximately 175 third grade students on the subject of "Energy." We always have a very rewarding and enjoyable day together.... Your help is needed and appreciated. Friends and family are welcome volunteers also. The sign up sheet will be located in the hallway at church mid February.

To my good friends at FPC,

I want to thank everyone for all of the cards and messages that you sent for my birthday. You made me feel so special.

Blessings,
Shirley Schroer

SUPPER CLUB GROUPS

The dinner was held at John and Emily's December 21. It was a Pot Luck and was enjoyed by all.



The dinner was held by Marlene's group at Bravo's. They were enjoying deepening friendships with fellow church members.



**Sun****Mon****Tue****Wed****Thu****Fri****Sat**

				1 1:00 pm Cultural Literacy (Lounge)	2 9:00 am United Chimes (MR)	3
4 8:45 am Adult Bible Study 10:15 am Worship with Communion	5	6 7:00 am Bible Study at Foy's Grill	7 6:30 pm Bell rehearsal.- (MR) NO Choir	8 1:00 pm Cultural Literacy (Lounge) 2:15 pm CLS Mtg (BR)	9 9:00 am United Chimes (MR)	10
11 8:45 am Adult Bible Study 10:15 am Worship Transfiguration of the Lord	12 11:00 am St Vincent Cooks 5:30 pm St Vincent Servers	13 7:00 am Bible Study at Foy's Grill 7:00 pm Session (BR)	14 Ash Wednesday 6:00 dinner in Fellowship Hall with College Hill 7:15 Ash Wed. Worship	15 1:00 pm Cultural Literacy (Lounge)	16 9:00 am United Chimes (MR)	17
18 8:45 am Adult Bible Study 10:15 am Worship 11:30 Meet-N-Eat Mystery Brunch	19	20 7:00 am Bible Study at Foy's Grill	21 6:30 pm Bell rehearsal.- (MR) 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal- (Sanc)	22 1:00 pm Cultural Literacy (Lounge)	23 9:00 am United Chimes (MR)	24
25 8:45 am Adult Bible Study 10:15 am Worship Rev. Marcy Bain	26	27 7:00 am Bible Study at Foy's Grill	28 11:30 am Senior Center lunch 6:30 pm Bell rehearsal.- (MR) NO Choir			
→	→	→		Karen returns		



**Lifeline—the monthly newsletter of the
First Presbyterian Church of Fairborn, Ohio
1130 Highview Dr, Fairborn, OH 45324
“The Friendliest Church in Town”**

Sunday Adult Bible Study: 8:45 am

Sunday Worship: 10:15 am

Pastor: Reverend Karen Cassedy

Education and Mission Coordinator and Director of Music: Denise Lo Cicéro

Financial Secretary: Carolyn McMillan

Director of Chancel Ringers: Rena Leatherman

Organist: Jeff Firestone

Church Secretary: Shelia Yux

Office Hours: Wednesday—Friday, 10 am—4 pm (closed Monday & Tuesday)

Phone: 937-878-3954

Please fill out and return this update
even if there were no changes!
We need one from each household, please!

UPDATE FOR 2018 CHURCH DIRECTORY

NAME _____ DOB(Mon/Day) _____

SPOUSE NAME _____ DOB(Mon/Day) _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

WINTER ADDRESS _____

HOME PHONE _____

MY CELL PHONE _____

SPOUSE'S CELL PHONE _____

MY WORK PHONE _____

SPOUSE'S WORK PHONE _____

MY EMAIL ADDRESS _____

SPOUSE'S EMAIL _____

MY WORK EMAIL _____

SPOUSES WORK EMAIL _____

Due date: No later than Feb 15. Please mail, bring to the office, or put into the collection plate.