



May 2023

# LIFELINE

## Holy Week

**Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, and glorious Easter Sunday**







## CLERK'S CORNER

### April 16, 2023 Session Recap

Pastor Joe Hinds opened our meeting with prayer. He thanked Diane for providing lunch. The Clerk reported a quorum was present.

The March 2023 Financial Report prepared by Carolyn McMillan was received: total income YTD for 2023 was \$72,565.21; total expenses \$65,852.33; net \$6,712.88.

#### Session approved:

- the March 19, 2023 minutes with a note that David is in the class of 2024, not 2025.
- Our membership roll total is 88.
- the Pastor's report of visitations, contacts made through email, postal mail, text, and phone, leading the ongoing Cornerstone class study, and meetings attended.
- canceling the May meeting. If business occurs that needs our vote, we will conduct via email. The next session meeting will be held on June 18, 2023 following worship.

#### Committee Reports:

**CLS:** The Heifer International project was a success. Between the money collected by the children and a matching donation, almost \$2,000 will go to Heifer International. The committee is planning a Sunday Fun Day on May 21 following worship. With funds from the Matthew 25 grant, two small library boxes—

one for books and one as a pantry — were purchased from Little Free Library and will be installed outside once a suitable location is chosen. Kim has agreed to oversee the books and pantry items in these boxes.

**Operations - Property:** Session approved the expense of \$7,720 to repair deteriorating concrete and asphalt items. Large commercial semi-trucks have been using the lower drive to park while the driver goes into Speedway. This has caused a breakdown in the asphalt. Someway to prevent this parking was discussed. Curtains and blinds will be closed when rooms are not being used. This is a security issue to prevent individuals peering in the windows, especially at night. It should also aid in the regulation of the air conditioning and heating. Mitch is still working on the roof issues related to the copper roof over the portico. Other repairs around the building are in process.

**Please NOTE:** Property has made the following request: Any items in the church that are stored there which have a sentimental or are of value to anyone who donated that item, that they be marked somehow so they do not get thrown away during clean up periods in the church.

The May calendar was reviewed.

Kathleen Seewer,  
2023 Clerk of Session

### ***A NOTE FROM ECCLESIAL—OUR RESIDENT CHURCH MOUSE***

Good day to you all! April was a great month in the life of our church. Our Easter Sunday service was truly a beautiful and touching way to honor our Lord. He has risen! We hosted Boy Scout Post 72 on a Sunday morning during our service. They posted colors and then they presented their Charter to us. The following Sunday, they served us a delicious pancake breakfast as a thank you to us. These children and their troop leaders are a reminder of our service to the community by allowing them to meet in our building and share in our commitment of service before self. The Senior Center lunch that was cooked and served by our always willing and cheerful volunteers was enjoyed by the members of the Center and also several of our congregants. The number of requests for take out boxes was a testimony to how delicious (and nutritious) it was! Sadly – none was brought back to the church for us to munch on, but we had plenty of other snacks left over from Sunday mornings and Cornerstone Class. Thanks to EVERYONE who provides these yummy tidbits! You make my family and I very happy. Next month is going to be a busy one as we are hosting the Miami Valley Presbytery Meeting and providing a meal for the attendees. Our very own Michael Seewer is going to be installed as the Moderator the Presbytery. In case you don't know, this is a very big deal, and we are so excited for him and for our church. Everyone in our congregation is invited, and we hope to see you all there. We will be watching from our secret hiding spots cheering Michael on. Enjoy the beautiful weather that is promised to head our way and know that you are loved and watched over! ~*Ecclesial Mouse*



### Thank You Again Generous Congregation!

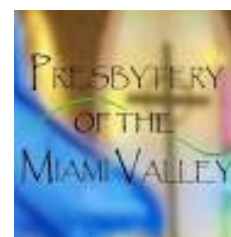
The children presented a check to Pastor Joe and thanked the congregation for their generous donations to Heifer International. The final tally was \$1000. Also, Heifer Intl. had a donor who matched donations at this time, so we effectively were able to donate \$2000 to them. Thank you everyone!



### Hosting the Miami Valley Presbytery Meeting May 9th

We are hosting the Miami Valley Presbytery (MVP) meeting on Tuesday May 9th where Michael Seewer will be installed as the new Moderator for the coming year. This is a very prestigious position and we are very proud of Michael for representing our church. Both Michael and Kathleen have been serving MVP for many years. Kathleen provides dedicated service to the MVP as their Recording Secretary and continues to serve in this position.

We are expecting approximately 100 visitors from the 43 congregations in the Miami Valley. Registration begins at 2:00pm. The meeting begins at 3:00pm in the sanctuary with dinner to follow in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome to attend this event. If you would like to attend or help with this event, please see Dixie or Diane for more info. We'd love to have you join us and support Michael, Kathleen, Pastor Joe, and the MVP.



### Save The Date –Sunday Fun Day May 21st

Please help us celebrate our new acquisitions of turquoise picnic tables, a Little Free Library, and a Free Pantry. These were purchased with the Matthew 25 Grant from our Synod. The picnic tables still need to be painted and the boxes to house the library and pantry are yet to be installed. We are hoping the weather will cooperate so that this can be done before our Fun Day. Keep your eyes open to see them in place soon. Join us on May 21st immediately after worship in the parking lot close to the entrance to Fellowship Hall for this outdoor event. Please invite your family, friends, and neighbors to join in the fun. We will serve hamburgers, hot dogs, macaroni salad, baked beans, and cookies. There will be outdoor games to enjoy. In lieu of monetary donations, please bring a donation to furnish our Little Free Library and/or Free Pantry. Kim Sellers will be keeping an eye on these sites and making sure they are stocked. She has already donated children's books and some non-perishable food items to start them off. We are in need of books for adult readers and any single serving size non-perishable food items. Watch for more information in the Sunday bulletins and Midweek Updates. Help us reach out to our neighbors and community. Information about the Little Free Library is available at: <https://littlefreelibrary.org/>.



Boy Scout Troop 72 opened our worship on April 16th by presenting The Colors and reciting the Boy Scout Promise. Pastor Joe accepted their Charter from the Scout Leader. Troop 72 has been meeting weekly in our building for many years. The following Sunday the Scouts prepared a delicious pancake breakfast to thank our congregation. Thank you Troop 72.

### Graduation News

Please let us know if you have any family members that are graduating. We'd like to recognize and congratulate them in the June Lifeline. Please send their name, school name, graduation date, major, and future plans to the church email by May 22nd.







On Palm Sunday two lovely staff members from Family Promise Greene County (FPGC), Deanna McCrary and Feather Birdsong, came to tell us about their organization and the work they are doing to provide emergency shelter and programs to help homeless families get back on their feet and into permanent housing. The following week, Pastor Joe, Julie, and Diane visited their facility in Xenia. We are looking into ways that we can provide more support to this organization.



Dave, Kim, and Joyce served lunch at the Sr. Center on April 26th after Judy led everyone in prayer. Bob was busy helping Linda, Julie, and Diane in the kitchen prepare the meal. All of the guests there enjoyed the meal and the gathering of friends. We'll see you again next month!



Linda Hartsock contacted the Fairborn Schools Transitional Living Coordinator, Bristen Welles, and learned that the school just opened a second pantry in the high school. The pantries at Baker and the high school will serve all of the Fairborn school buildings. Linda also took many items to the school to make sure they were well stocked.

### Save the Date—May 11th

We received an invitation to participate in the Fairborn Parks & Rec Chalk the Walk for Mental Health again this year at Community Park. We will be adding our artwork to an 8'x10' assigned section of the walking path on Thursday May 11th. The walk is May 12-14. Remember how much fun you had as a kid drawing on the sidewalk? Well, come join us for a fun time and show your creative talents! More details will be provided in the Sunday bulletin and Midweek Update.



### One Great Hour of Sharing

We sent \$500 plus those offerings received specifically designated for One Great Hour of Sharing to PCUSA. This offering which is collected during the Lenten season supports three PCUSA programs- Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People. All work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope.







## Happy Birthday!

**May 14 Ken Gadd**  
**Paul Botts**  
**16 Margaret Carlson**  
**Mitch Oliver**  
**19 Ralph Beaver**  
**24 John McMillan**  
**31 Darla Thompson**

Dear Church Family,  
 Thank you so much for the cake and flowers. Your recognition of my retirement is greatly appreciated.  
 Love,  
 Elaine



Dear Friends at first Presbyterian Church,  
 Thank you SO very much for your donation of \$1100.00 received during first quarter of 2023. We are forever grateful of being recipients of your generosity and concern for those who need food and personal items. Your giving is much appreciated.

The donation to FISH Fairborn is greatly needed and your support will help us continue in making a difference in the lives of the poor, forgotten and victims of exclusion or adversity.

During 2022 FISH Fairborn provided 420,618 meals to 10, 075 families, rent and utility assistance to 485 families, 1,000 personal hygiene kits, 6,000 books to children through Project Read, 529 sleeping bags/blankets/pillows, diaper supplies to 1,116 families with babies, trick-or-treat bags for 298 children, and birthday/Christmas gifts for 189 children.

We are so glad that you are part of our FISH family.

In appreciation,  
 Jane and Bill Doorley  
 FISH Fairborn



**FAIRBORN FISH**  
 FRIENDS IN SERVICE TO HUMANITY

Dear Church Friends,  
 Thank you so very much for the lovely alter flowers donated by Bill Arnold that I received on April 2. I enjoyed them during the church service and now in my living room. They make me feel so happy! It's so thoughtful of you all to pass them on when the church service is over. You are all so very much appreciated.

Love,  
 Jan Smith



Dear Church Family,  
 Thank you for the beautiful flowers that brightened the worship service on Sunday, April 23. The flowers were donated by Shelda Cox in honor of her brother's 59th birthday. The Deacons designated me to receive one of the bouquets which now add a touch of spring to our home.

Thank you,  
 Kathleen P. Seewer



# HAPPY Mother's DAY








## Montessori Kindergarten Graduation May 19th

We are hosting a reception for the Montessori school's Kindergarten graduation on Friday May 19th at 6:00pm. If you would like to help serve or can donate cookies, please let Diane know.





# May 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b>  1:00 pm Hope Circle- Lounge	<b>2</b>  	<b>3</b>  2:00 pm Cornerstone Class — Lounge 3:30 pm Chancel Ringers	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b>  10:15 am Worship with Communion	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>  2:00 pm MV Presbytery Meeting and Dinner Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall	<b>10</b>  2:00 pm Cornerstone Class — Lounge 3:30 pm Chancel Ringers	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b>  10:15 am Worship  	<b>15</b>  10:30 am Walking Club- Location TBD	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>  2:00 pm Cornerstone Class — Lounge 3:30 pm Chancel Ringers	<b>18</b>  2:30 pm Deacon's Meeting — Board Room	<b>19</b>  6:00 pm Montessori Graduation	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b>  10:15 am Worship Sunday Fun Day following worship	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>  11:30 am Lunch at the Sr. Center 2:00 pm Cornerstone Class — Lounge 3:30 pm Chancel Ringers	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b>  10:15 am Worship	<b>29</b>  Lifeline Articles due in office  	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>  2:00 pm Cornerstone Class — Lounge 3:30 pm Chancel Ringers			



### SCHOOL PANTRY NEEDS

A shopping list is provided for your use. Any items collected will be divided between the Fairborn School Pantry and the Wright State Pantry. You can leave items in the bins in the narthex. If you need help with shopping or with pick-up and delivery, just let me know. I'll be happy to help.

Linda Hartsock

School Pantry Coordinator



Pasta Noodles	Oatmeal	Crackers
Pasta Sauce	Pancake Mix (add water only)	Snacks
Ravioli (Can or individual)	Pancake Syrup	Canned Vegetables
Soup	Poptarts	Juice
Rice and Noodle Mixes	Nuts	Paper Towels
Mac and Cheese (Box or individual)	Pudding	Toilet Paper
Tuna and Chicken cans	Fruit cups	Shampoo/Cond.
Vegetable Oil/Spray	Peanut Butter	Body Wash
Cereal	Jelly	Feminine Hygiene

***Lifeline*—the monthly newsletter of the  
First Presbyterian Church of Fairborn, Ohio  
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**email:** [firstpresbyterianfairborn@gmail.com](mailto:firstpresbyterianfairborn@gmail.com)

Office Hours: Wednesday through Friday, 10 am—2 pm  
(closed Monday and Tuesday)

***“The Friendliest Church in Town”***

Sunday Worship: 10:15 am with an on-line option from the church website

Pastor: Reverend Joe Hinds

email: [pastorjoe1stpres@gmail.com](mailto:pastorjoe1stpres@gmail.com)

Financial Secretary: Carolyn McMillan

Organist: Jeff Firestone

Choir Director: Shelda Cox

### SESSION

**Moderator:** Reverend Joe Hinds

**Clerk:** Kathleen Seewer

**Ruling Elders:** Julie Brown, Dixie Jenkins, Troy Oliver, Kathleen Seewer,  
David Sellers, Kim Sellers, Roland Sommer, and Diane Sondergelt

Articles for next month's Lifeline need to be in the office by May 29.

There will be a limited number of copies of the *Lifeline*  
in the lower narthex at the Welcome/Visitors table if you want to pick one up.

Please let the office know of any meetings that you have scheduled in the church building  
so that we can maintain an accurate calendar and answer questions as folks call.