



LIFELINE

Session News

Nobody signs on in hopes of attending more meetings. In order to maximize the process of planning and carrying out FPC's events and programs, the Session has entered into an experiment of meeting every other month to encourage and provide time for monthly committee meetings in the off-month. The Session met on September 17; the next session meeting will be November 19. October will be the month for committees and working groups to meet. This new schedule will not replace the set schedule of those committees, boards, or working groups such as the Finance Committee and the Board of Deacons, which already have a quarterly, bi-monthly, or other schedule particular to their work and responsibilities.

Under this plan, having met in September, the next session meetings will be in November 2023, January 2024, March 2024, and so on. Committees and working groups are encouraged to meet in the non-session-meeting months. Committee and working group members do not need to be officers, anyone in the church family is encouraged to get involved in an area of our life and ministry. This structure broadens the opportunities for involvement and participation. May we all share the load of tasks and responsibilities in the works of ministry, worship, fellowship, hospitality, and service.

The Book of Order requires the church session to meet quarterly, they may meet more often, if necessary. If an item arises that requires the session to convene before the next stated meeting, our business can always be handled by a called in-person meeting, on a conference call or Zoom, or by email.

Ideally, the stated meeting of the session is a time for committees to bring recommendations before the elders, some of which may require a vote. The details of plans and programs for the life and ministry of the church are worked out at the committee and working group level. This leaves the session meeting as a time for comprehensive planning, leadership development, spiritual growth, and other broad administrative duties of the elders.

Are you discerning or considering a call to serve as an officer of the church?

If so, this brief description of these offices may be useful.

Elders are called to exercise leadership, government and discipline. PCUSA congregations share a common polity that ensures due process when disputes arise and promotes equality for all persons. It provides a way of living together in which the concerns and suggestions of all members are taken seriously. It also helps assure members that finances are managed responsibly and mission is carried out faithfully.

Deacons are called to a ministry of compassion, witness, and service, sharing in the redeeming love of Jesus Christ for the poor, the hungry, the sick, the lost, the friendless, the oppressed, those burdened by unjust policies or structures, or anyone in distress, both within and beyond the community of faith.

Let us all consider our call to ministry in the church, the broader community, and even into the world. Our Lord Jesus Christ has always called his followers into communities of faith as witnesses to and agents of God's saving love and the good news of the gospel. the saving love of Jesus Christ.

+grace and peace,

Pastor Joe





Clerk's Corner

September 17, 2023

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

The August 2023 Financial Report prepared by Carolyn McMillan was received:

Total income YTD (Jan. 1 – Aug. 31) for 2023 was \$147,113.37; total expenses \$178,498.11; net -\$31,384.74. The proposed 2024 Budget time was presented for review. We will vote on this budget at our next meeting.

Session approved:

- The August 13, 2023, minutes, noting one correction. Diane and Julie both visited the Matthew 25 facility in Cincinnati.
- Our roll total is now 86 with the recent passing of long-time member Keith Burnette.
- A written Pastor's report of pastoral care contacts, information on the weekly Cornerstone class, his community activities, and Presbytery duties.
- Vacation time for Pastor Joe to visit his father at Thanksgiving assuming pulpit supply can be obtained.
- The next Session meeting is November 19, 2023.

Committee Reports:

CLS: Sunday Fun Day was a Success. One of the children remarked, "It was the "Funest Day". Dixie said there were lots of crafts and activities for the children. Linda Keller is helping with the projects on the volunteer list. Food items for the Little Pantry are needed. The field trip to the Matthew 25 ministries in Cincinnati was informative. We may try to go every other month. A blanket making party is planned for October 23 starting at

10:00 am. The Trunk or Treat will be held again this year.

Operations - Property: The elevator was repaired and passed inspection. The committee was advised that an upgrade may be required within the next three to five years. When that upgrade is needed, Property may ask Session to authorize a special fund request.

Personnel: Presbytery COM has set the recommended salary minimums which allows the committee to finalize Pastor Joe's contract. After Session approval, Personnel will submit the new contract to COM for final approval.

Stewardship: The committee plans to mail the stewardship letter by the end of September.

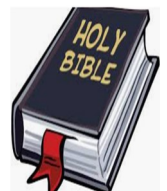
Presbytery Report: Dixie, our Commissioner, attended the Presbytery meeting on September 12. This meeting was held at Xenia United. The Stated Clerk's contract was approved for 3 years. Various Book of Order changes were noted. The Stated Clerk will be meeting with Clerks of Session to review those changes and the impact on congregations such as revising Church Bylaws to add wording for electronic meetings such as Zoom, and certain training requirements. Individuals presented by the nominations committee to various committees were approved. The Minimum Terms of Call were established by COM. The 2024 Budget was presented and will be voted on at the November meeting.

The next Presbytery meeting is November 11 via Zoom, hosted by Honey Creek Presbyterian Church starting at 9:00 AM. Pastor Emeritus, the Rev. Robert Smith, will preach the sermon.

The October calendar was reviewed.
Kathleen Seewer, 2023 Clerk of Session



Cornerstone Class - The Cornerstone Class meets every Wednesday in the Lounge from 2pm to 3pm. Through the end of this year we are using the DVD lecture series from The Great Courses entitled, "The Lives of Great Christians." The lecturer is Dr. William R. Cook, Professor of History, State University of New York at Geneseo. For the last class of the year on Dec. 27th, we will be discussing the topic, "What About a 'Good Enough' Christian?". There always plenty of good snacks. On September 27th the class helped Pastor Joe celebrate his birthday with a delicious ice cream cake. Come join us!



A NOTE FROM ECCLESIAL—OUR RESIDENT CHURCH MOUSE

September was another busy month in the life of the church! A group went to Matthew 25 Ministries in Blue Ash and spent the day helping prepare items for distribution to disaster areas around the world where people are in need. Some of these items will go to Maui where fires have devastated the area. This is the newest mission for our church - hopefully we will be spending time there every other month. A fun filled Sunday Fun Day was held in conjunction with Grandparents Day. Great food, photo ops and games were provided to all in attendance. I heard that one of the grandchildren said it was the "funnest" day they ever had at church!! Cornerstone Class began a new session

- drop in on Wednesday afternoons at 2:00 to enjoy a short video series on "Great Christians to Good Enough Christians" followed by a lively discussion led by Pastor Joe, and snacks are always available! We closed out the month with our free lunch at the Senior Center. The good meal and companionship these lunches offer to Seniors in the community is one of the most important (and fun) activities we are involved in. My family feels blessed to be a part of your loving, caring, and friendly church - you are so special to all who you reach out to. We are looking forward to seeing what activities you have lined up for October! ~*Ecclesial Mouse*



Field Trip to Matthew 25 Ministries

We had a wonderful experience when 13 of us visited the Matthew 25 Ministries facility in Cincinnati on Wednesday, September 6th. After a brief tour and a delicious lunch in their café, we spent roughly two hours volunteering. We repackaged hygiene items for shipment to disaster relief areas nationwide and worldwide.



Our Mission with Matthew 25 Ministries

We are planning to volunteer at Matthew 25 Ministries (M25M) on a regular basis starting Monday November 13th. We will go the second Monday of every odd numbered month (January, March, May, July, September, and November). We will meet at church at 10:15am to carpool, eat lunch there, volunteer, and return by 3:30pm. Pre-registration is required. Please see Diane if you plan to attend or have any questions. Information on this organization is available at their website: <https://m25m.org/>.





**Sunday Fun Day
and Grandparents' Day**
September 10th was truly a fun day as we enjoyed a delicious meal together, played games, and earned tickets for prizes. Many of us brought wonderful desserts that reminded us of good times with our grandparents. It was definitely a day to celebrate together. Thank you to all who helped make it happen.



MY MOMENT IN TIME —The Penny March—from Linda Hartsock

I was born in Paintsville, Kentucky (p.s. and by the way, first redhead born in that hospital!). We lived in Thealka, a small coal-mining town near Paintsville. There was only one church in town and it was a Baptist church. Everyone went to that church. There wasn't much money in Thealka, but there were a lot of kids! Every month, all the kids would line up in the back of the church. When the music started, we would march to the front of the sanctuary and drop our penny or pennies in the offering plate.

If you have a memory you'd like to share, please send the information to the church email address. We'd love to hear about the special memories from your life. It may bring back a special memory from someone else and put a smile on their face!



With grateful thanks...

Dear First Presbyterian Church,
I wanted to reach out to you and thank you and your whole community for the compassion and generosity you have shared with St. Vincent this year. You are greatly impacting our neighbors in need and we cannot thank you enough. Feel free to reach out anytime if you have any questions.

Thank you,
Christine Orr
St. Vincent DePaul



Dear First Presbyterian Church - Fairborn,
Thank you so much for the human ear model! It is so hard for students to understand how the ear works and now that they can see it - it will help so many!

Cheers
Mandy



Adopt a Fairborn Teacher ❤️

We are thrilled with your donation to the Skyhawks Athletic Club's Helping Hands. Helping Hands is a worthwhile program that continues to help students who struggle to pay their athletic fees.

Best Regards,
Megan Ehresman
Skyhawks Athletic Club Secretary



Dear Friends,
On behalf of the Fairborn Board of Education, I would like to extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to you for your donation of Food and School Supplies to the FCS Hawk's Pantry.

Your donation was formally accepted by the Board of Education at its regular meeting on Thursday, September 8, 2023 and will be recorded in the Board Minutes, which are the permanent record of this educational institution.

Again, thank you for your thoughtfulness, interest and consideration of the students and staff of the Fairborn City Schools.

Respectfully,
Gene Lolli, Superintendent



Dear Helping Hands,
Thank you so much for all of your help at the beginning of the year! We really appreciate all that you do to help our little Skyhawks!

Love,
Jill, Twila, and Val— Fairborn Primary



Dear First Presbyterian Church,
Thank you for your donation of \$1200 for scholarships for our marching band program. Your donation went to help 5 students participate in the 2023 Marching Band/Color Guard who otherwise might not be able to afford to participate. One of the students has a brother in the hospital with terminal cancer, another family has twins in the program and are being raised by a single mom, and the last two families love the marching band program and have been on a payment plan trying to make ends meet. This was a huge relief to these families and I cannot thank you enough for helping them.

Again, thank you for your generous donation.

Sincerely,
Thayer-Ann Thompson
Treasurer
Fairborn Music Club



Trunk or Treat Saturday October 28th

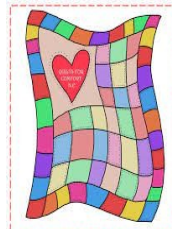
Our fourth annual "Trunk or Treat" for the community is planned for Saturday October 28th from noon to 2:00pm. We will use our parking lot closest to Broad St. Set up begins at 11:30 am.

Please feel free to decorate your car and dress in costume or just come as an observer. Last year we had almost 100 children stop by. Don't miss the fun!!



Blanket Party—Monday Oct. 23rd

We will be making fleece blankets for the Transitional Living Mission on Monday October 23rd at 10:00am in the Fellowship Hall. Bean soup, cornbread, and dessert will be provided for lunch. If you can tie a knot, you can help! Please bring scissors if you have them. Come join the fun! Please see Linda or Diane for more info.





Happy Birthday!

- Oct 1 Barb Masqulier
 3 Emil Dimanahan
 4 Leslie Sommer
 7 Frank Eastep
 Kathleen Seewer
 12 Nancy Smith
 13 Chris Lundell
 15 Michael Seewer
 19 Joyce Leister
 Rob Smith
 20 Dixie Jenkins
 21 Donna Kulhanek
 23 Judy Myers
 Roland Sommer
 29 Mary Ellen Hill
 30 Jane Bigelow
 Vesta Warthman
 31 Julie Brown

Congregational Meeting—Sunday October 29th

Please plan to attend the Congregational Meeting immediately after worship on Sunday October 29th. The congregation will vote on the slate of Elders and Deacons for the class of 2026 presented by the Nominating Committee.

Thank you very much for the beautiful flowers on my 94th birthday! I really appreciate your thoughts and prayers.
 Corkie



Dear First Presbyterian Church,
 Thank you for your continued support of our Golf Outing. We had a great day and it was a huge success. We appreciate all you do.
 Thanks,
 Ellen



Thank you Paul and Linda Keller for weeding and laying mulch at the Mariner's Garden. It is a noticeable improvement from everyone passing by on Broad St. Thank you also for installing the lights for the last stained glass window in the rear of the sanctuary. Henderson Hall blocks some of the light to it but now the Annunciation Window is as bright as all the others. Thank you!



Seek God
 every
 Morning

The Mission Committee has a Wish List to identify some needs of the church and opportunities for congregational involvement. There is a notebook in the Lounge with the complete list of needs. Linda and Paul Keller have already crossed two items off the list with the work they did. Dave and Kim Sellers wiped down all the tables and chairs in the Fellowship Hall. Kathleen Seewer has cleaned out the cupboard by the pulpit. Mitch, Troy, and Julie trimmed the overgrowth near the main entrance to the church. Thank you to all who have helped shorten our list. It really helps keep our church such a wonderful place to worship. Thank you all volunteers!

Please contact the POC for more information. If you have any ideas, suggestions, or questions, please contact Diane Sondergelt, Mission Chair.



October 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10:15 am Worship with Communion	2 1:00 pm Hope Circle— Lounge	3	4 2:00 pm Cornerstone Class —Lounge	5	6	7
8 10:15 am Worship	9 	10	11 2:00 pm Cornerstone Class —Lounge	12	13	14
15 10:15 am Worship	16 10:30 am Walking Club	17	18 2:00 pm Cornerstone Class —Lounge	19	20	21
22 10:15 am Worship	23 10:00 am Blanket Party 	24	25 11:30 am Lunch at the Sr. Center 2:00 pm Cornerstone Class —Lounge	26	27 Lifeline Articles due in office	28 Noon—2 pm 
29 10:15 am Worship and Congregational Meeting Imme- diately after worship	30	31 Happy Halloween 				

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
Breakfast bars/muffins		

***Lifeline*—the monthly newsletter of the
First Presbyterian Church of Fairborn, Ohio
1130 Highview Dr., Fairborn, OH 45324
phone: 937-878-3954**

email: firstpresbyterianfairborn@gmail.com

Office Hours: Tuesday and Wednesday, 10 am—2 pm

Thursday 9 am –11am and 1 pm—3 pm

(closed Monday and Friday)

“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

Financial Secretary: Carolyn McMillan

Organist: Jeff Firestone

Choir Director: Shelda Cox

Director of Chancel Ringers: Rena Leatherman

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 October 27.

**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.**