



September 2023

# LIFELINE

## August — Back to School!



Helping Hands at Fairborn Primary helped students find their classrooms. Mitch and Troy helped too but were camera shy!



Serving at the Ice Cream Social for the Montessori students.



Fairborn Primary is looking for volunteers to help students with their reading. If you can help, please contact Ken Gadd.

For Children's Time, Pastor Joe read the book "Why We Need Teachers". When finished the children said "Thank You" to the Sunday School teachers and gave them bouquets of flowers.





## **Clerk's Corner**

### **August 13, 2023**

### **Session Recap**

**Finance:** Bob Hinds opened our meeting with prayer. He thanked Kim for providing lunch. The Clerk reported a quorum was present.

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

Total income YTD for 2023 was \$129,923.41; total expenses \$161,017.66; net -\$31,094.25.

Budget time is approaching. Committees need to review and be prepared to submit figures. We hope to review the budget at the next meeting.

#### **Session approved:**

- The June 18, 2023, minutes. There was no July meeting.
- Our roll total is now at 87 with the recent passing of long-time member Margaret Carlson.
- A written Pastor's report of pastoral care contacts, information on the weekly Cornerstone class, his community activities, and Presbytery duties.
- The next Session meeting is September 17, 2023.

#### **Committee Reports:**

**CLS:** Sunday Fun Day is planned for September 10 which will include recognizing grandparents. The congregation will be encouraged to attend with their grandchildren.

**Mission:** Food items for the little pantry are needed. A list of suggested items will be placed in the Mid-week update and in the Lifeline.

**Operations: Property:** The main entrance door into the Montessori school needs repaired. Quotes are being obtained. The elevator needs to be repaired. We are working on obtaining quotes.

**Personnel:** Bunny, Cindy, and Linda H. have agreed to assist in the office. Pastor Joe's contract runs through December 31, 2023. The committee is waiting on the new recommended Presbytery minimums to assist with final contract details.

**Stewardship:** The committee plans to meet August 17.

**Presbytery Report:** Dixie, our Commissioner, attended a special Presbytery meeting on June 10. The purpose of this meeting was to move a minister inquirer to be a candidate for ministry, to vote on ordaining a new minister and approve his call to be pastor at Urbana, and to approve a slate of individuals presented by the nominations committee. All three items passed.

The next Presbytery meeting is September 12, at Xenia United starting at 3:00 PM.

The August calendar was reviewed.

Kathleen Seewer,  
2023 Clerk of Session

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

Happy September! We hosted an Ice Cream Social for the Enon Montessori families on the day of their Open House. We had some goodies for each of the children and their siblings where they could each decorate and fill a bag to take home. The Cornerstone Class finished their summer class where they examined and learned about each of the stained glass windows in the sanctuary. Of course, there are always goodies on class day, so my kids - who are usually in school during class time - were able to sneak around and get some crumbs when the class was over. Boy, were they happy! The Senior Center meal was another big success - everyone loved the casserole, fixings and dessert that was provided. We heard that the Walking Club walked at Cedar Cliff Falls in Cedarville, and had a fun lunch afterwards downtown Cedarville. Outside the old Narthex and Main Entrance of the church - some concrete work has been done. This is still a work in progress, but it will be very nice and safer for the children of the Montessori School to enter the building in the mornings. Did you know there was a resident turtle in the church? Her name is Shelly, and she is now living in the old Narthex. You are welcome to go say hi to her when you are in the building - but she is a little shy and might retreat into her shell! September will be a busy month - I have heard big plans are being made for a fun event - and more work will be done around the building to prepare for the cooler months. Enjoy the upcoming fall days!

~*Ecclesial Mouse*





### Sunday Fun Day and Grandparents' Day Sunday September 10th

Please join us to celebrate Grandparents' Day at our next Sunday Fun Day on Sept. 10th. It will be a time to honor and remember your grandparents or anyone that felt like a grandparent to you. We will serve fried chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans, and biscuits for lunch. We will have chicken nuggets and mac-n-cheese for the kids. If you can donate a dessert that reminds you of times with your grandparents, it would be greatly appreciated. There will be activities and photo ops this day. Invite your family, friends, and neighbors to join us!



### Little Free Library and Little Free Pantry

Our Little Free Library and Little Free Pantry have had a lot of visitors. There are still plenty of books for the library but we could use food donations to restock the pantry. We could especially use single serving entrée items such as Hormel's "Compleat" products, hearty soups, mac-n-cheese, and rice or noodle dishes. Please leave your donations in the bin in the play area of the Lounge.



Pastor Joe spends time at our turquoise tables to meet our neighbors and enjoy conversation with our members. Dixie and Cindy stopped by to say hello.

### Church Field Trip—September 6th

Everyone is invited to join this field trip to visit the Matthew 25 Ministries facility in Cincinnati on Wednesday, September 6th. We are looking into volunteering there on a regular basis as a mission project. This nonprofit organization provides humanitarian and disaster relief in this country and worldwide. Information on this organization is available at their website: <https://m25m.org/>. Meet in the church parking lot at 9:30am to carpool. We will take a tour, have lunch in their café, work as volunteers (sitting the entire time), and return to church around 3:30pm. Pre-registration is required. Please see Diane if you plan to attend.



We "adopted" 6 teachers from the Facebook group, "Adopt-A-Teacher Fairborn", and purchased gifts from their Wish Lists. These are items that the teachers would spend their own money for unless donors purchased them. We selected one teacher from each school building and 2 special program instructors.

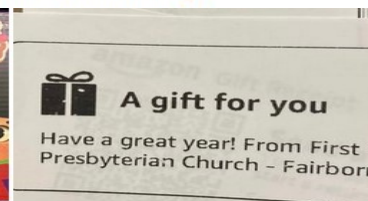
Thank you so much First Presbyterian Church of Fairborn!! I am always so impressed with the community support.



Dear First Presbyterian Church - Fairborn,

Thank you so much for a eyeball model to be used in our classroom! I greatly appreciate your generosity!

Thank you so much First Presbyterian Church of Fairborn!! This was so sweet of you!! My kids will love this during math time 🍌



Thank you to the generous donors who donated to the FIS Art Room! It means so much to me and my 700 students!



## Our Church Wish List and Volunteer Opportunities

The Mission Committee has come up with a Wish List to identify some needs of the church and opportunities for congregational involvement. This is a good chance to become involved with one of the many of our church committees and share your ideas—or- just help out with a short-term or one-time task. A lot happens behind the scenes that you might not be aware of which keep our church a wonderful place to worship. It is an opportunity to glorify God by reaching out and supporting our church. Below are just some of the opportunities to serve. Look for the notetaker list of tasks. Please contact the POC for more information. If you have any questions, please contact Diane Sondergelt, Mission Chair.



Task	Point of Contact	Description
1	Pastor Joe	Trim curb overgrowth by main entrance
2	Troy Oliver	Assist with Sunday School
3	Pastor Joe	Help at FISH
4	Pastor Joe	Clear out clutter from cupboard by the pulpit
5	Julie Brown	Prepare communion
6	Diane Sondergelt	Review church webpages and markup paper copies
7	Diane Sondergelt	Wipe down tables and chairs in Fellowship Hall
8	Diane Sondergelt	Plan a meal for a Sunday Fun Day
9	Diane Sondergelt	Plan a program for a Sunday Fun Day
10	Kim Sellers	Donate items for Free Library and Free Pantry
11	Pastor Joe	Install registration plate and visitor counter for Free Library
12	Pastor Joe	Backlight last stained window on pulpit side
13	Troy Oliver	Donate toys for ages 5+ to use in the Sunday school room
14	Diane Sondergelt	Weed Mariner's garden near Broad St
15		Provide refreshments after worship
16		Provide altar flowers for worship
17	Diane Sondergelt	Help at Family Promise in Xenia
18	Diane Sondergelt	Help cook at Senior Center
19	Diane Sondergelt	Help serve at Senior Center
20	Linda Hartsock	Donate items for school pantry
21	Darrel Leister	Backup for Sunday usher
22	Bob Hendrix	Backup for operating sound system in the sanctuary
23	Pastor Joe	Declutter the sacristy
24	Diane Sondergelt	Clear out storage in Activity Room
25	Diane Sondergelt	Organize bookshelves in Board Room
26	Ken Gadd	Helping Hands at Fairborn Elementary
27	Shedla Cox	Organize Hanging of the Greens in the sanctuary
28	Linda Hartsock	Organize decorating the Lounge and Narthex for Christmas
29	Shelda Cox	Sing in the choir
30	Rena Leatherman	Play bells in the bell choir
31	Diane Sondergelt	Plan the ice cream social for the Montessori school
32	Diane Sondergelt	Plan the reception for the Montessori's Christmas program
33	Diane Sondergelt	Plan the reception for the Montessori's graduation
34	Troy Oliver	Clean up nursery room weekly





## Happy Birthday!

Sep	3	Peter Bletzinger
	8	Denise Lo Cicéro
		Mary Rust
	12	Ray Acus
		Pat Biggs
	19	Joyce Lawler
	24	Elaine Brown
	28	Joe Hinds
	29	Pam Botts

We are sponsoring a hole at the Fairborn Senior Center's Memorial Golf Scramble on September 15th at Locust Hills Golf Club, 5575 N. River Rd., Springfield. Please call the Senior Center at 937-878-4141 for details and registration.



Dear Children and Church Friends,

Thank you for the lovely flowers you presented to me on Sunday in appreciation of teachers. It was quite a surprise but truly appreciated. I know they will brighten my house all week.

Thank you so very much.

Love,

Jan Smith



The family of Margaret Carlson wants to thank all who expressed concerns with words, calls, and prayers during her illness and death. We appreciate the friends and support of the Presbyterian family and especially Joe.



Gifts in memory of Margaret Carlson were received from Jane Bigelow, Bette Malavich, Phil Bown, Randy Honaker and the Carlson family.



Dixie, Cindy, Joyce, Julie, Linda, Diane, and Joe are ready to serve a delicious lunch at the Senior Center.



The Chancel Choir and Music Ministry of High Street United Methodist Church in Springfield invite you to the fifteenth season of our Sanctuary Series concerts. Concerts are held one Sunday a month at 3pm from September through May. Programs are admission-free and a free-will offering will be accepted to support the program. The concert schedule and more information can be found at the church website: [www.highstreetunited.org](http://www.highstreetunited.org).



During Children's Time Pastor Joe read Obie's birthday book, "Wherever You Go I Want You To Know", to the children. Jeff played "Happy Birthday" for everyone to sing to Obie. Happy Birthday Obie! After their Sunday school lesson, the children enjoyed doing a craft together.



On one of the hottest days of the year, the Walking Club met at Cedar Cliff Falls to enjoyed the beautiful scenery. After the walk they went to Cedarville's Beans-N-Cream to cool off and enjoy drinks and snacks.

# September 2023

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat



1

2

3

10:15 am  
Worship with  
Communion



4

5

6

9:30 am  
Cornerstone  
Class — Field  
Trip to Matthew  
25 Ministries—  
Cincinnati

7

8

9

10

10:15 am  
Worship  
Sunday Fun Day  
and Grandpar-  
ents' Day—  
immediately  
after worship

11

1:00 pm  
Hope Circle—  
Lounge

12

13

2:00 pm  
Cornerstone  
Class —Lounge

14

15

16

17

10:15 am  
Worship

18

10:30 am  
Walking Club

19

20

2:00 pm  
Cornerstone  
Class —Lounge

21

2:30 pm  
Deacon's Mtg—  
Board Room

22

23



24

10:15 am  
Worship

25

26

27

11:30 am  
Lunch at the Sr.  
Center  
2:00 pm  
Cornerstone  
Class —Lounge

28

Lifeline Articles  
due in office

29

30

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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 September 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.