The past few years, your Session has taken time during the summer to reflect on the congregation’s direction and commit to an approach for the coming year. This year, at the July 18 meeting, Session affirmed the following: “In all decisions, Session will be guided by its desire to provide a quality experience, and will seek to enhance active mission, education, ministry, and member care, with the appropriate staff.”

This is a very similar approach to that of the past few years. This means Session will be continuously working to improve what they do for the congregation and carry out God’s plan for us to be workers for His ministry. This approach will undergird our upcoming budget preparation and our plans for 2018.

***

I, too, am taking time this summer to reflect on God’s call and how this impacts my shared ministry with you. As I write, I am preparing to leave on a week’s contemplative retreat as part of my yearly study leave. I keep this congregation in my regular prayers, and I pray that as I deepen my spiritual practices it will enhance my spiritual leadership. Serving God is a privilege that requires attentiveness!

Grace and peace,
Karen

** Gracious God, be with us as we travel into new places of faith. Help us to sense your guidance and take seriously what you ask of us. Amen. **
BLANKET-MAKING
On July 19th, 18 women of the church and other friends gathered to make fleece blankets for the Fairborn City Schools Transitional Living Program. In record time, we had 12 blankets made — and then enjoyed fellowship over lunch. There are not enough words to convey our gratitude to these ladies for donating their precious time and talents. A dozen Fairborn children will now have something to keep them warm and cozy on cold winter nights and something to call their very own. We hope to gather again in the New Year to continue this important ministry.

Meet N Eat: August 6
Don’t forget to sign up and let us know to set a place for you when we gather for pulled pork, sides, and ice cream after worship on Sunday, August 6. This Homecoming Sunday and Ice Cream Social is a perfect opportunity to invite friends and neighbors! Entertainment will be Civil War Era Victorian Parlor Music performed by the Lafferty Sisters, who wear period costumes and play mandolin, fiddle, banjo, and guitar. Food, fun, and fellowship! Please plan to join us!

We send our prayers and love with Darla & Warren Thompson on their journey to their new home, (to be near family) in Kansas. Their new address:
17500 West 119th St, #2102, Aberdeen Village, Olathe KS 66061 (Cell phone: 937-408-5293)
Troy Oliver reviewed the June 2017 Financial report prepared by Carolyn McMillan:
Total income for June 2017 was $13,103.37; total expenses, $22,375.14; net, -$9,271.77.
Session reviewed Carolyn’s 2017 Mid-Year Report of all cash assets (CDs, Checking, Investments, and Savings): Total $387,011.20.

Session approved:
Approved the June 20 meeting minutes.
Approved the plans for the Meet & Eat on August 6 after worship. Julie is working with Beth Thomas to gather a list of members not currently attending church, who still live in area. The plan is to mail cards to these members inviting them to join us at the Meet & Eat on August 6.
Approved the following statement to guide us in planning for 2018. “In all decisions, Session will be guided by its desire to provide a quality experience, and will seek to enhance active mission, education, ministry, and member care, with the appropriate staff.”
Approved next Session meeting on August 15.
Current membership roll total remains at 120.

Additional Information:
CE children’s project: two children attended on July 16.
Mission reported difficulty in finding enough individuals to serve the meal we prepare at St. Vincent’s homeless shelter. We will continue to monitor this issue. We may need to change our participation to only cook a meal, but not serve.
A Minute for Mission is planned for August, asking for items to restock the Transitional Living project closet.
Worship reported microphone issues with the sound system in the sanctuary. Bob Hendrix is working to repair the problem. If the microphones cannot be repaired, he will obtain quotes to replace them.
A Minute for Mission is planned to provide information related to the various groups who utilize our facility.
Operations reported that two trees were removed. Property replaced one of the AC units (1988 model) with a 1996 model. Repaired the nursery AC, and completed the Change of Season checkups. Approximate cost for all of this was $3,000.
Several new leaks reported. Roofing company will be contacted.
We are acquiring estimates to have the Fellowship Hall floors stripped and waxed. We are also arranging to have carpets cleaned.
Reviewed the FPC Events Calendar from July 18 – August 20 for additions or corrections.
### 2017 MID-YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT

**Fifth Third Bank:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Account</th>
<th>Balance</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Checking</td>
<td>$7,543.03</td>
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<tr>
<td>Savings</td>
<td>$26,637.83</td>
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</table>

**Total:** $34,180.86

**General Electric Credit Union (+ $2045.10 YTD)**

$152,817.57

(3 CDs @ $50,939.19 each)

**New Covenant Mutual Funds (+ $5775.21 YTD)**

$100,336.66

**Davis Funds (+ $8137.08 YTD)**

$99,676.11

**TOTAL 6/30/17:**

$387,011.20

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**2016 Compared to 2017: from JAN 01 – JUNE 30**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Income</td>
<td>$113,871.40</td>
<td>$99,597.55</td>
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<tr>
<td>Expenses</td>
<td>136,446.99</td>
<td>133,333.13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net</td>
<td>(22,575.59)</td>
<td>(33,735.58)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Planned Expenses (Year)</td>
<td>$267,835.00</td>
<td>$271,705.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pledged (Year)</td>
<td>$154,668.00</td>
<td>$164,688.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Operating Income YTD</td>
<td>$98,581.61</td>
<td>$85,420.40</td>
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</table>
COMING SOON!! FIRST PRESBYTERIAN FRIENDS SUPPER CLUB!!

We can't hold our excitement any longer!! We are starting a Supper Club!! Sign-ups will begin in August - with the first event being held in September.

We were hoping to find a way to get to know each other a little more intimately - and being good Presbyterians — know that we all love to eat!

So the idea of a Supper Club was hatched. Here is how it works:

You decide you are interested in eating dinner once a month with a small group. You sign up. It's that simple for you.

Next, the names of those who signed up are put into groups of eight (with one leader) — those eight people will meet once a month for dinner. It is up to each group if you go out to eat, have a pot luck, or eat at someone's home. You will meet with the same group for six months — then the groups will be shifted around so you get to know other people a little better. Transportation will be arranged for those who prefer not to drive in the evening or during inclement weather.

A sign-up board will be in the entry way. More information will be shared in a Minute for Mission - or you can speak to Marlene Acus, Troy Oliver, or Julie Brown.
SOME SURPRISING BENEFITS OF SINGING

As we continue our focus on praising God in song, this month I want to point out that singing delivers some surprising health benefits. Here are just a few:

Controlling the way you exhale for singing, in order to use up your breath gradually, engages your abdominal muscles. So singing is good for your core.

Diaphragmatic breathing helps to increase your lung capacity, and focusing on breathing can even help people who suffer from asthma and other respiratory difficulties.

Have you ever noticed that a hard or stressful day caused tension and stiffness in your upper back, chest, neck, and shoulders? Singing is a good way to overcome that! It naturally starts to release the strain in those parts of your body, and can help with those aches and pains.

Singing releases Oxytocin, a hormone that can reduce stress and anxiety. It has even been found to help with feelings of depression and other related conditions.

Singing a favorite song or hymn acts in a way similar to doing yoga. Focusing on a catchy tune or words that you like can enhance your emotions and promote a state of mindfulness. There’s even a song that begins, “Forget your troubles! Come on, get happy!”

What other ways have you noticed that singing makes you feel good? I’d love to hear about them! — Denise Lo Cicéro

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS

Sunday Mornings: We are reading the second half of the Acts of the Apostles, which describes Paul’s mission to the Gentiles. The discussion always involves reading passages from multiple translations of the Bible. 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 new study, Cultural Literacy for Religion: Everything the Well-Educated Person Should Know, will begin Thursday, September 14, at 1:00 p.m. in the lounge. PLEASE NOTE that this is one week LATER than we originally planned, as we have learned of a scheduling conflict involving a number of the class participants. This course aims to give insight into other nations and peoples by explaining the basic teachings, symbols, founders, traditions, and cultures of the world’s major religions. The first two classes (September 14 & 21) will serve as an introduction to the new study, focusing on the Meaning and Importance of Religion and on Divinity and Devotion. Questions? Please see Shirley Schlafman or Denise Lo Cicéro.
NEWS ABOUT OUR PRIMARY SCHOOL MISSION PARTNERSHIP

THANK YOU FROM ERNIE

We received an email from Ernie Sheeler, the counselor at Fairborn Primary School. He thanked First Presbyterian for our recent support of the Chess Club. In addition he appreciates our continued support for the other projects we sponsor for the children and their families in Fairborn. He concluded by quoting "No one stands so tall as when he stoops to help a child!"

Ernie is a blessing to the children, the community and our church!

Thanks to you also, Ernie!

READING VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Karen Parli will once again be recruiting volunteers to read with children at Fairborn Primary School for an hour, one day a week starting in October.

If you would like to make a difference in the life and learning of a child, this is your opportunity.

All of the volunteers say "I receive so much more than I give." Try it; you'll like it!

Please call Karen Parli, 878-7791, for more information and to volunteer.

SAVE THE DATES FOR COSI

Our church will be sponsoring two sessions this school year at Fairborn Primary School presented by The Center of Science and Industry located in Columbus Ohio. The subject will be "Energy."

This center for learning has traveling exhibitions for school children. Twice a year our church enlists 25 volunteers to help present daylong programs for approximately 350 3rd grade children. Please mark you calendars to volunteer on October 12, 2017 and March 7, 2018. We guarantee you will enjoy the day, lunch, the children, and all of our other volunteers. WE NEED YOU!!!
SCHOOL PANTRY PROJECT

School starts in August, and we will continue to support the students in many ways, including the program to assist children and their families who are in transitional housing.

We need the following items, but we don’t need others that were on previous lists. We're more aware of what is needed and not needed (no clothing unless specifically requested and no school supplies since they are paid for with grant money).

You may deposit your purchases in the containers in the lower narthex. If you’d like to document your purchase as a donation, please prepare a “blue sheet” with receipts attached for the Financial Secretary. Questions? Contact Barb Bush (School Pantry Project), 879-0562; or Linda Hartsock (Traditional Living Program), 429-1828.

**Food**
- Breakfast Bars/Cookies/Pop-tarts
- Cereal cups - Cookies - Crackers
- Chips - Cracker Sandwiches
- Fruit Cups - Pudding Cups
- Noodles
- Pastas /Rice with Meats, Sauces
- Snack Bars (granola, trail mix)
- Soups - Tuna Packets

*No peanut butter at this time*

**Household Supplies**
- Can Openers (manual)
- Dishwashing Detergent
- Fabric Softener (sheets or liquid)
- Laundry Detergent (liquid)
- Paper Towels
- Plastic fork/spoon/knife sets
- Toilet Paper - Trash Bags
- Twin-bed Sheet/Pillow Case Sets

**Personal Care**
- Bar Soap
- Body Wash – Body Lotion
- Brushes - Combs - Deodorant
- Shampoo - Hair Conditioner
- Toothbrushes - Toothpaste
FAIRBORN PRIMARY SCHOOL

Calling all Helping Hands Volunteers

School begins on WEDNESDAY, August 23, with the first day for Kindergarten starting on Monday, August 28.

Please check your calendars and pencil in the dates NOW.

Assistance is needed 8/23 through 8/25 both in the morning and the afternoon. Help will be needed again 8/28 through 8/31 in the morning and the afternoon.

Final dates and times will be formalized August 1 with the new Principal, Vicki Hudepohl. To assist you in marking your calendar, I anticipate that the format will be similar to last year:
Morning: 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.
Afternoon: 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Mark your calendars NOW then for further announcements and Signup Board after August 1.

THANK YOU

If you have any questions, please contact
Kathleen Seewer
Helping Hands Coordinator
Happy Birthday!

Aug 10  Kenny Brown
     Don Stroud
18  Shirley Schlafman
25  Barbara Bush
Sep 1  Stefan Riselay
3  Peter Bletzinger
5  Steve Warthman
8  Denise Lo Cicéro
   Mary Rust
9  Woody Ensor
12  Ray Acus
   Pat Biggs
17  Barbara Robertson
19  Joyce Lawler
21  Beth Thomas
23  Joy King
24  Elaine Brown
25  Andy Cook
27  John Haynes
29  Pam Botts

Dear FPC Members;

Thank you so much for the altar flowers from July 2, given by Bette Malavich.

I shared them with the Cooks in honor of Andy’s homecoming. They were lovely.

Sara Jane Lowe

ATTENTION HOPE CIRCLE MEMBERS AND ANYONE INTERESTED IN JOINING:

Our Fall session will begin on September 6, at 1:00 pm, meeting in the Church Lounge. The Book we will be studying this fall is "The Greatest Thing in the World - Experience the Enduring Power of Love," written by Henry Drummond. The books are in and ready to be picked up. The cost is $3.00. Please see Julie Brown before or after Church any Sunday.

We hope to see you all in September!
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7:00 am Bible Study at Foy's Grill</td>
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<td>2:00 pm Set-up for Meet N Eat</td>
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<td>8:45 am Adult Bible Study</td>
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<td>7:00 am Bible Study at Foy's Grill</td>
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<td>1:00 pm CLS meeting—Lounge</td>
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<td></td>
<td>10:15 am Worship with Communion</td>
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<td>10:00 am Cook at Senior Ctr</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Meet N Eat after worship</td>
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<td>5:30 pm St Vincent Servers</td>
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<td></td>
<td>8:45 am Adult Bible Study</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>7:00 am Bible Study at Foy's Grill</td>
<td>16:00 pm Session (BR)</td>
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<td>10:15 am Worship</td>
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<td>11:00 am St Vincent Cooks</td>
<td>7:00 pm Session (BR)</td>
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<td>8:45 am Adult Bible Study</td>
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<td>7:00 am Bible Study at Foy's Grill</td>
<td>School Starts</td>
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<td>25</td>
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<td></td>
<td>10:15 am Worship</td>
<td>22</td>
<td></td>
<td>10:00 am Cook at Senior Ctr</td>
<td>Lifeline Deadline</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Rev. Marcy Bain</td>
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<td>11:30 am Serve at Senior Ctr</td>
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<td></td>
<td>8:45 am Adult Bible Study</td>
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<td>7:00 am Bible Study at Foy's Grill</td>
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<td>10:15 am Worship</td>
<td>Kindergarten Starts</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Rev. Linda Niece</td>
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Karen on Vacation through August 27
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: Tuesday—Friday, 10 am—4 pm (closed Monday)
Phone: 937-878-3954 Fax: 937-878-3399

Remember! FISH Pantry donations are the first Sunday of each month. Non-perishable items may be brought in any Sunday and placed in the barrel in the narthex.

Suggested donations are:
Canned Soups
Canned Vegetables
Canned Fruit
Canned Juices
Canned Meats
(Tuna, Stews, Spam, etc.)
Boxed Items
(Rice, Cereal, Crackers, Mac n’ Cheese, etc.)
Baby Items
(Diapers, Formula, Canned Foods, etc.)
Personal Hygiene Items
(Shampoo, Toothbrushes, etc.)

Thank you for your generous donations!

Articles for the September 2017 Lifeline need to be in the office by August 25.
There will be a limited number of copies of the Lifeline in the lower narthex if you need 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.