



**Worship-10:00 am
Fellowship following**

Worship

Sunday School

First Presbyterian Church

73 West Winter Street, Delaware, OH 43015-1934

Phone: (740) 363-1205

Fax: (740) 369-1249

Website: www.DelFPC.org

E-mail: delfirstpres@midohio.twcbc.com

Pastor: Rev. Deb Patterson

Office Manager: Wenda Smith

Leader of Family Ministry: Nikki Hogarth

Parish Associate: Rev. Oluf Kongshaug

Director of Music: Ruth Rabby

Organist: Joseph Musser

Financial Secretary: Barbara Ross

Financial Coordinator: Nancy Reynolds

Custodian: Peg O'Brien

Outreach Coordinator: Ellen Watson

Nursery Attendants: Melissa Curtis, Kendra Hart

Newsletter Editor: Diane Welker

Media Coordinator: Taylor Smith

Corp. Investment Team: Jack Flury, Bob Douds

**OFFICE HOURS: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9:00 AM-12:00 and 1:00-4:00 PM
CLOSED ON WEDNESDAY**

Bulletin Deadline Wednesday at Noon

Newsletter Deadline NOON on the 20th of each month
spire@midohio.twcbc.com

Dear Friends,

As I write this, the New Year is upon us. It is hard to believe that we will be entering the year 2018! Brian and I moved to Delaware almost 14 years ago. A lot has taken place in those 14 years. At FPC there have been new renovations, new programming, new mission projects. We've welcomed many new members and said goodbye to some very special people.

When I look out into the congregation, I remember where some of our faithful, longtime members use to sit. I remember their voices, their faces, their little quirks. I smile as I see new folks taking their spots.

I was overwhelmed this Christmas time with gratitude and joy for what we share together. I found myself moved by the Christmas day meal and the families that gathered there to celebrate Christ's birth. I was uplifted by our folks who took the time to prepare, serve, provide music and clean up. Each one of them took time from their busy day to share the love of Christ with members of our community.

What I experienced Christmas Eve and Christmas Day told me that the Session is on the right path. We have been trying to get a clear look at where God is calling FPC. During our December meeting, the Session adopted a new mission statement, something we had worked on and prayed about since October.

"FPC: living out the gospel of Jesus Christ through unconditional love!"

The Session is really pleased with this, as am I. We believe that this statement not only describes what we have been trying to do as disciples of Jesus Christ, but also gives us a framework for future ministries. Now each committee will explore how they are currently fulfilling this statement, what goals they might set for future ministries and what resources they might need to succeed.

It will be exciting to see what comes from the committee's work. We will also be asking the Board of Trustees and the Board of Deacons to look at their ministries in light of this new mission statement. This experience should prove very interesting.

For your New Year's homework, I'm going to ask each of you to ponder this new mission statement in respect to your personal ministry and your involvement with the church. Where do you think God is asking you to participate? Where do you feel drawn to be engaged? When you choose to become involved, even on a modest scale, you will find that your life and faith will be transformed.

Each of you has much to offer! There is so much happening and I want every one of you, to the best of your ability, to share in this exciting time. Write down your thoughts and revelations. Share them with me or with the Session. Let's hit 2018 ready to "live out the gospel of Jesus Christ through unconditional love!"

May 2018 be filled with hope, energy, imagination and peace. Happy New Year!!

Blessings,

Pastor Deb

Music

Notes

by Ruth Rabby
Advent and Christmas
music...



...the joy of working together to
make worship more meaningful



and the Baby

Mary, Joseph,



The friendly beasts and the shepherds help tell the Christmas story from the perspective of the donkey and sheep.



ANNUAL REPORTS

Heads and chairs of committees: If you have not emailed your report to Wenda yet, PLEASE hurry. Your deadline is past!



JANUARY 28TH

Immediately following worship

The purpose of the FPC Annual Congregational Meeting is to discuss the budget, elect new officers and let the congregation know what is happening in the life of the church.

(All active members are entitled to vote and are encouraged to attend!)

YOUTH AND FAMILY



MINISTRY

Nikki Hogarth, Leader

familylife@midohio.twcabc.com

NEW:Adult Lecture Series

Professor Blake Michael, from Ohio Wesleyan University, will conduct a two-week lecture series in January. On Sunday, January 14th and 21st, he will present a program entitled, " Works & Grace In A Global Perspective", looking at these ideas in other world religions. The classes are open to all adults in the church and will be held from 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. in the Campbell Addition. No sign up will be necessary. For further information please contact Peggy Stringham, 740-816-0294.

All Church Lenten Study

All adults in the church are invited to participate in a Lenten Study begin in mid-January. Our small groups will begin "Questions God Asks Us", by Trevor Hudson is a 10 week study with both Old and New Testament questions. The author sees the Bible as a book of questions from God to us. God wants to enter a relationship with each of us. By hearing God's questions and responding with our answers, we may be drawn into a deeper relationship with our God. Some of the chapter questions are: Where Are You?, Where Is Your Brother? Who do you Say that I am?, Do you want to get well?. Scripture references from the study will include reference to the Garden of Eden and finishing the book with Jesus washing the disciples' feet.

Classes will be offered Monday evenings from 7-8:00 p.m. and Wednesday mornings from 9:30-10:30 a.m. beginning January 15 & January 17th. Sign-up sheets will be available in the social room at coffee hour. Books will be available for a \$5.00 donation. Books may also be purchased for personal study at home. Contact Peggy Stringham (740-816-0294) if you have any questions.

LIBRARY



Nancy Nungesser and her faithful volunteer, husband Dave, continue to work and organize our FPC library.

THANK YOU!

PERSON OF THE MONTH

Cheryl Ellzey
6440 Scioto Chase Blvd
Powell, Ohio 43065



Please let Cheryl know that she is loved and we are thinking of her.

LECTIONARY

January 6 EPIPHANY	Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14; Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12
January 7	Genesis 1:1-5; Psalm 29; Acts 19:1-7; Mark 1:4-11
January 14	1 Samuel 3:1-10 (11-20); Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18; 1 Corinthians 6:12-20; John 1:43-51
January 21	Jonah 3:1-5, 10; Psalm 62:5-12; I Corinthians 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20
January 28	Deuteronomy 18:15-20; Psalm 111; 1 Corinthians 8:1-13; Mark 1:21-28

MARTIN LUTHER KING CELEBRATION

MLK Worship Service will take place at Zion AME (S. Franklin Street) at 3:00 PM on Sunday, January 14th.

Please join us in celebrating the life and legacy of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. at **Delaware's 25th Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast Celebration, Monday, Jan. 15th, 2018**. The breakfast buffet opens at **7:45 a.m.** with the program to follow at **8:30 a.m.** Both the breakfast and program will take place in the Benes Rooms of the **Hamilton-Williams Campus Center of Ohio Wesleyan University**.

The keynote speaker is Bishop Lawrence Reddick III, the 51st bishop elected in the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, and currently residing Bishop of The Eighth Episcopal District in Dallas, TX. Bishop Reddick graduated from OWU in 1974.

Please see Pastor Deb for tickets if you would like to attend.

(The Mission Committee has sponsored a table for 8 at the annual breakfast.)

COUPLE OF THE MONTH



Doug and Emily Wattenschaidt
50 Yorkshire Road
Delaware, Ohio 43015

Please let know Emily and Doug know that we love and appreciate them!

DEACON HIGHLIGHTS

The meeting was opened and closed by There were several Care Team Concerns. Mike England lost his mother, Barbara England. John McNeal lost his mother, Loretta Gallogly

Ruth Hay has been moved to Willowbrook South for recuperation
Cheryl Elzy had foot surgery.

A birthday card shower was organized for Lila Elzy's birthday.

A Baptism and reception was held on the 17th of December for Benjamin Johnson.



Jill reminded the group that February is care package month for our college students.

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Communion was served on Christ the King Sunday.



THANK YOU

Thank you to Bunny Allen and the whole Presbees group for the nice gift and kind words upon my “retirement” from my Presbees “job”. I will look forward to picking up the phone and hearing, “This is _____ calling about Presbees.....”

Donna French

“...for Texas, Puerto Rico, Florida the back-to-back hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria... massive flooding and landslides in Sierra Leone and Bangladesh...drought in South Sudan...early onset of fire season in the drought stricken West...”

Your gift of \$895 for DR000148 Disaster Relief-General Relief and PDA Support is perfect, a blessing from God above in a moment where it is most needed here below. It is a privilege to serve together in a Church that makes such giving reliable, and provides constant faithful partnership to brothers and sisters across the world and here at home...

Rev. Dr. Laurie A. Kraus
Director, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

Thank you, FPC, for your generous support of Habitat and the Apostle Build!

Todd Miller
Executive Director

Habitat for Humanity of Delaware & Union Counties

Thank you for your support of Presbyterian Mission! Your generous and faithful giving allows all of us who work together in God's mission to bring the gospel of Christ to all corners of the world. It provides the funds to help bear the burdens of those in times of crisis, those in poverty, and those who are in need.

The generosity of your congregation has provided the following support: On December 1, 2017, we received \$750.00 for Shared Mission Support.

Chris Roseland
Presbyterian Mission Engagement Advisor

On behalf of the Presbees family we want to thank Bunny Allen for her capable leadership during this past year. The meals were delightful and the programs were outstanding. GOOD JOB, BUNNY!!

Thank you for your generosity! Your gift of \$500 will support families and help to fund essential trainings for farmers.

Emily Hewes
Development Director, CEPAD USA

FPC FAMILY NEWS



After morning worship, Grandma Louise and Grandpa Joe Musser share their love of music with their grandson!

SYMPATHY

Please keep the John and Karen McNeal family in your prayers following the loss of John's mother, Loretta Gallogly.

Please keep the family of Mike and Judy England family in your prayers following the loss of Mike's mother, Barbara England.

BIRTH

We're feeling especially blessed as our daughter Jen, her husband Phil, and big brothers: Noah and Ethan welcomed our granddaughter, Aubrey Claire Moir to our family on October 18th. Proud grandparents are Rick and Becky Fair.

BAPTISM



Benjamin Thomas Johnson was baptized December 17th. He is the son of Dave and Emily Johnson and the grandson of Steve and Kit Gordon.

ADDRESS

CHANGE

Samantha Shaw
c/o Chris and Lisa Sanders
8 Corte Amigos

Moraga, CA 94656



TRUSTEE HIGHLIGHTS

We have received an estimate for solar installation. Due to changes made in spacing requirements we would be unable to have as many panels on the Campbell addition as we were initially told. We will investigate putting additional panels over the library.

Clean-up day resulted in over 70 bags of leaves, walnuts, etc. Thanks to all who participated!

A lighted wreath was made and installed by Bob Wattenschaidt.

Installation of a privacy fence between Unity House and Family Promise will take place next spring.

Bob Wattenschaidt hanging our new lighted Christmas wreath.

January snow removal will be shared by Delia Herzog and Bob Wattenschaidt.

The A/V system in the sanctuary is now working well.

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED!

The mission of cookie baking for the Andrews House “Cookie Cupboard Bazaar” was productive and fun! Besides the “in the church kitchen” bakers pictured here; home bakers Laura Bowie, Janet Jackson and Amy Jo Summers contributed to the cause. It was a successful venture with more than 73 dozen cookies donated. (This doesn’t count the samples nor the plates we left for the AA meeting!)

Diane Welker questions whether this pan is finished baking. Susie Short is in the background whipping up her shortbread.

Linda Heineike and Sue Bauer



begin the frosting and decorating of our cut out cookies. Tricia Shaw and

Leslie Flury dip a batch in chocolate and coat in nuts or crushed peppermint..



Here are the kitchen cart drivers who delivered our cookies to the Andrew House!

Since we are “required by conscience” to test what we give away....as we are boxing up the final batches and someone delivers the quote of the day, “Oh, MY favorite is... the next one I eat!” (What might we

have tasted? Holiday Hermits, Double Chocolate Chip, Peanut Butter Blossoms, Andes Peppermint, Molasses Crinkles, Sugar, Christmas M & Ms, Poinsettia Spritz, Charleston Cherry Bars, Gingerbread Rudolph, Funfetti Sugar, Shortbread, French Christmas, Malted Milk Buttons, Snowball Wedding Cakes, Spritz Trees, Gingersnaps, Iced Sugar...Mmm mmm, good!)

Andrews House reports they were sold out of cookies by noon! WOW!

CANDLE LIGHT SERVICE



Philip Rees and Bob Wattenschaidt light the pew candles in preparation for the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service.



Congregation sings *Silent Night* as their candles are lit at the end of our Christmas Eve Worship.

