



**Worship-10:00 am
Fellowship**

following Worship

Sunday School

First Presbyterian Church

73 West Winter Street, Delaware, OH 43015-1934

Phone: (740) 363-1205
Website: www.DelFPC.org

Fax: (740) 369-1249
E-mail: delfirstpres@midohio.twcbc.com

Pastor: Rev. Deb Patterson
Leader of Family Ministry: Nikki Hogarth
Director of Music: Ruth Rabby
Financial Secretary: Barbara Ross
Custodian: Peg O'Brien
Nursery Attendants: Melissa Curtis, Kendra Hart
Media Coordinator: Taylor Smith

Office Manager: Wenda Smith
Parish Associate: Rev. Oluf Kongshaug
Organist: Joseph Musser
Financial Coordinator: Nancy Reynolds
Outreach Coordinator: Ellen Watson
Newsletter Editor: Diane Welker
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

From our Pastor's Heart ...



Dear Friends,

About 2 years ago, Nikki our Director of Family Ministry attended a conference led by Dr. Eric Law. When she returned she was deeply moved and motivated by Law's teaching. One of the topics she continually refers to is living out of abundance rather than scarcity. Law writes in his book Holy Currency Exchange, about the spirituality of abundance. He believes that most people live out of scarcity rather than abundance. When we live out of abundance, Law writes, "there is always enough if we share with others what we have." Law continues, "For those who have not done much reflection on living in abundance, this is a fundamental shift in the way they think about resources".

Last Session meeting Nikki lead the elders in an exercise of abundance. She used Law's game "reverse musical chairs". She began by setting out three chairs and inviting two people to start the game. The music began playing and the elders with curious looks on their faces began walking around the chairs. Since musical chairs is a game of scarcity the whole game felt a bit odd. The natural urge to rush around the chairs and listen for the music to stop seemed out of place since there were more than enough chairs. It took about three rounds of adding a person and an additional chair before people began to settle down. You could see and feel the shift of energy in the room. There was no need to panic, no need to feel anxious because there were always more than enough chairs.

Afterwards we discussed what it was like to live out of an attitude of abundance. It felt very odd at first for me. Life as I've known it personally and collectively has been mostly lived from a place of scarcity. I've always sensed an underlying societal worry that there may not be enough. There is a 'what if' mentality that runs not only through our culture, but our churches.

I asked the Session at the end of our discussion where they saw abundance at FPC. Here are some of their responses: FPC has an abundance of leadership, wisdom, experience, artistic/musical talents, good cooks, outreach, faith, courage, compassion, willingness to pitch in, participation in worship, skills to share, ability to connect and money.

I was very moved by this list and soon began to wonder what would happen if we began to consciously shift our attitudes from scarcity to abundance. How might this shift in attitude affect each of us personally and collectively? How might it affect our ministry and worship together? I am now trying to make a shift in my thinking and I want to invite you to do the same. Ask yourself where in your life do you have abundance? How might you shift your attitude toward abundance.

I've realized that I have an abundance of gifts. I have an abundance of love, compassion, curiosity, hope, intuition, faith and patience AND I have more than enough to share. Where is your abundance and how can you share it?

May God continue to bless you abundantly and may we as a congregation choose to share our abundance with others.

Faithfully,
Pastor Deb



Music Notes

by Ruth Rabby

CREATIVITY IN WORSHIP

For several years now Worship and Music has placed emphasis on adding creative elements to our worship services. Jazz Worship with Bradley Sowash's ensemble, storytelling sermons and workshops by Donna Marie Todd, special focus on concerns such as hearing, water and the environment, musical leadership by our resident bluegrass ensemble, Presbyterian Pickers—these are examples of that emphasis.

This month we will host the religious drama group, Friends of the Groom, who have presented workshops and led worship for us several times over the past two decades. They will prepare and present, with our participation, the worship service for the Sunday in the church year known as Pentecost, one of the most celebratory events in the Christian tradition—the birthday of the church! Led by Tom Long, also author of many of the children's musicals we have presented over the years, this group will bring a joyful element on Sunday, May 20th, to our morning worship service through their Creativity in Worship!



PRESBYTERIAN PICKERS

The choir practices with the Pickers for the Anthem at their last Wednesday night rehearsal before leading worship April 15th.



Jack Flury and Wayne Moore picking on their banjos.

Notice anything different about their style of playing?

Maddie and Delia Herzog play fiddle.





On string bass is Jim Wasil. Peggy and Chuck Stringham, and Jennifer Shaw add guitar.

Thank you for bringing a fun, upbeat, different style of music to worship! All God's children have a place in the choir!



A Celebration of Life service will be held for Kevin James Crowley, Executive Director of People In Need, on Friday, May 4th from 4:00-7:00pm at the PIN offices. Donations made to PIN in Kevin's name will go directly to the Kevin James Crowley Memorial Fund.

ADDRESS CHANGES

David Emmons
219 N. Sandusky Street
Apt. 1
Delaware, OH 43015

Richard & Gail Thayer
1533 Lovington Way
Sunbury, OH 43074-7518

Phone: 740-602-6654
Email: catperson75@outlook.com

YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY

Nikki Hogarth, Leader

familylife@midohio.twcbc.com

Save the Date!

Vacation Bible School 2018

July 16-20th 2018

11AM-2PM

Lots of Fun!! FREE Lunch every day!
Come and learn about God's amazing LOVE for us all!!
Pre-School thru 6th grade!

Register Today! <https://vbspro.events/p/events/fpcdelaware>

Delfpc.org
740-363-1205

“VBS” FOR ADULTS

Nancy Reynolds is initiating a summer adult Bible Study. It will be held on Sunday mornings from 8:45 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. We will be studying the Gospel of Mark. Study books are \$1.00. Please join us in the library as we kick off this class on Sunday, June 3rd in the church library.



OUR GRADUATES *Drew Niemí Sean Hazelton
Tracey Sumner, Jr.*

Graduate Recognition!!

Please join us as we recognize our Graduating High School Seniors on Sunday, May 20th.

Teacher Recognition!!

Please join us on Sunday, May 27th as we recognize our many volunteers who step in and serve as Sunday School Teachers, Children's Moment Leaders, and Confirmation Mentors.

Thanks, Mom!

At his graduation, a young man tasked with giving a speech began reading from some notes. "I want to talk about my mother and the wonderful influence she had on my life," he said. "She's a shining example of parenthood, and I love her more than words can ever do justice."

The graduate then paused, appeared to struggle a moment and looked up at the audience with a mischievous smile. "It's really hard to read my mom's handwriting," he said.

PRESBEES

Come join us for "Da Great Yooper Experience" at the May Presbees gathering. Chuck Stringham will share some of the history and geography of Michigan's Upper Peninsula through sights and sounds of places like Lake of the Clouds, Rocks Lakeshore, Tahquamenon Falls and the Great Lakes Shipwreck Museum. Please call George and Margaret Alexander for reservations at 740-201-5726.

PERSON OF THE MONTH



Nancy Reynolds
103 North Washington Street
Delaware, Ohio 43015

Please let Nancy know that she is loved and appreciated.

LECTIONARY

May 6	Acts 10:44-48; Psalm 98; 1 John 5:1-6; John 15: 9-17
May 10	Ascension of the Lord Acts 1:1-11; Psalm 47 or Psalm 93; Ephesians 1:15-23; Luke 24:44-53
May 13	Acts 1:15-17, 21-26; Psalm 1, 1 John 5:9-13; John 17:6-19
May 20	Acts 2:1-21 or Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; Romans 8:22-27 or Acts 2:1-21; John 15:26-27, 16:4b-15;
May 27	Isaiah 6:1-8; Psalm 29; Romans 8:12-17; John 3:1-17

LIBRARY

Nancy Nungesser (on right) leads her "Minion" volunteers (Leslie and Jack Flury, Wayne Moore, Tricia Shaw, Judy England, and Diane Welker) to finish the last step of the reorganization of our wonderful FPC library.



THANK YOU

Thank you so much for our birthday cards and the MANY "get well wishes" that Phil has received since his open heart surgery on November 1. Recovery has been a l-o-n-g haul including two more hospital stays and rehab visits. He is making good progress now and we both look forward to getting out in some warm spring weather. We miss you and want you to know that we certainly experienced that Delaware First is a caring congregation.



Blessings,
Phil & Norma Ferguson

How I miss you all! FPC was part of my life for nearly 40 years. My ties with you will never be broken.

I can't thank you enough for the lovely send-off you gave me. You filled me with God's love which gave me courage.

Blessings to each of you,
Sandy Kramer

CONGRATULATIONS

Kit and Steve Gordon announced: "Our newest **grandson** has arrived!!!!..... **Scott & Kate's #4 arrived today: 4-4-18** around 1pm! - OSU hospital 7lbs. 3oz.Mom & babe, Hayes Wheeler Gordon, are doing VERY Well!! Siblings are Hadley(5), Hannah(4), & Henry(2)."

EASTER BREAKFAST



Lynn Burke and Leslie Flury discuss last minute details as they prepare to serve Easter breakfast.

The Mampe and Allen family enjoy Easter breakfast together.



Kent King, Jane Sprague, and Scott Anstaett relax at breakfast before Easter Worship begins.

Easter Sunday Worship

The Lord is risen!

He is risen indeed!



The traditional (come join us, experienced singers) rendition of Handel's Hallelujah Chorus closes our joyful Easter service!

DEACON HIGHLIGHTS

Concerns were discussed. Eileen Rhonemus broke her shoulder, but is doing well. John Hay is currently at Cherith recovering from surgery. He and Ruth have given up their apartment. Josh Henderson's surgery and recovery is better than the last time. He is welcome to visitors. Cheryl Elzey is recovering from foot surgery.

The meeting concluded with Jack reading the *Gratitude Prayer* by Rabbi Johnathan Sacks. This is a prayer that is given in gratitude for all the things that cost nothing to us but mean everything, specifically mentioned were Love, Beauty, and Faith.

Hymnal-ing!

Nancy Reynolds leads a prayer with Bev Hinds.

Joan Cornell listens as we sing "What a Friend We Have in Jesus".



Nancy Jewett and Donna French enjoy a quick hymn in the dining room at Willow Brook.



WATCH FOR OUR NEXT HYMNALING TRIP and JOIN US!! It's a great way to strengthen the bonds of friendship and to share our love of God! (plus we go out to lunch too!)

COUPLE OF THE MONTH



Bob and Nancy Rietz
100 Crossing W.
#2012
Delaware, Ohio 43015

Please let Nancy and Bob know that we love and appreciate them!

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

- *A report was given by the Renewal/Grant Committee.
- *Pastor Deb will preach at the community Worship service at Delaware Grace Brethren.
- *A new members class will be held April 22, 2018.
- *Pastor Deb and Carol Evans will attend the Presbytery meeting on May 15, 2018 at Fredricktown Presbyterian Church.
- *Session will meet with confirmation class and new members on April 29, 9:00 a.m.
- *Friends of the Groom will be part of our worship service on May 20, 2018, Pentecost.
- *Next Communion - May 6, 2018

TRUSTEE HIGHLIGHTS

- Dryer vent for Apartment 4 will be cleaned.
- Efforts are being made to be sure the kitchen freezer is running effectively. It cannot be pushed against the wall.
- We have received a quote for the installation of a privacy fence at Unity House.
- We continue to work with Third Sun regarding requirements for a solar energy system.

COOK, EAT, LEARN



Join fellow FPC members and **Chef Michael Turner, of Olivina Taproom**, while we cook and share together a Latin American Meal.

The Event will be held Friday, May 18th from 7:15-9:30 pm at 44 South Sandusky, Delaware for \$25.00 per person.

Sign up in the Social Room!

Sunday, April 15th, Morning Worship from Steve Shaw



!

