

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.DeIFPC.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

IT & 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

From our Pastor's Heart ...



Dear Friends,

This year will mark our 15th year together. As I reflect on our time, I am amazed at how much we have changed. I know I've changed as pastor and I have watched you change as a congregation. As I look out over the congregation on any given Sunday, I find that there is a generation of faces that are no longer present and that reality touches me deeply. This generation which already had the template for "being" church has moved on to the Church Eternal and the template left by them is demanding to be redesigned.

FPC which is almost 209 years old is like most other mainline congregations seeking to redefine itself in an effort to remain relevant for the times. There is no specific pattern that we have found that fits who we are. What we know about ourselves is that Delaware FPC is a unique church in its own right. We value mission, traditional yet creative worship, education and community involvement. We attract people who value a strong faith in God, relationships with each other and mission and outreach.

We have become a place of hospitality. People feel welcome and accepted at FPC. Through our community meal, laundry love ministry, our work with people in recovery we have learned to open our hearts to all our neighbors. We have grown as Christians and human beings.

I have watched this year as new leaders have emerged taking over where others have left off. The leadership and the congregation have embraced our new mission statement "Living out the gospel of Jesus Christ through unconditional love" with open hearts and minds. We continue to explore where God is calling us. We ask, "Where is our niche? Where can we make the most difference for Christ? How do we fine tune our calling so we don't burn ourselves out?"

In 2018, we began focusing with new leadership on stewardship and funding. We had a very successful Stewardship Campaign and have now formed a Fundraising Committee. What has become very clear is that if we want to continue with our present ministry projects and staff, we need to be creative. We are doing big things that require staff and money. The Fundraising Committee will explore ways in which FPC can bring in dollars above and beyond our personal giving. I look forward to hearing their ideas.

2019 has been designated a Year of Renewal for the congregation and for me. Many have wondered if this is just a time off, a time to do nothing. It is definitely the opposite of that. This Year of Renewal will require engagement from the entire congregation.

We will be working with a consultant, Rev. Dr. Eric Law and his staff member Linda Young. The year will have a planned calendar of events. We will

intentionally be stepping back and exploring how we understand God's plan for FPC's ministry? We will work in areas of personal and corporate spiritual growth. We will seek to understand God's calling through the lens of what Dr. Law calls "Holy Currencies". We will be unfolding the calendar of events for this year by February 2019.

This is an awesome opportunity for FPC and the Session feels that this intentional time together will strengthen our relationships and bring Divine clarity to our future goals/plans. We are involved in a lot of activities and we want to make sure we are investing our time and resources in the best way possible.

Now what will renewal mean for me? Some have said that this time away will be just a long vacation. A couple of teachers though said to me that their summer breaks were essential for their mental and physical health. To step back for a couple of months allowed them to set aside the pressures of their work and explore new facets of themselves. This is what renewal means for me, a time to step back, slow down for just a bit and reflect on my work and ministry.

During my time away, I will be doing some traveling. I have a couple of writing projects I've started and not been able to finish. I hope to reconnect with a couple of former seminary classmates and see what they are doing in their ministry. I plan to work on my photography skills. I want to continue throwing pottery. Most importantly I need to BE with God.

The chance to take this time away will allow me to step back, put down the mantle of responsibility for FPC and rejuvenate as a human being. All that I do during this time will impact my future ministry with you.

I'm excited about this Year of Renewal. I will be with you most of the times when Linda Young is working with you. I will be learning and growing with you.

In closing I want to once again thank the staff for their commitment to FPC. We have a very talented staff. I also want to thank the elders, deacons, trustees and committee members for all their hard work! Your ministry is so appreciated

Blessings,
Pastor Deb



Music Notes

by Ruth Rabby



In FEBRUARY we celebrate Black History Month with the unique music of the African-American culture:

- Spirituals sung as hymns in worship
 - Spirituals presented as anthems by the choir
 - Spirituals played on organ, handbells, chimes & other instruments
 - and our own special annual Jazz Worship
- on February 17th with Bradley Sowash, jazz pianist,
and his accomplished quintet

Share the special impact of this music form for an entire month in worship!



NOW IS THE TIME TO REGISTER FOR MONTREAT

Conference on Worship and Music, June 16-21

This year's conference theme is "Not as the World Gives." If you are interested in joining the group from our church, contact Ruth or Jennifer soon!!

CARILLON REHEARSAL

4:30-5:00 on Fridays

Use your best judgement on roads this winter, and let me know if you won't make it. I know we're coming from all over the area, and weather can vary quite a bit. Anytime Delaware County has issued a Level 2, practice is cancelled.

RENEWAL OF BAPTISM



 BAPTISM



Pastor Oluf and Pastor Deb renew the baptism of each member of the congregation and a handcrafted tag is given out to remind us of our baptism!



Sleeping Bag Party On Saturday, February 2nd you are all invited to help make sleeping bags for the homeless. Join Leigh Rabby in the Social Room from 1:00 to 5:00pm. Bring a Friend! Refreshments provided.

YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY

Nikki Hogarth, Leader

familylife@midohio.twcbc.com



10 Ways for Families to Engage Kids in Worship

from crcna.org/FaithFormation

"Children learn through observation, but they learn best through participation. We take them to church so that being part of a church family and gathering regularly to worship God in community with others becomes part of the fabric of their lives" (Karen Deboer, *Home Grown Handbook for Christian Parenting*, Faith Alive, p. 187).

To make worship as meaningful as possible for your child:

1 Be Positive

Instead of saying, "We have to go to church" say "we get to go to worship." Teach your kids that worship isn't just a place we go, it's something we are able to do. You might also set a positive tone by adding words like the ones Parenting in the Pew author Robbie Castleman used with her kids: "Jesus must be so excited! It's his special day!"

2 Make Sunday Special

Create patterns that help your whole family experience Sabbath rest and anticipation. Set out clothes the night before and set the alarm a little earlier so that you can arrive at worship in a peaceful state of mind. As you get ready, play your family's favorite worship music and sing together.

3 Take along Worship Tools

It can be difficult to sit quietly for a long period of time—especially when you're little! Take along tools that will engage your children in worship rather than simply keep them busy. Some ideas: a children's storybook Bible, a small clipboard with a finger labyrinth for prayer ([search flamecreativekids.blogspot.com](http://search.flamecreativekids.blogspot.com)), a small notebook and colored pencil for drawing/writing questions, impressions, and prayers (visit prayingincolor.com for info). Tip: Invite your child to decorate a blank journal to use as their worship journal. Read through it together after worship.

4 Let kids Choose The Seats

Parents with young children often sit toward the back of the worship space so they won't be embarrassed by their children's behavior and can exit easily. But often children prefer the front because they can see, hear, and participate better.

5 Follow along

Help your child look up the Scripture passage and follow along in the Bible when it is read. If your child enjoys looking through a children's Bible storybook, bring that along for your child to read as well, but wait to bring it out until the message begins so that your child will participate in the other parts of worship.

6 Become a "Church Whisperer"

Help kids stay engaged during worship by whispering questions or making observations. During a song, whisper, "My favorite verse of this song is the third one. Which part do you like the best?" As Scripture is read, ask your child how it would feel to be living in that story, or suggest that they squeeze your hand when they hear Jesus' name.

7 Give Together

Find out a week in advance which cause the offering will support. Pray and learn about that cause together during the week. If your child receives an allowance, build into it money they can give during worship. Consider providing your child with a special envelope designated for that purpose and inviting your child to decorate the envelope with their best drawing as a reminder that we give God our best.

8 Celebrate The Sacraments

As a member of God's family, it's important for your child to be present at the celebrations of baptism and the Lord's Supper. Try to provide your child with an up-close view during baptism, and welcome the newest member together after the service. Use a rainy day to make some "Welcome to God's Family" cards together and send them when a new baby is baptized.

Whether or not your child fully participates in the Lord's Supper, he or she is experiencing it. Enfold children who aren't participating by whispering what you are remembering as you eat and drink, and reminding them "Jesus loves you too!" For ideas on preparing your child for the Lord's Supper, visit our Welcoming Children to the Lord's Supper toolkit at crcna.org/faithformation/toolkits.

9 Talk about Worship on the Way Home

Ask kids about what they saw and heard in worship. Affirm their insights and encourage them to learn more.

Ask if they wonder about anything that was said. As you talk, use the language of worship to build your children's vocabulary.

10 Practice Practice Practice

Make regular church attendance a family priority. Worshiping with God's people is the best way to help your children feel that church is a place where they belong.

LECTIONARY

February 3	Jeremiah 1:4-10; Psalms 71:1-6; 1 Corinthians 13:1-13; Luke 4:21-30
February 10	Isaiah 6:1-8 (9-13); Psalms 138, 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Luke 5:1-11
February 17	Jeremiah 17:5-10; Psalm 1; 1 Corinthians 15:12-20; Luke 6:17-26
February 24	Genesis 45:3-11,15; Psalms 37:1-11, 39-40; 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42- 50; Luke 6:27-38

ADDRESS CHANGE

Mary Gray
1075 Pumpkinvine Hill Rd.
Martinsville, IN 46151

Peter Hazelton
152 Cottswold Drive
Delaware, OH 43015

John and Ruth Hay are in room 278 at Willow Brook at Delaware Run and their phone # is 740-957-9711.

Jim and Lois Perkins are in room 167 at Willow Brook at Delaware Run.

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Annual meeting will be January 27, 2019. Fellowship will serve the meal. Jeannie Wasil will now be doing the Willow Brook services.

VBS was discussed. Session came to a consensus that there will be no VBS this year.

Youmee Kim, who teaches at OWU and is from Namdaemun, will be our pianist on January 20 during the offertory.

Next Communion - January 13, 2019.

YOU'RE INVITED

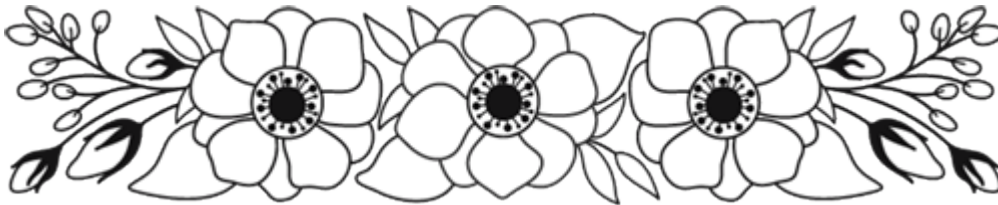
Open House for Barbara Welker's 90th Birthday

Sunday, February 10th

2:00-4:00 PM

FPC Social Room

No gifts, please!



THANK YOU

I have been at Willow Brook for 15 years and I want to thank you for your caring and concern. Special thanks to the Deacons and Elizabeth White Circle.

Phyllis Wood

Thank you for your generous donations to the Pacer Pantry. We are completely reliant on community donations, so your support is invaluable. We're glad you're our neighbors!

Lily West
Delaware City Family Resource Center

Thank you so much for donating funds to our Girls Scout Troop. It is deeply appreciated. We would also like to thank you for letting us meet on Wednesday here.

Thank you,
Rosie, Katie, Gabie, Miriam, Genie

EDITORIAL TIDBIT



When you address the children during a Children's Moment, your back is often to the rest of the congregation. Pastor Oluf is such a phenomenal story teller and as the lay reader that Sunday, I could not resist a couple of photos. This subject was very close to his heart-the King of Denmark (King Christian) and the wearing of stars during a very dark time in history with "the ugly army" that he experienced as a young boy.



Although talking to the children, I know this story's impact reached the adults who have a larger background of information of historical events. This story gave me an even better appreciation of Oluf's folded Danish Stars that he gives away during the Christmas season since these stars hold significance to him.

If you missed this Sunday (January 6) I highly recommend you borrow the recording of the worship service and hear this story in Pastor Oluf's own words.



DEACON HIGHLIGHTS



HYMNAL-ing to our shut-ins will take place **Sunday, February 17th** after worship. Please come add your voice to this rewarding ministry.

COLLEGE BOXES

Deacons will be sending them out in February. Church members may help by donating suggested items: individually wrapped snacks, popcorn, chapstick, hot chocolate, gum, candy, etc. **DEADLINE** : February 4th We will be meeting on February 5 at 5:30 to pack the boxes, have a short meeting, and then dinner at Amatos.

SOUP DONATIONS

If you are making soup and you have a supply left (you made extra or you don't want to eat it for weeks on end), consider placing it in the church freezer to use for families in need. Place it in zip-lock bags and label with the following information:

DEACONS, Date, Type of soup, and any special instructions i.e. vegetarian, contains nuts, gluten free

CARE TEAM CONCERNS **Joy Slover** needs a little TLC sent her way. Cards can be sent to her C/O Carla Bender, 7953 Rucker 1 Rd E, Henderson, KY 42420. Pastor Deb is coordinating the transportation for **Debbie Thompson** to the James at Ohio State as she deals with breast cancer. **Ellen Watson** had rotator cuff surgery on the January 14th. She would appreciate visitors, calls, and cards during recovery. **Kim Henderson's** mobility issues are getting worse. Her mom, Karen, and brother, Tracy, are struggling with health issues too. Prayers requested for the family. **Bob Douds Jr.** is receiving more treatments in his fight with cancer. **Paul Kostyu** is recovering from back surgery. **Jan Robbins** is in the memory care unit at Willow Brook and is having other health concerns as well. **Eileen Rhonemus** is still in a brace and the family is very appreciative of the care they have received from members of the church. **Donna French** is doing okay but balance is a concern. **Jeanne Wasil** has been diagnosed with walking pneumonia. **Flynn Cannon** was known here at FPC through 4th Thursday meals and as a VBS participant. She passed away January 7th, please keep her family and friends in your prayers.

The next meeting is February 5, 2019. PLEASE NOTE WE ARE MEETING AT 5:30.

Support for Delaware Pacer Pantry

Since its inception, First Presbyterian Church has supported Delaware County's People in Need food pantry. People in Need (PIN) is a valuable resource in our community for people experiencing financial hardships impacting their ability to buy food, pay for medicines or cover utility bills. PIN benefits from tremendous county-wide support.

Recently, Ellen Watson, Wenda Smith and Nikki Hogarth had the opportunity to tour the new Pacer Pantry. It is located at Willis Education Center (our next door neighbor). Pacer Pantry provides non-perishable food and household necessities for all Delaware City Schools families experiencing food insecurity while respecting the privacy of each family and situation. The Pantry is furnished through community donations of unused food, baby supplies and household items, which are provided for free to families in need. The Pantry is available year-round. Because of the way it is funded/supported, The Pantry has a bit more flexibility in the support it provides to students and their families.

Pastor Deb has decided that for the next year, FPC's food donations will be given to The Pacer Pantry. Any food left in the boxes at the backdoor will be taken next door. Below is a list of their most needed items:

Ketchup • Mustard • Mayo • Salad dressing • Baby items (diapers and wipes) • Shampoo • Conditioner • Canned fruit • Canned vegetables • Juice or juice boxes • Canned pasta • Tuna • Canned chicken • Box potato side dishes • Rice-a-Roni • Granola Bars (priority) • Cereal • Peanut butter • Jelly • Baking items (flour, sugar, salt) • Muffin mixes • Rice • Toilet paper • Deodorant • Laundry detergent • Dish detergent • Crackers • Soup • Feminine Hygiene Products

FELLOWSHIP

It is still not too late to sign up all for this year's edition of the 1st Presbyterian's **Diner's Club**. The Fellowship Committee divides those participating in the Diners Club into groups of about 8 people. Then during the next 5 months or so, members of each group will take turns hosting a monthly meal. The meal can be in the member's home or a restaurant (preferably one that is not hurried). The goal is to know your church family better in a relaxed non-hurried environment. Please contact Leslie Flury at leslie.flury@yahoo.com (740-666-0850)





The Fellowship Committee is also hosting a **Sweetheart Dinner on Saturday February 9th**. The dinner will have a Hawaiian theme and the menu is a choice of Almond Crusted Tilapia or Roast Pork. The fellowship hall will be decorated in a tropical motif, lights will be low, and prizes will be awarded to some lucky attendees. What better way to honor your significant other on a pre-Valentine's day event and ALL for the price of \$5.00 each. Sign up in the Social Room or contact Dick Thayer rethayer46@gmail.com (228-860-7740)

WHITE SCHOLARSHIP

The Elizabeth and Eugene White Scholarship Committee is accepting applications for the 2019-2020 university school year. Consideration will be given to students who show academic promise and have financial need related to their post-secondary education. Applications may be picked up and returned in the church office and must be completed in full for consideration. The deadline is April 15, 2019.

Like most scholarships, there is a limited amount of award monies to be used and some applicants may not receive awards.



MEMBERS OF FPC

Please plan to join us on Sunday, February 3rd as we kick off our year of renewal and growth!!

We will begin at 10 AM with a special worship service in the Social Room, a potluck luncheon, and we will end with a discussion of logistics for the year ahead!

SNOW DAY!!



The view (from inside!) through the side front door on Sunday, January 20th.



God's weather handiwork kept us from worshipping together at FPC and many other area churches...but members "found God and worship" in other ways. There's nothing quite like a walk in the snow to enjoy the quiet and beauty of a snowy day! OR perhaps a noisy one behind the snowblower as you make our walks pedestrian friendly to all. Bob Wattenschaidt already had 3 driveways under his belt before volunteering here!!

This editor appreciates clean sidewalks since she usually walks to work on the Spire! I especially like the sidewalk tunnel gate by the back parking lot...created by parking lot snowplows and Bob's handiwork with the snowblower!

Panama City, Florida!



Maybe Bob's snow duties for January prompted him to find a buddy to volunteer for the Presbyterian Work Camp taking place in Florida...or maybe it's because he truly believes in helping others!!??

Bob Wattenschaidt and Jim Hoovler are joining with some other Presbytery Disaster Assistance workers from Ohio to help restore some of the damage created by Hurricane Michael. They will be leaving February 3rd by bus and staying at Dogwood Acres. Dogwood Acres is the Presbytery of Florida's outdoor ministry retreat and campgrounds. This will be the home base from which the daily work assignments are handled. These could include repairing cabins, buildings and cleaning up downed trees. This is to prepare it so it can be used as a staging area for future mission trips to the Panama City area. Keep them and the rest of their crew in your prayers as they bring hope and helping hands to our fellow Presbyterians. Check out the Dogwood Acres website!



Lighten your load

Keeping sabbath, not just on Sundays but throughout the entire week in an integrated way, keeps us sane, says Donna Schaper. While our culture pushes us to move faster, work harder and acquire more money and stuff, sabbath observances promote play, rest, love and worship.

"Sabbath — time for God — is a gift in its origin and in its keeping," Schaper writes in *Sabbath Keeping* (Cowley Publications). "It is not another must; it is a may. God invites us to keep sabbath; God does not demand it."

The commandment to keep the Sabbath day holy, she notes, "is an invitation to a party, not to a hanging. Sabbath keeping is not one more thing to add to our already long lists. [It] is lightness, not heaviness."

225th General Assembly of Presbyterian Church(USA)

Plans are already being made by our Presbytery to prepare for the honor of hosting the 225th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), June 25-July 2, 2022. Many members of our presbytery will remember the excitement and joy of hosting the 214th General Assembly in Columbus in 2002. There are abundant ways to be involved in hosting a PC(USA) General Assembly, and many volunteers will be needed. If you want to be involved in the planning for the 225th General Assembly, please email: Jeannie@psvonline.org.

Love and laughter go hand in hand!

Share these jokes with your beloved on February 14 – or whenever some humor can brighten a day!

Q: What valentine did the French chef give his wife?

A: A hug and a quiche

Q: What did the paper clip say to the magnet?

A: “I find you very attractive.”

Q: What did the pencil say to the paper?

A: “I dot my i’s on you!”

Q: How did the phone propose to his girlfriend?

A: He gave her a ring.

Q: What do you call a very small valentine?

A: A valentiny

PUZZLE

WITH LOVE FROM ABOVE

The Bible is full of special words from our loving God.

Directions: Using the messages on the candy hearts, complete the Bible verses (all NIV) below.

ALWAYS REFUGE PERFECT LOVE PEACE CHRIST JESUS STRENGTH

God is our _____ and _____,
an ever-present help in trouble. Psalm 46:1

“Surely I am with you _____.” Matthew 28:20

And the _____ of God ... will guard
your hearts and your minds in
_____. Philippians 4:7

Whoever lives in _____ lives in God,
and God in them. 1 John 4:16

_____ love drives out fear. 1 John 4:18

