



**Worship-10:00 am**  
**SOCIAL DISTANCE AND WEAR YOUR MASK!!**

*First Presbyterian Church*

73 West Winter Street, Delaware, OH 43015-1934

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Pastor: Rev. Deb Patterson

Leader of Family Ministry: Nikki Hogarth

Interim Director of Music and Organist: Joseph Musser

Financial Coordinator: Doug Buck

Nursery Attendants: Melissa Curtis, Kendra Hart

Media Coordinator and IT: Taylor Smith

Office Manager: Wenda Smith

Parish Associate: Rev. Patricia Stout

Custodian: TBA

Outreach Coordinator: Ellen Watson

Newsletter Editor: Diane Welker

**OFFICE HOURS: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9:00 AM-12:00**

**CLOSED ON WEDNESDAY**

**Bulletin Deadline . . . . . Wednesday at Noon**

**Newsletter Deadline . . . . . NOON on the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month**

**[spire@midohio.twcbc.com](mailto:spire@midohio.twcbc.com)**

*From our Pastor's Heart ...*



Dear Friends,

Brian and I were walking the dogs the other evening and I remarked that I could feel the beginning of the change of the seasons. Brian remarked that we still had a month or so until summer, but my internal senses could feel the shift. I think it was in the sound of the breeze or in the feel of the air or the look of the trees. Anyway, Autumn is just around the corner. School has begun. I am praying that the Covid virus cases will remain lower so our children and teachers can be together in the classroom. I'm praying that we will continue to be able to worship safely.

With that said, here are our guidelines when in the building. Masks are to be worn at all times. In the sanctuary we are asking you to put distance between you and your neighbor. Wenda and Dawn (our new custodian) will be marking pews as open or closed. Please sit in only the open pews. If our numbers grow and it becomes difficult to adequately distance, we will be creating overflow space in the social room. We are looking at upgrading some of the equipment downstairs to make it a better worship experience. As of now we will not be having coffee hour, however, do greet and chat with one another in the sanctuary following worship.

Nikki has done a beautiful job staying connected with our families. Christian Education is actively and creatively working on how to offer opportunities for our children to continue to grow in their faith and stay connected to the church. I know that some of our families are concerned about bringing unvaccinated children into the sanctuary and exposing our older population to the virus, but I feel that if we mask and keep a little space between us, we will be fine.

The church building will continue to be locked during office hours. If you are coming by the church for whatever reason, just ring the bell on the left side of the door and we will be happy to let you in. If you could do your church business in the morning that would be helpful.

That gives us afternoons to get our work done. It tends to pile up when we have a lot of visitors.

I'll be honest with you, I was hoping we would be fully open and running by now, but that is not the case and safety comes first. I am reminded of the fact that the church is not the building, but the people. You my friends are a wonderful group of faithful people who are church and do it well.

Many hands make light work, and I would like to encourage those who have not found a way to engage with the church, to think about a small way you

might be a part of this very active church. Our ministry is almost bigger than we are, though that shouldn't stop us.

It doesn't have to be a board or a committee. It could be delivering meals a couple times a year. It could be helping with one event. Maybe it is visiting with one of our older members. Maybe it is asking Wenda or Nikki if there is something you can do to help. Tell them the time you have available. I thank you in advance for your support and faithfulness.

I want to close with a quote from Andy Griffith; "I firmly believe that in every situation, no matter how difficult, God extends grace greater than the hardship, and strength and peace of mind that can lead us to a place higher than where we were before." May God's grace hold and guide you. May God's strength fortify you. May God's peace fill you now and in the days to come. Blessings to you all.

*Pastor Deb*



Socially  
distanced  
view of  
Sunday  
Worship  
on August  
15<sup>th</sup>.

## *Music Notes* (excerpts from Joe Musser's email to choirs)

I trust that you are staying well during this summer clouded by the increasing Covid-19 cases due to the Delta variant. I know that the worship services are going well under the musical direction of Peggy Stringham and Peggy Hawse, for which many thanks.

Louise and I have had the pleasure of seeing Margaret and Paul Randall, who were staying in the Presbyterian House here for a week. They are doing well, although Paul's back problems limit his walking. They send their heartfelt greetings.

To give you a sample of Chautauqua: I am singing daily in a choir of about 12 people, who come from New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Virginia, Florida, and Arizona. We rehearse 9 times a week, and sing for 7 services every week (once each weekday and twice on Sundays) in an amphitheater that seats about 4,500 people (though it's never been full). In weekday services we sing at least one anthem, and on Sundays we sing at least 3 anthems. So we've sung about 40 anthems, and I've heard about 35 sermons preached by about 10 different ministers. I've played for services in an Episcopal chapel every Sunday, and presented a brief recital on their new organ, an Allen electronic. I've played in a trio (flute, oboe, piano) for the amphitheater services twice so far. For one of those performances, we played a trio that I wrote in memory of Richard Kemper, a good friend and bassoonist, who was the father of the two other performers. Next week, I will play with saxophonist George Wolfe for a service at the Chapel as well as one in the amphitheater.

Each week there are usually three or four concerts and seven lectures focused on a theme (like China, the divisions in our country, or the nature and functions of comedy). We've seen 3 operas (including *Scalia/Ginsburg*, a comic opera about Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Antonin Scalia), 2 silent films accompanied by the organist who improvised a score, and a couple plays.



Sing psalms and  
hymns and  
spiritual songs ...  
singing and  
making melody to the  
Lord in your hearts.

## LECTIONARY

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| <b>September 5</b>  | <i>Semicontinuous:</i> Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23 and Psalm 125;<br><i>Complementary:</i> Isaiah 35:4-7a and Psalm 146; James 2:1-10 (11-13) 14-17, Mark 7: 24-37     |
| <b>September 12</b> | <i>Semicontinuous:</i> Proverbs 1:20-33 and Psalm 19; <i>Complementary:</i> Isaiah 50:4-9a and Psalm 116:1-9; James 3:1-12; Mark 8:27-38                               |
| <b>September 19</b> | <i>Semicontinuous:</i> Proverbs 31:10-31 and Psalm 1; <i>Complementary:</i> Jeremiah 11:18-20 and Psalm 54; James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a; Mark 9:30-37                         |
| <b>September 26</b> | <i>Semicontinuous:</i> Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22 and Psalm 124;<br><i>Complementary:</i> Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29 and Psalm 19:7-14; James 5:13-20; Mark 9:38-50 |



*Wally H. Rietz, Jr.* passed away July 26, 2021 in Oregon. He lived an interesting, fulfilled and active 97 years of life! A service will be held September 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Willamette National Cemetery in Oregon. Please keep his brother, Bob (Nancy) Rietz and their extended family in your thoughts and prayers.

*J. David Stout* passed away July 26, 2021 in Columbus, Ohio. David was known for his love of stories-whether it be as an educator, newspaper advisor, theater lover or librarian. He was the son of John Stout. Please keep his aunt, Nancy Jewett and cousin, Pat Stout and their extended families in your thoughts and prayers.

## YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY

Nikki Hogarth, Leader

[familylife@midohio.twcbc.com](mailto:familylife@midohio.twcbc.com)



September 12<sup>th</sup> is Rally Day!!



Please join us as we gather SAFELY together to kick off the Sunday school year!!

- Kids will gather in the Social Room before worship to watch the first half of the service together.
- We will be making a unique art project that will be hung outside the Sunday School Room.
- After that, we will play outdoor games that remind them that they are **wonderfully and beautifully** created by God!!
- And finally, we will share cupcakes on the lawn, socially distanced, after we are done with games.

We are beaming with excitement to see you all!!

Older students are welcome to join the fun as “helpers” if interested.  
We are asking that ALL teachers and students wear masks while we are gathered.





Welcome to another year of Intertwine Youth Ministry Collective (YMC), a collaborative youth ministry shared by William Street UMC, First Presbyterian Church of Delaware, and Zion UCC! I'm the youth pastor, Rev. Kara Jones, and am excited for whatever another year of Intertwine brings us!

Intertwine YMC typically meets twice a month, roughly every other week though we take into consideration holidays and other big events and try to plan accordingly. We meet on Sunday evening, usually 6:30-8:00 PM. Pre-COVID, we rotated between our partner churches. Throughout COVID, we've been meeting on Zoom and transitioning with care to meeting outdoors on the lawn at Zion UCC (they have the biggest yard space!).

Of course, we are all aware that COVID is still among us and has been gaining speed/strength once again. So, bear with us if plans need to shift and change! At this point, we are hoping to continue to gather in person, outdoors (as weather permits), masked (required), socially distanced, and with hand washing and sanitizing throughout our gatherings. However, we may need to do some shifting to online Zoom meetings again (like we did beautifully throughout much of last school year) so that everyone can safely participate. We are planning an in-person kick off event at this time.

**With all that being said...**

**YOU ARE INVITED! All youth grades 6-12 are invited to join us on Sunday, August 29, 6:00-8:00 PM for our Fall Kick-Off! Outdoors at Zion UCC (51 W. Central Ave.)!**

**Back by popular request: WATER GAMES! Prepare to get wet! We were DRENCHED 2 years ago by the end of the night!**

- Please wear clothes, shoes, and a mask that can get wet. Swimsuits are fine but please wear clothing on top.
- Please bring extra masks in a Ziploc and a towel.
- Please bring your own chair.
- Please bring a snack and drink for yourself if you'd like.

**Please RSVP so we can count on seeing you there!!**

Any questions, feel free to ask! My email is [karas...@gmail.com](mailto:karas...@gmail.com) and my phone number is [740-815-6411](tel:740-815-6411) (call or text).

Looking forward to hearing from many of you and seeing you on August 29!

*Rev. Kara Jones*

*Youth Pastor*

*Intertwine YMC*

*William Street UMC, First Presbyterian of Delaware, Zion UCC*

## Adult Study

Fall Study of Simon Peter Starts September 13th & 15th -- He was not rich or educated, but was familiar with hard work. He was quick tempered and impetuous, but possessed a passion that would change the world. He left everything to follow his teacher, yet struggled with doubt and fear. Join one of two adult study groups as we take an in-depth dive into the life, faith, and character of the disciple Simon Peter, using Adam Hamilton's book, "Simon Peter- Flawed but Faithful Disciple". The goal of the study is to give us a sense of the man Peter, understand his story and learn how his story speaks to us today, with the hope that from Peter's life we may come to know Christ more fully and become the disciples Jesus calls us to be. Two classes will be offered: Monday evenings from 7-8 p.m. and Wednesday mornings from 9-10:00 a.m. beginning September 13th and 15th in the church library or the Campbell Addition depending on enrollment. In order to follow the new Covid safety guidelines, we will ask participants to wear masks. The hard cover book, "Simon Peter-Flawed But Faithful Disciple", by Adam Hamilton, may be ordered from Amazon.com or Christian Books.com or from your favorite book store. Used copies start at \$6.00; new at \$8.00 plus shipping. To register for the class, please email Peggy Stringham at [casnpeg@msn.com](mailto:casnpeg@msn.com) or call or text 740-834-9025. Please indicate which session you will be attending



### Is your youth leaving the nest for college this Fall?...or returning to



**campus?** We want to keep track of them and let them keep track of FPC and all the latest news by sending them The Spire newsletter, care packages and cards! Please call or email the church office with their address ASAP! If their address is the same as last year, let us know that, too!



# FELLOWSHIP

Despite the loss to the Toledo Mud Hens-FPC had a good time at the Clippers game August 10<sup>th</sup>!



## CHANGE OF ADDRESS

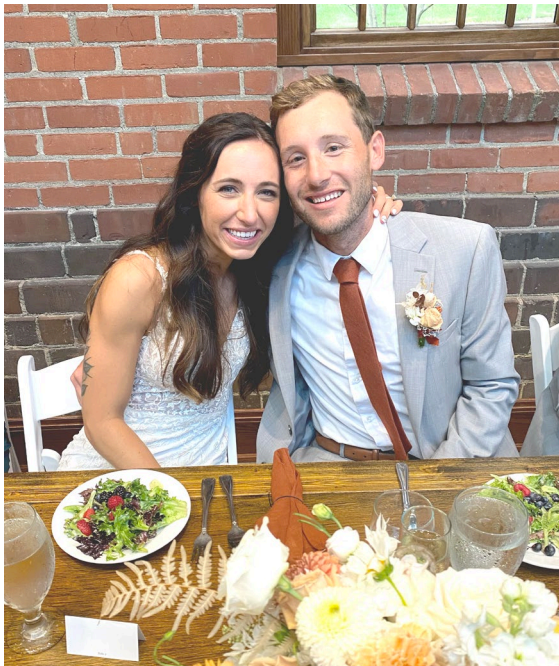
Will Thacker  
Blackburn House #614  
136 W Woodruff Ave  
Columbus, Ohio 43210

## DEACONS

The Deacons will meet in person at 6:30 on Tuesday, September 7<sup>th</sup>. We continue to remain in contact with our care teams and provide prayers and assistance when there is a need.

If you would be willing to help the deacons when meals are needed for members of the congregation, please let Teri York([tyork43162@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tyork43162@sbcglobal.net)) or 614-314-4170) or your deacon know. Your name and number will be added to our list. Your help is appreciated.

## CONGRATULATIONS



Anna Burns and Corbin Steinhaus were married Saturday, August 21<sup>st</sup>. Best wishes to the newlyweds! Keith and Carol Burns are the parents of the bride.

## THANK YOU

The highlight of the night (FPC August Community Meal) came in the form of a donation from Teri's grandson. He decided to take money from his piggy bank and donate it to our ministry. He came in and handed me two crisp 20 dollar bills (that could have bought some Legos!) I told him that we would be able to feed a lot of people with his donation. He looked at me and said his eyes were watering because he was eating a mint..lol! FYI, Liam is only seven years old. What a great kid...the world needs more like him! I hope this warms your heart as much as it did mine. With all the ugliness in the world it is nice to share news like this"

Steve Shaw

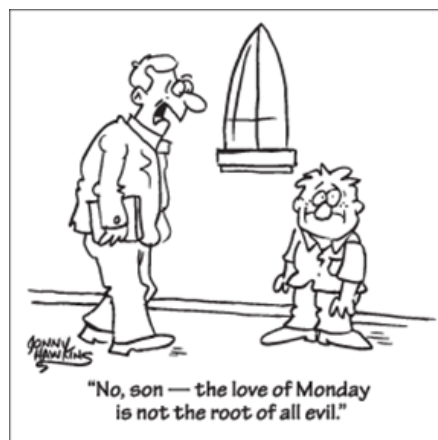
Please accept our heartfelt gratitude for the donation of \$195.00 from FPC/Zion UCC Vacation Bible School.

The funds will help support our mission of creating a safe, diverse, and inclusive environment for the LGBTQ+ and Allied Members of Delaware County.

But even more than the monetary donation, we are grateful for the moral support from the First Presbyterian and Zion church communities. As you are probably aware, many churches still do not back the LGBTQ+ community-in fact, they do just the opposite. It is heartwarming to know we have your encouragement.

With sincere appreciation,

Martha Filipic, on behalf of the Delaware Ohio Pride Board



## 14<sup>th</sup> UNITY Community Festival

CHECK OUT THE FIRE TRUCK!

Wayne Moore, Keith Abernathy, Bill Rietz



Enjoying the SHADE!

FUN AND GAMES FOR THE KIDS!



Nikki Hogarth running Ring the Bottle!



Vicky Grubbs running Pull the Lollipop!

## TRUSTEES

1. Last month's few fire inspection deficiencies are now corrected, and the follow-up inspection revealed no violations.
2. All carpeted areas in the church were recently cleaned and disinfected.
3. Discussed a proposal for changing the landscaping in the front northeast bed.
4. Boy Scout Troop 318 raked and pulled 21 bags of yard waste under the supervision of Dave McCauslen and Kathy Davis. A small monetary donation was approved to our Boy Scout troop for helping with maintaining the landscaping around the church. They are doing a great job!
5. Discussed an estimate received for painting the exterior windows of the church.
6. Moving forward on replacing the front exterior doors of all the apartments.
7. Received more requests for building improvements and added those items to the trustee "to do" list.

## A cheerful what?

*Guideposts* editor Mary Ann O'Roark recalls hearing the phrase "cheerful liver" so often in church as a girl that she asked her grandmother what a liver is. "It's a part inside you, like your stomach or your heart," Grandma replied.

Rather confused, O'Roark tried to figure out how to be cheerful from the inside out. Then during Sunday school one week, a classmate explained that God loves a cheerful *giver*, not liver. Years later, however, O'Roark realized that her younger self wasn't too far off the mark. After all, God does indeed love someone who *lives* cheerfully, spreading the hope and joy that he longs for all people to know!

After all, it was Jesus who said, "I came that [all] may have life, and have it abundantly" (John 10:10, NRSV)





## Be still (and silent)

We need to find God, and he cannot be found in noise and restlessness. God is the friend of silence. See how nature — trees, flowers, grass — grow in silence; see the stars, the moon, the sun, how they move in silence. ... The more we receive in silent prayer, the more we can give in our active life. We need silence to be able to touch souls. The essential thing is not what we say, but what God says to us and through us. All our words will be useless unless they come from within — words which do not give the light of Christ increase the darkness.

—Mother Teresa

## FELLOWSHIP

CHRISTMAS IN JULY/SUMMER OF  
CICADAS party at the downtown venue,  
CO-Hatch. (for you Delaware history  
buffs-that is 18 E. William Street, home  
of the former Gazette offices for many  
years!)

A surprise visit by the jolly man  
himself made for some great pictures.  
Thanks to Dave Nungesser!





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Thanks also to Dick Thayer and Nadine Butler for other contributions this month.