

PresbyNews

Volume 28, Issue 5

The Monthly Newsletter Publication of
First Presbyterian Church
Middletown, OH

May 2018

Pastor's Corner

Dear friends,

It may no longer be a secret, but Pentecost is my favorite church holiday. A part of the reason I like Pentecost so much is that its traditions are less well-defined, and we have lots of space to try different things on this holiday. This is fitting for the day because on Pentecost we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is always inviting us to where God is at work in the world right now. The Spirit empowers and equips us to be Jesus' faithful disciples in any circumstance that we many find ourselves.

There are plenty of circumstances for God's Spirit to work through us. In addition to Pentecost, May is a busy time. In church there will be a baptism, installation and ordination of new officers, liturgical dancers, and Joyful Noize will be singing May 13. And then there are other events on our calendars like graduations and Memorial Day. Through all of the busyness of this time of year, my hope is that we all feel the power of God's Spirit guiding us and showing us the real presence of God in our midst.

Grace and peace,

Michael

Installation Service

The Presbytery of the Miami Valley is pleased to invite you to attend the service to install the Rev. **Timothy E. (Ted) Dennis** as pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Eaton, Ohio on Sunday, May 6, at 4:00 p.m. A reception is planned immediately after the service. This service will take place at the First Presbyterian Church, 123 West Decatur Street, Eaton, Ohio. Pastor Michael will preach.

May Worship Services

Sunday, May 6

Communion

Baptism

Music by the Sanctuary Choir

Sunday, May 13

Mother's Day

"Superstars of the Old Testament"

Created by the Joyful Noize Choir

with a message by Rev. Isaacs

Sunday, May 20

Pentecost

Ordination and Installation of Officers

Music by the Sanctuary Choir

Liturgical Dancers

Sunday, May 27

Guest preacher, Karen Flemming

Music by the Sanctuary Choir

Sunday Morning Worship takes place in the Sanctuary at 10:00 a.m. Immediately following worship, join us for fellowship and light refreshments in the Gathering Area.

CLASS OF 2018

Are you (or your child) a graduating senior? Please contact the church office with the graduate's name and school as we will recognize them on Sunday, May 6.

Scholarship Funds are available to members of First Church who are pursuing a first course of studies at college or trade school. These scholarships were established in memory of former members.

The **Ida Zecher Scholarship** was established in 1999 by Jack and Karen Zecher in honor of his mother's life-long commitment to encourage people in pursuing their education and in following the Lord Jesus Christ. The **Robert Nossokoff Scholarship** was established by Norma Nossokoff to honor her late husband and his great love for the youth of our church. The **James Curry, Jr. Scholarship** was established by Linda Curry to honor her late husband, Jim who owned Curry Ford for 38 years and also served as a police captain.

Information and applications for the scholarships are available in the church office and on our website. The deadline for scholarship applications is **July 1**.

Christian Education and Faith Formation



Children Ministries

Children are always welcome in worship! Wiggle bags are available at each Sanctuary entrance to help children feel included and engaged during the worship service. Additional resources for parents and guardians are also available - look for the pinwheel and enjoy!

This month, Sunday School (children ages 6-12) meets following Circle Time, in the Godly Play Room on May 20. Children will be dismissed in the Gathering Area following worship. Sunday School will not meet during June, July and August - we will resume in September.

A loving, Christian environment is provided year-round from 9:45 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. for infants and children up to 5 years old.

Youth Ministry

We will take a break from our weekly Youth-led Worship in June-August, but we will stay connected through special events.

Save the date and support Vacation Bible School! July 23-27 from 9 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

This year's theme is a holy land adventure learning about Daniel's Courage in Captivity. Crafts, Games, Music, Story time, Snacks, and more! We celebrate serving together with a variety of gifts, talents, and availability - we need your support to bring this adventure to life! Contact Lisa Kaufer (lisamkaufer@gmail.com) to join the adventure!



Adult Ministry

Tuesday Morning Bible Study: The Bible Study group will be reading the Gospel of John together. Known as the "Fourth Gospel", John's storytelling and content is unique from the Synoptic Gospels. Join us at 10:00 a.m. in the Youth Room.

Sunday Night Live will meet on Sunday, May 6, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Jay and Paula Cohen. We will continue the video series "Jesus and His Jewish Influences" looking at the Dead Sea Scrolls through the reign of Herod the Great.

Music Notes

*Now faith is the reality of what is hoped for,
The proof of what is not seen.
For our ancestors won God's approval by it.*
Hebrews 11: 1, 2

Joyful Noize Season Finale!
"Superstars of the Old Testament"

This year's Joyful Noize finale will be "*Superstars of the Old Testament*" which will be presented on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 13, for the 10:00 a.m. worship service. On this special Sunday morning we are once again reminded of the incredible stories of the faithful women and men in the Bible who would be "superstars" (heroes) today. Pastor Michael will begin the message with the children continuing the "superstar" story through song and dialogue. Conclusion: We are all "superstars" when we worship "The Most High God". *Come and be blessed by the music and God's word!!*

Celebrate Pentecost a beautiful and inspiring service on Sunday, May 20, lead by the Sanctuary Choir, the Liturgical Dancers with Rev. Isaacs preaching.

Joyce Zigler

Director of Music Ministries



May Birthdays!

01.....Joseph Susco	14.....Hazel Moon
02.....Megan Taylor	15.....Mike Jenkins
04.....Gerri Humphreys	16.....Keith Lawson
04.....Gihani Isaacs	18.....Belinda Martindell
07.....Matt Hensler	18.....Rachel Williams
08.....Isuru Isaacs	19.....Savannah Ryan
09.....Janis Nein	21.....Charles Robertson
09.....Virginia Swisher	22.....Craig Haass
10.....Seth Howard	24.....Jack Edgington
10.....Lindsay Taylor	25.....Jeri Yost
11.....Reva Dempster	26.....Jim Pearce
11.....Judy Mengel	26.....Stephanie Rogers
11.....Vonnie Root	28.....Barb Craycraft
11.....Bill Wooley	28.....Mike Hamlin
12.....Louis Gaker	30.....Lola Bruner
12.....Charlotte Moon	30.....John Peterson

Men's Monthly Meeting

The Men's Monthly Meeting is an opportunity to get together and socialize over a meal outside the church. You're welcome to join them on **Tuesday, May 8**, at the Clubhouse Sports Grille, 250 N. Main Street in Monroe at 5:30 p.m.



The Spinning Fork

ATTENTION: ALL CHURCH GALS
AND FRIENDS!

You are invited to a fun and casual evening at
The Spinning Fork on **Tuesday, May 15**,
at 6:30 p.m.

***We extend Christian Love and Sympathy
to the family of. . .***

. . . Mary Kindell who died on April 7.

Letter from a Highview 6th grader:

Dear First Presbyterian Church,

Thank you so much for the resources you provided us with. You are helping us learn science. We wouldn't be able to learn without you! We appreciate everything you do. I really liked having fun in science. My favorite experiment was the catapult. I liked using the rubber bands to slingshot our marshmallow. I learned that the more force you have the farther it slingshots. So again, thank you so , so, so much!

Ava Harig

First Presbyterian Church Boards

Session

<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>
Jackie Hale	Jerry Gump	Bill Bursk
Dianne Gerber	Marty Hensler	Lynne Mack
Katherine Oellerich	Barb Nein	Nancy Peterson
Tim Rudd	Emily Pheanis	Beth Susco
Nancy Strait	Ann Veith	Tom Scott

Board of Trustees

<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>
Larry Anderson	Ted Miller	Pat Edwards
Donna Chaney	Tricia Neeley	Joe Newlin
Paul Nisbet	Julie Nickell	John Peterson

Deacons

<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>
Mary Enochs	Linda Begley	Mary Brehm
Patti Gage	Rebecca Hillshafer	Carol Croake
Nicole Johnson	Dolores Malcom	Suzanne Edwards
Susie Lane	Joann Schechter	Corbit Harrison
Emily Sams	Ann Stoutenborough	
Gene Schaefer		
Fay Smillie		
Michele Westfall		



Congratulations to our graduates!

Amanda Moore

Jon Walker graduated from Bishop Finwick.

Hospice Care of Middletown is helping to sponsor a workshop for caregivers and professionals on June 15. Our speakers will be talking on caregiving for those with dementia, medications and dementia and depression and dementia. This workshop will be very informative for professionals and caregivers as well. It is free of charge and includes a continental breakfast and also lunch. It will begin at 8:30 a.m. and end at 1:00 p.m. To register call Judy Vincent at 513-424-2273. The workshop will

Our Mission

...to **SHARE** the good news

...to **NURTURE** the Spirit

...to **SERVE** members and neighbors

Michael Isaacs, Pastor/Head of Staff
Joyce Zigler, Director of Music
Lisa Kaufer, Director of Faith Formation
Kathy Harris, Administrative Assistant
Sandy Fisher, Secretary
Bob Lawwill, Custodian
Cheryl Jarbo, Custodian
Margaret Chambers, Pianist
Lara Moon, Director of Children and Youth Choirs
Janet Scott, Director of Handbells
Paula Elliott, Dir. of Kindergarten Readiness
Kim Flesher, Pre-K Teacher

Office Hours
Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Website: www.fpcmiddletown.com

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