



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ASHLAND

THE JOYFUL NOISE

VOLUME 23, ISSUE 4

MARCH 26, 2015

APRIL

CCO XD ASHLAND

CCO - Coalition for Christian Outreach,
XD - Experiential Designs

CCO: our vision is to partner with churches, organizations and colleges to develop young men and women to live out their christian faith in every area of life.

XD: our slogan is "creative opportunities for transformation."

Creative Opportunities = Spring Break Backpacking and Rock Climbing Trip to the Pisgah National Forest. (This creative experiential opportunity was designed from start to finish by CCO XD authorized staff.) God through this experience was able to encounter and impact our lives through His creation, others, His word and our activities. One main encounter and revelation with a student from the Lord happened while he was rock climbing 50 feet up on the rock.

Take a minute to read the quotes of transformation from this opportunity and gift we experienced:

"This was one of, if not THE, highlight of the trip for me. It was one of the most spirit-filled moments I have ever felt, and if I had to paint a picture of how it stands on my overall faith journey, would be like a sturdy post to my running fence. God met me at a place of brokenness, and was able to fill me up and cleanse that pain" -AJ

"I was overcome with emotion and in that moment felt alive and felt the love of Christ." -Mags

"What a moment that was. I loved being there and soaking in the beauty that surrounded us. I could feel God saying, 'you are with me, I have you in a safe place. Don't worry.'" -Kayla



Trip to the Pisgah National Forest: Ben V, Nic S, Ben M, Jake B, Ben B, AJ S, Jake E, Matt C

PIONEER CLUBS



When firefighter Jamie Kash visited Pioneer Club recently, he wore his full turnout gear to demonstrate the need for each piece of equipment. We talked about safety for our families in preventing fire emergencies, and the importance of gathering family members outside in a previously determined place in the event of an emergency evacuation. We practiced crawling on the floor to escape smoke, and "stop, drop, and roll" if one's clothing is ignited. Each child received a badge, coloring book and bracelet as reminders of fire safety.

Parents are encouraged to be with us for this semester's final meeting of Pioneer Club on Thursday, April 2 at 6:00pm. Awards will be presented, then all are invited to attend the 7:00pm Maundy Thursday worship service.

Thank you to families whose children have participated in Pioneer Club this year, and to the staff (Tia Sponsler, JoAnne Kash, Carol Keil, Susie Keil, Jane Sponsler, Lana Potter) who have led singing, Bible study and memorization, games and activities during the last several months.

LOVE GOD WITH YOUR HEART

A friend asked me, "Can we be addicted to prayer? What an interesting question. Does it indicate that we are selfish and focusing only on ourselves?"

Another friend mentioned this form of praying. I

like this answer. When we praise God for his goodness and honor His glory, then we are concentrating on Him. When we confess our shortcomings and failings in His sight, then we humble ourselves and come to Him for forgiveness so that He can forgive us in the same manner. (Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.) When we thank God in Jesus for His majestic mercy and love for us, again we are placing our eyes on Jesus and not on ourselves. When we ask for prayers for others, we are trusting in God for His will and having compassion for His children. Can we incorporate ACTS when we approach God in prayer particularly during this time of Lent when we especially focus on Jesus' ultimate sacrifice which He gave obediently because He loves us so.

Sharing God's love, Jolynn Lopeman

FOUNDATIONS OF OUR FAITH



The Foundations of the Faith Class is learning our search for God doesn't end at conversion. Instead, it begins at conversion. In fact, where Religion is fallen man's attempt to extract information, attention, and favor from God, the Revelation of God in the Gospel is the exact opposite. It is the unsought, undeserved, and unearned self disclosure of God. It's God freely deciding to make Himself known. So where one begins and ends with man, the other begins and ends with God. While this difference is subtle, its ramifications are tremendous.

I recently was with a young man who said the reason why he can't believe in the God of the Bible is because "religion doesn't change anyone." Little did he know that what he said was Biblical. Religion doesn't change people, and it can't save. But Revelation can and does.

Matt McClain

ACTS PRAYER

Adoration: How good You are God!

Confession: I am sorry for...

Thanksgiving: Thank you for my blessings.

Supplication: Please for me. Please for others.



PRESBY LUNCH BUNCH GATHER 'N' GO

Tuesday, April 21, 11:30am
Oak Park Restaurant
Mifflin near Charles Mill Lake

Color Scheme:
Purple and/or Pink
Reservations by

Sunday, April 19
Cora Walker 419-289-2316



Let Cora Know if you need a ride.
Any ideas for future gatherings?

From our March 17 Lunch:
Winner for best orange outfit was Sandy Sexton
Winners for best green socks was a tie between
Bob Stokes and Bill Downs
Winner for best green necklace was Judy Frame
Grand Prize for 65th wedding anniversary—
Jean and Harvey Hudkins



*Thank You
Note*

To My Church Family,
For your prayers at the time of my
surgery in January, you have my
sincerest thanks. My heartfelt
appreciation goes to those who provided me
with transportation during the six weeks I was
not allowed to drive.

Lovingly, Bev Bixler



Thursday, May 7, 6:30am.
AU Convocation Center

FPC sponsored a table and the church office
will have a few tickets for \$15.00 each,
on a first come, first served basis.



Holy Week

Palm Sunday, March 29:

10:00am Worship with palm processional and
Communion

Maundy Thursday, April 2:

7:00pm Worship with Communion,
candlelight, and the choir.

Good Friday, April 3:

12:00-3:00pm Community Worship Service at
Trinity Lutheran Church. Pastor Mike will
preach the 7th which is the last word.

7:00pm Service of Lament in sanctuary

Resurrection Sunday, April 5:

9:00am Breakfast

No Sunday School

10:00am Worship with Communion

THE DAD CONNECTION: BECOMING FATHERS OF BLESSING

This small group program is designed to help
fathers enrich the lives of their children and
grandchildren by equipping men to better
understand and function as Fathers of Blessing.
It is a twelve-week program that helps fathers
actively and intentionally bless their children,
regardless of age. We will meet on Sundays at
6:00 pm beginning April 19th. The program
will run through July and we will take some
Sundays off throughout the course. The cost for
materials is \$75; scholarships are
available upon request. Contact
Pastor Mike for more details and to
receive a complete schedule of the
entire course. Please RSVP to Linda
in the church office ASAP if you are
interested in participating.



APRIL

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ASHLAND

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Host ACCESS 9:30am Bible Study 7:30pm Choir	2 Host ACCESS 2:00pm Euchre 6:00pm Pioneer Club 7:00pm Maundy Thursday Worship	3 Host ACCESS Office Closed— Good Friday 7:00pm Service of Lament	4 Host ACCESS
5 Easter Host ACCESS Hunger Sunday 9:00am Breakfast No Sunday School	6 Office Closed 5:00pm Baby Steps 5:00pm PMS Shopping 5:30pm Meal & Community (not at church)	7 8:00pm AA	8 Session Packet Items Due 9:30am Bible Study 7:30pm Choir	9	10 Young Life Capernaum	11
12 8:45am Foundations of Faith SS	13 5:30pm Meal & Community (not at church)	14 1:00pm Bridge 6:30pm Session 6:30pm Deacons 8:00pm AA	15 9:30am Bible Study 12:00pm Ministry Chairs 7:30pm Choir	16	17 6:30pm Movie Night	18
19 8:45am Foundations of Faith SS 6:00pm Dad Connection	20 Monthly Newsletter Deadline 5:00pm Baby Steps 5:30pm Meal & Community (not at church)	21 9:00am Staff 10:30am Stephen Ministry 11:30am Presby Lunch Bunch 8:00pm AA	22 9:30am Bible Study 7:30pm Choir	23	24	25 8:30am Presbytery Meeting/ Journey Discovery 2 @ Northminister, North Canton
26 8:45am Foundations of Faith SS 5:00pm All Daughter Banquet 6:00pm Dad Connection	27 5:30pm Meal & Community (not at church)	28 7:00pm Leadership Essentials 8:00pm AA	29 9:30am Bible Study 7:30pm Choir	30		



First Presbyterian Church of Ashland Presbyterian Mothers Study Group

All Daughter Banquet Sunday, April 26, 2015 @5:00PM

STEP RIGHT UP TO THE CARNIVAL!
MOTHERS, DAUGHTERS, COME ONE, COME ALL!
APRIL 26TH IN FELLOWSHIP HALL

Featuring: Balloon Artist, Carnival Games

Menu

Steak on a Stick	Ringmaster Rice Pilaf	Rolls and Butter
Chicken on a Stick	PBJ Sandwiches (for kids)	Funnel Cake a la Mode
Ring Toss Salad w/assorted dressings		Beverages

Cost: \$12.00 for Adults, \$11.00 for Senior Citizens (65 & older)
\$9.00 for Children 4-12 years old, Ages 3 and under Free

Names and cost of those attending:



Name _____ Cost _____

Name _____ Cost _____

Name _____ Cost _____

Name _____ Cost _____

Name _____ Cost _____



Payment must accompany reservation. Make checks payable to First Presbyterian Church. Please return this form to the church office by Sunday, April 19, 2015.
Questions: contact Peggy Yoder @ 419-496-7569

PROPERTY MINISTRY TEAM

Property has awarded a contract to repair cement concerns around the building to improve safety. The work will begin as weather permits in the next few weeks.

The sanctuary light in the back has been removed and sent to be refurbished. It will serve as a template for all the others to minimize labor and lift rental costs for the project. The lift is not locally available and the plan is when the lights are all removed the time lag for replacement will be minimized.

Bill Dravenstott



UPDATED PHONE NUMBER

Judy Frame
has a home phone
number now
and says it is the best
way to contact her:
419-289-4273



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH OF ASHLAND**

320 Church Street
Ashland, OH 44805

Phone: 419-289-6205
E-mail: office@ashlandfpc.org
Facebook: FPC Ashland

**GLORIFY GOD,
MAKE DISCIPLES,
MEET HUMAN NEEDS**

www.ashlandfpc.org

**NewsLetter
DEADLine**

**Monday
April 20**

**Food Gram
From the Food Dude**

We sent an awesome amount of soup and other food to Associated Charities in February due to our "Souper" Sunday. Special thanks to Jim Savage for help in the delivery.

But, in March donations were very sparse. We can do better.

Easter is actually our next Hunger Sunday. You will have plenty of time to drop your donations in the designated boxes before eating breakfast at the church. Monetary donations are also accepted.

PRSRT STD
Non Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID

Ashland, Ohio
Permit No. 258

To:

April 2015



People Served by Associated Charities:

January, 262 families were assisted with food for a total of 710 people

February, 159 families were assisted with food for a total of 390 people

Associated Charities Requests the following items:

Non-Perishable Needs:

Juices (Orange, Apple, Grape, Cranberry, etc.)
Cereal
Fresh Potatoes
Instant Mashed Potatoes
Egg Noodles
Vegetable Oil
Tea and/or Coffee
Syrup

Taxable Items Needs:

Deodorant
Paper towels
Toilet Paper
Feminine Products



**HUNGER
SUNDAY**

April 5