

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ASHLAND

# THE JOYFUL NOISE

VOLUME 23, ISSUE 11

OCTOBER 29, 2015

## PROPERTY MINISTRY TEAM

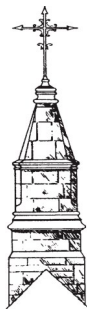
New handicap parking places have been established in front of the office door on Church street. Please be aware and respect them for they are official.

Scott and Larue roofing have completed the slate roofing repair of the church. This completes the last major maintenance project this year. Next year the third street side masonry will be repaired.

There are some still some minor painting and touch up jobs around the church to complete as well as sealing the basement, but overall all is good for our building.

The last phase of the Capital Funds project has hit a snag. The company we were dealing with has reorganized and the new estimates for the sound system are not reasonable. We will be exploring other options to upgrade the audio going forward.

There have been meetings and discussions with the school system and others about what will



happen with the Middle School property. Be assured that our church leadership is closely considering all options and making preparations to that end. The best estimate at this time is demolition and property disposal will happen a few months into next year. There will be a public auction after demolition is completed.

The property ministry appreciates all the help we receive to maintain this building. Your observations and input are always welcome.

Yours in Christ,  
Bill Dravenstott

## First Presbyterian Christmas Presence

To bring joy to a young child, consider filling a box of goodies for the preschool children in Head Start. Look for the boxes in the narthex in November, fill it up (suggestions on lists enclosed in boxes), then return it to the church during the Harvest Dinner on November 15. You can also drop filled boxed off in the office, just as long as they are turned in by November 16. No need to wrap, just have the fun of selecting small items such as washable markers, play dough, small toy or craft project, mittens and more.



No candy or other food items, please. Boxes will be wrapped at church and delivered to Head Start classes.

# NOVEMBER



## PRAYER

*And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near. Hebrews 10:24-25*

The world can be a busy place -- so busy we sometimes need to set *time* priorities.

Certainly, that was the situation for the officials who were running the NCAA Softball Regionals. The third scheduled game of the day was between Louisiana Lafayette and Baylor. Looking for ways to keep things on time, it was decided they would forego the playing of the National Anthem.

The officials felt perfectly comfortable with their judgment. After all, hadn't the Anthem been sung at the beginning of the day's activities? Just as importantly, no official could find anything in any rulebook that demanded the singing of the nation's song before every one of the afternoon's softball battles.

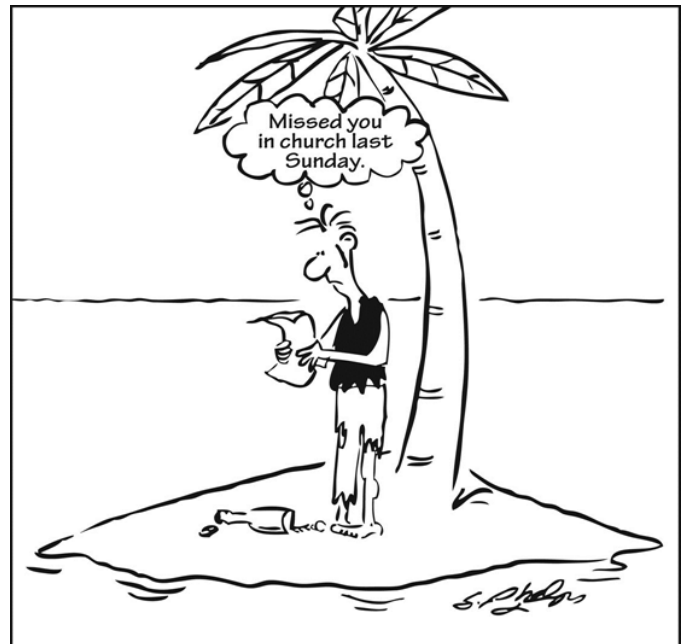
The announcement was made to the crowd over the PA: "Because of time issues there will be no National Anthem before the game." The news was not met with pleasure by the fans. Indeed, it didn't take too long for representatives from the stands to voice an official protest.

They were told, "No, our decision stands. No Anthem will be sung."

As I said, the world is a busy place, and sometimes we have to make decisions as to how we are going to use our time. That's the way it was that day for the fans who had come to watch the game at Lansom Park. They made their decision. Without any music, without the use of the public address system, without a great deal of organization, the people sang the

nation's Anthem. The players stopped and took off their caps; the umpires stopped and stood respectfully, while the people sang.

Many who were there that day were moved to tears, and no objections have been made about a misuse of time. Indeed, most agree it had been the right thing to do.



Now the only reason I bring this little story to your attention is that you and I make similar decisions about *our* use of time. For example, this is Thursday, and in a few days it will be Sunday. You will wake up and be confronted with numerous ways you could spend those hours.

Maybe the golf course beckons ... or you need to do some lawn work ... or the fish have been biting ... or a birthday needs celebrating ... or maybe you have to visit a sick relative. I don't know what is on your list of things to do, but I certainly hope attending worship is on that list.

Yes, I realize those other things need to be done, but worshipping the Lord whose Son died so we might be forgiven and granted a place in heaven is not a matter inconsequential. Now you can

skip church, just like those fans could have skipped the singing of the Anthem. You *can* skip such things, and it won't be the end of the world.

But it is good to do some things-- even if they cost time -- because it is the right thing to do.

### THE PRAYER:

Dear Lord, each of us has 24 hours in a day. Grant us the wisdom to use those hours wisely, so You may be glorified, and we may do that which is right. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

Sharing God's love,  
Jolynn Lopeman  
Borrowed from Pastor Ken Klaus



### FORMATIONAL PRAYER SEMINAR

January 13-16, 2016  
Ashland Theological Seminary

Formational Prayer is a ministry of the Holy Spirit, moving through a Christian caregiver, bringing the Healing Presence of Jesus Christ into the place of pain and brokenness within a wounded person.

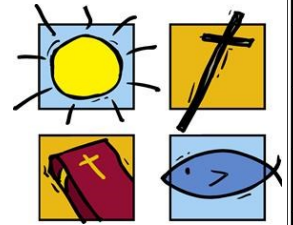
Muskingum Valley Presbytery has a limited number of reserved spots for the upcoming Introduction to Formational Prayer Seminar. The group rate is \$400.

For more information or to register, contact Lynne Lawson at [llawson1@ashland.edu](mailto:llawson1@ashland.edu), and mention that you are with Muskingum Valley Presbytery. The seminar fills up quickly, so reserve your spot soon!



### CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

What's happening with our kids ...



Have you noticed tattoos on the forearms of our kids?

What a great way for them to learn a different Scripture verse each week, and have an opportunity share their faith with friends. Please ask them to show you.

Children's ministry is currently in two forms, Atrium time on the third floor during Sunday morning worship, and fellowship time in the "beach room" during Wednesday evening Oasis. On Sunday, the focus is to experience and share love through a variety of activities. Placed around the Atrium are centers where children can choose to participate in various "works." Each child is encouraged to do two meditative works and one craft work each week. Setting up the prayer table is a favorite for meditation, with other options being handling prayer rocks and concentrating on the Lord's Prayer on the ceiling while relaxing in a bean bag. In all of these activities, the emphasis is on being present in the moment.

To learn and practice hospitality and self-forgetfulness, the children have recently shared a time of conversation and fellowship with four adults in the lounge during worship. They are excited about repeating this "Celebration of You," inviting another group of adults. To discern which adult friends to invite involved prayer and becoming familiar with the church directory.

Director of Children's Ministry, Tia Sponsler, has the dedicated assistance of husband Aaron, but welcomes other adults to visit at either of these times. Herman Helser has provided much of the material and supplies for several of the works in the Atrium. Your prayers for this ministry are coveted, as the Spirit works in these young lives, especially as they prepare to lead worship in the sanctuary on November 29.



### **PRESBYTERIAN MOTHER'S STUDY (PMS)**

In their last meeting, PMS discussed possibilities for the All-Daughter Banquet. If you have an interest in helping to plan next year's banquet, visit the Close Encounters Ministries website ([cemlife.com](http://cemlife.com)). Click on catalog and then Mother Daughter Banquets on the drop down menu. You can preview possible themes like Hat's Enough - A Banquet with Hattitude and Tickled Pink for the Happy at Heart. The Garden of Weeden seemed to be the most popular. Click on one theme and toward the bottom in blue, click on the preview in the read only version. They will be making a decision on the theme at the next meeting.

PMS meets next on Monday, November 23. Plan to meet at Barb Latham's home at 5:00pm and head to Mansfield to do some shopping and go out to dinner. At dinner, they will make some decisions about the All-Daughter Banquet. Please let Peggy Yoder know if you plan to attend.

On Saturday, November 21, PMS will be seeing White Christmas at the Renaissance. They will have dinner before the show at 6:00pm, location TBA. Currently, 12 people are going. If anyone else is interested in going, let Peggy Yoder know to see if tickets are available. Tickets are \$30.60 each.

On Thursday, December 10th, PMS is going to Holiday Hoopla at Shadowbox in Columbus. They plan to carpool and leave around 5:00pm. Currently, 8 people are attending. If anyone else is interested in going, contact Peggy Yoder about tickets, which are \$28 each.

### **YOUNG LIFE ANNUAL BANQUET**

Monday, November 9  
6:30pm  
Trinity Lutheran Church



Young Life (YL) hopes to accomplish three things during their banquet and fundraiser:

1. Celebrate what God is doing through YL in Ashland and Lucas
2. Inform people about the ministry of YL
3. Raise the necessary resources for YL

If you have yet to see what Matt and Lauren McClain do, please consider attending. If you are interested in coming and have not received an invitation, talk to Lauren. Child care is provided.

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

FPC is in need of a couple of volunteers to help take care of some tasks.

We are currently seeking someone to tidy up and restock the pews making sure pencils, envelopes, etc. are in the racks. This can be done weekly or so.

We are also in need of someone to tidy up and restock the busy bags.

Both of these jobs can be done at the convenience of the volunteer. Please contact the office for more information.



**First Sunday  
of Advent  
November 29**

November's Movie Night date has been changed to **Nov. 13** instead of Nov. 20. The Original Vandellas will be performing at Ashland High School's Archer Auditorium on Nov. 20th at 8:00p.m. The first act will be the KC Big Band. Changing Movie Night allows people to attend both.



Steve and Peggy Yoder, 1100 Surrey Circle, will host. Come at 6:30pm to eat. The movie starts at 7:00pm, with a discussion to follow. Please bring a friend, as well as something to eat to share.

## Everyone is Invited to our CELEBRATION SUNDAY AND HARVEST DINNER

Sunday, November 15  
Following Worship



Come, enjoy our annual turkey dinner and all the fixings. Together let's celebrate all the blessings of the season.

## STEWARDSHIP 2016

Stewardship packets with pledge cards were mailed out this week. If you did not receive one, extras are in the narthex or church office. Please plan to turn in your pledge card by November 15.



## CHURCH OFFICE CLOSINGS

Friday, November 20

Thursday, November 26

Friday, November 27



## Let's Deck the Halls! Hanging of the Greens Saturday, November 28

Please come and help decorate our church for the Advent season. More details TBA.



## LOUD SUNDAY OFFERING

NOVEMBER 29

Bring your spare change to make a joyful noise for this special offering. This fifth Sunday of the month, we will support The Salvation Army's Red Kettle Drive.



## PRESBY LUNCH BUNCH

November 17, 11:30am

O'Bryan's



LUNCH  
BUNCH

Come in your favorite sports team colors and celebrate the team work of Ashland First and relax after our super Harvest Dinner. We meet at O'Bryan's on Claremont Avenue. Know a Bible verse on the importance of team work? Share it with us and receive a special trophy. Reservations to Cora Walker by November 15, 419-289-2316.

Reminder: Our Christmas luncheon is December 15 at 11:30am in the Accent Room of Ashland University.



# NOVEMBER

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ASHLAND

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> Host ACCESS Hunger Sunday Communion 8:30am Founda- tions of Faith 8:45am Adult Sunday School	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 9:00am Staff   8:00pm AA	<b>4</b> 9:30am Bible Study Session Packet Info Due  5:30pm Oasis 7:30pm Choir	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 8:30am Founda- tions of Faith 8:45am Adult Sunday School 11:15am Economic Justice	<b>9</b>   6:30pm Young Life Banquet @Trinity Lutheran	<b>10</b> 10:00am Finance Team 1:00pm Bridge  6:30pm Session 6:30pm Deacons 8:00pm AA	<b>11</b> 9:30am Bible Study 12:00pm Ministry Chairs  5:30pm Oasis 7:30pm Choir	<b>12</b> 9:00am Bridges Out of Poverty @ Kroc Center	<b>13</b>   6:30pm Movie Night @Yoders'	<b>14</b> 10:00am Not Your Parents' Offering Plate Workshop @ Christ PC, Canton
<b>15</b> Celebration Sunday 8:45am Adult Sunday School  Harvest Dinner	<b>16</b>  Quarterly Newsletter Deadline	<b>17</b> 9:00am Staff  11:30am Presby Lunch Bunch @ O'Bryan's  8:00pm AA	<b>18</b> 9:30am Bible Study   5:30pm Oasis 7:30pm Choir	<b>19</b> 9:00am Worship Ministry Team	<b>20</b>  Church Office Closed	<b>21</b>     6:00pm PMS to White Christmas
<b>22</b> Communion 8:45am Adult Sunday School  11:15am Economic Justice	<b>23</b>   5:00pm PMS Shopping Trip	<b>24</b>  7:00pm Leadership Essentials 8:00pm AA	<b>25</b> 9:30am Bible Study	<b>26</b> Thanksgiving Office Closed	<b>27</b> Office Closed Thanksgiving Observed	<b>28</b>  Hanging of the Greens
<b>29</b> Advent I  Children Lead Worship  Loud Sunday for Salvation Army	<b>30</b>					

## CROP HUNGER WALK

CROP Walk 2015 is now history, but 5 members of this congregation, with \$1,054 in pledges, participated with approximately 75 walkers from 14 area churches. Greeted by a balmy afternoon, walkers could choose between a 5 mile walk and a shorter 1 mile trek. Spirits were high as walkers enjoyed the fellowship and munched on apples provided by Mitchells Orchard.

Proceeds from this annual interdenominational event will be divided, with 25% of the total going to these Ashland area hunger relief programs:

- Emmanuel Methodist Saturday Breakfasts
- Salvation Army Food Bank
- St. Edward's Hunger Center
- Helping Hand in Loudonville

The remaining 75% goes to Church World Service.



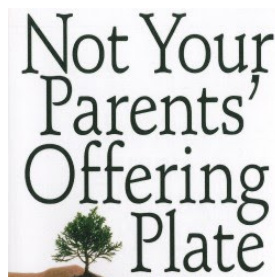
Communities  
Responding  
to Overcome  
Poverty

## NOT YOUR PARENTS' OFFERING PLATE

Workshop with author Clif Christopher  
Saturday, November 14, 2015

Christ Presbyterian Church  
530 Tuscarawas Street West  
Canton, OH, 44702  
Time: 10:00am - 4:00pm  
Cost: \$30

RSVP'S due November 9.  
Registration is online  
through the presbytery's  
website, or see Linda in  
the office for help.



## MISSION MINISTRY TEAM Ashland County Association for Bible Instruction in Schools

With support from this congregation, Bible instruction is reaching over 85 school students in the Mapleton School District on a weekly basis from October through mid-May. The Ashland County Association for Bible Instruction in Schools was initiated in 1946, bringing Bible teaching to hundreds of students over the decades. Currently, 2 instructors work with first through eighth graders for a 15 minute lesson during lunch period, always with parental permission. Lessons are based on a four year rotation, with students learning about Exodus this year.



## ECONOMIC JUSTICE TEAM

Sundays, November 8 and 22  
Following Worship, Knox Room 202



FPC is forming a team to look at economic issues in our community and to discern how God might be calling us forward to be a part of the solution.

Anyone interested is invited to come.

## BRIDGES OUT OF POVERTY

Thursday,  
November 12  
9:00am—  
12:00pm  
Kroc Center



Presented by Anne Seifert, North Central State College Community Health Worker Program Director. Based on a book by the same name by Philip E. DeVol, Ruby K. Payne, and Terie Dreussi Smith.

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH OF ASHLAND**

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

[www.ashlandfpc.org](http://www.ashlandfpc.org)

**NewsLetter  
DEADLine**

**Monday  
November 16**

**Food Gram  
From the Food Dude**



October was an average donation month. What really stood out were two bags of real potatoes. This month, let's donate some pumpkin! Please bring in food and/or monetary donations on November 1 for Associated Charities.

PRSRT STD  
Non Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
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Ashland, Ohio  
Permit No. 258

**To:**

**November 2015**



Associated Charities is getting low on some of its staples. The following items are most needed:

**Non Perishable Needs:**

Boxed cereals  
Juices—including tomato juice for chili  
Jelly—grape or strawberry are favorites  
Fresh potatoes  
Cream soups—chicken, mushroom, and celery  
Instant mashed potatoes  
White instant rice  
Canned fruits – **ALL are needed!**  
Egg noodles  
Sugar  
Vegetable oil

**Personal Needs:** Really Low on ALL!

Dish soap  
Laundry detergent  
Shampoo **and** Conditioner  
Deodorant—female and male  
Razors  
Bath soaps—liquid or bars



**HUNGER  
SUNDAY**

**November 1**