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Psalm 23 Series

*The Lord is my shepherd,
I shall not want.
He makes me lie down
in green pastures;
He leads me beside still waters;
He restores my soul.
He leads me in the right paths
for his name's sake.*

*Even though I walk through the
darkest valley, I fear no evil;
For you are with me; your rod and
your staff – they comfort me.*

*You prepare a table before me in
the presence of my enemies;
You anoint my head with oil;
My cup overflows.*

*Surely goodness and mercy shall
follow me all the days of my life,
And I shall dwell in the house of
the Lord my whole life long.*

Psalm 23 is certainly the most well-known of all the Psalms and perhaps the most well-known Scripture in the entire Bible. It is a Psalm that has brought comfort to millions, elicits peaceful images, and is portrayed in some manner in many of our homes. It is a Psalm that is so familiar to us. And yet I wonder, has the familiarity caused us to lose some of the depth and meaning contained within it?

This is true in other areas of our life. Do you ever find yourself traveling a road so frequently that you can drive miles without being consciously aware of your surroundings? I remember once pointing out to Mandy the color of a particular house in our neighborhood only to find out that it had always been that color. We do this with people in our lives as

continued on p. 11

Dr. Hany Rizkalla Visits FPC



This month, Muskingum Valley started our first new worshipping community in decades and we know that we need to be committed to launching and nurturing more. We also know that we have much to learn. Planting churches in a non-Christian context is a new experience for us and we need help from the global church. In this process, we are starting to rethink what the Biblical model of church is and how pastors are to function. As part of our learning we are hosting Dr. Hany Rizkalla for a week in September.

continued on p. 11

Girlfriends Gathering

COLORS

girlfriends
Gathering

*Sandra is from Brazil
She is a counselor and
Spiritual Director
for
HCM International*



Sandra Vilela

September 15, 2018

10 a.m.-noon

1st Presbyterian Church

320 Church Street

Ashland, Ohio

419-289-6205

Birthdays



SEPTEMBER

1st Barbara Bradford
Donna Mohn
3rd Blake Beaire
4th Brenda Luttrell
7th Peggy Yoder
10th Alexander Webb
12th Connie Dravenstott
13th Becky Sheeks
14th Ken Eckenroth
20th Ruth Detrow
21st Emily Barnett
25th Nancy Seifert
28th Laura Callahan
29th Kali Mullins

OCTOBER

3rd Jonathan Wetzel
5th Jeremy Brinker
Larry Hiner
Katrin Parker
6th David Hartzfeld
Mike Parker
9th Suzanne Steury
11th Aiden Keener
Kristal Paullin
12th Diane Bachtel
18th Mandy Parker
19th Nicholas Barnett
21st Kyson Brinker
Sabrina Pepsny
Sandy Sexton
22nd Sallie Hooker
Jasmine Webb
25th Kevin Reidy
Sydney Saffle
28th Susan Shafer
29th Mary Jean Stuart
30th

NOVEMBER

2nd Ruth Armstrong
Vickie Holdren
Dale Wojciechowski
3rd Al King
4th Jennifer Potts
5th Bethany Blasdel
6th George Holmes
10th Amy Smetana Sapp
13th Alan Pepsny
14th Stephen Stuart
15th Rhita Burke-Serrano
20th Vivian Stitzel
22nd William Mast
23rd Tom Foley
27th Ronald Walker

Prayer Shawls

FPC has a prayer shawl ministry group who work together to make shawls which are delivered to those in our church family who are going through a challenging time. The shawl is a reminder of God's loving presence and is meant to encourage

someone and let them know that their church family is thinking of them and praying for them.



This group meets next at 1:30pm on Wednesday, September 12.

New people are always welcome! Contact Brenda Luttrell if you would like to help create prayer shawls.

I want to thank you so much for the beautiful prayer shawl and for all the prayers and cards. The shawl keeps me warm and reminds me of you all.

Hugs to you,
Bob Stokes



To the family and friends of **Walter R. Ramage, Sr.** who passed away on July 12, 2018.

To the family and friends of **Martha Casciani**, who passed away on August 23, 2018. At 96 years old, Martie was a member of First Presbyterian for 86 years.

Financial Reports

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FINANCE REPORT - JULY 2018

<u>Contributions/Receipts</u>	<u>JULY 2017</u>	<u>BUDGET 2018</u>	<u>JULY 2018</u>
	<u>YTD</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Pledges	\$116,114.50	\$130,623.10	\$106,161.00 *
Non-Pledged Contributions	\$18,946.20	\$23,333.31	\$21,594.50
Loose Offering	\$1,939.50	\$1,750.00	\$2,017.36
Prior Year Pledges	\$1,825.00	\$500.00	\$0.00
Church Use Donations	\$4,400.00	\$3,791.69	\$4,325.00
Whiting Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
ACCF – Program	\$3,213.00	\$4,325.25	\$4,444.25
ACCF – Building	\$3,143.50	\$4,241.25	\$4,343.25
ACCF - Mission	\$1,342.50	\$1,807.50	\$1,891.50
Interest/Investment Income	\$27.00	\$29.19	\$294.55
Miscellaneous Income	\$434.54	\$583.31	\$303.63
Total Receipts	\$151,385.74	\$170,984.60	\$145,375.04

Expenses

Personnel	\$122,691.50	\$129,594.43	\$124,130.23
Health Insurance	\$8,689.31	\$9,114.56	\$9,114.56
Property	\$12,326.15	\$13,416.62	\$59,516.99
Property Insurance	\$5,080.00	\$5,500.00	\$5,080.00
Utilities	\$12,066.32	\$12,629.12	\$14,363.78
Finance	\$56.95	\$166.69	\$283.87
Per capita assessment	\$5,239.80	\$5,135.00	\$5,134.50
Session Expenses	\$235.00	\$583.38	\$490.00
Worship/Music	\$866.12	\$3,054.93	\$997.69
Office	\$5,554.93	\$5,891.76	\$5,706.01
Discipleship	\$1,271.80	\$1,575.00	\$463.18
Stephen Ministry	\$27.85	\$58.31	\$0.00
Mid Week Gathering	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Formational Prayer/Training	\$38.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Evangelism / Outreach	\$9,500.00	\$9,041.69	\$7,632.28
Fellowship / Gatherings	\$416.93	\$875.00	\$482.44
ACCESS / Community Care		\$0.00	\$0.00
Pastor Discretionary Fund	\$219.85	\$583.31	\$0.00
Total Expenses	\$184,280.51	\$197,219.80	\$233,395.53

EXCESS INCOME / EXPENSES (\$32,894.77) (\$26,235.20) (\$88,020.49)

* Includes prepaid pledges of \$35,245.50.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Balance Sheet (UNAUDITED)
 Consolidated - July 2018

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	Current Year
<hr/>	
ASSETS	
CASH ACCOUNTS	
Sutton Bank Checking Acct	\$14,113.86
JanneyMontgomeryScott LLC	105,676.81
Subtotal Cash Accounts	119,790.67
 TOTAL ASSETS	 <u><u>\$119,790.67</u></u>
 LIABILITIES	
Property Purchase <i>Restricted Funds</i>	
Property Purchase	\$31,810.00
Chinese Church Liab. a/c	1,011.27
Lick Fund-Children'sMusic	300.00
Prayer Shawl Ministry	270.00
Memorial & Special Gifts	
Nancy Donley Estate	2,565.66
Kitchen maint. Liab. a/c	708.18
StephenMin./HealingCare	2,026.24
Jesus/StainedGlassWindows	2,249.55
Music/Choir - H Webb Mem.	770.00
Bev Bixler Mem./St. Min.	670.00
Carl Armstrong Memorial	659.00
Kitchen Liab.a/c/Luttrell	25,429.55
S Steere Mem. (Choir)	500.00
W. Ramage Memorial	1,215.00
Subtotal Memorial & Special Gifts	36,793.18
Youth Ministry	
ACCF - Johnson	2,086.50
Subtotal Property Purchase <i>Restricted Funds</i>	72,270.95
 WITHHELD PAYROLL TAXES	
F.I.C.A.	419.09
Medicare	97.99
Federal Income Tax	364.72
State Income Tax	120.90
City Income Tax	135.20
Employer's Share FICA	419.09
Employer's Share Medicare	97.99
Subtotal Withheld Payroll Taxes	1,654.98
 TOTAL LIABILITIES <i>& Restricted Funds</i>	 <u>73,925.93</u>
 FUND BALANCE	
Fund Balance	\$45,864.74
TOTAL FUND BALANCE	45,864.74
 TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE	 <u><u>\$119,790.67</u></u>

Evangelism and Outreach

The E&O Ministry Team is thankful for your provisions and the support from our church family for the following:

- Zane Blasdale going to Texas on a missions trip with CCO and his dad
- Successful women's brunch in June with speaker Marlia Bryonne from Cleveland
- Last fifth Sunday offering collection of \$382.22 and was earmarked toward The Chinese Church
- Safe Haven volunteers who every Wednesday evening help by just sitting there at the residence to be available for prayer
- Help in supporting Tia Sponsler's outreach ministry through the Burg and Aunt Molly's house (a new retreat center)

Associated Charities September Drive "Pack the Back Pack"

There is a need to resupply the cupboards at Associated Charities for the school supplies that are needed throughout the year. Help us fill the back packs attached to the school house in the front of the church. Every week in September we will be collecting the following items for Associated Charities:

Back Packs
Ear Buds
Headphones
Highlighters (yellow and orange)
Plastic/Vinyl 2 Pocket Folders with Brads
(red, green, blue, purple, and yellow)
Dry Erase Markers (black and blue only)
Trapper Keepers
Ticonderoga Pencils
3-hole punched pocket folders
(red, yellow, blue, green)
Memory Sticks
5-pack dividers for binders
Post-It flags
Post-It notes
Fat Pencils for Kindergarten
Packets of Construction Paper
Clorox Wipes
Boxes of Tissues



Loud Sunday

When a month has a fifth Sunday, FPC collects a special offering to benefit a local charity or project. This offering is "loud" because we throw our change into coffee cans and make a joyful noise to the Lord.

Our next Loud Sunday on September 30 will benefit Safe Haven. Thank you for saving your spare change.

Mark The Calendar

November we will have a visit from the Donkers who have been serving in Spain, date to be determined.



All women are invited to celebrate the moms and new babies in November. Rochelle Tabler and Andrea Dew will be the focus after the babies' arrivals. Details to follow.

CROP Hunger Walk

Sunday, October 7, 2:30pm
Christ United Methodist Church

Walk, Give, Change the World

At least 2000 communities across the country take part in this opportunity to raise funds and increase awareness of the need for food and water in impoverished areas of the world, as well as in local regions. This involves neighbors from different faiths, cultures and ages, uniting to make a difference in alleviating poverty. Watch for a bulletin insert emphasizing the impact of this effort. Plan to participate by being a walker and/or contributing. Check with Lana Potter for a packet for walkers.

\$556.00 was donated in 2017 through this congregation.

Can we make it \$600 this year?



Moon Festival

Saturday, September 22, 5:30pm

The Moon Festival is a very important Chinese harvest celebration in the fall that commemorates harvest much like Thanksgiving does.



All are invited to a special celebration at FPC beginning at 5:30pm. There will be a potluck, games, and activities as well as a traditional mooncake.

MOVIE NIGHT

Movie Night will resume on Friday, September 21 and Friday, October 19. More details to come.



Bring a friend and some food to share. Supper will start at 6:30pm, the movie at 7:00pm. A discussion will follow.

PMS FAMILY POTLUCK PICNIC

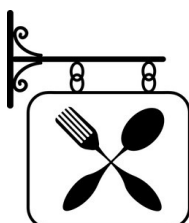
Sunday, Oct. 21, 4:00 pm,
@Yoder's Cabin,
1609 SR 511 South.

Please bring a dish to share. Bottled water and place settings will be provided.



PRESBY LUNCH BUNCH

Tuesday, September 18 at 11:30am



Join us for an early autumn gathering at Shanks at the Ashland Golf Club. Reservations to Cora Walker by Sunday, September 16.

ACCESS SOUP-ER SATURDAY

September 29, 11:00am-3:00pm
Grace Brethren Gym

Will you help make this event a success?

Yard Signs

To order your yard sign(s) to advertise this event, call or email Carol Ann Dana 419-207-8094 carolanndana@zoominternet.net

- ACCESS will deliver the yard signs to you September 10-14.
- Please display them September 16-29.
- ACCESS will retrieve the yard signs from you October 1-3.

Walk-a-Mile for ACCESS

Plan to join ACCESS on September 28 for a little fresh air and exercise at the Freer Field Walking Path. Ask your friends, family, and colleagues now to sponsor you for \$10.00 each.

Silent Auction

Donate new or gently used items, baskets, sports tickets or season passes, etc. Bring to Grace Brethren Gym 3:00-7:00pm on September 28. Please include your name and the value of the item.

Donate Soup and Baked Goods

Bring to Grace Brethren Gym 8:00-10:00am on September 29. Please label your soup container with your name and phone number.

For more information, contact ACCESS, 419-685-1232



ADVENT CHOIR



For anyone interested in singing in the choir for the Advent Season and Christmas Eve, there will be a rehearsal on Wednesday, November 28, at 7:30pm in the sanctuary.

September

First Presbyterian Church of Ashland

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Every Saturday Worship: 5:00pm Potluck 6:00pm Chinese Worship	Every Sunday Worship: 10:00am Coffee and Welcoming 10:30am Worship					1
2 Worship @ Brookside West Park	3 Office Closed—Labor Day Young Life Ultimate Ride	4 Healing Care Event 9:00am Worship Planning 8:00pm AA	5 Healing Care Event 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Praise Band	6 Healing Care Event	7 Healing Care Event	8 Healing Care Event Presbytery Meeting
9 Hunger Sunday Communion 5:30pm Small Group @ Eckenroths'	10 6:00pm Women's Group Book Study @ Lana Potters' Home	11 9:00am Worship Planning 7:00pm Speaker: Dr. Hany Rizhalla 8:00pm AA	12 10:00am Bible Study 1:30pm Prayer Shawl 6:30pm Praise Band	13 9:00am Staff	14	15 10:00am "Colors" Girlfriends Gathering
16 11:30am Evangelism and Outreach Team	17	18 9:00am Worship Planning 11:30am Presby Lunch Bunch @ Shanks 8:00pm AA	19 Reports to Session Due 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Praise Band	20	21 6:30pm Movie Night	22 5:30pm Moon Festival Celebration
23 5:30pm Small Group @ Eckenroths'	24 Monthly Newsletter Deadline	25 9:00am Worship Planning 8:00pm AA	26 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Praise Band	27 9:00am Staff 10:30am Finance Ministry Team	28	29
30 Loud Sunday Offering Benefits Safe Haven						

October

First Presbyterian Church of Ashland

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 9:00am Worship Planning 10:00am Worship Ministry 8:00pm AA	3 10:00am Bible Study 1:30pm Prayer Shawl 6:30pm Praise Band	4	5	6
7 Hunger Sunday Communion 2:00pm CROP Walk 5:30pm Small Group @ Eckenroths'	8 6:00pm Women's Group Book Study @ Tia Sponslers' Home	9 9:00am Worship Planning 8:00pm AA	10 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Praise Band	11 9:00am Staff 10:00am Women's Bible Study	12 Chinese Church Game and Movie Night	13 Spiritual Formation in Your Ministry Workshop in Morning (Jake & Justin)
14 Pastor Appreciation Ice Cream Social	15	16 9:00am Worship Planning 8:00pm AA	17 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Praise Band	18 10:00am Women's Bible Study	19 6:30pm Movie Night	20
21 4:00pm PMS Family Potluck Picnic at the Yoder Cabin 5:30pm Small Group @ Eckenroths'	22 Monthly Newsletter Deadline 6:00 pm PMS @ Applebee's	23 9:00am Worship Planning 8:00pm AA	24 Healing Care Event 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Praise Band	25 Healing Care Event 9:00am Staff 10:00am Women's Bible Study	26 Healing Care Event	27 Healing Care Event
28 PMS @Columbus Shadowbox	29	30 9:00am Worship Planning 8:00pm AA	31 Quarterly Reports to Session Due 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Praise Band		Every Saturday Worship: 5:00pm Potluck 6:00pm Chinese Worship	Every Sunday Worship: 10:00am Coffee and Welcoming 10:30am Worship

November

First Presbyterian Church of Ashland

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Every Saturday Worship: 5:00pm Potluck 6:00pm Chinese Worship	Every Sunday Worship: 10:00am Coffee and Welcoming 10:30am Worship			1 10:00am Women's Bible Study	2	3
4 Hunger Sunday Communion 5:30pm Small Group @ Eckenroths'	5	6 9:00am Worship Planning 8:00pm AA	7 10:00am Bible Study 1:30pm Prayer Shawl 6:30pm Praise Band	8 10:00am Women's Bible Study	9	10 9:00am Quarterly Session Meeting
11	12 6:00pm Women's Group Book Study @ Tia Sponslers'	13 9:00am Worship Planning 8:00pm AA	14 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Praise Band	15 10:00am Women's Bible Study	16 Healing Care Event	17 Healing Care Event
18 Reception/ Dinner after Worship 5:30pm Small Group @ Eckenroths'	19	20 9:00am Worship Planning 8:00pm AA	21 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Praise Band	22 Office Closed—Thanksgiving	23 Office Closed—Thanksgiving Observed	24
25 Communion	26 Quarterly Newsletter Deadline	27 9:00am Worship Planning 8:00pm AA	28 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Praise Band 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	29 10:00am Women's Bible Study PMS @Columbus Shadowbox Holiday Hoopla	30	

Psalm 23 Series

continued from p.1

well. We can become so familiar with them that we begin to take for granted all the incredible things about them that make them unique to the world. The more familiar we become with anything in life, the harder we have to work to hold onto the depth of meaning contained within it.

About a year ago I started reading some books on Psalm 23 for a project I was working on. As I read, the Psalm became more alive to me. The words resonated in new ways with various situations in my life. I was awakened to a depth of meaning in the Psalm that allowed it to become much more practical to my daily life. I recently picked up one of the books I had ordered but hadn't yet opened and in doing so felt led to preach a sermon series on this beloved Psalm. It will begin September 9th and we will take at least two months to slowly and intentional work through this passage with the goal of applying to each of our lives and faith journeys. It is my hope and prayer that in ways similar to my own experience, the Lord will use it to reawaken your heart and draw you more deeply into the security of his loving provision and protection.

In Christ's Love, *Pastor Mike*

Dr. Rizkalla

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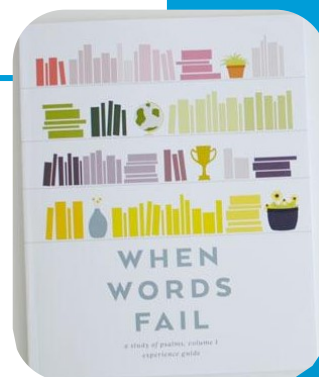
He has planted more than 250 churches in Egypt along the Nile River and he will introduce us to his methods, successes and struggles.

Dr. Rizkalla will be speaking here at FPC on Tuesday, September 11, 7:00pm in Andrews Chapel. Light refreshments will be served afterwards.



NEW WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

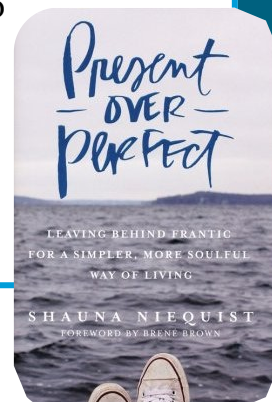
Beginning in October, a new women's Bible Study will meet on Thursday mornings, 10:00am-12:00pm at the Olivesburg General Store. Patti Fenwick and Linda Hartzfeld will guide the group through *When Words Fail*, which explores the book of Psalms. This study is laid out colorfully with the Psalms into categories like praise and lament.



Women's Group Book Study

Second Monday of the Month
6:00pm

The Women's Group Book Study will begin a new book, *Present over Perfect; Leaving Frantic for a Simpler, More Soulful Way of Living*, in October. Books and study guides will be available at the church. This group usually meets in homes, so check the calendar on FPC's website for the location, or contact Tia Sponsler for more details.



First Presbyterian Church of Ashland
320 Church Street
Ashland, OH 44805



Transforming Lives in Jesus' Name

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Fall 2018



Prefer to get this
newsletter by email?
Contact the office at
the email address
above.

PDF files
of our newsletters
are also available
on our website.

Every Saturday
evening since July 7,
a potluck followed by
worship in Chinese
(with English
translation) has been
happening at FPC.
Join Us!

Chinese Church and Potluck

All Are Welcome!

