

A few Updates on Exciting Possibilities...

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Hi Friends,

As school is back in swing and the busyness of the fall season has arrived, there has been a lot happening here at First Presbyterian Church to which I want to provide some updates. I particularly want to share some information with you regarding our property.

In July, session agreed with my recommendation to relocate the nursery and pre-K areas to the second floor of the Christian Education wing. The purpose is two-fold: to make the spaces

handicap accessible and to move them to a more convenient location in relation to the sanctuary and flow of traffic on Sunday mornings. This will be a multi-step process that we hope to accomplish in the next couple months.

The first step will be to condense and relocate the church library to the room that has most recently been used as the Young Life office. This is the room to the left as you enter the office off of Church St. This will make the library more accessible for weekly use and allow us the opportunity to condense the library for the purpose of updating

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Chinese Church & AU Ministry Summer Events

The Beginning of the Mansfield Chinese Worship



The Chinese Ministry had three summer picnics in June, July and August. We will continue this once a month tradition into the fall weather permitting. The last one in August was at the Mohican Sailing Club on Charles Mill Lake, we had an attendance of over 60 people, and families with their kids attended, they enjoyed water slide, boating and playing ping pong. People brought food to share, and we shared gospel music and songs. People made new friends and enjoyed the company of their friends. There were 15 youngsters from the Youngstown Chinese Church youth group.

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Chinese Church & AU Ministry

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Cedarville
Retreat

I invited the Chinese students and families to attend the Midwest Chinese summer retreat on July 4th to the 7th at Cedarville University of Ohio. Eight people attended the four day retreat whose theme “God be with us.” The retreat triggered a non-Christian student to be more inquisitive about Jesus and Christianity, we all prayed for him.

Chinese Church extension ministry in Mansfield started on May 19 of 2019 with six people in attendance. We met at Wokano, a Chinese restaurant and we had fellowship and meditation sessions. We shared the scripture. Two new comers were not Christians. We continued this ministry twice a week on Tuesday and Saturday through the summer months. After four weeks,



Chinese Church Extension Ministry in Mansfield

three people had the devotion prayer and became Jesus followers. Jesus Christ blessed our ministry with three additional Chinese Christians.

On July 21st, I was invited by the Linden Rd United Presbyterian Church to share the vision of the new Chinese Fellowship Ministry of Mansfield. I was accompanied by three members of the Ashland Chinese Church, Jenny Beasley, Sarah Ebinger and Rachel Chen.

Ashland Chinese Church helped the Shanghai exchange students program in Mansfield. I provided translation, teaching and sharing the differences between the Chinese and American culture.

We had our fellowship dinner August 28th welcoming the new Chinese students. There were over 40 new students attending. We invited them to attend our Church. Ping Han opened her house for this occasion, student enjoyed dinner and swimming. She helped in making them feel welcomed and that they are not alone.

Li Dolly Dong
CCO Campus Staff

August
Welcome
Dinner at Ping
Han's Home



Birthdays



SEPTEMBER

1st Barbara Bradford
Donna Mohn
4th Brenda Luttrell
7th Peggy Yoder
12th Connie Dravenstott
13th Becky Sheeks
14th Ken Eckenroth
20th Ruth Detrow
21st Emily Barnett
25th Nancy Seifert
26th Kali Mullins

OCTOBER

5th Jeremy Brinker
Larry Hiner
Katrin Parker
6th David Hartzfeld
Mike Parker
9th Suzanne Steury
11th Aiden Keener
Kristal Paullin
12th Diane Bachtel
14th Maddox Dew
Lucas Tabler
18th Mandy Parker
19th Nicholas Barnett
21st Kyson Brinker
Sabrina Pepsny
22nd Sandy Sexton
23rd Reece Jarvis
25th Sallie Hooker
Jasmine Webb
28th Kevin Reidy
Sydney Saffle
29th Susan Shafer
30th Mary Jean Stuart

NOVEMBER

2nd Ruth Armstrong
Vickie Holdren
3rd Al King
4th Jennifer Potts
5th Bethany Blasdel
6th George Holmes
13th Alan Pepsny
14th Stephen Stuart
16th Dann Marble
20th Vivian Stitzel
22nd William Mast
23rd Tom Foley
27th Ronald Walker
29th Dolly Dong



To my First Presbyterian
Church family,

Thank you so much for all the prayers, cards, visits and flowers you have provided me during my recent hospital stay and rehabilitation at Wasen. I came home this past Saturday and have family helping me continue to recover. I am so thankful for all of you and can't tell you how much I appreciate your expressions of love. I hope to continue to improve and hope to see you at church sometime soon. Thank You!
Thank You!
God bless you all.

Bill Mast



On behalf of my family, the First Presbyterian Church family's prayers and cards during my mother's (Rita Reidy) illness were greatly appreciated. Mom is at peace now: free from pain and reunited with my father and other loved ones. Thank you again for your thoughtfulness.

Kevin and Debbie Reidy

The support of this congregation for Linda during her illness and me in my grief has been abundant and constant. I am very grateful. Linda had me post each of your cards and notes on her wall so she could think of you as you thought of her.

Terry Mapes



We extend our sympathies to the family and friends of:

Robert Stanley Stokes, who passed away on July 5

Linda Mapes, who passed away on July 12

Rev. David S. Jordan-Haas, who passed away on July 18. He was the husband of Rev. Connie Jordan-Haas, former Associate Pastor of FPC.

Financial Reports

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FINANCE REPORT - JULY 2019

<u>Contributions/Receipts</u>	<u>JULY 2018</u> <u>YTD</u>	<u>BUDGET 2019</u> <u>YTD</u>	<u>JULY 2019</u> <u>YTD</u>
Pledges	\$106,161.00	\$127,666.65	\$107,857.50 *
Non-Pledged Contributions	\$21,594.50	\$32,083.31	\$16,505.85
Loose Offering	\$2,017.36	\$1,750.00	\$2,063.98
Prior Year Pledges	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,147.00
Church Use Donations	\$4,325.00	\$4,100.00	\$5,825.00
Whiting Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
ACCF – Program	\$4,444.25	\$4,500.00	\$4,541.50
ACCF – Building	\$4,343.25	\$4,425.00	\$4,446.50
ACCF - Mission	\$1,891.50	\$1,912.50	\$1,936.25
ACCF - Member Endowments	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Interest/Investment Income	\$294.55	\$291.69	\$569.45
Miscellaneous Income	\$303.63	\$875.00	\$3,689.98
Total Receipts	\$145,375.04	\$178,604.15	\$148,583.01
<u>Expenses</u>			
Personnel	\$124,130.23	\$116,337.66	\$114,461.23
Health Insurance	\$9,114.56	\$9,114.56	\$9,406.25
Property	\$59,516.99	\$13,766.62	\$7,435.69
Property Insurance	\$5,080.00	\$5,500.00	\$5,288.00
Utilities	\$14,363.78	\$13,503.00	\$15,699.89
Finance	\$283.87	\$137.43	\$78.75
Per capita assessment	\$5,134.50	\$4,951.00	\$4,950.72
Session Expenses	\$490.00	\$291.69	\$255.76
Worship/Music	\$997.69	\$2,413.31	\$886.02
Office	\$5,706.01	\$5,891.62	\$5,490.90
Discipleship	\$463.18	\$904.12	\$453.65
Stephen Ministry	\$0.00	\$58.31	\$0.00
Chinese Church Ministry	\$0.00	\$3,791.69	\$1,710.94
Evangelism / Outreach	\$7,632.28	\$5,500.00	\$5,740.00
Fellowship / Gatherings	\$482.44	\$875.00	\$1,049.83
Pastor Discretionary Fund	\$0.00		
Total Expenses	\$233,395.53	\$183,036.01	\$172,907.63
EXCESS INCOME / EXPENSES	(\$88,020.49)	(\$4,431.86)	(\$24,324.62)

* Includes prepaid pledges of \$33,400.00.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Balance Sheet (UNAUDITED)
 Consolidated - July 2019

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	Current Year
ASSETS	
CASH ACCOUNTS	
Sutton Bank Checking Acct	\$20,257.79
JanneyMontgomeryScott LLC	318,622.83
Subtotal Cash Accounts	338,880.62
TOTAL ASSETS	\$338,880.62
LIABILITIES	
RESTRICTED FUNDS <i>Restricted Funds</i>	
Property Purchase	\$30,810.00
Chinese Church Liab. a/c	2,065.33
Prayer Shawl Ministry	270.00
Memorial & Special Gifts	
Nancy Donley Estate	2,565.66
Ted Jacobs Estate	217,101.25
Organ Liability A/C-Carr	656.00
Kitchen maint. Liab. a/c	708.18
StephenMin./HealingCare	2,295.79
Jesus/StainedGlassWindows	2,249.55
Praise Band liability a/c	200.00
Music/Choir - H Webb Mem.	770.00
Carl Armstrong Memorial	659.00
Kitchen Liab.a/c/Luttrell	25,402.86
S Steere Mem. (Choir)	282.00
K. Harrop Memorial/ Music	390.00
David Strub Memorial	2,785.00
Bob Stokes Memorial	310.00
Linda Mapes Memorial	75.00
Subtotal Memorial & Special Gifts	256,450.29
Youth Ministry	
ACCF - Johnson	2,578.50
Subtotal RESTRICTED FUNDS <i>Restricted Funds</i>	292,174.12
WITHHELD PAYROLL TAXES	
F.I.C.A.	331.37
Medicare	77.49
Federal Income Tax	330.28
State Income Tax	87.77
City Income Tax	106.89
Employer's Share FICA	331.37
Employer's Share Medicare	77.49
Subtotal Withheld Payroll Taxes	1,342.66
TOTAL LIABILITIES & <i>Restricted Funds</i>	293,516.78
FUND BALANCE	
Fund Balance	\$45,363.84
TOTAL FUND BALANCE	45,363.84
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE	\$338,880.62

A few Updates

continued from p.1

it and making its contents more relevant to its intended purpose.

Upon the completion of this step, the current library will be transformed into a nursery for infants and crawlers. This will be a more quiet space to care for our youngest and will also allow our moms a comfortable space to nurture and care for their babies. Rooms 201 and 202 will also be transformed into a space for our pre-K children that will include areas for play, creativity, learning, and fellowship. Just yesterday I met with a few of our members to begin to design the layout of these rooms and I am excited for the possibilities. We will keep you informed of the progress along the way and certainly welcome any help that you would like to contribute this project.

We have also started conversations with Simonson Construction to receive estimates on several major projects based off drawings and recommendations made to us a few years ago by Dan Yoder. Session authorized the Board of Trustees to receive these estimates, and have prioritized a project that would add a men's and women's handicapped restroom on the second floor in the location most recently used as the choir room. Yes, the long awaited dream of new, handicapped accessible restrooms may become a reality in the relatively near future!! It is important to know that this project, or any of the other possible projects being considered, has not been approved by session; at this point we are simply gathering information and estimates. However, we realize the need to make significant renovations to our building to help us further our mission and ministry. I hope this excites you as much as it does me!

I look forward to sharing more of these ideas with you in the near future. I plan to have a congregational meeting in September to more thoroughly share more of these plans with you. I will announce a date for this meeting soon and hope you will join me for this discussion.

In the meantime, please be in prayer for our congregation. Pray that our life and ministry will be in alignment with the Lord's work. Pray that we will remain open to ways that we can transform our building in a way that it can serve the needs of our congregation and community for many years to come. Pray that all of our ministry will be guided by the Holy Spirit as we pray, listen, and seek the Lord in all things. I look forward to our future conversations.

In Christ,

Pastor Mike



Mackenna Rose Fenwick
was born on July 22 to Amelia Fenwick.
Grandparents are Mike and Patti Fenwick.

Dear FPC Family,

I will be beginning a new career as the Digital Librarian for the Ohio Genealogical Society on September 16, 2019. After 6 years of study, I earned my Masters of Library and Information Science from Kent State and graduated in May and I am very excited to be making this change in my life.

At the same time, I am very sad to no longer be serving FPC as its Operations Manager. FPC has been a large part of my and my family's lives ever since we moved to Ashland, and I will miss the time I spend with you all. I have been blessed to have the loving support of such a wonderful group of people. Serving you has been an honor and I thank you all for inviting me to partner with you in this church's ministry.

Blessings,
Linda Swanson

Children's Church

Beginning September 15, Bethany Blasdel will lead a children's church experience during Sunday worship for children 3rd–6th grade. The kids will have a variety of activities, spiritual exercises, Bible study, crafts, service projects, etc. during this time.



On the first Sunday of each month, the children will stay in the sanctuary. For all other Sundays, the children will meet in the narthex during the offering and Bethany will lead them to the space they will be using that morning.

Volunteers to help are always welcome. For more information, contact Bethany Blasdel.

Santa's Attic Coming in November

Maybe just a little late for Christmas in July, but consider now a great time to donate greatly treasured, like new, Christmas décor items to Ashland Christian Health Center's Santa's Attic Sale. They are now accepting donations between now and the day of the sale, Monday through Thursday from 9:00am–3:00pm. Call Cathy at ACHC, (419) 903-0475 for more information.

Sale date is Saturday, November 9.



Movie Night

A young Christian family escapes a war zone and survives for years in a Sudanese refugee camp, but can they cope with the values and customs of Middle America? Reese Witherspoon stars in this challenging film when Movie Night returns Fri. Sept. 20 at the home of Bill and Connie Dravenstott. A potluck supper begins at 6:30pm; film starts at 7:00pm.



November 17
Following Worship

Girlfriends' Gathering



Reclaim Your
Happy
October 12

All Women Invited



Save the date for our next Girlfriends' Gathering featuring Beth Duewel. Beth is an author, speaker, and blogger at Fix-Her-Upper.com. She is a freelance writer for magazines and compilation books and has long been a

contributor to P31 magazine. Beth worked as a recreational therapist and drug and alcohol counselor for many years. She lives in Ashland Ohio where she is happily married to Jerry Duewel. They have three grown children.

Please bring a friend and/or relative to this fun and meaningful fall gathering. Look for more information closer to the date.

Beth's latest book,
*90 Day Fix Her Upper
Devotional*,
is coauthored
with Rhonda Rhea.



September

First Presbyterian Church of Ashland

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Worship in Park 2:15pm Wedding	2 Office Closed— Labor Day	3 9:00am Worship Planning 8:00pm AA	4 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Praise Band	5	6	7
8 Communion	9 6:00pm Rooted Cohort	10 9:00am Worship Planning 8:00pm AA	11 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Praise Band	12	13	14 Presbytery Meeting Camp Wakonda
15 9:00am E&O Ministry 5:30pm Small Group @ Eckenroths'	16 6:30pm PMS @ Saccomen's home	17 9:00am Worship Planning 11:30am Companions Sharing Group 8:00pm AA	18 Healing Care Event 10:00am Bible Study 1:00pm Prayer Shawl Ministry 6:30pm Praise Band	19 Healing Care Event	20 Healing Care Event 6:30pm Movie Night @ Dravenstotts' Home	21 Healing Care Event
22 1:00pm Healing Care Group	23	24 9:00am Worship Planning 8:00pm AA	25 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Praise Band	26	27	28
29 Loud Sunday to Benefit Keith Pepsny, Navigators 1:00pm Rooted Cohort Retreat	30				Every Sunday Worship: 10:00am Coffee and Welcoming 10:30am Worship	Every Saturday Worship: 5:00pm Potluck 6:00pm Chinese Worship

October

First Presbyterian Church of Ashland

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Every Sunday Worship: 10:00am Coffee and Welcoming 10:30am Worship		1 9:00am Worship Planning 8:00pm AA	2 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Praise Band	3 10:30am Finance Ministry 2:30pm or 3:30pm Carpet Cleaning	4	5
6 Communion 1:00pm Healing Care 2:00pm CROP Walk, CUMC 4:00pm PMS Family Potluck 5:30pm Small Group	7 Set Up for AA Banquet	8 9:00am Worship Planning 6:00pm AA Annual Banquet	9 Session Packet Items Due 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Praise Band	10	11 6:30pm Movie Night @ Yoders' Home	12 "Reclaim Your Happy" Girlfriends Gathering
13 1:00pm Healing Care Group	14 6:00pm Rooted Cohort 6:30pm Session	15 9:00am Worship Planning 8:00pm AA	16 10:00am Bible Study 1:00pm Prayer Shawl Ministry 6:30pm Praise Band	17	18 University of Pikeville Overnight	19 University of Pikeville
20 1:00pm Healing Care Group 5:30pm Small Group @ Eckenroths'	21	22 9:00am Worship Planning 11:30am Companions Sharing Group 8:00pm AA	23 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Praise Band	24	25	26
27 1:00pm Healing Care Group	28	29 9:00am Worship Planning 8:00pm AA	30 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Praise Band	31		Every Saturday Worship: 5:00pm Potluck 6:00pm Chinese Worship

November

First Presbyterian Church of Ashland

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Every Sunday Worship: 10:00am Coffee and Welcoming 10:30am Worship	Every Saturday Worship: 5:00pm Potluck 6:00pm Chinese Worship				1	2 Battery Distribution
3 Communion 1:00pm Healing Care Group 5:30pm Small Group @ Eckenroths'	4	5 9:00am Worship Planning 8:00pm AA	6 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Praise Band	7 Healing Care Event	8 Healing Care Event	9 Healing Care Event
10 1:00pm Healing Care Group	11 6:00pm Rooted Cohort	12 9:00am Worship Planning 8:00pm AA	13 Session Packet Items Due 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Praise Band	14	15	16
17 Harvest Dinner 1:00pm Healing Care Group 5:30pm Small Group	18	19 9:00am Worship Planning 11:30am Companions Sharing Group 8:00pm AA	20 10:00am Bible Study 1:00pm Prayer Shawl Ministry 6:30pm Praise Band	21	22	23
24 Communion 1:00pm Healing Care Group	25	26 9:00am Worship Planning 8:00pm AA	27 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Praise Band	28 Office Closed—Thanksgiving	29 Office Closed—Thanksgiving Observed	30

Evangelism and Outreach (E&O)

Associated Charities JUSST Campaign

JUSST = jeans, underwear, shoes,
socks, t-shirts

Thanks for making a difference! Our plea for donations of back to school clothing for families seeking help from Associated Charities resulted in donations of enough jeans that an additional 20 pairs were purchased to fulfill the challenge. A total of 47 pairs were turned in, as well as 7 t-shirts, 13 pairs of socks, and 1 backpack. A huge shout-out goes to the Saccomens for engineering the placement and removal of the locker to display these items!

CROP Walk

on Sunday, October 6 will be our opportunity to participate in this annual effort to provide food and safe drinking water for families in developing countries. Several area churches will be represented by walkers who obtain pledges, then gather at Christ United Methodist Church to walk one of two designated routes in the city. Can we challenge ourselves to add more than FPC's 2018 total of \$501.00? See Lana Potter for a sponsor packet or to be a sponsor.



Smoke Detector Battery Distribution is being planned in conjunction with the Ashland Fire Department for Saturday, November 2. Watch for additional details about gathering time at FPC for instructions and gathering of supplies.

Safe Haven Thanks FPC

Dear Frist Presbyterian Congregation, We wanted to express our gratitude for your generous donation to the Rape Crisis Domestic Violence Safe Haven Shelter. Your donation has allowed us to repair some needed areas at the shelter. Grants do not cover these expenses. Your donations are truly beneficial to serving victims. Thank You!

FPC donated our June Loud Sunday Offering to Safe Haven. FPC collects this special offering when there is a fifth Sunday during a month. We toss our spare change in a coffee can and make a joyful noise with our gift!



Volunteer Training

Safe Haven Volunteer Training will be offered October 15 – November 7, Tuesdays and Wednesday 4:30pm – 9:30pm

This forty hour training will enable volunteers to become prepared to serve in any capacity at the shelter. Call Volunteer Coordinator Kate Scott at 419-282-6097 or email kscott@safehavenofashland.org for additional information and to register.

New Library Books

Our church library may be moving, but it still has some new items on its shelves, especially board books and books for young children.

Check out these adult titles:

Anxious for Nothing: Finding Calm in a Chaotic World

Slaying Your Giants: Biblical Solutions to Everyday Problems

The Most Misused Stories of the Bible: Surprising Ways Popular Bible Stories are Misunderstood

Women and C. S. Lewis: What His Life and Literature Revealed for Today's culture



PRESBYTERY EVENT RECLAIMING PENTECOST: CROSS CULTURAL CHURCH

Friday, September 13
Camp Wakonda
9:00am - 4:00pm

The Presbytery has a day planned around the benefits and challenges of church with a variety of cultures. Our own Dr. Dolly Dong is one of the presenters.



BENEFITS

Each tribe and tongue has a unique praise to God. When we share community with other tribes, how do we all benefit?

CHALLENGES

Crossing cultural divides can be a difficult task. What exactly are the challenges we face?

BEST PRACTICES

We all want to succeed in our efforts to be faithful. What are the best things that we can do to help build healthy relationships across cultures?

FIRST STEPS

It can be intimidating to start any new adventure. What are some first steps that you should take?

For more information and/or to register, visit <https://mvpjourney.org/reclaiming-pentecost/> or contact the church office.



Baby Bottle Campaign

Ashland Pregnancy Care Center has acknowledged with great appreciation the \$290.28 donated through our recent baby bottle campaign brought to you by FPC's Evangelism and Outreach Team (E & O).

2019 Walk for Life and 5K Fun Run

Saturday, September 28
Downtown Ashland Corner Park

Dine to Donate

Tuesday, October 1
Shanks Bar & Grill
Must have a coupon in hand to receive credit
Good on dine-in and carry-out orders

New Volunteer Info Meeting

Thursday, October 10, 5:00pm
If you have an interest in serving on their volunteer team and want additional information, then this is for you. Take a tour and learn more about their mission, vision, services, and volunteer opportunities. RSVP to Amanda at 419-281-1111

ACCESS Mentors Needed

One of the most critical factors for successful transition from the Ashland Church Community Emergency Shelter Services (ACCESS) program to independent living is support and encouragement of the former ACCESS guest. ACCESS Mentors walk beside ACCESS guests to be caring and supportive friends. The Mentors can help



guests even after they exit the program and link guests to ongoing support services.

For more information, contact Cathy Thiemens, 419-685-1232

We Went Flocking!

Summer 2019

This summer, the Deacons invited us to “go flocking” after church on two different occasions. For our first flocking, we had lunch and played in Kendig Park in Hayesville. For our second outing, we flocked to the Olivesburg General Store for lunch, ice cream, and fellowship.



August 25, 2019
Flocking to
Olivesburg General Store

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



Phone: 419-289-6205
Email: office@ashlandfpc.org
Facebook: FPC Ashland
Instagram: [fpc_ashland](https://www.instagram.com/fpc_ashland)

www.ashlandfpc.org

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Fall 2019



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.

Summer Spruce Up

July—August 2019

The church's curb
appeal looks fresh with
some new landscaping.
The doors were also
stained and refinished.

