

THE PULPIT AND PEW

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MARYSVILLE, OHIO

March 2017

Pastor Sally Robinson, Interim



From the Transitional Pastor...

It's hard to believe that by the time you read this newsletter it will be spring – technically, at least. The spring equinox has come and gone, we are a good way through Lent, and Easter is just a couple of weeks away. The season of renewal and rebirth has arrived, and I think most of us are more than ready. Lent is the season of repentance and on Easter Sunday we can accept the great good news, that in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ we are loved and forgiven. The steadfast mercy of the Lord is ours now and forever. Thanks be to God!

My Easter joy this year is having been with you all for almost eight months and experiencing the amazing love you all have for your church, and the fabulous work you do in this church, in this community, and in the wider world for the love of God. The teams and committees have been putting in long hours on your behalf to make sure the church is run well and that God's work is being done, and they're always open to new members. As I read over the following list I marvel at the amount of work done and the people who do it, and this list doesn't even include the session, the deacons, PW and our terrific staff.

The teams and committees all report to the session, and include Administration that oversees the staff and business affairs of the church; Congregational Outreach that keeps the church rolls, and organizes our special events; Education that oversees the Sunday School, Midweek program, youth programs and the library; Mission that keeps track of shut-ins, college students, and those serving in the armed forces, as well as allocating funds for needs in the community and beyond; Property which oversees care of our building and grounds; Stewardship that oversees all of the financial affairs of the church; Worship that oversees all worship including Sunday and special services and the music of the church. Those are the teams. The committees elected by the congregation and may not take additional members are the Pastor Nominating Committee searching for your new pastor, and the Nominating Committee that brings forward names of candidates for elders and deacons to be elected at the congregational meeting on May 7.

This church is blessed beyond measure and I hope you feel blessed as well. I invite you to let your friends and neighbors know how blessed you are and to invite them to share in these

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blessings. This is a wonderful time of year to share the good news with others, and I hope you will.

Yours in Christ,
Rev. Sally O. Robinson

SESSION

Since our last Pulpit and Pew, the Session has had two meetings. Below are highlights from these meetings.

- Alan McDonald represented the church as the Commissioner for the Presbytery meeting of February 21, 2017.
- Approval was given to move the ordination date for new officers from June 4, 2017 to June 11, 2017.
- The Administrative Team's Job Description was approved.
- The next session meeting was approved for April 19, 2017 instead of April 20, 2017.

Debby Galloway
Clerk of Session

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

SPRING GATHERING

WHAT: Spring Gathering

WHEN: Saturday, April 22, 2017

WHERE: Central College Presbyterian Church, 975 S. Sunbury Road, Westerville, Ohio

TIME: 9:30, registration; 10 am, program

NOTES:

- The theme for the Spring Gathering is "Building a Caring, Inclusive Community of Women"
- Women of Faith Awards will be presented to those nominated, and
- An Honorary Life Membership will also be presented

Connie Wells, PW, Moderator

BLANKET SUNDAY – MAY 14, 2017

The Church World Service Blanket Fund will be recognized on Mother's Day, May 14. Through this program, blankets are sent to provide warmth and comfort to those suffering – nationally and

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internationally – from disaster, which includes flooding, hurricanes, earthquakes, tornadoes, and victims of fire. The Church World Service distributes thousands of blankets yearly to those suffering in the United States, as well as those in need worldwide. Blanket Fund envelopes will be placed in the pews in May for those who feel lead to donate to this worthy cause, and thank you for your consideration.

Connie Wells, PW, Moderator

BOOKIN' IT

Sunday, March 19, 2017

Dreamland: The True Tale of America's Opiate Epidemic, by Sam Quinones

(Nonfiction)

7 pm, at Kim Kinsey's home

Exploring the once-vital blue-collar city of Portsmouth, Ohio, and other American communities into heartlands of addiction. First published in 2015. Addresses the current heroin epidemic.

Sunday, April 23, 2017

Dolley, by Rita Mae Brown

(Historical Fiction)

7 pm, at Connie Wells' home (This is the 4th Sunday, as Easter falls on 4.16.17)

She had the president's ear and the nation's heart.

She's the wife of the fourth president of the United States; a spirited charmer who adores parties, the latest French fashions, and the tender brilliant man who is her husband. But while many love her, few suspect how complex Dolley Madison really is.

Only in the pages of her diary – as imagined by novelist Rita Mae Brown – can Dolley fully reveal herself. And there we discover the real first lady – impulsive, courageous, and wise – as she faces her harshest trial: in 1814, the United States is once more at war with mighty Britain, and her beloved James is the most hated man in America.

From the White House receptions she gaily presides over, to her wild escape from a Washington under siege, Dolley gives us a legend, made warmly human. For there has never been a first lady so tested or one who came through the fire so brilliantly.

MISSION

Minute For Mission

Our church participates annually in the One Great Hour of Sharing. This mission was started in 1947 to help communities around the world rebuild after the destruction of World War II. This

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mission continues to help many people in over 100 countries around the world. It is a world-wide mission that many different denominations participate in. Seventy-five percent of the money collected in our church is sent to the Presbytery to be used for world-wide missions, and the remaining twenty-five percent will be distributed by our Mission Team to help local charities.

An insert and a collection envelope will be included in the church bulletin on April 2nd. Please return all donations for One Great Hour of Sharing by Easter Sunday, April 16th.

Families may also participate in helping others during this Lenten season through the fish banks that are available in the sanctuary. Children are encouraged to fill the fish banks with coins to be turned in by Easter Sunday.

Project Crosthwaites

Care Packages for Peter Crosthwaite (in Kabul) and for Abra and Amelia Crosthwaite (in Kansas) will continue to be mailed on the first of each month until Peter is safely back in the United States. Please consider sending an Easter card for each box! Please put completed cards in the Mission mailbox or give to any Mission Committee member on or before April 1! Thanks so much!

Mission Trip

The Mission Trip is set. Holly Rodenhausen, Emily Jewell, Adam Vanduzen and Judy VanDuzen will be traveling to Point Pleasant, West Virginia. The group will leave on Sunday, June 18 (after being commissioned and fed at the Plain City Presbyterian Church) and return on Saturday, June 24. This group is excited to represent the Presbyterian Church of Marysville. Our church will be traveling with folks from the Plain City Presbyterian Church, Hilliard Presbyterian Church and the Dublin Presbyterian Church.

Project College Students

The mission committee prepared a care package for Jacob Rodenhausen and it was mailed on February 1. Care packages are mailed to our college students twice a year; once in September and once in February.

Project Nursing Home

Did you know that the mission committee mails cards each month to our members who are in nursing homes and assisted living? At the conclusion of each mission meeting, the committee members sign and address cards. The cards and postage are paid for with the fundraising profits from Boston's each month.

Project Not Able to Attend

Did you know that the mission committee has cards in the back of the sanctuary each Sunday for our church goes to sign? These cards are sent to church folks who cannot make it to church due

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to long term illnesses or surgery. Please allow a few minutes each Sunday morning to add a greeting to the cards. This new ministry is another way for all of us to support each other.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The church education program year has been highly successful and very busy under the leadership of Haley Van Duzen, our new Christian Education Director. The junior and senior youth groups, BUGS (for Beings United in God's Service), which meets under Haley's direction during Mid-Week, and THRIVE, under the direction of Adam Van Duzen, indeed have been active and thriving. Our congregation's young people and our Scout Troop 355 conducted an inspiring worship service on Youth and Scout Sunday, on Feb. 5, and the youth continued to assist afterward with the Souper Bowl of Caring luncheon. Money raised during the lunch benefited the Marysville Food Pantry. The youth conducted two fundraisers later that month, including the Rock-A-Thon on Feb. 15, which benefited the Union County Humane Society, and the Shrove Pancake Supper Feb. 28, benefiting youth camp scholarships, on the eve of Lent. The THRIVE 30-hour Famine and Lock-In Feb. 18-19 and a youth lock-in March 3 offered unique opportunities for young people to explore issues of faith and Christian fellowship. Mid-Week wrapped up its program year with a Farewell Spectacular, featuring a game night, on March 15.

The Commissioning Class for sixth- and seventh-graders preparing to join our church began on March 5 with Pastor Sally. Confirmation will be on June 4. Appropriately, Graduation Sunday and Mother's Day happen to fall on the same date this year, May 14, which is also the last day of regular Sunday School classes. Four high-schoolers in our congregation are graduating and will receive scholarships to assist them in furthering their education. Here is quick list of upcoming dates:

April 11: Sunday School teachers meeting, 7-8 p.m.

April 29: Family trip to the Columbus Zoo

May 7: Sunday School Teacher Appreciation Day

May 13: Day Mission Trip for youth, Nursing Home Visit, 12:45-3:15 p.m.

May 14: Mother's Day and Graduation Sunday, last day of regular Sunday School

May 21: First day of Summer Sunday School (for details, see below).

June 4: Confirmation

Summer Sunday School

In the Old Testament, God calls Judges and Prophets. In the New Testament, Jesus calls Disciples. Come join us for Summer Sunday School, as we visit the calls in Judges and the prophets in the Old Testament and of the disciples in Acts in the New Testament. Beginning on May 21 and ending on Sept. 3, this class meets in the classroom in the basement level. So that the adult Sunday school teachers get time off, it has been our custom to ask others to take turns on one Sunday to lead the discussion. And not to worry, materials are provided to assist you in that. For information see Dick Mickley.

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May the studies for the summer in *The Present Word* inspire you to hear and respond to the call of Christ as if for the first time.

Library Committee

The Library Committee has met many times and is making progress toward our goal of revitalizing this asset to our congregation. Our library has more books than most libraries of churches our size. Our committee and Session have endorsed the original purpose of the Willis B. Shearer Memorial Library, first approved in October 1993, and we are including it below in this issue of *Pulpit and Pew* for your reference.

Calling All Library Books! You might have seen in the announcements of our worship service bulletin our call for the return of library books to help with our update of our inventory. Please look in all your nooks and crannies at home, in the trunk of your car, and in all those places you stash things and search for books that need to be returned to our church library. Also, as you use various areas of the church, be on the lookout for library books that have strayed from the shelves of the library and bring them back.

No fines are being charged. We just hope to locate some of the many books that have been removed from the library. We soon will be contacting folks that have signed checkout cards, so if you know you have a book checked out, please bring it back. Place books on the checkout desk or on any of the library tables or in the box near Kennedy Hall. Thank you for helping your library committee!

LIBRARY PURPOSE

The WILLIS B. SHEARER MEMORIAL LIBRARY of the First Presbyterian Church of Marysville was reorganized January 19, 2017 for the following purposes

- 1: To provide a well-selected collection of books, periodicals, pamphlets, and audio and visual media which aid in developing informed and intelligent laypersons of the church;
- 2: To serve all who come seeking development of their spiritual and intellectual capacities and a growing expression of their Christian faith;
- 3: To aid in developing a deeper understanding of one's self and one's role in the community and the world;
- 4: To participate effectively in the church programs as it strives to meet the needs of adults in their personal and group relationships;
- 5: To provide children and youth with library materials most meaningful for their Christian growth and development, for aiding in personal adjustments and for developing desirable social attitudes;
- 6: To serve as a resourced for the Sunday School and youth programs;
- 7: To provide library materials to aid in wholesome use of leisure time for enrichment of personal lives; and
- 8: To provide a repository for historical documents of this congregation and of this denomination for safekeeping and research.

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The authority for the ultimate decisions concerning selection policy resides in the Library Committee and the Education Team of the Session, which operate within the framework of the policies determined by the Session.

Thank you for your continued support of our Education Team and our programs.

Sincerely,
Mary Ann Edwards
Education Team chairman

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Coffee Sign-up Sheet for March 5 – May 28, 2017

Only need to bring “Goodies” to go with Coffee by 9:45 am

	Name	E-mail	Phone (area code if not 937)
Mar. 26	Donna Patterson and Pam Archer		
April 2	June Hakola		
Apr. 9	Bob and Linda Rinehart (Palm Sunday)		
Apr. 16	Easter Breakfast/Resurrection Café/Coffee served with breakfast		
Apr. 23	Donna Patterson and Pam Archer		
Apr. 31	Kathy Donnett		
May 7	Paul and Carolyn Wiehe		
May 14	Donna Patterson and Pam Archer Mother’s Day + Graduation Sunday for Seniors + last Sunday School for Children for summer		
May 21	The Crosthwaites		
May 28	The Kearns		

Thanks to all for your HELP!

Question? Do you want Coffee on Sunday mornings at 9:45 A.M. to 10:20 A.M. June, July & August? Would you be willing to sign-up to furnish “GOODIES”? I need to know your desires by May 7. There will be a basket for votes in the Coffee Room beginning April 2.

It is a great time to “relax” and “catch up” with each other before Church. You can turn your Hot Coffee into “Ice Coffee” if it is hot inside and out! Bring your extra garden “goodies” to share with each other, too.

Bring your Friends and Family
2ND ANNUAL
Easter Egg
Hunt **AND**
Breakfast
APRIL 16TH
EGG HUNT AT 9:45AM
BREAKFAST AT 9AM
Congregation brings pastries

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
210 WEST 5TH STREET
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