

THE PULPIT AND PEW
THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
MARYSVILLE, OHIO

May 2017

Pastor Sally Robinson



From the Transitional Pastor...

You don't need me to tell you that this is an exciting time in the life of this church. You have called your new pastor, and are planning for his arrival. You are celebrating graduations, honoring Sunday school teachers, and planning for some much-needed work to the interior of the building. You are moving forward in your life and mission even as you wait for some exciting things to happen.

This is much as the first disciples did after the ascension of Jesus in Acts 1, a scripture we will hear at the end of this month. Jesus tells them first to go into all nations, bringing the good news, and then he tells them to wait. They are to wait for something exciting to happen – the coming of the Holy Spirit. But the waiting they do is not just sitting around, but continuing to work for what is to come through prayer and work in the community. If this sounds familiar, it's because this is what you have been doing for many months now. Working, learning, serving and praying – you have been doing the work of the church in all generations even as you have been waiting for a new era to begin. Welcome to your future.

As I also prepare to move on I want to thank you for all your support during the past ten and a half months that I will have been with you as of the end of June. We have worked together in many ways and done some really good things together. You have also been very caring and compassionate about the issues that my family is facing, and I cannot tell you how much your kind words and prayers have meant. I look forward to celebrating with you and thanking God for continual care and leading. God's blessings to you all.

Yours in Christ,
Rev. Sally O. Robinson

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Following an inspiring sermon (“Broken Bread, Open Eyes”) by The Reverend Jeffrey A. Schooley on Sunday, April 30, our church voted unanimously to offer a call to Pastor Jeff as our new pastor. Pastor Jeff, who is originally from the Mansfield, Ohio area accepted the call and will begin his ministry here on July 1. Pastor Jeff is a graduate of Pittsburgh Theological Seminary and has been ministering at Center Presbyterian Church in McMurray, Pennsylvania. Pastor Jeff will be residing here in Marysville with his lovely wife, Brianne. Brianne is also an active Presbyterian and is an ordained Deacon as well as an active choir member.

So begins a new chapter in the life of our church. Please be sure and attend and welcome Pastor Jeff and Brianne.



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SESSION

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

- After receiving the report of the Pastor Nominating Committee, approval was given to call for a congregational meeting to be held on April 30, 2017 to nominate a minister to the congregation for election as pastor.
- Approval was given on April 28, 2017 for an open reception for the meet/greet for the pastor candidate.
- A special Congregational Meeting was called for April 30, 2017 for the purpose of extending a call to the Rev. Jeffrey A. Schooley. During the meeting the congregation voted eighty-seven (87) yes, zero (0) no to extend a call to Rev. Jeffery A. Schooley with a start date of July 1, 2017 and his first Sunday in the pulpit will be July 9, 2017.
- The Pastor Nominating Committee consisting of Mark Crosthwaite, Josh Dillahunt, Kathi Donnett, Jeff Groat, Grant Kearns, Donna Maley, and Allen McDonald were thanked by the congregation for their work and their support in the next year in assisting Pastor Schooley.
- The Confirmation Date of June 4, 2017 will be moved to June 11, 2017 due to conflicts.
- During the membership review, Richard and Linda Smith were placed on the inactive list per their request.
- Approval was given for church scholarships to graduating seniors Noah Danals, Whitney Ey, and Holly Rodenhausen and a Child of the Church scholarship for Dylan Koski with the money coming from the Helser Fund.
- Approval was given for THRIVE to participate in an overnight campout and canoe trip on the Hocking or Mad River at a date to be determined.
- Whitney Ey was approved as an assistant THRIVE leader, beginning on May 21, 2017.
- Permission was given for online registration for Vacation Bible School at www.planetreg.com/fpcmvbs and the approval of Rachel Hedges, Candy Brown, Whitney Ey, Justin Hedges, Tracy Koski, Traci Rutledge, Donna Maley, Debby Galloway, and Haley Van Duzen as teachers for Vacation Bible School.
- The financial report of March 2017 was approved and will be submitted for audit.
- Permission was given to purchase shirts for use by the Congregational Outreach Team for use during their functions.
- The revised By-Laws were approved by session and will be presented to the congregation for approval on May 7, 2017.
- The death of JoAnn Kyre on March 17, 2017 was sadly noted.
- Amanda Crosthwaite was approved for membership by letter of transfer
- Amanda Crosthwaite's membership from Rush Creek United Methodist Church to our church was received.
- At the Congregational Meeting on May 7, 2017, the following slate of officers was approved.
 - Deacons Class of 2020
 - A.J. Conti
 - Kathi Donnett
 - Ron Edwards
 - Donna Maley

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- Elders Class of 2020
Mary Bishop
Justin Hedges
Donna Patterson
Traci Rutledge
 - Elder Class of 2018
Janet Harbold - to finish this year for Scott Schnapp during his leave of absence
 - Nominating at Large Class of 2018
Amanda Crosthwaite
Whitney Ey
Mary McDonald
Judy VanDuzen
 - Audit Committee Class of 2020
Kim Godfrey
- Transfer of Membership for Amanda Crosthwaite was approved on May 7, 2017 from the Rush Creek United Methodist Church.

Debby Galloway
Clerk of Session

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Synod of the Covenant Gathering

The Synod of the Covenant Presbyterian Women will be meeting in Battle Creek, Michigan, June 23 and 24 for the 2017 Gathering. Melissa Bane Sevier, author of PW Horizons 2017-18 Bible Study, entitled "Cloud of Witnesses: The Community of Christ in Hebrews" will present the Friday evening Plenary. The next day will offer music, speakers, workshops, worship, and much more. Those interested in attending may contact Connie Wells at conswel@aol.com for registration information.

Summer Celebration

WHAT: Presbyterian Women's Covered Dish Dinner
WHEN: Wednesday, June 14, 2017
WHERE: Connie Wells' home
WHAT TIME: 5 pm
WHY: Summer Celebration
NOTES: Beverages and paper products will be provided.
All women of the church are invited to attend.
Please meet at the church at 4:30 pm to carpool.

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Annual Birthday Offering

Each May, our local PW collects and donates to the Annual Birthday Offering of Presbyterian Women. PW members are asked to contribute their age in coins, or more if they are felt lead. Most just throw in a dollar, I think, but there are no rules. At any rate, the Birthday Offering program was launched in 1922, and through this annual event, nearly 100 major mission projects have been funded.

All projects chosen for funding are ones that make a difference in the lives of women and children. The three mission projects chosen for 2017 are as follows:

- The Family Justice Center, a safe haven for victims of domestic violence in the Georgetown and Horry Counties in South Carolina
- The Navajo Water Project that will eventually provide water systems for 205 families living in the Smith Lake Navajo Reservation in New Mexico
- First Hand Aid Rural Clinic Development Initiative exists to diminish the suffering of the most marginalized Cuban citizens by providing them hope, dignity and the basic necessities of life and health.

Submitted by Connie Wells, PW, Moderator

BOOKIN' IT

5.21.17 **Johnstown Flood, by David McCullough will be discussed at Deb and Jeff Groat's home at 7 pm – Men are invited to attend**

The stunning story of one of America's great disasters, a preventable tragedy of Gilded Age America, brilliantly told by master historian David McCullough.

At the end of the nineteenth century, Johnstown, Pennsylvania, was a booming coal-and-steel town filled with hardworking families striving for a piece of the nation's burgeoning industrial prosperity. In the mountains above Johnstown, an old earth dam had been hastily rebuilt to create a lake for an exclusive summer resort patronized by the tycoons of that same industrial prosperity, among them Andrew Carnegie, Henry Clay Frick, and Andrew Mellon. Despite repeated warnings of possible danger, nothing was done about the dam. Then came May 31, 1889, when the dam burst, sending a wall of water thundering down the mountain, smashing through Johnstown, and killing more than 2,000 people. It was a tragedy that became a national scandal.

Graced by David McCullough's remarkable gift for writing richly textured, sympathetic social history, The Johnstown Flood is an absorbing, classic portrait of the life in nineteenth-century America, of overweening confidence, of energy, and of tragedy. It also offers a powerful historical lesson for our century and all times: The danger of assuming that because people are in positions of responsibility they are necessarily behaving responsibly.

6.25.17 **Mrs. Lincoln's Dressmaker, by Jennifer Chiaverini will be discussed at Linda Rinehart's home at 7 pm.**

New York Times bestselling author Jennifer Chiaverini's compelling historical novel unveils the private lives of Abraham and Mary Lincoln through the perspective of the First Lady's most trusted confidante and friend, her dressmaker, Elizabeth Keckley.

In a life that spanned nearly a century and witnessed some of the most momentous events in American history, Elizabeth Hobbs Keckley was born a slave. A gifted seamstress, she earned

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her freedom by the skill of her needle, and won the friendship of First Lady Mary Todd Lincoln by her devotion. A sweeping historical novel, Mrs. Lincoln's Dressmaker illuminates the extraordinary relationship the two women shared, beginning in the hallowed halls of the White House during the trials of the Civil War and enduring almost, but not quite, to the end of Mrs. Lincoln's days.

July **No Meeting – Summer Break!**

8.20.17 **Mrs. Grant and Madame Jule, by Jennifer Chiaverini will be discussed at Kathi Donnett's home at 7 pm**

In 1844, shy Missouri Belle Julia Dent met Lieutenant Ulysses S. Grant, and they fell deeply in love. Four years passed before Julia's father permitted them to wed, and the groom's abolitionist family refused to attend the wedding. Despite her new husband's objections, Julia kept as her slave, Jule. Since childhood, they had been companions and confidantes. But beneath the gathering clouds of war, the stark distinctions between mistress and slave inevitably strained and altered their tenuous friendship. Julia Grant continued to hold Jule as a slave behind federal lines – until the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation. Jule was then inspired to make a daring bid for freedom. Mrs. Grant and Madame Jule is the first novel to chronicle the singular relationship between these two remarkable women.

DEACONS

Easter Bag Project

The Easter Bag Project of the Deacons this year was a success, and many people contributed their time and resources. Thrive and some of our youth, under the direction of Adam and Haley Van Duzen, decorated a total of 150 Easter bags; bags were decorated by the residents at Brookdale, Prestige Gardens (formerly Heartland), the Windsor Community Center, Millcrest, the Gables, Carriage Court, and the two Girl Scout troops who use our building. The Deacons filled 400 bags in two fun work sessions with candy purchased by cash donations from the following: Cal and Bee Adams, George and Amanda Crosthwaite, Bob and Pat DeGroot, Bill and Debby Galloway, Doris Story, The Presbyterian Women, and our general fund. Chris Ladefoged purchased candy from Nestlé's at a reduced price with money from donations and the church's general fund. Deacons, and others, who gave generously of their time were: Jackie Burkhouse, Kadyne and Diane Crosthwaite, Valory Floyd, Debby Galloway, Alan and Mary McDonald, Donna Maley, Donna Patterson, and Stacy Wolfe. Candy was generously given by congregational members to the extent that we gave one box of extra candy to the facilitators of the Easter day egg hunt, and we released unused money back to the general fund. Delivery to the Marysville Food Pantry occurred on March 23, 30, April 6, and April 13. Many of the children whose families use the Marysville Food Pantry would not have had an Easter bag were it not for the generosity of your gifts, support, and prayers. Thank you!

Deborah Groat

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HOPE CENTER HAPPENINGS

hopecenterohio.org

The Hope Center has been in organized chaos since the beginning of the year. Many new and exciting things have been happening. Three of the ministries have gotten face lifts and have moved locations within the facility. The Clothes Closet (now known as Restored 61), The Personal Needs Pantry, and our personal favorite – The Furniture Bank. The Furniture Bank’s new home benefits us in two major ways. First, we are closer in proximity to the loading dock entrance which makes it physically much easier to move items into and out of the building. Secondly, we now have a double door width space to move furniture into and out of our rooms making the moving process flow more efficiently. We are thrilled with our new space! Please stop by and visit. We continue to be open on Saturday mornings from 10 – noon to take donations as well as serve our clients. And as always, we could use your help!

Many of us question how to help those in need. Am I really helping? Yes, I know it’s what Jesus wants **me** to do but when I give, does that enable others to become dependent or feel entitled? These are questions that we ALL struggle with. Staff and volunteers of The Hope Center are constantly striving to find ways to truly empower those entering their doors feeling hopeless and helpless. It is so important to give them a “hand up” not a “hand out”. The following books delve into these very topics: [Toxic Charity, Charity Detox, and Compassion, Justice and the Christian Life – Rethinking Ministry to the Poor](#) by Robert D. Lupton, and [When Helping Hurts](#) by Steve Corbett and Brian Bikkert. Staff and volunteers at The Hope Center have been reading, discussing, and adopting many of these concepts from their readings such as:

OUR OATH FOR HELPERS

1. I will never do for others what they have (or could have) the capacity to do for themselves.
2. I will limit my one-way giving to emergency situations and seek always to find ways and means for legitimate exchange.
3. I will seek ways to empower the poor through hiring, lending and investing and use grants sparingly as incentives that reinforce achievements.
4. I will put the interests of the poor above my own (or organizational) self-interest even when it may be costly.
5. I will take time to *listen and carefully assess* both expressed and unspoken needs so that my actions will ultimately strengthen rather than weaken the hand of those I would serve.
6. Above all, to the best of my ability I will do no harm.

God’s Servant,
Teresa Jewell

WORSHIP

The new BASIC will be coming out in late June. If you are interested in serving as worship coordinator, liturgist, usher, or nursery assistant, please notify Kathi Donnett. The Worship coordinator guidelines are being updated and will be included with the new BASIC. If you have any questions, please contact Kathi.

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WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Women's Bible Study meets in the Weld room (attached to the Coffee hour room) on Wednesday mornings from 9:30 – 11:00 am; except when there is PWA meeting (the 2nd Wednesday of the month September through June). We have used a number of resources in the past. A new study using Ten Women of the Bible by Max Lucado will be starting on May 24th with Diane Crosthwaite as the leader. Our study group is open to all women. Please consider joining us, and seeing if you like it. Purchasing the workbook is not necessary, but if you would like one, there are a few books for purchase in Donna Maley's mailbox. The cost is \$10.70. The facilitator for Women's Bible study is Donna Maley, so please contact her with any questions. email: dmaley524@yahoo.com or home phone: 937-578-0120

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Sunday School for all ages wrapped up its program year on May 14, which also was Mother's Day and Graduation Sunday. Three graduates, Noah Danals, Whitney Ey and Holly Rodenhausen, received scholarships of \$1,500 each from our church, and Dylan Koski applied for and was awarded the \$500 Child of the Church scholarship. Sunday School attendance averaged 30-31 per week, and 22 teachers received recognition during the May 7 worship service for their year of answering God's call to teach his people.

Summer Sunday School for adults will begin in the lower level classrooms at 9:15 a.m. May 21 and continue through Sept. 3, focusing on "Calls from God," from the summer quarterly *The Present Word*, and featuring Scriptures from Judges, Prophets and Acts. Three Sundays will look at "The Mysterious Kingdom," with Scriptures from Job, Exodus, Jeremiah and Mark. So that the three regular-season adult Sunday School teachers can have a break, we seek volunteers to teach one Sunday each. No need to worry, because all the materials are available to guide you in this effort. A list of Sundays, subjects and Scriptures appears on a clipboard on the wall outside the sanctuary, so take a look and sign up to accept this call to help. For further details, see Dick Mickley.

The high school THRIVE youth group decided to continue meeting as much as possible through the summer months, and beginning May 21 will have an assistant leader, Whitney Ey. THRIVE has a new Facebook page, which will reach more students. The group also has a Twitter account and a new email address THRIVE@firstchurchmarysville.com. The students produced 200 fliers that are spreading the word to potential new attendees about the joys of participating in this enthusiastic group.

Kindergarteners through high-schoolers interested in attending Kirkmont summer camp need to be registered by May 21. The cost is only \$25 per camper, with the church paying the rest of the fees.

Kerygma class will resume in the fall with "The Light Will Shine: A Study for Advent." Participants will discover new light in traditional texts and seasonal themes. Fresh perspectives will lead them on a journey through Advent to Christmas and beyond. More information will be available in the fall.

Here is quick list of upcoming dates:

May 21: First day of Summer Sunday School for adults

June 4: Pentecost Sunday

June 11: Confirmation (NOTE: This date reflects a change from the previous date announced.)

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June 28: Vacation Bible School teachers meeting, 7-8 p.m.

July 17-21: Vacation Bible School, 6-8 p.m. (see details below)

Vacation Bible School

This year's theme offers images of Hawaii and other lush island escapes. The theme is "Paradise Bound," and registration is available online at www.planetreg.com/fpcmvbs. Registration deadline is July 1. Special T-shirts will be available for participants, and the schedule is as follows: welcome, 6-6:15 p.m.; dinner, 6:15-6:45 p.m.; classes and workshops, 6:45-7:30 p.m.; worship, 7:30-8 p.m. Teachers are Rachel Hedges and Candy Brown, infants-3-year-olds; Whitney Ey and Justin Hedges, 4-year-olds-kindergartners; first- and second-graders, Tracy Koski; third- through fifth-graders, Traci Rutledge; sixth- through eighth-graders, Donna Maley; opening activities, Debby Galloway; worship, Haley Van Duzen. The wonderful memories of last year's VBS teach us that this is a not-to-be-missed event!

Library Committee

The Library Revitalization Team needs everyone's help to ensure the church library meets the needs of our congregation. The team is working hard to revive and repair our library, which is a gem in the rough, but it has been getting shinier in recent weeks, with the committee's dedicated efforts to restore it. Within this *Pulpit and Pew* is a survey. Please take the time to complete it. You may leave it on the table in the back of the sanctuary or put it in the Library's mailbox at the foot of the stairs on the lower level. Thank you for your assistance in this project.

Our Education Team members are busy year-round!
Have a great summer!

Mary Ann Edwards
Education Team Chairman

MISSION

Mission Committee Meeting Minutes

May 11, 2017

Members Present: Susan Coder, Kathi Donnett, Carol Gibson, Dave Gibson, Rachel Hedges, Teresa Jewell, and Judy VanDuzen

- Furniture Bank is about caught up with their requests; has 10 people coming this Saturday. They are pretty well stocked at this time. Kathi mentioned that we might want to budget more money for the Furniture Bank next year since they have been operating on the \$25,000 grant that will all be gone by next year.
- It was discussed about updating Kroger Community Rewards cards, which is required to be done every year about this time.
- Carol reported on Culver's fundraiser night possibility. It was decided to have it on Thursday, June 15th from 5:00 to 8:00 P.M. They will need 2-3 volunteers to help at the restaurant that night. The Mission

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Committee will handle that responsibility. Carol will check to see if they can advertise on their sign for our Fundraiser Night.

- Kathi received a check from Fiesta Grande for \$60.00 for the fundraiser at that restaurant. The next one scheduled for there is June 6th, and then again on July 11th.
- Teresa spent \$110.27 for Personal Needs Pantry for January and February. She bought toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorants, razors, shaving gels, and shampoos. She will proceed with feminine hygiene products for our March-April contributions, and then check with Personal Needs folks about what they need next.
- Susan thanked Carol for her work in completing the Congregational Meeting annual report.
- Susan brought up the issue of who would take over as chairman of this committee beginning in August. In the past, a Session member serving on this committee would be the chairman. Tracy Koski is the only Session member on our committee, but since she was unable to attend tonight's meeting, we were not able to discuss this with her. Dave will take this issue to Session next week to discuss.
- Teresa passed out a handout about Kandel's blog. The committee decided to go ahead and send the budgeted \$1,000 amount for their missionary work.
- There was discussion about the Wounded Warriors request for monetary help. It was decided to wait until fall and see how our budget looks at that time.
- It was decided to send \$6,000 of the remaining \$12,000 budgeted, to the Hope Center.
- Kathi spoke to the committee about some issues at the Community Kitchen, so we decided to hold off giving more money to them for now.
- Teresa got a message from Kim Zacharias about the next fundraiser for the Renaissance Faire. It is to be held at Culver's on June 11th. There was discussion about how that might impact our fundraiser night at Culver's on June 15th, so we decided not to advertise for this particular fundraiser for them.
- Susan picked up the baby bottles from New Path Pregnancy Center and they will be passed out this Sunday, May 14th at church. Bottles should be returned to the church on Father's Day (June 18th). They will be returned to the New Path Pregnancy Center with the money in them. The committee also voted to send them the \$500 budgeted amount for this year.
- Judy turned in a voucher for reimbursement for Member Outreach for \$19.98.
- The committee decided to send \$1,000 to the Emergency Assistance Program (EAP) now, and another \$1,000 in October.
- Judy recommended that we support the MOMSNext program, which is a group for mothers of K-12 children. This has been proposed by Stacy Wolfe (our church secretary) to be sponsored by the Mission Committee of our church. Their monetary needs from us include a \$399 start-up fee for the 1st year only, and a \$250 one time request that would help them buy supplies until the dues come in to repay us (might possibly take two years to pay that back). After the first year, there would be an annual fee of \$179 that goes to the National MOMSNext organization. (The Methodist Church here in Marysville is currently sponsoring at least two MOPS groups that serve Mothers of Preschool age children, so this MOMSNext program would serve mothers of school age children.) Stacy's intent is to start this fall, and she is asking for our support in providing a space to meet, a place to store supplies, the ability to make copies, to provide desserts for meetings, and perhaps some help mentoring parents. Not all participants would be members of our church, so we would be inviting people into our facility to

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promote involvement in our church. After much discussion, the committee voted to support this ministry (\$399 + \$250). Teresa stated that she is willing to put that information on our website to promote the program.

- Rachel asked that we consider an earlier meeting time, as it is difficult to be out this late with little children at home. This will be discussed at our next meeting.
- Next meeting is scheduled for August 10th at 7:30 P.M.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Carol Gibson 5/12/2017.

Fiesta Grande

The Mission Committee would like to thank those who supported the fundraiser at Fiesta Grande in May. Our next fundraiser date there is June 6. Remember, at this location, 20% of the proceeds come back to our church for mission.

Thanks to everyone who has been signing the cards for our shut-ins. Each week there will be cards for someone who cannot make it to church. Let's show them how much we are thinking of them. If you know of someone who is home bound, please notify one of the Mission committee members: Susan Coder, Judy VanDuzen, Teresa Jewell, Tracy Koski, Dave & Carol Gibson, Rachel Hedges, Kathi Donnett.

Culver's

The Mission Committee has partnered with Culver's here in Marysville for a Fundraiser Night to raise money to help fund our mission projects. On June 15th, we will receive a percentage of all sales from 5:00 to 8:00 P.M. No coupon/flyer is needed for this. Mark your calendars, and we'll see you at Culver's on June 15th. Mission Team members will be there to help serve you!

CONGREGATIONAL OUTREACH TEAM = COT

The following is the *beginning* of the new round of Sunday Coffee for the months of June, July and August. The black clip board is in the *Coffee Reception Room* prior to Church and then in the **back** of the Church on the table after Church. It is "FILLER-UP" time! If it is really WARM/HOT those days, ask for "ICE-COFFEE". Let's have some summer fun!

Thanks for those who have already signed to help.

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Coffee Sign-Up Sheet for June, July, and Aug 2017

Remember: You only bring the “goodies” that you would like to share, (2 doz.+) and help with the clean-up (wipe off tables, etc.) AJ and Amanda will do the coffee.

June	4			
	11	Galloway/Kearns	937-644-0212	(Confirmation Sunday)
	18	Hedges	937-209-1040	
	25	Patterson/Archer	937-738-7263	
July	2	Burkhouse	760-221-2661	
	9	Welcome Pastor Jeff and Brianne Schooley		
	16			
	23			
	30	Patterson/Archer	937-738-7263	
Aug.	6			
	13	C. Wiehe	937-738-2737	
	20			
	27	J. Burkhouse	760-221-2661	

WILLIS B. SHEARER MEMORIAL LIBRARY
LIBRARY SURVEY
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Do you use the library yes, no; and if so how often?

For what do you use the library?

What would motivate you to use it more often?

Have you ever been to the library?

If the library was more conveniently located, would you use it more often?

Would you be willing to volunteer in the library? yes, no; If so, what days and times are you available?

Would be willing to serve on the Library Committee? yes, no;

Comments

Name, e-mail and address
