

“Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world, red and yellow black and white, they are precious in his sight, Jesus loves the little children of the world.”

Remember this song from Sunday school? We learned that God loves abundant variety. We learned that there are children all over the world who are going to Sunday school just like us. We learned that there are all kinds of people in our community, each different, with different gifts. We enjoyed learning new Bible stories, singing songs, doing crafts, playing games, doing skits, getting together with friends, having teachers who enjoyed teaching us, and having others welcome us as extended family members when we entered the church.

Little did we know back then how important the lessons we learned in Sunday school would be in our lives as we got older. We didn't know then that we would need scripture when difficult times would come. We didn't know then that those Bible stories would be valuable lessons we would rely on to see us through to better days. We didn't know then that each stage of life has its own challenges and the Bible would be a place we could go to for answers. And now, we have the opportunity to relate those important scriptures to the next generation so that the teachings remain alive in our community.

Kids are going back to school. The seasons are starting to change. Soon it will be world wide communion and we will celebrate our oneness in Christ all around the world as well as all our diversity. It is time to rally us back to church from our summer vacations and show the world that our faith is an important part of our lives. When our cars are seen in the church parking lot, we tell our community that church is a valuable part of life and that they are missing out if they aren't here too. Come, let's share in the gospel.

Welcome Back!

Congregational Development Committee

A CALL TO PRAYER

God of our life, whose presence sustains us in every circumstance, in storm and distress, we welcome the restoring power of your love and compassion. We open our hearts in sorrow, gratitude, and hope: that those who have been spared nature's fury as well as those whose lives are changed forever by ravages of wind and water may find solace, sustenance, and strength in the days of recovery and rebuilding that come.

We are thankful for the generous grace of days of preparation; for the wise counsel of experts and the generous collaboration of so many communities, that in the face of the storm kept many out of harm's way, and lessened the effects of wind and water on others. We pray for those yet in harm's way; who wait in neighborhoods while the waters rise, who pray for the rains to cease. We pray for those huddled at home or among strangers while wind ravages, for those who have fled from home and wait and wonder. We ask for sustaining courage, for the kindness of strangers, for hope that does not disappoint.

We open ourselves to listen with compassion to the stories of those whom Hurricane Harvey has not spared: communities deeply affected, whose livelihood, homes and stability have been destroyed. We pray in grief, honoring the lives, shattered and the livelihoods, homes and businesses for whom recovery seems an insurmountable mountain. We lift our voices in sorrow and compassion for families who have lost loved ones, homes, or livelihood.

We ask for sustaining courage for those who are suffering; wisdom and diligence among agencies and individuals assessing damage and directing relief efforts; and for generosity to flow as powerfully as rivers and streams, as we, your people, respond to the deep human needs beginning to emerge in the wake of the storm.

In these days of relief, assessment and response, open our eyes, our hearts, and our hands to the needs of your children and the movements of your Spirit, who flows in us like the river whose streams makes glad the city of God, and the hearts of all who dwell in it, and in You.

In the name of Christ the Healer we pray, amen.

Written by Rev. Dr. Laurie Ann Kraus, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance



**PRESBYTERIAN
DISASTER ASSISTANCE**

OUT OF CHAOS, HOPE



Photo by CNN.com

If you are interested in helping those affected by Hurricane Harvey, please consider donating to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. The information is below:

To support recovery efforts in the wake of Hurricane Harvey, visit pda.pcusa.org. If you prefer to mail a check (please designate Disaster Relief—U.S. Hurricane Response, DR000169), you may send it to:

**Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
P.O. Box 643700
Pittsburgh, PA, 15264-3700**

You may also call Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (EDT), at 1-800-872-3283 and donate by phone.

Looking Ahead....

WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday, September 10th

Starting on September 10th, we will return to our 10:45 am Worship Service time. We'll also welcome back our wonderful choir!



Blessing of the Backpacks



BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

Sunday, September 10th

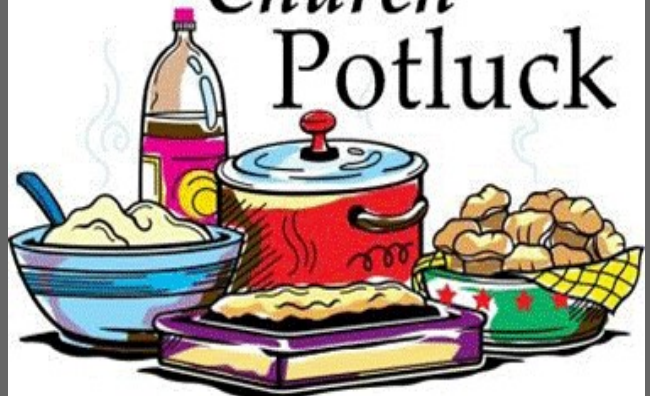
During the September 10th worship service, we will have our first "Blessing of the Backpacks". Students (of all ages), teachers, and educators are invited to bring their backpacks, literal and figurative, to church to receive this special blessing. Please feel free to invite friends and fellow students to this special event!

CHURCH POTLUCK

Sunday, September 17th

Mark your calendars and plan to join us for a potluck lunch on September 17th immediately following the worship service in the Fellowship Hall. At the potluck, we will hear about upcoming church events. All are welcome. The signup sheet is in the Fellowship Hall or you can call the church office to give the number attending and if you are bringing a salad, side, or dessert to share. See you at the potluck!

Church Potluck



OUR NEW PRESCHOOL TEACHER

Mrs. Amber Rager is the new lead teacher at Little Wonders. Her past experience includes 5 years of teaching in the Bowling Green City School District. She is a graduate of The University of Toledo with a Bachelors Degree in Special Education. She has been a resident of Huron for the past 11 years with her husband, Chris, and her three sons; Nicholas, Lucas, and Marcus. All of her children have attended and graduated from Little Wonders in the recent years.



SCHEDULE OF VISITING MINISTERS

As we move through this time of transition, our faith community depends on graciousness, prayer and faithfulness. Please help our visiting Pastors to feel a warm and welcoming peace, by extending a greeting and kind word.

Schedule of Visiting Ministers:

- September 3rd- Rev. Ed Sladek (bio below)
- September 10th- Rev. Susan Meier (bio below)
- September 17th- Rev. Dee Baker
- September 24th- Rev. Susan Meier
- October 1st- Rev. Bonnie Taylor

Biographies:

- ◆ Rev. Ed Sladek is a retired American Baptist minister who has served churches in Idaho, Illinois and for 20 years was pastor of the Ashland Avenue Baptist Church in Toledo. He was born and raised in Jackson, MI, attended Alma College and Wheaton College and the American Baptist seminary in Berkeley, CA. Ed and his wife, Betty, have been married for 37 years and live in Toledo. They are members of First Baptist Church of Greater Toledo where they serve as deacons.
- ◆ Rev. Susan Meier is the Presbyter for Common Life in Maumee Valley Presbytery. She works with congregations in transition who are seeking pastoral leadership, and provides mission support for 67 congregations in Northwest Ohio and Southern Michigan.

UPDATE FROM THE PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE

Dear Friends,

The committee has met on a weekly basis and had previously narrowed our search to 1 leading candidate with 2 other possible candidates and 2 somewhat of interest.

The committee unanimously agreed that this person was our top choice. On 8/4/17, Presbytery completed the reference check and gave approval for us to request that the COM set up a date for the candidate to preach from a neutral pulpit, and the committee followed up with reference checks reconfirming our high opinion. However, on 8/22/17 we were informed that the candidate's spouse was being transferred and that it would not allow them a move to Ohio, so their interest was reluctantly withdrawn.

Of the next 2 candidates of interest, one had accepted a contract and the other was interviewed by the committee on Skype. This person is a distinct possibility.

Recently we received 4 more Personnel Information Forms (PIF's) from the Church Leadership Connection (CLC) for our consideration and we have requested that Presbytery clear the way to interview one of them. Once approval is received, we will proceed with the interview process.

The committee will continue to meet on a weekly basis until we have a recommendation(s) for Session.

Hugh Hanes, Sara Blakeman, Clark Culbertson, Bob Muntz, Ron Ruble, and Char Schuman
Pastoral Search Committee

SOUND SYSTEM UPGRADES

"It's hard for the Church to speak to the people if they cannot hear the word of God from the pulpit."

With these words of Pastor Ann Marie, we are in the process of upgrading and replacing the Sanctuary sound system. Over the past several years, we have tried to repair parts of the existing sound system. Most of these repairs have been temporary and have only led to the point where we feel the need to replace most of the existing equipment. As a start, we recently replaced the microphones and rewired the pulpit and lectern at a cost of \$860. We have on order new electronic equipment including 3 amplifiers, a mixer, and equalizer to replace the mixer board and other existing equipment. Once installed, the new equipment will be computer adjusted and installed in a locked rack. This will eliminate the need to (or the temptation to) constantly change audio settings. Cost of this phase will be between \$4500 and \$4800 depending upon installation labor. Additionally, we will add an audio recording system, so we can record our weekly services. The recorded services will then be available to post on our church website and our church facebook page to help get our message to the homebound and others who are unable to attend. Cost of this is \$628. Completion of these upgrades will help to bring us into the 21st century. Any contribution to this project would be greatly appreciated - and, is tax deductible! Just write "sound system" or "building fund" on the memo line of your check.

From the Finance & Maintenance Committee



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Adult Sunday School will meet again starting September 10th in the Parlor at 9:30 am. We will begin our discussion of the book of Acts. Please join us as we discuss the founding of the Christian church and the spread of its message to the Roman Empire.



CUB SCOUTS

Huron Cub Scout Pack 31 will be kicking off the new scout year in September. New Scout signup night will be Wednesday, September 6 @ 7 PM at the First Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall. Our "Back to the Pack" event will be on Monday, September 11 @ 6 PM at the Huron Boat Basin. Any boy interested can join at anytime, please come check out our meetings on Mondays at 7PM at the First Presbyterian Church. Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts both meet at this place and time so all ages are invited. Please contact Chris Rager at 419-206-2739 or huronpack31@gmail.com for more information.

HORIZON BIBLE STUDY

The Horizon Bible Study for this year will be "Cloud of Witness;" the community of Christ in Hebrews. We will explore nine major themes, relate those themes to other parts of our faith tradition, and tie them together with the overarching motif of community. The community for which the letter was written interacts, in a sense, with all the communities of which you are a part, because you bring those groups with you wherever you go- they have helped to form you into the person you are. The community in which you study and worship, your family and friends, social and therapy groups...all are part of you. Join us on Tuesday, September 5th @ 7 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

FALL PRAYER PATH EVENTS

September 17th– A Time of Hope, Prayer, and Healing

- ◆ held at the prayer path
- ◆ service @ 2 pm
- ◆ individual prayer and healing stations @2:30 pm
- ◆ closing, hymns, and prayers @4:00 pm

All are welcome! Childcare is provided.

October 8th– Lighting the Way

- ◆ held at the Christian Center and on the Labyrinth @ 7-9 pm
- ◆ music and refreshments in the Christian Center
- ◆ walk the Labyrinth lighted with luminaries, meditate, and pray
- ◆ walk with a 13th Century Guide to explain the walk taken then and why the labyrinth was used by Christians

920 S. Main St.

Huron, OH

(Behind Zion Lutheran Church)

LOCAL EVENTS:

Sandusky Alzheimer's Support Group

*Come join us for our upcoming meeting @ 7 pm
Firelands Regional Medical Center in the
South Campus Cafeteria*

Tuesday, September 26th– Choosing a Nursing Home
Speaker: Rebecca Baumgartner, BA, LSW

EHOVE

2017 Senior Citizen Fall Festival

Wednesday, September 20th & Thursday, September 21st

*EHOVE Career Center
316 W. Mason Road
Milan, OH 44846*

Call: 419-499-4663 for tickets and more information



Office Hours:
Monday– Friday
8:30 to 11:30 and 12:30 to 3:30



September 1 Sam Nikolajevs
 September 3 David Asher
 September 6 Fritz Mueller
 September 7 Eileen Darby
 September 7 Gene Darby
 September 7 Lesa Guerrero
 September 9 S. Baird Pfahl
 September 10 Daniel Ryu
 September 11 Felicia Holloway
 September 12 Char Schuman
 September 14 Campbell Hagy
 September 17 Daniel Jett
 September 19 Virginia Parisi
 September 22 Sarah Blakeman
 September 22 Elizabeth Fenn
 September 23 Joyce Chapin
 September 26 Jim Berry
 September 26 Cynthia Zorn
 September 28 Patricia Williamson
 September 30 Andrew Bickell

September 5 PW Circle @ 7 pm
 September 7 Choir & Handbell Practices Resume
 September 9 Youth Theater Spaghetti Dinner @ 5-7:30 pm
 September 10 Worship Times Switch to 10:45 am
 September 10 Blessing of the Backpacks during Worship
 September 13 Christ's Community Meal @ 5 pm
 September 13 Worship and F&M Meetings @ 7 pm
 September 14 N&M Meeting @ 7:30 pm
 September 17 Church Potluck following Worship
 September 18 Steeple Notes Deadline
 September 27 Christ's Community Meal @ 5 pm
 September 27 Session Meeting @ 7 pm



	Ushers	Liturgist	Hospitality	Flowers
Sept. 3	Phillip & Janeane Hopkins	Tammy Boos	Patti Smith	Mark & Pat Koch and Gene & Eileen Darby
	Communion Servers: Hugh & June Hanes, Carolyn Culbertson, and Gail Burke Set-up: Cynthia Mathews			
Sept. 10	Edwina Chamberlin & Patti Smith	Agnes Toldy	<i>volunteer needed</i>	Carol Mack
Sept. 17	<i>2 volunteers needed</i>	Janis Brewer	<i>volunteer needed</i>	Dave & Betty Fenn
Sept. 24	<i>2 volunteers needed</i>	Hugh Hanes	<i>volunteer needed</i>	John Bickell



SEPTEMBER 2017



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3 Worship @9:30am (2-Cents-A-Meal/ Communion)	4 Women's Bible Study @ 9:30 am Hot Dog Monday @ noon	5 PW Circle @ 7 pm Little Wonders First Day of School	6 Women's Bible Study @ 6 pm	7 Handbell Practice @ 6:30 pm Chancel Choir Practice @ 7:30 pm	8	9 Youth Theatre Spaghetti Dinner@ 5-7:30 pm
10 Worship @10:45am Blessing of the Backpacks	11 Women's Bible Study @ 9:30 am Hot Dog Monday @ noon	12	13 Christ's Community Meal @ 5 pm Women's Bible Study @ 6 pm F&M & Worship Meet- ings@ 7 pm	14 Handbell Practice @ 6:30 pm Chancel Choir Practice @ 7:30 pm N&M Meeting @ 7:30 pm	15	16
17 Worship @10:45am Church Potluck	18 Women's Bible Study @ 9:30 am Hot Dog Monday @ noon	19	20 Women's Bible Study @ 6 pm	21 Handbell Practice @ 6:30 pm Chancel Choir Practice @ 7:30 pm	22	23
24 Worship @10:45am	25 Women's Bible Study @ 9:30 am Hot Dog Monday @ noon	26	27 Christ's Community Meal @ 5 pm Women's Bible Study @ 6 pm Session Meeting @ 7 pm	28 Handbell Practice @ 6:30 pm Chancel Choir Practice @ 7:30 pm	29	30