



PASTOR'S PONDERINGS...

Dear Church,

It's an historic place – this Montreat. It was founded in 1897 by Presbyterians who wanted to grow closer to God in a “thin space” where the veil that separates us from the Creator was more sheer.

They discovered a promising site high up on North Carolina's Black Mountain, not far from Swannanoa. No doubt the Scot and Irish Presbyterians who settled this land did so remembering their former homes in the highlands!

It wasn't long before Presbyterians from up and down the seaboard - especially in the south –

were calling Montreat their second home. Today their homes and gathering buildings are almost hidden amongst mountain mists, rhododendron and great, tall trees.

It's still a spiritual place – this Montreat. God's presence was palpable as I walked through evening's raindrops while listening to tiny, peeping tree frogs, laughed and worshiped with clergy sisters, and wondered at the beauty of blooming azaleas surrounded by heavenly fog! The plentiful and good food, the camaraderie of new and old friends gathered together and lack of television and radio offered us rest and nourished our bodies, minds and souls.

And yes, it's also an educated place - this Montreat. Not only does Montreat College nurture students towards their life's callings, but the 50 or so clergywomen who came from across the continent discovered how we might better serve God amidst the dragons, frog and fairytales that inhabit our world. We even learned from a sister who is the sixth woman to have been ordained to ministry of word and sacrament in the Presbyterian Church!

All in all this time away in this “thin place” - this Montreat- was an enriching, enlivening experience and I thank you for helping me take the time to learn, rest and renew!

In Peace,

Pastor Deb



Looking Ahead....

RUMMAGE SALE

Saturday, May 5th

Help support our Presbyterian Women group by stopping by their Rummage Sale, which will be held on May 5th from 9 am until 2 pm. Volunteers are still needed for set-up and tear down. They will be setting up on Friday, May 4th from 9 am until noon.



Spring Work Day



CHURCH WORK DAY

Saturday, May 12th

Come one, come all to our Spring Work Day. Mark your calendars for Saturday, May 12th beginning at 9 am. Doughnuts and refreshments will be provided. We hope to do the following: put out garden hoses, clean nursery room, clean youth room, clean kitchen, clean out area under fire escape by cellar doors, clean area by dumpsters, organize closet in treasurer's office and clean up balcony of cardboard.

SUMMER WORSHIP HOURS

Sunday, May 27th

Starting on Memorial Day Weekend, we will switch to our summer hours with worship beginning at **10 am**. The worship time will remain the same through Labor Day Weekend.



HELPING HANDS FOOD PANTRY



Thank you for supporting our church's hunger initiatives by supplying canned goods and other nonperishable items, as well as egg cartons. These items are taken to the food pantry located at The Lighthouse Church. Many thanks for your continued support of the 2 cents a meal program. Your contributions are sent to our Presbytery and the Helping Hands Food Pantry. The Red and Blue 2 cents a meal buckets are located in the parlor and Fellowship Hall on the first Sunday of the month.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

For the first 3 Sundays in May we will be exploring a new format to combine elements of bible study and current events. We will review a gospel lesson and consider the context of the Middle Eastern culture of Jesus' time and through that lens discuss how the lesson relates to issues of our day. Janeane Hopkins (SP) will be leading our lesson using the book "Jesus through Middle Eastern Eyes" as a guide. You do not need the book for this 3 Sunday program.

If we like the format we will discuss using it more in depth when we begin Sunday school in the fall. Please join us at 9:30am in the Parlor.

BICYCLE CLINIC

**Saturday, May 12th from 2 pm to 4 pm
in Fellowship Hall**

Bring your bike to receive a free spring tune-up which includes basic maintenance such as lubrication, tire pressure, brake adjustments. Minor repairs.

If you have a flat tire, please bring a proper-sized tube (if you don't know the size, come early and we will tell you what size you need).

Weather permitting, shake-down ride at 4 pm.

If you have a bicycle that you are no longer using, please drop it off between April 30th and May 4th in the Fellowship Hall and we will try to find it a good home.



COMING SOON! We will be sharing a Vacation Bible School program with the United Methodist Church, and they will be hosting this year at their church building. Mark your calendars: dates are set for July 9th to July 13th from 9 am to 11:30 am. Keep a look out for more details to come in bulletins and June's Steeple Notes.



PENTECOST SPECIAL OFFERINGS

How is my gift used?

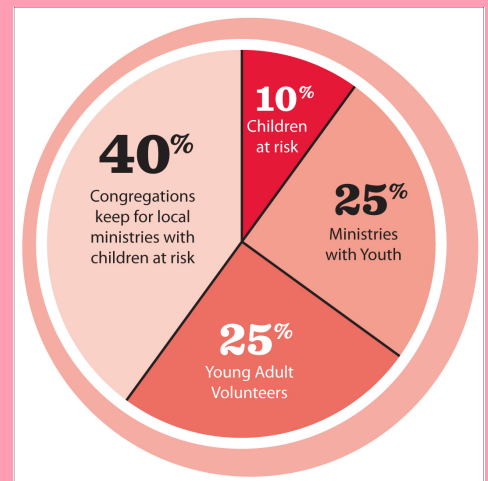
A gift to the Pentecost Offering helps the church encourage, develop, and support its young people, and also address the needs of at-risk children. 40% of the Pentecost offering can be retained by individual congregations wanting to make an impact in the lives of young people within their own community. The remaining 60% is used to support ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency. Give at pcusa.org/pentecost.

The Pentecost Offering As Revenue Sharing

This offering is appropriately received at Pentecost, just as the church is remembering the coming of the Holy Spirit with its wondrous animating activity in the life of the church. The children and youth who benefit from these gifts are themselves an animating presence in the church of today, whether members of Sunday schools or neighborhood children who receive hospitality and homework assistance.

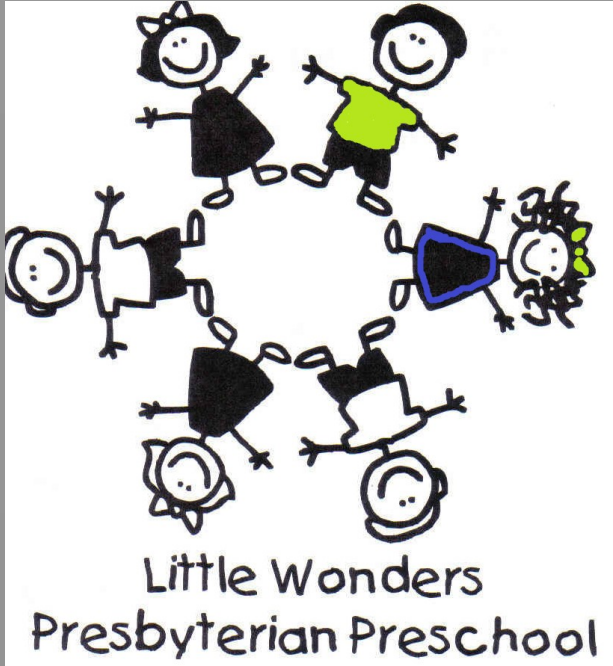
The Pentecost Offering should be an integral part of every congregation's participation in the Educate A Child Initiative, since through this Special Offering:

- Each church serves the larger ministry of the PC(USA) by enabling programs for **children at risk** and supporting **Young Adult Volunteers** and **Ministries with Youth**, which includes Youth Triennium.
- Each church expresses its goodwill for children beyond its own neighborhood by joining a portion of its treasure along with others in a coherent Presbyterian voice for children.
- **Each church retains 40% of the offering**, which can serve as start-up funds for an Educate the Child program or sustaining funds for ongoing ministry.



The Pentecost offering is a Christian discipline of stewardship in which, through revenue sharing, the whole church witnesses to Jesus' injunction that "whoever welcomes one of these little ones, welcomes me." It just makes sense – dollars and cents!

***Please mark the envelope and/or check memo line with "Pentecost Special Offering."**



Above: Ms. Cheryl from Erie Metroparks visited the classroom to talk about frogs.



Above: They finally finished their igloo!



Above & Below: We're thankful for the warmer, nice weather because our Little Wonders get to play and explore outside!



May 1 PW Circle @ 7 pm

May 2 Staff Alice Training @ 11:15 am

May 4 Rummage Sale Set-up @ 9 am– noon

May 5 Rummage Sale @ 9 am—2 pm

May 7 Prayer Group @ 1 pm

May 8 Election Polling Location (All Day)

May 9 Christ's Meal @ 5 pm

May 9 F&M and Worship Meetings @ 7 pm

May 10 N&M Meeting @ 7:30 pm

May 12 Church Work Day @ 9 am

May 11 Huron Garden Club Plant Sale Set-up @ 3 pm

May 19 Huron Garden Club Plant Sale @ 9 am – noon

May 21 Prayer Group @ 1 pm

May 23 Little Wonders Last Day of School

May 24 Little Wonders Graduation @ 6:30 pm

May 27 CHANGE TO SUMMER WORSHIP HOURS (10:00 am)

May 28 OFFICE CLOSED for Memorial Day



May 3 Margaret Swords

May 4 Carolyn Culbertson

May 7 Leonard Homyak

May 8 Alice Roehrs

May 11 Tammy Boos

May 12 Becky Koenig

May 12 Carrie Symmonds

May 13 Sharon Carnal

May 13 Lise Cook

May 16 Harper Hagy

May 19 Bob Muntz

May 20 Joel Hagy

May 20 Betsey Luipold

May 20 Stephanie Schippel

May 21 Lee Marsh

May 22 Ann Pullano

May 23 Jeanne Schafer

May 29 Janet Gottwald

May 29 Tom Kirby

May 30 John Bickell


May 31 Genette Solomon

	Ushers	Liturgist	Hospitality	Flowers
May 6	Edwina Chamberlin & Gail Burke	Tammy Boos	Kathy Kirby	Patti Smith
Communion Servers: Tom Williamson, Patti Smith, Edwina Chamberlin, and John Bickell				Set-up: Jann Glann
May 13	Susan & Marc Martter	Terry Burke	Mother's Day Luncheon	Bob & Marcie Muntz
May 20	Patti Smith & June Hanes	Karen Brown	Patti Smith	Kathy & Tom Kirby
May 27	Rachel Pratt & John Bickell	Casey Wittmer	Kaman Family	Mark & Pat Koch



MAY 2018



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 PW Circle @ 7 pm	2 Alice Training for Staff @ 11:15am	3 Handbell Practice @ 6:30 pm Chancel Choir Practice @ 7:30 pm	4 Rummage Sale Set-up @ 9am-noon	5 Rummage Sale @ 9 m-2pm
6 Worship @10:45am (2-Cents-A-Meal/ Communion)	7 Hot Dog Monday @ noon Prayer Group @ 1 pm	8 Election/Polling Location (All Day)	9 Christ's Community Meal @ 5 pm FS&M and Worship @ 7pm	10 Pastor Deb @Presbytery Training (all day) Handbell Practice @ 6:30 pm Chancel Choir Practice @ 7:30 pm NSSM Meeting @ 7:30 pm	11 Church Work Day @9am	12 Church Work Day @9am
13 Worship @10:45am	14 Hot Dog Monday @ noon	15 Presbytery at Maumee @ 3pm	16 Christ's Community Meal @ 5 pm FS&M and Worship @ 7pm	17 Handbell Practice @ 6:30 pm Chancel Choir Practice @ 7:30 pm	18 Huron Garden Club Sale Set-up @ 3 pm	19 Huron Garden Club Plant Sale @ 9 am-noon
20 Worship @10:45am Presbytery: Beer & Hymns Event @ 7 pm (619 Monroe St., Toledo, OH)	21 Hot Dog Monday @ noon Prayer Group @ 1 pm	22 Little Wonders Last Day of School Christ's Community Meal @ 5 pm	23 Little Wonders Last Day of School Christ's Community Meal @ 5 pm	24 Little Wonders Graduation @ 6:30 pm Handbell Practice @ 6:30 pm Chancel Choir Practice @ 7:30 pm	25 Huron Garden Club Sale Set-up @ 3 pm	26 Huron Garden Club Plant Sale @ 9 am-noon
27 CHANGE TO SUMMER HOURS Worship @10:00am	28 <i>Memorial Day</i> OFFICE CLOSED  Hot Dog Monday @ noon	29 Presbytery at Maumee @ 3pm	30 Christ's Community Meal @ 5 pm	31 Handbell Practice @ 6:30 pm Chancel Choir Practice @ 7:30 pm		