



## PASTOR'S PONDERINGS...

Dear Church,

It's September? Really? You mean this lovely, rather relaxing summer is almost over?

It feels all too brief after the long, blustery and cold winter we went through.

But that's God's plan.

In his dissonant yet beautiful composition *In the Beginning* Aaron Copeland quotes Genesis 1: 14-15.

And God said, "Let there be lights in the firmament of the heavens to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs and seasons, and for days and years; and let them be light!"

The changing of the seasons is dissonant. We are pulled and tugged between hot and cold, budding and falling leaves. And yet God fills our eyes with the wonders of new shades of yellows, greens and reds as well as the aromas of sweet alysium, fresh tomatoes and a subtle spiciness that signals fall-and it's full of light!

To witness these changes is a blessing.

So while I am not a fan of autumn – it's the harbinger of winter storms – I relish these "thin times" of changing seasons where God's work is most palpable.

I also relish the traditional beginning of the church year. I say traditional because liturgically the beginning of the church year is the First Sunday of Advent. We're still in the Ordinary Time that follows Pentecost.

But life here in this place isn't exactly ordinary is it?

In the next couple of months this congregation will take up some long standing activities, but we'll also enjoy a few new events!

First and foremost is the "change" in worship time. After much prayerful consideration – and after consulting you all at a congregational meeting – the session decided to not "fall" back, but stay the course of our worship hour at 10:00 a.m.

Because of this decision, choir will warm up at 9:45 a. m. And when hand bells play they'll practice at 9:30 a.m.

This means that the Sunday morning adult education class will meet at 8:45 a.m. This fall they'll be studying Middle Eastern life in ancient times. You may have noticed that I often drop a bit of ancient cultural history into my sermons. When we know about these people's life and times we can better understand the depth of Jesus' words and actions. Janeane and Chuck are leading this study and I hope many of you will opt in for the season!



## PASTOR'S PONDERINGS CONTINUED...

And speaking of worship, you need to know that the worship committee and I will be working to devise a service structure that invites your participation and is flexible enough to allow for special events and still send us on our way to fellowship time and afternoon plans in just about an hour. As ever, worship is a work in progress so if you experience something you don't like –or really do like – please let Steve, Jann, Karen or me know. When we hear from you we can reconsider how things work!

There will also be some exciting events happening in worship in the coming months. On World Communion Sunday, October 6, we'll hear about what it is to serve as a missionary (aka "Mission Co-Worker") for the PC (USA) from a young woman who spent a year in Northern Ireland in the denomination's Young Adult Volunteer (aka – "YAV") program.



At the end of October we'll share in the excitement of Youth Sunday! The four students who are meeting discerning who they are as young adults of faith – Annabelle, Ava, Danny and Ethan – want to lead us in worship! It is so exciting for me to journey with these bright, caring and joyous youth. I believe you'll be thrilled to see how they have changed over the summer and fall!

I'm hearing too that now that the various committees have returned from their summer travels all will be looking for ways to enhance the life of the church and community. In particular, the stewardship committee is planning a return to FPC-Huron's famous Fall Fish Dinner! What a great way to celebrate our life together here on the lake shore!

Last but not least is that this congregation will host the Maumee Valley Presbyter's meeting on Tuesday, September 18<sup>th</sup>. Ruling Elders and pastors from Adrian, Michigan to Milan and Van Wert, Ohio will gather here at 3:00 p.m. to discuss matters that affect every PC(USA) church in between as well as across the country. They'll also enjoy table fellowship over a dinner prepared by Bob and his team. Hosting this event is a major undertaking. And so, since many hands make light work, I hope you will all agree to help sometime during that day if a session member asks!

Yes. It's September-and it's full of light! May God bless us as we journey through the autumnal times ahead.

In Peace,

*Pastor Deb.*

# Looking Ahead....



## LYDIA CIRCLE

**Tuesday, September 4th**

*Things Are Changing...New and Different  
Lydia Circle*

It's time to reorganize Lydia circle. There are lots of ideas to propose and we welcome yours, too. Come help make decisions on Tuesday, September 4th @ 7 pm.



## HANDBELL CHOIR

**Thursday, September 13th**

The first rehearsal of the bell choir will be on Thursday, September 13th @ 6:30 pm in the Bell Choir Room. If you are interested in joining, please contact Janeane Hopkins. We look forward to hearing their beautiful music during future worship services!

## PRESBYTERY MEETING

**Tuesday, September 18th**

All hands on deck! We will be hosting the next Presbytery meeting here on Tuesday, September 18th. We will be looking for volunteers to help with various tasks including child care, serving dinner, greeting, etc.

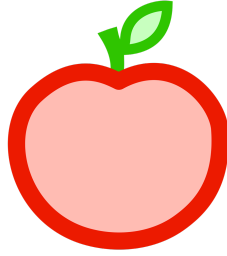




# BACK TO SCHOOL PRAYER

## A Prayer for Students

Lord, we lift hearts grateful for gifts of curiosity and imagination. Fill the minds of your children with a quest to understand your world, and bless their hearts with the security of knowing you are present whether the learning is joyful, hard, lonely, or full of friendship. Wherever they go, you are there. Amen.



## A Prayer for Teachers

God, thank you for calling some to be teachers and providing them the gifts and training to lead others on a life-long path of learning. Instill patience in hurried moments, insight to find the best strategies, and stamina that sustains when weariness threatens. Amen.

## A Prayer for Parents

Precious Lord, we send our precious children into the world of learning, but they are never far from you. May the hearts of all at home be knit tightly together in a web of support and encouragement for healthy learning habits so we may share healthy life adventures wherever you lead. Amen.

## A Prayer for All Who Serve

Our God, some are students, some are teachers, some are parents, but many more serve and support learners of all ages. Be present in the offices, buses, classrooms, and playgrounds of all who touch the lives of students. Give them words of encouragement and affirmation of the lasting value of the work they do each day. Amen.



## WORSHIP TIME

It's official....our worship time will remain at 10 am year round! Please note this change on your calendars!



## Remember the Church When Estate Planning...

Our Growth and Preservation Fund is an excellent opportunity for your giving consideration, be it your will, stocks, or as a named beneficiary of an insurance policy. This financially wise method of stewardship helps ensure the long-term financial stability of the church and provides a planned means for the church to continue its role in the lives of our members and those to whom we reach out, in our community and beyond.



*Girlfriends in God Bible Study Group*  
Beginning Wednesday, September 19  
6:00pm - 8:00pm

**Group will meet every other Wednesday**

The Book of Hosea is a deeply personal and passionate love story, yet it's a difficult story. As an account full of harsh judgment unfolds, we find in its midst a rare gem: the truest and purest of loves. Join us as we learn from Hosea how un-failing love changes everything. If you are interested in embarking on this 7-session journey, please call or text Ann Pullano at 419-202-4916 to order a study guide.



# PRAYER— "EVERY EARTHLY BLESSING"

The Celts prayed in all circumstances and about everything with no division between secular and sacred. As the Celtic lady prayed while washing her face and milking her cow, how might we make occasions for prayer in the ordinariness of our day?

Here are some ideas. You can add to the list:

- ◆ Alarm-clock prayer— As your alarm goes off and you wake up, say, "This is the day the Lord has made; I will rejoice and be glad in it."
- ◆ Shower prayer— Water is a powerful Christian symbol. As you soap and rinse in the shower, pray to be cleansed of all anger, resentment and bitterness.
- ◆ Gas pump minute— As you pump gas into your car, ask God's Spirit to flow into you, filling you with divine energy.
- ◆ Red-light act of contrition— At every red light tell God you're sorry for all the times you stopped living God's will and pursued your own desires.
- ◆ Planting a garden— As you plant each seed, think how God has bound us together in the roots and branches so we can grow together in Jesus' promises and bear fruit for each other.
- ◆ When seeing a plane, train, bus— Are you heading in the right direction? Ask God to guide you, and listen for His direction. You might also ask God to care for those who are traveling.
- ◆ When turning on your computer— Humbly pray to God, source of all knowledge.



*How is God present to you?*

*Submitted by the FPC Huron Prayer Group*

## THANK YOU

The Huron Boys Soccer Team thanks you for the use for your site for our annual Car Wash Fundraiser!



## EHOVE SENIOR CITIZEN FALL FESTIVAL

**Wednesday, September 19th and  
Thursday, September 20th**

10:15 am— Doors Open

11:00 am— Welcome Guests

Entertainment by: Singin' & Swingin' with Patrick

11:45 am— Lunch Served

Advanced reservations required. No reservations over the phone. Seating is limited to 325 per day. September 14th is the deadline to make a reservation. If you're interested in making a reservation, please contact Becky in the church office and she'll give you more information.

# CHANCEL CHOIR

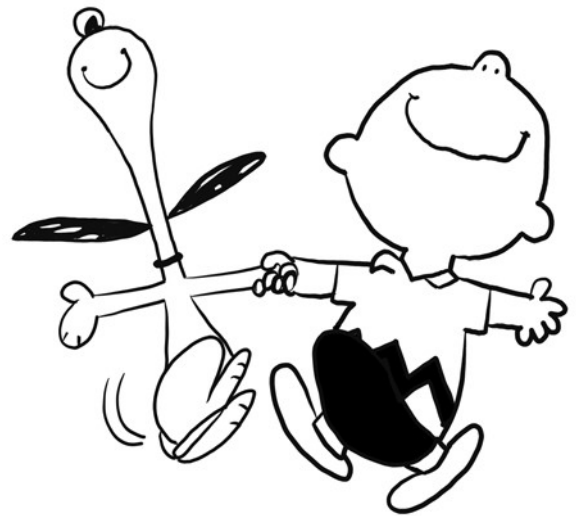
As some of you may know, the "Peanuts" comic strip & characters are absolutely FAVORITES of the Chancel Choir Director at FPC. And ONE of those characters has declared, "*Happiness is singing in the choir!*"

SO, if you enjoy 'being happy,' why not give Chancel Choir a try???? We'd LOVE to have you join us!! Rehearsals are on Thursdays, 7:30 to 8:30 pm in the Choir Room (decorated with lots of "Peanuts" stuff!), and 15 minutes prior to the beginning of each Worship service. You don't have to read music to be a member....we will help place you in a 'part' (soprano, alto, tenor, baritone, bass) if you're not sure your voice range. We can use ALL voice types!!

We have a WONDERFUL time in *sharing our talents together* to sing praises to our Creator!! Occasionally, we even 'reward' ourselves (J) with dessert after choir rehearsal....ice cream, homemade hot fudge sauce, cake, cookies, etc. !!

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Jann, or any of the Choir members. FIRST REHEARSAL is Thursday, September 6<sup>th</sup>!!!

*"Make a joyful noise unto the Lord!....Come before His presence with singing!"*



## ADULT BIBLE STUDY



Adult Bible study will resume on Sept. 9, 8:45 am in the parlor. Janeane Hopkins will take us through another parable of Jesus as we see it through Middle Eastern eyes. All are welcome and encouraged to come. Bring your own Bible.

## BOY SCOUTS

Huron Cub Scout Pack 31 will be kicking off the new scouting year in September. New Scout signup night will be Wednesday, September 5 @ 6:30 PM at the First Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall. Our "Back to the Pack" event will be on Monday, September 10 @ 6 PM at the Huron Boat Basin. Come to these exciting events to learn more about scouting for grades K-5, yes Kindergartners are now included. Troop 31 is also available for older scouts looking to get back to scouting or try something with adventure. Please contact Chris Rager at **419-206-2739** or [huronpack31@gmail.com](mailto:huronpack31@gmail.com) for more information.



## WORSHIP WONDERINGS

A question was raised at a recent Session meeting: Why do we do things like confess sin or affirm our faith or not sing every verse of hymns in worship?

It's a good question and something others of you have also asked. So, as a way of attempting to answer this query, I've decided to try offering a monthly Steeple Notes item to talk about one part of our worship services. If you have a particular item you'd like me to write about sooner rather than later here, please let me know and I'll work to meet your request. But for now, as a way to start out, I'll share some insights on something we do early in the service: The Passing of the Peace.

I suspect most of us remember a time when this act wasn't part of the service. Many even thought it was a bit "un-Reformed!" And it felt pretty awkward too – especially when we turned to head back to our pew and that person we were arguing with over the carpet color for the classrooms was right there in front of us! What on earth were we to do? So, in some churches the Passing of the Peace began to be seen as a "Good Morning greeting."

Well, it is a greeting. But it's also a lot more!

You see, this Passing of the Peace has actually been handed down to us by the ancient church and is a tradition found in scripture. On multiple occasions throughout the gospels Jesus said "Peace be with you" to his disciples. The Apostle Paul often began his letters with the words "Grace and peace be with you."

Peace. Peace rather than fear, or anger or hatred. Peace.

What a wonderful sound in our ears! The sense of well-being which is implied in that word is what Jesus stood for. It's the way of being in the world his followers are called to live into.

When we offer Christ's peace to others in worship we are reminded of our calling to keep the peace throughout the world. And there is a cumulative effect on us when we repeat – and repeat- and repeat these words each week. Saying these four words works to reform our hearts, just as we work to teach a young child to say thank you. Yes, at first she'll repeat the phrase because you told her to do so. But over time – and much practice – she begins to say the words quite naturally and suddenly she begins saying them not by rote, but with heart felt meaning!

Passing the Peace of Christ works the same way. Repeating these words – even to people with whom we are feuding - helps us mature in faith. It reminds our hearts of Jesus' call to us and paves the way to a sense of peace and well-being between us which often overflows out into the world.

And that's what Jesus intends! For we are called to be peace makers in this world in his name.

Peace be with you,

*Pastor Del*





# Back to School Supplies

The Huron Helping Hands Ministry and Adopt A School Program are teaming up to collect school supplies for needy area students this Fall.

They are asking for the following:

- watercolor paints
- 2", 1-1/2" and 1" 3-Ring Binders
- compasses
- packages of pencils (20 ct.)
- calculators
- loose leaf paper - wide rule
- composition books
- loose leaf paper - college rule
- boxes of tissues
- large tip washable markers
- large glue sticks
- gallon bags, quart bags, and sandwich bags

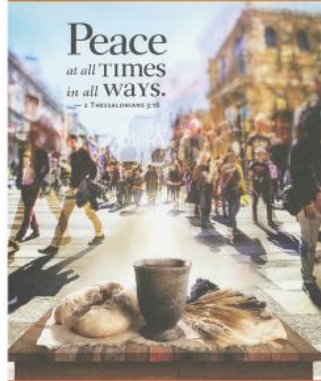
Collection boxes are set up at many area churches, Shawnee Elementary and Woodlands Intermediate Schools, or items may be dropped off at the Helping Hands Food Pantry at Lighthouse Assembly of God Church, 820 Cleveland Rd. E., Huron. Call 419-433-8889 for more info.



**JOIN US FOR A  
SPECIAL HYMN SING  
SERVICE ON SUNDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 2ND!**



PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS  
SPECIAL OFFERINGS  
PEACEMAKING AND RECONCILIATION



The Peace & Global Witness Offering encourages the church of our time to cast off anxiety and fear, discord and division, and embrace our reconciling God's mission with those around the corner and around the world, as active peacemakers — at all times in all ways.

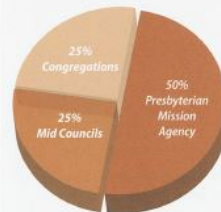
#### When is it received?

The season for this offering is September 2 to October 7 (World Communion Sunday) but can be received at any time during the year.

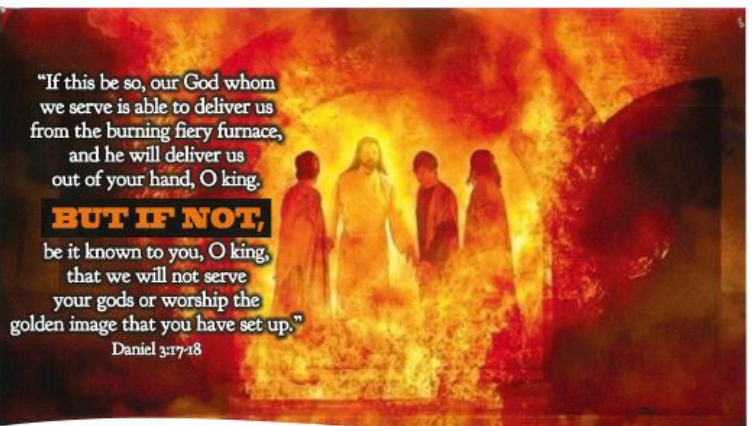
Visit [pcusa.org/peace-global](http://pcusa.org/peace-global) for resources.

#### How is my gift used?

A gift to the Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the entire church to collaborate in our proclamation of Christ's peace. Congregations keep 25% and mid councils keep 25% to engage in peacemaking and build ministries of reconciliation in their own context or around the world. Some examples of how funds have been used:



- Help fund educational assistance for veterans.
- Donate to programs working toward the elimination of all forms of human trafficking.
- Begin a Senior Companion Program that pairs senior citizens to help with light chores, errands, and transportation to the doctor.
- Support the work of a mission co-worker.



## A Time of Prayer, Hope, and Healing September 16, 2018

2:00 p.m. Opening service of prayer and praise

2:30 p.m. Individual prayer and healing stations

Huron Community Prayer Path

930 S. Main St. - Rt. 13 • Huron, Ohio

Healing service held rain or shine on the Prayer Path and Labyrinth grounds

Come and go as your time allows - The Prayer Path is open before and after the healing service.



Sponsored by:  
Huron Community  
Prayer Path and Labyrinth  
along with the churches of Huron

#### Experience His Presence

All Prayer Requests Welcome  
Prayer Options

1. Healing for self and others
2. Prayers of Hope & Expectation
3. Emotional Healing - Letting go of past disappointments and injuries
4. State, USA and World issues
5. Work and financial

#### Questions?

Call:  
Tom 419-271-5271 or  
Shelia 419-602-3298

Visit us at  
[huronprayerpath.com](http://huronprayerpath.com)

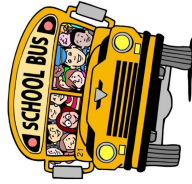


September 1 Sam Nikolajevs  
 September 3 David Asher  
 September 6 Fritz Mueller  
 September 7 Eileen Darby  
 September 7 Gene Darby  
 September 7 Lesa Guerrero  
 September 9 Dr. Baird Pfahl  
 September 10 Sandi Kingseed  
 September 10 Daniel Ryu  
 September 12 Charlene Schuman  
 September 14 Campbell Hagy  
 September 17 Daniel Jett  
 September 19 Virginia Parisi  
 September 22 Sarah Blakeman  
 September 23 Dennis Horan  
 September 26 Jim Berry  
 September 26 Cynthia Zorn  
 September 28 Patricia Williamson  
 September 30 Andrew Bickell  
 September 30 Karen McMillion  
 September 30 Katy McMillion

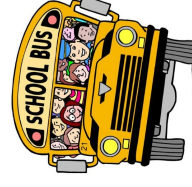


September 3 Labor Day– Office Closed  
 September 4 Little Wonders First Day of School  
 September 5 Scout Open House @ 6:30 pm  
 September 6 Chancel Choir Practice Resumes @ 7:30 pm  
 September 10 Scout Back to the Pack Event at the Boat Basin  
 September 12 Christ’s Meal @ 5 pm  
 September 12 Girl Scout Parent Meeting @ 5-7:30 pm  
 September 12 F&M and Worship @ 7 pm  
 September 13 N&M @ 7:30 pm  
 September 16 Confirmation Class  
 September 16 Prayer Path– Healing Service @ 2 pm  
 September 17 Prayer Group @ 1 pm  
 September 18 Presbytery Meeting (All Day)  
 September 19 Girlfriends in God @ 6 pm  
 September 22 Crane Youth Theatre Spaghetti Dinner @ 4:30– 7 pm  
 September 26 Christ’s Meal @ 5 pm  
 September 26 Session @ 7 pm  
 September 30 Confirmation

|  | <b>Ushers</b>              | <b>Liturgist</b>                    | <b>Hospitality</b> | <b>Flowers</b>        |
|--|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Sept. 2</b>                         | Marc & Susan Martter       | Tammy Boos                          | Patti Smith        | Dave & Jeannine Asher |
| <b>Communion Server:</b> Lesa Guerrero |                            | <b>Communion Set-up:</b> Jann Glann |                    |                       |
| <b>Sept. 9</b>                         | Kathy Kirby & Ron Ruble    | Casey Wittmer                       | Bob & Marcie Muntz | Ron Ruble             |
| <b>Sept. 16</b>                        | June Hanes & Patti Smith   | Janeane Hopkins                     | Kathy Kirby        | Doug & Wendy Quinn    |
| <b>Sept. 23</b>                        | Clark & Carolyn Culbertson | Steve Koenig                        | Kaman Family       |                       |
| <b>Sept. 30</b>                        | Jack & Marcia Arthur       | Carolyn Culbertson                  | Gail Burke         | John Bickell          |



# SEPTEMBER 2018



| Sun  | Mon  | Tue  | Wed   | Thu   | Fri                             | Sat   |
|--|--|--|---|---|---------------------------------|---|
|  |  |  |   |   |                                 | 1   |
| 2<br>Worship @10:00am<br>(2-Cents-A-Meal/<br>Communion)                                  | 3 <i>Labor Day</i><br>OFFICE CLOSED<br>Hot Dog Monday<br>@ noon                              | 4 Little Wonders First<br>Day of School<br>Lydia Circle @ 7 pm | 5<br>Scout Open House @<br>6:30pm   | 6<br>Chancel Choir Practice<br>@ 7:30 pm  |                                 | 8   |
| 9<br>Adult Bible Study @ 8:45am<br>Worship @10:00am                                      | 10<br>Hot Dog Monday<br>@ noon<br>Boy Scouts- Back to the<br>Pack Event at the Boat<br>Basin | 11   | 12 Christ's Community<br>Meal @ 5 pm<br>Girl Scout Parent Meeting<br>@ 5-7:30pm<br>FSM and Worship @<br>7pm | 13 NSM Meeting @ 7:30pm<br>Handbell Practice<br>@ 6:30 pm<br>Chancel Choir Practice<br>@ 7:30 pm                  | 14                              | 15  |
| 16 Adult Bible Study @<br>8:45am Worship @10:00am<br>Prayer Path-Healing Service<br>@2pm | 17<br>Hot Dog Monday<br>@ noon<br>Prayer Group @ 1 pm  | 18<br>Presbytery Meeting<br>(All Day)                          | 19<br>Girlfriends in God @ 6<br>pm  | 20<br>Handbell Practice<br>@ 6:30 pm<br>Chancel Choir Practice<br>@ 7:30 pm                                       | 21<br>Little Wonders -No School | 22<br>Crane Youth Theater Spa-<br>ghetti Dinner @4:30-7pm |
| 23<br>Adult Bible Study @ 8:45am<br>Worship @10:00am                                     | 24<br>Hot Dog Monday<br>@ noon   | 25<br>Little Wonders Open<br>House                             | 26<br>Christ's Community Meal<br>@ 5 pm<br>Session @ 7pm  | 27 Little Wonders PTO Meeting<br>@6:30pm<br>Handbell Practice<br>@ 6:30 pm<br>Chancel Choir Practice<br>@ 7:30 pm | 28                              | 29  |
| 30<br>Adult Bible Study @ 8:45am<br>Worship @10:00am                                     |  |  |   |   |                                 |   |