



## PASTOR'S PONDERINGS...

Dear Church,

IT'S FALL – THE BUSIEST SEASON OF ALL!

Maybe it's because it follows the relaxed rhythm of summer, but don't you feel like life runs at a furiously fast pace once September begins? Not only have committees been busy with meetings, but Becky and I both took time away in October. No wonder it sped by in the blink of an eye! It's crazy to realize that Thanksgiving is almost here... Where will anyone get the time for that?

You can see what I mean by just looking at this month's calendar:

- Last Sunday we enjoyed great fellowship and fantastic fish during our annual Stewardship Dinner.
- Friday night everyone is invited to enjoy spaghetti with Troop 31. Your contribution helps the boys learn so much while cultivating the kind of behaviors we all hope tomorrow's leaders will exhibit. (And they get to go camping too!)
- This coming Sunday we will rejoice with the Williamson's as a second grandbaby, Nora Jane Hoover, is baptized.
- We'll also celebrate the Lord's Supper and remember church members who've left us and now sing their praises in the Church Triumphant.
- Then on Tuesday 11/6 we host the Board of Elections as people cast mid-term ballots. (Please get out and vote!)
- Friday, November 9 we get to enjoy another yummy spaghetti dinner with our Little Wonders families. Please come, eat and get in on their terrific raffle prizes!
- The 11<sup>th</sup> marks the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of the armistice that was to end all wars. And it's the day we will remember the men and women who've served in the US military.
- Also on the 11<sup>th</sup> we'll hear from Elder Ed Bettendorf. Ed is a member of the Firelands Church in Port Clinton. He's participating in a presbytery based class on preaching that will enable him to serve area churches for a day.
- Lots of committees will meet during the week of the 12<sup>th</sup> ...even Session!
- And please remember – your 2019 pledges need to be received by the 12<sup>th</sup> so Session can plan the budget at this meeting.
- Then we're into THANKSGIVING! The annual Turkey Dinner will be held after worship on the 18<sup>th</sup>!
- Not only that but we'll also recognize the good men and women of the church who have been part of this faith family for 50 or more years!
- Thank goodness the office will be closed from noon Wednesday, 11/21 until Monday 11/26. With so much going on we all need some time to breathe before Advent begins!

So I have a question for you: How do you want to experience the weeks ahead? With so much busyness, it will be easy to get tuckered out, or worse yet, feel like you've lost your way through life.

Though your financial pledges need to be presented by 11/12, I wonder if you might not choose to make one more pledge today? Would you be willing to pledge to take five extra minutes a day to breathe deeply in the Spirit's peace?

While you could do so as an extension of your current prayer time, it might be more helpful if you'd take the extra five at another time. Just settle yourself – turn away from the computer or stove or TV - and focus your heart on the amazing gifts God has given you - while breathing slowly and deeply. Let go of the minutia that clutters the day, allow the Spirit to fill your heart and say *"Thank You" to the One who has made them all.*

That's it. Just breathe while thanking God for this amazing life you've been given. Fall may be busy, but you don't have to run through it at break neck speed. Taking time to praise God may seem like an inconvenience, but I truly believe you'll discover you're more energetic and yet more peaceful, than first seemed possible when looking at that calendar.

Thanks Be to God for Fall – a Time to Breathe Deeply,

Pastor Deb.

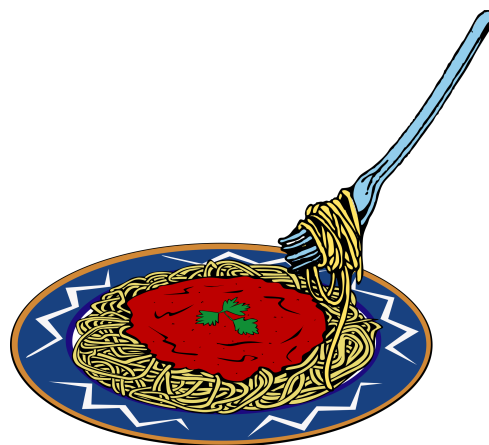
# Looking Ahead....

Let's Eat!

## BOY SCOUT SPAGHETTI DINNER

**Friday, November 2nd**

Boy Scout Troop 31 will be hosting a Spaghetti Dinner at our church on Friday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> from 5-7:30 pm. The dinner includes spaghetti, roll, salad, drink, and dessert. Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$5 for children. Carry out is available. Please consider supporting our scouts by stopping on out for a delicious meal!



## LITTLE WONDERS SPAGHETTI DINNER

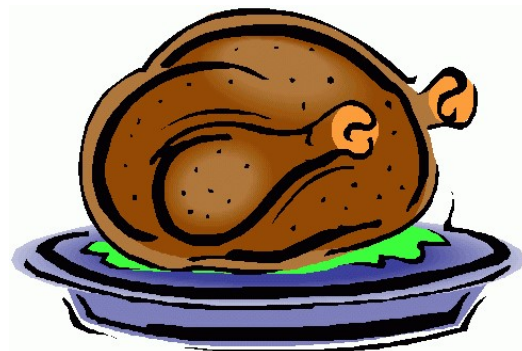
**Friday, November 9th**

Please plan to attend the Little Wonders Presbyterian Pre-school's Spaghetti Dinner & Raffle Fundraiser on Friday, November 9th from 5-7 pm. Each dinner will come with a generous helping of spaghetti, meatballs, bread, salad, dessert, and a drink. Dinners are also available for carry-out. This fundraiser is their main fundraiser of the year. Thank you!

## TURKEY DINNER

**Sunday, November 18th (following worship)**

Our Thanksgiving Dinner will be after worship next Sunday, November 18th. If you are interested in attending, please sign-up on the sheet in the Fellowship Hall. We request that you write your name, the number attending, and offer to bring a salad, vegetable, or dessert to share with others. Turkey, mashed potatoes, dressing, rolls, gravy, and beverages will be provided by the Nurture and Mission Committee. We hope to see you there!



# LET'S WELCOME A NEW PREACHING STUDENT TO THE PULPIT!

This congregation has a long history of opening their hearts and minds to men and women who have felt God's call to become a pastor. Janeane Hopkins and Tim Whalen are two of the more recent ministerial students who have learned about their call here in this place. So when the presbytery asked me if Huron First would like to guide a preaching student through four sermons, I took the idea to Session. After some consideration, they chose to participate in the effort.

That's how it came to be that this Sunday, November 4, Elder Edward Bettendorf will preach his first sermon in the Huron First pulpit.

Edward is a life-long Presbyterian. Raised in Fairview Park, Ohio he attended Yale University before joining the U S Army in the 1970's. After separation he pursued a law degree and soon began practice as a trial lawyer with ATT in the Cleveland area. For 23 years he and his wife, Marta Vielhaber, lived in Mayfield Heights and attended the Western Reserve Church in Pepper Pike where he served on Session. After 32 years with ATT he and Marta, who was a pediatrician and allergist both retired from practice and came to live at their cottage in Lakeside. They've joined the Firelands Presbyterian Church there and Ed serves on the Worship and Music and Safety and Security Committees and is their Clerk of Session. While not fulfilling his church duties, Ed enjoys holidays in Arizona, piloting his airplane and walking the couple's two large dogs. Their daughter, Genevieve, is currently working towards a PhD in English at the City College of New York.

Ed will preach for us four times between November and early May. Pastor Deb will serve as Liturgist each time and a small group of observers will evaluate Ed's sermons and give regular feedback. When the program is completed he will be fully prepared to serve as "Pulpit Supply" preacher for churches when their regular pastor is on vacation.



## PRAYER CALENDAR FOR THE CHURCHES OF HURON

**November 4, 2018**

Zion Lutheran Church  
Reverend Kristine Schroeder

**November 11, 2018**

First Presbyterian Church  
Reverend Deborah Bowsher

**November 18, 2018**

Grace Fellowship Church  
Reverend Larry Oldaker

**November 25, 2018**

Christ Episcopal Church  
Reverend Michael Floyd

# THANKSGIVING DAY

The memory grows sweeter and sweeter  
As though time granted wishes,  
When I think of a holiday table  
I see Grandmother's English blue dishes.

By way of the bridge to the next town  
The family traveled that special day,  
Rushing to arrive there early,  
Allowing plenty of time to stay.

My brother and I would dart from the car  
Calling, "Grandma, we're here!"  
The aromas I remember are yet today  
Wonderful, delicious and clear.

Turkey in the oven, crispy brown,  
Pumpkin pie on the shelf waited there  
Twelve place settings spread around  
A table in loving care.

So many of those folks are gone,  
Even I seem to have fewer wishes,  
But I long to hear Grandfather's lengthy prayer  
At a table set in Grandmother's blue dishes.

*Written by: Eileen M. Wikel Darby*



# DISTRIBUTE FUNDS FROM AN IRA

Since 2018, anyone over 70 1/2 can distribute funds from an IRA (individual retirement account) directly to the church or any charity up to \$100,000. This gift will not be included in your income and will not be deductible, but it can be counted as part of the required minimum distribution (RMD). This is a great way for many of our congregants to support the life and work of our church. As always, for financial matters, please consult with your financial advisor.

# MESSAGE FROM THE PRAYER GROUP

"A rich, vibrant, consoling, hard-won prayer life is the one good that makes it possible to receive all other kinds of goods rightly and beneficially. [Paul] does not see prayer as merely a way to get things from God but as a way to get more of God himself." (Timothy Keller, *Prayer: Experiencing Awe and Intimacy with God*.)



How is your prayer life? Do you want more of God? Come to Prayer Group. **We will meet November 5th and 19th at 1:00pm.** There are no requirements. Just come and be with us.

*"Prayer is simply the key to everything we need to do and be in life." ~Keller*

*"I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart; before the gods I sing your praise; I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness..."*

*~ Psalm 138*



Autumn is a time when we notice the darkening of the earth and begin to settle in for the winter ahead. And the end of October brings All Hallows' Eve, a "thin" time when our Celtic forbearer's poignantly sensed the ebb and flow of the boundaries between this world and the next.

All in all, it's a time when we often feel a deep calling to our hearts inviting us to more deeply contemplate the mysteries and sacredness of life. It's then we find ourselves seeking inward signs of God's grace, something not ordinarily seen. So we find ourselves developing new or welcoming old rituals in our lives. Often these rituals signify holy mysteries which have been handed down to us from generation to generation. They become sacred and through their practice we grow closer to God.

It has been said that such sacraments are occasions when something holy happens. They become transparent moments when people can see through the veil of time to something deep inside time.

On Sunday November 4 we will have the joy of sharing in at least two moments when holiness happens by celebrating both Reformed sacraments during worship. Early on in the service we'll rejoice with the Williamson family as they bring their second grandchild, Nora Jane Hoover, to be baptized. Later in our time together we'll share in the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Both rituals signify holy mysteries and like generations before us, draw us into the depths of God's presence!

But November 4<sup>th</sup> is also All Saints Sunday. So the joys of the day will be tempered by the time during which we'll remember the saints of this congregation who have, over the last twelve or so months, left this earth to join the "Church Triumphant."

Oh that phrase! Being parted from a love one through death feels anything but triumphant. And yet when we remember that through our baptism we have been united with Christ, and through our savoring of the holy meal we are strengthened for our earthly journey until we are brought home to him... Well then perhaps we can glimpse the eternal joy that our loved ones are experiencing and that waits for us all when we pass on to new life. Perhaps through remembering them God will draw us closer to God's heart.

Officially, Presbyterians recognize just two sacraments. But I believe that on this first Sunday of November our entire service will be sacramental, a time of transparency when we will taste and "see what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God" and poignantly sense God's wondrous grace.

And those worshipful moments *together will be joyfully holy!*



## WHY DO I NEED TO RETURN A PLEDGE CARD?

There are two reasons why it is important that every member of our church family return an estimate of giving card. First, the process of prayerfully asking God to guide your decision and then making a commitment to serve the Lord with your financial gifts is an act of worship, an expression of gratitude and praise to God. Second, on a more practical note, your commitment allows our church to budget and better plan for our ministries, key objectives, and mission outreach programs.

*"A tithe (tenth) of everything from the land, whether grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the Lord; it is holy to the Lord."*

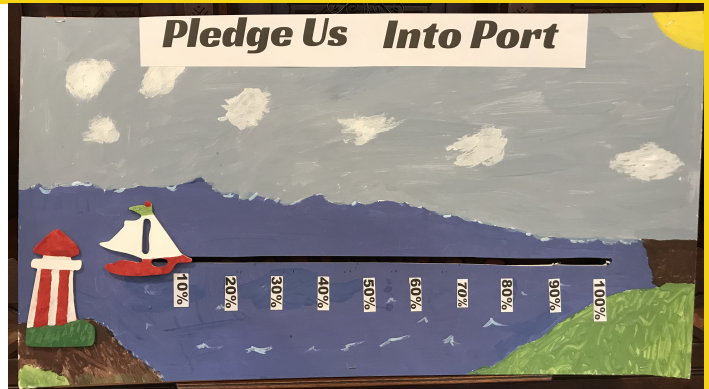
~ Leviticus 27:30

## A BEAUTIFUL FALL FALCON



When coming to church Sunday, John Blakeman spotted something irregular about the church steeple; a dark spot. His binoculars revealed a hawk of some sort resting on the rim. At first, he thought it was a Red-tailed Hawk. But he took some telephoto shots of the bird and discovered that the raptor was a rare Peregrine Falcon, probably in migration. It had crossed Lake Erie, and was perched and preening on our steeple, a welcome place of rest after its long migration flight.

In Israel, eagles and falcons migrate along the ridges of hills. Consequently, there are many scriptural references to these regal birds. For instance, in Job 39:26 God says to Job: "Is it by your understanding that the hawk soars, stretching his wings toward the south? This church was blessed to be a rest stop for one such bird flying south!



*It's an opportune time to set your sails for FPHC's 2019 journey with Jesus. Please pledge to do so by November 12.*



**A Big Thank You** to all who supported the Fall Rummage Sale by donating, sorting, selling, buying, and/or cleaning up afterwards. A special thanks to the Boy Scouts

of Troop 31 who set up the tables and carried down donations and metal shelving units stored in the balcony.

The sale raised \$843.75 for the Presbyterian Women to fund their activities and outreach projects in the coming year. In addition to raising money, the sale was successful in providing people in need with good, quality items at very reasonable prices, which is the greatest measure of success for a church rummage sale.





## PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

OUT OF CHAOS, **HOPE**

*Do not fear, for I am with you  
Do not be afraid, for I am your God; I will  
strengthen you, I will help you.* (Isaiah 41:10)

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) is offering immediate aid to the communities impacted by Hurricane Michael. This joins responses already underway for those impacted by Hurricane Florence, Typhoon Mangkhut, and other international disasters that have suffered a lack of media coverage.

Hurricane Michael struck the Florida panhandle with devastating winds and storm surge, causing loss of life. The storm then cut a path across the southeast, moving through the same areas impacted by Hurricane Florence just a few weeks earlier.



FEMA/Liz Roll

PDA is deploying teams to affected presbyteries. Emergency aid, assistance in the development of a short-term response plan, as well as a ministry of presence will be the priorities of the initial response.

Meanwhile, areas impacted by Mangkhut and Florence have received aid and support through the gifts of Presbyterians like you. In humility, with God and your continued support, we will continue to help draw hope out of the chaos, together.

### **Will you stand in the "GAP" (Give/Act/Pray) to help the survivors of these terrible storms?**

**GIVE:** Hurricanes Michael and Florence and Typhoon Mangkhut have caused extensive damage and loss of life. Some of you have already given generously in previous weeks. While the needs can feel overwhelming, continued prayer and giving will ensure that the whole church is able to respond. Gifts can be made online or by phone at (800) 872-3283. If you'd prefer you may write your check to our church and we'll add it to others & send in a church check for the total. Just mark the memo line "PDA."

**PRAY:** As this hurricane and typhoon season continues to cause destruction and loss of life, please pray with us that the communities affected by these events and those offering assistance will be strengthened, have their needs met and be reminded of the hope found in God.



# LITTLE WONDERS

Our Little Wonders enjoyed their harvest parties on Wednesday, October 31st. They participated in some "spook"tacular fun activities planned by their parents!







# IN THE COMMUNITY



## VETERAN'S DAY COMMEMORATION

**Saturday, November 10 @ 1 pm**

Huron Public Library will be hosting their 2nd annual Veterans Day event to celebrate our service men and women, and the families that support them. Hear the stories and memories of local veterans, learn about local resources, and remember absent heroes at the Missing Man Table. Any attendee is invited to share during the open forum following the speakers. Refreshments will be provided. *Registration is encouraged.*

Featuring a talk from author William "Bill" Brown and a patriotic musical medley performed by The Huron High School Troubadours.

## ROAST BEEF DINNER

Castalia Congregational UCC Roast Beef Dinner, Saturday, November 3rd serving 4-7 pm. Slow roasted beef, home cooked mashed potatoes with gravy, green beans, fresh salad bar, dinner roll and choice of homemade dessert. \$10 adults, \$5 children. All proceeds to benefit local missions and ongoing church projects.

Location: 205 Main Street, Castalia, OH 44824

## WORLD COMMUNITY DAY

**Friday, November 2nd @ 1:00 pm**

Second Baptist Church  
315 Decatur Street  
Sandusky, OH 44870

Hosted by: Church Women United

RSVP: Mardell (419-231-6382) or

Bobbie (419-621-7504)

## HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS NIGHT

**Wednesday, November 14th @ 6:30-8:30 pm**

**at St. Peter Catholic Church (430 Main St., Huron)**

◆ *Come to learn more about Human Trafficking and its extent in our area, what is being done to combat it and help the victims, and what positive actions we can take.*

**Moderator:** Peter Range

**Panel Members:** Tracy McGinley, Jeff Willbarger, Tony Mass, and Terry Stephan

## SAUERKRAUT SUPPER

St. Stephen UCC (905 E. Perkins Ave., Sandusky, OH 44870) will be hosting their 67th Annual Sauerkraut Supper on Tuesday, November 13th from 5-7pm. Carry out will be available from 5-6:30 pm. Adult tickets are \$12, Children Ages 5-12 tickets are \$5, and Children 4 and under tickets are free. They will be serving pork roast, sauerkraut, mashed potatoes, gravy, apple-sauce, bread, beverage, and pie. Crafts and baked good will be sold in the chapel.

## INSTALLATION OF ZION LUTHERAN'S NEW PASTOR

*You are invited in presence and prayers to joyfully celebrate*

***The Installation Services of Reverend Kristine Diana Schroeder and Reverend William A. Schroeder***

Thursday, November 1st @ 6:30 pm

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church  
930 Main Street, Huron, OH 44839

***The celebration will continue at:***

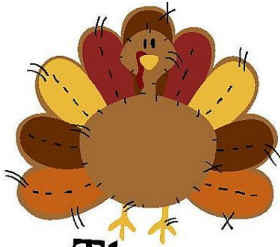
St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

2211 Mills Street, Sandusky, OH 44870

**Reception will follow in St. Paul's Fellowship Hall**



- November 10 Katie Brouse
- November 19 Deborah Schisler
- November 20 Joanna Phillips
- November 22 Terry Emerson
- November 25 Kerry Glann
- November 25 Ava Moser
- November 26 Brian McGraw
- November 27 Kenneth Zorn
- November 29 Parker Muntz



# Happy Thanksgiving

**Don't forget to FALL BACK, and turn your clocks back an hour on Saturday, November 3rd!**



- November 1 N&M Meeting @ 7:30 pm
- November 2 Boy Scout Spaghetti Dinner @ 5-7:30 pm
- November 4 Nora Jane Hoover's Baptism/Special Luncheon
- November 4 All Saints Remembrance
- November 5 Prayer Group @ 1 pm
- November 6 PW Circle @ 1 pm
- November 6 Election Day
- November 9 Little Wonders Spaghetti Dinner @ 5-7 pm
- November 11 Guest Preacher: Elder Ed Bettendorf
- November 13 Session @ 7 pm
- November 14 Christ's Meal @ 5 pm
- November 14 Girlfriends in God @ 6 pm
- November 14 F&M/Worship Meetings @ 7 pm
- November 18 Turkey Dinner (following worship)
- November 19 Prayer Group @ 1 pm
- November 21-23 No School- Little Wonders
- November 21-23 Office Closed starting @ noon on Wednesday
- November 28 Christ's Meal @ 5 pm
- November 28 Girlfriends in God @ 6pm





	Ushers	Liturgist	Hospitality	Flowers
<b>Nov. 4</b>	Marc & Susan Martter	Steve Koenig	Williamson Family	Priscilla Auble
<b>Communion Server:</b> Janet Mueller, Katy McGraw, Kathy Kirby, and Rachel Pratt		<b>Communion Set-up:</b> KC Wittmer		
<b>Nov. 11</b>	Bob & Marcie Muntz	Pastor Deb Bowsher	Sarah Blakeman	David & Jeannine Asher
<b>Nov. 18</b>	June Hanes & Patti Smith	Karen Brown	Turkey Dinner	Jann Glann
<b>Nov. 25</b>	Clark & Carolyn Culbertson	Cynthia Mathews	Ellen Drumm & Katy McGraw	Muntz Family/ Jann & John Glann



# NOVEMBER 2018



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
4 Adult Bible Study @ 8:45am Worship @10:00am (2-Cents-A-Meal/Communion) Nora Jane Hoover Baptism/ Special Reception	5 Hot Dog Monday @ noon Prayer Group @ 1 pm	6  Polling Location (All Day) PW Circle @ 1 pm	7	1 Handbell Practice @ 6:30 pm Chancel Choir Practice @ 7:30 pm N&M @ 7:30 pm	2 Boy Scout Spaghetti Dinner @ 5-7:30 pm	3
11 Adult Bible Study @ 8:45am Worship @10:00am Guest: Ed BetENDORF	12 Hot Dog Monday @ noon	13 Little Wonders-Back to the Wild (Fellowship Hall) Session @ 7 pm Little Wonders Parent Teacher Conferences	14 Christ's Community Meal @ 5 pm Girlfriends in God @ 6 pm F&M/Worship @ 7 pm	8 Handbell Practice @ 6:30 pm Chancel Choir Practice @ 7:30 pm	9 Little Wonders Spaghetti Dinner @ 5-7 pm	10 Modolo Baby Shower
18 Adult Bible Study @ 8:45am Worship @10:00am 50+ Recognition Turkey Dinner	19 Hot Dog Monday @ noon Prayer @ 1 pm	20 Young Life Friendsgiving @ 6-8 pm	21 Little Wonders- No School/Office Closed starting @ noon on 11/21	15 Handbell Practice @ 6:30 pm Chancel Choir Practice @7:30 pm	16	17 Turkey Dinner Prep (All Day)
25 Adult Bible Study @ 8:45am Worship @10:00am Stewardship Dinner	26 Hot Dog Monday @ noon Church Women United	27	28 Christ's Community Meal @ 5 pm Girlfriends in God @ 6 pm	22  Happy Thanksgiving!	23	24
				29 Handbell Practice @ 6:30 pm Chancel Choir Practice @7:30 pm	30	