First Presbyterian Church of Huron Rev. Sara Hodsden October 2020

### A Message From the Pastor

Steeple Notes

2020 has been a year that we will certainly remember. We have experienced a pandemic, civil unrest, and economic hardship. Sometimes it feels as the problems facing us are overwhelming. Adding to the frustration, we were unable to gather for worship for months, and many of our church activities have been canceled or postponed due to the pandemic. As your new pastor, I struggle with a sense that I do not fully understand the yearly patterns of the church. There are things that typically happen in Christian education, in worship, in fellowship, and in mission, that I am not yet familiar with. It is not much fun to be a pastor when you must remain six feet away from your parishioners!

Even as we, as individuals and as a church, are frustrated, so is the world around us. There is a level of brokenness, depression, anger, and loneliness at a level I have not seen in my 25 years of ministry. As the people of God, we must be intentional about how we respond. Scripture must be our guide in how we reach out to the world.

Paul teaches us that there are many spiritual gifts, but there are three that are most important of all: faith hope and love. On October 11th, 18th, and 25th, we will explore these essential spiritual gifts.

I Corinthians 13 is often read at weddings, but we learn much about faith, hope, and love in this text. **Faithfulness**—not size, power, status, or wealth—is God's measuring stick for Christians and for congregations. God gifts us with hopefulness through Christ and the Holy Spirit. In verses 4-7, Paul unpacks love's characteristics: patience and kindness, a lack of envy, boasting, edginess, resentment, and bullying. Christians and congregations must experience and share love that looks like this.

Paul finishes I Corinthians 13 by telling us that in the end, it is faith, hope, and love that will last eternally. Other spiritual gifts, such as teaching, prophesy, encouragement, generosity, will all fade away, while faith, hope and love remain. Paul is telling us that no matter what we do, if we do not do it in a spirit of faithfulness, hopefulness, and in love, we are missing the mark.

May everything we do as the First Presbyterian Church in Huron be wrapped in faith, hope, and love.



Photo Credit: TapaTalk— Women's Triangle Recovery House, Madisonville, KY

# PRAYER GROUP- "SEASONS OF PRAYER"

Often we are called into a season of prayer. The day that Jesus Christ ascended into heaven, the disciples entered "constant" prayer. They were like us and unsure about the changing future, but they were confident in God's plan. He told them what to expect and promised the Holy Spirit as a helper who would reside in them as a guide and comforter.

As the election gets closer, we will increasingly be bombarded by opposing views and by the media. But Christians, empowered by the Holy Spirit, are called to pray and to "pray constantly". This same Holy Spirit provides an abundance of gifts for the believer, including "eyes to see" and clarity of understanding God's purposes (I Corinthians 2:13). When we pray, we trust that God will lay his plans on our hearts, and we can then participate by being His hands and feet. **America greatly needs your constant prayer** right now because nothing is more powerful than a person in prayer.

"In all circumstances take up the shield of faith... praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints..."

Ephesians 6:16, 18

In October, The FPC Prayer Group will be offering their heartfelt prayers of mercy on October 12 and 26, at 1:00 pm. We need Pray-ers. Please consider joining us! Call Margaret Swords, Missy Sprankel, Carolyn Culbertson, JoAnna Work, Rev. Sara Hodsden, or Susan Martter. We will pray for you!

Written By: Susan Martter on behalf of the FPC Huron Prayer Group

# Music Under the Steeple

Mark you calendars! The "Music Under the Steeple" concert series at First Presbyterian Church in Huron is back for the 2020-2021 season in a virtual format for the time being! We begin in October with an organ concert by Steve Plank.

Steven Plank is the Andrew & Meldrum Professor and Chair of the Department of Musicology at Oberlin College where he has taught for over forty years. A specialist in music of the seventeenth century, he is also an author, has received numerous honors and awards, and has been a church musician for nearly fifty years, and is a member of the Association of Anglican Musicians. (Biography and further concert details to follow)

Throughout his four decades of teaching, Professor Plank has changed the lives of countless numbers of students, including myself. His knowledge, interaction, and love for music (especially early music), and life has served as a constant inspiration! See you online and thank you for the support. Matthew Dion, Organist

SESSION MEMBERS Sarah Blakeman– N&M/Nominating Co-chair Gail Burke– Stewardship Carolyn Culbertson– Nominating, Co-chair

Ellen Drumm– *N&M* June Hanes– *Worship Chair* Phillip Hopkins– *F&M Chair* Chuck Kaman– *Christian Education Chair*  Patti Smith– *N&M Co-chair* Doug Quinn– *F&M* Marcia Arthur– *Clerk of Session* 



- October 3 Priscilla Auble, Molly Emerson
- David Prout, Annabelle Ryu October 6 Joanna Oller
- October 7 Matthew Asher
- October 8 Maggie Prout
- October 9 June Taylor
- October 13 Marcie Muntz
- October 14 Edie Emerson, Pat Koch
- October 15 Gail Burke, Ward DeLamatre Patti Hand, Steve Koenig, Wendy Quinn
- October 19 Katy McGraw
- October 23 Kathy Kirby
- October 24 Susan Todd
- October 26 David Fenn
- October 29 Janeane Hopkins
- October 30 Tom Kirby, Jr., Ellen Prout Eldon Zimmer

### PRAYER CALENDAR FOR THE

Churches of Huron

#### **October 4, 2020** Christ Episcopal Church

Rev. Michael Floyd

October 11, 2020 Lighthouse Assembly of God Church

> October 18, 2020 St. Peter's Catholic Church Father Jeff McBeth

October 25, 2020 Huron United Methodist Church Pastor Pamela Sayre

# Farewell....Velcome!

As most of you know, our long-time administrative assistant, Becky Hoffman, left us to take a teaching position. We are sad to see her go, but thankful for her ministry over many years. We will honor Becky at worship service on October 18, 2020!

We are also welcoming Dawn Fleming as our new assistant! The interview committee was impressed by her warmth, compassion and organizational skills. Dawn will begin regular office hours on Monday, September 28th at 9:00 am.

We owe a great deal of thanks to our administrative assistant substitutes who have filled in over the past couple of months. Thank you to Marcia Arthur, Sarah Blakeman, Carolyn Culbertson, Ellen Drumm, Jann Glann, Kathy Kirby, Francesca Lendrum, Susan Martter, Marcie Muntz and Ann Pullano.

### NEW Hours!

Starting Monday, October 5th, the church office will be open Monday-Thursday from 8:15-11:15 am and 12:15-3:15pm.

# POETRY READING

Join us for our first poetry reading of the year on October 25th at 3:00 pm in the Sanctuary. There will be a variety of poets, and music from the Ryu Family. This event will also be available on our Facebook page. For more information, please contact Ron Ruble.



The American Red Cross will be in Fellowship Hall October 22nd from 1—6:00 pm as we support a blood drive. RESERVATIONS A MUST by calling 800-Red-Cross (800-733-2767) or the area office at 216-416-4004.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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<b>4</b> Worship @10:00 am (2-Cents-A-Meal/ Communion)	5 Hot Dog Monday Meal (TAKE-OUT ONLY) @ noon	9	7	$\infty$	6	10
<b>11</b> Worship @ 10 :00 am	12 Hot Dog Monday Meal (TAKEOUT ONLY) @ noon Prayer Group @ 1 pm	13 Worship Committee @ 9:00 am	14 Christ's Community Meal (TAKE-OUT ONLY) @ 5 pm	15	16	17
18 Worship @10:00 am Honoring Becky Hoffman Organ recital @ 3:00 pm (virtual only)	19 Hot Dog Monday Meal (TAKE-OUT ONLY) @ noon	20	<b>21</b> Session Meeting @ 7pm	<b>22</b> Red cross blood drive 1;00– 6:00 pm (Reservation necessary)	23	24
<b>25</b> Worship @10:00 am Poerry reading @ 3:00 pm In the sanctuary	<b>26</b> Steeple Notes Deadline Hot Dog Monday Meal (TAKE-OUT ONLY) @ noon Prayer Group @ 1 pm	27	<b>28</b> Christ's Community Meal (TAKE-OUT ONLY) @ 5 pm	29	30	31 Halloween!