



A Message from Pastor Sara

How do you feel about surprises? A mom and dad in Texas told their kids they would fly to Dallas to go to the Great Wolf Lodge. Their kids wondered why they weren't driving but didn't argue. When they arrived at the airline gate, they sat the kids down and said, "We're not going to Dallas.

"So we're not going to Great Wolf Lodge?" they asked, disappointed.

"No, unfortunately, we canceled our reservations. So instead, we're going to Disneyworld!"

Of the three children, two were joyful and giddy about the surprise. The third was angry. How could you lie to us?

Sometimes, even a good surprise is unwelcome to a person who doesn't like surprises.

I don't always like surprises. I don't like changes at the last minute. I don't like when the heat doesn't turn on in the sanctuary mid-winter. I don't like walking into the church and finding a burst pipe. I could live without such surprises.

Yet, God surprises me all the time. Sometimes it's a surprise that starts disappointing. I loved my congregation in Pennsylvania, but then James and I discerned a clear call to his church in Norwalk. Surprise! I was like the kid disappointed in the trip to Disney. And then God brought

us together as church and pastor. It was, and is a blessing.

Our son, Thomas, was a surprise. A great one! But the church I served then had burned to the ground just months before, and I was also busy earning my Master's of Divinity. Not good timing, God. But in truth, it was perfect timing. So Thomas was, and is, a blessing.

Another "God surprise" has come our way. We were among a handful of churches invited to participate in a church transformation cohort primarily funded by the Lilly Foundation. Typically, this type of consulting work costs well over \$10,000. However, thanks to the generosity of the Lilly Foundation, we will pay between \$500-\$800 per year for this process.

We will work with Leighton Ford Ministries alongside four other Ohio Presbyterian churches in a season of discernment. This is not a naval-gazing exercise nor a "one-size-fits-all" program for church growth. Instead, this process will allow us to examine the DNA of our church and open us up to visions and dreams for the future of FPC Huron. You will learn more about this in the coming months as I learn about the process.

"God surprises" are the best surprises. Ask Abram and Sarai, Rachel, Mary and Joseph, and Paul of Tarsus. I look forward to sharing God's surprises with you as we discern the future together.



Worship with Us:
Sundays at 10:00 a.m., in person
or on Facebook
@ facebook.com/fpchuron

upcoming events



Thursday, June 8th

12 p.m.—7 p.m.

FPC Huron Fellowship
Hall

Sign up at Redcross.org



Thursdays

9 a.m.— 2 p.m.

in Fellowship Hall.

Bring lunch, hang out, quilt
with us,

or let us teach you!

Ladies Who Lunch

Friday, June 9th

@ Manny's Restaurant

Bogart Rd. And Rt. 250

* Please call the church office by June 5th, to let Dawn know you will be coming. We like to make reservations at the restaurant, so THEY know we are coming!

If you can make it, but did not reserve, that's ok, come anyway, there is always room for more!

Upcoming Ladies Who Lunch Dates and Places:

July 14th @ Bar North,

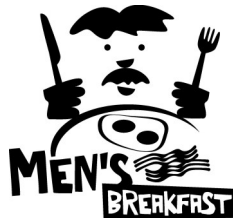
Thunderbird Golf Course in Huron

Dessert to follow at the Muntz's House

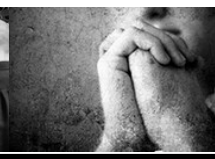
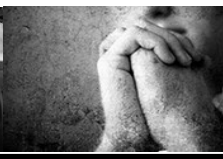
August 11th @ Freight House in Norwalk

We look forward to seeing you!

For the Guys...



The Men's Breakfast and study will begin on Saturday, July 15th at 8:00 a.m, and take place the second Saturday of every month. Rev. James Hodsdon will lead.



Prayer and Study Opportunities

Churches of Huron Prayer Calendar

6/4—St. Peter Catholic Church

Father Doug Garand

6/11 — Huron United Methodist Church

Pastor Pamela Sayre

6/18 — Zion Lutheran Church

6/25 — First Presbyterian Church

Pastor Sara Hodsden

Prayer Concerns

R.D. Mathey, Family of Richard Mathews, Rebecka Dean, Carol Kopkas, Rachel Leonard, Wilson Pullano, Mary Sue James (Patti Smith's sister), Denny Velliquette, Eldon Zimmer, June Franduto, Rev. Randal Richards, Paul Brown, Michael Jett, Angela Belliveau, Margaret Swords, Brad Mason, Jim, David Wittmer, Gabe Phillips, Kerry Lynn, Marla Pedersen, Nancy McPeak, David Claxton, Nick LaFace, Gene Darby, Rev. Clair Brewer, Sharon Carnal, Barb Gettman, Roberta Leimbach, John Jones.

Prayer Group

Thankful, Prayerful, and JOYFUL. Philippians 1:3-6.always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with JOY, because of your partnership in the gospel....

As we pray thankfully, we now can be joyful, since we are partnering with others in prayer. When together we bring our situations, needs, and triumphs before the throne of grace that fellowship brings joy. That's how Paul felt about the Philippian believers. He prayed sorrowful and hopeful prayers alike with joy because of their shared partnership. Our hearts ache together over the burdens of our kids, their marriages, jobs, illnesses and bereavements. But our fellowship in prayer with other believers creates a joyful, thankful people who then can have the promised peace that passes all understanding.

Prayer group will meet on June 5th and 19th. All are welcome, so please join us. We meet in the church parlor at 1:00. Leave your prayer requests in the Prayer Box or with the church office.

Girlfriends in God

Our final study before our summer hiatus will be on **June 7th at 6:00 p.m.**

We will be discussing the 4th lesson in the Luke series, presented by Lisa Harper. I encourage any women interested in this, even if you have not come before, to join us. Lisa Harper is such a down to earth presenter. We all really enjoy her lessons and this book on Luke is especially thought provoking. All women are welcome. Lisa reminds us that shepherds that hadn't bathed in weeks were the first people to



Summer Office Hours

Mondays-Wednesdays from 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Thursdays from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Dawn Fleming will be on vacation from Monday, June 26th, through Tuesday, July 4th. We're looking for volunteers to answer phones and monitor the doors. Contact Dawn if you want to volunteer for a few hours. Thank you!



- 6/1 Thomas Williamson
- 6/4 Chuck Kaman
- 6/5 Cindy Kaman
- 6/17 Marcia Arthur
- 6/18 JoAnna Work
- 6/20 George Bell, Marc Martter
- 6/23 Barb Haase
- 6/24 Richard Mathews
- 6/28 Wilson Pullano



FLOWERS

- 6/4—Gail Burke
- 6/18—Glann Family

LITURGISTS

- 6/4—Chuck Kaman
- 6/11—Cynthia Brown Mathews
- 6/18—Marcie Muntz
- 6/25—John Blakeman

USHERS

- 6/4—Kathy Kirby & Patti Smith
- 6/11—Open
- 6/18—Open
- 6/25—Janet Mueller

COMMUNION 6/4

- Prep: Janeane Hopkins
- Sarvers:
- Janeane Hopkins
- Phillip Hopkins
- Doug Quinn
- Cindy Kaman



Cinema Society June Movie:

The Little Mermaid

Tuesday, June 6th

4:00 p.m.

Norwalk UEC

\$5.00

RSVP to Pastor Sara, she'll buy the tix!

Christ's Community Meals

Every Monday at Noon

June 14th at 5:00 p.m.

June 28th at 5:00 p.m.

From Presbyterian Women

Just a reminder, sign up for coffee hour in the summer. Anyone can be a host/hostess.

It's no big deal. Someone will help you make coffee if you don't know how. Our can have juice or water for non-coffee drinkers. Store bought cookies and paper goods are provided or, of course, you can bring your own treats. There is minimal clean up and its so fun to visit with everyone as they come to get their morning joe The sign up sheet is on the table as you enter the sanctuary.

Coffee Hour Hosts for June:

6/4: Patti Smith and Kathy Kirby

Happy Father's Day

One Sunday in 1909, a young woman named Sonora Smart Dodd sat in a pew listening to a sermon honoring mothers. Her mother had died some years before, so her father had raised her by himself. She began to wonder why there wasn't a day to honor fathers.

Sonora decided to arrange for a tribute to be paid to her father at a church in her hometown of Spokane, Washington. The date was June 19, 1910. Many believe that this was the beginning of Father's Day.

Another view is that Dr. Robert Webb, pastor of Central Church, in Fairmont, West Virginia, held a service giving tribute to fathers in 1908. Regardless of which story is the correct one, it is certain that President Calvin Coolidge was the first president to choose a special day to honor fathers. He proclaimed the third Sunday in June as Father's Day in 1924.



Sunday, June 18th

Father's Day

Fellowship Hour after worship.



Celebrating OUR GRADUATES

Daniel Ryu, a member of our congregation and the son of Marty and Kimberly Ryu, is graduating from Avon Lake High School. Daniel will be attending the honors college at Miami University of Ohio. He will study biomedical engineering with a premed co-major and enter the Air Force ROTC. By

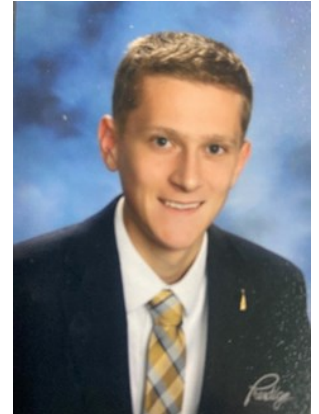


Ben Nevison is the son of church member Amy Nevison. He graduated Summa Cum Laude from Kent State University with a degree in aeronautics with a concentration in aviation management. Ben will soon begin work as an airport operations supervisor at Pittsburgh International Airport. Ben is also a Little Wonders graduate!

Nathan Brown, the grandson of Doug & Karen Brown, will graduate next week from Cornell University with a bachelor's degree in biomedical engineering; he has also begun working on his master's degree in this area and will continue at Cornell graduation in December.

Last summer, Nathan worked at Merck doing analytical research to determine how well a particular vaccine works. This summer, he will be an intern at Prime Medicine in Cambridge, MA, on a genetic engineering project dealing with robotic programming.

An interesting footnote: Twenty-nine years ago, Nathan's parents, Jeff and Kim Brown, also graduated from Cornell (Jeff) and Ithaca College (Kim) –family history repeating itself!



Caroline Mannion, the granddaughter of Doug & Karen Brown, graduated from Ithaca College, Ithaca, New York. Her major is psychology, with a double major in counseling and education studies. In the past year, she had a fellowship through the Mary Christies Institute, a think tank that supports issues regarding student mental health and higher education policy. She published articles in its quarterly magazine on various aspects of the emotional health of college students.

That's a Wrap.....



Our little wonders had a busy month preparing for the last day of school. There were many birthdays and half-birthdays. They watched as their caterpillars turned into butterflies. They learned about the Apostle Paul in chapel. They had a special walk to the park with a popsicle treat! Finally, the saddest and happiest day: Graduation. We're looking forward to the fall!



Session News From May

Here are some highlights from the May Session Meeting:

- ◆ During our devotional we discussed the shifting culture, and the ways we are salt and light in our community.
- ◆ We approved our manual of operations, which includes financial procedures, the youth protection policy, and committee descriptions.
- ◆ Received the treasurer's report, and discussed the progress of orienting our new bookkeeper.
- ◆ Received the reports of all standing committees, noting that Stewardship, Worship, and Christian Education are gearing up for fall.



Remembering Harold

On May 28th, as part of the Memorial Day remembrance in the worship service, Pastor Sara blessed the veteran grave marker for Harold Behnken. Following the worship service, the marker was placed beside his tombstone in Scotts Cemetery. Harold, a long time member of the church, was a Navy veteran who served in World War II on a destroyer in the Pacific Fleet. He was in the battle of Iwo Jima and the final battle against the Japanese in the Pacific, narrowly escaping death.

Harold passed away at the age of 96, on November 25, 2020. His graveside service was on December 2nd, a snowy, cold, but sunny day – a perfect day for skiing which is how Harold would have described it. For those of you that did not know Harold, he was an avid skier well into his eighties. Besides being an avid skier, Harold will be remembered as a soft-spoken, intellect (graduate of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in 1947) who embodied the idea of the faithful servant – he faithfully served God, family, and country.



Margaret Swords wants to thank everyone who made her birthday extra special, by sending cards, flowers and stopping by for a visit!

A HUGE thank you to all who donated items to and/or helped with the Spring Rummage Sale.

The sale brought in over \$1,100.00

A special thank you to our Scouts of Troop 31 for helping bring items down from upstairs and helping set-up for the sale.

June 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 10 Worship Communion 11 Fellowship Hour	5 12 Community Lunch 1 Prayer Group 6 Scouts	6 4 p.m. Movies with Pastor Sara The Little Mermaid at Norwalk UEC	7 6 p.m. Girlfriends in God	8 12-7 Blood Drive Fel- lowship Hall 9-2 Quilt- ing Group 10 Bell choir	9 Ladies Who Lunch 11:30 Manny's Restaurant	10
11 10 Worship 11 Fellowship Hour	12 12 Community Lunch 6 Scouts	13	14 5 Community Meal	15 8 AA	16	17
18 10 Worship 11 Father's Day Fellowship	19 12 Community Lunch 1 Prayer Group	20 7 AA	21	22 8 AA	23	24
25 10 Worship 11 Fellowship Hour	26 12 Community Lunch 6 Scouts	27 7 AA	28 5 Community Meal	29 8 AA	30	