

STEEPLE NOTES

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PASTOR

Whenever September rolls around, the earworm that infects me is an Earth, Wind, and Fire song called "September." Over and over again, I'll hear, "Ba-dee-ya, say, do you remember, ba-dee-ya, dancing in September?" It's such a catchy and upbeat song!

I didn't know many of the other lyrics, so I decided to check them out. The song begins with this line: "Do you remember the 21st of September? Love was changing the mind of pretenders while chasin' the clouds away."

Love changing the minds of pretenders.

It's all about love, isn't it? Our faith is rooted in God's love for us. I John 4:19 says, "We love because He first loved us." We know what love is because God showed us love--first by creating us, then by remaining faithful to us despite our unfaithfulness, ever calling us to return to His love, and finally, through the incarnation, displaying His love through the life

and ministry of Jesus Christ.

I John 4:20-21 tells us how we should respond to God's love. "Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister."

Without loving our brothers and sisters, we are just pretenders. If we truly appreciate and receive God's love, it will change the mind of the pretender in us. In writing about this verse, N.T. Wright says, "Love incarnate must be the badge that the Christian community wears, the sign of not only who they are, but who God is."

My hope and prayer for FPC Huron is that when people in our community think of our congregation, they will think of how we love one another. Then, when they think of how we love one another, they will want to experience that love. Then, when they experience that love, they will learn it is God's love shining through us and come to know how much our God loves them, too.

This September, will our love change the minds of pretenders? May it be so. Amen.

Highlights

LITTLE WONDERS PRESCHOOL
RETURNS
LADIES WHO LUNCH
FAMILY REUNION
FALL OFFICE HOURS

Family Reunion

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2024
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HURON
225 WILLIAMS ST.



A SHORT SERVICE IN FELLOWSHIP HALL AT 10:00 A.M.
WILL KICK-OFF THE FESTIVITIES

GAMES, CONTEST, MUSIC, PRIZES, LAUGHTER, AND OF COURSE FOOD!

PLEASE JOIN US --- BRING YOUR MOTHERS, YOUR FATHERS, YOUR GRANDMOTHERS, YOUR GRANDFATHERS, YOUR GRANDCHILDREN, AUNTS, UNCLES, COUSINS AND YOUR FRIENDS! VISIT WITH OLD FRIENDS AND MAKE NEW ONES!

- PLEASE LET US KNOW HOW MANY WILL BE IN YOUR PARTY
- CALL AHEAD IF YOU NEED TRANSPORTATION

RSVP AND QUESTIONS: 419-433-5018 OR FPCHURON@BEX.NET

Prayer Page



Should I pray every day for everything on my prayer list, or is there a better way? Thankfully, God knows what we need before we ask him for anything (Matt. 6:8). He knows all things, all the time, and He will accomplish his every purpose. Our prayers will not obligate or direct Him in any way, for He knows what He will do (John 6:6). At the same time, God commands our prayers and welcomes our prayers of many sorts: Adoration; Confession; Thanksgiving; Supplication (A.C.T.S.) *

But we could have an additional plan for our prayers, praying for a different group each day. For example: Mondays-our church and church friends; Tuesdays- broader missions and ministries and the worldwide church; Wednesdays- those affected by wars and disasters, and the responders, military and police; Thursdays- family and personal friends, those who are ill and who grieve; Fridays-our pastor and staff; Saturdays- our global and national leaders; and Sundays, our worship. Or- however your personal prayer life leads you. And "No", you don't have to pray for everything every day. Just pray. And whatever your prayer life, as you ascend and descend the mountain of prayer, may Christ in His perpetual intercession for you be your rock and your guide, being with you always.

Prayer Concerns

FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF DAVE WITTMER, DR. PFAHL, JUDY BURGEE, WARD DELAMATRE, PAM HESCHEL, PAUL BROWN, MARK CRUMRINE, HARRY AND ANN WRIGHT, KRISTINE WESLER, PAT MARRION, JOHN NICHOLS, JR., ELDON ZIMMER, DELORES HODSDEN, RON HARPER, JACKIE METZGER, MIKE AND KAREN BORK, SARAH MCCOY, ANN WEST, TONY AND BARB SMITH, CAMERON JAMES, CAROL KOPKAS, RACHEL LEONARD, DENNY VELLIQUETTE, JUNE FRANDUTO, PAUL BROWN, BRAD MASON, JIM, DAVID WITTMER, GABE PHILLIPS, KERRY LYNN, MARLA PEDERSON, DAVID CLAXTON, NICK LAFACE, REV. CLAIR BREWER, SHARON CARNAL, BARB GETTMAN, ROBERTA LEIMBACH, BILLIE URIE, ROGER AND BARBARA GRAVLIN.

Local Congregation Prayer Calendar

9/1 CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
FATHER MUCAHEL FLOYD
9/8 ST PETER CATHOLIC CHURCH
FATHER DOUG GARAND
9/15 HURON UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH PASTOR PAMELA SAYRE
9/22 ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH
9/29 FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH PASTOR SARA HODSDEN

Pray for Our Troops

BEN DELAMATRE DOMINIC PARISI
EMILY STELLPFLUG DAN WORK

Are you or someone you love in need of prayer? Please contact Pastor Sara, or leave your prayer request in the prayer box in the parlor.



Christ Community Meal



Join us for lunch every Monday at noon and on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at 5 p.m. All are invited and welcome.

Ladies Who Lunch

On September 13th, Ladies Who Lunch will bid farewell to summer and welcome fall at Bar North Bistro. Our gathering is set for 11:30, so please wrap up your round of golf by then. Whether we dine indoors or outdoors will be a surprise, determined by God and Mother Nature. Kindly inform Dawn in the church office or Marcie Muntz of your attendance plans. Looking forward to seeing you there!

Pastor Sara's 25th Ordination Anniversary Celebration

We came together on July 28th to honor Pastor Sara's 25th ordination anniversary. The celebration had a "One in a Melon" theme, with the Fellowship Hall adorned with watermelon decorations, courtesy of Kathy Kirby. It was a joyous occasion enjoyed by everyone!

SERVING CHRIST



Hey, everyone! I was so surprised that you know about and celebrated my 25th ordination anniversary. YOU are so sneaky! Thank you so much for all the cards, gifts and well-wishes. I love you! Sincerely, Pastor Sara



Transforming Church Initiative

The Transforming Church Initiative Team had a retreat on August 5th to begin working on strategic initiatives for our congregation. They will meet again on Thursday, September 5th, at 11:00 a.m. to continue their work. Please continue to pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit for our team.

Session Update

The Session met on Wednesday, August 28th. During the meeting, elders were trained on child protection practices and our congregation's policy. A motion to replace the broken accessible automatic door opener was approved. The Session also approved the baptism of Jeanne Smith's great-granddaughter, Ezma Massey, on September 22nd. The next scheduled meeting is October 16th at 7:30 p.m.

Sanctuary Guild

This fall, join the Sanctuary Guild! The guild will ensure that our worship space and its elements (candles, paraments, etc.) are all in season and functioning. It's an easy way to help and is not a huge time commitment. See Cynthia Brown Mathews or Pastor Sara if you want to join the team.



Classes begin September 3rd.
Chapel begins September 10th.

To volunteer for afternoon chapel, please see Pastor Sara. Thank you to Pat Koch for volunteering for morning chapel for the third year in a row!



Every Monday at
6:00 p.m. in
Fellowship Hall.

SERVING CHRIST



Interested in an evening Bible Study? We'll have one beginning in October. Please go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/JTZSJM6> to share your preferences about dates and locations.

Sometimes, a young person will write something that is too good not to share. This past spring, Jack and Marcia Arthur's granddaughter, Megan Miller, spoke at the Norwalk Baccalaureate. It was so moving and uplifting that we wanted to share her message with you.

By Megan Miller, Norwalk HS class of '24

Throughout my life, I've been known as the girl who attends church, classifies herself as a Christian, and always appears to do what is right. Although I take these statements as a compliment, I am here to inform you that these assumptions are deeper than it seems. My faith is the reason I am where I am today, but most importantly, how I will get through my future.

When I was an incoming freshman, I can remember the nerves and anxiety that came with entering a new phase of life. I knew I had an exciting few years ahead of me with sports, activities, and memories to look forward to. That also meant new and tougher classes, lots of school work, stress, busy schedules, and whatever else life would throw at me in-between. Looking back, throughout the chaos, I can testify that one thing remained the same. I always had someone I could run back to. God was that sustainable comfort I could continuously count on. I could stand up and tell you about every situation He has gotten me through, but I would be speaking for hours and I only have a few minutes, so please take my word for it. I will never say being a Christian makes the hard stuff go away, but it is guaranteed to give you this sense of peace and comfort that enables you to persevere through any situation. You can't experience this gift from anything else in life.

As a fellow graduating senior, I can speak on behalf of the class of 2024. This past year has been one of, if not the craziest times in my life. I've had difficult decisions to make that impact the rest of my life. It is a lot of pressure and stress to encounter as an 18-year old. Not a lot prepares you to be thrown into the world of adulthood. Good thing someone else ultimately makes these decisions for me. Going through high school,

I've learned that I was never the one planning my life, I was simply saying yes to whatever door God was opening in my life. When it came to my senior year, I was overwhelmed with my plans post-high school. I think the biggest difference between me and a non-believer is the understanding and feeling of comfort that wherever you are, or are going in life is exactly where God wants you to be. God has a plan and purpose for every single senior in this room tonight.

One of the verses that has helped me through the last year is Job 22:26-28: "then you will take delight in the Almighty and look up to God. You will pray to Him, and He will hear you and you will be able to do all that you promised him. You will succeed in whatever you choose to do, and light will shine on the road ahead of you." This verse clearly shows that we get to look forward to this promise in our obedience to the Lord. It gives me comfort knowing that in any season of life, there is a higher power to trust in. If God brings you to it, He'll bring you through it.

So, if you get anything out of my speech today, let it be this. Seniors, as we begin our life as graduates, it is not necessary to have it all figured out. Deuteronomy 31:8 says, "The Lord will lead you. He himself is with you. He will not fail you or abandon you, so do not lose courage or be afraid. This verse resonates with me. It reassures that all I need to do is simply let go, and let God. When difficulties come, and they will, we do not need to lose faith. Trust in the one thing that is constant, for where God guides, He provides. Let's continue to live out the life that God has prepared for us. We trust the next chapter, because we know the author.



Serving Schedules

September Communion

Date	Prep	Servers
September 1	Janeane Hopkins	Gail Burke, Ann Pullano, Janet Mueller, John Bickell

September Liturgists

September 1: Janeane Hopkins
September 8: No Liturgist
September 15: Cynthia Brown Mathews
September 22: Phillip Hopkins
September 29: Katy McGraw

September Ushers

September 1 : Janet Mueller, Francesca Lendrum
September 8: Chuck & Cindy Kaman
September 15: Richard & Cynthia Mathews
September 22: Jack & Marcia Arthur
September 29: Phillip Hopkins, Kitty Cunningham

September Counters

September 1 : Francesca Lendrum, Ellen Drumm, Ellen Drumm
September 8: Jack & Marcia Arthur
September 15: Sarah & John Blakeman
September 22: Bob & Marcie Muntz
September 29: Chuck & Cindy Kaman

SAVE THE DATE

Upcoming

SAVE THE DATE



the church office will be closed
monday, september 2nd in
observance of labor day!



Starting Tuesday, September 3rd, the
church office will resume to fall and
winter hours as follows:

Monday - Thursday, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Closed for lunch from 11-12.



Save the Date!

PW's Autumn Rummage Sale will take place on
October 5th, from 9 am to 1 pm.

Donations can be dropped off at the Fellowship Hall during office
hours starting on Monday, September 30th, after 2 pm.
Volunteers are required for sorting on Friday, October 4th, from 9
am to noon, during the sale, and for cleanup afterward.

HAPPY
Birthdays

9/3 DAVID ASHER
9/6 FRITZ MUELLER
9/7 LESA GUERRERA
9/9 S. BAIRD PFAHL
9/10 DANIEL RYU
9/12 CHARLENE SCHUMAN
9/22 SARAH BLAKEMAN
9/23 DENNIS HORAN
9/26 CONNIE LITZ
9/28 PATRICIA WILLIAMSON
9/30 ADNREW BICKELL

Flowers

9/8 JOHN BICKELL - IN MEMORY
OF MARYBARA AND PAUL
BICKELL ON THEIR WEDDING
ANNIVERSARY
9/29- JOHN BICKELL IN HONOR
OF ANDREW'S BIRTHDAY

September 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10 WORSHIP 11 FELLOWSHIP	2 12 - CHRIST COMMUNITY MEAL 7 SCOUTS	3 LITTLE WONDERS PRESCHOOL BACK IN SESSION 7 AA	4	5 10 QUILTING GROUP 8 AA	6	7
8 10 FAMILY REUNION	9 12 - CHRIST COMMUNITY MEAL 7 SCOUTS	10 7 AA	11 5 CHRIST COMMUNITY MEAL	12 10 QUILTING GROUP 8 AA	13 11 LADIES LUNCH	14
15 10 WORSHIP 11 FELLOWSHIP	16 12 - CHRIST COMMUNITY MEAL 7 SCOUTS	17 9 & 1 LW BIG PLAY (FH) 10:30 & 2:30 PRESCHOOL CHAPEL 7 AA TIME	18	19 10 QUILTING GROUP 8 AA	20	21 10 DAVID WITTMER SERVICES SANCTUARY & FELLOWSHIP HALL
22 10 WORSHIP 11 FELLOWSHIP	23 12 - CHRIST COMMUNITY MEAL 7 SCOUTS	24 9 & 1 LW BIG PLAY (FH) 10:30 & 2:30 PRESCHOOL CHAPEL 7 AA TIME	25 5 CHRIST COMMUNITY MEAL 6:30 LITTLE WONDERS PTO MEETING	26 10 QUILTING GROUP 8 AA	27	28
29 10 WORSHIP 11 FELLOWSHIP	30 12 - COMMUNITY MEAL 7 SCOUTS RUMMAGE SALE DROP OFF AFTER 2 P.M.					