



July 2023

Our Vision

“By the grace of Jesus Christ, we will strive to share the Good News with the world, to nurture each other in our faith and to go into the world sharing Christ’s love



Our church information regarding a search for a pastor has been listed on three job employment opportunity sites with Princeton Seminary, Pittsburg Seminary and Louisville Seminary. In addition, under the auspices of the personnel committee headed by Nancy McCartney, a pastoral search committee has been formed and are in the process of filling out the mission information form.

Editor: Linda Pettit

Church **Summer** Office Hours

- M 10-2
- T 10-2
- W 10-2
- Th 10-3
- F 10-3

Phone 740.373.1800

Fax 740.373.3212

Email: firstpresbymarietta@gmail.com

Packet Articles are due
Third Friday of every month.

David Nuss, A First Presbyterian Church Treasure

by Cathy Piekarski

Organists never have grown on trees, especially gifted ones; and projections are that such musicians are near extinction, only one of many reasons that Marietta First Presbyterians appreciate the exceptional organ music their organist of many years, David Nuss, creates on the pipe organ. Members dread the day David retires.



On December 11, 1945, Clifford and Lavonne Nuss crossed the Kansas-Missouri state line into Kansas City, Missouri, and headed for Research Hospital for the birth of their son, David. The Nuss family then returned to Kansas for the next 3 years so that David’s father could finish seminary. After finishing, the newly ordained American Baptist clergyman moved his family to a small church in Ipswich, South Dakota. It was at this church that David began noticing the organ due to the hat “doodad” that wig-

gled to and fro as the lady organist played the hymns. Soon David’s fascination shifted from the hat to the organ, and he began banging first on a toy piano “like Schroeder” and then on the Ipswich church piano. To preserve their sanity, David’s parents sent David for piano lessons at the age of 5; the piano lessons continued until the Nusses moved north to a church in Powers Lake, North Dakota. David blames the mostly Norwegian ladies of this church for turning him into a butterball by stuffing him with their irresistible pastries.

The family later moved to Bismarck, North Dakota. David’s professional organ playing began when he was chosen as the organist at the Bismarck Church by the church’s music committee.. The Rev. Clifford Nuss recused himself from the hiring process.

In school, David played trumpet and then French horn, apparently very well; his orchestra director suggested he try out for the Sioux Falls Symphony. David decided to focus on the keyboard and majored in music education and choral music at Sioux Falls College. He then took post graduate composition classes at Indiana University.

Before moving to Marietta, David sang in college choirs; played keyboard in jazz bands, bar bands and rock bands; and worked occasionally as an organist. The Marietta move came when David’s parents moved here in 1976. Since then, David has served as organist at Emmanuel Baptist Church, St. Luke’s Lutheran in Marietta, St. Paul’s United Methodist in Parkersburg, and Marietta First Presbyterian. For about five years, David worked as an adjunct in Marietta College’s music department. David also presently serves as the accompanist to the Parkersburg Choral Society. Learning in retirement courses taught by David at the college include great piano works, music history, and jazz. (story continues on page 2)

From Reverend Mike's Desk

As we move through the summer from its advent on 21 June, we contemplate this wonderful season. Our blueberry bushes are in full bloom and every other day we reap the fruit of such little labor on our part. The lettuce from our little garden seems tastier, too. We did nothing to earn these rewards except to plant some seeds and bushes. Where else in our lives do we gain such a huge return on so small an investment?

As I travel in the summer, I measure the progress of the many corn fields along the way. Is it “knee high by the fourth of July?” I marvel at the hard work of the farmer who plants the “oats, peas, beans, and barley that grow.” What a display of faith that the seeds planted in the late spring will indeed grow to bear fruit in the fall. One could enumerate so many things that could go awry, yet year after year the cycle is repeated.

As we move into the summer month of July we wonder, how will I stay cool? A cold rain is welcomed like a victorious general and the snow of winter, it has become an extinct species.

Summer offers times of reflection as we sit and watch the sun set at such a late hour.

Whence my life?

Am I the person God has called me to be?

Whence time?

Why this transitoriness amid the hunger for the permanent and stable?

Whence prayer?

Why this desire for dialogue with Love when presence would seem to suffice?

These have been some of my Julys— what about yours?

A First Presbyterian Church Treasure (continued from page 1)

During worship, Marietta First Presbyterians sometimes hear David's compositions. Influenced by Stravinsky, Bartok, and Paul Hindemith, David describes his composition style as eclectic; the music he loves and plays spans many genres and centuries. David's skill and extensive repertoire allows him to play nearly anything requested for worship, weddings, and funeral/memorial services. Members love David's interpretations of blues, spirituals, jazz, and Bach.

Controlling the Use of Your Money

When making a donation or payment toward something do you ever question how your stipend might be used? Could it be some obscure cause to which you have little or no interest? But not so with your donation to First Presbyterian Church. You can specify the area you wish to support whether it be the physical plant (as through Building and Maintenance), mission (Goddard-Dyer), music (Noe), grounds (Greenspace Maintenance) and many others. Then the responsible committee or commission can apply the donation as you wish. The ability to direct your donation to support a specific cause is yours.

When you consider a gift to Endowments contact chairman John Miller for details, or any member of the Endowments and Special Funds committee: Matt Evans, Jennylou or Jerry Brock, Susie Evans, Hank Goehring, Richard Murdock or Gail Reynolds.



A Note from Bonnie

I wanted to share this with you this month; by John Roedel.

Blessings,
Bonnie



Me: Hello God.

God: Hello..

Me: I'm falling apart. Can you put me back together?

God: I'd rather not.

Me: Why?

God: Because you're not a puzzle.

Me: What about all the pieces of my life that fall to the ground?

God: Leave them there for a while. They fell for a reason. Let them be there for a while and then decide if you need to take any of those pieces back.

Me: You don't understand! I'm breaking!

God: No, you don't understand. You're transcending, evolving.

What you feel are growing pains. You're getting rid of the things and people in your life that are holding you back. The pieces are not falling down. The pieces are being put in place. Relax. Take a deep breath and let those things you no longer need fall down. Stop clinging to pieces that are no longer for you. Let them fall. Let them go.

Me: Once I start doing that, what will I have left?

God: Only the best pieces of yourself.

Me: I'm afraid to change.

God: I keep telling you: **YOU'RE NOT CHANGING! YOU'RE BECOMING!**

Me: Becoming, Who?

God: Becoming who I created you to be! A person of light, love, charity, hope, courage, joy, mercy, grace and compassion. I made you for so much more than those shallow pieces you decided to adorn yourself with and that you cling to with so much greed and fear. Let those things fall off you. I love you! Don't change! Become! Don't change! Become! Become who I want you to be, who I created. I'm gonna keep telling you this until you remember.

Me: There goes another piece.

God: Yes. Let it be like this.

Me: So... I'm not broken?

God: No, but you're breaking the darkness, like dawn. It's a new day. Become!!
Become



happy
4th
JULY!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



JULY BABIES!

Harold Lamb	July 1
Finley Barengo	July 2
Barbara Rankin	July 3
Becker Van Dyke	July 6
Karen Tietjen	July 10
Sally Evans	July 11
Elizabeth Dowler	July 12
Ben Lawson	July 14
Ila Alden	July 16
Abby Miller	July 16
Matthew Peoples	July 19
Beth Sour	July 19
Mike Elliott	July 21
Jim Lawson	July 21
Sylvia Norton	July 22
Jim Barengo	July 23
Justin Hammons	July 23
John Hammat Jr.	July 25
Charlotte Furbee	July 27
Elena Donnelly	July 28
Emily Prather	July 28
Heather Warner	July 29
Lindsay Evans	July 30
Marla Hoerst	July 31

Session Summary for June 13, 2023

Motions presented and approved by session:

1. To approve a request from W&M for \$464 for the annual renewal of our Christian Copyright Licensing International license. Funds to be drawn from the Noe Organ Endowment Fund.
2. To approve a request from the church softball team for \$275 to cover the registration fee for church members playing in the league. Funds to be drawn from the Effie Dent Spiritual Growth Fund.
3. To approve a request from Bonnie Donnelly for up to \$1500 to hold weekly fellowship dinners at Glenwood on Wednesdays from June - August for up to 4 guest per week to maintain the pattern of dining and socializing our senior members who have enjoyed the Wednesday night programs during the past year. Funds to be drawn from the Unrestricted Fund.
4. To approve a request from CE for \$500 for food and activity costs for a 41 hour Youth Lock in with three other churches. Funds to be drawn from the Effie Dent Spiritual Growth Fund.
5. To approve a request from Outreach for \$1630 to charter a bus to take church members and possibly others to Cambridge to attend the outdoor Living Word Drama on Friday, July 21. Funds to be drawn from the Effie Dent Memorial Congregational Spiritual Growth Fund.

Session will not be meeting in July.

Take the Bus to See *The Living Word* Outdoor Drama

We have secured a bus to transport us to see *The Living Word* in Cambridge, OH. Endowments is covering the cost of the bus. If you would like to attend, please be sure to sign up on the bulletin board at the bottom of the stairs, as there are limited seats. The show is on Friday, July 21st. We will leave FPC at 5:30 pm for the 7:30 pm show, and will return around 11:15 pm. The tickets are \$10 each.
Bonus ~ the Rev. Mike Seely will be playing Pontius Pilate!



Straw Challenge

As part of our Good Stewards of the Earth campaign, we are challenging all members of the First Presbyterian Family to change the way you do straws!!!

Americans alone use half a billion drinking straws every day! Disposable plastic straws are not recyclable, as they are too light to make their way through the plastic sorting systems at recycling plants. So what happens to all of these straws? They end up as litter, in landfills and in our waterways, where they are mistaken as food by many animals. Since plastic doesn't biodegrade, overtime, straws break down into "microplastics" - super small pieces of plastics that end up in our water and foods!

So what can we do about this? A lot! Reconsider your use of straws. Do you really need that straw in your drink? If you are just sipping at a table, at home or at a restaurant, forsake the straw! If you are traveling, use a reusable bottle or cup, some even come with built-in/re-usable straws. If you must use a straw, try paper ones, or even re-usable silicone, metal or recycled plastic straws.



WAYS TO SUPPORT GOPACKS THIS SUMMER

Show your support of GoPacks by placing a lawn sign in your yard or business window.



Signs can be found in front of the display case near the church office. We are also collecting items for their Summer Drive to help prepare for the coming school year.



The Summer **DRIVE**

Food • Toiletries • School Supplies

2023

FOOD

- Cans of Tuna Packed in Water
- Canned Chicken
- Canned Vegetables
- Jars of Peanut Butter
- Cans/Jars of Spaghetti Sauce
- Boxes of Pasta
- Individual Fruit Cups (no artificial sweeteners)
- Cream of Wheat Packets
- Instant Oatmeal Packets
- Crunchy Oat & Honey &/OR Peanut Butter Granola Bars
- Chewy Granola Bars
- Nut Bars
- Breakfast Biscuits
- Peanut Butter Sandwich Crackers
- Individual Applesauce Cups
- Individual Pudding Cups
- Boxes of Corn Muffin Mix
- Cans of soup with less than 800 mg of Sodium per serving

TOILETRIES

- Children's Shampoo/Bodywash/Conditioner Combo
- Liquid Hand Soap
- Children's Toothpaste
- Children's Mouthwash
- Floss
- Single Package** Children's Toothbrushes
- Lip Balm
- Children's Bandages
- Men's Deodorant (not Women's at this time)

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

- Boxes of 24 Crayons
- Boxes of Colored Pencils
- Boxes of Magic Markers- thick & thin
- Boxes of Ticonderoga Pencils
- Bottles of White Glue
- Glue Sticks
- Pink Erasers
- White Lined Filler/Loose Leaf Paper
- 3 Ring Binders (1")
- Spiral Notebooks



Please note, we CANNOT use items that have 800 mg or more of sodium per serving or have artificial sweeteners (including Sucralose).



Youth Lock-In

The 41 hour youth lock-in, in June was a success, and all adults involved survived!!!

Four churches - FPC, First United Methodist Church in Williamstown, WV, Pioneer Presbyterian Church in Belpre, OH, and Westminster Presbyterian Church in Canton, OH came together to help our youth "Branch Out".

The youth played field games, created two art projects with individuals from WASCO, heard oral histories from FPC seniors, learned some financial literacy, solved a Murder Mystery during a dinner, toured Marietta through a scavenger hunt, played video games and pool, sang during a praise service and had a Reflection Meditation in the garden.



BRANCHING OUT

But Whom Do You Say That I AM?

E T A C O V D A E W H
 R U R E T S A M F O G
 A V R S U S E J L N O
 W R E T M W A Y I C L
 V I N Y D A A K D D O
 R A T S G N I N R O M
 D A Y S T A R C P T S A L D N A T S R I F O R E R U N N E R
 E V G F N O P H H O T U J G R O L E S N U O C H C N A R B O
 N M P E I A G O N O F U O R H A D U J F O N O I L I F E I T
 E E M V M I M O S R S F K H O R N O F S A L V A T I O N S A
 R S A A H O F F E T K E E N D O G Y T H G I M L A M E N H I
 A S S Q N G D D O I L A N I N O S N E T T O G E B Y L N O D
 Z I T J O U N N N N D E C A E P F O E C N I R P H Y P L P E
 A A E D Y O E G A C O R S T N E N I V D I V A D F O N O S M
 N H R Z W H S L Q A R S D P O C J T L A M B O F G O D B V F
 R H O R A T O U C I R
 P H P O C S N D E G E
 E L R L D R S G R H D
 N D O F A E O E R T E
 T R P O I N L V U H E
 E E H D D R A E S B M
 R V E R E O T R E S E
 E O T O L C I L R H R
 V S N L I K O A V E T
 I S G R V V N S A P S
 G A D A E R B T N H I
 W P S D R V S I T E R
 A G S G E V O N O R H
 L O W O R D H G S D C
 N O I T A D N U O F Y

Advocate
 Almighty
 Alpha and Omega
 Amen
 Apostle
 Beloved Son
 Bishop
 Branch
 Bread
 Captain
 Carpenter
 Chosen
 Christ
 Consolation
 Cornerstone
 Counselor
 Day Star
 Deliverer

Door
 Emmanuel
 Everlasting
 Faithful and True
 First and Last
 Forerunner
 Foundation
 Governor
 Head
 High Priest
 Holy and Just One
 Horn of Salvation
 I AM
 Jesus
 Judge
 King
 King of Kings
 Lamb of God

Lawgiver
 Life
 Light
 Lion of Judah
 Lord
 Lord of Lords
 Master
 Master
 Mediator
 Messiah
 Mighty God
 Morning Star
 Nazarene
 Only Begotten Son
 Passover
 Priest
 Prince of Peace
 Prophet

Redeemer
 Resurrection
 Rock
 Savior
 Servant
 Shepherd
 Son of David
 Son of God
 Son of Man
 Vine
 Way
 Wonderful
 Word

July 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
9am - Sunday School 10:15am - Worship 11:15am - Sip & Chat 25	11am - Monday 26	11:30am - Community 27	28	7pm - AA 29	9am - AA 30	1 9am - AA
9am - Sunday School 10:15am - Worship 11:15am - Sip & Chat 2	11am - Monday 6pm - Building and 6:30pm - Deacons 3	HAPPY 4TH! -office 4	12pm - Endowments 5	7pm - AA 6	10am - Front Porch 7	9am - AA 9:30am - Front Porch 8
9am - Sunday School 10:15am - Worship 11:15am - Sip & Chat 9	8am - Go Packs - FH & 11am - Monday 5pm - Go Packs - FH & 10	8am - Go Packs - FH & 6pm - Session 11	8am - Go Packs - FH & 2pm - Go Packs/OSU 5pm - Go Packs - FH & 12	8am - Go Packs - FH & 5pm - Go Packs - FH & 5:30pm - Stampin' Up 7pm - AA 13	8am - Go Packs - FH & 5pm - Go Packs - FH & 14	9am - AA 15
9am - Sunday School 10:15am - Worship 11:15am - Sip & Chat 16	11am - Monday 17	5pm - Tea and Tomes 6pm - Eve Board 18	5:30pm - Free Legal 19	7pm - AA 20	9am - AA 21	22
9am - Sunday School 10:15am - Worship 11:15am - Sip & Chat 23	11am - Monday 24	11:30am - Community 25	26	7pm - AA 27	9am - AA 28	29
9am - Sunday School 10:15am - Worship 11:15am - Sip & Chat 30	11am - Monday 31	12pm - Endowments, 6:15pm - Worship & 1	2	7pm - AA 3	9am - AA 4	5

**First Presbyterian
Church
501 Fourth Street
Marietta, OH 45750**

(740) 373-1800

Fax

(740) 373-3212

E-Mail

**firstpresbymarietta
@gmail.com**

www.fpcmariettaoh.org

PRESBY



PACKET

MARIETTA, OHIO

In the Midst - Honduras Project Up-Date

As part of First Presbyterian Church's mission work for 2023, we have committed to funding the construction of a home for a family in Honduras. Their information can be found on the bulletin board in the narthex. They are the Yensiel Daniela Aguilar Archega family. Yensiel is a single mom of three children, ages 12, 10, and 7 years old. She makes a living by making homemade tortillas and selling them. In the Midst Honduras is coordinating the construction of the house as well as leading the family on their Christian journey.

As funds come in, we at FPC have been "constructing" our own version of the mission house in the narthex of the church. Our hope was to have enough money sent by June 1st this year to begin their house but we have only sent about half. The cost to build the house there is \$2200.00. That's why we need your help with this project! Deacon's and Outreach are sending \$200.00 a month for the house. Once we've reached the \$2200.00 goal, we will have a work crew build their house. If we collect more than the \$2200.00 for the house, the rest of the monies will be sent to "In The Midst" for help with their feeding kitchen, school supplies or uniforms for the children in the community that they serve. If you would like more information about this project or the Talanga, Honduras community, please feel free to ask Judy Peoples.

May God continue to bless you as you help us with this project. We are over halfway there!!