



## June 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



## HELLO SUMMER!

Editor: Linda Pettit

### Church Summer Office Hours

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

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Packet Articles are due  
Third Friday of every month.

## Gwen Sour

Our own Gwen Sour has joined the GoPacks team as their new Educational Activities Coordinator, through the AmeriCorps VISTA program!

Gwen's work will allow GoPacks to offer more classes, workshops and events to students and families working with GoPacks programs.



## AmeriCorps

The AmeriCorps VISTA program is modeled after the Peace Corps. It's goal is to assist Americans facing poverty. VISTA stands for "Volunteers in Service to America." Since it launched in 1965, more than 220,000 VISTA members have served in all 50 states and US Territories. The VISTA branch of AmeriCorps fights poverty through capacity building efforts at different organizations. Not only are VISTA's work focused on ways to fight poverty, their work helps organizations increase how and where they fight poverty.

### Where Are We in Our Pastoral Search?

Things have been happening behind the scenes and we want to update those who are wondering what steps have been taken.

Theological seminaries were contacted and a ministry description for the position now appears on the “job boards” of each seminary. The seminaries have an online presence and post positions on the internet. Thus, our posting is also available for alumni to view. Our conversations with the folks at the seminaries has revealed the truth we have heard before: the number of students has decreased significantly, and, of those students pursuing a Master of Divinity degree, fewer are ready to receive a call.

In light of the information from the seminaries, and to cover all bases, Session decided to also submit a Church Information Form to the church headquarters in Louisville, Kentucky. We were informed that the call service is not as efficient as it could be, but we believe that getting our information out in as many places as possible is a good idea. We will continue to update you as the process continues.



Lisa Miller	June 7
Josh Taylor	June 7
Mark Wieferich	June 7
Stan Piekarski	June 14
Courtney Schuck	June 16
Matthew Wieferich	June 17
Paul Garrison	June 18
Larry Slater	June 18
Jennylou Brock	June 21
Charles Barnes	June 22
Max Taylor	June 23
Scott Summers	June 24
Lois Trout	June 24
Brian Schuck	June 27
Lucia Berner	June 28
Bonnie Donnelly	June 28
Pearl Guyer	June 28
Colton Pottenger	June 29

June Birthdays

## Session Summary for May 9, 2023

Motions presented and approved by session:

1. To approve a request from Worship and Music for \$3100.00 to compensate David Nuss for playing the piano and organ from June 1 to August 31. Funds to be drawn from the Lester E. and Virginia M. Noe Organ Endowment Fund.
2. To approve a request from Worship and Music for \$1000.00 to cover expenses for special music and musicians from June 4 through August 27. Funds to be drawn from the Lester E. and Virginia M. Noe Organ Endowment Fund.
3. To approve a request from Worship and Music for up to \$1200.00 to install new microphone sound systems for Rev. Mike and Bonnie. Funds to be drawn from the Unrestricted Fund.
4. To approve the contract for Bonnie Donnelly as the Assistant to the Pastor from May 1 through December 31, 2023. (This position will terminate upon the installation of a called or designated pastor to First Presbyterian Church.)

**Next Session meeting: June 13, 2023 at 6:00 pm.**

## From Reverend Mike's Desk

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

As the program year of the church draws to a close our thoughts turn to the summer. For about two and a half months teachers and students take a break, plans for vacations are made, and we all just seem to be in a better mood because of the warmth of the sun and the luscious growth all around us.

We talk about "getting away" to enjoy some recreation. I have always seen Recreation as a "re-creation" of ourselves. It is the opportunity to change our routine for a bit, try new things, go different places, and meet new people. As a boy I thoroughly enjoyed our family vacations. They were not exotic, but with my family I saw new sights and experienced new things. I saw parts of the country that were very different and that increased my awe of the world around me. Seeing these things helped me see how blessed I was to have a loving family. I began school in the autumn with a better sense of myself and of what was possible.

It is my hope and prayer that this summer will allow you to find some "re-creation" even if it is just some naps in a hammock in the afternoon sun. It has been my experience that it is when we change our routine to do something unique that God can break in to share the divine presence. Remember, though, that the worship life of First Presbyterian continues during the summer months. The Service for the Lord's Day remains at 10:15 am every Sunday morning. There will be a variety of musical offerings and some other voices in the pulpit. If you are away, remember that you can tune in on Facebook and participate remotely. Also keep in mind that the expenses of doing mission and ministry do not decrease significantly during the summer. If you plan to be away, please mail your pledge to the church so that we can continue to serve God.

May the blessings of Almighty God be with you,  
Reverend Mike

### *A Note From Bonnie*

In Matthew 5:22, Jesus makes it clear that anger is a great sin subject to judgment because it violates God's command to love. Anger refers to a seething, brooding bitterness towards someone. It is a dangerous emotion that always threatens to leap out of control leading to violence, emotional hurt, mental stress, and spiritual damage. Anger keeps us from developing a spirit pleasing to God. Our attitude toward others reflects our relationship with God (1 John 4:20). The real test of our love for God is how we treat the people right in front of us, our family members, and fellow believers. We cannot truly love God while neglecting to love those who are created in his image.

Jesus never promised that obeying him would be easy. But He is always willing to privately discuss things with us whenever we want. Pray it out with Him, and then be still, and listen (Psalm 46:10).

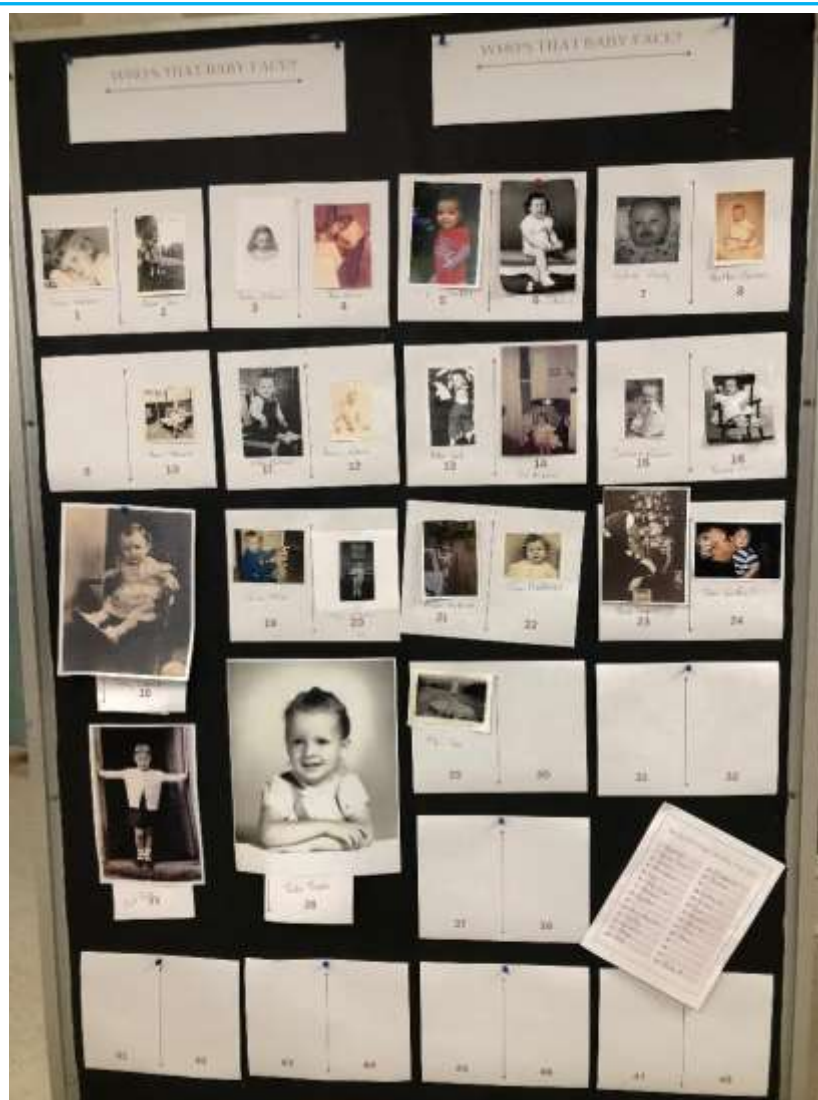


## Endowment Funds Meet Many Church Needs

The Endowments for our church have been set up over many years to cover a multitude of activities in our church. We cover things like Hull Theological for studying to be a minister, Greenpeace Maintenance to cover upkeep on the gardens around the church, four different music funds, plus the Building and Administration fund for church maintenance outside of the normal operating budget which, in the past has included roof repair, sanctuary sound system updates, etc. Requests for money must always meet the requirements listed in the endowment.

We have one endowment called "Unrestricted," with funds available to handle any church activity that the Endowment Committee feels is worthwhile (Session must approve the request from Endowments). Members of our congregation can leave money to one of the existing Endowment Funds or provide money for a newly named endowment.

Talk to one of the members on the committee on how the funding can be arranged. Endowment and Special Funds Committee members are: John Miller Committee Chair, Matt Evans, Jennylou Brock, Jerry Brock, Susie Evans, Hank Goehring, Richard Murdock, and Gail Reynolds.



## Lots of Cute Little Baby Faces

Winsome Wednesday  
May 10, 2023



It was fun to try to figure out  
who all these cute little tots  
grew up to become!  
There were a few surprises!

# Talent Silent Auction

Raised over \$700



## To Benefit

10 piano lessons



## Thank you to all donors & bidders



More great fellowship at  
Wednesday  
Dinners & Programs





## CHURCH GOLF PICNIC

Sunday, June 4th  
Potluck Dinner - 5 pm

The church will provide drinks and hot dogs, bring a side dish or dessert to share.

*Titleist*  
2

Golf before dinner (you pay) and/or mini-golf after dinner (FPC pays!)

## How to be Green with Your Surplus Greens

If you find yourself with a surplus of greens this growing season, there are some tricks you can use to keep from wasting the produce!

Option 1 ~ Add leafy greens, such as lettuce, kale and spinach, to a blender along with enough water to make a thin paste. Transfer to ice cubes trays and freeze. Add to smoothies and soups to boost the flavor and nutrition.

Option 2 ~ After washing and spinning or patting the greens dry, add them to a dehydrator. Once completely dried, pulse them in a blender, food processor or grinder to make a powder. Store in an airtight container and use to amp up flavor and nutrition in various recipes from soups to casseroles.

## The Living Word Outdoor Drama 2023

*Ohio's ONLY Outdoor Passion Play*



*49 Years of Faith*

The Outreach Committee wants to know who is interested in attending a production of The Living Word in Cambridge, OH on Friday, July 21. The show starts at 7:30 pm, costs \$10, and will feature Rev. Mike Seely as an actor!

The Living Word Outdoor Drama was founded in 1975 by Biblical Dramatist Frank Roughton Harvey. This nationally recognized drama brings to life the passion of Jesus Christ. The 400 foot set was researched and designed by the founder— making it an authentic representation of Old Jerusalem.

We will have a sign up sheet on the bulletin board at the bottom of the stairs. Once we know how many people are interested in attending we will arrange for appropriate transportation.

June

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

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PRESBY



PACKET

MARIETTA OHIO

**HAPPY**  
*You're*  
**FATHER'S**  
*the best!*  
**DAY**  
**JUNE 18TH**

#### Just a Few Father's Day Aphorisms

- ♥ A father is someone you look up to no matter how tall you grow. —Unknown
- ♥ A father is a man who expects his children to be as good as he meant to be. —Carol Coats
- The heart of a father is the masterpiece of nature. —Antoine François Prévost
- Dads are most ordinary men turned by love into heroes, adventurers, storytellers and singers of songs. — Unknown

