



First Presbyterian Church  
 436 E 2nd St  
 Salem OH 44460-2816  
 Rev. Paul Phillips, Interim Pastor

Volume 87, Issue 17  
**August 18, 2020**

# THE PRESBYTERIAN MESSENGER

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## August 23 — 12th Sunday after Pentecost

*Drive-In Church Service at 10:30 a.m. on 87.9 FM*

Scriptures: Psalm 124  
 Matthew 16:13-20

Sermon: *"Who Is On Our Side?"*

Music: Jayne Bricker

## August 30 — 13th Sunday after Pentecost

*Drive-In Church Service at 10:30 a.m. on 87.9 FM*

*The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper*

Scriptures: Exodus 3:1-15  
 Matthew 16:21-28

Sermon: *"On Divine Things"*



*If you prefer to stay home, there will continue to be a worship service recorded on Thursday afternoons and uploaded to FaceBook, YouTube, and the Website Sunday morning also.*

## TRANSITION TIMES

*"My soul longs, indeed it faints for the courts of the Lord..." Psalm 84:2a*

Psalm 84 is about the joy of worshiping in the sanctuary. It is one of my favorite psalms. I would rather be in worship in the sanctuary than anywhere else. I think all of us miss our in-person worship service in the church's sanctuary. As much as we try to make our recorded worship and the Drive-In Church service as sacred as we can, we know it's just not the same as being together in the church.

Session will have its regular meeting on Thursday, Aug. 20<sup>th</sup> and they will once again revisit the question of reopening in-person worship or not. Please pray for the discernment of the Elders. We acknowledge the frustration many of you feel that our church has not reopened for worship. Patience is wearing thin for many people the longer we have to deal with face masks, social distancing, hand washing, temperature taking, etc. It is a critical time for many churches who are planning how to provide worship services knowing what we know today about COVID-19.

Additionally, Session will look at reopening the church building to outside activities such as the Scout Program and Church Committees meeting in-person rather than by Zoom. The leadership of FPC Salem remains concerned, understandably, of the safety of church staff and especially the Preschool children and their teachers. There is much to consider when planning for the well-being of all with the many activities that regularly occur at the church.

None of us like leaving things unresolved. We are still planning to have the church assessment tool distributed to the membership of the church by the end of August or beginning of September. As I wrote last month, it is important for the church to look out ahead, towards the future when you call a new pastor. The results of the assessment will provide FPC Salem with an understanding of your feelings and opinions important to the church's transitional planning.

Please call the church office should you have any questions or concerns.

*God's peace and joy be with you,*

*Rev. Paul Phillips, Interim Pastor*

## Prayer Concerns

Ken and Carolyn Alesi, Rita Irene Baker (*Gloria Shafer's aunt*), Barbara Denny (*Susan Merry's sister*), Carol Dougherty, Tracey Ellis, Judy Everson (*Ellen Maticcik's friend*), Mark Flake, Linda Gibson (*Kim Double's friend*), Ray Hanan (*Judy Sicilia's friend*), Mark Hannay, Denny Herron (*Marilyn's husband*), Hayden Johnson (*Sam and Julie Johnson's son*), Jan Jones, Jody Karmazin, Ken Kyser, Russell Loudon, Linda Martin (*Mark and Grace Smith's friend*), Harvey Mason, Frank Maticcik, Bill McCormick, Clarence and Joan Reed (*Sue Skiba's parents*), Lee Schrum (*Carol Ricciardi's brother in law*), Kloe Sinsley (*LOGOS Youth*), Doug Smith (*Marilyn Herron's friend*), Justin Stephenson (*Kevin and Janet Chumney's family member*), Sue Thomas (*Karen Dennison's friend*), Ed Tonkinson (*knee surgery, 8/31*), Mary Tonkinson (*Ed Tonkinson's mother*), Joetta Tonti, Jenny Wilms, Kristina Cicoria Yonker (*Barb Yonker's daughter*)

## Special Care Facilities

Blossom: Russell Loudon, 109  
Brookdale: Ruth Zerbs, 404  
Copeland Oaks: Genevieve Benson  
Courtyard: Shirley Devan, 101  
Inn at Ironwood: Jeanne Smith, 6699  
Ironwood Blvd, #125, Canfield OH 44406  
Lake Vista at Cortland: Margaret  
Sheets, Apt 105; 303 North Mecca St,  
Cortland OH 44410  
Salem East Healthcare Center: Janice  
Olmstead, 223  
Shenango On the Green: Jim and Marty  
Hollinger, 238 S Market St #227, New  
Wilmington PA 16142-1212  
Village at Westerville: Bruno and Kay  
Stanga; 215 Huber Village Blvd, C100,  
Westerville OH 43081  
Whispering Pines: Kay Rousseau, 315;  
Joetta Tonti; 937 E Park Ave,  
Columbiana OH 44408

## CHURCH INFORMATION:

**Phone:** 330.337.9555 / **Fax:** 888.386.2321

**Website:** [www.fpcsalem.org](http://www.fpcsalem.org)

**Facebook:** First Presbyterian Church of Salem, Ohio

**You Tube:** [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) / FPCSALEM

(Service streamed at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday.)

**Cable TV Channel 1021:** Service shown on Sunday (1 & 9 am), Monday (1 am), Tuesday (3 am, 12 & 4 pm), Wednesday (1 am, 4 & 9 pm), Friday (1 am), Saturday (3 am, 12 & 4 pm)



## Military

LCPL Andre Tonkinson  
Camp Pendleton CA  
(*Ed and Melissa Tonkinson's son*)

MAJ Adam Pawlosky  
(*Jim and Ruth Newman's son in law*)

Zach Smith / US Army, Turkey  
(*Jeanne Smith's grandson and Mickey Buck's nephew*)



The Sympathy and Surrounding Love of Our Congregation are extended to Ethel Clark and the family on the death of her sister, Betty Lou (Duke) King; and to Janice Olmstead and the family on the death of her daughter, Lorrie Cain.



## Birthdays

Kacie Honeywell (19)  
Nova Eichler (21)  
Rob McCulloch (21)  
Peter Johnson (23)  
Marsha Blackburn (25)  
Phyllis Denton (27)  
Larry Parker (27)  
Marilyn Ward (29)  
Goldie Burrier (30)  
Marilyn Mercer (30)  
Margaret Gibbs (31)



To enhance communications with our membership, please let the Church Office know if you no longer have a landline phone, have a new cell phone number, or wish to receive the weekly Worship Bulletin and bi-weekly newsletter via e-mail, or newsletter via the Post Office.

*Please remember to send in your regular offering to the Church Office. Our Payroll Protection Program Loan has ended. Thank you!*

## Volunteers are Needed!



Open on Thursdays  
from 4:00-6:00 p.m.  
(Only for people in  
44460 zip code)

*Trust in the Lord  
with all your heart,  
and do not rely  
on your own insight.  
Proverbs 3:5*

Jesus said, "Listen and understand: it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles" (*Matthew 15:10b*).

Rev. Erin Thomas and I have been pastoral colleagues for the last 22 years, having started seminary together while we were both working professionals. Last week Erin was reminded of a poem she had written three years earlier. It's timeless and speaks to many of the issues we face in our world today. ~ *Pastor Paul Phillips*

## Words Matter

Maybe now more than ever  
in this dizzying pace of 140 characters on Twitter  
and captions on Snapchat  
and soundbites from "experts" on the evening news.

While we may not be as erudite and articulate  
as those who make their living with words --  
poets, playwrights, singers, novelists, rappers,  
journalists, orators or spokespeople --  
we need to be more conscious about the  
words we choose and the words we use.

Because words have power.

extraordinary power because they are used  
in a certain context to convey  
a certain message,  
a certain tone,  
or a certain call to action.

Words have power.

The power to heal and the power to do harm.  
Words can be as damaging as  
an unexpected punch to the face,  
or as healing as an all-enveloping hug.  
Words can be razor sharp and cut like a knife  
drawing blood that is not easily stopped.  
Words can be soft and kind,  
encouraging and thoughtful,  
restoring balance and giving strength to the abused.

We are living in a hurting world where war and  
famine and violence have become common place.  
Where disruption is the norm and people's lives  
are being torn apart in minutes like cheap fabric  
with suicide bombs and illegitimate rulers whose  
only aim is to disrupt, dismantle and destroy.

Jesus knew this.

He lived in a world ruled by  
greedy men and licentious women  
who would stop at nothing to keep their power.  
Murder newborns and toddlers.  
Throw prophets in prison.  
Execute the Son of God.

...continued

And so he spent his life loving people,  
teaching about the redemption in God's Kingdom,  
the equality and justice, the love and compassion  
that was inherent in a system designed by the Creator.  
It was based on Love.

Love your neighbor.

Love yourself.

Love others who are not like you.

Love everyone.

Love them even when you don't feel like it.

Love them even when they do harm to you.

Love them. Love them. Love them.

For Jesus knew the truth.

Love always wins.

Love wins.

Love wins.

Always.

~ *Rev. Erin Thomas, August. 12, 2017*

A recent search of the CCH Environmental  
Groups Facebook page turned up the follow-  
ing useful information that I want to share  
with all of you! Check it out!



- Please don't be a "Wish-cycler!" Wish-cycling can cause an entire load of recyclables to end up in the landfill. Read the labels on the bins and only put in what is acceptable. If you have any questions, call CCH at 330-627-7311.
- There will be an electronic recycling event on Thursday, August 27 for Columbiana County residents only. Call 330-627-7311 for appointment time and location.
- CCH is offering business owners free waste audits and help to determine where you can save money and help reduce your impact. Recycling containers are available to make it convenient for you to recycle your paper, cardboard, plastic bottles, and cans. Call 330-627-7311 for details.
- For anyone is needing to recycle old TVs, Ecycle Solutions of Ohio LLC in North Canton is accepting CRT TVs, Monitors, Rear projection and Dip TVs at a cost of \$20 each no matter the size. Newer flat screen TVs will be \$10 each no matter the size. Call them at 234-209-9602.

As I have said before, because of the pandemic, there are so many things going into the trash than ever before and then ultimately into the landfills. Many of these are medical and necessary. Many are not. It is so important that we all monitor what we use and make every effort to limit what goes into the trash. Please think what you are using and make every effort to "Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle." ~ *Carol Ricciardi, Environmental Team*

# August

## Happy Birthday!

Goldie Burrier (30)

Margaret Gibbs (31)

- 19 / Weds **7:00 Prayer Meeting via Zoom**
- 20 / Thurs **7:00 Regular Session Meeting via Zoom**
- 23 / Sun 10:30 Drive-In Church Service  
Worship will be recorded and may be viewed on YouTube, FaceBook, Website
- 24 / Mon 6:00 Scout Troop 3 meeting via Zoom
- 26 / Weds **7:00 Prayer Meeting via Zoom**
- 30 / Sun 10:30 Drive-In Church Service  
*The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper*  
Worship will be recorded and may be viewed on YouTube, FaceBook, Website
- 
- 31 / Mon 6:00 Scout Troop 3 meeting via Zoom

*Activities / Meetings may be added / cancelled pending updates.*

# September

## Happy Birthday!

Theresa Jones (11), Gene Shafer (15),

Bruno Stanga (17), Kay Stanga (28)

John Tonti (30)

- 1 / Tues 6:00 Eastminster Presbytery Meeting/Zoom
- 2 / Weds **7:00 Prayer Meeting via Zoom**
- 6 / Sun 10:30 Drive-In Church Service  
Worship will be recorded and may be viewed on YouTube, FaceBook, Website
- 7 / Mon *Labor Day*  
Church Office Closed
- 8 / Tues **7:00 Mission I and S via Zoom**
- 9 / Weds **7:00 Prayer Meeting via Zoom**
- 10 / Thurs **7:00 Finance & Administration via Zoom**

- 13 / Sun 10:30 Drive-In Church Service  
Worship will be recorded and may be viewed on YouTube, FaceBook, Website  
6:30 Cub Scout Pack 3 meeting outside
- 14 / Mon 6:00 Scout Troop 3 meeting outside
- 16 / Weds **7:00 Prayer Meeting via Zoom**
- 17 / Thurs **7:00 Regular Session Meeting via Zoom**
- 20 / Sun 10:30 Drive-In Church Service  
Worship will be recorded and may be viewed on YouTube, FaceBook, Website  
6:30 Cub Scout Pack 3 meeting outside
- 21 / Mon 6:00 Scout Troop 3 meeting outside
- 23 / Weds **7:00 Prayer Meeting via Zoom**
- 27 / Sun 10:30 Drive-In Church Service  
Worship will be recorded and may be viewed on YouTube, FaceBook, Website  
6:00 Cub Scout Pack 3 meeting outside
- 30 / Weds **7:00 Prayer Meeting via Zoom**


# October

## Happy Birthday!

Mary Bryan (2), Rose Marie Crokston (4),

Ann Topie (7), Mary Lepping (15), Joan Ferrier (24),

Shirley Benson (30), Charles Pakosta (30)

- 4 / World 10:30 Drive-In Church Service  
*Communion Sunday*  
*The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper*  
Worship will be recorded and may be viewed on YouTube, FaceBook, Website  
6:00 Cub Scout Pack 3 meeting outside
- 
- 5 / Mon 6:00 Scout Troop 3 meeting via Zoom
- 6 / Tues **8:30 am Investment Committee via Zoom**
- 7 / Weds **7:00 Prayer Meeting via Zoom**
- 8 / Thurs **7:00 Finance Committee via Zoom**
- 11 / Sun 10:30 Drive-In Church Service  
Worship will be recorded and may be Viewed on YouTube, Facebook, Website