



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.) Plain City, Ohio
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Word from Pastor Alice



Dear Church Family,

At the end of my sermon on Jan. 31, I shared the following story:

In the Guinness Book of World Records there is listed the shortest sermon ever preached. It was given by John Albrecht, an Episcopal priest. He stood in his pulpit to preach, paused, and said "Love!" He then sat down. Some of Albrecht's members said it was the best sermon he ever preached.

The Author of love said it this way...

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." John 13:34

Just imagine if we all heeded the call to love in the name of Jesus in the crazy, chaotic world in which we are living. We could literally turn the world upside down.



Blessings in Jesus!

Alice

Keep these folks and their caregivers in your prayers for healing and recovery from hospitalization or recent illness.

- Sophia Manring
- Jane Warner
- Dick Wilson
- Willy Gordon



We will also pray for individuals with Covid and you can send any names to email to Rev. Alice at revalp@neo.rr.com.



Our church family shares our sympathy to Arlene Perkins in the death of her sister Thelma "Babe" Mathys on Dec. 15th and on the

passing of her daughter, Teresa, on January 7.

Annual Report Submissions- Thank you to everyone who has turned in their annual reports. There is still time to submit one if you were asked but are worried you missed the deadline. Send completed reports to seccg@plaincitypresby.org as soon as possible.

THE SESSION VOTED TO REOPEN FOR IN PERSON WORSHIP. WE WILL BE REOPENING THE CHURCH FEBRUARY 7TH.

Several in our church expressed the desire to be able to come and worship in person. We looked at other factors as well. Session decided it was time to reopen the church WITH THE SAME VERY STRICT PROTOCOLS AS BEFORE! All will wear masks (except those speaking up front), no singing, temps taken at door, using hand sanitizer, and sanitizing church afterwards. Should you have been exposed to COVID or are not feeling well...please DO NOT come in person. Also, we ask that each person make his/her own decision as to what is comfortable to each regarding attending in person.



Thank you to Judy Brady and Donna Rihl in assisting Carolyn with the decorating Christmas this year.

Thank you to all the helpers who have delivered communion to the shut-ins.

Thank you to the officers who participated in the Presbytery office training series.



Monday Night Prayer and Bible Study began a new study on **Romans** on January 11. If you would like to join us, please let Rev Alice know and she will send the Zoom connection.

Attention MEN! ZOOM Bible Study on Saturday mornings is here! The group currently meets on the second and fourth Saturdays of each month. Please contact Bill Pettibone if you would like to join! billpsurvey@hotmail.com

READ THROUGH THE BIBLE - Why not take the challenge for 2021!

There are many plans available online as well as many apps. Here is a link to a chronological reading of the Bible. <https://www.bible.com/reading-plans/10819-the-one-year-chronological-bible>

LITTLE FOOD PANTRY -

Session approved Lisa Ross' request to build and house a little food pantry by our parking lot. This will be an emergency supply station for those in need. We will keep you updated as this proceeds.



LOOKING FOR A SAFE WAY TO SERVE THE CHURCH DURING THIS TIME? CON-

SIDER VOLUNTEERING FOR THE AV TEAM.

The AV Team needs **MORE** volunteers. Dave McCray and Jim Kaufman have been our ever faithful camera men for **MONTHS** now. They are need of some more volunteers to train. Please consider helping with this important service to the church family. Contact Dave or Jim if you are willing to learn and help.

MISSION UPDATE..WE ARE IN THIS TOGETHER!

THANK YOU TO SO MANY FOR YOUR GENEROUS GIFTS TO THE MISSION FUND! Session decided to disperse \$500 per month to the PC Food Pantry which will take our giving to them through the winter months. We are also awaiting to hear what will happen with DNA in regards to possibly moving from their current building.

Church Treasurer Report for December 2020

The month of December ended with a large balance, even including a large amount of expenses during the month. This was due to the many donations received for the church's general fund. Much of this is probably due to many members finishing up the year with annual, quarterly or special donations which normally occurs to some degree in December each year.

General Expenses Fund

Beginning Balance 12/01/2020	\$ 3,591.60
Income	27,853.44
Expenses	<u>(20,579.33)</u>
Ending Balance 12/31/2020	\$ 10,865.71

For the month, \$500 was provided to the Plain City Food Pantry, \$2,225 to DNA-Daily Needs Assistance program, \$750 for Presbyterian Missions, \$300 for the Plain City Church Fellowship group and \$50 for our Deacons. The Judy Walker Scholarship fund received additional donations of \$1,575, so the balance is now \$5,596.

A couple other items of interest: For the year, total donations were made to DNA in the amount of \$3,000 and \$6,500 to the Plain City Food Pantry. An additional \$1,353 was provided to cover special Covid relief for the Pleasant Valley Senior Center. In December the Ohio Bureau of Worker's Comp sent the church another special dividend payment of \$819 as part of the state's additional Covid relief efforts and is included in overall general expense fund donations.

If there are any questions, please let me know.
Best Regards,
Gary Gibeaut, Treasurer



Feb. 14th is Blanket Sunday Won't you help those in need as we blanket the world with love! You can give on the link below and designate PCPC.

<https://cwsblankets.org/DONATE/>

OR include in your donation with a note of how many blankets. A \$10 donation provides one blanket to someone in need.

Believe it or not: Lent begins with Ash Wednesday Feb 17 which is right around the corner. Copies of a Lenten Bible devotional will be in the tub by the Church Street door. Stop by at your convenience. Watch for more Lenten information in the weeks to come.

Where to send your offering? For now keep sending your tithes directly to Suzanne Merkle or to the church: Suzanne will continue as financial secretary until things ease up with the pandemic when meeting to discuss her job would be easier.

The Judy Walker Music

Scholarship Still Collecting Donations

Judy Walker has faithfully served our church as organist for the past 54 years. The Session has wanted to find some way to honor Judy for her many years of service and decided to establish the Judy Walker Music Scholarship Fund. Each year a graduating student will be chosen. The amount given each year will be determined by the funds that become available. Please mail your gift to Suzanne Merkle; or if you are worshipping in person, you may bring your gift to the church. **PLEASE** designate on your check/envelope that it is for the Judy Walker Music Scholarship Fund.



Update on Number of Board Members:

Session decided to change the number of board members beginning with the class of 2021. This decision was made realizing the number of board members for the size of our church seemed out of balance along with the fact that people were serving many years without a break. So beginning in 2021, we will be electing two trustees and three deacons. This will continue each year until the number of board members by 2023 will be six instead of nine trustees, and the number of deacons will be nine instead of twelve. The Elders will remain the same at nine members.

Shut in Visitation If you are shut-in and would like a visit, or if your family member is shut-in and you would like Rev Alice to visit him/her, please let her know.

For the protection of everyone, she will only visit outdoors at nursing homes, assisted living places, or homes with everyone wearing a mask and social distancing. No home communion at this time, unless you or family has the communion elements available and already there for his/her loved one.

An On-line event to introduce and support the work of the PC(USA) Matthew 25 Initiative

Doing Justice & Loving Kindness: An Intro to Matthew 25

Saturday February 13th from 10:00 – 11:30 am



10:00 am Worship and Introduction

10:20 am Choose one of three workshops.

- **Dismantling Structural Racism** Listen in on a conversation between Rev. Alice Philips and CBS sports broadcaster James Brown economic and institutional This workshop postponed until a future Matthew 25 event.
- **Eradicating Systemic Poverty** What do we not understand about poverty that is undermining our work to end hunger and homelessness? How are we failing to love and honor the poor? Learn more about the soulkilling structures of poverty and then, in particular, the dynamics of homelessness in the city of Columbus.
- **Building Church Vitality** Our churches are vital when we grow into “a way of life that sees with Christ’s eyes and uses [our] collective gifts to really make a difference.” When elders, deacons, and clergy are ordained, we pray that these men and women will be trained in the school of prayer so that they might express the compassion of Christ for the poor and the troubled. We pray that they will be filled with courage to bear the gospel into the halls of power. How can we teach our people spiritual practices that increase our compassion and support our justice work?

To Register: Find link on the PSV website www.psvonline.org under Matthew 25, in the PSV Mid-week E-News, or copy this link https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwscOCgrTIuGdGT-zCK_KRBjT1d1tCxEX-M

Global Mission Event Mission Engagement 101 White Paper

A five-session (spread over five months) global mission engagement and educational opportunity for individuals and congregations in the Presbytery of Scioto Valley. Each event will focus on a different, foundational aspect of global mission in the 21st century and will additionally feature conversations with mission co-workers from around the world.

The history of global mission is known equally by what God has done in and through it and as an unwitting aid to colonialist and racist injustices. To do global missions well today, then, requires a commitment to understanding the foundation of God’s work around the whole world and wisdom to not repeat past mistakes. Put in another way, if the greatest challenges facing 19th- and 20th-century global mission were travel and language translation, then the greatest challenges facing 21st-century global mission is holistic cultural engagement and the avoidance of paternalism or other unjust power relations. If a lot of that last sentence seemed confusing to you, it won’t after you complete Mission Engagement 101.

Cost: It’s free! **And, in fact, congregations that have three or more members attend all five sessions will receive a \$250 grant from the Presbytery of Scioto Valley to be used for global mission in and through your congregation.** Additionally, all attendees to all five sessions will receive a certificate of recognition from the Presbytery. **Dates/Time:** All sessions will be held on Saturdays from 10:30 a.m. to noon via Zoom. The specific dates are as follows: January 23, February 20, March 20, April 17, May 15. **Registration:** Email Les Sauer at lessauer@hotmail.com to receive a Zoom link before each

Details: Below is a list of topics and mission coworkers for each session

****Session 1 (January 23) – “What is mission? What is our mission? Why do we do mission?”**

Conversation with Michael and Rachel Ludwig, serving in Niger

****Session 2 (February 20) – “New Testament Models of Mission”**

Conversation with Mark Hare and Jenny Bent, serving in Costa Rica

****Session 3 (March 20) – “Power and Money in Mission, historically and today”**

Conversation with Jed Hawkes Koball and Jenny Valles Koball, serving in Peru

****Session 4 (April 17) – “What is Presbyterian about doing mission? How do congregations plug in?”**

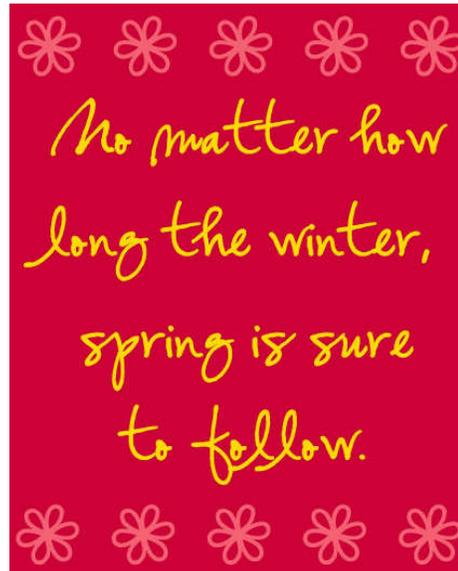
Conversation with Victor Makari and Doug Dicks, serving in Israel and Palestine

****Session 5 (May 15) – “Next steps--where do we go from here? Growing engagement in global mission in your congregation”** Conversation with Dan and Elizabeth Turk, serving in Madagascar



None this month

2/04	Barbara	Berry
02/04	Kristen	Johnston
02/05	Kathy	Wilson
02/07	Joyce	Harper
02/10	Jonna	Wilcox
02/11	Norman	Troyer
02/14	Carolyn	Gibeaut
02/14	Valerie	Merideth
02/15	Don	McKelvey
02/17	John	Bodenbender
02/25	Pat	Jordan
02/27	Carolyn	Mitchell



THANK YOU to the following individuals for providing music each Sunday. Session has decided to send them monthly gift cards from our church family in appreciation. If you would like to send a note of thanks to them, here are their addresses.

DR. AILENE ALBRECHT & CAITLYN MACKAY
2235 Hackney Ct
Hilliard 43026

DIRK AHLGRIM
139 N Powell Ave
Columbus, OH 43204



Our Shut-ins

REMEMBERING OUR SHUT-INS

Being shut-in this past year should have given us a better appreciation for those on our shut-in list. Please take a moment to remember our shut-ins. Drop them a card or give them a call!

Mary Mitchell— Prestige Gardens Marysville

Bob Schlitz—Home

Connie Zimmerman—Arizona home

Dick Harper—Home

Fred DeLeon - Home

Marian Thomas & Pat Stenner & Bruce Keiser—Dublin Retire Village Assisted Living

Chuck Stoker—Home Pat Stoker- Bluebird Retirement, Marysville

Alice Shalosky— Home

Bryan Becker—Home

Arlene Perkins— Walnut Crossing Assisted Living, Marysville

Ray Russell, Emily Baker, Mary Lou Rihl- Edgewater Assisted Living

Georgianna Rymer- daughter's home