

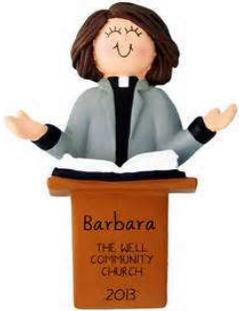
PCPC PRESSing NEWS

July/August 2017

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.) Plain City, Ohio

Vol. 25 No.7

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Word from Pastor Alice

Dear Church Family,
On Father's Day I shared with the children during the children's sermon some things that I remember about my dad.

One of those memories was learning to drive. I shared the picture of what the 1966 Chevy Chevelle looked like that my dad owned at the time. No, I didn't learn to drive in 1966!! The car was ten years old when I learned to drive in 1976. The thing that I remember was that the old car lacked power steering and power brakes. Now those of you who are reading this who are younger than 50 probably have no idea what that means. When making a turn in a car without power steering you really had to turn and turn the steering wheel with everything you had; and as the turn was completed, you released your grip on the wheel and let it flow through your hand as is unwound! When you applied the brakes, you really stepped on the brake pedal and pushed hard to stop the car. Those of you older than 50 know exactly what I am trying to say.

During my lifetime, my dad never owned a brand new car. He worked hard but never could afford a brand new car. Each time he bought a newer used car was a step in the right direction. I remember the final car he owned when I finished college was one that not only had power steering and brakes, but also had the luxury of air conditioning. I thought I had died and gone to heaven when I drove that car!

So why do I share all of this with you in this newsletter? I wanted you to think about the car that you currently own. Even if it is not brand new, I am sure that it has power steering and brakes along with air conditioning and perhaps a lot of other bells and whistles. I would imagine that at least 99% of you would not want a car without those items, unless you liked antiques.

I share that with you because it is amazing how easily and grateful we are for changes in many areas of our lives...whether it be in cars, furniture, clothes, shoes, cell phones, kitchen and laundry appliances, bathroom facilities, and the list could go on.

What is surprising, however, is that we are reluctant to change in the church. We want to do things the way we have always done things. I would suspect we have a difficult time embracing change for fear we are losing something. But I really believe we can embrace change as well as maintain some things that mean a lot to us. In so doing, we could be more attractive to a younger generation. When Bob Russell spoke to the church officers when he was here he stressed that the content remains the same, the packaging changes.

See, I still learned to drive on that old '66 Chevelle. I would never want to change that experience, but I also gratefully adapted to better, updated changes in vehicles. No matter if it was a '66 Chevelle or a 2017 Ford Fusion, the main purpose was to drive to get from point A to point B.

The main purpose of the church is to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ...to reach those who do not know Jesus. And so we must think about ways that may be different than a "'66 Chevelle" way of doing things and look for more updated "2017 Ford Fusion" ideas. In other words, as we look to the future of the church, let's ask ourselves these questions: "What appeals to young people and the unchurched individual today?" "Would I be willing to change things so that a young person and the unchurched individual may come to know Jesus and have eternal life?" "Do I really care about the future of the Plain City Presbyterian Church more than having things my way?"

Proverbs 29:18 tells us... "Where there is no vision, the people perish." Will you join me in seeking a fresh vision for the Plain City Presbyterian Church? Will you ask yourselves the three questions above and make it a matter of prayer...Ask the Lord what He is calling us to be and do in 2017 and beyond and what ways can we adapt and change to reach others outside of our church family?

I love being your pastor! You are a wonderful church family, and I believe the Lord has great things planned for us!!

Love and Blessings in Jesus!

Alice



What a wonderful blessing we received by having Pastor Bob Russell and his wife Judy with us at Plain City Presbyterian Church for our Spiritual Renewal

Weekend! We were spiritually fed, and we were challenged! Thank you to all who worked so hard to make it all happen...Carolyn Gibeaut, the Deacons for hosting all the times we ate together, the Trustees for having the church looking so nice, and to all the musicians...Judy Walker, the choir, Jean and Pete Spike, Pam Berry, and Roy Woods.



- 6/25 - *Powerful Prayer (Colossians 1:1-14)*
 - 7/2 - *Jesus Is Supreme (Colossians 1:15-23)*
 - 7/16 - *Being a Good Listener (Colossians 1:24-2:10)*
 - 7/23 - *Designer Label (Colossians 2:20-3:14)*
 - 7/30 - *The Run of the House (Colossians 3:15-17)*
 - 8/6 - *Serving the Master (Colossians 3:18-4:1)*
 - 8/13 - *Open Doors (Colossians 4:2-6)*
 - 9/3 - *Unsung Heroes (Colossians 4:7-18)*
- Invite someone to the service and then take them out to Lunch.*

SESSION MEETING-

None scheduled. Will meet if need arises.

TRUSTEES MEETING

July 9 11:15 am
August 13 11:15 am

DEACONS MEETING

No formal meeting in July
August 20 11:15 am



Helping with Worship

LITURGIST for July is
Bob Merkle
and for August is:
Come and Find out

ELDER GREETER for
July is Doug Short
August is Bob Merkle

HEAD DEACONS for
July are Brenda DeLeon
and Janet Johnston
August are Mindy Foust
and Brenda DeLeon

THE USHERING TEAMS for
July are:
Judy Brady and Jane Denhardt
Valerie Meredith and Barbara George

August are:
Bob Merkle and Ray Russell
Chris and Janet Johnston

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! July 17-21.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL IS COMING SOON!

July 17-21

9:00 AM until Noon

The theme is "Hero Central: Discovering Your Strength in God." It will be the week of July 17-21, 9:00-12:00 each morning. Ages 3 through 6th grade. Check out the clothesline in the parlor for needed donations. If you can volunteer to help, let HERO Rosemary Anderson know. Contact the church office for preregistration or with any questions. Help us get the word out. Tell your family, friends and neighbors. A registration form is included with this newsletter.



**SUNDAY AUGUST 20
WORSHIP SERVICE-
HIS BRIDGE
BUILDERS QUARTET
from Shreve, OH-**

“His Bridge Builders” was formed in 2009 by a group of men whose desire was “to help bring Jesus Christ into and through people by utilizing His gifts of music, worship and witness.” “His Bridge Builders” sings a variety of gospel hymns, current southern gospel, men’s choral harmony, and some barbershop styles. A love offering will be received.

**CHRISTMAS IN
JULY**

**SATURDAY, JULY 29 AT
2:00 PM**

Come join us in learning how to make decorative bows while refreshing the church’s Christmas decorations now rather than during the busy holiday season. Come inside out of the summer heat and help us prepare for the next holiday season. If you can make bows, come share your skill. If you can’t, come and learn something new! Remember many hands make light work!!



An important message from Pastor Bob Russell’s sermons was that the key to seeing new faces and families coming here will be developing the skill of being dedicated inviter. You should expect many rejections but keep at it. To help in this challenge, we have prepared some invite cards that are the size of a business card. It will be an easy thing to hand someone with the church information and service times. You will find them on the tables in the parlor and the sanctuary. Take 1 and challenge yourself to give it away by the end of the month. Then come back and get 2 more, etc. Let’s give it a try!!



The Presbytery of
Scioto Valley

PER CAPITA

Thank you to all of you that have already contributed your per capita. It is much appreciated.

Our Per Capita is due, and we are asking each member to please help the church budget by paying your share of the per capita costs. Per Capita for 2017 is \$33.00 per member. If each member pays this small amount, then it does not impact our general fund. Our total Per Capita bill for 131 members is \$4,323.00. This is a considerable amount to pay from our general fund. You should have received a letter, brochure and a return envelope in the mail earlier in May.

You may mail it to the church, or you may place it in the offering plate. It would be appreciated if the per capita could be received by the end of summer.



Spiritual Support for Cancer Patients and Their Families

A new support group for cancer patients and their families is meeting the first Thursday of each month at 6:00 pm so our next meeting is on **Thursday, July 6**. There will be a light supper donated by Der Dutchman, time of sharing, fellowship, a short Biblical meditation, and prayer. If you know someone battling cancer or serving as a caregiver, please let them know about this opportunity. Spread the word!! Let the office know by Wednesday, July 5 if you are coming to help in coordinating the meal.



**PROTECT
MY MINISTRY**

BACKGROUND CHECKS FOR YOUR PEACE OF MIND.

BACKGROUND CHECKS

At our May Session meeting, the Elders voted to have ALL individuals who are working with children/youth in our church and church related activities to have a background check. We are asking that all those currently working with children/youth to have a background check by **September 1, 2017**. This includes the following programs: LIGHT, Nursery workers, Legacy, VBS, and the Mission Team. We chose to use the affordable program, *Protect My Ministry*, which came from a referral from Broad St. Presbyterian Church. It is an online program where each individual will enter his/her information. The church will cover the cost for each individual background check. This program also has an online child safety program available as well. Please note: We will not store any information regarding social security numbers/driver’s license numbers at the church. We will only have the final report given to us.

WHY??? Why are we requiring people working with our children/youth to have a background check? Don't we trust our church family members?

1. It is **protection for children/youth**. They are a treasure from God, and we treasure them and care about them.
2. This is an **evangelism tool**. Potential new members coming to our church do not know us. Think about how uneasy you would be to leave your children/youth with a total stranger at a church. Parents today want to make sure if they are leaving their children/youth in our care, that we are a "safe" environment. Many will want to know if our staff is background checked.
3. It is a **protection for our church**. We are living in very different times today. Let's say a new member would like to work with the LIGHT program but we do not necessarily know his/her background. This ensures us that people who are new and want to volunteer to work with children/youth are trustworthy and have no criminal background.
4. This has increasingly become the **standard** for any school, agency, church who are working with children/youth.

Letters will be sent to those currently working with children with instructions on how to log into the system. Should you have any questions, please let Rev Alice or an elder know.

**FEED MY SHEEP
FOODBANK UPDATE...
The PCPC Food Bank
"Feed My Sheep"**



continues to grow and thrive as an important mission of our Church. We have truly been blessed with an **amazing "crew" of volunteers** who come faithfully each week to help unload, sort, display and joyfully distribute food to a growing group of people in need.

In recent weeks we've seen MORE clients from our local community. We're always in need of **quart zip lock bags, macaroni and cheese, spaghetti and sauce, and peanut butter**. Your generous donations of food, supplies and money helps keep our pantry filled so we can fill the gap when we have a light week of store donations. Plus they give us enough operating capital to continue this work. **Thank You Very Much!**

If you would like to volunteer, or just see "what's going on" or "how it works" please stop by Church any Saturday afternoon. The food arrives around 4:45 PM and we are cleaning up and heading home a little after 6:00 PM. **"It is a blessing to all of us to be able to do this work and only the support of our congregation has made this mission possible."**

Michael George



BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES:

SUNDAY

CHRISTIAN CONVERSATIONS

Every **Sunday morning beginning at 9:15 a.m.** in Fellowship Hall outside of the offices (led by Frank and Jerry Smith).

Taking a break for summer are:

Ladies Sunday School class

Saturday Men's Bible Study

Monday Bible Study

We'll begin again in the fall so mark your calendar and plan on joining one or more of these groups.

MONDAY

PRAYER MEETING 6:00 p.m. continues

We invite you to join us as we uplift before the Lord in prayer... family, church family, friends, community, country, and world.



Mission Committee- DNA Monthly

Need The Mission Committee is trying to do a better job of supporting DNA. We will have a notice in the monthly newsletter and also the bulletin regarding what "Personal Needs" the DNA is targeting each month. This month we will be collecting **Toilet Paper and size 3 Diapers (Kirkland from Costco), Member's Mart (Sam's Club) and Huggies**. There is a container in the parlor to collect these items. These donations will be distributed during the monthly community meal. We will take the donations to the school at the end of each month. Thank you for helping this most worthy mission in our community



Happy June Anniversary!

07/09	Ray & Jean Russell
07/15	Brian & Tracy Beach
	Steve & Nancy
07/20	Patterson
	Elaine & William L.
07/25	Wilcox
07/28	Bob & Suzanne Merkle
08/03	Chad & Brynn Craney
08/04	Ashley & Beth Goode
08/10	Richard & Joyce Harper
08/17	Chris & Mike Hargis
08/27	Bob & Helen Watson



July and August Birthdays

07/01	Doris	France
07/02	Grant	Thomas
07/02	Randy	Collins
07/02	Jane	Denhardt
07/02	Elizabeth	Collins
07/03	Linda	Erdman
07/03	Samuel	Lamphear
07/08	Mike	Hargis
07/11	Nancy	Patterson
07/14	Harley	Bodenbender
07/17	Melissa	Erdman
07/20	Belva	Latham
07/21	Rita	McCray
07/21	Vicky	Pettibone
07/29	Johanna	Keiser
07/29	Leanne	Manring
07/30	Michael	Wilcox
07/31	Chad	Sperling
07/31	Lauren	McClymont
08/01	Kim	Moody
08/06	Daniel	Sperling
08/06	Angie	Lester
08/09	Henleigh	Reed
08/11	Fred	DeLeon
08/11	Beau	Stapp
08/12	Austin	Beltz
08/12	Roy	Woods
08/13	Paula	Ferguson
08/13	Keitha	Lear
08/14	Bob	Watson
08/17	Rich	Stahl
08/19	Stewart	Walker
08/19	Nathan	Ferguson
08/19	Nathan	Ferguson
08/23	Sally	Petznick
08/24	Frank	Smith
08/29	Suzanne	Merkle
08/30	Andy	Thomas
08/31	Paula	Thomas
08/31	Betty	Mayer
08/31	William A	Wilcox
08/31	Paula	Williams
08/31	Connor	Johnston



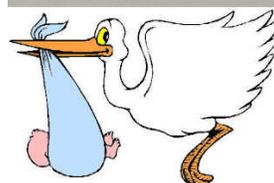
MAX & ERMA'S FUNDRAISER

Enjoy a meal at Max & Erma's on **Thursday, July 6** and

August 3 and 20% of your bill will be returned to the Church for our Mission Trip Fund. The voucher for the fundraiser is included this newsletter, print it out and take it with you.

Gather up your friends and family, and go hungry for lunch or supper! See you there!!

The July voucher is attached and we'll send the August voucher out nearer to the date.



Zach and Rachel Pettibone and grandparents, Bill and Vicky Pettibone, welcomed Calvin Louis Pettibone (7 lb 2 oz) on June 22.

Lindsey and Ben Simcik and grandparents, Doug and Jan Short welcomed twin boys, Cole Garrett and Tate Griffith on June 24. Congratulations to everyone!

Inviting Someone to Church without Being Awkward

January 26, 2014 Blog Post *By David Cannella*

If you are anything like me, you wholeheartedly want to see everyone you know sitting in the row next to you on Sunday morning. You know how exciting it would be to sit next to your Dad, co worker, or the employee you see every day when you buy your gas. You are sold on the vision and God has probably even brought people to mind that you could invite. However, if you also are like me you may recognize a fear rise up in you when you imagine extending the invitation. Perhaps you have thoughts like "Will they think I'm weird for inviting them?", "I know they probably won't come anyway.", or even "I don't know what to say. If I was more like the pastor I could naturally do it, but I'll end up saying the wrong thing." Essentially what you and I are asking is HOW should I invite someone appropriately? How can I naturally do it in a way that does not feel forced or unnatural? We have the heart; we just need the skill to be effective.

I think the way to tackle the inviting challenge is to categorize the relationships you have and then adjust your invitation to be appropriate within the context of each relationship. For example you wouldn't invite your Mother to church the same way you would a casual acquaintance. I'd like to propose three categories of relationships you have and give you a few ideas on how to appropriately invite a person from each category.

THOSE WHO ARE CLOSE TO YOU The first category is your close relationships. These are your family, friends and those in your inner circle at work. You and these people know each other well. You know each other's strengths and weaknesses. You know their tendencies, talents, dreams and motivations. You have shared the good and bad times with each other. **These people can tell if you are being yourself or not so when you invite them do so from your heart.** Show them you genuinely care for them and you simply desire for them to experience something that is important to you and will be beneficial for them. You can invite them to church as naturally as you would to a baseball game or craft show. The simplest ask would be something like "Hey Steve I've told you about how this church has been impacting me in my life. Why don't you come this Sunday with me and then we'll grab some brunch after?" Keep it as simple as any other kind of invitation to hang out.

You may also want to add a bit of a testimony to your invitation to express a personal detail that church has helped you with in your life or a genuine concern you have for their spiritual well being. An example would be "Sara, you know how I told you I have been kind of depressed since my Dad died? Well this church has really helped me get

through some of my feelings about him. We are doing a message series and I think you would like it. It would mean a lot to me if you came this Sunday." Another is "Dan, remember how you told me you and Susan were having some parenting issues? I think this series would really help you. Why don't you come with us and then we can have lunch afterward." **The key is to be real and ask from the heart by integrating something tangible from your relationship into the invitation.**

THOSE WHO ARE NOT CLOSE TO YOU The second category is those people in your life who you know but are not really close with. These can be co workers, a woman at day care, or the guy who does your lawn care service. This is more of a general friendly invitation. **They already know and probably respect you so if you invite them somewhere they will probably be receptive.** An example would be, "Bob you do such a great job on our lawn and I'm not sure if you have plans for this Sunday, but I have been attending this really cool, relevant church and I'd like to ask you come check it out with us soon. No big deal if you can't but I was thinking of you." **They will be honored that you actually thought of them and even if they don't come, it will still move your relationship forward.** Keep it light and casual but don't let fear stop you from asking a question that could change the course of their spiritual direction.

THOSE YOU DO NOT KNOW The last category is people you have seen on occasion but don't know well or people you meet for the first time. Maybe you are sitting at a Starbucks and someone sits next to you. **A great quick invitation that really has no cost for you is to simply say "So, I was curious, where do you go to church? If you are looking for a relevant place I'd like to invite you to church on Sunday."** It is short and sweet and no matter what their answer is, you will feel the excitement of an influx of courage in your spirit as you take a risk.

DON'T MISS THE OPPORTUNITY

Don't let this year pass you by without rising to the challenge of influencing the spiritual lives of the people God has placed in your life. **Imaging the day when someone you know is worshiping God with their hands in the air as they stand next to you.** Can you see their face as they sing out of love to the one who saved them, gave them peace and joy, sent them on a new mission and purpose and life and satisfied their soul the way only He can? **That picture can be a reality but it starts with an invitation.** Will you be the one God uses to take that risk? Only you can answer that.

PRESCHOOL AIDE WANTED: St. Paul Early Childhood Center (at the intersection of State Routes 161 & 38) is searching for a preschool aide to work Monday/Wednesday/Friday mornings from 8:00-11:30 am during the school year (end of Aug. through mid-May) . Please call 937-349-5939 if you are interested in helping to enrich the lives of children ages 3-5 years old three mornings a week