



## We are a Community, seeking to be in stride with Christ.

### ~ *Pastor's Corner* ~

Tools for Schools; this may be one of the biggest projects we have begun yet! We used to give to Ravens for Tools for Schools but now we lead the way in this project to help local students get a healthy start to the new school year without having to scramble for what they need for school

The haircuts are an added bonus. When you look groomed, you look and feel ready to take on the world.

We are grateful to our community for their generous response to invitations to be part of this endeavor:

St John United Church of Christ, Zions Lutheran Church, Independence Methodist Church are among the churches who participate with us. We began with a seed money grant from our Synod of the Covenant. Local organizations such as the VFW, Defiance Moose Lodge, Zonta, the Women's Giving Circle, and the Defiance Area Foundation. Businesses such as Meijer, Walmart, Midwest Community Federal Credit Union, State Bank, Manville Stars have given money as well as helped us buy supplies at a reduced price. Coworkers have put together cash gifts, individual donors have sent in money and brought in supplies; I thank you for your contributions! There are more people asking about how to help.



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Of Defiance

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Pastor's Corner	1-2
Dates to Remember	2
Neighborhood Party	3
Opportunities	4
Birthday's/Anniversaries	5
Projects	6
Highlights	7
Calendar's	8-9



## **~ Pastor's Corner ~**

Now it is time for the big days of distribution on Saturday August 12 and 13. Thank you to all who have signed up to help with the set up on Aug 8 & 9 and with working the distribution tables. We will have volunteers from St John UCC, Zions Lutheran, St. Mary's Catholic Church and State Bank working with us too! The goal is to make this a community event from donation to distribution so we are part of something bigger than ourselves. That is what will help it to keep going strong!

In addition, we will deliver some complete school backpacks to the Defiance Middle Schools to cover those older children who will not come to such an event. We will also work toward a January "refresh" of some items and make those available through the school counsellors.

We are not the only school supply drive in town; I hope we can make this a true community project - bringing out the best in our Defiance area neighbors and friends, whom we know have been generous to our church projects all along.

God loves cheerful and generous givers and all that we do, we do to God's glory, so that others may experience a God of grace, mercy and love.

Pastor Ann

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## **DATES TO REMEMBER ~**

8/6 ~ Communion

8/8 ~ Special Election

8/9 ~ Set up School Supplies, 6 pm

8/10 ~ Neighborhood Party, 5:30 ~ 10 pm

8/12 ~ School Supply Distribution

8/13 ~ School Supply Distribution

8/15 ~ Christian Ed Committee, 7:30 pm

8/18 ~ Back to School Haircuts 3 ~ 8 pm

8/20 ~ Communion

8/20 ~ 175th Anniversary of Neighbors

8/22 ~ Session 7 pm

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**We are invited:**

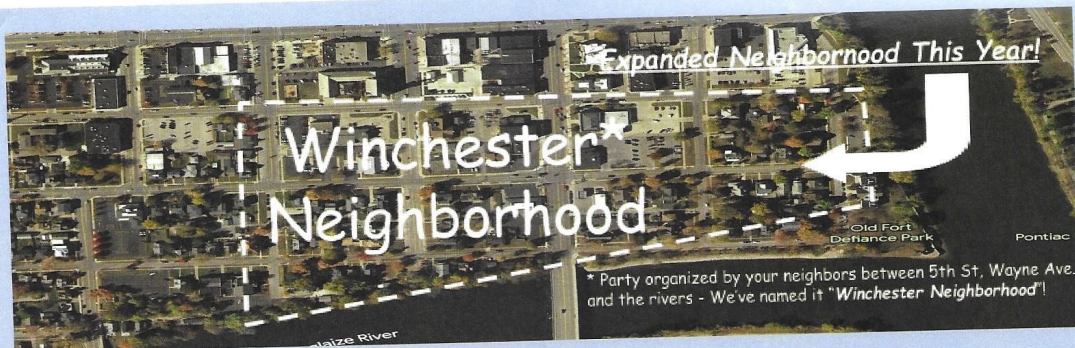
**To the Winchester Neighborhood Party on Thursday August 10** from 5:30 to 10 pm at the home/ lawn of Rob and Katie Held, 301 3<sup>rd</sup> St.

Bring a chair, beverage and finger food to share.

You can bring some meat to grill or order London Broil (\$5 for 8 oz serving) from the Helds.

To sign up/ order dinner: google "Winchester Neighborhood Block Party"

This is our church neighborhood- come out to meet some folks, re-establish ties, see who lives in the house you used to live in.



2nd Annual

# NEIGHBORHOOD PARTY

Friends - Food - Games - Firepit

**Thursday, August 10, 2023**

**5:30 pm - 10:00 pm** (rain or shine)

**301 3rd St. - (Rob and Katie Held's)**

Bring a table, chairs, maybe a yard game, something to grill, beverages and a dish to share.

**New this year... LONDON BROIL for a \$5 per person donation**

- To signup online, Google: [Winchester Neighborhood Block Party](#)
- Order 8 oz. per person London Broil on above website menu

Links:

[PHOTOS of the 2022 PARTY HERE!](#) Thank you, Radek Smolik, [smolikphotique.com](mailto:smolikphotique.com)

More info and details at:

<https://sites.google.com/view/winchesterneighborhoodparty/home>

**WE ARE INVITED to the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** (founded 1848) of West Eagle Creek and West Bethesda Presbyterian Churches in Montpelier on Sunday August 20.

Morning Worship and Potluck meal at West Bethesda (10 am- 1 pm) (11954 County Road I, Montpelier)

Afternoon cemetery walk and Craft at the church

Evening Sandwich supper & Worship- Hymn sing at West Eagle Creek with dessert social afterward. Supper at 5:15 pm, Hymn Sing at 6 pm. (05989 US 20, Montpelier)

Pastor Ann plans to go up in the afternoon or evening if you want to car pool.



### **August Special Music**

Sunday August 6; our neighbor, Ned Clark will bring us a special gospel song at worship.

Sunday Aug 13: Mike Winners will lead music at worship (as he will on July 30). He has arranged a couple of his songs for congregational singing!

Marsha Karr and Mike Winners have put some of the upbeat songs the choir sang on the computers in the chapel and sanctuary. We will play them as special in worship from time to time. Thank you both!

We know that our music each Sunday is inspiring with Joel Youkers as our organist! Thank you Joel for sharing your gifts with your congregation.





## **August Birthdays**

22 ~ Ella Sigg  
26 ~ Jeff Barber  
30 ~ Bob Hanna

## **August Anniversaries**

14 ~ Floyd & Ann Culver  
29 ~ Barbara & Larry Florke  
30 ~ Rich & Pam Reid



**To Rich and Pam Reid for their leadership in this endeavor!**

This has truly become a community project. We have had generous donations from business, organizations, and churches of money and school supplies. Our September newsletter will post the final report. We also will have volunteers to help with distribution from not only our church, but also St. John UCC, St. Mary Catholic Church and Zions Lutheran Church, as well as the State Bank Gives Team.

The Haircut Project is also a community event with Salon 206 and Bloomfield's Barbershop and Shave Parlor hosting, and with several other stylists participating. We have received community donations to help us cover the cost of the haircuts- a reduced rate yes, but we don't want our stylists to lose a whole day of income.

We can celebrate the generosity of our community and encourage that generosity to continue for this project for years to come as we make sure all our students have the means to make a strong beginning to each school year.

**Tools for Schools Distribution on Saturday August 12 and Sunday August 13.**



**Haircuts on Friday, August 18, 3-8 pm**

**Thank you for your donations, your help in organizing and distribution school supplies!**

## **Projects list for the Church- Can you help?**

The roof is sealed and no leaks detected since the spring. Things need shaping up inside the building. We plan to schedule a couple of work nights to accomplish some of this. Watch for dates to be announced. If you can handle one of these yourself, please let Pastor Ann or Curtis Richards know.

**Ceiling Tiles-** all Floors, especially top floor & East Entrance

**Lights-** bulbs replaced in conference room; light fixture at top of the stairs by the chapel

**Blinds** in Chapel, the hallway, WeKirk Room (upstairs), and in the Craft Room (main floor)- new blinds needed in some places.

**Water Damage Repair:** WeKirk and Craft rooms- (scrape and paint)

**Water Damage Repair:** East Entrance, North Entrance to Sanctuary; need to be scraped and repainted- there may be a need for dry wall in the North entrance.

**Ensign House:** removing the hedge at the front and repairing the “fence” around the basement to guard against ground hogs.

Thank you to Curtis for cleaning gutters, handling bats at Ensign House, working to schedule a company to fix the pneumatic doors to the elevator and the thermostat in the Wekirk room. With help, he and Foyle got the bushes out by the East Entrance earlier this spring. Thank you to Charlie for the new bright tape on the stairs and with Foyle, for spraying for weeds this spring and summer. Thank you to Mike Peffley, Gary Bishop and all those looking after the garden, and to Foyle for mowing. It has been a busy mowing season. We have Marsha to thank for the lovely flower pots and Lora & Craig Richards for the bench at the East Entrance, which makes it all look very nice. The bench has come in handy already!

We keep a list of things needed done- look for it on the bulletin board to fill in when you notice something.

We are making plans to work on the fire escape doors and the Ed building front door as well. There are some longer- term projects on our list.



**Projects**

## **Highlights of the Session Meeting June 27, 2023 ~ Your Session at work**

We continue the discussion of what is next for us, and considered questions we have as we meet with St. John UCC leaders on July 17 at 7 pm. Ann has developed a shared ministry finance sheet which outlines costs estimates for sharing a pastor or hiring a part time pastor.

Ann and Norm will spend Thanksgiving in Tulsa, Nov 20-27, including Sunday Nov. 26 and will spend a fall weekend in Atlanta. Ann will also take a couple weekdays in late July and after Christmas.

The insurance payment has increased as expected, \$3000 per year to \$15,000. Marsha will pay quarterly from cash flow, which will only cost a few dollars extra each quarter. The property value has increased.

**Garden News:** Cucumbers, zucchini, dill, basil, and parsley are ready, and perhaps potatoes.

### **Tools for Schools**

Help will be needed for the following dates.

- Wednesday, August 9 at 6 pm for final organization for Saturday.
- Saturday, August 12 from 12 to 4:30 and then Sunday, August 13 from 12:30 to 3:30 pm Distribution! We will need some help for clean up too!
- Friday, August 18--Back to school haircuts at Salon 206 AND Bloomfield Barbershop from 3 pm to 8 pm. This event only needs a few workers, probably 3 each for 2 shifts. We will have space in the Twist It Yoga studio and Rich will set up games.
- We have received a total of \$13,300 from various community organizations to support this work.

Ann will present a clipboard for sign up to do some of the following property work.

1. Vestibule on side entrance to sanctuary--clean gutters, scrape and repaint stain glass-window, seal?
  2. Scrape and repaint East entrance ourselves-
  3. Indoor repair work top Floor and main Floor, ceiling tiles.
  4. LIGHT at top of the stairs to Chapel
  5. There are bats in the basement at the Ensign House.
- FOYLE found someone to cut out brush near the parking lots.
  - Curtis is trying to find someone to work on pneumatic doors on the elevator.
  - Charlie will spray poison ivy on driveway behind Ensign House and will do orange tape on the stairs.

The youth group announces that they need detergent bottles and would prefer smaller ones.

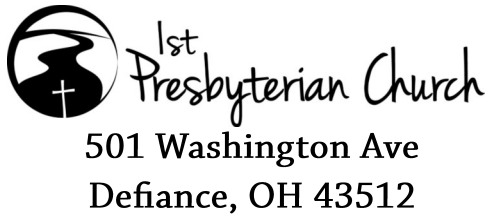
We anticipate using the Nooma videos for the pizza and program nights in the fall.

CE will meet August 15 at 5:45 pm. Session meets with St John leaders on July 17 and then as session on August 22 at 7 pm.

# August 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> Worship 10:00 am  Holy Communion	<b>7</b>  AA ~ noon	<b>8</b>  Special Election	<b>9</b>  Set up School Supplies 6 pm	<b>10</b>  Neighbor- hood Party 5:30 - 10 pm	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>  School Supply Distribution
<b>13</b> Worship ~ 10:00  School Supply Distribution	<b>14</b>  AA ~ noon	<b>15</b>  Christian Education Committee 7:30 pm	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>  Hair Cuts 3 - 8 pm	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> Worship ~ 10:00 Holy Communion 175th Anniversary of Neighbors	<b>21</b>  AA ~ noon	<b>22</b>  Session 7pm ~	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b>  Worship ~ 10:00	<b>28</b>  AA ~ noon	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>		





PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE