

# faith

in action

MAY 2023  
NEWSLETTER  
Edition 260



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Of Defiance



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

## ~ Pastor's Corner ~

The Pentecost Offering is the newest of our 4 seasonal special offerings. All of these offerings find their basis in Acts 2:42 where the people of the way share what they have with one another. We and our Presbyterian family share what we have with these special offerings to make a difference for Christ's kingdom in the world.

We haven't taken up this special offering for some time although it is approved by our Session. On Pentecost, May 28, through June 18, we will receive the Pentecost Offering for Children at Risk and Youth and Young Adult Ministry. A gift to the Pentecost Offering helps the church encourage, develop, and support its young people, and also address the needs of at-risk children. 40% of the Pentecost offering can be retained by individual congregations wanting to make an impact in the lives of young people within their own community. The remaining 60% is used to support children-at-risk, youth, and young adults through ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency.

The session has voted to put our 40% in the Tools for Schools ministry this year.

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## *~ Pastor's Corner, cont. ~*

In part, the Pentecost offering received by the Presbyterian Mission Agency helps fund Young Adult Volunteers (YAV) in 13 locations around the nation and world by helping to fund stipends so all interested young adults may participate. I was privileged to serve as a Young Adult Volunteer for 18 months when I graduated from seminary. I met and worked with many inspiring young adults in those months. Those experiences were formational for me as a pastor.

The offering also adds funds to the Youth Triennium budget as well as providing youth resources such as Quicksheets for youth groups. The Triennium has been an important event for many of you and we have received financial help for our attendance there from the denomination. The offering helps fund the d365.org daily devotional, designed with youth in mind, but used by the young at heart as well. Advocacy for education for children is also part of the work that comes from this offering.

This newest of the 4 special offerings of PCUSA has raised \$ 16 million since it began in 1998. We already participate in the Peacemaking and Global Witness Offering, Christmas Joy Gift and One Great Hour of Sharing. Let's plan to give to the Pentecost Offering for the growing of children and young people in faith and service in the name of Jesus Christ. When we all do a little, it adds up to a lot.

## ***Pastor Ann***

## **~ MARK YOUR CALENDAR ~**

**Tools for Schools:** We have adopted the Ravens' project so we have adopted the name. We celebrate that we are receiving grants from community organizations to help us fund this endeavor. We have connected with counsellors at Defiance Schools and will have the school supply lists ready earlier this year. We will have a barrel outside to receive donations from the community as well as our trusty school bus (refreshed with some body repair) in the East Entrance- by early June! The date for **school supply distribution is Saturday August 12** (we will have a couple of evenings of set up the week before) and for **haircuts at Salon 206 on August 19.**

Worship Committee will meet in May 11 @ 7 pm.

Get in practice for **our new worship time beginning June 4 – 10 am year -round.** Some folks are starting to come a bit earlier on Sundays- already in practice. On June 4, at 10 am, we will also start worship up in the chapel. Join us!

**Saturday, May 6,** 7 pm, singer songwriter **Carrie Newcomer** has a concert at First Presbyterian Church, Sandusky. Her songs often have a spiritual theme. If you want to go, please send a self-addressed stamped envelope to the church and you will receive free tickets until it's full: First Presbyterian Church, 265 Jackson St. Sandusky OH 44870. So, if Pastor Ann is a little groggy on May 7, you'll know why.

WeKirk and Youth will meet through May 10 with meals provided. WeKirk will have some summer activities. The Youth group will decide when and how to meet after May 10 until school begins again this fall. So watch for announcements.

## ~ MARK YOUR CALENDAR, cont. ~

Pastor Ann will be away May 9-10 at a Board of Pensions workgroup as part of her presbytery leadership.

The annual **Defiance Day of Prayer** Thursday, May 4th will be at the Defiance Area YMCA. Doors will open at 11:15 AM and a FREE lunch will be served at 11:30 AM for the first 300 guests. The program will begin at noon and end at 1 PM, and features a local woman.

### **PW&F:**

Presbyterian Women & Friends goes out to lunch on Monday, May 15. Meet at the church at 11:15 am and we will carpool to Sherwood to the Iron Horse. Please let Susan King know if you are attending so she can adjust the reservations accordingly.

A great big thank you to Donna Black, Nancy Meyer, Marilyn Smith, Sigrid Emerling, Susan King and all the great and grand dessert makers and helpers over the years- the chefs for the Lions Club are officially retiring on May 18. Lions Club will continue to meet at the church; they now use a room across from the choir room and library to store their materials.

Watch for a date to get together to make plans for next fall, winter and spring.

**YOUTH GROUP** requests your empty laundry detergent bottles; the smaller the better. As you do laundry this summer, if you use liquid detergent, please save the empties for the youth group and bring them to the church. They will be recycled for the laundry detergent for Coats for Christmas the group makes in October.

**Any graduates** in your family this year? Please let the church office know – name, relationship to you, from where they are to be graduated and future plans. We will report that later in May or June. ([office@1presby.com](mailto:office@1presby.com)).

### **May FOOD CART ~ canned fruit**

**Our Garden is beginning to grow.** We hope to have planted the boxes and the tomatoes by May 1. Right now, garlic, radishes and onions are in the front box.

## ~ IN THE COMMUNITY ~

Defiance has a Pub Theology Group that meets twice a month - 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday at 6 pm at the Miami and Erie, and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday at 6 pm at The Dark Horse Social Club. An hour of energetic discussion.

The Anti-Racism Study and Action group meets on 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays at 4 pm at the Dark Horse. We are beginning to read a book called Fortune: How Race Broke My Family and the World--and How to Repair It All by Lisa Sharon Harper

**The Lions Club** will have a fundraiser PANCAKE BREAKFAST at the Lilac Festival on May 13- from 8-10 am. Look for the State Bank Trailer near State Bank and St. Paul United Methodist Church. Donations received for a delicious breakfast! Eat, then get in line for your lilacs!

Send any community events you would like to see in our newsletter to [office@1presby.com](mailto:office@1presby.com).

## *May Birthdays*

01 ~ Eric Whitacre  
03 ~ Rory Maxcy-Sigg  
13 ~ Rylan McBride  
18 ~ Curt Sigg  
20 ~ Grant Phillips  
28 ~ Marilyn Smith  
31 ~ Jean Ziegler



## *May Anniversary*

30 ~  
Roger Emer-



Sigrid &  
ling

Thank you to *Marilyn Smith* for sponsoring  
the *May* newsletters. This enables us to print the newsletter in color.

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*Let us pray —*

*Empowering God,*

*Pentecost Sunday reminds us of the Spirit's power to  
transform lives.*

*Help each of us to hear the Spirit's call every day of our  
lives.*

*May we follow that call and build up the body of Christ.*



## **Highlights of the Session Meeting April 25, 2023 -- Your Session at work**

The discussion of what is next for us stays before us for prayer and pondering. In May, we will watch a podcast, *Using the Assets We Have*, by the author of *We are Not Broke*. We talked together about some of these options, asking questions, sharing ideas. Ann will work on a written piece that outlines some options and the benefits of each, including general financial outcomes.

Ann will take vacation June 6 – 13, be off Sunday, June 11, and will attend the Blues Festival in Chicago. We are looking for someone to manage the service, perhaps using a Nooma video.

### **Garden team**

Mike Peffley will lead planting the garden when the time is right.

### **School Supplies team—Tools for Schools**

Pastor Ann and Pam and Rich Reid had a productive meeting with the guidance counselors at Defiance Elementary School to talk about needs of the students at the beginning of the year and how the Tools for Schools drive can help. They also plan to meet with the Defiance Middle School counselors and then get started on making requests of various groups for donations of money or supplies, and for student sponsorships.

We have or will receive grants from the Women's Giving Circle, the Moose Lodge and the Defiance Area Foundation. Through United Way's Backpack Buddies, we will be able to reach 215 families. So the need will grow exponentially this year. We have approved all four PCUSA offerings for the year, but we haven't done much with **the Pentecost offering** recently. **We can keep 40% for local initiatives to support young people. Session voted to support this and to use our local part for Tools for Schools.**

**May 10** will be the last fellowship dinner of the season. Jeanne Peffley is in charge.

**June 7** will be a picnic in the parking lot hosted by the Reids.

### **Property updates**

Buckeye Roofing has sealed what they can find.

**A Small Repair Tour will take place Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup> after worship to look at projects around the church that we could possibly do on our own. All of our handy people are invited!**

The bushes have been pulled at the East Entrance. Marsha will add the flowerpots and we will possibly get a bench, one that can be put away in the winter.

Thanks to all who have provided meals for WeKirk and Youth Group this year

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

Worship time will change to 10 am year-round starting June 4, 2023. Rich will update the sign.

The April 19 Pizza and Program event featuring Marilyn Smith's stepson Jim was well attended and wonderful. He talked about his and his wife's five- year quest to visit each county in the U.S. They are nearly there!

The Creative Concepts group will meet soon to discuss events for spring and summer.

Presbytery Meeting will be May 16 at 3 pm Bowling Green.

The MVP Disaster Assistance Team will travel to Kentucky from Oct 8 – 14 for hurricane relief. This is open to all. If anyone has interest, please contact Pastor Ann.

# May 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b>  <i>AA ~ noon</i>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>  <i>WeKirk &amp; Youth</i>	<b>4</b>  <i>National Day of Prayer</i>  <i>Lion's ~ noon</i>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b>  <i>Holy Communion</i>	<b>8</b>  <i>AA ~ noon</i>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>  <i>WeKirk &amp; Youth</i>  <i>Church Fellowship Meal</i>	<b>11</b>  <i>Deacons 6 pm</i>  <i>Worship Committee 7 pm</i>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>  <i>Lilac Festival</i>
<b>14</b>  <i>Worship ~ 10:15</i>  <i>Mother's Day</i>	<b>15</b>  <i>AA ~ noon</i>  <i>PW&amp;F Luncheon in Sherwood 11:15 am to carpool</i>	<b>16</b>  <i>Presbytery @ Bowling Green 3 pm</i>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>  <i>Lion's ~ noon</i>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b>  <i>Worship ~ 10:15</i>  <i>Holy Communion</i>	<b>22</b>  <i>AA ~ noon</i>	<b>23</b>  <i>Session 7pm ~ in Fellowship Hall</i>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b>  <i>Worship ~ 10:15</i>  <i>Pentecost!</i>	<b>29</b>  <i>AA ~ noon</i>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>			

**Canned fruit is needed for this month's food bank!**



1st  
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PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE