



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Can you believe that summer is almost over? Students are getting ready to go back to school during the next weeks and we'll soon be into Labor Day, football and (hopefully) cooler days! Back-to-school time is a great opportunity to represent Christ's love in our communities by giving, connecting and praying for students, schools and staffs. Here are some ideas for how we can do this; consider doing one or two of these things over the next week or two!

How to connect:

Take a walk or drive around your neighborhood/area. Think about any families around you with young people who may be going back to school. Consider leaving a card of encouragement in a mailbox or two.

Who are some young people you know (family, friends, neighbors, church members) who are going to start school in the coming weeks? (Think about grade school, middle school, high school, college, etc.). Could you reach out to them in person or by text or phone? Ask them how you can pray for them this year! Tell them you care about them and want to encourage them for a new school year.

This Sunday is Blessing of the Backpacks during worship service. Consider offering special encouragement to the ones participating in the blessing this Sunday. How can you show you care for them, too?

How to give:

Over the next handful of weeks at church we'll be collecting Kleenex and Clorox-type wipes to donate to the new school. You can pick up some extra boxes of tissue or wipes next time you are at the store and bring them to church. We'll deliver the collected donations in a few weeks.

Many classrooms can always use extra supplies. Consider reaching out to a teacher or a school you know and see if there is anything you can offer to help the return to school go smoothly!

How to pray:

The most important and impactful thing we can do for schools, students, staff and teachers is to pray for them! Consider setting some time aside to pray over the coming weeks as school begins this fall. Here are some different prayer practices you could do:

- Take a drive to the three closest schools to your house. As you drive, pray for those schools, for the students and for the families they represent.
- Make a list of all the students you know personally. Keep that list with your Bible and try to commit to praying for each by name for the next month.
- Pray for one aspect of schools each day of the week for the next set of weeks:

Mondays: pray for students to learn and grow

Tuesdays: pray for teachers to have endurance and wisdom

Wednesdays: pray for administrators and staff to have patience and support

Thursdays: pray for school activities, that students would build friendships and skills

Fridays: pray for families, that students would have caring and nurturing homes

Saturdays: pray for safety, that schools would be protected from harm

Sundays: pray that all at the schools would know the love of Jesus and His care for them



All students regardless of age or grade - including college, adult classes, and vocational education are invited to bring their backpack/ bookbag or briefcase, etc. to worship Sunday morning August 18 for a blessing of the backpacks and the new school year. Anyone attending or working in the schools this fall are invited to participate



This is a great time of food, fellowship and fun!

At the village park.

Sunday, August 18 following the worship service.

We will have a corn hole tournament so get your team together. A sign up sheet is in the Gallery.

Bring your lawn chairs, and a dish to share. The meat, beverages and paper products will be provided



The Deacons are collecting Kleenex and Clorox/Lysol wipes for the elementary school.

There will be a collection box in the Gallery to receive donations for the next few weeks.



PRAYER

Please keep these people/situations in your prayers.
The prayer needs listed in **BOLD** are new to the list.

Praises

- **Praise for VBS and Friendship Sunday**
- **Praise and prayers for Karen Raber's new grandson, Nolan**
- **Praise for the Masked Teacher**

Military Service:

- Shannah Swinehart - Army National Guard
- Christa Nelson - Navy
- Ryan Chabak - stationed in Alaska
- Isaiah Styer - stationed at Camp Lejeune in NC
- Gaven Bee - stationed in Dayton, OH

Prayer Needs

- **West Holmes Schools returning this week**
- **New school buildings for Triway and Waynedale**
- **All students, teachers & staff back to school**
- **Stress and drama in the workplace**

Health Concerns:

- **Veronica's mom - doctor recommending Hospice**
- **Dale & Tonya**
- **Unspoken health concerns**
- Al Amstutz - recovering from lung surgery
- Corky Fisher - heart and other health issues
- Mary Lee Wiricks's brother, John, complications following surgery.
- Karen - Parkinsons Disease
- Tom - Dementia
- Wendy Scott - severe health concerns
- Jane Heilman

Battling Cancer

- **Waldo - cont'd prayers for remainder of chemo**
- David Meulenberg
- Landon Sommers - Hodgkin's Lymphoma
- David
- Keylee - leukemia
- Dale James

Condolences

- **The family of Sonny Troyer**
- **The family of Stacy Wellman**

The Deacons encourage you to send cards or notes of encouragement to those in the church family experiencing prayer needs.



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

August 16 - Mary Lee & Randy Wirick

August 18 - Beth & Nick Miller

August 20 - Candy & Randy Weaver



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

August 17 - Mary Ann Henderson

August 18 - Brenden Pfeifer

August 21 - Keith Hewitt

COMMUNITY WORSHIP SERVICE

We will be joining with the MCA and Church of Christ at the ball field on September 1 for the Labor Day Weekend Community Worship & Communion Service. The service begins at 10 a.m. Everyone is welcome. Bring a friend, and bring your lawn chairs. (There will not be a service at FPC Sept. 1)

CALENDAR FOR AUGUST/SEPTEMBER

- August 18 - Sunday morning worship
- August 18 - Blessing of the Backpacks
- August 18 - Annual church picnic following worship
- August 21 - 10:00 a.m. GLOW (women)
- August 21 - 6:30 p.m. Music Team
- August 25 - Sunday morning worship
- August 26 - 7:00 p.m. Session Meeting
- August 27 - 7:30 p.m. The Grind (Men)
- August 28 - 10:00 a.m. GLOW (women)
- August 28 - 6:30 p.m. Music Team
- Sept. 01 - Community Labor Day Service at the ball field. (NO Worship here at FPC today)
- Sept. 4 - 10:00 a.m. GLOW (women)
- Sept. 4 - 6:30 p.m. Music Team
- Sept. 6 - 6:30 p.m. First Friday (Women) at the church
- Sept. 8 - Sunday morning worship
- Sept. 11 - 10:00 a.m. GLOW (women)
- Sept. 11 - 6:30 p.m. Music Team
- Sept. 11 - 6:30 p.m. Trustees meeting
- Sept. 12 - 6:00 p.m. Emmaus 4th Day Gathering

You are invited to reach out to our Church Elders if you have any questions or concerns about the church.

Angie Chapman	330-465-0963
Beth Miller	513-319-6447
Darcy Miller	330-440-4155
Paul Miller	330-465-8329
Earl Rhamy	330-988-4285
Steve Schlegel	330-317-3898
John Scott	330-466-0226
Adam Swinehart	330-641-1575
Claudia Ward	330-466-3417

To contact the church:

201 N. Mill St. Fredericksburg, Ohio 44627

Phone 330-695-2511

Email: fredpresby@gmail.com

Website: www.fredericksburgpres.org

Follow us on Facebook too!

Rev. Jocelyn Smolik

314-749-1315

jsmolik@fredericksburgpres.org

Church office hours

Monday thru Friday 10:00 a.m. - 3 p.m.

A BACK-TO-SCHOOL PRAYER

Loving God, thank you for the rest and relaxation we enjoyed over the summer.

Today, we pray for our children as they begin their new school year.

Bless them with joy at seeing friends, excitement at new

experiences, and a love of learning.

Watch over all who learn, replacing fear with joy, anxiety with peace, and tiredness with energy.

Grant teachers wisdom, patience, and joy in serving their students.

In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

