



The Weekly Update

Fredericksburg Presbyterian Church

May 8, 2024

A number of years ago, I was friends with an amazing older woman named Ruth. Ruth was lovely; and Ruth was intense. Regularly, when I would see her, she would give me a hug, and then grab me by the elbows, look me straight in the eyes, and earnestly ask: “Why did you get out of bed this morning?”

This question was Ruth’s way of asking what I really cared about; and she asked this question of many people. Her intent was cut to the quick of why we do what we do and to remind us how important the “why” really is. Ruth tended to want to skip the small talk and get right down to the deep conversations of life. She wanted to know what motivates people, what excites people, what makes them want to go about their day and accomplish things in the world.

Some people would answer Ruth’s question by talking about caring for their families or advancing in their jobs. Some people would answer Ruth’s question by sharing about a hobby they loved or an upcoming trip they were looking forward to. Those are good reasons to get out of bed in the morning.

And there were also some people, who from time to time like me, had difficulty answering. We’ve all had seasons of life we don’t always feel like we have some grand motivation for getting up and doing life each day. Sometimes the best answer people could muster for Ruth was something along the lines of: “I don’t really have any idea right now.” That’s an okay answer to the question, too.

It was Ruth’s great concern that we be purposeful about life – and she believed that purpose was best centered on Jesus and His call on our lives. Ruth challenged us to get out of bed every morning because of the desire to know Jesus and to represent His Kingdom in the world around us. I think it was always her hope that people would answer the question: “Why did you get out of bed this morning?” with a response like: “I got out of bed because I want to love and serve Jesus with this day He’s given me.”

Sometimes it hard to live into this purpose, but it’s always worth reminding ourselves that God’s best for us is to live with our hearts and minds fixed on Him. As Scripture says in Colossians 3:1-3: *“Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God.”*

How would you answer Ruth’s question? What is your “why” for your life? Might this be a week, or today be a day, when we say: I got out of bed this morning to know and serve Jesus?

Pastor Jos

Youth

Here's the youth group schedule through the end of this school year. Be sure to join in!

May 12: Mother's Day--under Mary Ann Henderson's leadership, we're going to make something for the Moms in the kitchen. We're trying to keep the actual treat a surprise, but have several options for you to pick from, so see Michelle or Mary Ann if you plan to participate!

May 19: Tailgate party and yard games in the church side lawn.

May 26: Memorial Day weekend, no second hour. Wyatt's grad party will be at the church from 4:30-7:00ish--all are invited!

Stay tuned for summer info. And remember, we are going to decorate a float for the July 4 parade!

2022 Class of

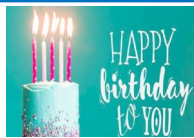
GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL and COLLEGE SENIORS...

We plan to recognize our graduating high school and college seniors during the worship service Sunday, May 19. If you have not notified the office of your graduation, please do so asap! We don't want to miss anyone. We'll display a recent photo if you'd like to share one. And, we'd also like to know what after- graduation plans are - College? Trade school? Career plans?



COMMUNITY MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE

There will be a community service on May 26. We will post the details for you as soon as they are worked out. Pastor Josh Ware from the Church of Christ will be speaking.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

May 9 - Maddox Kidd

May 10 - Chuck Massaro

May 11 - Mike Covert

May 12 - Cheryl Nelson

May 12 - Michelle Wood

May 13 - Mary Edington

May 15 - Rusty King

PRAYER

Please keep these people/situations in your prayers.

The prayer needs listed in **BOLD** are new to the list.

Military Service:

- Shannah Swinehart - Army National Guard
- Christa Nelson - Navy
- Tristan Burns - Air Force stationed in Africa
- Ryan Chabak - stationed in Alaska
- Isaiah Styer - stationed at Camp Lejeune in NC
- Matt Burkhardt - National Guard
- Gaven Bee - stationed in Dayton, OH

Prayer Needs

- **Unspokens**
- Yoder family - fire
- Annie Hines - going through tough times
- Israel

Health Concerns:

- Pastor Albert - motorcycle/vehicle accident
- Dorinda Hoff - fractured foot
- Don Rutt - health concerns
- Dan Rutt - health concerns
- Carter Gasser - ATV accident/multiple surgeries to save his foot
- Lee Hunter
- Mike Rhamy's upcoming surgery
- Rick Spencer - heart issues, health concerns
- Melodie's mother Carol - fluid on lungs
- Pastor Cory - recovering from heart attack
- Kevin Walton recovering from heart surgery
- Al Amstutz - Parkinson's Disease,
- Jane Heilman

Battling Cancer

- **Cathy Brooks - rare liver cancer/extreme pain**
- Unnamed person newly diagnosed/w cancer
- David
- Keylee recently diagnosed with leukemia
- Jonathan - stomach cancer
- Marianna Miller
- Kevin Hanna
- Mary Hardesty - colon cancer
- Tara
- Dale James

The Deacons encourage you to send cards or notes of encouragement to those in the church

CALENDAR FOR MAY

- May 12 - Sunday morning worship and 2nd Hour for all ages
- May 12 - Happy Mother's Day
- May 15 - 10 a.m. G.L.O.W. (Women)
- May 15 - 6:30 p.m. Music Team
- May 19 - Sunday morning worship and 2nd Hour for all.
- May 19 - Graduate Recognition
- May 22 - 10 a.m. G.L.O.W. (Women)
- May 22 - 6:30 p.m. Music Team
- May 26 - Sunday morning worship - NO Second Hour
- May 26 - Community Memorial Day Service more details to come.
- May 27 - Church office closed
- May 28 - 7:30 p.m. The Grind (Men)
- May 29 - 10 a.m. G.L.O.W. (Women)
- May 29 - 6:30 p.m. Music Team
- May 30 - 7:00 p.m. Session Meeting

SOME HOUSEKEEPING THINGS

- The church has been reserved for a private event on May 17-18. The building will be unavailable for any church use those two days.
- Ministry Teams and groups need to check with the office when scheduling a meeting. We'd like to know who is in the building and when. This avoids conflict over space and facilities. And, we can put reminders on the church calendars for your team.
- Following your Team/Group meetings, please make sure all the lights are off and the doors lock behind you.
- If you leave Secretary Jeann a note requesting supplies (paper clips, napkins, coffee filters, ink pens, etc.) please sign your request. Jeann finds notes in her mailbox, under her door, on the fridge, etc. and sometimes, there is no need to order the requested supply - there are extras available, but without a signature, there's no way to let you know!

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

From the Wood Family

All are Invited! Church family-- please join us to celebrate Wyatt Wood's high school graduation on Sunday, May 26 from 4:30-7:00 in the church fellowship hall!

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@fredericksburpres.org

Church office hours

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



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PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH