

From the Pastor's Desk

In the early 1800s the famous composer Beethoven started realizing he was losing his hearing. He continued to create and conduct symphonies, but his increasing struggles with hearing loss at a young age were having serious negative consequences. One of the effects of his increasing deafness was that he began to play the piano with too much force; he notably broke piano strings, pounding on the keys so hard because he could not hear them otherwise.

But there were other interesting results from this auditory challenge. Most scholars believe that it was during this time that Beethoven's music became its most brilliant. The compositions he created in this stage of his career are his most famous and enduring. Additionally, because his hearing became so diminished, Beethoven began to carry out conversations through notebooks. He and his companions would write to each other, passing a notebook back and forth to carry out discussion. These "conversation books" became amazing windows into Beethoven's life, thoughts and work. Though he lost his ability to hear, he found new ways to listen.

Listening is the act of paying attention; listening is so much more than just "hearing". We all know what it is like to realize that people may be able to physically hear us, but they aren't really listening because they aren't paying attention to us. A key art of connecting with people is not just HEARING them, but really LISTENING to them – giving them attention.

Jesus demonstrated this throughout His ministry – He was constantly pausing to interact with individuals, to give them His attention and meet their needs. We can follow in Jesus footsteps by strengthening our listening muscles!

As part of this week's sermon there were a handful of possible experiments to try in the hope of developing our listening skills. They were:

1. Plan to spend time with someone one-on-one this week. Make it your goal to learn something new about them; and to listen more than speak
2. During conversations this week, notice how often you drift away when another is talking
3. Is there someone in your life you'd like to know better? Take a risk and ask to spend time with them!

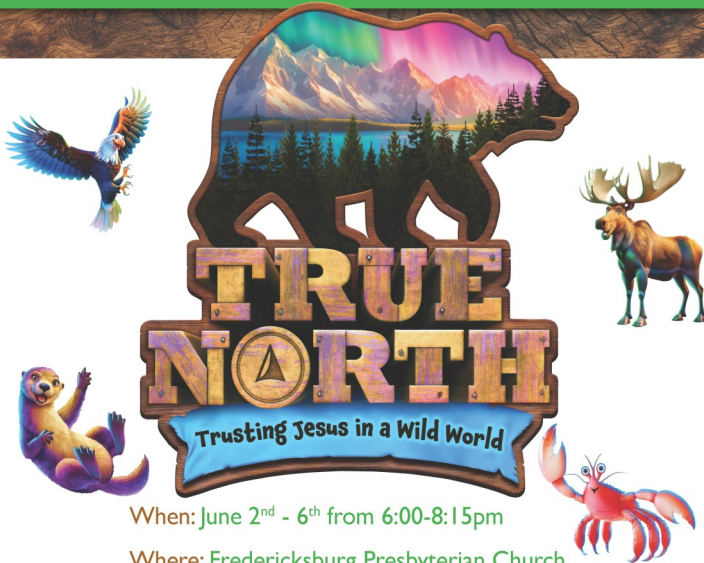
Which one of these experiments will you choose to perform this week? Can you come up with some other ways to challenge yourself in your listening skills?

Jesus listens to us even now; He is always ready to hear and receive our thoughts, concerns, prayers and praise. So, we can ask Him for help with this! Don't hesitate to pray and ask God to help all of us as we grow in our ability to pay attention and listen to those around us.

VBS REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

You can sign a kid up to attend VBS by going to: <https://forms.fillout.com/t/61bPBAUZWdus> Please invite your grands, extended family members and neighborhood children to join us. We need ALL OF US to make personal invitations – this is what makes the difference!

Vacation Bible School



When: June 2nd - 6th from 6:00-8:15pm

Where: Fredericksburg Presbyterian Church

Who: KIDS! (Age 3 by January 1st through just finished 6th grade)

Cost: **FREE!**

Register: Scan the code



or email church office: fredpresby@gmail.com

(Registration is appreciated, but walk-ins welcome!)



201 N. Mill Street
Fredericksburg, OH 44627



DECORATING ITEMS NEEDED FOR VBS

VBS is only a few weeks away and the VBS volunteers are planning out the decorations they need for the week of June 2-6. The theme is



“True North - Trusting Jesus in a Wild World” The items needed all have to do with camping and the wilderness. Below is a list of needed items. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the Gallery. Remember to label your items. Bring them to church by this Sunday, May 18 and store in the pre-school room.

Items still needed

Small tents (2)	Paddles (3)
Coolers (1)	Picnic Basket (1)
Stumps (3)	Logs (3)
Walking Sticks (1)	
Camp cooking Supplies (2)	
Narrow Christmas Trees (4)	

Scan this code if you are available to HELP with VBS



Memorial Day Observance



The Legion has shared that they will do a Memorial Day observance at East Cemetery on Sunday, May 25 at 11:15 a.m. Everyone is welcome.



ATTENTION LADIES There will be no First Friday in June (due to VBS) or July (due to the July 4th holiday. Have a good summer!!

THANK YOU



A huge thank you to the Trustees and volunteers who came out last Saturday to show the church some love in mulching, weeding, edging, washing windows and general clean up. Your efforts are very much appreciated, and the church looks beautiful!

The Children's Ministry Team has a special request for our church family.

We are asking you to join with us in praying for the kids of the church and for growth and blessing in kids ministry. We are eager to see more children and families connect with our programming for kids; but as we work toward that goal, we are asking all of you to join us in prayer. We know that God is the one who can help us reach more children and so we want to be asking Him to be at work in these things. Each week in the weekly update we will be sharing a simple prayer prompt for each day of the month and it will be connected with a Bible reference that the prayer is based on. We encourage you to pray with us but lifting up the children in your life, or by praying a general blessing on the children of our community. Your commitment to join us in praying for these things is a blessing to us and makes a difference! Thank you!

Praying for Kids – May 14– May 20

May 14 – Philippians 1:7-8

So it is right that I should feel as I do about the children in my church, for they have a special place in my heart. They share with me the special favor of God. God, you know how much I love these children and long for them with the tender compassion of Christ Jesus.

May 15 – Philippians 1:9

I pray that your love will overflow more and more in the children I serve, and that they will keep on growing in knowledge and understanding.

May 16 – Philippians 1:10

I pray that children truly understand what really matters, so that they may live pure and blameless lives until the day of Christ's return.

May 17 - Philippians 1 :11

May these children always be filled with the fruit of salvation—the righteous character produced in their lives by Jesus Christ—for this will bring much glory and praise to you, oh God.

May 18 – Colossians 1:3-5

I always pray for these children, and give thanks to you, God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. For they have shown me their faith in Christ Jesus and their love for all of God's people, which come from their confident hope of what you have reserved for them in heaven.

May 19 - Colossians 1:6

This same Good News that we teach in children's ministry is going out all over the world. I pray for those ministries, that they may bear fruit by changing lives, just as it changed my life from the day I first heard and understood the truth about God's wonderful grace.

May 20 – Colossians 1:7-8

The children at our church are learning about the Good News from me and _____, my beloved co-workers. We are your faithful servants, and we have seen the love for others that the Holy Spirit has given my kids.

Happy Anniversary

May 17 Kim & Frank Morrow



Happy Birthday

May 15 Steven King
May 18 Vickie Rhamy
May 20 Gerald Stephan



There will be NO 2nd Hour on Sunday, May 25.



Trail Mix May 15

6:00 p.m.

In the church parking lot.

Join us for "Trail Mix", a time to get together as a church family and

community at the Holmes County Trail in Fredericksburg. All ages and ability levels are welcome, and please invite your friends and neighbors! Meet each Thursday at 6:00 pm. In the FPC parking lot and we will walk Diagonal Street to the trail from there. If you have any questions, contact Michelle at 330-464-4723 or

GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL and COLLEGE SENIORS...

We would like to recognize you during our worship service next Sunday, May 25. If you could supply Secretary Jeann with a Senior or recent photo, that would be great! We'd also like to know what after graduation plans are - College? Trade school? Career plans?



STILL LOST! missing kids' parachute silk. It was stored in the closet behind the pulpit in a black milk crate.

Needed for VBS! Call Sherri Machamer 330-466-4943 if you have any information on the missing item.



You are invited to the graduation party of Nick and Tessa St. John on May 18 at the church from 4-7 p.m.

You are also invited to the graduation party for Josiah Styer at the church on May 25 from 2-5 p.m.

VOLUNTEERS FOR May 18

Greeters	Don & Joyce Rhamy Duane Wood
Ushers	Brent St. John & Keith Hewitt
Café	Adam Swinehart
Nursery (Worship)	Melinda Moffitt
Nursery (2nd Hour)	Jenny Miller
Kidz Jam	Shirley Swinehart
Kids 2nd Hour	Shirley Swinehart
Elder Assist	Earl Rhamy
Safety Team	Nick Miller

PRAYER

Please keep these people/situations in your prayers.

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

Praises

- **Praise for Mark Lemon's improvement and prayers for continued improvements**
- **Triway accident named prom queen and walked across the stage to receive award**
- **Praise for the Trustees work day turn out**

Military Service:

- Isaiah Styer in Hawaii
- Hunter Amolotte deployed to southern border
- Shannah Swinehart - Army National Guard
- Christa Nelson - Navy
- Steven King - Army
- Ryan Chabak - stationed in Arizona
- Gaven Bee - stationed in Dayton, OH

Prayer Needs

- **Northwestern High School**
- VBS - kids, helpers, music, community
- Sydney Douglas - recovering from surgery
- Unspoken

Health Concerns

- **Those needing/seeking mental health help**
- **Janine's cousin having open heart surgery this week**
- Melodie Stroud recovering from knee surgery
- Mark Lemon - prayers for progress
- Tonya Wade - upcoming surgery
- Pat Thomson
- Pastor Albert continued healing from accident
- Jane Heilman

Battling Cancer

- Janet Lee
- Diane Scott
- Susan Halliday
- Janet Lee
- Waldo - cont'd prayers for remainder of chemo
- Landon Sommers - Hodgkin's Lymphoma
- Keylee - leukemia
- Dale James

Condolences

- **The family of Janine's aunt**
- **The family of Max Mendez**
- The family of Tim Rettig

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