

### **From the Pastor's Desk**

My final semester of graduate school I was in a ministry capstone class with only six other students. You can imagine that in a class that small you get to know people fairly well. But even though we all knew a little bit about each other, there was one person in that class who took the next step of connecting. He stopped me one day and asked if we could get coffee or lunch, he had some questions about something I had discussed in class and wanted to hear more about what I had to say. I look back on it now and know that it took courage for him to do that; not many people take a risk to ask a simple acquaintance more about themselves. But his curiosity in me and my story was a true gift; and his willingness to take an interest in my life and my ideas turned into one of my closest friendships.

Jamie and I have continued that connection for 20 years. Jamie got me my first full time job in ministry and he and his wife became close companions in life. Now all these years later both of us serve in pastoral ministry; and though we live far away from one another, we work to make time to connect and support each other's ministry and lives. His friendship is a joy and a blessing. And it all happened because he had curiosity about me, and he took a risk to get to know me better.

Curiosity is a key skill in building relationships – it helps move from just noticing and paying attention to another person and takes the next step into showing an interest. Curiosity is characterized by asking good questions. In last week's sermon we talked about how those questions are shaped by three "H"s - **History** – Where do you come from? **Happenings** – How did you get here? **Hopes** – Where are you going?

I want to encourage you to add to our skills of hospitality, prayer and listening the skill of CURIOSITY! Ask God to help you discover a genuine interest in other people; and then challenge yourself to take a risk – just like Jamie did – to get to know that person better – you never know what kind of life-giving friendship might emerge!

You can take some practical steps today to grow in your practice of curiosity. Here are the three experiments from this week's sermon – I encourage you to pick at least one and give it a try.

1. Write or tell the story of your life – what are the things you choose to put in the story and what does that teach you about what matters to people?
2. Develop a list of good questions that unlocks your curiosity about people
3. Think about those friends/acquaintances who are close to you; what do you want to know about them – look for an opportunity to ask!

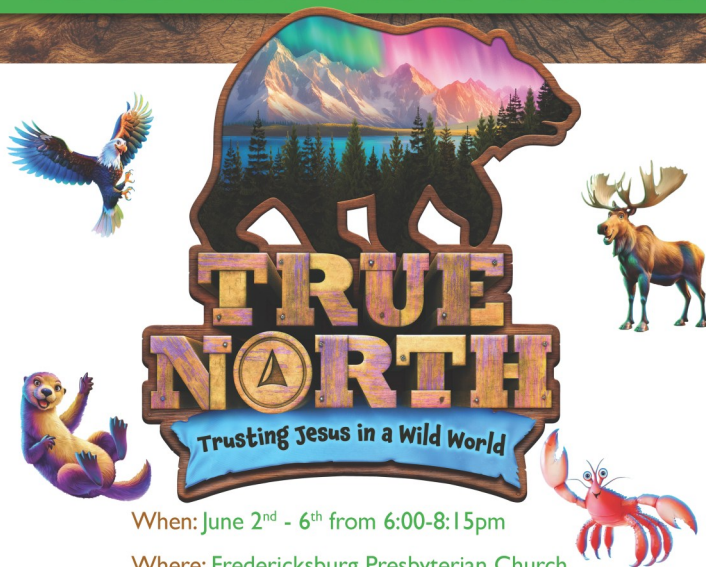
Remember: we do all of this because Jesus is alive! The tomb is empty and the way to restoration with God has been revealed. People need to hear the good news of Jesus, and they will hear it from us as we pursue relationships with them. We are all on the frontlines of God's mission to the world – and that's a great place for us to be!

# Registration is OPEN!

## 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

## Vacation Bible School



When: June 2<sup>nd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-8:15pm

Where: Fredericksburg Presbyterian Church

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

Cost: **FREE!**

Register: Scan the code



or email church office: [fredpresby@gmail.com](mailto:fredpresby@gmail.com)

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



201 N. Mill Street  
Fredericksburg, OH 44627



## SNACKS FOR VBS

There is a list on the sign-up table in the Gallery for you to help provide snacks for VBS. Some of the items needed include vanilla pudding cups, drink mix sticks, bugles corn snacks along with other snack items.



## PRAYER

Please keep these people/situations in your prayers.

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

### Praises

- Our new Covenant Partners:  
Cody Daugherty, Chris & Cheryl Nelson,  
Nancy & Gerald Stephan
- Graduating Seniors

### Military Service:

- Isaiah Styer in Hawaii
- 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
- 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
- Pat Thomson
- Jane Heilman

### Battling Cancer

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

### Condolences

- The family of Janine's aunt
- The family of Max Mendez

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



**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.

## **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 21– May 27**

#### **May 21 – Colossians 1:9**

I will not stop praying for these children from the moment I meet them. I ask, God, that you give them a complete knowledge of your will and give them spiritual wisdom and understanding.

#### **May 22 – Colossians 1:10**

May the way children live always honor and please you, Lord, and may their lives produce every kind of good fruit. All the while, may they grow as they learn to know you better and better.

#### **May 23 – Colossians 1:11-12**

I pray that you will strengthen these children with all your glorious power so they will have all the endurance and patience they need. May they be filled with joy, always thanking you, Father. You have enabled us to share in the inheritance that belongs to your people, who live in the light.

#### **May 24 - Romans 16:25-27**

Now all glory to you, God, who are able to make kids strong, just as the Good News says. This message about Jesus Christ has revealed his plan for all these children, a plan you've held from the beginning of time. But now make this message known to children everywhere, so that they too might believe and obey you. All glory to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, forever. Amen.

#### **May 25 – 1 Thessalonians 1:2-3**

I thank you, God, for our children's ministry team, and pray for them constantly. As I pray to you about them, I think of their faithful work, their loving deeds, and the enduring hope they have been because of you, Jesus.

#### **May 26 - 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24**

Now, God of peace, make children holy in every way. May their whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless until our Lord Jesus Christ comes again. God, make this happen, for you have called me to reach children, and you are faithful."

#### **May 27 – 2 Thessalonians 1:11-12**

So I keep on praying for these children, asking you to enable them to live a life worthy of your call. Give them the power to accomplish all the good things their faith prompts them to do. Then the name of our Lord Jesus will be honored because of the way they live, and they will be honored along with you. This is all made possible because of your grace, and because of Jesus Christ.







### Trail Mix May 22 6:00 p.m.

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. Invite your friends and neighbors! Meet Thursdays at 6:00 pm. in the FPC parking lot and walk Diagonal Street to the trail from there. If you have any questions, contact Michelle at 330-464-4723 or email [trailmixfpc@gmail.com](mailto:trailmixfpc@gmail.com).



### Memorial Day Observance

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

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

### Troop 66 Pancake Breakfast



**Saturday, May 31 from 6:30 - 10:00 a.m.  
at Fredericksburg Presbyterian Church  
Meals by donation**

### Happy Birthday

May 25 Randy Weaver  
May 26 June Lytle  
May 26 Larry Burkey  
May 26 Karen Raber



The Deacons would like to invite all of us to send encouraging cards or gifts to Mark Lemon as he continues his recovery. Your personal words of support and care go a long way. Visits are not recommended, but individual expressions of care will be a blessings! You can send cards or gifts to:

Canal Winchester Health & Rehab Center  
C/O Mark Lemon  
Room 504  
6800 Gender Rd  
West Winchester, OH 43110



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

### VOLUNTEERS FOR May 25

<b>Greeters</b>	Janine Schlauch Bridget Rhamy
<b>Ushers</b>	Shad Swinehart Adam Swinehart
<b>Café</b>	Connie Herman
<b>Nursery (Worship)</b>	Veronica Styer
<b>Nursery (2nd Hour)</b>	No 2nd Hour
<b>Kidz Jam</b>	Delores Schlegel
<b>Kids 2nd Hour</b>	No 2nd Hour
<b>Elder Assist</b>	Darcy Miller
<b>Safety Team</b>	Shirley Swinehart

