

Weekly Update

October 23, 2024

When I was in school I loved my chemistry classes. I loved seeing what would happen when we did experiments. To be honest, some of the experiments were pretty boring, but there were plenty of them that were exciting. (One time my teacher put an open flame to a large soap bubble filled with methane – it ended up setting fire to a decoration hanging from the ceiling – THAT was very memorable!) The thing about experiments is that whether they are flammable or boring, you always *learn* something from them!

This week I'm going to invite you to do some experiments in experiencing God. This Sunday we talked about how God invites us to EXPERIENCE Him. That means God – the maker and creator of the whole universe - specifically tells us that as individuals we are invited into His very presence, to share fellowship and connection with Him as close friends. This is a truly amazing invitation!

You may find some of these experiments are more meaningful and others less so; this may especially correspond with how many things like this you have done before. But every experiment helps you learn things about God and your relationship with Him. So, my encouragement to you is to pick a handful of these things over the coming weeks and GIVE THEM A TRY! You may find something that really resonates with you and you may find that God is right there waiting to draw near to you, as you draw near to Him!

Experiment #1 – Read Ephesians chapter 1 every day for a whole week. Each day write down and reflect on something new you noticed in the chapter.

Experiment #2 – Take a media fast. Unplug from all media activity for three nights (after 7pm). No TV, YouTube, Facebook, TikTok, video games, texting, etc. Instead, spend some time with your family, take a walk, read your Bible, journal some prayers. Seek God and listen to Him.

Experiment #3 – Go on a prayer walk. Either around your neighborhood or in a park, go alone and without distraction. Imagine you are walking with Jesus. As you walk, talk with Him about your life and what's happening and ask for His presence as you go.

Experiment #4 -For the next seven days commit to 5-10 minutes a day reflecting/meditating on your identity as a child of God. This means sitting in silence and asking God to be with you. When your mind drifts, gently turn your attention back to the Lord and keep going!

Experiment #5 – for the next few weeks, keep a nightly journal. At the end of your day, reflect on 1) a time you sensed God was with you, 2) a thing you are grateful for and 3) a prayer for someone else.

Experiment #6 – sometime over the next week, find a time to be silent. Set a timer for 20 minutes, light a candle and get comfortable and still until the 20 minutes are up. Let the flame remind you of the Holy Spirit's presence with you and as you sit quietly, imagine yourself in the company of God. If your thoughts start to wander, just gently bring them back and keep going.

Experiment #7 – pick a passage of scripture to memorize. Write it out by hand and then work on committing it to memory. Tell a friend or family member what you're doing, and when your ready, share it with that person from memory.

Experiment #8 – identify a cleaning chore that you've been putting off but that you really need to do. As you do that chore, pray! Ask God to remind you that He is constantly ready to be at work in your life. Talk to Him about the things in your life that may need some straightening up and ask Him to help you.

FROM THE DEACONS

The Deacons would like to express a massive "THANK YOU!" to everyone who donated cleaning wipes and Kleenex to the collection for Waynedale Elementary. The congregation donated 117 boxes of Kleenex and 105 containers of Clorox wipes. The school was VERY GRATEFUL for the church's generosity and thrilled that our support has continued even to the new school building.

We also want to remind you that the school collects donations to help pay outstanding lunch fees. The deacons regularly share money to help provide for those families who are unable to pay their school lunch fees. If you would like to partner with the deacons in this ministry, you can give to the deacon benevolence fund here at FPC or you can give directly to the school! For more information, talk to your deacon!



Ladies First Friday is Nov. 1 at 6 :30 p.m. at the church. We'll do a book swap, so bring a wrapped new or used book, and a snack to share.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

October 23 - Isaiah Styer

October 27 - Sherri Brown

October 27 - Kevin Walton

October 28 - Sharon Cramer

October 30 - Kim Morrow

A belated Happy Birthday to:

October 20 - Veronica Styer

October 21 - Edna Wade

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

October 20 - Debbie & Keith Hewitt

October 25 - Kristin & Matt CHabak



PRAYER

Please keep these people/situations in your prayers.

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

Praises

- **The beautiful weather & fall colors**

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

- Florida, Georgie, Tennessee & North Carolina
- All victims of Hurricanes Helene & Milton
- Rusty King - guidance in attending seminary.

Health Concerns:

- **Finley Smith being hospitalized for tests at Cleveland Clinic for 4 days beginning Oct. 30.**
- **Paula Shrader - broken hip**
- Tim Petrie - surgery & Paralysis
- Dee Petrie - dialysis
- Pastor Albert injury not healing correctly
- Tiana - prayers for her and baby
- Tonya hospitalized with infection
- Veronica's mom Unspoken health concerns
- Karen - Parkinsons Disease
- Tom - Dementia
- Wendy Scott - severe health concerns
- Jane Heilman

Battling Cancer

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

Condolences

- The family of Theresa Smith –Veronica Styer's mother

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

CALENDAR FOR OCTOBER/NOVEMBER

- October 27 - Sunday morning Worship & 2nd Hour for All
- October 28 - 7:00 p.m. Session Meeting
- October 30 - 10:00 a.m. GLOW (Women)
- October 30 - 6:45 p.m. Music Team
- November 1 - First Friday (Women)
- November 3 - Sunday morning Worship & 2nd Hour for All
- November 3 - Communion Sunday
- November 4 - Finance Team meeting
- November 4 - Board of Election set up voting polls
- November 5 - Election Day. Voting in the Fellowship Hall
- November 6 - 10:00 a.m. GLOW (Women)
- November 6 - 6:45 p.m. Music Team
- November 8 - Pizza Giving
- November 10 - Sunday morning Worship & 2nd Hour for All
- November 13 - 10:00 a.m. GLOW (Women)
- November 13 - 6:45 p.m. Music Team
- November 13 - Trustees Meeting
- November 14 - Emmaus 4th Day
- November 17 - Sunday morning Worship & 2nd Hour for All
- November 20 - 10:00 a.m. GLOW (Women)
- November 20 - 6:45 p.m. Music Team
- November 24 - Sunday morning Worship NO 2nd Hour
- November 24 - Christmas Tree Decorating during 2nd Hour
- November 25 - Session Meeting
- November 26 - The Grind (Men)
- November 28 - Happy Thanksgiving

VOLUNTEERS FOR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27

Greeters	Janine Schlauch Shirley Swinehart
Ushers	Shad & Adam Swinehart
Café	Connie Herman
Nursery (Worship)	Kim Morrow
Nursery (2nd Hour)	
Kidz Jam	Bridget Rhamy
Kids 2nd Hour	Bridget Rhamy
Elder Assist	Paul Miller
Kids's Message	Janine Schlauch
Safety Team	Duane Wood

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.

Deacon
Of the
Week!

Debbie Hewitt

Free Day Fun
Sit by the ocean

Overseas Vacay
Monaco - Mediterranean Sea

Something Interesting
My love for animals!

Quick Hits
Baseball or Football
Mountains or Beach
Chocolate or Vanilla
Mexican Food or Chinese Food
Late Nights or Early Mornings

Favorites
FOOD: Lasagna
COLOR: Orange
BIBLE CHARACTER: Moses
SPORTS TEAM TO FOLLOW: Kansas City Chiefs

Hobbies
Grandkids' activities, reading, flower gardening, country music concerts



FREDERICKSBURG
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

201 N. Mill Street
Fredericksburg, OH 44627

Join us for our Fall Kids Night...

Pizza-giving!

Jesus heals ten men - Luke 17:11-19



When: Friday, November 8th from 5:30-7:30pm

Where: Fredericksburg Presbyterian Church

Who: EVERYONE! Kids (6th grade & under),
parents, grandparents, & friends.

Cost: FREE!

Email jsmolik@fredericksburgpres.org if you're planning to attend.
(You can still come if you don't RSVP, we just want a basic idea for supplies & pizza)

Pizza dinner
will be provided
at 5:30pm

