

Weekly Update

October 9, 2024

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

This past Sunday we talked about God's invitation for us to care for one another. It's an invitation not just to care ABOUT one another, but an invitation to care FOR one another. Care – having concern for and regard for the needs of another – is expressed as we become aware of the needs around us, and then seek to help meet those needs in Jesus' name.

For thousands of years, Christians have organized themselves in order to meet one another's needs through the ministry of deacons. The position of deacon is described throughout the New Testament; and there are even specific deacons mentioned in scripture, like Stephen (Acts 7) Philip (Acts 8) and Phoebe (Romans 16). From the very beginning, Deacons had the ministry of care.

Deacons are even well attested to outside of Scripture, with one of the earliest references coming in a letter written around 110 A.D. to the Roman emperor Trajan from Pliny the Younger. The letter mentions two women who were slaves and also deacons; in it, Pliny describes his desire to torture these deacons (this was a time of persecution for Christians) in order to discover more about their religion. (Here is a link to a short article where you can learn more about this letter and what it reveals about Christian faith and practice in the decades after Jesus' death and resurrection. <https://www.biola.edu/blogs/good-book-blog/2017/what-pliny-the-younger-learned-when-he-interrogated-christians-ca-a-d-110>)

I find it fascinating and also beautiful that the deacons who serve today are a direct reflection of Christian practice from thousands of years ago! Our deacons have the same job as the first deacons did: to care for the people of the church.

Here at FPC we have a group of nine deacons who minister to the congregation through acts of care and service. This fall we're making a concerted effort to make sure we all know our deacons and that we are connected to the care we all need. We have begun a new organizing structure called our "care net". This means that every meaningfully connected FPCer will be assigned a deacon who will pray for them and be the contact person for anything that person needs. Over the coming 3-4 weeks, your deacon will do his/her best to reach out to you and make sure you know who they are. They'll be sharing information about themselves and asking how they can pray for you. Your deacon is ready and willing to be there for you and your family if you ever have a need.

We'll also be recognizing our deacons in the weekly update. Every week or so we'll feature a different deacon so you can get to know them better. There are ways you can support the work they do: first, pray for them, too! Ask God to give them strength and wisdom to minister when they have the opportunity. Also, get to know your deacon! Share your prayer concerns with them and let them know how they can support you and minister to you.

And remember: as we care for one another, we're living out of the tradition that was set for us centuries ago – let's keep going as we love and trust God by responding to the invitation to care!

Fall Hike at the Wilderness Center



Saturday, October 19.
Meet in the Upper Parking Lot
of the Wilderness Center
at 2:00 p.m.

We'll hike the 1 1/2 mile trail together.
The trail is rated easy to moderate.

Wear appropriate shoes

Dress for the weather!

Talk to Emily Brown if you have questions.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

October 12 - Ezekiel Rhamy

October 12 - Emma Brown

October 14 - Hailey Schlegel

October 14 - Sadie Schlegel



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

October 15 - Holly & Cody Daugherty

FROM THE FINANCE TEAM

Figures for August 2024

YTD Operating Income	\$141,253.33
YTD Operating Expense	\$159,720.99
YTD Operating Gain/Loss	\$-18,467.66
YTD Net Income	\$ 1,179.84
Unrestricted Funds	\$208,518.64

VOLUNTEERS FOR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20

Greeters	Genevieve & Beth Miller Tanya Chupp
Ushers	Brett St. John & Keith Hewitt
Café	Adam Swinehart
Nursery (Worship)	Melinda Moffitt
Nursery (2nd Hour)	Jenny Miller
Kidz Jam	Sherri Machamer
Kids 2nd Hour	Georgie Miller
Elder Assist	Darcy Miller
Safety Team	Shirley Swinehart

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
- Ryan Chabak - stationed in Alaska
- Isaiah Styer - stationed at Camp Lejeune in NC
- Gaven Bee - stationed in Dayton, OH

Prayer Needs

- **Those in the path of Hurricane Milton**
- Florida, Georgie, Tennessee & North Carolina
- All victims of Hurricane Helene
- Rusty King - guidance in attending seminary.

Health Concerns:

- 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



Secretary Jeann will be out of the office October 14-18.

KLEENEX /SANITARY WIPES FOR WAYNEDEALE SCHOOL

This Sunday, October 13, is the final Sunday to contribute to the Deacons Kleenex & Sanitary Wipes stash for Waynedale Schools. Although the students are all in one building now, the Deacons are providing supplies for what was four schools. That's a lot of kids and a lot of Kleenex!! Your donations are greatly appreciated.

CALENDAR FOR OCTOBER

- Oct. 10 - 6:00 p.m. Emmaus 4th Day
- Oct 11-12 Presbytery Meeting at College Hills Prsbytrn Church, Cincinnati
- Oct. 13 - Sunday morning worship & 2nd Hour for all
- Oct. 14 - 6:30 p.m. Deacons Meeting
- Oct. 16 - 10:00 a.m. GLOW (Women)
- Oct. 16 - 6:45 p.m. Music Team
- Oct. 19 - 2:00 p.m. Fall Hike at The Wilderness Center
- Oct. 20 - Sunday morning Worship & 2nd Hour for All
- Oct. 22 - 7:30 p.m. The Grind (Men)
- Oct. 23 - 10:00 a.m. GLOW (Women)
- Oct. 23 - 6:45 p.m. Music Team
- Oct. 27 - Sunday morning Worship & 2nd Hour for All
- Oct. 28 - 7:00 p.m. Session Meeting
- Oct. 30 - 10:00 a.m. GLOW (Women)
- Oct. 30 - 6:45 p.m. Music Team

HURRICANE RELIEF INFO FROM ECO NATIONAL

We are heartbroken over the devastation of those in the path of Hurricane Helene. We know many of you are looking for ways to pray as well as donate. Thank you!

Our trusted friends and partners at World Renew and Convoy of Hope are already on the ground bringing relief and help. Learn about them and how you can help below.

Convoy of Hope sends truckloads of food and relief supplies from its World Distribution Center to cities and rural towns. Convoy trucks travel coast to coast, delivering goods used for events and disaster responses.

Regional managers for DRS are currently connecting with our long-standing partners in the region. DRS reconstruction teams will offer long-term recovery groups in areas most affected by the storm, and additional volunteer clean-up teams and survey groups can be assigned as coordination progresses.

Please pray for safety and comfort for people who have evacuated and for those enduring the storm. Pray also for energy and endurance for recovery groups preparing to help their communities.

[Support families here https://connect.clickandpledge.com/w/Form/43f60ef0-1637-4ae1-9057-d87593590184?mc_cid=3ce3754653&mc_eid=2fea08934c](https://connect.clickandpledge.com/w/Form/43f60ef0-1637-4ae1-9057-d87593590184?mc_cid=3ce3754653&mc_eid=2fea08934c)

For more information or to donate by phone, please call World Renew at: **1-800-552-7972.**

Deacon
Of the
Week!



Connie Herman

Favorites

FOOD: Italian
COLOR: Mint Green
BIBLE CHARACTER: Daniel
SPORTS TEAM TO FOLLOW: Waynedale Golden Bears/
Ohio State Buckeyes

Hobbies

Flower gardening, walking, fishing with spouse, following grandsons' sporting events

Free Day Fun

Visit a National Park

Overseas Vacay

New Zealand

Something Interesting

I have visited all 50 states!

Quick Hits

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