

Weekly Update

Fredericksburg Presbyterian Church September 13, 2023

Greetings Friends,

As I write, I'm sitting at my desk (what I like to call "Jack's desk") and I'm trying to picture you in my mind. Where are you right now, Wednesday, mid-afternoon?

Based on the attendance at GLOW this morning, I'm fairly certain that some of you are at the fair. (Hi, Lydia and Josiah!). Others of you have got to be sitting at a desk, like me. Maybe on a conference call or gazing at a screen. (Time for a water break!). Others are chasing kids around - at home, at school, on a bus, or outside. Some of you may be helping to escort a new person into the world (Angie, Mary Fry, before she retired). Shout-out to all our college kids reading this note. We miss you!.

Still others have these jobs, new and unique to me. You are cutting fabric, sampling soil, tending fall mums, working the ground, working a job site, sending your goat or cow off to auction (I see you Abby!) or sleeping to be ready for the night shift. Wherever you find yourself today, I want to tell you that you have a partner in your work. God. God - the voice of our vocation, God - our partner in love and work.

To that end, I offer you a scripture and prayer from the book, *Prayers at Twilight*, by Beth and David Booram. As you read it, detach from your work, and enter into the holy, read it aloud, linger for just a moment. The Lord is with you. He is your partner in whatever you are called to do today.

(page 19) **Beloved, listen for the voice of the Spirit whispering to you through these words of Scripture.**

My Father is at work. So I, too, am working.

The truth is that the Son does nothing on His own;
all these actions are led by the Father.

The Son watches the Father closely
and then mimics the work of the Father.

The Father loves the Son, so He does not hide His actions.
Instead, He shows Him everything and the things
not yet revealed by the Father will dumbfound you.

(John 5:17, 19-20, The Voice)

Pray: Oh, Father and Son, we see in you a graceful flow of being and doing, of relationship and collaboration, of attentiveness and responsiveness.

Yet within ourselves and in our communities, we often experience the opposite: inflated egos and priorities around work-as-identity, exacting a heavy load of expectations under which we languish.

We ask for the grace this day to discern your Voice of Vocation calling us toward love and good works. Heal our anxious sense of self so that we can clearly discern who we are to be and what is truly ours to do. **Amen.**

Thinking about you today. May you sense the giver of life, blessing the work of your hands.

With Purpose and Peace,

Nancy

Breath Prayer: God - my partner, help me lean on you. (Pray it in your mind as you breathe in and out).



Happy Birthday!
September 14 - Brady McKelvey



Happy Anniversary
Sept. 15 - Sherri & Tom Machamer



HAYRIDE and HOT DOG ROAST

This is a great event with lots of food and fellowship and a tractor ride through the countryside. Save the date!

When? September 24

Time? 5:00 p.m.

Where? Don & Joyce Rhamy's
7766 Cutter Rd. Fredericksburg

What to Bring:

- A well-filled picnic basket to share
- Hot dogs & buns
- Lawn chairs

Beverages, Table Service & Condiments will be provided for you. **Hope to see you there**

CALENDAR FOR SEPTEMBER

- Sept. 13 - 6:30 p.m. Music Team
- Sept. 13 - 6:30 p.m. Trustees Meeting
- **Sept. 17 - Second Hour returns**
- **Sept. 17 - Youth to BOLD Worship @ Wooster**
- Sept. 19 - 7:00 p.m. Finance Team Meeting
- Sept. 20 - 10:00 a.m. GLOW Women's Study
- Sept. 20 - 6:30 p.m. Music Team
- **Sept. 24 - 5:00 p.m. Hayride and Hotdog roast**
- Sept. 25 - 7:00 p.m. Session Meeting
- Sept. 26 - 6:00 p.m. Nominating Team Meeting
- Sept. 26 - 7:30 p.m. The Grind Men's Group
- Sept. 27 - 10:00 a.m. GLOW Women's Study
- Sept. 27 - 6:30 p.m. Music Team
- **Sept. 30 - 9:30 a.m. Senior Brunch & Hymn Sing**

Mary Fry

Visitation, Sunday 9/17 from 5-7 p.m. at Murray Funeral Home in Fredericksburg.

Celebration of Life, Monday 9/18 at 11:00 a.m. at Fredericksburg Presbyterian Church.

PRAYER

Please keep these people/situations in your prayers.

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

Praises

Military Service:

- Ryan Chabak - stationed in Alaska
- Isaiah Styer - Stationed at Camp Lejeune in NC
- Matt Burkhardt - National Guard
- Gaven Bee - Turkey

Prayer Needs

- Josiah Styer's friend struggling with school
- Corky Stanley - absent from worship a few weeks
- Safety for West Holmes FFA trip to Massachusetts
- The PNC Team and the process
- Unspokens

Health Concerns:

- Theresa Smith - continued prayers for her & her family
- Clay Crosby - back surgery
- Tonya Coreas - back problems
- Ron Dailey
- Jane Heilman

Battling Cancer

- Susan Halliday - Sherri Machamer's sister
- David Stoltzfus - Sherri Machamer's nephew
- Cole Hubacher - 11 yr. old battling cancer
- Alec & Judy Hagerty (Alec has cancer)
- Michael & Belinda Witt (Michael has cancer)
- Leslie Carr
- Linda Snyder (ECO Pastor)
- Laurie Miller
- Steve Gordon
- Andrew Miller
- Bill Opie
- Sonya Griffen
- Bonnie Stryker
- Dale James

Condolences

- The family of Mary Fry

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

SECOND HOUR RETURNS

We are pleased to announce our plans to begin 2nd Hour in a new way this fall, starting on Sunday, October 1 for all ages. The Covid shutdown disrupted what had been, but last year we enjoyed a full school year of adults gathering in the Fellowship Hall for a variety of table discussions, and youth gathering every other week for a variety of speakers.

It is time to re-imagine and re-establish good second hour community and discipleship. We have heard some repeated desires: deeper, quieter, smaller. So with that as a backdrop here are our plans for fall:

Children - will meet weekly in Children's Room 2 for monthly units designed to be hands-on and fun. Together we will explore topics such as music, cooking, art and more.

Youth - will meet weekly in Salt Shakers rooms under the direction of Michelle Wood. Together, we will hear from a variety of people and topics, get creative, and occasionally head out from the building for some adventure.

Adults - will meet weekly in smaller groups, three of which will stay together for 7 weeks, and one that is drop-in ready for whoever would care to stay. When we come back in the new year, the offerings and leaders will be different. This will allow for both deeper relationships and broader connections. Here are the choices:

Sermon Fellowship (cafe) with Brian Parrott. Find a seat in the cafe for a time of fellowship and discussion questions pertaining to the weekly sermon. This group is intentionally open to whoever desires to stay each week.

Faith Essentials (classroom 1) with Nancy Dumford This class will begin with Covenant Class content and then extend into interactive activities to gain a deeper understanding of ECO's Essential Tenets of Reformed Faith.

Living a Rich Life (classroom 2) with Barry Henderson and Nick Miller This is a practical class that will discuss some of the financial challenges that face most families, using illustrative stories. A "rich life" has more to do with relationships, purpose, and satisfaction; putting money in its proper place. Based on a book by author James Lenhoff.

Servant Leadership (classroom 3) with Paul Miller. We will dive into the truth that whoever wants to be great must be the servant of all. This is a practical class that can be applied to work, family, and church life.

JOIN US THIS SUNDAY FOR COFFEE AS 2nd HOUR RETURNS

Second Hour returns this Sunday, September 17 following worship. Youth (grades 7-12) will kick off in the Youth Room with a discussion of ideas for the upcoming year. Children (ages 4-6th grade) are invited to Room 2 for activities. Adults are invited to stay for "Adult Fellowship" in the café. Adult small groups begin on October 1, see the details on adult classes in this newsletter.

COVENANT PARTNER CLASS FORMING

A Covenant Class will be offered as part of a small group "Faith and Essentials" beginning in October. If you are currently not a covenant partner of our church, you will be eligible to become a Covenant Partner after attending 2-3 of these classes. It is also a great way to learn more about ECO and the church. Please talk to Pastor Nancy or let the office know if you are interested in participating.

CHRISTMAS NATIVITY

For many years we have enjoyed some version of a Christmas program involving children, youth and adults. This year, Sherri Machamer will offer a children's play in the new year (March). If anyone has an idea or a desire to work up something smaller for the Advent Season, talk to Secretary Jeann or Bridget Rhamy.

To contact us:

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. Nancy Dumford

614-425-2552

nancydumford@gmail.com

* * * * *

Church Office Hours

Monday thru Friday
9:30 a.m.- 3:00 p.m.

September 17 is youth group + Be Bold!

Hi all,

I hope you all had a great summer! It's time for youth group to get back together as this coming Sunday, September 17 kicks off the start of second hour (10:45-11:45 am) after the summer break.

I would love to hear your thoughts and ideas about speakers and activities for the coming school year. Please join me in the youth room for a brainstorming session. I am planning to have either a speaker or activity every Sunday that there is a church wide second hour. And we can get creative--we can use the kitchen and fellowship hall if we want because the after church groups are going to be in the classrooms. So bring your ideas on Sunday!

Also, "Be Bold" looks like an exciting county wide worship event on Sunday, September 17. Tanya Chupp has offered to take you to and from the event--please contact her directly at 330-466-9145 if you would like to go and she can give you the details.

Coming up:

September 24: Jose & Guilherme have been worshiping with us from Brazil and will leave for home soon. They will join us for a Q&A session - bring your questions.

October 15: A day at the lake--weather permitting, Duane and I will host the youth group at his family's cabin at Charles Mill Lake for kayaking, cookout, yard games, etc. We will plan to leave after worship and be back to Fredericksburg around 5:00pm.

Thanks!

Michelle

get2thewoods@gmail.com

