

# Weekly Update

September 18 2024

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

About 1,970 years ago there was a church in Greece that was having some issues. There were arguments, divisions and struggles. Some of those divisions revolved around who was the true authority in the church and should therefore be followed and deferred to. Some trusted Paul, the missionary who established that church; and some wanted to follow a man named Apollos, who had done fruitful ministry there. These two factions were stirring up trouble for the body of believers.

Paul received word about the conflict there and sat down to write a letter of encouragement and challenge. He wanted to remind them that the work that needed to be done was God's work alone. He reminded them that there was no competition between Apollos and him; and, as a matter of fact, the two of them were partners in God's work. The letter he wrote has come down to us as 1 Corinthians, and in it Paul says this:

***What, after all, is Apollos? And what is Paul? Only servants, through whom you came to believe—as the Lord has assigned to each his task. I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow. The one who plants and the one who waters have one purpose, and they will each be rewarded according to their own labor. For we are co-workers in God's service; you are God's field, God's building. (1 Cor. 3:5-9)***

Scripture makes it clear that growing the faith of God's people is **His** work! God makes things grow! We can do things like plant seeds of truth found in God's word. We can water those seeds with faithful living and nurture that growth in community; but only God makes things grow.

This is something I learned this summer with my first garden. I did work in the garden and with a lot of help and some good advice I learned how to prepare the ground, make sure it had water and was cared for. But God made it grow!

I spent many afternoons in my garden, pulling weeds, watering in dry spells, and spraying to get rid of potato bugs (gross!). And most frequently, as I worked, I found myself praying for our church. I prayed that God would give us spiritual growth. That our faith would deepen, like the roots of a plant, that we would grow firm in our trust in Jesus, like a thriving garden, and that we would bear fruit, as we share the good news of Jesus with others and serve the world in His name. As I pulled weeds, I prayed that God would take away from us any hindrance or barrier to experiencing Him; and as I watered, I asked God to pour out His presence and comfort into our lives.

It is my sincere hope that God will help our church flourish. We are going to work to help nurture and care for our spiritual development; but most importantly, we can pray and ask God to bring us the spiritual nourishment and growth that only He can give!





The church's annual hayride and hot dog roast is next Sunday, Sept. 29. Bring a friend, your own hot dogs & buns, a well-filled picnic basket to share and your lawn chairs. You'll

enjoy great food and fellowship and a tractor ride through the countryside. Time - 5:00 p.m. at Don & Joyce Rhamy's 7766 Cutter Rd. Fredericksburg. Beverages, Table Service & Condiments will be provided

## Save the date!

**October 19, 2:00 p.m.**

**Fall Hike at the Wilderness Center**

**Details to come.**



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

September 22 - Bill Nichols

September 25 - Candy Weaver



Sept. 21 - Sydnee & Gunnar Stidham

Sept. 25 - Connie & Jerry Herman

## VOLUNTEERS

### FOR SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 22

<b>Greeters</b>	Bridget & Abby Rhamy Michelle Wood
<b>Ushers</b>	Brent St. John & Cody Daugherty
<b>Café</b>	Connie Herman
<b>Nursery (Worship)</b>	Kim Morrow
<b>Nursery (2nd Hour)</b>	Vickie Rhamy
<b>Kidz Jam</b>	Sherri Machamer
<b>Kids 2nd Hour</b>	Sherri Machamer
<b>Elder Assist</b>	Adam Swinehart

# PRAYER

**Please keep these people/situations in your prayers.**

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

## Praises

### 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

- House fire in Millersburg claimed one victim
- 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

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

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



The Deacons are collecting **Kleenex and Clorox/Lysol** wipe for the elementary school.

There will be a collection box in the Gallery to receive donations for a couple more weeks.



## CALENDAR FOR SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

- Sept. 22 - Sunday morning worship & 2nd Hour for all
- Sept 23 - 7:00 p.m. Session Meeting
- Sept. 24 - 7:30 p.m. The Grind (Men)
- Sept. 25 - 10:00 a.m. GLOW (women)
- Sept. 25 - 6:30 p.m. Music Team
- Sept. 29 - Sunday morning worship & 2nd Hour for all
- Sept. 29 - 5:00 p.m. All church Hayride & hotdog roast
- Oct. 1 - 10:00 a.m. GLOW (Women)
- Oct. 1 - 6:45 p.m. Music Team
- Oct. 4 - First Friday (Women)
- Oct. 6 - World Communion Sunday,  
Sunday morning Worship & 2nd Hour for All

## 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.



🌿 **Commit to Worship Regularly - God invites us to LOVE Him**

- Identify what regular Sunday morning worship looks like (eg: every Sunday, three times a month, etc.)

🌿 **Learn and Grow in Community - God invites us to KNOW Him**

- Be involved in an experience of regular spiritual nurture (eg: Second Hour, GLOW, Bible Study, the Grind, etc.)



🌿 **Serve Others in Jesus' name - God invites us to REPRESENT Him**

- Find a place to serve each semester (eg: ministry leader, outreach effort, mission projects, etc.)

🌿 **Connect to God in Prayer and Scripture - God invites us to EXPERIENCE Him**

- Begin a habit of prayer and fellowship with God (eg: individual prayer practices, church prayer nights, spiritual direction communities, etc.)

🌿 **Engage in Spiritual Friendships - God invites us to SHARE Him**

- Invest in friendships where you can give and receive the love of Jesus



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You are invited to reach out to our Church Elders if you have any questions or concerns about the church.

Angie Chapman	330-465-0963
Beth Miller	513-319-6447
Darcy Miller	330-440-4155
Paul Miller	330-465-8329
Earl Rhamy	330-988-4285
Steve Schlegel	330-317-3898
John Scott	330-466-0226
Adam Swinehart	330-641-1575



Becoming a community that cultivates faith and faithfulness in Christ