

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH COMMUNICATOR



FROM THE PASTOR:

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ . . .

"Grace and peace to you from God our Father

I recently did a word search in the New Testament. The two words "give" and "gave" occur a total of 313 times in the Gospels and Acts alone.

There is a reason for this. Not only does the word give occur many, many times in the life of Jesus, the reality of giving is the central thrust of his life. (I originally intended to also look at the words: offer, offering and sacrifice but I was staggered by the number of times giving is addressed without those

words.) John 3:16, perhaps the most easily recognized verse in scripture, points to God's love as a self-sacrificial love that gives. The teaching of Jesus is a gift. The cross is a gift. But more fundamentally, the presence of God in the flesh is a gift. The very incarnation of Jesus as a human being is an incomprehensible gift. God loves and therefore God gives. God gives life. God gives freedom. God gives self.

Several Matthew texts clearly demonstrate that Jesus expects that his disciples will give. In the midst of the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew, Jesus provides instruction on giving. After plainly endorsing the then commonly known Jewish piety practice of giving alms to the poor (Matt. 5:42) he states, "When you give . . . don't be like the hypocrites." It is notable that Jesus assumes giving as the norm there is no "if"(Matt. 6:2-3). Jesus describes the final judgment in Matthew 25 and it is a surprising picture. The sole criteria is one of generosity. The sheep and the goats are divided based NOT on their belief in Jesus as Lord. The sheep and the goats are also NOT divided based on their spiritual gifts or openness. In fact, some numbered among the

goats point to having done miracles in Jesus' name (look back at chapter 7).

The sheep who are invited into God's presence at the judgment are told that it is because they have given a gift of food, drink, time, hospitality, clothing or care.

Furthermore Jesus cares about the way in which his disciples give. He is always concerned about their hearts and motivation. Jesus wants his disciples to trust that if they focus on his kingdom that everything

else will take care of itself (Matt. 6:11). He assures them that if they keep their focus on God the Father as provider that they will never lack what they need (Matt. 7). Specifically, Jesus instructs disciples to be discerning in their giving (Matt. 7:6) and to know that if they have

their priorities in order that God will handle any need they encounter. Don't take your eyes off the prize. Don't be distracted by any hurdles you encounter. Don't worry about the things that have caused so many to miss God's love. Focus on being the child of God that you were created to be, a child that pleases the Father, and the hurdles will fly by.

Bob Meldrum, our church treasurer, recently shared with us that his former employer had an ethos that, "If we do the right things for the right reasons then the bottom line will take care of itself." Bob went on to say that he has seen that same ethos at work in this congregation over the last four years. I agree. We have been giving more money away each year. We have been drawing in more worshipers on Sunday (20% more than four years ago).

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*"Don't take
your eyes off
the prize"*

NOVEMBER 2009

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Forward in Faithfulness: Celebrating 200 years of witness for the Lord Jesus Christ

Hebrews 12:1-2

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witness, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS

Sundays	Sr. High Fellowship	6-7:30 pm
Thursdays	Jr. High Fellowship	7-8:15 pm
Nov. 1st	Sr. High at the Cochrans	6-7:30 pm
Nov. 13-14	30 Hour Famine	6:30 pm



Where: Mulberry St. Methodist Church

When: From Friday at 6:30 pm to Saturday at 1 pm

(Fast begins Friday at 6 am, ends Saturday at noon) **Cost:** \$15 –Goes directly to World Vision towards world hunger

Nov. 26 & 29th

No Youth Group

Enjoy Turkey!

The 30 Hour Famine

Roughly every six seconds, a child dies of starvation. That's about 25,000 children per day. For most of us it's pretty easy for us to lose sight of the fact that the world's resources are not equally distributed. While about 1/3 of the world's population live on about \$2 a day, I have probably spent close to \$50 on ice cream so far this year! I get a sick feeling in my stomach when I think about the money that I spend on a regular basis that is not on necessities compared to the lifestyle of a large portion the world population.

The Bible has a lot to say about social justice and poverty. In the story of Ruth, Boaz takes care of the poor by allowing them to pick leftover crops instead of having his servants going back through a second time. The year of Jubilee was a complex system commanded by God in order to care for the less fortunate. When Jesus is rebuking the religious leaders for their hypocrisy, he says, "You give a tenth of your spices- mint, dill, and cumin. But you have neglected the more important matters of the law –justice, mercy, and faithfulness" (Matt. 23:23). Jesus rebukes these religious leaders because although they have obeyed the letter of the law, they have not lived by its Spirit. I wonder what Jesus would have to say to me in these matters. Regardless of the percentage, are we just in our care for the poor?

So what is the 30 hour famine? Well, first of all, it is a 30 hour period in which teens are asked to abstain from food in support World Vision against world hunger. During this period of fasting, our teens will be joining the teens at Mulberry St. Methodist for an evening of worship, games, and activities that challenge and inform students about worldwide crises and social justice in the name of Jesus Christ. The hope of this event is to raise awareness and support for organizations which are seeking to meet needs around the globe with the love of Jesus Christ.

Do you want to help out? If God would put a call on your life in support for the fight against world hunger, I would invite you to partner with World Vision. You can do this in several ways. First of all, our teens are collecting donations leading up to the 30 hour famine which go directly to World Vision. You can make a one time donation by signing up with one of our teens. Secondly, you can "adopt a child."

It costs \$1 a day to feed a child. Through World Vision (and several similar organizations), you can sign up to donate \$30 a month for a specific child that becomes your sponsor child. If you are interested in this, please see me.

In Christ,

Kyle Peters



Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them, for it is to such as these the kingdom of heaven belongs." Matthew 19:14

Infant & Toddler News – Sunday 8:30am to Noon.

To ensure our infants and toddlers are healthy, both of the nursery rooms have been sanitized for the winter. Parents, you can breathe easy knowing your most cherished possession(s) is/are protected from the winter sniffles while at First Presbyterian Church on Sunday mornings.

Did you see our new volunteer sign in the Fellowship Hall? It's relatively hard to miss, but it screams, "Sign Me!" We still need volunteers, so please consider taking one hour to help in the infant or toddler rooms. It's only one Sunday, and snack is included, what a bonus! We would love to have your help!

We are planning a painting party! More information will be coming to you soon regarding the specifics. The first room on our list is the infant room. The tentative plan is to allow all the infants and toddlers to leave their hand-prints on the nursery room walls. Of course non-toxic paint will be used- as will much supervision, smocks, soap, and water!

NEED: Apple juice boxes, tissues, toys, crib sheets, snacks (graham crackers), VOLUNTEERS

Prayerful thanks to the adult and youth volunteers who helped in this ministry during October: Holly Bredefeld, Elizabeth Wiley, Melissa Peters, Mary Cochran, Mandy Johnson, Amy Rice and Elizabeth Napier.

Great things are happening in the world of infants and toddlers at First Presbyterian Church. Are you interested in helping with upcoming events or would you like to share thoughts and/or ideas? Please don't hesitate to contact Deacon for Infants and Early Parenthood, Elizabeth Napier enapier@mvnu.edu.

Sunday School – Grades K-5 – Sunday 9:45am to 10:45am:

Thank you to the volunteers who helped with children's Sunday school in September including: Deb Paxton, Kim Reitsma, Gregg Gebhardt, Amanda Gebhardt, Michelle Shillito, Bonnie Stone, Beth Ruth, Marsha Bibart and George Stone.

Lessons for November will be from the "Kid Connection", Faith Alive Christian Resources, a curriculum endorsed by the Presbyterian Church, USA:

November 1 – "I AM, So You Can" (Moses), Exodus 1-4. God raised up Moses to lead God's people out of Egypt.

November 8 – "Frogs in Your Bed!", Exodus 7-12. Our powerful God used the plagues to free his people from cruel Pharaoh.

November 15 – "Family Rules", Exodus 19-20 and 32-34. God makes us his own people and gives us rules to live as his family.

November 22 – "A Smashing Success", Judges 6, 7. God used fearful Gideon to free his people to serve him again.

November 29 – "A Bad Hair Day", God used foolish Samson to free his people to serve him again.

DEACON'S LOVE

"BEACONS" OF LIGHT



As this is being written, beacons of light blink from radio towers in the distance, bringing to mind Lighthouses and their guiding "beacons of light" for seamen needing assistance. Are we, as deacons, providing "deacons of light" as we use our God given talents on a daily basis? Observing the caring and compassion, given by deacons, it seems we are trying to fulfill our mission as "beacons of light".

Many tasks performed on daily basis include visitation to shut ins, doing errands for house bound, taking people to medical facilities, doctors appointments and many more. Most recently, the women's association's semi annual rummage sale completed a successful challenge, thanks to many hands including deacons (active and inactive). We are truly blessed to have such a caring community. May we continue to see our cup as full of blessings as we strive to make Jesus Christ known in our community and the world.

Peace and Blessings, Ellen

Continued from page 1

We have been connecting with more children and youth in our community (junior high youth fellowship alone has grown from 0 to over a dozen in the last two years). We have been engaging the gifts of more of our members. We have seen ministry and giving growth even in the midst of the great recession. But, I digress. Jesus doesn't instruct us to give so that programs will expand or that the church will have a healthy bottom line. Yes, the bottom line is taking care of itself as we do things consistent with our mission "to grow in the knowledge and love of our Lord Jesus Christ as we make him known in our community and the world." But to focus on the results is a mistake -- and that is exactly Bob's (and Jesus') point.

Jesus instructs his disciples to give because when we give we become more like Jesus. It is that simple. C.S. Lewis talks about the choices we make being more than choices of this moment. In his book *Mere Christianity*, he states, "People often think of Christian morality as a kind of bargain in which God says, 'If you keep a lot of rules, I'll reward you; and if you don't, I'll do the other thing.' I do not think that's the best way of looking at it. I would much rather say that every time you make a choice, you are turning the central part of you, the part that chooses, into something a little different than what it was before." When we give, we are being shaped more fully into the image of Jesus. If our goal is to become like Christ we must engage in the activities that he indicates will have the greatest impact on our shape.

On Sunday, November 22nd, we will celebrate giving in a special way. We will share a catered meal at 12:30 p.m. and it will be our Victory Luncheon for "Consecration Sunday". Rev. Bruce Henderson will be our guest speaker in worship and he will be sharing more with us about how giving shapes us as disciples of Jesus. You won't want to miss it.

In Christ,
Jonathan



Poinsettia Order Form



Help Decorate the Sanctuary with a Christmas Poinsettia

Cost: Red or White Large \$7.00 each or Small Red Pixie \$3.50 each

Orders must be received by December 7, 2009

Given by:	In Honor of:	Red Lg/Sm	White

Given by:	In Honor of:	Red Lg/Sm	White

Given by:	In Memory of:	Red Lg/Sm	White

Given by:	In Memory of:	Red Lg/Sm	White

Phone _____ Amount enclosed _____

Please make checks payable to: First Presbyterian Church

Please designate "Flower Fund" on the check memo line

(Please do not include flower monies in the same check as your pledge or offering.)

Continued from page 2

Children's Moment/Our Chapel Church – during 11:00am Sunday Worship

Thank you to Marty Trese, Missy Kaufman, Alex Carroll, Mike Conway and Carole Conway for teaching in October. Kyle is seeking additional people to be assistant teachers in this ministry. Commitment will be occasional, perhaps once a month. Lessons this fall are based on the stories of the Old Testament. If you would like to serve in this ministry, please contact Kyle Peters through the church office – 393-1326.

Christmas Eve Worship – Children's Drama

The children will present a drama as part of the 7:00 p.m. worship service Christmas Eve. Missy Kaufman and Deb Curran are serving as co-directors. Practices for the drama will be held as part of children's Sunday school starting the last Sunday in November. A dress rehearsal will be held Monday evening, December 21. In addition to the grade K – 5 children attending Sunday school, older pre-school age children are welcome to participate by wearing a sheep costume in the drama. Parents of pre-schoolers can "try out" a sheep costume ahead of time. Please see Bonnie Stone to obtain a sheep costume.

Scouting Ministries

Girl Scouts meet regularly at First Presbyterian Church. Daisy, Brownie, Junior and Cadette programs are available for girls from Kindergarten through Middle School. Sara Lawhon is the contact person, lawhon2@osu.edu

Boy Scout Troop 339 held a Court of Honor on Sunday, October 25 in the Sanctuary. Scouts were presented badges of rank, merit badges, recruiter patches and other awards. The highlight was the presentation of the Eagle Scout Award to Michael Franks, son of Mary Beth and Tim Franks.

Pack 339 Cub Scouts and Troop 339 Boy Scouts attended a fall campout at the Muskingum Valley Scout Reservation south of Coshocton on the weekend of October 9-11. More than 500 Scouts, leaders and family members from Knox, Coshocton and Tuscarawas Counties enjoyed a weekend of learning and fun in the outdoors in spite of rain and temperatures in the low 30's at night!

For information on joining Cub Scouts, contact Cubmaster Ryan Rupp, ryan@whiteoakfarms.com. For information on joining Boy Scouts contact Committee Chair Bill Shriver, wshriver@columbus.rr.com.

Popcorn Sale – Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts are selling gourmet popcorn as a fundraiser. Please be generous make a purchase when given the opportunity!

Thank You to Mead Weil for installing a new door lockset in the Toddler room, to Laura Abell for the bottles of "bubble" solution and to Bob Meldrum for donating a sleeping bag to the Scouts!

It's Just Better Together...and because this is true, our church is actively supporting nine Life Groups, each involved in an interesting study they have chosen to discuss and grow in their knowledge of our Lord, Jesus Christ! What a blessing!

There are six original groups that have re-committed to a new study. These include groups hosted by Carol and Mike Conway, Dottie Denton (former Reitsma group),

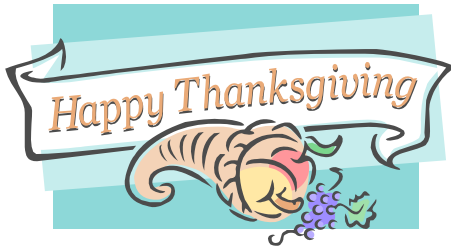
Carol and Chuck Waugh, Liz and Brett Wiley, Michelle and Peter Shillito, Betty and Joe Hirsch and Dave Eaton (men's group).

The exciting news is the formation of three new groups. Georgene Risko is hosting a women's group that meets on Monday evening. Thirteen women showed up for the first night! Tanya and John Noonan are in the process of getting a group to meet on every other Friday evening. The newest group to form is to be hosted by Susan and Dave Schullenberger and they will meet every other Tuesday evening.

Please call Betty Hirsch (397-7944) for information and help finding a group that will fit your needs and schedule. This experience of fellowship and active discipleship is open to all. It is not too late! Call now to get these new groups off to a great start. It is also not too late to offer to host a new group! Think (and pray) about it!

Betty Hirsch, Elder for Life Groups





As we enjoy this November Holiday, may we all count our many blessings and remember those less fortunate!

Hi Everyone,

As most of you are aware, Kroger grocery stores give non profits up to 5% back on many grocery item purchases. First Presbyterian Church has already received a substantial amount of money by this great fundraiser. To continue to have the youth group reap the rewards of your Kroger purchases, all you have to do is take the adjoining page in to your local Kroger store and have them scan the barcode on the page and scan your Kroger card too. Tying your Kroger card to our Church fundraising does not affect your Kroger points that you may be saving for gas purchases. It is truly a win-win situation! If you already belong to this program, then pass along the card to your friends and family. They may want to help our church as well. I sent a copy to my sister who lives in another part of the state but shops at Kroger. She was happy to register.

If you have any questions, call the office at 393-1326 and Kyle or I would be happy to assist you. Many thanks!

Holly Bredefeld



Kroger Community Rewards

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NPO # 81151
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN YOUTH MINISTRY
Attention: KYLE PETERS
106 NORTH GAY STREET
MT. VERNON, OH 43050

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN YOUTH MINISTRY:

Thank you for your interest in the Kroger Community Rewards Program. We are happy to be a part of your fundraising.

Here is your Organization's Scanbar code as requested. This supplemental process allows your members without access to a computer to be a part of your fund raising through our Community Rewards Program.

How it works

- Make copies of this form and give the copies to members of your organization who wish to enroll with your organization, but do not have access to register online.
- Members take this form the next time they go shopping at Columbus and hand it to the cashier to scan within their order IN ADDITION to either their Kroger Plus Card, or phone number entry that is linked to their Kroger Plus card.
- Within 72 hours, your members will then begin giving a percentage of each shopping trip for the duration of the Community Rewards Term (5/1/09 - 4/30/10) to your organization.
- You only have to scan this letter once to create the link between your card and your organization. You must continue scanning your Kroger Plus Card/phone number during all purchases to get credit for your organization.

Please note:

If your member(s) register for the Community Rewards Program using this Scanbar method AND do not have their correct information updated in the Kroger Plus Card Database, you will not see their names on your quarterly statements. Also, using the Scanbar method of registration, the name of your organization will not appear on their receipt. Please have each member call 1-877-576-7587 to update all their information.



1000081151

Georgene Risko drives a lot. Her one-year-old Honda already has 26,000 miles on it. Her destination might be OSU, where she holds one of her three teaching positions, or it might be one of the three cities where her children and grandchildren live. Whatever the case, Georgene often finds herself on the road. And she doesn't allow her travel time to be wasted. She spends her time in the car listening to books on tape, catching up on the news, praying, or as was the case a few weeks ago, listening to scripture. On this particular day, the reading was from the book of John. It was the story of the loaves and the fishes from the sixth chapter, and Georgene was struck by the part where Jesus tells his disciples to gather up all the leftovers, to let nothing be wasted. It occurred to her that it was a perfect illustration of what God does with our lives: "Everything we go through in life, none of it is wasted. God will use every bit of it for His purposes."

Attempting to incorporate the spiritual disciplines into her daily routine comes fairly naturally to Georgene. She has been, as she put it, "dipped in" the church since childhood. Her father was a Christian Missionary Alliance minister, and her mother, at the age of sixteen, spent her free time on street corners evangelizing the citizens of Pittsburgh. The oldest of four children, Georgene was born in New Brighton, Pennsylvania, but her father's church work occasionally required the family to move, almost exclusively within Pennsylvania. It was rare that the entire family didn't play some part in her father's vocation.

Georgene remembers the first Sunday after one particular move. It was her father's second church plant, and her family made up over half the congregation at this first meeting. Her father preached, she played the piano, and her brothers took up the collection. The move had required her to change schools and leave all her old friends and activities. Their home was the parsonage, her father's salary was a free will offering, and there were no benefits like health insurance for the family. But now, in retrospect, Georgene recognizes how rich her childhood was and expresses gratitude for her Christian heritage. "Every morning before I went to school, my parents prayed for me. Someone lifted me up before I walked out the door. I mean, how do you empower your children more than that? I didn't know what the full armor [of God] was, but it was there for me."

After finishing high school, Georgene attended Nyack College, the Christian college where her parents attended and met. After two years, Georgene transferred to Geneva College in Pennsylvania where she finished her undergraduate degree, majoring in Elementary Education. She then taught for a number of years, completed her Masters in Teacher Leadership at Temple University, became a middle school principal and began to work on her doctorate at Immaculata University in Philadelphia.

It was during her doctoral pursuits that a mutual friend set Georgene up on a blind date with Jim Risko, who was coming to town for a Penn State football game. Over the course of that first weekend, Georgene and Jim managed to see each other on three different occasions, and before Jim left town, he left a rose at her front door. After that weekend, Georgene and Jim maintained a long distance relationship through letter writing and traveling back and forth on the weekends. They were able to purchase round trip tickets for \$59 from US Air. Two years later, right around the time the fare went up to \$159, they decided it was time to get married. Their wedding was in Mount Vernon at First Presbyterian Church where Jim was already a member. Georgene and Jim will celebrate their 15th wedding anniversary in 2010.

After moving to Mount Vernon, Georgene was able to complete her PhD in Teaching and Learning from Ohio State University. She now has a number of teaching positions at three different institutions of higher education: Indiana Wesleyan University, Ohio State University, and Walden University. The flexibility in her schedule allows her time to visit her children and grandchildren. "I'm making it work for me. I travel, I have my laptop, I get to see my grandkids. It's good." Georgene has three children. She has a son and daughter in Pennsylvania and a daughter in North Carolina. Among them, she has six grandchildren ranging from 12 years to 2 months and another one on the way, due in June. She also has four step-children who live here in Mount Vernon.

Georgene has a number of past times she enjoys when she's not traveling, teaching, or getting involved in church activities. She is an avid reader, loves southern jazz, follows Penn State football, enjoys knitting and plays the occasional game of mahjong. She can also hold her own on the golf course. Georgene is quick to clarify that she is no athlete, but when she and Jim married she decided to take up golf. "Jim loves golf, always has, and it's something we can do together." While her initial attempts were difficult, she continued to try. She even prayed about it, and eventually, God gave her a joy for the game, as well as some talent. This past year, she and her partner won the women's championship for the Mount Vernon Country Club Member Guest. "I even won a little money!"



Georgene's initial involvement at First Presbyterian was primarily with the choir and a few life groups. Then, a few years back, she served on the elder nominating committee and soon found herself being one of the people nominated. Jim, who has also served as an elder for the church, encouraged her to consider it. She jokes that it was never her intention to say yes, but in the end, she did. As with all things in her life, Georgene has approached her role as an elder with much prayer. "If you pursue something, and it's not preceded by prayer, it will fail, it will fail every time. Prayer has to come first." She gets excited talking about all the new programs and opportunities happening at our church but is quick to recognize the importance of having prayer in place for every new venture.

Because of this, Georgene considers the prayer group meetings on Tuesday nights as one of the most important meetings taking place at the church during the week. "As much as I can, I go. It's just amazing to go. You just lay everything down at His feet, and the people there are lifting it up." As a prayer partner she was able to take part in the prayer partners' retreat this past year. The power of prayer and intercession has been a strong theme in Georgene's life, from her youngest years to now. "I need it. I need to be upheld, I need to be protected. I need to be covered by the blood, renewed, and restored. And I need to know that there are people out there interceding for me. That's the beauty of it. I'm so thankful for that."

One particular aspect of the church that Georgene has felt led to pray about is the women's ministry. She gets excited when she talks about the group of women God has brought together in our congregation and what this group could do and be for one another, the church as a whole, and the greater community. Over time, Georgene would like to see more interdenominational Bible study with women in the community as well as participation in events such as the Women of Faith Conference. Just recently, this desire has led her to begin a weekly Bible study at her home. Currently, the group is working through Beth Moore's study, "Believing God," which moves beyond believing *in* God to actually *believing* God. Georgene explains that the study focuses on four Biblical truths about God: 1. He is who He says He is, 2. He can do what He says He'll do, 3. You are who He says you are, and 4. You can do all things through Him. The study has only just begun, but Georgene has already been encouraged by the group that is forming, "It's very, very intergenerational, from grandmas to young moms and all the rest that fall in between. These women are the type that when their feet hit the floor in the morning, the devil says, 'Oh drat. They're up.'"

Georgene continues to pray about what God wants to accomplish through her. A couple of years ago, that prayer led her to accept the nomination for elder. This past summer, it led her to lead worship for Vacation Bible School. Currently, it's directing her toward a women's Bible study. And she's ready for anything God might choose to put in her path. "I'm trying to be open to things other than what I might have been interested in my whole life...When you start to think about your life, you can just see evidence that God has been there daily. That's what I see." Several scriptures would support this idea. Philippians 1:6 is the first to come to mind, "...he who began a good work in your will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus," and this work in Georgene's life has been in the making since she was a child. He's gathering it all up, not letting any of it be wasted, and using all of it to accomplish His purposes.

The Elder Profile articles are written by member Elizabeth Wiley.

THANK OFFERING

Each fall the women of the Presbyterian Church collect a Thank Offering to support medical missions throughout the world and to fund new creative ideas of mission. The Thank Offering originated in 1888 when Eliza Clokey of Springfield, Ohio, urged each woman to give one dollar over and above her usual contribution to the Women's General Missionary Society as a "Thank offering to the Lord."

In 2009, 27 projects (14 in United States and 13 internationally) received funding from the \$684,900 collected in 2008. At least 40% of the Thank offering funds go to health-related projects. Thank Offering envelopes will be placed in the church pew racks in November. If you would like to contribute, put your offering envelope in the offering plate or send it to the church office marked as Thank Offering. Contact Gretchen Stultz (397-7748) or Brenda Schultze (397-7833) with any questions.



From your Mission and Outreach Committee

The committee has been excited about the wonderful response of the congregation to our monthly 200 items drive for various needs and causes throughout this past year and a half. It is a tangible display of your warmth and caring for our community; a real hands-on way to continue the church's mission by reaching out to the community and the world.

We continue our Thanksgiving food drive and in November we will be collecting stuffing mix, canned sweet potatoes and soup. Again, we have the goal of 200 items for the month. There is a table in the Narthex by the front door where you can place your donations. This can be a difficult time of year for many families, especially during the current economic climate. Please help us reach out and give assistance to these families. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

INTERCHURCH NEWS

Interchurch Social Services of Knox County is located in their new building at 306 West Gambier Street with branches in Centerburg, Danville, and Fredericktown. Interchurch is a Christian faith-based ministry, uniting community resources to meet the needs of those in crises. Various services are provided, including clothing assistance, pantry assistance, financial aid, medical assistance, Turn the Tide, Information and Referral. Volunteer opportunities are available for receptionist, pantry, resale shops, Fish driver, and special events, i.e. Turn the Tide. They are serving more and more new people each month. Here are some County wide YTD totals for September 2009 . number of households served--4232, number of individuals served--11,798, homeless--88, number of single parents--1221 and new clients-494. Thus far pantry assistance @\$40.00 per bag(estimate) is \$150,760.00 and families are eligible for assistance for food once every 30 days Clothing store vouchers issued YTD is 1334.

The current Mt.Vernon pantry needs are canned fruits creamed soups, egg noodles, and Taxables (i.e. toothpaste soap, deodorant, toilet paper, laundry and dish detergents.

If you have any further questions about Interchurch, you can contact Joy Harris, Executive Director at 397-4825.

November 2009

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		22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26					
		29	30						27	28	29	30	31							
Sunday	November 1	7:30am Worship Team 8:30am Early Worship 9:45am Church School 11:00am Communion 11:00am Late Worship 6:00pm Small Group More Items...	Monday	2	5:30pm Hot Meals 6:00pm Worship & Music Committee Meeting 6:30pm Girl Scouts (Sunday School) 7:00pm Cub Scouts	Tuesday	3	12:00pm Men's Prayer Lunch 6:00pm Prayer Meeting 6:30pm Girl Scouts (Sunday School rooms 200-204) 7:00pm Boy Scouts	Wednesday	4	6:00pm Hand Bells 7:00pm Chancel Choir 7:00pm Worship Team Practice	Thursday	5	9:30am Women's Bible Study 11:00am Bridge 12:00pm AA	Friday	6		Saturday	7	
Sunday	November 8	7:30am Worship Team 8:30am Early Worship 9:45am Church School 11:00am Late Worship 6:00pm Small Group 6:00pm Sr. Hi Group 6:30pm Home Bible	Monday	9	10:00am Staff Meeting (Conference Room) 5:30pm Hot Meals 6:30pm Girl Scouts (Sunday School) 7:00pm Cub Scouts	Tuesday	10	12:00pm Men's Prayer Lunch 6:00pm Prayer Meeting 6:30pm Girl Scouts (Sunday School rooms 200-204) 7:00pm Boy Scouts 7:00pm Session Meeting	Wednesday	11	9:45am Women's Circle 6:00pm Hand Bells 7:00pm Chancel Choir 7:00pm Worship Team Practice	Thursday	12	9:30am Women's Bible Study 11:00am Bridge 12:00pm AA	Friday	13		Saturday	14	
Sunday	November 15	7:30am Worship Team 8:30am Early Worship 9:45am Church School 11:00am Late Worship 3:00pm Communicator 6:00pm Small Group More Items...	Monday	16	5:30pm Hot Meals 6:30pm Girl Scouts (Sunday School rooms 200-204 & FH) 7:00pm Cub Scouts	Tuesday	17	12:00pm Men's Prayer Lunch 6:00pm Prayer Meeting 6:30pm Girl Scouts (Sunday School rooms 200-204) 7:00pm Boy Scouts	Wednesday	18	1:00pm KCHS Debate set-up 6:00pm Hand Bells 7:00pm Chancel Choir 7:00pm Worship Team Practice	Thursday	19	KC HS Debates 9:30am Women's Bible Study 11:00am Bridge 12:00pm AA 5:00pm Griefshare (Parlor & FH)	Friday	20		Saturday	21	9:00am Men's Fellowship Breakfast
Sunday	November 22	7:30am Worship Team Practice 8:30am Early Worship 9:45am Church School 11:00am Late Worship 6:00pm Small Group 6:30pm Home Bible	Monday	23	5:30pm Hot Meals 6:30pm Girl Scouts (Sunday School rooms 200-204 & FH) 7:00pm Cub Scouts	Tuesday	24	12:00pm Men's Prayer Lunch 6:00pm Prayer Meeting 6:30pm Girl Scouts (Sunday School rooms 200-204) 7:00pm Building & Missions	Wednesday	25	6:00pm Hand Bells 7:00pm Chancel Choir 7:00pm Worship Team Practice	Thursday	26	9:30am Women's Bible Study 11:00am Bridge 12:00pm AA	Friday	27		Saturday	28	
Sunday	November 29	7:30am Worship Team Practice 8:30am Early Worship 9:45am Church School 11:00am Late Worship 6:00pm Small Group 6:30pm Home Bible	Monday	30	5:30pm Hot Meals 6:30pm Girl Scouts (Sunday School rooms 200-204 & FH) 7:00pm Cub Scouts	Tuesday			Wednesday			Thursday			Friday		Saturday			

office

DEACONS CARE & COMPASSION

“...pray for each other so that you may be healed...” James 5:16

MEMBERS & FRIENDS OF OUR CHURCH FAMILY

At the Ohio Eastern Star Home

Helen Chrisman
Maxine Peters
Edith Whitney (*Sally Martin's grandmother*)

At Country Club Retirement Center

Ruth Cleland
Irvin Wilbur

At the Inn at Hillenvale

John Fowler

At Home

Dorothy Calkins
Jean Fribley
Rebecca Grove
Ruth Grove
Treva Haltermon
Mary Lou Lockard (*Daughter of Myra Philpott*)
Ellen Proper
Dorothy White

Grieving: The Family of Marilyn Wilbur who passed away on October 18th.

Special Prayer Concerns

Darla Brown (*Niece of Sally Conway*)
Bill Curran (*car accident*)
Glenn DeBoard (*Liver cancer*)
John Ewalt
Lee Feasel
Joseph Harrison (*heart attack-M. Harrison's brother*)
Jennifer Hatton (*Tyson's granddaughter*)
Debbie Krapf (*Paralyzed friend of Gary Hyman*)
Reverend and Mrs. Markle (*friends of Toby Lord*)
Hunter Lynlee Myers (*Moreland's granddaughter-cancer*)
Matt Palmer (*Lung cancer-friend of Sally Martin*)
Barbara Reitsma
Harriet and Richard Sells (*Toby Lord's brother & sister in law*)
Red Shaw (*cancer*)
Lindsay Smith (*Crones disease*)
Kirk Swartz (*cancer-Ketner's nephew*)
Chuck Waugh
Greg Washington (*accident-W. Gible's friend*)

In the Military

Adam J. Hinch-USMC-(*Son of Rebecca Hinch*)
Brian Short - USMC-Afghanistan (*son of John Short*)
Levi Thomas-USMC-Afghanistan (*son of Sally Martin*)

**COMMUNION**

If you have an update to the Deacons Care & Compassion list please let the Church Office know as we would like to stay as up to date as possible. Also, If you are a shut in or know of a shut in who would enjoy having communion, please contact the office with your name, date, time and location as there are friends who are willing and anxious to come to you and share the sacraments. Thanks!



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Mount Vernon, OH 43050
PERMIT 141

CURRENT RESIDENT OR

WE'RE ON THE WEB

WWW.MTVPRES.ORG

The web site has the most up to date information about what is happening in the life of the church.

You can access the Interactive Church Calendar, Sermon Audio Archives and much more. The web site is constantly updated, so be sure to check it out!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!

November 2
Sarah Lawhon

November 12
Pam Sperry

November 20
Pam Neighbarger

November 30
Jane Riehl

November 3
Jared Hathaway

November 13
George Stone

November 21
Logan Kaufman

November 4
Katie Franks

November 16
John Denzer

November 24
Matt Wilbur

November 9
Holly Bredefeld
Dylan Scott

November 17
Amy Crumm
Jean Neighbarger

November 26
Chris Hartman
William Hartman

November 10
Kay Garzieri
Thomas Webb

November 18
David Lehr

November 27
Brad Pokosh



SUBSTITUTE BIRTHDAY FAIRY NEEDED! If you have a cheery voice, and would like to call birthday celebrants with your happy wishes for them, I have a job for you! You would be taking the place of a regular caller in January, February and March. Your list will be provided ahead of time. It is a great way to bring some sunshine into the lives of our church family. For details/more information, Please call Marilyn Weil at 397-4300 or the church office ASAP. Thank you!