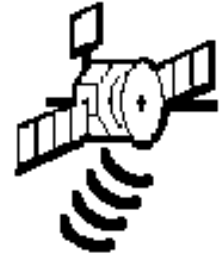


FIRST MONDAY



July, 2011

First Monday is a monthly mailing to Church Professionals and committee members in The Presbytery of the Miami Valley from the Presbytery Staff including information of events and news of interest as submitted by appropriate Presbytery entities. Publication of such information does not imply presbytery endorsement of the views and opinions expressed or implied. This month we have included:

1. **The Prayer List**
2. The **July Calendar**
3. Tom's Thoughts on being **Overwhelmed**
4. **Presbytery News – What's Happening Around The Presbytery.** Job listings, articles, flyers and brochures – take a close look for news affecting you and your church community!

If there are any questions about the July committee meetings, please contact your committee chair.

Submissions must usually be in by the 25th of the month or the last working day prior in order to be placed in the packet. Email submissions to Tom Oxley at the Presbytery, tom.oxley@miamipresbytery.org.

MIAMI PRESBYTERY PRAYER LIST



July, 2011

- 3 July** **Southminster Presbyterian Church** located at 7001 Far Hills Avenue, Dayton; Pastor Eric Pasanchin.
- 10 July** **First United Presbyterian Church** located at 117 North Main Street, Bellefontaine; Pastor Robert Fulton.
- 17 July** **First Presbyterian Church** located at 314 Xenia Avenue, Yellow Springs; Pastor Joe Hinds.
- 24 July** **Blue Ball Presbyterian Church**, located at 6901 Roosevelt Avenue, Franklin; Pastor Kevin Lawler.
- 31 July** **Presbyterian Church of New Paris** located at 6875 US Rt 40, New Paris.
- 7 August** **First Presbyterian Church** located at 1130 Highview Drive, Fairborn; Pastor Tom Harmon.

The Presbytery committee or group we ask you to pray for: For the month of July, please keep the Trustees in your prayers.

Thank you.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26 Keep New Carlisle Honey Creek	27	28 4:30 pm - COM	29	30	1	2
3 Keep Dayton: Southminster in	4 Independence Day Office Closed	5	6	7 9:30 am - Nominating Committee	8	9
10 Keep Bellefontaine: First in your	11	12 5 pm - Trustees	13	14	15	16
17 Keep Yellow Springs: First in	18	19	20	21 9:30 am - CoPM	22	23
24 Keep Blue Ball in your prayers @	25	26 4:30 pm - COM	27	28	29	30
31 Keep New Paris in your prayers	1	2	3	4	5	6

Overwhelmed!

With the weather finally turning a bit clearer, I have started working on my house. It needed a good coat of paint, and needed quite a bit of work to clean off the old paint first, so it has not been a quick process by any means. Along the way, it seems nature and vendors (not to mention a fear of heights) have put up a lot of roadblocks to the process. But it finally looks like I will get started getting a good coat of paint on this week.

Another issue is nature. All the rain caused tremendous growth to bushes around the house, and there are a few bushes that are now more like trees than shrubs, and I have to get those taken care of before they cause problems for the neighbors, not to mention visibility issues at the end of my driveway.

And with this issue of everyone being human, and therefore fallible, I have family and friends with personal issues that are difficult to ignore. Health, relationships, homes, careers, cars, etcetera, one thing after another, and all I can do is be there, to make time when one of them needs an ear for a moment. I won't begin to throw in my own feelings after watching the evening news, how politics, wars, neighborhood violence, bad drivers, intolerance, and the family and friend stuff that didn't make the news all impact on me.

At work, it is that time of year to start getting data together for the next Directory, a process that seems to never really end anyway, and requires a lot of attention as I ask for information and as people start responding with updates. Any church administrative team member who has to work on a church directory has an idea what this is like, but here I have to ask members of 62 churches for updates, and there is always one or two offices that don't see this as the same priority that I do.

This morning, as I was dressing for work, I was feeling a bit overwhelmed by everything I need to get done. Maybe I was starting to do some "poor me" stuff. But in that moment, words from two songs struck me. First, the line from *Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas*, where it says *from now on your troubles will be out of sight*. That was followed by *His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me*. Suddenly, I knew I would get through all of this. The hows and details aren't all there, but the knowledge that there is nothing there that I can't find a way to deal with came over me and eased my pain.

We talk a lot in the church about talking to God. We tell people that God answers prayer, and that there are things around us to prove His existence. But it is in things like these songs that came to me this morning that shows me it is true. Why else would a Christmas song pop into my head in June, or why a song that I haven't thought of for years starts me humming? I'm sure a psychologist could tell me how my brain works, and how memories can be triggered at times like this, but there is no real why to those answers, no real good answer to why now.

God talks to all of us. We just may not be listening.

How has God been trying to talk to you lately?

Tom

First Monday Job Corner: Drop us a line if there is a job opening you need to fill at your church (and please let us know if you want it continued in future months).

Youth Coordinator—Fairmont Presbyterian Church (20 hrs/wk.): Establish and lead a sustainable youth program by nurturing faith and devotion to God and others, focusing on service, worship and relationships. **Requires:** Strong Christian faith; prefer college degree and experience in working with youth; demonstrated strong communication and organizational skills; demonstrated leadership experience; strong Biblical knowledge. **Apply** by sending a resume and cover letter to Chair, Youth Search Team, Fairmont Presbyterian Church, 3705 Far Hills Ave, Kettering, OH 45429, e-mail: office@fairmontchurch.org

Director of Christian Education and Youth Ministries: The First Presbyterian Church of Middletown, Ohio is seeking a full-time Director of Christian Education to lead the education and youth programs of the Church. This appointed (non-ordained) position will lead all adult, youth, and children's Christian Education and fellowship programs. The Director will lead the Vacation Bible School. Qualified applicants may respond by submitting resume or CV with a letter of application to sandy@fpcmiddletown.com or to Christian Education Director, First Presbyterian Church, 2910 Central Ave., Middletown, OH 45044

Please note that the Presbytery website also lists some area job hunting assistance. If you know of somebody in your congregation that needs some help looking for their next job, please share that information with them.

A memorial service was held for **Muriel Phillips** at Central Presbyterian Church on Friday, July 1, 2011. Muriel was quite possibly the oldest Presbyterian in the Miami Valley Presbytery at the time of her death. She was 104 years old, just 18 days from her 105th birthday! Muriel was born in Seattle, WA and lived most of her life in the Alliance, OH area. She was a public school teacher. Muriel was a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Alliance, Ohio and was an ordained Deacon in the PC(USA). Muriel was a member at Central Presbyterian Church, along with her daughter, Mary Arnett. We give thanks to God for such a rich life and faithful servant in Muriel's witness.

From Vision to Practice . . . Growing an Effective Congregational Health Ministry, Thursday & Friday, August 25 & 26, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., Madison Lakes Learning and Conference Center, Trotwood, sponsored by Good Samaritan Hospital Health Ministries Program and Spiritual Care Department and Parish Health Ministry of Episcopal Retirement Homes, Inc. This workshop will prepare nurses, health ministers, team members and congregational leaders to either begin a health ministry or enhance an already established health ministry program. Cost is \$129. Registration deadline is August 18. Program provides 13.75 contact hours for RNs and LPNs. For more information call (937) 227-9452.

FREE OIL CHANGES OFFERED TO AREA SINGLE MOTHERS: As an outreach to the Dayton area community the Deacons of Central Presbyterian Church will provide free oil changes for single mothers on Saturday, July 16, from 1-6 p.m. on the church grounds. Central Presbyterian Church is located at 4699 Lamme Rd. in Moraine, approximately 4 miles north of the Dayton Mall, off State Route 725 and Alex-Bell Rd. An appointment is required. To make an appointment and for more information call (937) 289-2864.

Save the Date! The **6th annual Katie Geneva Cannon Lecture**, Sunday, September 18, 7:30 p.m., Hundley Hall, Gardencourt. Rev. Dr. Traci C. West, Professor of Ethics and African American Studies, Drew University Theological School, lectures "What Does Anti-racist Christian Sexual Ethics Look Like?"

Post-Lecture Events

Monday, September 19, 9:00 a.m., Caldwell Chapel, Worship led by Rev. Clemette Haskins, M.Div. 2009 10:30 a.m., Laws Lodge; Workshop led by Rev. Dr. West, "U.S. Christianity and Violence Against Women" followed by lunch and closing worship in the Women's Center [registration is required for this event; \$25 fee covers workshop, materials, lunch; fee waived for students]. For more information and online registration: <http://wimminwiselpts.wordpress.com/events/>. **Please pass on this information to your friends, colleagues, and other contacts who would be interested in this event!** Heather Thiessen, Director, The Women's Center at Louisville Seminary, LPTS Box 189/100 White Hall, 1044 Alta Vista Rd., Louisville, KY 40205.



The Breakfast Club

In high school, would you get up extra early to attend a prayer breakfast on cold winter mornings? That is exactly what Covington High School students are doing on the first Friday of each school month. Two dozen or more students representing 10 or more area churches are doing just that!

In January of 2010, David Larson (Covington Middle School Principal and member of the Covington Lutheran Church) approached Ron and Judy Schultz of the Covington Presbyterian Church to restart "The Breakfast Club" which was available to students 15 years ago. The initial meeting also included teen "reps" from six area churches to plan food (of course!) and programs especially concerning teens' lives today.

The Breakfast Club meets at the Covington Presbyterian Church at 7:00 a.m. for a hot breakfast cooked by Judy with the help of several church members. Ron or David share announcements and then a program follows. Some of the topics have included: self-esteem, mission to Haiti, mission to Mexico, "3 Steps to Hope", making good choices, peer pressure, and facing your giants (fears and temptations). Rev. Kazy Hinds of Piqua Westminster Presbyterian and Greg Kurtz of Covington Presbyterian have been featured guests. The last five minutes are for prayer requests and prayer. They are then sent off to school with treats for lunch.

On April 12, twenty members of the Breakfast Club led the Covington Community Lenten Service. The members read scriptures, prayed and sang songs for the group of nearly eighty. Several of the older members attending the service were so overwhelmed by the "performance" of our youth they were brought to tears. They were not aware that there are so many young people out there who are willing to share and show their love of Christ. Over five hundred dollars has been received from the community since the Lenten Service to help us continue work with the Breakfast Club.

Harry Hicks and Rachel Carder are the teen "reps" from our church. Rachel has designed tee shirts for members to proudly wear to school. Some social activities are also planned for the group. The program has become such a success that kids from a neighboring school district have heard about our program and have started one of their own.

The seniors were honored at the May meeting. In a thank you note from Senior Aubrye Cain of the Covington Brethren Church, she writes, "The Breakfast Club has had a huge impact on my life and I know all the other students feel the same way. I found all the messages to be very helpful and the food was great."

Ron says, "With the challenges facing the teens today, we are overwhelmed by the interest and participation of the Covington students and the support of the Covington Presbyterian Church members. We plan to continue to support our youth with this very worthwhile outreach to our kids!"

-submitted by Judy Schultz

Corinth Presbyterian Church 2011 Flea Market



Bake Sale/Snack Bar

Housewares, furniture, jewelry, clothing, books, & more!

Thursday, July 21, 9 am - 6 pm

Friday, July 22, 9 am - 4 pm

Saturday, July 23, 9 am - 1 pm

Snack Bar is open all day, come early have
breakfast and browse and buy!

--Or--

Come for a light lunch...sandwiches, drinks,
cake, and pie

And see what wonderful goodies we have
collected...and buy!

Corinth Presbyterian Church
4269 Corinth Blvd. Dayton
937-253-3187

