

**THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

65 North Third Street
Newark, OH 43055-5522
740-345-1480

Church E-mail: firstpresofc@gmail.com

Web Address:

www.1stpresnewark.com

Dallas Dryburgh, Congregational Care Pastor

Tara Lewellen, Music Coordinator

Hope Labutis, Secretary

Sheri Bogardus, Treasurer

Gary Collins, Maintenance

Office hours: Tues, Wed, Thurs 9:00-2:00pm



October– 2024

CHURCH ELDER INFORMATION

Clerk of Session – Priscilla Hare

Class of 2026:

Keith Hare - Finance

Chris Rainey - Worship

Class of 2025:

Sarah Bowles – Church Life

Becky Mahon – Personnel

Class of 2024:

Linda Smith – Property

Karen Fish – Evangelism & Outreach

WORSHIP

We will be serving Communion on Sunday, October 6. This day is Worldwide Communion Sunday.



A Worship Committee Meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 9th at 10 am.

SCRIP



The next Scrip order is **October 6**. Please consider ordering gift cards from our Scrip program.

Remember that the funds

generated are used for church needs. Thank you to all who order on a regular basis.

If you are interested in Scrip cards, please see Gaye Gibson.

PERSONNEL UPDATE

Due to health reasons, Reinita has asked to be released from her contract as our Commissioned Pastor. We will be having Dallas fill the pulpit if he is available and will find pulpit fill for the days he is not available. Let's keep Reinita and Dallas in our prayers. Let's continue to pray for our Pastor Nominating Committee and Worship Committee as we work through this.

Becky Mahon, FPC Elder

CONGREGATIONAL CARE



October Birthdays

Lisa Detrick 10/1

David Kittel 10/2

Emily Hare 10/4

Elias Bowles 10/18

Jean Nichols 10/19

October Anniversaries

Greg & Tina Angeletti 10/22

Bob & Deb Blamer 10/25

Jay & Wendy Hartman 10/27

A SPECIAL NOTE

THANK YOU



I am so blessed to be a part of such a loving family of God. Thank you to each of you for the cards and remembrances as I celebrated my 80th birthday. I had a wonderful birthday and was blessed by the other days of celebration with many of you. I thank God for each of you and pray that you will know how much I love each of you.

Love in Christ Jesus,
Gaye



CANDLEWICK



We served the residents of Candlewick Commons dinner on September 17th. We feasted on chicken casserole, coleslaw, mixed veggies, and cobbler. YUM!



Our faithful and smiling, serving team! If you would like to help encourage others through the Candlewick dinners, please see Sandy Noland.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD



October Suggested Shopping List **Operation Christmas Child – 2024**

Hygiene Items for boys and girls

- Bars of Bath Soap
- Sturdy Combs
- Nail and Toe clippers



Thank you for helping to share "good news and great joy!"

EVANGELISM AND OUTREACH MINUTE FOR MISSIONS



Greetings everyone from the other side of the world and a place we call Hesed. The long and the short of it is... it's a mess. After all when you have

3 million gods to please... it's easy to be a mess. However there is this one small community who used to be part of the mess, but who now possess a joy unspeakable and filled with glory. Indeed out of the 1.45 billion people in Hesed, they say Christians number about 2.3%. I have been praying and asking the Lord, and I ask you to also pray for me, that I would have a growing love for the people here, both those in the mess and those who have found the way out in Christ.

We are living in a little flat here in Hesed. I say little because our flat includes a kitchen, living room, bedroom, and entry way for a total of 476 sq. ft. with the 10.6 x 12.6 living room and 10.6 X 8.6 bedroom being the largest. The 8'6" bedroom width would have matched the 12.6 living room but it had to make way for the 3 foot 6 inch wide bathroom. If we reverse the letters of the city where we live to 5-4-3-2-1 it becomes antap and is the capital here in one of the most difficult places in Hesed to live. It has over 3 million people and the traffic in antap is like no other place we have ever been, with the streets loud, chaotic, highly congested with the horns of rikshaws, taxis, cars, trucks, and bicycles constantly blustering the air, with people everywhere. It's not nice. My biggest problem right now is finding a peaceful and quiet place to read and talk to the LORD which He is showing me to be our little flat even with the yelling and shouting of neighborhood noise coming through the windows and the walls.

By living in a neighborhood that can only be called lower class, we are definitely discovering a part of life on the other side of what we've known before. However for my wife Laura, it just seems like another day. When I met Laura back in 1981 she had just come from the Philippines where she had been living in a bamboo hut along with a family of Maguindanao people. As Laura is what is called a gifted person in language, she learned 4 languages in her first term on the field. I failed my first test, passed my second one, and finally got by with Endaw kabpowang? Endaw kabpun! And then gnini ngala nangka, which together means, "How are you?" and "I'm fine. What's your name?" Laura is now learning the language here in Hesed as though it was her native tongue and she had been asleep for awhile.

The large pastor's promotional meeting we spoke about in our last letter went very well and we will be having the follow-up TTW, Teacher Training Workshop, with people from these pastor's congregations whom we will train to teach the literacy classes. Laura will be teaching the 5 steps of the TTW in the local language. We will then have 3 more promotional meetings in different parts of the country to help pastors understand what we are doing. So we are busy. My delight is watching my wife teach the literacy methodology we use. She hit a home run a couple of weeks ago in our first TTW. Best I have ever seen her speak and she did it with ease and authority.

I am at a time in life when it is just a great joy to draw near to Christ and have Him show me 'what's new.' Yesterday it was seeing one of our most well-known verses from the Sermon on the Mount in Mt. 5:43-44, take on very practical form for our literacy program. "You have heard it said, 'You shall love your neighbor,' and hate your enemy." "But I say to you, love your enemies..." Oh yes that is one we have all struggled with. Today in Hesed, things are not peaceful. The social order is very difficult. Christians in particular are being persecuted. The largest group in the country is

being told by the PM that they are the root of their country and there should be no other form of faith. So what do we do? To put this into our literacy context, we train our teachers that they must love those who are not Christians, and in the past have even been their enemies. And so they must humble themselves to teach the illiterate majority how to read and write. What do Hindus and Muslims need? They need time. Hello, what did I say? I said they need time. Not just 5 minutes or 10 minutes here and there, but 2 hours a day, 5 days a week, for 4 months, they must see Christ in their literacy teacher. This is what we teach. The nonbelieving student must see Jesus in their literacy teacher and how they are loving the students by becoming their servants.

As Laura and I walk out from our little neighborhood flat on our way to the main street, we smile and say 'hello,' or 'hi, how are you?' to kids or to adults, and this has caught some neighbors by surprise. But others are beginning to smile in return. It would be a mistake if I did not mention that we recently received a \$23,400 gift to our literacy program to help in buying the primers for the students. Wow! That is sweet. And the donor even made our son David pledge not to tell his mom and dad who gave the money. I think that is addressed in Mt. 6:1-4.

May the Lord bless you all for your prayers and your financial support. It's been kind of fun in writing this letter today. Pray for us. It's not easy over here and it seems spiritual warfare has been designated by Satan especially for those two missionaries trying to teach people how to read and write in Hesed. Well, I'm pretty sure we are in the right place, but it's not easy. Still as always in remembering that it is all, For Him, a smile comes back to our faces.

For Him,

Rick and Laura Leatherwood

Kairos International

PROPERTY REPORT

FPC October Property Report:



-We had to have the big roof top ac units worked on. One unit had a leak and needed refilled with

refrigerant and stop leak and the ac thermostat was replaced for a total of \$1,152.00.

-The two lights over the gravel parking lot were replaced for \$365.00.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda L Smith, FPC Property Chairman

FINANCE REPORT

Church Account Balances:

As of Tuesday, September 24, the balance in the church checking account is \$3,709.17.

The line of credit balance (what we owe) is zero.

The other account balances are:

SCRIP: \$1,510.44

Savings Account: \$1,500.05

The Women's Ministry balance is now \$0.00. Earlier this summer, Session approved a motion to transfer the balance in the Women's Ministry account to the Evangelism and Outreach committee to be used to support mission projects. This transfer has occurred. I will close the Women's Ministry account the first week of October.

Keith Hare, FPC Finance Chairman

PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Our Pastor Nominating Committee has been serving the church for almost two years now. In that time we have reviewed over 150 pastor profiles. We have spoken with a few candidates. We have been required to change forms many times. We have investigated other pathways to attract candidates, but God has not yet sent us the Pastor He is calling to our church.

This summer we had a very dry spell in receiving Minister Profiles and believe it is the computer catching up with the process of matching churches and pastors. We are

hopeful we will be able to actively communicate with more candidates this fall.

In the meantime, we are thankful for the stability we have had with Pastor Jesse. As a congregation, please be in prayer asking our God to send the pastor He is calling for us. May we, His church, continue to be faithful and share the love of Jesus with each other and our community.

May the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

- Submitted by Gaye Gibson on behalf of the PNC

ADULT BIBLE CLASS

Do you view the events of the end of the age through the eyes of fear or through the eyes of faith and hope?

In this video Bible study, Max Lucado provides a wise and reassuring overview of what God's word has to say on the topic of end times—so that you can be prepared, not scared.



Why think about the end times at all? Why occupy your thoughts with the "not yet" when you have enough to deal with in the "right now"? The answer is simple: because Jesus focused on the end times. So, if Jesus made the end times a priority, it only makes sense that his followers would as well.

God has told us what to expect from the end times not to scare you but to prepare you. He is like a pilot on the intercom telling the passengers about impending turbulence. A good pilot keeps his travelers informed. Your good Father does the same!

This adult Bible class, facilitated by Ed Jobes, started 9/22 and runs through October. Please join us! (This class will be available both in person and on Zoom.)



Y-HEALTHY BACKPACK PROGRAM



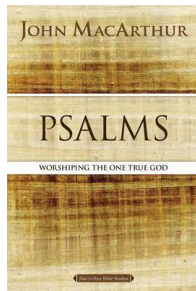
The program is 100% moved to its new warehouse location on Swans Rd. First Pres is still actively participating in food packing and food delivery. If you

are interested in participating in a Community Packing Party please sign up at the link below.

<https://signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/10C084FABA922A0F9C61-50942615-ymca>

GOOD MORNING BIBLE STUDY

The Good Morning Bible meets on Thursday mornings from 10-12 in the Gold Circle Room as they continue their study of The Word in the Book of Psalms. Please see Linda Smith for any questions. This Bible Study is open to all and we'd love to have you join us in fellowship and prayer!



A Park Full of Presbyterians! (Rotary Park, Newark)



On Sunday, September 15th, we joined with other area churches for Presbyterians in the Park and an all church picnic.

It was a sweet time of worship and fellowship. Thank you to Tara

Lewellen and Rick Black for leading us in worship. Rev. Todd Tracy led

us in a time of prayer for Pastor Jesse Ryals as this was his last service with us. We thanked and celebrated Jesse with a cake.



The Good Morning Bible Study took some time on September 12th, to celebrate together the milestone birthday of Gaye Gibson!



CHURCH LIFE

Upcoming Events in Church Life include:

- 10/20 - Packing trick or treat bags during the Adult Bible Study (Sunday School) hour
- 10/25 – DNA Safe Trick Or Treat on the Square, 4-7pm

"Cast your cares on the Lord and he will sustain you; he will never let the righteous be shaken."
Psalm 55:22

