

The Presby Press

First Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
West Carrollton, Ohio



August happenings

The month of August seems to have changed over the last many years. No longer the lazy days of summer, August is filled with far more than the county fair. For example, school systems begin again in August, getting a strong start in the year's learning before the Labor Day Weekend break.

Here at First Presbyterian Church, we are, also, gearing up a bit more in August than the early part of the summer. Here are a couple of the activities that are happening this month:

Work Camp to North Carolina

Seven members and friends of WCFP travel to Cedar Island, North Carolina to help finish the rebuilding of a United Methodist parsonage (manse). Their time away will be filled with hard work, good fellowship, worship and lots of fun! Work camp volunteers will be leading worship on August 15th as they share their mission experience with us.

Relay for Life

WCFP hosts our first team for

Thursday Morning Bible Study Returns!

1st & 3rd Thursdays per
month

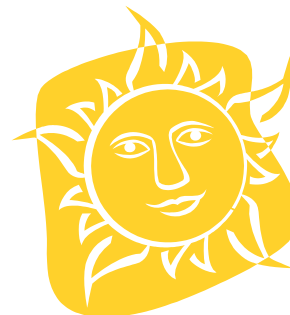
10:00 am — 12 noon

Begins September 16th

the Relay for Life fund-raiser of the American Cancer Society. Team members will walk the track of WC High School in shifts to raise money for research and treatment and raise awareness of the dangers of the disease. Rev. Doris will be one of the survivors to speak during the opening ceremonies. The first lap will be walked by survivors including several members of WCFP.

Dayton Dragons Game

See page 4 for information.



Rev. Whitaker teaching PCUSA History & Polity at UTS

Rev. Doris Arnett Whitaker will serve as adjunct faculty at United Theological Seminary during the first two weeks in August. She will be teaching Presbyterian History & Polity for Masters students at the seminary.

This two-hour course fulfills the denominational requirement of those seeking ordination in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) as Minister of Word and Sacrament. The class is also designed to prepared students to take the mandated ordination exams.

The course is scheduled for August 2-12, 9-12 noon, Monday through Thursday.

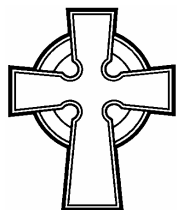
Rev. Doris will continue to be available for the regular work of the parish during the afternoons and evenings. Please see the posted schedule for details.

Volume 2004, Issue 3
August 2004

Special points of interest:

- *General Assembly convenes*
- *Pastors Page*
- *Session & Committee Reports*
- *August worship schedule and worship volunteers*
- *July & August Birthdays*
- *...and much more!*

From the Pastor....



A typical portion of any regular Session meeting includes a Moderator's Report. This report ordinarily includes information that is expected to be recorded into the permanent record of the congregation—

information such as home communions served, funerals and weddings, etc.

During this last Session meeting, I shared my ministry goals for this coming program year. These are goals that are not only appealing to me, but ones that I believe come out of the congregation's Church Information Form written during the search process.

Ministry goals for 2004-05

- **Creative, meaningful worship experiences—** Worship is central to being a Christian and to all that we do at WCFP. We don't teach Sunday School with integrity unless we first learn about the faith in worship. We don't go on work camps in different states, unless we first have responded to Christ's call to discipleship proclaimed in worship. Through study and research, I hope to plan worship services that are fully based in the theological groundings of the Reformed faith, but may be more appealing to new visitors and our younger members and children.
- **Relationships with a focus on hospitality and welcome; getting to know members and friends beyond the typical Sunday morning encounters.** One of the joys of an installed pastorate is that I am free to get to know people for the long-term. Please don't wait for me to visit with you in the hospital or during a crisis—invite me over for an informal chat and cup of coffee (okay, the cup of coffee is not mandatory!)

- **Assisting the congregation of WCFP in discerning the next steps in ministry—**This has already begun with conversations during Session meetings and in recent sermon themes. For example, celebrating the abundance that God offers us—living in the fullness of life; and what it means to be Mary who sits at the feet of Jesus as a disciple, listening to everything he has to say, rather than worrying and fretting over all the details, like Martha.

Gratefully, I don't have to work on these goals by myself. As a member of the community of faith, I invite all of us to consider becoming involved in these goals for the next 12 months. Together, God can do great things through us!!

Pastor's Schedule

Although each week brings its own set of priorities, the following is the standard weekly church schedule for Rev. Doris.

Monday—working from home office

Tuesday—mornings in the church study

Wednesday—library and visitation

Thursday—every other Thursday morning at the church

Friday—day of Sabbath rest

Of course, this "normal" schedule can be changed at the last minute due to appointments, meetings, emergencies, etc.

An updated Weekly Schedule is posted outside the pastor's study and also, at the secretary's desk. But if you aren't at the church and need to locate the pastor, feel free to call any of these numbers & leave a message:

WCFP 859-4478

Miami Presbytery 258-8118

Whitaker Home 275-8419

Email address—

doris.whitaker@miamipresbytery.org

The Presby Press

First Presbyterian Church
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Pastor—The Rev. Doris Arnett Whitaker
Church Secretary—Jennifer Mason

Web Site—www.1stpresbywc.org

Email address— 1stpresbywc@siscom.net

Session News

The Session met for a regular meeting on Thursday, June 15, 2004. Devotions were based on Luke 10:38-42 and the discussion included our tendencies to worry and be distracted about the details of ministry, all the while failing to hear the message of Jesus.

Much of the meeting dealt with the re-organization of ministry teams of Session. The Session assignments are as follows:

Christian Education—

Zane Reichbauer, chair

Lois Swart

Pre-School Advisory Sub Committee—

Judy Tysseling, liaison

Member Care—

Barb Rabold, chair

Patrick Ethier (communications)

Mission & Stewardship—

Lois Swart, co-chair for mission

Bill Gillman, co- chair for stewardship

Worship & Music—

Patrick Ethier, chair

Zane Reichbauer

All ministry teams and committees are in need of volunteers to assist with the ministry here at WCFP. If you have an interest in any of the above committees, please feel free to contact the chair and offer your services.

The next meeting is Thursday, August 19, 2004.

Mark your calendars

“Rally Day”

September 12, 2004

June 2004 Financial Report Summary*

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| Total Receipts | \$4,853.00 |
| Total Disbursements | \$4,343.32 |
| Ending Balance | \$35,129.07 |
| Designated Checking Funds** | \$3,545.95 |
| Amount Needed per Week to meet budget | \$1,423.08 |
| Weekly Average Received year to date | \$1,237.30 |

*pre-school not included in this account summary

**includes funds designated for roof, work camp, etc.

The Session noted that although June was a positive month, received pledges to date are lower than expected—expenses are being covered through savings and higher than expected non-pledged offerings.

August Worship

August 1 — *18th Sunday of Ordinary Time*

“The Good Life”

Hosea 11:1-11

Luke 12:13-21

August 8th — *19th Sunday of Ordinary Time*

“Traveling Light”

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Luke 12:32-40

August 15th — *20th Sunday of Ordinary Time*

“Unwrapping the Presence”

Summer Work Camp Volunteers

leading worship

August 22nd — *21st Sunday of Ordinary Time*

“Standing Up Straight”

Jeremiah 1:4-10

Luke 13:10-17

August 29th — *22nd Sunday of Ordinary Time*

“Stopping The Leak”

Jeremiah 2:4-13

Luke 14:1, 7-14

Serving the Church In August

August 1

Greeter: Sandy France
Reader: Lew Montgomery

August 8

Greeter: Linda Snell
Reader: Zane Reichbauer

August 15

Greeter: Pat Trubee
Reader: Ernie Schmolinsky

August 22

Greeter: Margaret Mowery
Reader: James McCloud

August 29

Greeter: Linda Snell
Reader: Linda Snell

July & August Birthdays!

July 1 James McCloud
July 11 Tom Foster
July 11 Sarah Schmolinsky
July 12 Gretchen Foster
July 17 Mike Buker
July 27 Lew Montgomery
July 28 Staci Montgomery
July 30 Evan Janes
July 30 Joe Loeb

Dayton Dragons Game



Sunday, August 15th, 2004 at
2:00 p.m.

Opponent: West Michigan
Whitecaps

3rd Annual Baseball Outing

We still have a few seats left if still interested
Tickets are \$9.00
Please see or contact Susan Bogan for more details
at 866-1871

We will be having grilled hot dogs, metts, and
brats (chili, cheese, and onions) also available,
baked beans, potato salad, veggies & dip, and
chips. Drinks will also be provided.

Please sign up if you would like to attend the
luncheon.

Even if you are not attending the ball game
Please join us for lunch!!!!

August 1 Eric Loeb
August 1 Linda Snell
August 8 Dottie Brodbeck
August 13 Karren Burnhardt
August 17 Eric Finnell
August 18 David Schmolinsky
August 21 Carl Githens
August 29 Alex Ethier



A Special Thank You

Dear Friends:

Ruth wanted to post a note in Presby Press from both of us to say how much we appreciate all of you.

Dale: You have helped us face a very difficult time. This particular journey is not over but we think we have passed through the worst of it. You have supported and sustained us with prayer, kind words, cards, meals, visits and by making sure we knew you were hoping and praying for us. Every bit of that support has been felt, appreciated and needed by each and both of us. I doubt that words can adequately convey how much we love and appreciate you. There have been many fears and concerns along the way and the help and support we have received has helped us face this challenge. What can I say to you? "... The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace. . . ." (Numbers 6:24-26) Amen.

Ruth: Dale has pretty much said it all. All I can say from the deepest part of my heart is Thank you for everything you all have said and done. We never dreamed our lives would take this direction but to be surrounded by so many friends who have helped us thru this has been wonderful. As said previously our journey is not over but it is my feeling the worst is behind us and with God's help and your prayers and thoughts I will make it the rest of the way with Dale and my family and church family by my side. Thank you again

Dale: When we met with the surgeon he confirmed that the modified radical mastectomy was a success. On the day of the surgery he thought things looked good as far as the naked eye could see. When we met with him after that he had the biopsy and microscopic examination results that indicated clearly that there were no cancer cells in the edge around the tumor. That is as strong a positive signal as the doctors can give us.

What lies ahead is four more courses of chemotherapy, five weeks of daily radiation treatments and five years of estrogen suppressing medication.

One of the things I was most afraid of was that I would fail my faith. This terrible experience has been the most faith affirming course of events of my life to date. God has been with us all the way.

Sandy felt assured by God before the surgery that Ruth would be fine. Some of the rest of you probably felt that too. So did I. As the surgery date approached I sensed it. I think it was not until after the surgery that Ruth felt it clearly as well. Thanks be to God from whom all blessings flow. "... My spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me. . . ." (Luke 1: 46-49)

Yours in Christ.

Presbyterian Women

Food for thought:
Enjoy the rest of the
remaining Summer!



There will be **no** Esther Circle meeting in August.

We will be meeting on Saturday, September 4th at 10:30 a.m. to prepare the food for the St. Paul's luncheon. Ladies, bring Brownies to bag. We will be meeting on Tuesday, September 7th at 10:00 a.m. and carpooling to St. Paul's arriving at 10:30 a.m. We will serve lunch at 12:00 p.m. Our menu will be as follows:

- Barbecue Sandwiches
- Potato Salad
- Baked Beans
- Brownies
- Fresh Fruit

If you are interested in helping circle with the luncheon, please see a circle member.

Upcoming events:

Tuesday, September 21st at 6:30 p.m. will be our Salad Supper. Bring a salad to share and a friend. Enjoy an evening of fellowship and entertainment with the WCHS Vocal Group.

First Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
125 Wilson Park Drive
West Carrollton, OH 45449

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Dayton, OH
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Return Service Requested

**Look for us on the
Web at
www.1stpresbywc.org**

Mission Statement

The mission of First Presbyterian Church is to promote meaningful worship by providing spiritual direction within our church and community. We will advance spiritual development by proclaiming God's Good News and we will sustain vibrant fellowship through strengthening our relationships with God and each other.

—Adopted June 2000
