

# The Presby Press

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



## Rev. Whitaker to serve as commissioner to 216th General Assembly

One of four commissioners from the Miami Presbytery, our own pastor will be traveling to Richmond, Virginia at the end of June as a commissioner to the 216th General Assembly. This year's theme is *"That All May Have Life in Fullness."* (John 10:10b)

The Rev. Doris Arnett Whitaker is one of two ministers sent by the presbytery and she will serve on the National Issues Committee. This committee will be considering matters related to: the Church's effort to combat racism, legalization program for immigrants, changing structure of family life, the Church's response to the Patriot Act, plus much more.

Other GA committees will be addressing other thorny issues in the world and in the church — including war and peace, the role of gays and lesbians in church and society, abortion, decreasing church membership and dramatically declining budgets — all addressed through the lenses of faith.

Once the committees have completed their particular work, Rev.

Whitaker and the hundreds of other commissioners will join together in plenary sessions, debating, studying and praying together so that the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is guided into the next year of our future.

Along with all our commissioners, Rev. Whitaker will covet our prayers that she will be open to God's Spirit moving among the Assembly and give wisdom and guidance to all the business of the church.



## Pastor was installed on June 6

The Rev. Doris Arnett Whitaker was installed as Pastor of First Presbyterian Church on Sunday, June 6, 2004 at 3:00 pm. The worship service, conducted by members of The Miami Presbytery, included the presbytery Vice Moderator, Elder Julie Preisser, and Elder Dale Hunt, chair of the PNC.

The installation finalized the search for a new pastor that began in the fall of 2001. Rev. Whitaker is certainly no stranger to First Church as she served as Interim Pastor during this time. During this past year, she served as the Associate Executive Presbyter for Pastoral Care for the Miami Presbytery. Rev. Whitaker will continue to serve as the Stated Clerk for the Miami Presbytery.

The Pastor Nominating Committee hosted a reception of delicious refreshments immediately following the worship service.

Volume 2004, Issue 2  
Early Summer 2004

### Special points of interest:

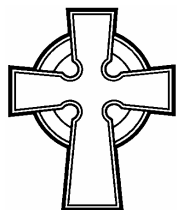
- *General Assembly convenes*
- *Pastors Page*
- *Session & Committee Reports*
- *June worship schedule and worship volunteers*
- *June Birthdays*
- *...and much more!*

**Summer Hours began  
June 6th**

**10:00 am Worship**

Church School classes will reconvene on September 12, 2004

## From the Pastor....



The boxes are still sitting in the middle of the pastor's study and the books aren't organized on the shelves, but ministry has started!

I am thrilled to be back here at First Presbyterian Church—not just as a temporary pastor—but as a pastor who is invited and encouraged to begin looking to our future together.

Parish ministry always brings with it some necessary tasks for each day: studying and praying in preparation for the sermon, visiting folks in the hospital or in their homes, meeting with the Session or Deacons. This is true for installed pastors and interim pastors alike.

However, one of the exciting things of being the installed pastor is that I can think and plan ahead. I'm not limited by time—if something doesn't happen in the life of the church today, I still have tomorrow and the tomorrow after that. This may not seem like a big deal for some, but for someone who has little patience, it is a great lesson in relying on God's guidance and care.

The great potential of faithful ministry here at WCFP is limitless! There is so much that we can accomplish together that the potential can be almost overwhelming. But when we want to see major steps immediately, we can easily become discouraged and believe that maybe it's not going to happen after all.

It may sound a bit odd, but I will consider the cicadas to be a wonderful memory of beginning my pastorate here at First Church. You may wonder why I'm thinking fondly of a bizarre-looking, decibel-crashing insect that only an 8-year old can truly love. But their cycle of life may be an image for ministry that we may not want to dismiss.

These bugs enter human life in the billions and when they come, it's impossible to ignore them.

They come to life only to procreate and to lie dormant for another seventeen years.

Their lives are focused on the immediate life given and yet, the fullness of life is not known until the next generation carries on with the family tradition of re-entering human life in a noisy and messy abundance.

We must, indeed, pay attention to the details of today's life together as a community of faith. We are called to care for one another, to welcome the stranger, to feed those who are hungry. These are very definite tasks of ministry for today.

But we are also called to look to the horizon in our faith—to live as if we have one foot in this world and our other foot in a next. We are called to consider what ministries God is calling this congregation to do next year, in five years and yes, even in seventeen years. And I am honored and humbled to be your pastor at this time and place.

Together, we will try to hear God's voice of call to us and this congregation. Together, we will dream about the future of this community and our portion in it. Together, we can look toward a healthy, positive and faith-filled future.

### Pastor's Schedule

"Normal" schedules may not be established yet, but Rev. Whitaker is trying to work out a standard routine between her work here at WCFP and her work as the Stated Clerk of the Miami Presbytery. (she is part-time at both locations)

An updated Weekly Schedule is posted outside the pastor's study and also on 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](mailto:doris.whitaker@miamipresbytery.org)

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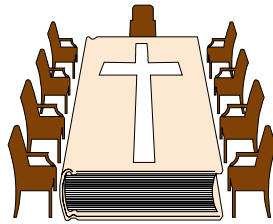
Pastor—The Rev. Doris Arnett Whitaker  
Church Secretary—Jennifer Mason

Web Site—[www.1stpresbywc.org](http://www.1stpresbywc.org)

Email address— [1stpresbywc@siscom.net](mailto:1stpresbywc@siscom.net)

## Session News

The Session met for a regular meeting on Thursday, May 27, 2004. Devotions and the Order of the Day centered around 2 Corinthians 5:16-21 and what it means to be a new creation in Christ.



As this was Rev. Whitaker's first formal meeting with the Session, much of the meeting was focused on reports of the past year in ministry and immediate needs for the summer.

The next meeting is Thursday, June 17, 2004 with the current Session and all new officers attending.

## Early Summer Worship

**June 13** — *11th Sunday of Ordinary Time*  
1 Kings 21:1-10, 15-21a      Luke 7:36-8:3

**June 20** — *12th Sunday of Ordinary Time*  
Sacrament of Holy Communion  
Ordination & Installation of Officers  
Call to Prayer for the General Assembly  
1 Kings 19:1-15a      Luke 8:26-39

**June 27** — *13th Sunday of Ordinary Time*  
Rev. Whitaker attending General Assembly  
Elder Michael Buker preaching

**July 4** — *14th Sunday of Ordinary Time*  
Rev. Whitaker on vacation  
Elder Michael Buker preaching

**July 11** — *15th Sunday of Ordinary Time*  
Sacrament of Holy Communion  
"Celebration of Small Church Ministry"  
Colossians 1:1-14      Luke 10:25-37

## Relay for Life

*Relay For Life*, a community-wide event for raising funds and awareness for those who struggle against cancer, is coming to town.

Originally created in 1985 and organized through the American Cancer Society, *Relay for Life* is an overnight event to represent the fact that cancer never sleeps. Team members demonstrate their support for those they love by providing continuous walkers during the all-night event.

The evening begins by a Survivors Walk when cancer survivors and their families are invited to participate in a victory lap.

W. Carrollton is hosting our own *Relay for Life* on August 6-7, 2004. The Rev. Doris Arnett Whitaker, a seven year cancer survivor, herself, is serving as the team captain for the WCFP *Relay For Life* team.

Please consider walking with our team or at least, pledging generously to a team member when asked. Look for more information in weekly bulletins or call Rev. Whitaker for more information.

## Serving the Church In June

June 6

Greeter: Pat Trubee  
Reader: Zane Reichbauer

June 13

Greeter: Gail Birden  
Reader: Ernie Schmolinsky

June 20

Greeter: Janet Loeb  
Reader: James McCloud

June 27

Greeter: Sanford France  
Reader: Lew Montgomery

## June Calendar

June 6 Summer Hours begin 10:00 a.m. Worship  
3:00 p.m. Installation of Doris Arnett Whitaker

June 8 4:00 p.m. Presbytery at Westminster

June 9 6:00 p.m. VBS at Central Presbyterian

June 10 7:00 p.m. Officer Training

June 13 10:00 a.m. Worship

June 14 Flag Day

June 16 6:00 p.m. VBS

June 17 9:00-4:00 Work Camp Garage Sale  
7:00 p.m. Session

June 18 9:00-4:00 Work Camp Garage Sale

June 19 9:00-4:00 Work Camp Garage Sale

June 20 10:00 a.m. Worship  
Installation of Officers  
Father's Day

June 23 6:00 p.m. VBS

June 26 General Assembly convenes

June 27 10:00 a.m. Worship

## June Birthdays!

June 2 Natala Siefer

June 4 Marti Richey

June 15 Orville Tysseling

June 27 Scott Ebert

June 27 Christopher Meyer

June 28 Joanne Luitich

June 29 Bill Swart



## With our Church Family



Our prayers and thoughts remain with Ruth Hunt as she anticipates surgery and further treatment and with Helga Kordecki as she recovers from recent surgery.

## Vacation Bible School

June 9, 16, 23 & 30

VBS is designed to allow children (preschool-grade 5) and the youth and adults who will lead and guide them, to explore the wonderful world of mission. Throughout the four evenings "God Calls Us: Around the World in 4 Days" children will:

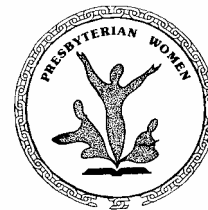
- \*Learn Bible stories
- \*Hear letters written by people from a variety of mission sites
- \*Sample customs and cultures of other countries through music, food, crafts, games and language.
- \*Increase their love for and awareness of people around the world.

We will be joining with Central Presbyterian Church again this year and will meet at their church from 6:00 until 8:00.

This is an exciting curriculum that will take many hands to make it successful. Please check your availability on those nights and if you are able to help we will certainly find a niche where you'll enjoy sharing your talents.

## Presbyterian Women

Food for thought:  
You can't get ahead if you spend your time trying to get even.



On Tuesday, June 29th, at 11:00 a.m. we will be meeting at Josie Pierce's home for a salad luncheon. Bring your favorite salad.

We will be carpooling from the church at 10:30 a.m.

Lesson # 6

Devotions-Janet Loeb

### Work Camp '04

Well we finally have a have a destination and date for Work Camp this summer. How about a week at the beach ... with a little work thrown in? We will be working at Cedar Island, NC. This is the southern end of the Cedar Island – Ocracoke ferry. We will be working on the parsonage of the local UMC which was blown away during last years hurricanes. We will be onsite working August 2-6. Due to the distance of the trip we will probably leave Saturday July 31, and be back Sunday August 8.

If you are interested in going please contact Mike Buker we will be happy to have you along. It sounds like we will be doing inside finishing work, plaster and painting, but that could change by the time we arrive. We just ask that have an open mind, be ready to listen to and follow instructions and be ready to have fun.

The Garage Sale is rapidly approaching. Set up will be June 13-16 and the sale June 17-19 9:00 – 4:00 each day. After June 6<sup>th</sup> we will be happy to accept your donations at the church or come get them as needed. Your quality donations are always appreciated.

### Habitat for Humanity

HfH is doing a build this summer in West Carrollton. This all began with a blitz build during Memorial Day week. Your help is needed and appreciated to make this build a home for the family. Drive by the site at Main Street and Burns Avenue and see the progress. If you have the time they will be working through the summer Tuesday through Saturday during the day and Thursday evenings. Locate the site foreman and they will be happy to find you a job.

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

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*Look for us on the  
Web at  
[www.1stpresbywc.org](http://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

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