The MESSENGER

June 2022

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Staff

the Rev. Jeffrey Lang

Amy

Director of Music and Organist

Kate

Choir Director and Vocalist

Paisley

Videographer

Mava

Vocalist

Deborah

Administrative Assistant

the Rev. Dr. Dawn Vagle

Min. of Congregational Care

Logan

Vocalist

Items for the **July/August** edition of this newsletter are accepted in the church office through **9:00AM**, **Monday**, **June 27**, **2022**.

Early submissions are always joyfully accepted!

Submitted information will be edited for clarity, accuracy, and length.



The first Sunday in June features several noteworthy items.

This day marks fifty days from the date of Easter Sunday. Each Pentecost Sunday we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit descending (in a mighty rush of wind and flame) which came to inspire our proclamation of the risen Christ. The Spirit is the "unseenness" of God working among us.

June 5th is also the last day of choir season. We thank them for their many contributions to Worship service and look forward to their return in September.

As summer takes center stage please worship with us whenever you are able! Most Sundays we will gather in the sanctuary. Once or twice, when the weather is particularly perfect, we may relocate to the front lawn. In this case we will always announce the change several days in advance so that you can bring a lawn chair or wear a hat for shade. Please enjoy a healthy and wonderful summer season!



Beginning Sunday, June 12, going through September 5, worship will begin at 10:00AM. We anticipate several outdoor worship services now through the fall. Weather permitting, Coffee Fellowship will be held on the driveway throughout the summer.

A Reformed understanding of worship is that it ought to be guided and bounded by scripture and include several Biblically prescribed elements: the preaching of the word, the celebration of the sacraments of baptism and the Lord's Supper, prayer, and singing.

Singing is one of those prescribed elements. Unlike certain other of the world's great religious traditions, music and singing are essential components of Jewish and Christian worship.

The psalmist wrote: "Let us enter

His presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him in song." Psalm 95:2

—Diana Butl

The Apostle Paul: "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God." Colossians 3:16

Singing in community with others brings people together as children of God as they sing out their gratitude, praise, and hope to the God of love. 'Psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs' are the poetry of the soul that gives voice to the longing of our hearts and our highest ideals. Hymns connect us to the past and accompany us as we journey into the future.

Diana Butler Bass offered: "Recent studies of people suffering memory loss showed that even if they have forgotten everything else, many still remembered hymns. When researchers played "Amazing Grace" to elderly patients, their mental faculties increased and they could often sing along. For those raised in church, the songs they learned as children were among the very last memories they carried to their death. Music shaped the journey of their lives.

In the early fifth century, Saint Augustine said that singing and love were intimately connected. When we sing, our words of praise actually transform into love; song opens our souls to

their deepest affections. In the Methodist church balcony, I experienced love — the love of God, my mother and my faith inheritance — in ways that transcended words, in ways that could only be communicated in music. And in

nursing homes, the elderly may no longer remember names, but they appear to remember love. Indeed, as a theologian friend of mine says, "We sing our lives." If Saint Augustine was right, we also sing our loves.

And love, just as the apostle Paul once said, remains until the end."

-Diana Butler Bass, "My Advent calendar: December 5," *Sojo.net*, December 5, 2008.

Hymns and psalms connect us to one another as we sing out. The singing of the church militant on earth is joined with the church's songs in heaven. "And then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea. They sang: 'Blessing and honor and glory and power belong to the one sitting on the throne and to the Lamb forever and ever.'" Revelation 5:13

"The *haenyeo* – female divers who have been harvesting seafood off the coast of Korea since the 17th century – know the importance of exhaling before inhaling.

In her recent novel, *The Island of Sea Women*, Lisa See introduces us to the life of the courageous *haenyeo* through the all-female diving collectives of Jeju Island and protagonist Young sook. In this culture, while the men stay home to care for the children, the women spend their days diving. Sometimes 20 meters under the icy ocean waters, they hold their breath for several minutes at a time while searching for abalone, conch or octopus.

When the divers finally emerge for air, they first exhale, each emitting a distinctive cry, or *sumbi-*



The Deacons offer prayer, companionship, rides, or meals, but don't always know where care is needed. If you know of a need (your own or another's), call the church office or any of our Deacons: Susan A, Marianna B, Jane J, and Susy S serving as Moderator.

William B Levi C Dottie E Fern E Sarah S H Jackie O Carolyn S







Mark your calendars for our October homecoming service on Sunday, October 9!

A homecoming service is an occasion for church members, less than active members of the church, and those who've moved away, to gather together for worship and fellowship. Such services are often followed by lunch 'on the grounds.' Our homecoming service will also be an opportunity to showcase the renovated sanctuary for the community.

Worship will be held at 10:30 AM Sunday, October 9. We plan on having the Rev. Dr. Bruce Archibald and his wife in worship with us that day, along with a 'guest of honor.' The office will be sending out announcements and requesting RSVPs for a pig roast luncheon to follow the morning worship service, provided by Vonderhaar's Catering. Seating for lunch will be limited to 75 people, so make sure you get in your RSVP. There will be no charge for lunch. Free will offerings will be accepted to defray the cost of the meal.

Don't forget to mark your calendar for October 9th, RSVP for the pig roast, invite a friend, and join the extended church family in a special service of worship.

Mission in



Your generosity provided 38 pounds of food and personal care items to Valley Interfaith Community Resource Center, in May.

Instead of our normal June Food Offering, we will use our Saturday, June 18 *Fill the Glendale Village Square with Food* for both events.

In March, you Mission committee approved donations (checks) to these organizations

Matthew 25 Ministries	
(for Ukraine Disaster Relief)	\$1,486.00
Church World Services	
(Blanket Fund)	\$530.00
One Great Hour of Sharing	
(PC USA)	\$332.00
Total	\$2,336,00



Fill the Glendale Village Square with Food

Saturday, June 18 9:00AM-1:00PM

Drop off your donations next to the Train Depot in the Village Square.

<u>Canned foods</u>—fruit, vegetables, soup, tuna, chicken, peanut butter, jelly ...

<u>Boxed foods</u>—cereal, pasta, noodles, crackers,

mac-n-cheese, rice, ...

<u>Personal hygiene</u>—liquid bath soap, shampoo, toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant, shaving cream

Household cleaning—dish detergent, floor cleaner, laundry detergent

<u>Paper products</u>—bathroom tissue, paper towels, napkins, facial tissue ...

At the close of this event, your donations will be shared with Valley Interfaith Community Resource Center and Princeton Closet. Don't have time to park? Helpers will be on hand to gratefully accept your drive-through donations. Don't like to shop? Cash or checks

are gladly accepted. *Not available on June 18?* You can drop off donations at the church any time and we will see that they are added to our collection on the Square.

This event generally totals over

\$5,000.00 in food, personal care items, paper products, cleaning products, cash or checks.

Believe it or not, this is our 12^h year for this Mission Outreach event.

Let's make it a great one!

Motion



25th Annual Golf Outing in memory of Sylvia and Tom Allen Saturday, September 17

Watch your weekly bulletin monthly newsletter for more details as they become available.





Mission committee members tour Matthew25Ministries and PLAN of S.W. Ohio

On Tuesday, May 17, Susan, Dave, Peter, Jerry, and Tom visited Matthew 25 Ministries for a tour of their 300,000 square foot facility in Blue Ash. The tour was conducted by Ms. Joodi Archer, Director of Community Relations. Matthew 25 has approximately 85 full time employees, and the rest of the workers are volunteers. All of the items in the buildings are 100% donations. They buy nothing. They ship all over the world and when they send a team of workers, those workers come from Matthew 25 employees. They also supply food items to 100+ food pantries in the Tri-State area. The tour lasted approximately an hour and a half. At the end of the tour we ate in the Matthew 25 cafeteria.

At 1:00PM, we visited PLAN of S.W. Ohio. PLAN is an acronym for Planned Lifetime Assistance Network. PLAN was started in 1998 and helps to provide a solution for who will care for a person with disabilities when their primary care giver passes on or can no longer do so. Dr. Stacy Martz, Executive Director, gave us a very detailed presentation of what they do and how they do it.. They currently have 100+ clients in S.W. Ohio receiving services from 6 professionals at PLAN. Their services are "tailor made" to the individual and there is no "one size fits all". There is a membership fee to join PLAN and they may see an individual once a year and another once per day. Fees are billed on an hourly basis.

We felt this was very informative. Anyone wanting information, please contact the Mission Committee.

Tom, chairperson

Mission Committee

From the Minister's Desk, continued from page 2

sori — a high-pitched, rhythmic whistle to expel carbon dioxide from the lungs. A deep intake of breath follows. ...

Young-sook's mother, the chief of her diving collective, tells her daughter, "I'm responsible for every woman's safe return to shore. I listen for the *sumbisori* of all women in our collective. Together our *sumbisori* create a song of the air and wind on Jeju. Our *sumbisori* is the innermost sound of the world. It connects us to the future and the past. Our *sumbisori* allows

us first to serve our parents and then our children.""—Gretchen E. Ziegenhals, "Singing the life-giving song of exhalation," FaithAndLeadership.com, June 25, 2019. faithandleadership.com.

Like the *haenyeo*, the diving women of Korea, we breathe in and out our fears and hopes as we sing. With 'psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs' we give voice to awe, gratitude, and praise to the God who gathers us safely to Himself and leads us on into His future. May you find occasions to 'make a joyful noise.'





Birthdays and Anniversaries

On Wednesday May 4, twenty-two members and friends of the church gathered at Vincenzo's for an evening of fun and fellow-

ship. The food was good and it was fun to share it with such a fine group.

Good or bad—your choice—the men added a little excitement to the evening, singing *Good*Hearted Woman. Performed

perhaps not as good as Waylon Jennings or Willie Nelson, but not too bad.

Another Fellowship Happening is being planned. Watch for details as they become available.

Men's Lunch

Wednesday, June 8



Skyline on Kemper Road is closed for renovation so, *until* further notice, the Men's Lunch will be held at Gold Star on Springfield Pike in Springdale.

All men are invited to gather for fellowship and good food. Fellowship begins when you arrive; lunch begins at 12:30PM.

Approximately 30 people gathered in the Sanctuary, May 15, to enjoy an organ recital performed by FPCG Organist and Director of Music, Amy. Titled *An afternoon with Bach and friend*, Amy presented several pieces by Johann Sebastian Bach, and one piece by his friend Dieterich Buxtehude.

This calendar is a living document subject to frequent changes.

Check the website for the most accurate calendar.
(firstpresbyterianglendale.org)

Please call the church office with calendar updates.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5 10:30AM- Worship Donuts and Coffee Fellowship	9:00AM- Session reports due	7	8 12:30PM- Men's Lunch at Gold Star 6:00PM- Session meeting	9	10	11
12 10:00AM- Worship Back-to-School offering	13	14 FLAG DAY	15	16	17	9:00AM- Fill the Glendale Village Square with Food (event ends at 1:00PM)
19 10:00AM- Worship Back-to-School offering Happy Father's Day	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 10:00AM- Worship	9:00AM- July/August Messenger items due	28	29	30		



First Presbyterian Church, Glendale 155 East Fountain Avenue Glendale, OH 45246

513-771-6195 glenpres@fuse.net firstpresbyterianglendale.org

the Reverend Jeffrey Lang

June 5—worship begins at 10:30AM

Sunday, June 12-Sunday, September 4 worship begins at 10:00AM

Church Office Hours

Monday, 9AM-3PM, Tuesday, 9AM-1PM
Wednesday, 9AM-1PM, Thursday, 9AM-3PM
The office is closed every Friday.

Shared with you in Christian love



Since the early 1800s various groups have observed a day to display the American flag. President Woodrow Wilson (in 1916) and Calvin Coolidge (in 1927) issued proclamations marking June 14 as National Flag Day. But it



wasn't until August 3, 1949, that Congress approved June 14 as a day of national observance. President Harry Truman signed it into law.

The American flag has changed designs more than any other flag in the world. In fact, the United States didn't have a standardized flag until 1912! And even after standardization, the flag changed three more times with the addition of new stars representing new states.



We pray a special blessing for our fathers and for the father-figures in our lives. He may never tell you the sacrifices he has made for your safety, health, and well-being because he expects nothing in return. His reward will always be your triumphs.