



First Presbyterian News

August 2017

401 Lincolnway East, Mishawaka, In. 46544

There is a *sermon talk back table* that takes place after worship, during fellowship, to share, encourage and gain from reflective questions about sermon. All are welcome to stay.

Join us in August as we start a series exploring the Apostle's Creed during services.

Fall Bible Study; This fall a new Bible study will take place on Wednesday evenings. More details will be included in the September newsletter, but keep Wednesdays open starting September 20th and going through October 25 (6 - 7:30 pm) Mark your calendar now!

We have a new organist, Brandon Holihan. He will be starting with us in late August; the September newsletter will share all about Brandon. We look forward to worshipping with him.
Thanks, Travis

NEWS FROM THE MAC Summer time with the MAC Pantry can be interesting; the number of clients served can be erratic some weeks. The reason for this is also interesting. It's always a joy to learn some have been able to find work, even if it is a low-paying job or even a temporary job. They will tell the staff they didn't need to visit the Pantry because they were able to manage without assistance. As to neighborhood children, part of summer programs sponsored by the Park Department can include lunch which is offered to the kids, along with a variety of activities.

Read on...On any given Pantry day, the picture can change. In late June, the carts were being prepared for the Tuesday night clients. As the carts were being made ready the shelves were noticeably empty of some items. The volunteers, having seen this situation before, were able to substitute other items so the Tuesday night session happened. That is when the call went out to the churches. The response was a blessing!!! Many thanks to our church family for stepping up and the shelves began to fill up.

Much of the food comes from the Food Bank; the remainder through the efforts of other entities, churches, individuals, service clubs, etc. in terms of food items and cash donations.

The Pantry and the member churches are gearing up for the School Supplies event. It seems as if the school year just ended and here we are; August already, The "Big Red Tub" will be 'resurrected' from its storage place and placed in the CE lobby. The Mission Committee is asking folks to help fill it through the next weeks. The list of suggestions comes from the teachers who know best what the children need. As is the past years, First Presbyterian donations will be delivered to the Battell Elementary school.

SCRAPBOOKING & CRAFTING CLUB with Brittany Rice

Only 4 more Friday evenings for 2017!!!!

We meet once a month in Fellowship hall from 6pm to 11pm to work on our various projects without the interruptions of phone, family or TV.

Bring any project you would like to work on, knit, paint, card making or signing!

A cost of \$5 includes set-up & tear down. Thank You, Brittany

Contact me at scrap.brittany@comcast.net **August 25th**

September 22nd October 27th and November 17th.

Church Picnic 10 am, August 27th at the Primmer's home!

Book Club will be back this fall...

Contact Judy Green (MTCGJAG@aol.com), if you have come across a good read. The club's list is ever changing and we are looking forward to a new year. We meet once a month to discuss and share how the book was enjoyed or not, Judy.

Our sharing basket in the lobby will leave at the end of this month. Thanks for sharing, it was great summer fun to explore new books from the many hands of our church family.

HELP NEEDED IN THE NURSERY Christian Education is in need of volunteers for the Toddler Room for the months of July, September, October, November and December. In the past it has worked very well for one person (or two can split a month) to volunteer for a month. It is probably the easiest job in the church.

A rocking chair is provided and there is a speaker so you can hear Pastor Travis' sermons. If a need arises for you to miss we have several people willing to switch. See me at church or call 276-3214 if you would be willing to fill in one of these months. Thank you, Darlene.

Do you like to learn new things?

Do you want to have new experiences?

Do you want to meet new "neighbors"?

An opportunity to do all these things is coming for FPC Mishawaka members on

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

11:30 Lunch at FPC Soup & sandwiches

12:15 Caravan to Cultural Center in South Bend

1-2:30 Tour Center with Director, Monica Tazlaff

Sip refreshments & discussion with Monica and other groups visiting the center

Return to FPC

This learning opportunity is an outgrowth of the early spring FPC discussion group on the book "Waking Up White" by Debbie Irving where Monica was a participant. Hoping many FPC members will take advantage of this opportunity to learn about the cultural history of our area, to engage in conversation with "new neighbors" and enjoy fellowship with fellow Christians (Monica's Friends Gathering will also be invited).

A future learning event will be planned to visit the Muslim Center in South Bend. Watch for details in FPC News, the Worship bulletin insert and perhaps an email.

If you have questions about this event, see or call Pam Camren, 231-8379 or 303-9343

Church Picnic 8/27 at 10am, at Primmer's home.

The annual clean up day in July was very FULL-filling!! Black trash bags were filled and stacked to be carted away, (more than 30). So many helping hands, power tools, rakes, brooms and hoes were put to use. Weeds and overgrowth worked on, trees and bushes trimmed, parking lot and sidewalks cleared, even some neighbors asked if the team was for hire. Great work Presbyterians!

GREAT news! The Board of Directors of **Resale to the Rescue** voted last night to donate \$8,000 to our core groups! That means Heartland Small Animal Rescue, Pet Refuge, Frantz Fund, and Meow Mission each will receive a check for \$2,000!!!

We are able to make these amazing donations because of the time and effort local animal lovers have donated to Resale to the Rescue. The volunteer hours, along with the donations of goods, and our faithful shoppers, allows us to fulfill our mission of saving animals' lives, providing rabies vaccinations and heartworm treatments, and spaying/neutering MANY animals, that in turn saves lives! All this boils down to the hard work of lowering the euthanasia rates of animals in our community.

Thank you, thank you, thank you!!! With out our volunteers this huge accomplishment would not/could not be done. Who knew, one year ago when we started this journey, that we would be able to donate over \$25,000 in our first year of business? Amazing! Let's keep on going!!!

Thank you so very much, Jan Caudell and the entire Board of Directors, Tom Kauble Belinda Beehler Erica Speraw Deana Hummel Melody Heintzelman Tina Donica and Ann Rudasics

To donate just box or bag your items and drop them off at the store. And while you are there, take a look around, we might just have something you need to take home with you.

Open Tuesday thru Saturday, 10am to 6pm.

In Washington, DC, at a Metro Station, on a cold January morning, this man with a violin played six Bach pieces for about 45 minutes. During that time, approximately 2,000 people went through the station, most of them on their way to work.

After about 3 minutes:

a middle-aged man noticed that there was a musician playing. He slowed his pace and stopped for a few seconds, and then he hurried on to meet his schedule.

About 4 minutes later:

The violinist received his first dollar. A woman threw money in the hat and, without stopping, continued to walk.

At 6 minutes:

A young man leaned against the wall to listen to him, then looked at his watch and started to walk again.

At 10 minutes:

A 3-year old boy stopped, but his mother tugged him along hurriedly. The kid stopped to look at the violinist again, but the mother pushed hard and the child continued to walk, turning his head the whole time. This action was repeated by several other children, but every parent - without exception - forced their children to move on quickly.

At 45 minutes:

The musician played continuously. Only 6 people stopped and listened for a short while. About 20 gave money but continued to walk at their normal pace. The man collected a total of \$32.

After 1 hour:

He finished playing and silence took over. No one noticed and no one applauded. There was no recognition at all. No one knew this, but the violinist was **Joshua Bell**, one of the greatest musicians in the world. He played one of the most intricate pieces ever written, with a violin worth \$3.5 million dollars. Two days before, Joshua Bell sold out a theater in Boston where the seats averaged \$100 each to sit and listen to this same music. This is a true story. Joshua Bell, playing incognito in the D.C. Metro Station, was organized by the Washington Post as part of a social experiment about perception, taste and people's priorities. If we do not have a moment to stop and listen to one of the best musicians in the world, playing some of the finest music ever written, with one of the most beautiful instruments ever made. How many other things are we missing as we rush through life?



REPORT TO THE COUNCIL OF THE PRESBYTERY OF WABASH VALLEY
RE GENEVA CENTER, INC. FIRST HALF OF 2017

On behalf of the entire board of directors and all the staff at Geneva Center, we wish to thank Council and the Presbytery for the warm reception and positive show of support the members of the GCI board who attended the June 20th Council meeting received. It was clear to all of us that Council understands our challenge, appreciates our efforts, and is willing to continue some financial support of Geneva Center going forward. The \$25,000 grant of support is appreciated and will be used effectively. To be clear, the board of GCI is working hard to get the revenue from operations to a level that can support GCI's operational expenses year over year. Reaching this level of revenue will then allow the donations and financial support from individuals and churches to be used for the capital expenditures that have and will arise in properly caring for and maintaining the 235-acre property and its facilities.

Repairs, replacements and upgrades take funds and thus we need funding beyond what revenues from operations can provide. The first half of 2017 has been good financially for Geneva Center. Revenues from operations have been \$190,587.37 or +37.5% higher than for the same period in 2016. Expenses have been virtually equal to last year at \$196,173.61 Donations & Gifts of \$37,020.25 have left us with a positive result for the first half of \$31,406.75...yet this is only about a month of fixed expenses which are around \$26,500 per month.

The \$25,000 challenge matching grant received in late March from a couple who wish to remain anonymous has only had \$6,000 of eligible donations received thus far. If we can match the remaining \$19,000 before year's end with individual gifts and support from churches, we could receive the full \$25,000 match. Any PWV church mission support counts towards the match.

The \$25,000 from Council to be received in the 2nd half will be very helpful.

Future bookings (groups committed for the remainder of 2017) are decent and slightly above last year, although we have plenty of available dates in August, October, November & December that we are working hard to fill. Being recognized as a *year-round retreat center* is taking a lot of communication and promotional effort, but it is slow going.

Council had asked for a breakdown of the groups using Geneva Center. Below is a table comparing the 2017 first half users to the total users for 2016:

Category of Users	12 months of 2016	6 months of 2017
Presbyterian affiliated including Presbytery, Synod & Churches	33%	18%
Other churches & religious organizations	19%	25%
Non-profit organizations	36%	32%
College, university and high school groups	10%	9%
Private events & family events	2%	16%
# of Weddings (as a category of private events)	5	3
Total User Groups	98	44
Total Attendees	Approx. 3,800	2, 149
Summer Camp	92 campers 10 staff (paid)	275 campers 54 staff (volunteer)

The GCI Board is about to embark on a **strategic planning process**. Our progress has been real, working to preserving and continuing the legacy of Geneva Center remains strong. We understand we are no longer a ministry of the Presbytery of Wabash Valley but believe our mission. Again, we thank Council for their continued belief in and support of the 'new' Geneva Center, Inc. Jim Hubbard, President of the Geneva Center, Inc. Board of Directors

This summer Charlotte Phillips went to Geneva Center from our church, she took her mom, Dyan, with her to double the good time. Be sure to ask how they enjoyed their time when next you see them.

CHURCH STAFF**Pastor****Rev. Travis Winckler**

pastorfpcmishawaka@gmail.com

Office Administer**Judy Kelly**

officejudyk@gmail.com

Financial Secretary**Joan Horvath**

joanfpcmishawaka@gmail.com

Organist**Justin Appel**

justinmappel@gmail.com

Custodian**John McLean**

jmmclean52@gmail.com

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Pastor hours: mornings, please call for appointment

Office Administrator hours: Tuesday thru Friday 9 - noon

Financial Secretary hours: Tuesdays 9 - noon

Custodian hours: Monday thru Friday 8am to 1 pm

Contact us at (574) 259-7874 or fpcmishawaka@gmail.com

OUR MAIL ADDRESS: First Presbyterian Church-Mishawaka

P.O. Box 744 Mishawaka, Indiana 46546

Smile When You Use Amazon

If you shop from Amazon, you may effortlessly donate to PW (free to you!) by signing up for and shopping through Amazon Smile. Visit smile.amazon.com and select Presbyterian Women as your favorite charitable organization.

Shop as you normally would through "regular" Amazon! When you shop through Amazon Smile, a portion of the purchase of eligible items is donated to Presbyterian Women. In other words: you shop, Amazon gives, PW receives!

Church Officers and Committees

Session: Angela Bellinger, Alan Camren, Judy Green, Ron May, Chuck Wukovits, Janna McLean

Board of Deacons: Lynett Heritz; moderator, Tom Camren, Pam Martz, Teresa Primmer, Jason Pursehouse, Judy Sulak

Facilities and Operations

Chuck Wukovits, Chair
Ethan DeMaegd, Dick Dentino,

Book Club: Judy Green

Clerk of Session: Teresa Primmer
Christian Education: Janna McLean,

Chair

Finance: Ron May, Chair

Mission and Evangelism:

Angela Bellinger, Chair

Newsletter: Sue Rice

Nominating: Darlene Seufert, Chair

Personnel: Alan Camren, Chair

Prayer Chain: Lynett Heritz

Presbyterian Women:

Carole Polk and Lynett Heritz

PWNS Board: John Rice, Chair

Scrap Booking: Brittany Rice

Special Gifts: Sue Rice, Chair

Stewardship: Ron May, Chair

Treasurer: John Rice

Worship and Music:

Judy Green, Chair

Have a prayer concern? Share with Pastor Travis by placing a call to the church office or **Prayer cards** are available from an usher every Sunday. Thank you

The Prayer Chain

The only requirement is for you to pray for others. We are a faithful group of folk who pray daily for those in need from our congregation or friends of our congregation. Prayer needs will be sent to your email address. If you would like to help with prayers, and would like to be included in our Prayer Chain, please contact Pam C., Lynett, or Darlene. Thank you

Newsletter deadline is August 17 at noon for the September issue. Please send information to Sue Rice at suce@aol.com or you can mail or email the church secretary Judy at officejudyk@gmail.com.

As a fire safety issue, please close the door as you leave a room or section of the church. And please remember to always check that the Exit Door you leave by is LOCKED behind you. Thank you.

*Chris and Jim Sneddon would like to thank EVERYONE !!!
"The cards, calls, visits and prayers were just what we needed." Chris is home now and on her way to recovering.*

Worship 10 am
Fellowship at 11 am
Talk Back 11:10 am

August 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><i>August is National Picnic Month</i> <i>join us on the 27th for our annual Church Picnic!</i></p>		2	3	4	5	<p><i>National Chocolate Chip Cookie Day</i></p>
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
<p>ushers: Ethan DeMaegd and Dan Bruner W. Leader: John Rice</p>						
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
<p>ushers: Carole Polk and Bill Bellairs W. Leader: Janna McLean</p>		<p><i>Mishawaka back to school</i></p>	<p><i>South Bend back to school</i></p>	<p><i>Elkhart Back to school</i></p> <p><i>Newsletter deadline</i></p>		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
<p>ushers: Michael Green and Gordon Reif W. Leader: Alan Camren</p>			<p><i>PHM back to school</i></p>		<p><i>Scrapbooking 6pm to 11pm Fellowship Hall</i></p>	
27	28	29	30	31		
<p>Picnic at the Primmer's Ushers: Greg Phillips and Dick Dentino W. Leader: Dyan Phillips</p>						



Church Picnic...

Mark your calendars for **Sunday, August 27th at 10 a.m.**
The Picnic will be **held at Teresa and David Primmer's** this year.
711 West Sixteenth Street, Mishawaka

The Deacons will provide the main dish and beverages.
Everyone is asked to bring a dish to share.