

CIRCLEVILLE
Presbyterian Church

Pres-Line

Volume 17, Issue 2

134 E. Mound St., Circleville, OH 43113

October/November 2018

GET YOUR GRUB ON

“When the scribes of the Pharisees saw that he was eating with sinners and tax collectors, they said to his disciples, ‘Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?’ When Jesus heard this, he said to them, ‘Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick; I have come to call not the righteous but sinners.’” Mark 2:16-17

Recently I was making a hospital call where communion had been requested. As I prepared the meal, I looked around the room at those gathered. It was clear that we did not all share the same ideas about God and Jesus, much less about the nature of the Lord’s Supper. Historically for Christians, this has been considered a real problem. The assumption has been that we must establish a baseline of theological agreement before sharing in this sacrament. But what if that’s wrong? After all, if you get 4 Christians together in a room, they will have 10 different understandings of communion. If theological agreement is our standard, then those with whom we can share this meal will always be quite small. But what if the pre-requisite for participating is not agreement but hunger? Most of us have been taught to think of communion as beginning at the Last Supper in a closed, intimate setting between Jesus and the twelve disciples. But what if Jesus initiates the Lord’s Supper throughout his ministry, when he eats with all manner of hungry sinners? The Gospels never record Jesus passing out a theological exam before eating with people.

Here’s a vision of radical grace: God wants to eat with you. Are you hungry? This Thanksgiving, we have the opportunity to expand our understanding and reach of the Lord’s Supper. Normally, the Wednesday before Thanksgiving, we do not host our Community Kitchen, nor do we have a worship service. This year, on November 21, we will do both. At 5pm, we will share (not just serve) a meal with our guests from the Community Kitchen. If you have been there before, you know that those who attend live on the margins of our community. They are just the kinds of people that Jesus spent his time with. You are invited to come and share a meal together before your larger family meal the next day. After we eat, we will host a short worship service in which the Lord’s Supper will be served. Another word for the Lord’s Supper is “Eucharist.” Eucharist means “thanksgiving.” What better way to begin our Thanksgiving holiday than to share the Eucharist with our neighbors in need? God wants to eat with you. Are you hungry?

Father Greg Boyle describes how Jesus treats those the world had deemed unacceptable: “Jesus’ strategy is a simple one. He eats with them. Precisely to those paralyzed in this toxic shame, Jesus says, ‘I will eat with you.’ He goes where love has not yet arrived, and he ‘gets his grub on.’ Eating with outcasts rendered them acceptable... Recognizing that we are wholly acceptable is God’s own truth for us—waiting to be discovered.” In various ways, we have all been labeled unacceptable, but God renders us all acceptable. This is the basis for our shared meal together. This is our reason to give thanks. This is why we celebrate the Eucharist. What unites us is our hunger for connection with God and each other. Let’s get our grub on!

Pastor Joel

**MEET OUR NEW DIRECTOR OF
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
KATIE KEESBURY**

Here are some fun facts about Katie:

~**favorite color:** forest green

~**favorite food:** pasta (spaghetti)

~**favorite movies:** Clue, Get Smart, Pride and Prejudice

~**Favorite authors:** Denise Hunter, Robin Jones Gunn, Shelly Sheppard Gray, C.S. Lewis

~**favorite bands:** The Oh Hello's, MercyMe, Crowder, Skillet

~**favorite shows:** Scooby Doo, Doctor Who

Family: youngest of 7, 2nd girl, 2 nieces and 6 nephews (currently)

History: volunteered in VBS for home church growing up, Created English and Biblical curriculum for Romanian children, Created Biblical curriculum for summer camp, Ministry Assistant to the female residence in dorm senior year of college, Trader Joe's crew member

Hobbies: playing with my kitten (Meeko), visiting family, reading, playing board card games, playing guitar, adventuring to new places

Phone: 419-519-2364

Email: keesburyk5@gmail.com

Thank you,

Katie Keesbury

Director of Christian Education, CPC

Trader Joe's Crew Member

**PEACE AND GLOBAL WITNESS
SPECIAL OFFERING**

October 7th is the date the Peace and Global Witness offering will be received this year. It is always on World Communion Sunday to remind us of our shared commitment to be servants for Christ with our sisters and brothers in faith around the world. "Together, in the Spirit of God, we work to break the power of hate, and heal the wounds of violence and division." **Local congregations are permitted to keep 25%** of the offering to support our local programs that work to bring reconciliation and justice. Last year our portion went to support the work of CASA and Haven House. Use either the envelopes in the pews or PushPay, noting your gift is for P&GW Special Offering.

THANK YOU

The Keefner family and I want to thank all of you for the prayers, cards, donations, food and love during Kyle's illness. The kindness of this church family and the community has been wonderful. We are so thankful for all of you!

Blessings,

Melissa Gerland

Tara, Brock, Audrey and Kaitlyn Keefner

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Caring Touch

Linda Stevenson

Berger Hospital

Bob McKelvey

Clearmont Retirement Village

Doris Gruebel

Circleville Care & Rehab

Judy Palm

Glendora

Woody Jones

Logan Elm Health Care

Donald Maxson

Nancy Weitendorf (Sue Twining's mother)

Pickaway Manor

Eloise Beers (Kathy Studebaker's mother)

Mildred Dyer (Blaine Keckley's mother)

Doris Luna

Sharon Ryan

Convalescing

Diane Berger

Bill Campbell

Carol Campbell

Lou Ann Clark

Scot Clydesdale

Eugene Dowler

Martha Gearhart

Jim Hartley

Wally Higgins

Jack Hooks

Marcella Hostetler

Diana Jones

Lois Jones

Mitch McAlister

Jimmie McKelvey

Gwen Painter

Kaylee Piper

Nancy Schneider

Frank Seimer

Ron Studebaker

Jual Tucker

Martha Wolfe

Al York

Martha York

Also Convalescing

Ralph Ankrom (John's dad)

Charley Edgar & Corrine Edgar

Marty (Ward) Hart (Marcella Hostetler's sister)

Dave & Wendy Jordan

Becky Myers (Kim Williams' mother)

Betty Topliff (LibbyRushley's mother)

We are sorry if we have missed anyone! If you want someone added or removed, PLEASE call the church office.

Address for Studebaker's while they are in Florida for Ron's treatments: 4042 Lindever Lane
Palmetto, FL 34221

NEW ARRIVALS

Harper Ellen Hedges born 9-4-18
Parents: Ben and Cassi Hedges
Grandparents: Charles and Mollie Hedges

Annabelle Leigh Schultz born 9-4-18
Parents: David and Danielle Schultz
Grandmother: Polly Wolfe Fetherolf
Great Grandmother: Martha Wolfe

COMMUNITY KITCHEN CHALLENGE

Community Kitchen is a local mission project that relies on support from the local community. Many churches and civic groups have a regular spot on the calendar and provide delicious, nutritious meals each Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. We couldn't exist without their generous support.

We rely on financial contributions from individuals, churches, and organizations to support this mission and maintain our storeroom. These contributions have been lower recently and our funds are now at a very low level. I am challenging each of you to include Community Kitchen in your personal mission giving. I will personally match the first \$500 that is donated. Make your check payable to the church and note Community Kitchen on the memo line. Together, we can make a difference!

Please contact me if you have questions or need additional information. Thank you for your support.

Alice Harker Home: 740-474-4435
Cell: 740-248-6083

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Scioto Valley Habitat for Humanity is getting off to a late start on building a new home near Clarksburg but early stages of construction are under way. Contact Sam Wilson for more information.

HOPE HOUSE

Like a broken record, the message continues to be the need for volunteers. Without people to welcome, feed or just talk with those needing a warm bed at night, the shelter cannot open. Please talk to your friends, colleagues at work or in your clubs and ask them to **consider sharing 2 ½ hours a week once or twice a month.** Two and half hours is a dinner out with your family or friends, a sporting event, or a movie. We're not asking you to forgo those things, they are important too. Just consider how little time it takes to make a difference in someone's life. Pastor Joel, Sam Wilson or Clare Hall will be glad to share the volunteer options and the mission of Hope House.

PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

If you are looking for a way to help the survivors of Hurricane Florence consider a donation to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. They will provide aid in many ways. Note on your envelope, check or with PushPay that your donation is for PDA, Hurricane Florence.

JUBILEE!

The Worship Team is sponsoring a Sunday afternoon trip to the Jubilee Religious Art Museum in Columbus. The museum is a marvelous showcase of Roman Catholic Christian art of past centuries. It is well worth seeing to promote an understanding of how faith can be expressed through art. We have chosen Sunday, November 4, as the day for the trip. Watch for further details and a sign-up sheet on the church office window as the day draws nearer and join us for a one of a kind experience! Please see Pastor Joel or Steve Spicer for information.

We offer our condolences to the family and friends.....



...of Maralynn Twining who died in September, 2018. This is the sister-in-law of Sue Twining.

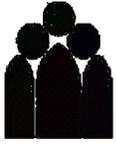
STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

November marks the one-year anniversary of my coming to Circleville Presbyterian Church, and I cannot tell you how happy I am to be your pastor. From day one, I have been astonished at the beauty of this church and community. The way you care for one another takes my breath away. There is so much good, so much generosity and so much love in this church. It's unlike anything I've ever seen before.

For the past few years, our church has not conducted a regular Stewardship Campaign in which regular attenders and members are invited to make a financial pledge to the annual budget. In the next month, we will begin one for 2019. This church and its ministries are worthy of investment. Our services include worship songs and anthems that make the spirit soar! We have a new Director of Christian Education in Katherine Keesbury who is working to sustain our children's ministry and improve our ministry to youth. The countless ways we bless our community through meals, assistance—we are doing the work of Jesus in Circleville! Consider making a pledge to the upcoming campaign to ensure this good work continues.

In addition, our giving for 2018 is behind our needs. It's not insurmountable, but the need is real. Over the past year, I have seen time and again this congregation support ministries and people in need. Right now, that need is our regular operating budget. As you prepare your year-end giving, consider making an additional financial gift so that we can keep good going at this church we love.

Pastor Joel



CIRCLEVILLE Presbyterian Church

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Permit Number 195

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Website - www.circlevillepresbyterianchurch.com

Please remember to contact the church office with your new address. As bulk mail, the Pres-Line is not forwarded and is returned to the church for a fee.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Looking ahead to.....



- 2 1st Sunday of Advent
Advent Brunch
- 9 2nd Sunday of Advent
- 16 3rd Sunday of Advent
Christmas Caroling
- 23 4th Sunday of Advent
- 25-26 Office Closed for Christmas