



What's Up Wickliffe!

AUGUST 2025

~A Word from the Minister~

"The Invitation"

I found this used by a 12th Century church in Boldre, Hampshire, England. It is an invitation to visitors, which is how many of us start out with a church (unless we are born and baptized there). Invitations and greetings are important to newcomers, especially if we ever want them to visit again. It also shows how visitors are greeted or invited has been a concern since the beginning of the Church. With just a few changes in language, here it is:

Friend, you enter this church not as a stranger but as a Guest of God. He is your heavenly Father. Come, then, with joy in your heart and thanks on your lips into God's presence, offering God your love and service. Be grateful to the strong and loyal ones who in the name of Jesus Christ built this place of worship and to all who have beautified it and made it holy with their prayers and praises. Ask God's blessing on those who love this home of faith as the inspiration of their labor, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit, and may that blessing rest on you, both now and forever more.

I would not say this is a perfect invitation but it's a good example of how it can be done. Do we have an invitation easily seen and read as visitors enter the church? What does it say? Is it truly welcoming, inviting people to come as they are into God's presence?

Church consultant and author Kennon Callahan says that when people come to church they are looking to hear about three things: help, hope, and home. How can I get *help* with this problem in my life? What *hope* do I have for the future? Where do I belong? Where is my *home*? The more we clearly answer these questions, the more effective we will be in promoting the gospel (according to Callahan).

Summer is the season most often when folks go "church shopping." Summer is a great time to invite a friend/neighbor/acquaintance to worship (and then maybe, go for brunch!). The easy going days of Summer are also the time when a church is most likely to get the highest frequency of visitors. What first impression do we make? What impression *should* we make? Do we give help? Do we offer a reason for hope? Do we make it feel like home?

Why don't you try your hand at writing an invitation suitable for visitors. What would it say? If you come up with something, I'd like to see it! What are your thoughts?

Grace and Peace on the Journey,

Pastor Rob

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What's Up Wickliffe!



AUGUST SCHEDULE

August 3 8th Sunday after Pentecost
♦ 10:30 AM Worship Service
at Hubbard Church with
Picnic to Follow

August 10 9th Sunday after Pentecost
♦ WPC Worship and Picnic
at Austintown Senior Center

August 17 10th Sunday after Pentecost

August 24 11th Sunday After Pentecost

August 31 12th Sunday After Pentecost
♦ Benevolence Sunday

Happy Birthday!

August 6 Donna Cole

August 8 Norma Johnson

August 10 Janet Merryman

August 10 Steven Garstka

August 16 Miranda Truslow

Church Office Hours:

Monday - 9:00am - 12:00pm

Tuesday - Closed

Wednesday - Closed

Thursday - 9:00am - 12:00pm

Friday - Closed

(Hours may vary. Please contact the office for an appointment if you need in the church)

Church Website: www.wickliffepc.com

Secretary's Email: wickliffepc@gmail.com

Wickliffe Presbyterian Church
45 Idlewood Rd.
Austintown, OH 44515

P: 330-792-6441 F: 330-792-1006

TLCC Daycare and Preschool
Director, Norma Johnson





2025 Per Capita increased to \$33.00. Per Capita information flyers are available at the church.

OUTDOOR MOVIE NIGHT

Community Invited...
Wed., July 30, 2025
8:15 p.m. Arrival

POLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
2 POLAND MANOR
POLAND, OH 44514

FREE
Popcorn & Water!

MOVIE WILL BE SHOWN INSIDE IF RAINING!

A PRAYER FOR PEACE



Lord Jesus Christ, You are the true King of peace. In You alone is found freedom. Please free our world from conflict, especially in the Mideast and Ukraine. Bring unity to troubled nations. Let Your glorious peace reign in every heart. Dispel all darkness and evil. Protect the dignity of every human life. Replace hatred with Your love. Give wisdom to world leaders. Free them from selfish ambition. Eliminate all violence and war. Glorious Virgin Mary, Saint Michael the Archangel, every angel and saint: please pray for peace. Pray for unity amongst nations. Pray for unity amongst all people. Pray for the most vulnerable. Pray for those suffering. Pray for the fearful. Pray for those most in need. Pray for us all. Jesus, Son of the living God, have mercy on us. Jesus, hear our prayers. Jesus, I trust in You! Amen.



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WALKING THE LABYRINTH



Here is a picture of Wickliffe Presbyterian Church attendees walking the labyrinth in the fellowship hall on Sunday, June 29 during our 10:00 a.m. service. The labyrinth is a recreation of the labyrinth in Our Lady of Chartres Cathedral in Chartres, France, installed in the 13th Century. The labyrinth is a participatory symbol of our spiritual journey through life. Thanks to all who came that day and took part by walking on the labyrinth, or used a finger labyrinth to make the journey. If you want to do it again some time, let Pastor Rob know!

HUBBARD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ANNUAL PICNIC

Sunday, August 3, 2025

22 Westview Ave.

Hubbard, OH 44425

10:30 AM WORSHIP SERVICE PICNIC TO FOLLOW

The members of Wickliffe Church have been invited to attend.
No food is requested but bring your own lawn chair.



Needle's Eye Soup Ministry

THANKS SO MUCH FOR YOUR JULY DONATIONS! LET'S BREAK THE RECORD FOR AUGUST!

Thank you in advance for donations of peanut butter, beans, and soup!

Thank you! *Donna Cooper*



**GOODTIMERS will meet
Wednesday, August 13, 2025
at 11:30 AM at Denny's.**

~Grace Brown

**The DISCOVERY GROUP meetings are
suspended for the summer; will resume
Tuesday, September 30, 2025.**

~Grace Brown



What's Up Wickliffe!



Wickliffe Presbyterian Church Annual Picnic

Sunday, August 10, 2025

10:00 AM Worship, Picnic to Follow

Austintown Senior Center

112 Westchester Dr.

Austintown, OH 44515

Time is a-flying right on by!!! August is upon us whether we like it or not!

So start thinking of which delicious food you are going to bring, gather up your picnic baskets, and come and enjoy!

Hot dogs, buns and condiments, along with a beverage, plates, napkins, and utensils will be provided by the Church.

Pastor Rob Joy will hold the worship service.

We have invited the members from First Presbyterian Church Hubbard to attend our picnic, so look for some new faces!

See you at Austintown Senior Center at about 9:30 AM to help set up and get ready for the 10:00 AM service!

Donna Cooper, Growth Committee, 330-651-3253



What's Up Wickliffe!

Inspiration from your Clerk of Session...

Food for thought...



I'm hoping that all our members and friends of Wickliffe are enjoying their summer. I can't believe how quickly time passes in the blink of an eye. I'm sure we are enjoying our lazy days as the heat has been a little unbearable. If it's not raining-the sun is sweltering. Some of us are swimming, attending sporting events, on vacation, whatever life throws our way. I'm sure there are many more items we want to put on our bucket list.... Hopefully we don't forget to take time to attend Sunday Worship Services. In July, Wickliffe attended a gathering at Needles Eye where we were able to Worship with a wonderful luncheon to follow.

This August, we will be joining Hubbard Pres on Aug 3rd for their worship and picnic.... We have invited them to join us on Aug 10th at the Austintown Senior Center for worship led by Pastor Rob. We also will have a wonderful array of food for our annual picnic with games to follow. Please try and attend. Fun Fun Fun

Our membership has dwindled some so I'm reaching out to those who are on the fence about joining us on any given Sunday. We need to be motivated and focus on strengthening our church along with our community, promoting active involvement. We could use your ideas to include organizing community events, fostering small groups and especially celebrating important achievements. We want to encourage our members to identify their passions and gifts. We are still trying to connect service opportunities to the Church's mission and vision.

Don't worry... Even if you want to join us on Sunday and choose to be a fly on the wall, believe me. We understand. Just to let you know that your voice matters and when you feel the time is right, voice your opinion, share your ideas. We'll listen. God knows what's in your heart. Blessings to all who have taken time to read this message.

God Bless, Nancy O'Hara, Clerk of Session...

August 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 10:30 AM Worship Service/ Church Picnic Hubbard Church 8:00 PM AA Mtg.	4	5	6	7 5:45 PM TOPS	8	9
10 10:00 AM Worship Service/ Church Picnic Austintown 8:00 PM AA Mtg.	11	12	13 11:30 AM Goodtimers at Denny's	14 5:45 PM TOPS	15	16
17 10:00 AM Worship Service 8:00 PM AA Mtg.	18	19	20	21 5:45 PM TOPS	22	23
24 10:00 AM Worship Service 8:00 PM AA Mtg.	25 Newsletter Deadline	26	27	28 5:45 PM TOPS	29	30
31 10:00 AM Worship Service  8:00 PM AA Mtg.						