



What's Up Wickliffe!

OCTOBER 2024

GETTING SERIOUS ABOUT JOY

“Ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be complete.”

Presbyterians need to get serious about joy — yes, joy.

Our faith tradition does many things well. We are scholarly students of the Bible and theological tradition. Our worship is rich and thoughtful in its construction. While imperfect, our way of organizing the church's governance is a gift to the world.

However, the seriousness and often solemnity that serves us well in these areas can have an unfortunate side-effect: diminishing the Christian practice of joy and joyful hearts are closely linked to acts of generosity.

The holiness of worship must include the joyful celebration of the Good News of Jesus Christ and the culmination of this celebration is the opportunity to respond with generosity. I do not give out of obligation or guilt. I give because I am excited about what Jesus is doing in the world. I give because he has invited me to be a part of his work. I give because Jesus has transformed my life into one that is lived (imperfectly) for others. My gifts and yours are one way we bring our joy in Jesus out into the world with us.

Frank A. Thomas, PhD, Professor of Homiletics and Director of the Academy of Preaching and Celebration at Christian Theological Seminary, Indianapolis, Indiana, has taught extensively on the importance of celebration and joy in

preaching, saying, “**Celebration (in preaching)** is to joyfully and ecstatically reinforce what you have already taught the people.” To extend this celebration from the word proclaimed into the opportunity to respond with our time, talent, and treasure is to embrace the joyful news that Jesus and his Church are very much alive and eager to serve a broken and hurting world.

Presbyterians: embrace the Christian practice of joy. Laugh, clap your hands (on two and four, please), and sing those hymns like they have the power to change the world. Have FUN together.

Celebrate the goodness of God in scripture and in your life. May the world look at us and see mindful biblical scholars, thoughtful worshipers, and intentional ecclesiologists. But may they also see the smiling at church camp or VBS children who sang, “And I’m so happy, so very happy, I have the love of Jesus in my heart!”

May we all find joy overflowing into generosity in your congregational life together.

~ Reverend Joshua Kerr

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OCTOBER SCHEDULE

- October 6** **20th Sunday After Pentecost**
 ♦ **Stewardship Sunday**
- October 13** **21st Sunday After Pentecost**
 ♦ **WPC Celebrates**
 World Communion Sunday
 ♦ **Support Meeting**
- October 20** **22nd Sunday After Pentecost**
 ♦ **Soup & Sloppy Joe Luncheon**
- October 27** **23rd Sunday After Pentecost**

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

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TLCC Daycare and Preschool

Director, Norma Johnson

330-792-9048



Happy Birthday!

- | | |
|------------|----------------|
| October 6 | Marcy Clark |
| October 8 | Jeff Bryant |
| October 12 | Vivian Manenti |
| October 13 | Ruth Capper |

Happy Anniversary

- | | |
|---------|------------------------|
| Oct. 4 | Glenn & Norma Johnson |
| Oct. 25 | Kerry & Greg Schneider |
| Oct. 27 | Bill & Donna Cooper |





2024 Per Capita remains \$32.50. Per Capita information flyers are available at the church.

IN STEP WITH SESSION



After having the Summer off from Session, all Elders were present as we started our next few months of discussion and planning. Thank you all for being present as we move forward.

Rev. Bonnie Dutton was our moderator in Meta's absence. As some know, we have had a relationship with Annie Parker of Heritage Pres. She is now Pastoring Salem Presbyterian. She not only was one of our on-call pastors, but also led our Leadership training this past June. We wish her all the best in her new position.

...Just a few items to be aware of as we move into the end of 2024:

Hubbard will be joining us in Worship on Dec 1st. Communion to be served.

Also we will be joining Hubbard for their Christmas Eve Service.

Please spread the word that **"The Renewal Trio" will be performing on Dec 22nd @ 6.00 PM.** Please invite your friends and family to attend.

The Hanging of the Greens is scheduled for Nov 24th after Worship. All hands on deck as we add that Christmas touch.

Please do not enter the Church after dark by yourself. Call Jeff Bryant at 330-402-4498 and he will meet you there. This is for safety purposes.

Sunday School has resumed as of Sept 29th. Please feel free to sign up for leader of Youth Sunday School. List is in Narthex.

We also need people to sign up for lay-leader and coffee hour.

Oct 6th will be Stewardship Sunday. If you haven't received your pledge card we will have them to fill out on that Sunday. Thank you for your support.

...The Committees have been busy and have reported the following:

Christian Ed (Grace) is using curriculum from past years to save on expense.

Growth (Donna) will be working on Membership rolls. Will be recognizing birthdays starting soon. Very proud of all who attended service @ Needles Eye along with our Annual Picnic.

Nominating (Tracy) will be working on filling positions for 2025 soon. Please think about filling a position when asked.

Service (Jeff) has been busy with repairing parking lot, tree removal, painting outsider doors, etc. Suggested we use battery operated candles when needed for Christmas Eve Service. Tracy has offered to purchase them.

Worship (Ruth) has added fall flowers to outside urns.

Please let your Session know if you have any concerns that need addressed.

Blessings to all as we move forward. *Nancy O'Hara, Clerk of Session*

STEWARDSHIP 2025 CAMPAIGN

Stewardship Sunday....October 6th



Your Support team would like to thank you ahead of time for your generosity as we collect your pledges on **Commitment Sunday, October 6th**, during Worship.

Our theme this year is **"A Small Church with a Big Heart"**.

We're counting on your faithfulness as you contribute not only financially but also giving of your time and talents. It is our intention that, with your help and continued support, our Church will survive the difficult times. May God Bless you abundantly as we accomplish our planning for 2025.



DEACON NEWS!

Please mark your calendars, **World Wide Communion will be held on October 13th.**

The Deacons will be passing out the Christmas Boxes to be filled with goodies for children for their Christmas. These boxes are sent all over the world to needy children. This is such a lovely way to bring joy to others. Please help us fill boxes this year. More information will be presented in church in September. The delivery date is the 3rd week of November.

Our Annual Soup and Sloppy Joe Lunch will be held October 20 after church. We will take a free will offering to help our mission work. The Deacons are asking the congregation for a donation of cookies to finish our yummy menu. Please come hungry and enjoy! See you there!

The Deacons of Wickliffe



From one pumpkin to another!!!!

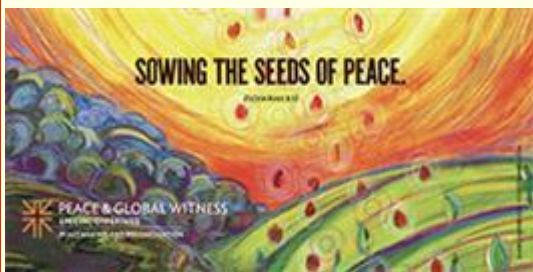
A woman was asked by a co-worker, "What is it like to be a Christian?"

The co-worker replied, "It is like being a pumpkin." God picks you from the patch, brings you in, and washes all the dirt off you. Then He cuts off the top and scoops out all the yucky stuff. He removes the seeds of doubt, hate, and greed. Then He carves you a new smiling face and puts His light inside of you to shine for all the world to see."

This was passed on to me by another pumpkin....

Now it's your turn to pass it to other pumpkins in your patch!

Submitted by Sherry Yacucci



PEACE AND GLOBAL WITNESS PRESBYTERIAN SPECIAL OFFERING "SOWING THE SEEDS OF PEACE"

On World Communion Sunday, we celebrate that Christ's peace extends throughout all Creation. Whenever the church gathers to worship, we are assured of Christ's peace. We celebrate that we are connected, we are loved, and we are not alone. Through the Peace and Global Witness, October 6, our church extends peace to our community and our world.

This year marks the 40th anniversary of Peacemaking approved by the 192nd General Assembly in 1980.

25% of the Offering stays with local congregations, 25% within the region, and 50% supports the work for peace and reconciliation being done by Presbyterians across the globe.

~ Donna Cooper



◆ FISH FRY WITH NEW FRIENDS SEPTEMBER 1, 2024 ◆

What a lovely day for a picnic! And for socializing with our new Pentecostal friends whom we met at our Needle's Eye Service in July. We all made such an instant connection with these friendly folks that I immediately invited them to our Church picnic in August and they came! Then they invited Wickliffe to their annual fish fry on September 1 and four of us did get to go! Sandy and Bill Wayland and Bill and I attended and had a great time!

As Bill and I approached a pretty suburban home in Hermitage, the line up of all the many cars along the street, we knew the party was on! However, there were many people we had not met before, but we were warmly welcomed and no one seemed to be surprised to have four white people join them! Arriving before us, Sandy and Bill Wayland were being entertained in the living room.

Outside were two large blue canopies with many tables and chairs set up in the cooling shade waiting for the company to sit down and eat! On the deck, large serving pans were filled with Mac & Cheese, green beans, and scalloped potatoes! Bill was happy immediately looking at all this! The fish was not quite ready so we socialized as we stood in line filling our plates. After sitting down and beginning to eat, the Alaskan Pike was passed around on heaping plates. It was delicious and new to me.

A little later, our plates were gathered up and we were directed to a table covered with cookies, brownies, cupcakes, and a large decorated cake! Once again we sat down with an assortment of goodies! Talking and laughing, we enjoyed the dessert. Soon we said our goodbyes and thanked our hosts for a wonderful fellowship event. And we hope to meet again!

~ Donna Cooper



DEACON'S SOUP AND SLOPPY JOE LUNCHEON



Sunday, October 20, 2024

After Worship

There will be a Variety of Soups, Sloppy Joes, Chips and Pickles. We are asking the congregation for a donation of cookies to finish the yummy menu!

A free will donation is encouraged to help with our Deacon missions.

SEE YOU THERE!



SPIRITUAL DIET

It's up to you, as a part of the body of Christ, to discipline yourself to stay on your spiritual diet, in order to stay healthy and full of life. Here is what I like to call...

THE WHOLESOME CHRISTIAN DIET

Bread of Life—Jesus (Main Course) Jn 6:35

Milk—simple truths of the Word—1 Peter 2:2

Meat—Hearing and obeying God's Word—
Jn 4:34

Living Water—Indwelling Spirit—Jn 7:38-39

New Wine—Holy Spirit Baptism—Acts 2:4&13

Fruit—Love, Joy, Peace, Longsuffering,
Gentleness, Goodness, Faith, Meekness,
Self-Control—Galatians 5:22-23

Salt—Fellowship with believers makes
Christianity flavorful.

On the other hand, here are the things you must abstain from on this diet or you will lose your spiritual energy and become sick and sluggish...

Don't partake of gossip

Do not feed on pornography

Do not absorb distasteful television

Don't drink from the cup of iniquity

Don't eat the bread of idleness

Don't indulge in worldly pleasures

Don't thrive on bitterness and hate

Abstain from fleshly lusts

Don't nibble on temptations

Don't swallow Satan's lies

If you are faithful and stick to this diet, you will have a healthy, lively, fruitful spirit and will live forever. Happy dieting!

Submitted by Sherry Yacucci

Needle's Eye Soup Ministry

Once again, it is time to donate soup, beans, peanut butter! Please fill up the basket by the Fellowship Hall Door! Bill and I will be taking the food to Needle's Eye at the end of September.

Thank you! ~ Donna Cooper



**GOODTIMERS will meet
Wednesday, October 9 at
11:30 AM at Denny's on Mahoning Ave.
~Grace Brown**

**The DISCOVERY GROUP will meet
Tuesday, October 22 at 12:30 PM
here at Wickliffe Church.
~ Grace Brown**

**A REQUEST FROM
JEFF BRYANT, CHAIRMAN
WPC SERVICE COMMITTEE**

If you need to enter the church, please don't do so after dark. This is for your safety! If you need to do so, contact Jeff at 330-402-4498 and he will meet you there.

Thank you!

October 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 5:45 PM Tops	4	5
6 10:00 AM Worship Service  Stewardship Sunday 8:00 PM AA Mtg.	7	8	9 11:30 AM Goodtimers Denny's 4927 Mahoning Ave.	10 5:45 PM Tops	11	12
13 10:00 AM Worship Service Support Mtg. World Communion Day 8:00 PM AA Mtg.	14	15 6:00 PM Session Meeting	16	17 5:45 PM Tops	18	19
20 10:00 AM Worship Service Sloppy Joe Luncheon  8:00 PM AA Mtg.	21 Newsletter Deadline	22 12:30 PM Discovery Group-WPC	23	24 5:45 PM Tops	25	26
27 10:00 AM Worship Service 8:00 PM AA Mtg.	28	29	30	31  5:45 PM Tops		