ALL MEETINGS AT THE CHURCH have been canceled until the coronavirus crisis is over. Meanwhile, please keep contact with one another and keep up with the church services on our website.

A new Church Directory has been printed and is available for you. One has been printed for each family. You may drop by the church during office hours (8:30 am—1:30 pm) on Tuesday, Thursday or Friday. (New devotionals for May/June also available.)
Respect the Deadline!

Newsletter Deadline
for June is
May 20th.

Ruth Esther Circle
meets Tuesday,
May 19th
at 10:00 am.

The donations for the Christmas Project for May are Jell-o, Pudding, Peanut Butter and Jelly. Serve City takes any nonperishable items.

Finance Report

Westwood Financial Report - 2020
March:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Receipts</th>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th>Balance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current Funds</td>
<td>6,316.50</td>
<td>7,068.17</td>
<td>-751.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Per Capita</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benevolence</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>6,316.50</td>
<td>7,068.17</td>
<td>-751.67</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Year-To-Date:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Receipts</th>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th>Balance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current Funds</td>
<td>21,639.50</td>
<td>19,730.19</td>
<td>1,909.31</td>
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<tr>
<td>Per Capita</td>
<td>365.00</td>
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<td>365.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benevolence</td>
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<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>22,004.50</td>
<td>19,730.19</td>
<td>2,274.31</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Attendance:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Attendance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>--28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8th</td>
<td>--30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15th</td>
<td>--27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

More detailed financial reports are available upon request from Steve Anglin or the church office.

The Spring Banquet has been CANCELED.
"Taking Care of One Another"

"But the Spirit produces love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, humility, and self-control. There is no law against such things as these" (Galatians 5:22-23).

For several weeks now we have been unable to meet for worship. This has been a little disorienting for some of us. It confuses others. One way I like to think of it is that we are the church disbursed. The church is not a building. The building is a place of worship and Christian activity. It provides a place for us to gather, grow and encourage one another.

Though we cannot meet together right now, we are still the church. We are brothers and sisters in Christ, who know the Lord and live to serve Him. The time will come when we will be back in one another’s presence. Meanwhile we are still the church, together, loving one another and serving our risen Savior.

One of our responsibilities during this interim time is, as Paul says in Galatians, “Bear one another’s burdens, thus fulfilling the law of Christ.” It is especially important that we do this in the day in which we live. Fr. Henri Nouwen states in his book, Our Greatest Gift:

“Without care for each other, we forget who we truly are—children of God and each other’s brothers and sisters—and so cannot become parents of generations to come. But as a community of care we can remind each other that we will bear fruit far beyond the few years we have to live. As a community of care, we trust that those who live long after we have lived will still receive the fruits of the seeds we have sown in our weakness and find new strength from them. As a community of care, we can send the Spirit of Jesus to each other. Thus we become the fruit-bearing people of God who embrace past, present and future and thus are a light in the darkness” (pp. 98-99).

Also, as a community of care, we are modeling for the world how “caring” can take place in a world that so desperately needs a soothing balm.

Thank you for all you are doing to show how it’s done. I am proud to be your pastor.

Amen!

Your Pastor,

In Christ,

Norman
Just in case for May, 2020

Ushers: Mose Anglin
       Steve Anglin

Sunday School:
  3    Kristi Craft
 10   Marlene Sloneker
 17   Kristi Craft
 24   Sandra Warren
 31   Andrea Estridge

Coffee Hour:
  3  Marlene Sloneker & Kristi Craft
 10  Judy Simensen & Andrea
      Estridge / Mother's Day
 17  Spiritual Growth
 24  Eat Out!!!
 31  Pentecost Dinner

Kitchen Duty:
  Marlene Sloneker

Prayer Concerns

Churches:
Westminster Presbyterian and Memorial
Presbyterian in Xenia as they blend their
congregations together in the near future.

Miscellaneous concerns:
Summer Estridge – back pain
Bonita Gay rehab at home
Zack Cox (Wayne) fighting testicular cancer
Fred Sloneker – home
Pam Long – surgery went well / home
Loretta Otto – healing
Bob Long – shingles
Andrea Estridge – cracked rib

Shut-Ins: Ruth Mollett

In Nursing Home/Assisted Living:
Windsor of Cape Coral: Dick Flynn
Westover: Catherine Gibson
Sheridan at Mason: Bill Mountsier
Berkeley: Frank Dougherty

National & International Concerns:
Our country, Natural disasters, violence, unity
Our armed forces worldwide
Missionaries across the world
Peace in our world

Local Concerns:
Our church
Cities of Hamilton & Fairfield
Serve City / Haven House / Community Meal Center
Churches in community
Corona virus victims & cure

Congregational Prayer:
We continue to pray for our sister churches in the
Miami Presbytery, and for all the churches in our
community in Ohio.

Thank You
..to Bob Long and Bob Estridge for
recording the worship service for the
website.
..to Tim Turber and Angela Scenesters
for getting the worship service on the
website.
..to the volunteers who mow the
church lawn.
**Pentecost Offering**

The Pentecost Offering will be taken on Pentecost Sunday, June 14. This offering is one of four special offerings that it taken each year by the Presbyterian Church USA. This offering supports ministries for children, youth and young adults at risk. It seeks to invest in their future.

The Pentecost Offering was first received by congregations in 1998. Congregations keep 40 percent of the offering to support work on behalf of children at risk in their community. Our portion of the offering has traditionally been given to One Way Farm. The General Assembly invests its share of the 60 percent in the church through faith-focused ministries with youth and young adults and through programs that benefit children at risk in this country and around the world.

Please plan to support this important offering June 14.

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**Per Capita Request**

Each year The Presbytery of the Miami Valley publishes “Expected Payments” for each active member of each church. For the year 2020, they are requesting a total of $40. In years past, the Session has voted to give what fits our budget. The Session also invites members, who are able, to pay all or a portion for yourself. If you have questions, please talk to Rev. Godfrey or a member of the Session.

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**Mother's Day is Sunday, May 10th**

_The greatest love is a mother's; Then comes a dog's, then comes a sweetheart's._

—Polish proverb

Although the custom of setting aside a day to honor mothers has ancient roots, our observance of Mother’s Day mainly came about through the efforts of a devoted daughter, Anna M. Jarvis.

After the death of her own mother in 1905, Jarvis wanted to recognize the sacrifices mothers made for their children. She organized the first official Mother’s Day celebration in May 1908 at a Methodist church in Grafton, West Virginia.

On May 8, 1914, President Woodrow Wilson signed a proclamation designating the second Sunday in May Mother’s Day, and within a few years, the idea gained worldwide prominence.
INSPIRATION

During this time of isolation many have been sending out messages to inspire us. The following two pieces have been meaningful to me. May they help us all to reflect on what is happening and what this time means for our lives, physically and spiritually. May you find inspiration here.

History Repeats Itself
(Came across this poem written in 1869, reprinted during 1919 Pandemic)

This is timeless...

And people stayed at home
And read books
And listened
And they rested
And did exercises
And made art and played
And learned new ways of being
And stopped and listened
More deeply.
Someone meditated, someone prayed
Someone met their shadow
And people began to think differently
And people healed
And in the absence of people who
Lived in ignorant ways
Dangerous, meaningless, and heartless,
The earth also began to heal
And when the danger ended and
People found themselves
They grieved for the dead
And made new choices
And dreamed of new visions
And created new ways of living
And completely healed the earth
Just as they were healed.
C. S. Lewis, 1942

Satan: “I will cause anxiety, fear and panic.
I will shut down business, schools,
places of worship and sports events.
I will cause economic turmoil.”

Jesus: “I will bring together neighbors, restore the family unit.
I will bring dinner back to the kitchen table.
I will help people slow down their lives and appreciate what really matters.
I will teach my children to rely on me and not the world.
I will teach my children to trust me and not their money and material resources.”

A GIFT

If I could give a gift to you,
A gift of love I’d bring.
A message very real and true,
From our eternal King.

That you are special to our Lord,
There is so little doubt,
For it tells us in His word,
That’s what He’s all about.

He loves us when no one cares,
When life is all apart.
He loves us when no one dares,
He looks into our hearts.

He knows our worth, our potential, too.
And the gift that He brings,
A message very real and true,
That we are more than things.

The outward looks, the things we own,
Power, influence, what we do.
Friends we have, seeds we’ve sown,
To only name a few.

He loves us, what a lift,
No matter who we are.
He sent His Son, that precious gift,
He visited from afar.

To bring us love, life, and hope,
To light our darkened way,
To lead us up the steepest slope,
Our special gift, today.

--Norman Godfrey--
December 24, 1980
LIFE OF THE BELOVED*

Listening to the Voice that Calls Us the Beloved

“Listening to that voice with great undivided attentiveness, I hear at my center, words that say: I have called you by name, from the very beginning. You are mine and I am yours... You are my beloved, on you my favor rests. I have molded you in the depths of the earth and knotted you together in your mother’s womb. I have carried you in the palms of my hands and hidden you in the shadow of my embrace. I look at you with infinite tenderness and care for you with a care more intimate than that of a mother for her child. I have counted every hair on your head and guided you at every step. Wherever you go, I go with you, and whenever you rest, I keep watch. I will give you food that will satisfy all your hunger and drink that will quench your thirst. I will not hide my face from you. You know me as your own, as I know you as my own. You belong to me. I am your father, your mother, your sister, your lover, your spouse...yes, even your child...wherever you are I will be. Nothing will ever separate us. We are one.”


Also, there has been a great deal of humor put forth. It helps to laugh even in stressful times. It is one way that “The joy of the Lord can be our strength.” Marlene sent me an e-mail of messages on church signs. I share a few with you:

“Jesus cleans the heart, we disinfect the pew.”

“Wash your hands and say your prayers, cause Jesus and germs are everywhere.”

“Services canceled, God making house calls.”

“Jesus can wash away sin, but you’ve still got to wash your hands.”

Thanks Marlene.
"He Googles you ... that's how God knows all about you."

"We're going to keep him for a few days and run some tests. Will you be needing a loaner?"

"The weatherman says it's going to be a beautiful day. Maybe we should wheel the TV out on the patio."