

The Joyful Noise

SEPTEMBER 2021

Prayer for the School Year

TERI MCDOWELL OTT, PRESBYTERIAN OUTLOOK

Merciful God,

We are grateful for the resilience, innovation and determination our students, teachers, school staff, parents and administrators demonstrated and developed over the past year. We begin this new school year in prayer because we are anxious for our students to resume school in person, yet still be safe from COVID-19.

We pray for a better year; for a safe return to classrooms; for the health of students, teachers and school staff; for school boards and administrators under pressure to make difficult decisions; and for parents exhausted by the uncertainty and constantly changing plans.

Help us, Holy God, to bear with one another in love as we face the new challenges this year will inevitably bring. We pray that our teachers banked enough summer renewal to face any new disruptions. We ask that the hard lessons students learned in since the start of this pandemic will give them the confidence and courage to face whatever lies ahead. With confidence in your ability to do more than we ask or imagine, we pray that faith will deter fear and hope will bring new life.

Bless us, Holy God, in our efforts to protect and care for students so they can focus on their healthy development and their studies. Lead us all to health and healing.

In Christ's name we pray, Amen.



Clockwise from above: Local friends participate in a Chinese tea service with FPC member Na Yang; Dolly Dong and Doug McKibben with new Chinese Church babies Samuel and Luke; FPC children joined First United Methodist Church for their end-of-summer "Come to the Table" Vacation Bible School.

CHURCH AT THE PARK

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 10:00 AM
BROOKSIDE WEST PARK

CHURCH SERVICE AND POTLUCK
TABLE SERVICE PROVIDED

LABOR DAY CLOSURE:

The church office will be **closed** Monday, September 6 in observance of Labor Day and will reopen Tuesday, September 7 at 9:00 am.

LAY-LED SUNDAY:

Join us for a special lay-led worship service on Sunday, September 12 at 10:00 am. FPC member Terry Mapes will serve as our guest preacher and the Praise Band will lead worship. Elders will officiate Communion.

CHURCH OFFICE UPDATES:

Jessie will be dedicating Monday afternoons to website and communication projects. If possible, please submit calendar items and announcements to the church office by 12:00 noon on Mondays. These items will be included on our website, midweek updates, and Sunday bulletins. Thanks!

SUBSCRIBE + READ:

Subscribe to our email updates sent twice per week from the church office:

- Log onto our website: ashlandfpc.org
- Click "Subscribe" button on the pop-up window and follow prompts to subscribe
- Click onto [News and Events/Email Updates](#) and follow prompts to subscribe

Subscribed but not seeing the updates in Gmail? Check the "Promotions" tab.

SUNDAY LIVESTREAM:

For those who prefer to worship from home, join our livestream: live.ashlandfpc.org. The livestream begins at 10:00 am.

FALL SUNDAY SCHOOL

Children ages Pre-K through Grade 6 are invited to attend Sunday School on the following dates this fall:

SEPTEMBER 19, 26
OCTOBER 3, 17
NOVEMBER 7, 14
DECEMBER 5, 12

Children will be dismissed during the offering and led to the Sunday School room.

The team is recruiting volunteers! Contact Rochelle Tabler (419-651-4919; call or text) for more details.

SUNDAY MORNING YOUTH GROUP

MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL
SUNDAY MORNINGS, 8:30 AM
LED BY WALT HARROP
ROOM 302

SESSION UPDATES:

- Session continues its conversation with CCO regarding Na Yang.
- Session voted to increase the number of flexible hours paid Jessie Ellis by 2 hours per week and these hours need to be documented. This is effective immediately.
- Session decided not to resume the passing of the offering place during worship as yet.
- Session welcomes the Praise Band!

Respectfully,

Jolynn Lopeman, Clerk of Session

MEMBER UPDATE:

Dr. Lucille Ford has moved to Belmont Tower at Brethren Care. Her address is: BELMONT TOWER #521, 2140 CENTER STREET, ASHLAND, OH 44805. Her cell phone is 419-651-7217. Her apartment room phone is 419-289-4305. Her email is lgford21@gmail.com.

Keeping Each Other Safe

The question of wearing masks is being discussed once again. We invite people to make their own choice about wearing masks, depending on their comfort level and personal health concerns. We know that you understand the risks of the Delta variant, which is active in our state and local community and is a much more contagious strain of the virus. We pray that you will make the right choices for you and your family—in-person worship or live-streamed (live.ashlandfpc.org), mask or forgoing the mask. May the Lord watch over us and keep us safe.

CHINESE CHURCH HIGHLIGHTS

SUBMITTED BY DOLLY DONG, CCO STAFF PARTNER

RECENT EVENTS

- Chinese Church members took a summer retreat to Myrtle Beach from August 4 to 9. We focused on the topic of “Encouragement of Friends” based on Proverbs 17:17. We gathered each day for meditation, prayers, and fellowship. We encouraged each other. We met two other families during this trip to share our ministry and care for them. We all enjoyed God’s love, joy, and blessings as we spent time together.
- We continue to support two sets of new parents with babies. We regularly visit with mothers FeiFei and Sophia and enjoy time with their babies, too! On July 30, we gathered for dinner fellowship and prayed for their families. FeiFei and Sophia have grown in friendship with one another, which is a blessing. They share that their friendship has helped their homesickness.
- Lily, one of our AU alumni, visited Ashland at the beginning of August with her husband Arial. They visited us just before moving to their new destination—Canada! They stayed in a friendly FPC member’s house and we hosted a farewell party for them to bless them. They felt so loved and encouraged by FPC and Chinese families.
- On August 21, we hosted new students and friends for a picnic at Dolly’s house. We enjoyed a fellowship dinner, celebrated birthdays, and read Scriptures and prayed together. 28 people attended the picnic.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Tuesday Chinese lunches will restart on Tuesday, September 7 at 1:00 pm. The lunches are held at the AU Lower Chapel. This is an opportunity for us to meet international students, help them practice their English, and have cross-cultural conversations with one another. Prayer and financial support are needed.
- Come celebrate the Chinese Moon Festival with us on Saturday, September 18 from 5:00 to 7:00 pm. The event will be a potluck and will be held at the FPC Fellowship Hall.



Chinese Church members ventured to Myrtle Beach for a summer retreat in early August. The group met up with two other families and enjoyed time together in prayer, fellowship, and in the outdoors.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Our Prayer Shawl Ministry formed in 2016. Since then, we have distributed approximately 42 shawls. These shawls can be given for those who are ill, grieving, as a thank-you gift, or whatever occasion the committee deems appropriate.

We currently meet on the second Tuesday of each month at 2:30 pm in the FPC Library. There are currently about 8 women who help us knit and crochet shawls.

We need new members! It takes approximately 3 to 6 months to knit a prayer shawl and about 2-3 to crochet, depending on how involved the member is in other things.

Some prayer shawls are returned once the person no longer needs it. These are cleaned and recycled if appropriate. Sometimes people do not want the shawl, as Hospice or another group have given them one.

It is not always the maker’s role to present these; we are looking for “givers” as well.

It is very nice to have an inventory of prayer shawls so that the current staff and church leaders can bless those in an emergency. We look forward to adding new crocheters and knitters!

Submitted by Brenda Luttrell

SEPTEMBER 2021
First Presbyterian Church of Ashland

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 6:30 pm Praise Band	2 4:00 pm Chinese Tea Gathering	3	4 4:00 pm Chinese Church
5 10:00 am Church at the Park (Brookside West)	6 Church Office Closed: Labor Day	7 9:00 am Worship Planning 8:00 pm AA	8 6:30 pm Praise Band	9 4:00 pm Chinese Tea Gathering	10	11 4:00 pm Chinese Church
12 10:00 am 16th Sunday after Pentecost Lay-Led Sunday/ Communion	13	14 9:00 am Worship Planning 2:30 pm Prayer Shawl 8:00 pm AA	15 6:30 pm Praise Band	16 4:00 pm Chinese Tea Gathering	17	18 5:00 pm Chinese Church Moon Festival
19 10:00 am 17th Sunday after Pentecost Sunday School	20	21 9:00 am Worship Planning 8:00 pm AA	22 6:30 pm Praise Band	23 4:00 pm Chinese Tea Gathering	24	25 4:00 pm Chinese Church
26 10:00 am 18th Sunday after Pentecost Sunday School	27 1:00 pm Board of Trustees	28 9:00 am Worship Planning 8:00 pm AA	29	30		



1st	Barbara Bradford	20th	Ruth Detrow
	Donna Mohn	21st	Emily Barnett
4th	Brenda Luttrell		
7th	Peggy Yoder		
12th	Connie Dravenstott		
13th	Becky Sheeks		

CROP WALK 2021 SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3

\$5 = 2 cans of corn in Haiti or hygiene education for children in Cambodia

\$50 = Medical kit in Myanmar or disaster preparedness training in West Timor

\$500 = Latrine in Haiti or 5 pigs in Haiti

\$5000 = Sanitary toilet in Vietnam or 2 rooftop water systems in Bolivia

Does this list get your attention? Maybe you're wondering what this has to do with you? Everything! This list illustrates how far our contributions to CROP WALK can go.

Sunday, October 3 will be the Ashland community's annual opportunity to support this ecumenical outreach program. As in 2020, this year's "walk" will be virtual, rather than dozens of people gathering together. We will provide a labeled container in the narthex for donations to help alleviate hunger and poverty in many locations around the world.

Watch for additional details in forthcoming bulletins and email updates.



EVANGELISM + OUTREACH

41 PAIRS OF JEANS!

41 pairs of jeans were taken to Associated Charities to help local families with back-to-school needs of their children. E & O extends our deepest thanks to those who purchased jeans or donated cash to make this possible. As in the past, outreach funds have been used to match each donated pair.

COMING SOON:

As we continue to support families in this community through helping to provide for their needs, Christmas boxes will be available for church family to fill with small toys, books, games, etc. appropriate for young Head Start children. We'll have lists of suggested items and boxes available in October.

LOOKING AHEAD:

While we don't want to think winter just yet, many stores will soon be displaying mittens, scarves, and gloves. While the selection is good, that will be an opportunity to pick those up to adorn the "warm and fuzzy" tree during Advent.

COOKIES FOR AA:

We continue to provide cookies for the AA group meeting at FPC is very much appreciated. We're doing this on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month. All that's involved is providing enough cookies for 12 to 15 adults and bringing them to the church office before 3:00 pm on the designated day. Barb Latham is coordinating this outreach project, and will be happy to add more folks to the schedule. Thanks to those who have already taken a turn (or more!).

Loud Sunday Offering: \$183.60

Thanks to all for the generous offering given on this past Loud Sunday (8/29). \$183.60 was collected for the Pastor's Discretionary Fund, which will help provide emergency vouchers to those in need.

Fundraiser for Dolly Dong

Doug McKibben is selling frozen one-pound packages of sausage in support of Dolly Dong's ministry with CCO. Per Doug: "I bought some hogs and had Turk Brothers put them all into whole hog sausage. Hams, loins, and everything went in so it is really good and remarkably lean; not a lot of grease." The sausage has Turk's breakfast blend seasoning mixed in. The price is \$5.00 per pound and all profits benefit Dolly's ministry with CCO. Contact Doug to place an order: d1mck@frontier.com or 419-651-9956.

First Presbyterian Church of Ashland
320 Church Street
Ashland, OH 44805



Phone: 419-289-6205

Email: office@ashlandfpc.org

Facebook: FPC Ashland

www.ashlandfpc.org

Address Service Requested

PRSR STD
Non Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID

Ashland, Ohio
Permit No. 258

To:

SEPTEMBER 2021

SEPTEMBER 2021

WEEKLY EVENTS

Sunday Worship

Sundays, 10:00 am

Worship Planning

Tuesdays, 9:00 am

AA Group

Tuesdays, 8:00 pm

Praise Band

Wednesdays, 6:30 pm

Chinese Church Tea Gathering

Thursdays, 4:00 pm

Chinese Church Worship

Saturdays, 4:00 pm

MONTHLY EVENTS

Board of Trustees

Monday, September 27, 1:00 pm

SPECIAL EVENTS

Church at the Park

Sunday, September 5, 10:00 am
Brookside West Park

Lay-Led Sunday

Sunday, September 12, 10:00 am
Terry Mapes, Lay Preacher
Praise Band
Elder-Led Communion

SEPTEMBER FOOD BANK NEEDS

Non-perishable food items: Saltine crackers, egg noodles, spaghetti sauce and noodles, peanut butter, ramen noodles, cream of chicken soup, chicken noodle soup

Non-food items: Bar soap, paper towels