

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

120 S. PARK AVENUE FREMONT, OH 43420 419-334-7171 WW.FREMONTFPC.ORG

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES IN JUNE:

June 2 - "So the World May Know"

June 9 - "Making Connections"

June 16, 23, 30 - 10 am service, Sermon Title TBA

PASTORAL REFLECTIONS

Eavesdropping on Mary and Martha

As we approach summer and possibly have some free time, what will we do with that free time? Will we choose to keep busy with chores, cleaning, and errands or will we allow some time for prayer and time to listen to Jesus?

Remember Mary and Martha? Take a moment and read Luke chapter 10 and notice the events that lead up to Jesus' dinner with Mary and Martha.

Our society usually praises the Marthas: those who work hard and get things done! To sit in silence and pray is often seen as a waste of time or only an option if all possible chores and tasks are completed. Marys may be viewed as idealists, having their heads in the clouds, or even considered lazy.

Imagine that you are overhearing a conversation between Mary and Martha just before a planned dinner with Jesus. The conversation may go something like this:

Martha: Mary, Mary, get to work! Jesus will be here any moment. There are things, so many things to do. Mary, what are your priorities?

Mary: I was just thinking about what I will say to Jesus. When I went to market, Ben told me about a teacher of the law who asked Jesus what one must do to inherit eternal life. Jesus didn't answer his question. Jesus asked him two questions: What is written in the Law? And, how do you read it? The teacher quoted the Torah and said, "Love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, soul strength, and mind."

Martha: Mary, quit babbling and go to see if Mordecai's wife has any extra bread to spare. Her loaves always turn out perfectly. We need to serve the best to Jesus.

Mary: Martha, why do you think Jesus asked the man questions? The man should be asking Jesus questions. The man quoted the Torah saying we should love God with our whole being: all we say, do, and think. Martha, just think about it. All we do is important. Just imagine when I walk through the fields looking at the lilies, they should remind me of God. When I see the birds in their nests, when I taste Mordecai's wife's bread...

Martha: Mary, speaking of bread, go get that loaf from Mrs. Mordecai.

Mary is excited about having an opportunity to talk with Jesus face to face. All Martha can think about is preparing the house. When I think of Martha, I picture Ms. Hyacinth Bucket (which she insists is pronounced *bouquet*) from the British comedy series "Keeping Up Appearances" getting ready for one of her famous candle light suppers. I can hear Martha saying, "Jesus is coming to dinner because we are part of Lazurus' family. He doesn't care what we say. He knows I put on the best candle light suppers. He knows how orderly my household is and that I serve only the best wines."

On the other hand, Mary would be interested in what Jesus had to say. She was curious to understand all she knew and heard about him. I can hear the conversa-

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

From the Pastor	1-2
Calendar	4
Anniversaries	4
Birthdays	4
Assisting in Worship	6

Special points of interest:

- ◇ Worship 10 am
- ◇ Christ University 9 am
- ◇ Session Summary
- ◇ Announcements
- ◇ Easter Flower Order
- ◇ Rummage Sale Alert

2019 PER CAPITA

\$33.20

tion with Mary and Martha continuing:

Mary: Martha, Jesus told a man, "You have answered correctly. Do this and you will live. " Martha, do you want to live forever? I want to live to be as old as Methuselah!

Martha: Oh, but just think how wrinkled your skin will be. No man will want to look at you, not even Jesus.

Mary: But to Jesus all people are beautiful. We must be. Just think; Jesus is coming here, to this very house, to have a meal with us. We are women. Lazarus is not here. He is coming to see us.

Martha: Get the bread. If you do not get one soon, you won't get one. Mordecai's wife only bakes a few extra loaves. Everyone, anyone of any good breeding that is, wants one. She promised me one, but if you do not get there soon, others will get there first. She will think we are not coming and will give our loaf to someone else. Mrs. Mordecai's bread is the best. She follows the dietary laws carefully. Her cooking area is always as neat as a pin. She comes from a good family herself. She married down a step or two when she married Mordecai. He does not realize how lucky he is. Her dinners almost rival my candle light suppers. Anybody who is anybody comes to her house. Her bread is the best; we must have the best for Jesus.

Mary: Martha, did I tell you? Ben said the man of the law asked Jesus a second question. He asked Jesus, "Who is my neighbor?" In the Torah it says, "Love your neighbor as yourself." The man wanted to know who his neighbor was.

Martha: How would Jesus know? Our neighbors are Mordecai and his wife, Ben and his family. This man of the law either was not very smart or never went out of his house. He did not even know who lived next door to him. Yet he expected Jesus to know.

Mary: I do not think that next door neighbors is what the man or Jesus had in mind. Jesus had to answer the man not with a question this time, but with a story.

Martha: Long winded, this Jesus. I better get all my chores done before he gets here. It might be a long afternoon and evening. Go get the bread, girl.

Mary: I think you are missing the point. Jesus isn't talking about our physical neighbors, those in close proximity, those on our side of town. Jesus defines neighbors as all his children. Jesus told a man, "Go and do likewise." We are to love as Jesus loved.

I can even picture Mary wanting to invite others to their supper with Jesus. Martha would probably be very hesitant.


Mary: Martha, we have an opportunity to listen to Jesus. Let's invite others. Martha, we must invite others. It's like going to a great banquet and eating a big feast all by yourself. It is lonely. The food is so delicious that you want to share that experience with others. You could eat the meal by yourself and then try to tell others about it. But words are inadequate. Others can't experience what you have tasted by just hearing about it. They have to taste it for themselves. It is like that with your candle light suppers. People have to experience it for themselves to really appreciate your gift of hospitality. For others to know God's love and mercy, they have to experience it. By our loving them, they will know God's love.

Would Martha give in? Or would she see the extra people as an inconvenience and a problem? There might not be enough food and enough place settings that match.

We are all offered an invitation to come and sit, and spend some time with Jesus. Will you allow yourself to be Mary and accept the invitation once in awhile this summer? Don't let the Martha in you turn down the invitation or lose focus on what's important for the Christian journey.

Pastor Julie

SATELLITES

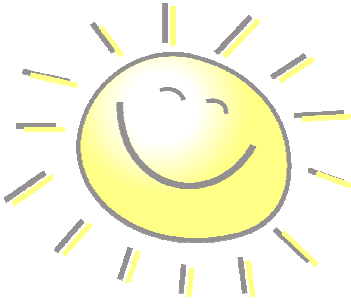
 Our June lunch will take place on Wed., June 12th at 11:30 at the Hartford House in Oak Harbor, OH. The address is : 200 W. Water St. in the old hotel. Please call your reservations to Audine (419-334-3494) by Sun., June 9th. All are welcome. Bring a friend. If you need a ride, tell Audine. Hope to see everyone there.

WELCOME, LITTLE ONE!

Finley Marie Abbott was welcomed into the world on May 9, 2019. Finley's parents are Mike and Marissa Abbott, grandparents are Russ and Ellen Abbott and great-grandmother is Helen Abbott. We are blessed!

 Welcome
Beautiful Girl...

RAINBOW STATION NEWS



Welcome to June! We are currently in our Summer Session. It is hard to say

goodbye to those moving on to Kindergarten, but we know they will do great and make new friends. We are making new friends as well, and are looking forward to seeing new faces in the fall and watching them grow.

Miss Roberta has been out for a few weeks, but has been working on paperwork and licensing requirements as she is able. She should be released to return to work with the children some time in June. Susan Myers has been acting as a long-term sub in Miss Roberta's absence, and the staff is working hard to fill in the gaps. Please continue to keep the staff and children in your prayers.

Thank you for your support and prayers. We will talk again next month.

Rainbow Station Staff



WANT TO HELP?

The children would love your odds and ends to use in arts and crafts. Buttons, ribbon, fabric scraps, bottle caps, cotton

balls, seeds, paper plates, etc....so many things can be used for creative works of art!

Thank you for all you do!



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

4	Miss Shari
20	Hailey Sebetto

						1
2 9:00a - Christ University 10:00a Worship 5:00p - VIDA Church	3 10:00a - PW Mtg 8:00p Alanon 8:00p AA	4	5 6:00p - Choir 6:00p - WOLT 6:30p - Admin & Finance 7:15p - Session	6 6:00p - Girl Scouts	7 8:30a-1:00p - Social Room reserved	8
9 9:00a - Christ University 10:00a Worship 5:00p - VIDA Church	10 8:00p Alanon 8:00p AA	11	12 11:30a - Satellites 6:00p - Choir	13	14	15
16 9:00a - Christ University 10:00a Worship 5:00p - VIDA Church	17 8:00p Alanon 8:00p AA	18	19 6:00p - Choir 6:30p - Deacons	20 6:00p - Girl Scouts NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE	21	22
23 9:00a - Christ University 10:00a Worship 5:00p - VIDA Church	24 8:00p Alanon 8:00p AA	25	26 6:00p - Choir	27 5:30p - Habitat	28	29
30 9:00a - Christ University 10:00a Worship 5:00p - VIDA Church						

JUNE

Birthdays

- | | | | |
|----|------------------|----|---------------|
| 3 | Donn Jones | 22 | Joyce Jones |
| 8 | Linda Hamilton | 24 | Linda Bartson |
| 11 | Benjamin Miarer | 25 | Mike Opre |
| 14 | Kristen Van Dyne | 26 | Amy Opre |
| 19 | Joan Gamble | 27 | Bill Taylor |
| 21 | Alice Livingston | 29 | Thomas Turley |

Anniversaries

- | | |
|----|------------------------|
| 17 | Ben & Janet Hickey |
| 19 | Larry & Carol Van Dyne |
| 21 | John & Kathy Fawley |
| 21 | Hal & Nancy Mills |
| 24 | Kyle & Jody Amor |
| 30 | Bert & Lois Livingston |

THANK YOU!!

Many thanks to all of the church members who made this year's rummage sale a huge success. A special thanks to those who made the soups and other goodies for the kitchen. We appreciate the many wonderful items donated by the congregation and friends in the community. We brought in a total of \$3,406.65 and were able to send boxes of items to Share and Care, Birchard Library, and Goodwill. Due to the success of the rummage sale, PW has been able to provide funds to the following programs:

Rainbow Station Memorial
Rainbow Station Scholarship
Food Pantry
Habitat for Humanity
Heartbeat
Liberty Center
Share and Care
Village House
Youth for Christ
Maumee Valley Women's Association
Pontifex - Disciple and Action
Hurricane Michael Relief
Disaster Relief - U.S. Wild Fires
Juvenile Detention Center Bibles

Thank you! Presbyterian Women

NEWS FROM THE PRESBYTERIAN FOUNDATION

This foundation is open to all for any donation, and the interest earned from your donation is added to the total of all other gifts for distribution to the eight areas listed on the distribution information chart below.

For any questions, ask one of the foundation's members: Michael Cominsky (Treasurer/Secretary), Russell Abbott, Larry Van Dyne, Harry Sargeant, Jon Detwiler, James Stout (Chairman)

Total	12,702
Paid per point: 1.2950267	
Distribution Summary:	
Church	\$9,560.04
Women's Association	\$2,754.94
Board of National Missions	\$2,025.78
Capital Fund	\$463.62
Choir	\$346.64
Sunday School	\$248.86
Church Music Program	\$790.22
Church Library	\$259.33
Total	\$16,449.43

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

The Christian Growth and Nurture Leadership Team is preparing for Vacation Bible School during the week of Monday, June 17 – Friday, June 21 from 8:30 -11:30 a.m. In an effort to creatively use our talents and serve our Rainbow Station children, our VBS program this summer will focus on “GospelTopia” which is all about the Good news of what Jesus has done for us because of his great love. The lessons the children will learn are about how much God loves them by exploring the jungle of GospelTopia. This summer we will need 4 leaders, male and/or female, to lead the lesson(s) for each day. In addition to teaching lessons, with the help/assistance of the Rainbow Station staff, other activities include games, crafts, songs, snack and prayer. We are asking that you prayerfully consider being a part of this special time. If this is something you would like to help with, please contact Nicole Whetstone in the Nursery or call her at 419-307-0718 to leave a message.

Sincerely the Christian Growth and Nurture Leadership Team,
 Mary Goeke, Amanda Herman, Stephanie Stull and Nicole Whetstone



**As we are getting ready for Vacation Bible School, there are some items that we need to complete each lesson. If you would like to contribute and/or donate any of the following items, please contact Nicole Whetstone at 419-307-0718. You may also contact any Christian Growth and Nurture Team member. Thank You!

Day 1 – Elephant

Pool Noodles (15)
 4 - 15 oz. cans of to-
 mato puree, unopened
 Nylon Stretch Cord
 White paper plates
 Glue
 Sponge
 Noisemakers (the kind
 you blow into & they
 extend)
 Eyeball candy (3 packs)

Day 4 - Sheep

White balloons
 Flyswatters or rolled up
 newspaper
 Masking tape
 White votive candle
 White paper plates
 Cotton balls
 Pencils
 Yarn or nylon cord
 15 vanilla cupcakes
 WITHOUT frosting

Day 2 – Kangaroo

Duct tape
 Wood dowels
 Sleeping bags (several)
 Masking Tape
 Sturdy colorful paper
 plates
 Popsicle sticks
 Construction Paper

Day 5 – Giraffe

Cardboard or card stock
 Cross
 Dominos
 Masking tape
 Pens
 Yellow construction
 paper
 Light brown construc-
 tion paper or brown
 paper bags
 Bananas (1 big bunch)
 Chocolate covered rai-
 sins
 Almond slivers

Day 3 – Lion

Water balloons
 Toilet paper (5
 packs of 4)
 5 lb. Barbell
 50 lb. Barbell
 Orange construc-
 tion paper
 Yellow construction
 paper
 Black construction
 paper
 Glue sticks
 Sugar cookies (15-
 20)
 Mandarin oranges
 (5 large cans)
 Strawberries (1
 pack)
 Blueberries (1 pack)

Neighbors' News



In Matthew 25:35 & 40 Jesus says "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat." "I tell you the truth, whatever you did for

one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me."

Thanks to all who have put extra items on your grocery list to fill the containers in the Social Room. As always, please look for sales and help only as you are able.

Thanks for your help neighbor!

Rod and Linda Combs

Dish Soap (optional)

Liquid Laundry Detergent (optional)

June

2 - Saltine Crackers

9 - Peanut Butter

16 - Jelly

23 - Corn

30 - Applesauce

June Assisting In Worship

DATE	USHERS	COMMUNION PREP, SERVING & CLEAN-UP	LOCK DOORS
June 2	Team 3 Mike Opre - Captain Bob & Lisa Zimmerman		Ken Myers
June 9	Team 4 Susan Myers - Captain Larry & Barb Stout	No Communion	Bob Gamble
June 16	Team 5 Pam Clark- Captain Russ & Ellen Abbott		Bob Gamble
June 23	Team 1 Dannita Cowdrey - Captain Bob Cowdrey Rod Combs	No Communion	Bob Gamble
June 30	Team 2 Bill Taylor -Captain Carolyn Taylor Jan Zimmerman		Bob Gamble

SUMMARY OF SESSION MEETING

May 1, 2019

Motions

To approve the minutes from the April 3, 2019 Session Meeting.

To hire an organist.

To adjourn.

The time was opened with the reading of Matthew 25:14-30. The Presbytery is concentrating on Matthew 25. Joan Gray will be speaking on it at the meeting on June 8. There was a discussion regarding risk taking and failure to take some action. Next, we read from Matthew 14:22-32, This is the story of Jesus walking on the water and Peter getting out of boat and then experiencing fear and asking Jesus to save him. The book of Order F-1:0001 talks about the church taking risks and stepping out on faith. Fear of failure keeps people from taking any action. Jesus was the ultimate example of taking risks, giving his life to save us. The idea of Matthew 25 is committing to church vitality, addressing racism and overcoming poverty.

What is one thing our church has to offer that no other church is offering in the area? That is the path to success and life.

What is Christ calling us to do in our community?

Pastor Julie closed the time with prayer.

Upcoming Dates and Events:

May 3: Rummage Sale

May 5: Cinco De Mayo Celebration. The Vida church will participate. A luncheon will follow the service. The Vida church will be providing some music.

May 5: Teacher Appreciation Sunday

May 18: Spring Clean-up at the church at 9 am.

June 8: Spiritual Leadership Training in Norwalk with Joan Gray.

June 9: Pentecost

June 16: Moving downstairs for service.

June 17-21: Vacation Bible School.

June 24: Migrant Health Fair at the Old Fort Grade School. Volunteers are needed.

OLD BUSINESS

June 8 The Presbytery will be bringing Rev. Dr. Joan Gray to speak at the Norwalk church from 10:00 – 2:30 on Spiritual Leadership. The cost of attending is \$10 per person. Contact Pastor Julie if you are interested in attending.

Pastor Julie attended the installation service at Cadmus for Anne Marie Montgomery.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion on the Clerk. The Clerk must be a current or former member of Session. Bill Taylor will be the Clerk. John Roush will assist as necessary.

There was a discussion about reducing the number of Leadership Teams.

Linda Hamilton has agreed to be the Chair of the Nominating Committee.

The committees will be appointed in June.

The question was raised about an organist. The Personnel Committee is asked to make arrangements to hire an organist.

Report to the Congregation

Clerk's Report

	10:00
April 7	44
April 14 (Palm Sunday)	54
April 21 (Easter)	96
April 28	48

Pastor's Report

Pastor Julie's activity in March on behalf of our church includes:

During March, I preached Sunday sermons and prepared worship service bulletins for March Sundays and officiated at Communion Services. I also provided pastoral counseling and support for concerned persons by phone and in person. Issues for people in the area especially Senior citizens and young adults continue to be the lack of low cost housing and the high cost of utilities in the winter. I also planned and lead the Ash Wednesday service for March 6. I also did some reading and study of early church history and preaching for a professional development class, prepared and lead the Lenten retreat, and wrote an article for the April newsletter. I moderated the March session meeting and also made pastoral visits to nursing homes and homebound individuals. I also contacted the Girl Scout Leader about Girl Scout Sunday, March 6th and assisted with their involvement in the service that day. I also meet with a family for baptismal preparation for a baptism on Easter Sunday and attended a brunch and a mental health workshop that focused on the needs of the young adults of the community. Young adults were present to share their experiences and concerns. I am also working on planning April Lenten services, Maundy Thursday, Palm Sunday, and Easter services. This past Sunday, March 31, I also officiated at the ordination and installation of our new deacon and the installation of two ruling elders. If you have any topics of interest for the Coffee with Calvin times on Sundays, please feel free to contact me.

Treasurer's Report

The Capital fund is now at zero. Utilities expenses are over budget.

Rainbow Station Report

Roberta will be out for a few weeks, Susan Myers is acting as a long-term sub. The staff is doing a great job. Nikki, Kathy and Sherri attended a training conference on Saturday April 27th and reported learning many new things that they are excited to share in the classroom. There are 2 openings in the older group of 4 & 5 yr. olds. Please continue to keep the staff and children in your prayers.



THE BOARD OF DEACONS

- Dannita Cowdrey*
- Bob Gamble (Moderator)*
- Susan Myers*
- Diane Roush*
- Anne Humberger*
- Josh Ross*
- Kaylee Amor*
- Amanda Herman*

THE CHURCH MINISTRY TEAM

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| Pastor | Rev. Dr. Julie Kling |
| Choir Director | Lori Damschroder |
| Organist Emeritus | Paul Livingston |
| Secretary | Amy Monk |
| Children's Ministry Coordinator | Nicole Whetstone |
| Rainbow Station Director/Teacher | Roberta Patterson |
| Rainbow Station Teacher | Nikki Whetstone |
| Rainbow Station Teacher | Kathleen Daley |
| Rainbow Station Floater | Shari Mehling |
| Co-Treasurers | Larry & Carol Van Dyne |
| Volunteer Parish Nurse | Linda Hamilton |
| Custodian | Scott Slatter |

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN
COORDINATING TEAM

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| Moderator | Dannita Cowdrey |
| Secretary | |
| Treasurer | Carol Van Dyne |
| Funeral Luncheon | Susan Myers |
| Rachel Circle | Dannita Cowdrey |
| Rummage Sales | |
| At Large | Susan McKnight |
| | Jo Elder |
| | Lois Livingston |

THE SESSION

- Larry Stout*
- Don Steen*
- Nicole Whetstone*
- Jody Amor*
- Linda Hamilton*
- John Roush*
- Bob Humberger*
- Bill Taylor (Clerk)*
- Rev. Dr. Julie Kling (Moderator)*

CONTACT INFORMATION

To contact the pastor, call the church office at 419-334-7171.
In case of a pastoral emergency, call 419-341-2548.



Follow us on Facebook