

JUNE 2021

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

120 S. PARK AVE, FREMONT, OH 43420 419-334-7171 WWW.FREMONTFPC.ORG

PASTORAL REFLECTIONS

The Christian Journey of Faith, Hope, and Above All, Love

In Book I of *On Christian Doctrine*, Augustine uses a powerful image for the Christian life, that of a traveler trying to return to his or her homeland. He defines “homeland” as a loving relationship with God, which is the relationship from which all persons come and that which they keep blundering and wandering trying to find and return to again. All humans have a need to seek God’s presence. Augustine describes this journey of trying to return to God’s love as a process of healing and cleansing. God is the healer, and God’s word, scripture, is the medicine. (Bizzell & Herzberg, 2001, p. 453)

Therefore, reading scripture helps individuals on the journey to God. Augustine stresses his concern over right interpretation of scripture by saying that it must focus on charity and love of neighbor, as loving neighbors will lead one to God. For Augustine, any interpretation that encourages hate, fear, anger, or resentment of others is not of God and is incorrect interpretation. For Augustine, charity and love of others is the only path that will lead one to God. Augustine suggests that if it deviates from that, the reader is “[ing] his or her [own] interpretations more than what the Bible says” (Bizzell & Herzberg, 2001, p. 453). He cautions that if I feel my interpretation is the only right one, I am headed down the wrong path, as I am placing my ideas before loving others and loving God. Augustine states, “Whoever, then, thinks that he understands the Holy Scriptures, or any part of them, but puts such an interpretation upon them as does not tend to build up this twofold love of God and our neighbor, does not yet understand them as he ought” (*On Christian Doctrine*, Book I). For Augustine, the key elements of reading scripture and striving for a true interpretation are faith, hope, and charity. Faith is belief in God, hope is loving God, and charity is

Indoor worship is still temporarily canceled. There will be “Zoom” services every Sunday at 10 am and Sunday School at 9 am. Stay tuned for emails or phone messages regarding outdoor worship opportunities.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Pastoral Reflections	1-2
Anniversaries	5
Birthdays	5

Opportunities for Worship:

- Sunday School 9 am, via Zoom
- Worship 10 am, via Zoom

CONTACT INFO:

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

NEWSLETTER PREFERENCE:

To change how you receive your newsletter or to unsubscribe from our mailing list, please email the church office at:

office@fremontfpc.org

2021 PER CAPITA

\$37.23

loving others, leading to a return to God (Bizzell & Herzberg, 2001, p. 453).

Or, in the words of 1 John 4:8-9, “Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. In this, the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him.”

Pastor Julie

References:

Augustine. *On Christian Doctrine*. In J. Shaw (Translator, 1887) *Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, First Series*, Vol. 2. P. Schaff (Ed.). Buffalo, NY: Christian Literature Publishing. Revised and edited for New Advent by K. Knight. Retrieved from <http://www.newadvent.org/fathers/12021>.

Bizzell, P., & Herzberg, B. (2001). *The rhetorical tradition: Readings from classical times to the present* (2nd ed.). Boston, MA: Bedford/St. Martin's.

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday, June 6

Scripture: Acts, chapters 15 and 16

Sermon Title: “Mission Possible: The Spirit’s Guidance”

Theme: Discerning what path God wants us to follow

Communion

Sunday, June 13

Scripture: Acts, chapters 17 and 18

Sermon Title: “Mission Possible: Letting Go of Fear”

Theme: Paul’s trust in God despite obstacles

Sunday, June 20

Scripture: Acts, chapters 19 and 20

Sermon Title: “Mission Possible: Stay on the Path”

Theme: Paul’s advice on listening to the truth in order to “finish the race”

Communion

Sunday, June 27

Scripture: Acts, chapters 21 and 22

Sermon Title: “Mission Possible: Building Bridges”

Theme: Paul’s ability to be inclusive yet not compromise the essentials

Neighbors' News



The Pandemic has changed our lives but not our commitment to help feed the hungry. If you are able to help until we are able to collect food items, please send a contribution to:

The Sandusky County Food Pantry
PO Box 445
Fremont, OH 43420

Please put **First Presbyterian Church Neighbors** on the memo line of your check. Thanks for your help, Neighbor!

UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have moved, changed phone numbers, or have a new email address, please email those changes to the office at:

office@fremontfpc.org

Thank you! Amy Monk,
 FPC Administrative Assistant

RAINBOW STATION NEWS



Welcome to Summer! As we are enjoying this nicer weather, we are thinking of our summer and fall programs and how they will look. Joan and I will be discussing our options in June, so please keep us and the program in your prayers.

We are so thankful for the understanding families that were with us through this past year. It hasn't been easy and it has not been fun, but we feel we made it through the best we could. We ask for your continued prayers throughout this summer and next fall.

Thank you for all the prayers and support of any kind that you have provided. We appreciate your support more than you know. Thank you to those responsible for pulling the weeds in the drive by the play yard. It looks so much better.

Congratulations to our students going on to kindergarten in the fall. Our prayers are

with them for a successful kindergarten experience.

Until next newsletter, have a safe summer and God bless.

Rainbow Station
Staff

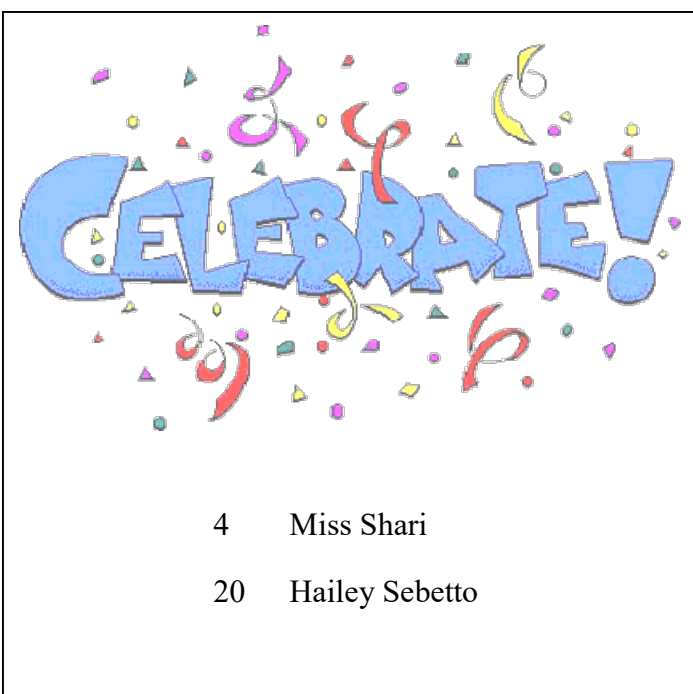


KROGER FUNDRAISER



Thank you to the 119 households who shopped at Kroger between February 1, 2021 and April 30, 2021. You helped Rainbow Station earn \$541.86!! If you don't see

Rainbow Station listed at the bottom of your Kroger receipt, please call the church office at 419-334-7171 to be enrolled. Every little bit helps!



4 Miss Shari

20 Hailey Sebetto

SUMMARY OF SESSION MEETING

The regular April Stated Session was held via Zoom on Wednesday, April 14, 2021. Session members present on the tele-conference included: Jody Amor, Linda Hamilton, Bob Humberger, Ken Myers, John Roush, Larry Stout, Bill Taylor, and Rev. Dr. Julie Kling, moderator.

Pastor Kling opened the meeting with prayer from the Book of Common Prayer about racism and poverty.

Due to the pandemic, all church events are canceled. Adult Sunday School and the Sunday worship service will be on ZOOM or announced if other.

The March Sunday Worship Attendance: March 7 – 28, 14 - 32, 21 –31, and 28 – 24 (via Zoom). Families are reminded that Kirkmont will be open this summer.

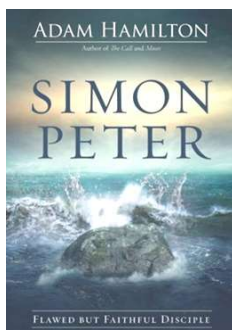
Pastor Kling gave an oral report of her March activities.

The treasurer's report (which includes Rainbow Station) for March 2021 income - \$7,691; expenditures - \$6,906; net - \$785; 2121 Year to date income - \$24,260; expenditures - \$26,790; and 2 (deficit) – (\$2,329)

The Leadership team reports included: **Admin and Finance** - looking for a Landscaping provider; **Fellowship and Service** –church property clean-up planned for Monday, May 24; and **Nominating** - seeking two deacon nominees. **Presbytery Report** – Church will remain virtual pending Sandusky County's covid rating.

The Session set Sunday, May 23, as the day for the congregational meeting to be held on ZOOM immediately following the Zoom worship service. The audit committee will combine the 2019 and 2020 audits of the church books at a date to be determined. FPC will provide financial assistance to families wishing to send their children to Kirkmont this summer.

Pastor Kling closed the meeting with prayer.



Christ University

Join us for a study by Ray Vander Laan on the Death and Resurrection of the Messiah. The study includes a DVD with visits to the Holy Land to bring the Bible passages to life. Join us via Zoom on Sunday mornings at 9:00 am.



JUNE

	1	2	3	4	5
6 9:00a - Zoom Sunday School 10:00a - Zoom Worship - <i>Installation of Officers</i>	8	9 7:30p - Session Mtg	10	11	12
13 9:00a - Zoom Sunday School 10:00a - Zoom Worship	15	16	17	18	19
20 9:00a - Zoom Sunday School 10:00a - Zoom Worship Happy Father's Day! Newsletter Articles Due	22	23	24	25	26
27 9:00a - Zoom Sunday School 10:00a - Zoom Worship	29	30			

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

Anniversaries

- 19 Joan Gamble
- 25 Mike Oprie
- 25 Amy Oprie
- 27 Bill Taylor
- 29 Thomas Turley

Birthdays

- 19 Joan Schmidt
- 21 Alice Livingston
- 22 Joyce Jones
- 24 Linda Bartson
- 29 Thomas Turley

- 3 Donn Jones
- 8 Linda Hamilton
- 11 Benjamin Miarer
- 14 Kristen Van Dyne



THE BOARD OF DEACONS

Kaylee Amor
Pam Clark
Gerrie Hensley
Amanda Herman
Anne Humberger
Lisa Zimmerman
Josh Ross (Moderator)
Diane Roush

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	Kathleen Daley
Rainbow Station Floater	Shari Mehling
Rainbow Station Aide	Kali Norris
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	Jo Elder Lois Livingston

THE SESSION

Jody Amor
Linda Hamilton
Bob Humberger
Ken Myers
John Roush
Larry Stout
Bill Taylor (Clerk)
Rev. Dr. Julie Kling (Moderator)



Follow us on Facebook

CONTACT INFORMATION

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