

September 2022

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

## Pastoral Reflection: A Difficult Journey

People respond differently to different situations. When a hurricane was headed for Florida, I had friends who left when told to evacuate, friends who tried to evacuate when told to leave, others who decided to stay in their homes, some who had no choice but to stay in their homes, and others who tried to leave but were not able. To evacuate and head north, one first needs money, then one hopes that gas and food are available along the way or a flight can be booked. One also needs stamina to perhaps drive a distance, as hotels further north in Florida and Georgia might sell out right away. When millions of people are trying to evacuate at the same time, resources are limited.

A few years ago, an Ohio friend was on a cruise which came into port three days early because of an impending hurricane. It took them several hours to get off the ship as people were racing to get to cars and get to airports to try to get a flight home. He and his daughter ended up driving several hours to central Florida and staying at a family member's condo. However, the trip from the port to central Florida took almost three times as long as it should have due to the difficulty of finding gas, waiting in lines for gas, and waiting in lines on the freeway. They stayed in a condo for a week with no water and no electricity, which means they had no working air conditioning and no functioning plumbing. It took a week for them to be able to get booked on a flight to get back to Ohio. They were glad to be home.

Another friend could not leave during this same hurricane as her husband's employer wanted him back to work as soon as the hurricane had passed. If he did not report to work, he was assured he would lose his job. Therefore, they had to stay.

Another friend who is retired and lives very simply on social security, did not have the money to purchase gas, flights, or hotels. She did have enough gas in her car to drive to a shelter and spent several nights there. After the hurricane, she had to live with a neighbor in his trailer which had no water or electricity because her trailer had been destroyed.

All these different persons faced different challenges. When being told to evacuate, it was not just an easy drive to the next town. As in the case of my friends, money, work, traffic jams, and lack of resources were factors. For others, health concerns were a factor. Others could not evacuate or get to a shelter easily because of mobility issues. So to just say "go" or "leave now" was not that simple.

The book of Exodus is central to the history of Jewish identity. In Exodus, Joseph is sold by his brothers into slavery in Egypt. A famine comes, but Jacob forgives his brothers and is reconciled with them. Time passes and the numerous descendants of Jacob end up as slaves in Egypt. Egypt could not sustain this many people. Resources were scarce. God sends a series of plagues to weaken the Egyptians, leading up to an opportunity for the Israelites to leave. They are told to be ready, take just what they need, and mark the doors of their houses with the blood of the Passover lamb so they are spared. What is key in this journey is that

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### Opportunities for Worship:

- Sunday School - 8:45 am, via Zoom
- Worship - 10 am, in the Sanctuary

### 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: fremontfpc@gmail.com

### 2022 PER CAPITA

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God delivered them. This was a journey of freedom and deliverance.

Also key in this passage is that while the Israelites triumphed when crossing the sea, their journey into the Promised Land was not a straight one. God led them on a long journey first, and their purpose would only be made known to them in the midst of their long trek. It is a sign that God can free us. Now that doesn't mean that we can do whatever we want. God sets us free not to do our own thing but to follow the path God wants us to walk.

Pastor Julie



## YOU ARE INVITED!

During the September 11th Kick-Off Sunday, we will have breakfast, play games and introduce the new Sunday School classes for fall. The theme this year is 'GOD IS MY HERO' with a superhero twist. The children will be learning many stories of the Bible about how God is their hero and how He gives them 'superpowers' in their everyday life through strength, love, hope, faith, and courage.



The following are the Sunday School lessons the adults will study this year:

**Disciple Bible: New Testament Fast Track:** Led by Pastor Julie Kling

It is a journey through and overview of the New Testament, focusing on key persons and biblical history with application to life today. A brief, illustrated review video enables participants to recall important facts and ideas; lively and engaging video presenters then offer insights into the current week's session. Participants have the opportunity to take a spiritual gifts assessment and determine meaningful ways they can serve and live out their discipleship commitment.

**Walk as Jesus Walked:** Led by Donna and Chip Cominsky

In this seventh volume of the "Faith Lessons" series, historian and teacher Ray Vander Laan delves into the fierce passion of our early Christian brothers and sisters, to walk like Jesus - even when the path became treacherous.

**Being a Disciple in a Broken World** by Ray Vander Laan / Led by Donna and Chip Cominsky

In this volume, Vander Laan helps you experience how the disciples translated Jesus' call to passionate discipleship into language and imagery the Roman culture already understood.



Join us each Sunday morning at 8:45 a.m. through a Zoom link that is sent through email from the comfort of your home. There are no lessons to study and no preparation. We finish in time to make it to church for the 10:00 a.m. service!

**Hope to see you on September 11th and the following weeks!**

**Join us for breakfast!**

**When:** Sunday, September 11, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.



**Where:** First Presbyterian Church in the Social Room

**What:** To see what's coming this year during Christ University (Sunday School)!

**Why:** To play games and to have a good time with new friends and other Christians!

# RAINBOW STATION



Welcome to September? Where did summer go? The kiddos have had a busy summer and had a lot of fun with Miss Nikki's Bible School. It is always a special treat when someone new comes in to do a lesson.

We will miss those going on to kindergarten and wish them the best. At the same time, we are excited to see new faces for our fall session.

Thank you for all your prayers and support of any kind that you have provided. We are still in need of hiring a preschool teacher. They will need an associates degree or higher in early childhood education and be able to pass a background check. I am looking especially for someone who is willing to teach and fill the Director's position next



summer. Please help me pray that God would send just the right person for this position.

Have a great September.

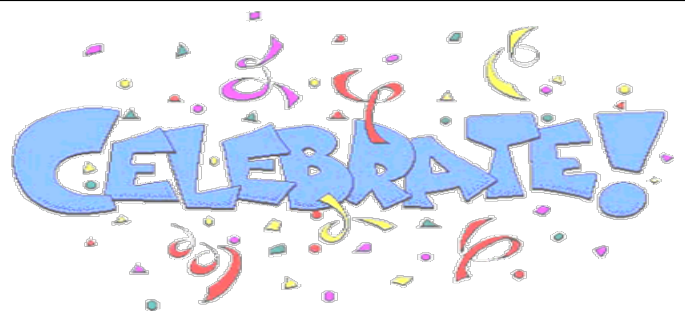
Rainbow Station Staff

## KROGER FUNDRAISER

Thank you to the 117 households who shopped at Kroger between May 1, 2022 and July 31, 2022. You helped Rainbow Station earn \$488.73!! 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!



Happy Birthday!

17 - Lucy Kensler

30 - Luke Baker





## 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 choose to 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.

**(optional) - Dish Soap and/or Liquid Laundry Soap**

### September

**7 - Applesauce**

**11 - Peas and Carrots**

**18 - Peanut Butter**

**25 - Saltines**

Thanks for your help neighbor!  
Rod and Linda Combs

## WATCH FOR CHILDREN AND BUSES

School is starting, so be sure to watch for stopped buses and for school children walking and/or crossing the street as you are out driving.

Thank you for keeping our children safe!



### 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:

fremontfpc@gmail.com

**\*\*Please note: this is a new office email address.**

Thank you! Amy Monk,  
FPC Administrative Assistant

## SATELLITES

September 14th  
we will be going to  
Bob Evan's at  
11:30 am.

You can call or  
text Diane Bas-  
cone @ 419.680.0190.  
Bring a friend!



## THANK YOU!

Many thanks for the food, the many beautiful cards, phone calls, and flowers delivered by Deacons Anne

Humberger and

Gerrie Hensley.

May God bless all  
of you.

Jan Zimmerman



### Your Attention is Needed:

We have recently had high water usage due to a running toilet upstairs. Before exiting the restrooms, please be sure the toilets have stopped running. This may prevent high water bills in the future. Thank you for your help!



# September

|   |   |  |   |    |                     |    |                           |
|---|---|--|---|----|---------------------|----|---------------------------|
|   |   |  |   |    | 1                   | 2  | 3<br>Social room reserved |
| 4<br>8:45a - Zoom Sunday<br>School<br>10:00a - Indoor Worship<br>5:00p - Vida Church  | 5<br>7:00p - AA<br>7:00p - Alanon<br><b>HAPPY</b><br><i>Labor Day</i> | 6  | 7<br>6:00p - Choir?   | 8  | 15<br>Office Closed | 9  | 10                        |
| 11<br>8:45a - Zoom Sunday<br>School<br>10:00a - Indoor Worship<br>5:00p - Vida Church | 12<br>7:00p - AA<br>7:00p - Alanon                                    | 13<br>Office Closed                      | 14<br>11:30a - Satellites<br>6:00p - Choir<br>7:30p - Session | 15 | 16                  | 17 |                           |
| 18<br>8:45a - Zoom Sunday<br>School<br>10:00a - Indoor Worship<br>5:00p - Vida Church | 19<br>7:00p - AA<br>7:00p - Alanon                                    | 20<br><b>Newsletter Articles<br/>Due</b> | 21<br>6:00p - Choir<br>6:30p - Deacons                        | 22 | 23                  | 24 |                           |
| 25<br>8:45a - Zoom Sunday<br>School<br>10:00a - Indoor Worship<br>5:00p - Vida Church | 26<br>7:00p - AA<br>7:00p - Alanon                                    | 27                                       | 28<br>6:00p - Choir   | 29 | 30                  |    |                           |

## Birthdays

|    |                |    |              |    |                          |
|----|----------------|----|--------------|----|--------------------------|
| 2  | Lauren Merritt | 22 | Nate Otermat | 13 | Bill & Carolyn Taylor    |
| 10 | Beth Provonsha | 24 | Rick Keck    | 15 | Courtney & Philip Miarer |
| 11 | Cayla Crispen  | 29 | Jon Detwiler |    |                          |
| 17 | Russ Abbott    |    |              |    |                          |

## Anniversaries



### ***THE BOARD OF DEACONS***

*Pam Clark*

*Joan Gamble*

*Gerrie Hensley (Secretary)*

*Susan Myers*

*Carolyn Taylor (Moderator)*

*Lisa Zimmerman*

### **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          |
| 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***

*Rev. Dr. Julie Kling (Moderator)*

*Dannita Cowdrey*

*Bob Gamble*

*Ken Myers*

*Bill Taylor (Clerk)*

*Nicole Whetstone*



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