



Presby Tidings

DECEMBER 2020



*Our mission is to be an extension of God's hands, helping and nurturing all of God's people.
We worship together as brothers and sisters of the First Presbyterian Church,
joined by the word of Jesus and the limitless love of God.*

First Presbyterian Church
419-238-3670

110 W Crawford Street

Van Wert, Ohio 45891
church@vwpresby.org

Greetings in Advent.

First and foremost, I am glad that, so far, our staff and congregation are surviving. Misty had COVID and is returned although with a heightened awareness of the risks. Sharyn is now out – having tested positive. Exactly what that means remains to be seen. Others in the congregation have experienced COVID directly or in the work circumstances.

But in the midst of the listing of hospital cases and hospitalizations – life goes on. Remotely.

Which brings us to worship. December worship will be on You tube or Zoom. The situation continues to evolve. This Sunday, Dec. 6, we will attempt a congregational meeting on Zoom. If you are not able to Zoom, or call into the meeting, call the church office or me (765-993-7791).

The two issues are: a motion to sell the manse, and a motion to amend the by-laws to incorporate the function of Trustee into the Session, increasing the Session size. Here is the motion regarding the manse.

Motion: to proceed with the sale of the manse by listing with Linda Purmort, at a list price of \$179,000. Listing to be effective after Nov. 21.

Noted that the sale of the property must be notated in the church records as “proceeds of this sale may only be used to resolve the Crawford Street property, and for permanent support of the Pastoral Package”. Noted that the sales contract must state: this sale is pending congregational approval and approval of the Maumee Valley Presbytery.

The second motion is to amend the Bylaws in this way:

XI. Elders

The congregation shall elect eight (8) or nine (9) Elders, divided into three (3) mostly equal classes, and each class serving for a three (3) year term. One class shall be elected each year at a duly called congregational meeting. No Elder, having served a total of six (6) consecutive years prior to the election, shall be eligible for reelection to the Session for a period of at least one (1) year.

And Board of Trustees

The Elders elected to the Session shall also serve as the elected Trustees. The size and term of the Trustees is thus the same as established for elders, including the provisions for consecutive terms and eligibility for re-election.

The Session, working as Trustees, shall have their work focused through the investment committee, operations committee (budget and finance) and property committees of Session. The Session/Trustees at its first meeting after their election shall elect a Trustee to serve as President to carry out signatory obligations. The Clerk of Session will function as the Secretary of the corporation.

The duties of the Trustees are to receive, hold, encumber, manage, and transfer property, real or personal, for the church; to accept and execute deeds of title to such property; to hold and defend title to such property; and to manage any permanent funds for the furtherance of the purposes of the church. It is noted that sale or transfer of property must be approved by the Presbytery.

Lastly, not related to Trustees and Session, but in order to bring operations into compliance with the By-Laws: to add “up to” to the Deacon paragraph. As in: “The congregation shall elect up to nine (9) Deacons,”

Reasoning

To safeguard the leadership of the church and to effectively govern we move to reshape the governing boards (Session and Trustees). Our current leadership model is seriously over-extended (and out of compliance with the by-laws 2013).

Working with Louie Crow and Christine Heizman we arrived at the following structure.

First, the Session/Trustees is expanded to a size of 8 or 9 (depending on whether the Clerk is a currently elected Elder. We need a minimum of 4 persons on Session who have Trustee abilities.

In accord with the Book of Order the Session will also be the Trustees. To adequately cover the responsibilities of the Trustees, the Session forms 3 additional committees. Operations Committee – this committee will manage the Trustee functions of Audit, Budget, and Financial oversight. Investment Committee – this committee will manage the Trustee function of review and management of the investment resources of the congregation. Property committee will manage the properties of the Congregation. This model presumes that the committees so formed would be 3 – 4 person groups who bring knowledge base and decision capabilities to their area of responsibility.

In order to “fill out” the Session with the Trustees, for this transition we would elect most of the current trustees as elders with their current yearly class assignment.

We spoke extensively about the human resources – knowledge base required to carry out these functions. The weakening of the congregation’s institutional memory (how to get things done) and available skill set (technical knowledge) is a

natural function of the decrease in membership size. But this loss presents a direct threat to the church's future.

Further, we need to actively recruit and develop those abilities within the congregation.

Details of the Congregational meeting – on Zoom Sunday Dec 6 at 11:00

Also available Zoom “Test” meetings with no motions, only the business of getting connected to Zoom Tuesday, Dec. 1 at 10 am and 7 pm, and Thursday Dec 3 at 10 am. Other times by appointment if you call.

Topic: First Pres Zoom Meeting

Time: Dec 1, 2020 10:00 Eastern Time (US and Canada)

This Web link works for all meetings

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7394510960?pwd=N3dHd0dSdE5DVHFnZnpHZTF4eFVtZz09>

Meeting ID: 739 451 0960

Passcode: 5Mc1Qw

One tap mobile

+13126266799,7394510960#,,,,,0#,746140# US (Chicago)

+19292056099,7394510960#,,,,,0#,746140# US (New York)

Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Meeting ID: 739 451 0960

Passcode: 746140 this passcode is for telephone dialing

Find your local number: [https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kdMRSrpSW3](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7394510960?pwd=N3dHd0dSdE5DVHFnZnpHZTF4eFVtZz09)

May God bless us on this adventure!

December Birthdays!

- | | | | |
|-----------|---|-----------|---|
| 02 | Harriet Schaadt
7261 Kreischer Rd
Ohio City OH 45874
Christian Eberle
615 N Washington St., VWO | 23 | Alec Purmort
35848 Cleland Rd. Langsville OH
45741 |
| 07 | Faye Uhl
1000 Mayfair, VWO | 24 | Shane Manson
426 Dickinson Avenue, VWO
Ray Sutton
314 W Hoffman St
Ohio City OH 45874 |
| 09 | Joan Early Folvi
Ross Wilkin
1121 S. Walnut Street, VWO | 25 | Kris Ward
993 Fetter Rd., Lima OH 45801
Bill Purmort
9 Warren Road, VWO |
| 13 | Terry Dietsch
10409D McConahay Rd., VWO | 26 | Marisa Jarvis
330 Boyd Avenue, VWO
Stephen Munroe
303 Linda St., VWO |
| 14 | Josh Ragan
7975 Kreischer Rd.
Ohio City 45874
Mark White
12793 Edgwood Dr., VWO | 27 | Susan McNeill
1024 Indian Hill |
| 15 | Diana Crow
847 W. Main Street, VWO
Brad Doidge
10575 Upp Rd., VWO | 28 | Mark Everidge |
| 19 | Lois Jones
1153 Professional Dr, VWO
Larry Stutz 831 Woodland Ave., VWO | | |

Celebrating December Anniversaries!

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| 10 | Zach & Danielle Profit
11264 Greenville Rd., VWO |
| 13 | Don & Faye Uhl
1000 Mayfair, VWO |

Please contact the church office (419-238-3670) if there are any changes to be made on the birthday list, have a change of address, etc.

In Our Thoughts and Prayers

- ~ Chuck Sheets
- ~ Nancy Soldner – Will Hawkins Aunt
- ~ Helen Jewett
- ~ Nina Ragan
- ~ Millie Profit- Daughter of Zach & Danielle Profit
- ~ Lynn Ayres (broken back) + Jimmy Clark (In Hospice) both cousins of Pie Ayres.
- ~ Margaret Baker & family

To keep our list current, names will be listed for six weeks unless notified.

Serving in our Military:

- ★ Lt. Colonel Eric Doctor, Air Force, Harrogate, England
(son-in-law of Louie & Diana Crow)
- ★ Captain Ashley Mohr, US Army, stationed in Colorado
(daughter of Jim & Rhonda Mohr)
- ★ Lucas Myers, United States Navy, stationed in Bahrain
(grandson of Larry & Linda Stutz)
- ★ Chaplain Matthew Purmort, United States Navy
(nephew of Laurie Purmort)
- ★ Philip Schwartz (nephew of Jean Ringwald)
- ★ Lieutenant Colonel Jason Toole, US Army, Anchorage, Alaska (husband of Heather Wilkin-Toole
and son-in-law of Tom & Leslie Wilkin)

If you have a family member serving in the military, please submit their names to the church office.

December 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	AA 8:00PM	1 Staff mtg 930 Scout Troop 7-8:30	2 Bible Study @noon	3 Book Club @noon AA 8:00PM	4	5 AA 8pm
6	7 Cub Scout Den Mtg 6:30pm AA 8pm	8 Staff mtg 930 Scout Troop 7-8:30	9 Bible Study @noon	10 AA & AI Anon 8p	11	12 Boy Scouts Polar Bear. D.O.N Fosters AA 8pm
13	14 Cub Scout Den Mtg 6:30pm	15 Staff mtg 930 Scout Troop 7-8:30	16 Bible Study @noon	17 Deacons 7pm Frantz room	18	19
20 Trustees Mtg	21 No Cub Scout Mtg AA 8pm	22 Staff mtg 930 Scout Troop 7-8:30 Session Mtg 7p	23 Soup Kitchen 9am	24 Office Closed AA & AI Anon 8p	25 Office Closed	26 AA 8pm
27	28 No Cub Scout Mtg AA 8pm	29 Staff mtg 930	30	31 Office Closed		