Christ Presbyterian Church

530 Tuscarawas Street, West · Canton, Ohio 44702
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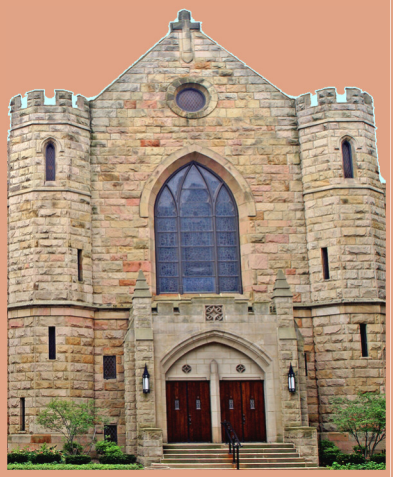
August TYDINGS 2021

Volume 31, Issue 8



CONCERT IN THE COURTYARD

Summer Series 2021

Friday, August 6 at 6:00 p.m.

Bring lawn chairs or blankets and start your weekend off with beautiful music live in the courtyard. Afterwards, head into downtown for the festivities at Canton's First Friday.

SOCK DRIVE

Got Socks?

Think how good it feels to put on a soft new pair of SOCKS!

The CPC Food Cupboard is in need of new SOCKS.

There will be a collection box in Cloister Hall in July and August. Help us out and fill it with new SOCKS!

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on **Sunday, August 15, 2021**, to receive the Ministry reports, approve the Terms of Call for Rev. David de Vries, Rev. Michael Wallace, and Rev. Benjamin George, and to receive the General Fund Budget. Please contact Caryn in the Church office if you have any questions.

PRAYER CHAIN:

Whenever there's a need for prayer, please call one of our Prayer Chain co-chairs:
Judy Smith ~ 330-771-0598
judithllsmith@gmail.com
Carol Orin ~ 330-327-6543
jloca04638@gmail.com

FRIENDS HELPING FRENDS:

If you are in need of temporary assistance or medical equipment, we want you to know that we care. God has His hand in this ministry, sees your need, and wants you to receive this assistance through Friends Helping Friends. Please do not hesitate to call coordinator:
Sue Nelson—330-832-2999

WORSHIP

Sundays—in Person
8:30 & 10:30 am

And Broadcast LIVE
Sunday mornings at 10:30 am
via:

News-Talk 1480 WHBC

YouTube
www.youtube.com/ChristPresbyterianChurchCanton

www.facebook.com/CantonCPC/live

PASTOR'S NOTE

"I am in them and you are in me. May they experience such perfect unity that the world may know that you sent me and that you love them as much as you love me."
Jesus, in John 17:23

Several weeks ago, in a sermon, I made what amounts to a confession. Very few times in my life have I ever felt shame. A single dictionary definition of the word says it all: "The painful feeling arising from the consciousness of something dishonorable, improper, ridiculous, etc., done by oneself or another." Just what was the confession? I am 62 years old. I am very well educated and perch myself on the more progressive end of the ideological spectrum. I was raised intentionally by my parents in a racially integrated community, minister in an city-center environment, and work out at the YMCA. And here is a strange truth about me; I cannot say I have a single African American friend. I have no black friends to invite over for dinner. I can't call a black friend to go work out, to go see a movie, or to go hiking up at CVNP because I have none! The truth is, in every way that matters, I live a racially segregated life. Adding to my shame is this: Despite not **really** knowing a single black person, I pretend to understand the racial issues that plague their lives and our nation.

And at this point in my life, it appears God has given me yet another opportunity to confront my shame. A year ago, I took up God's invitation and invited members of CPC to join me in a book study. The book was entitled *White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism*. Joining in the study were several members of the Canton area African American community. Everyone who joined in the study/discussion made the most of the opportunity to engage race theory and practice. Many who opted out, however, saw the gathering as culturally divisive, politically exclusive, and socially volatile, even as it stretched the parameters of the "churches calling".

A year later I understand the negative assessment in a better context and agree that the book choice was divisive to our community. Given the political climate of last summer, the charge that it "ramped up" social angst is insightful. I will argue the charge of it being theologically irrelevant (yes, irrelevant is now a dictionary validated word!).

A year later God calls me, and us, to wade yet again into the challenging waters of racial discord. The certainty of racism in our midst, and the need for racial healing and reconciliation, will not go away simply because we choose to deny its existence, live in its avoidance, or blame others for its reality. In the church and among the faithful, the words of Martin Luther King remain an indictment: "It is appalling that the most segregated hour of Christian America is 11 o'clock on Sunday morning…" At the VERY LEAST, we must address the scriptural mandate for Christians to live in harmony with one another.

Elsewhere in this *Tydings* you will find an invitation to join in a study/discussion entitled *Be the Bridge*. It is a faith-based study that calls us to partner with a Canton area African American congregation. In other words, this is a relationship-oriented opportunity to delve into the "unknown abyss of racial conversations."

Personally, I am tired of being fearful of such discussions and conversations. I am tired of pretending I know the life experience of an entire community I do not know. I am tired of pretending I have the answers to problems I cannot even define. I am tired of the blame game culture so easily calls upon to address hurtful realities. Perhaps this study/gathering is a place for me to start again. Perhaps you'll join me.

Shalom,

Pastor Dave

SESSION NOTES
JULY 20, 2021

The in-person and Zoom Session meeting of July 20, 2021 started with the introduction of guests Chuck and Debbie Monts, Greg Rabenold and Jerry Thompson, who have been hosted in Canton by Nancy and Ed Irving. Chuck is a Presbyterian pastor bicycling from West to East across the US to raise $100,000 and awareness for The Bowery Mission in New York City. He and his support team told tales of the generosity and grace of people they have met on their journey. The Mission Ministry will consider supporting this Mission (and members of the congregation can do so on-line at my.bowery.org/fundraiser/3166566). All in attendance laid hands on these guests and prayed for their safe travel and the achievement of their goal.

A second guest, Nancy Montgomery, introduced the planned "Be the Bridge" project to Session. This 9-week faith-based series, expected to start in the Fall, involves CPC pairing up with an African American church to learn about each other and to build relationships. Nancy explained that the desire to do this, came from the study of White Fragility last year. It will allow participants to do something positive in a low-threat environment.

Finance Report: Treasurer TJ Hon presented a variety of Financial and related information.

- The Scholarship grants were presented and approved by Session. There were many applicants this year, and 17 grants were approved.
- The FY 2021/22 Budget was presented and discussed. It is balanced, assumes recovery of giving to levels of two years ago (adjusted for declining membership), and keeps the proceeds of the second PPP loan in reserve. Session approved it for presentation to the Congregation at the August 15 annual meeting.
- Pastors' Terms of Call were presented and discussed. Session approved a motion to recommend these to the Congregation for approval at the annual meeting.
- The final May 2021 Financial Reports were received by Session. June reports are delayed due to the transition in the office (departure of Steve Andrews and move of Diane Nave to Business Administrator). As a note, the church has just hired Tracie Schmolt as a replacement Financial Secretary. She has both a financial background and church experience.

Session then moved to its normal Agenda and approved corrected minutes of the 6-15-21 meeting and the Clerk's report, and then received Staff Reports (Ben George excused due to Camp being in session).

Jennie George- The 2nd summer fun day- Knights of Westminster- was held successfully and filled to capacity of 12. Wed, Aug. 4- CPC Science Lab- is the 3rd of 3 fun days. This Fall, Jennie is looking to add a few paid part-time teachers to support Sunday school. She is planning to have an integrated schedule of children's activities on Sunday mornings so parents only need to drop off their kids one time. The Children's Library/ Middle School classroom got an upgrade. Jennie is considering a Christmas program this year (maybe hybrid- recorded and live). On S&S: New furniture for Parlor arriving Thurs. 7-22.

Michael Wallace- has been spending time moderating/ leading Calvary Presbyterian Session and also has been preaching there at 8:30 AM. Bicentennial planning has started for the special celebration on Sunday September 12. The Archives have been moved out of the Library to the old office area. Michael continues his Modern Hebrew program (4-5 hours per day) and hopes to support the next Israel trip, now planned for Feb. 2023. Westminster class (Saints and Sinners) will restart in September with an "all-star faculty." Confirmation class also re-starts this Fall and expects to enroll 15 students from grades 8 thru 10. Michael has registered for the Kaleidoscope conference on Stewardship in Cincinnati this Sept.

Dave DeVries- A Staff retreat was held on Sat. July 17 with lots of planning accomplished. New doors for West entrance, Cloister Hall and West Narthex have been received and installed. Office and custodial Staff have stepped into their new roles very well. Staining of the storage shed has started with the hope this will ameliorate concerns. Worship seems to be going OK; the 8:30 service attendance is low. There may be some changes to that service, possibly addition of Eucharist. Bible study of John going well. Adult Sunday school classes are expected to be resuming over time, but possibly in a different form.

To complete the required annual activities required at the start of the new fiscal year, Session appointed officers (Pres: Byrdie Stocker; VP: Bert Smith; Sec'y: Pam Moretta; Treasurer: TJ Hon) and reappointed Terry Moore as Statutory Agent.

The next Session meeting will be at Dave deVries' home; starting in Sept, Session will resume dinner at 6:00 and Session worship at 6:30, followed by business meeting.

The meeting was closed with thanks and a prayer by Dave deVries.

Respectfully submitted, Jerry Norton

2 Sarah Milligan
3 Calvin Burns
4 Sandi Fedder
5 David Rausch, Wilson Rownd
6 Martha Ash, Mark Hanlon, Jerry Norton
8 Suzy Burns, David Rudy
10 Hailey Hon
12 Anthony D'Antonio, Lee Lavery, Tom McCain, Max Ward
13 Jennie George, Linda Neff, Susan Oliver
14 Lorna Kraft, Mack Miller, Natalie Weinsz
15 Darrell Holland, Estella Williams
16 Jack Burnquist, Mya Miller, Terry Pansino, Erin Shea
17 Robert Sweeney
18 Judy Gibbs, Jill Hazen
19 Pam Gaynor, Sandy Kohler, Anna Milligan
21 Joyce McKimm, Kimberly Tittle, Neva Wallace, Joshua Wiggins
22 Janet Creighton
23 Tim Cranor, Faye Heston
25 Joey Henderson, Elaine Ketterer, Judah Mathewson, Vanessa Worley
26 Rich Milligan, Judy Sweeney
27 Ginger Brown, Renie Connor, William Groves, Nancy Halter
28 Lucy O'Wesney
29 Barbara Batchelder, Joanne Bennett, Avery Miller

Christ Church celebrates birthdays of members who are 95 years or more:

Lorna Kraft (95) -August 14

BIG GOD BIG QUESTIONS

CONFIRMATION FOR A GROWING FAITH

Save the Date! Confirmation Begins <u>Sunday, Aug. 29th</u> for 8th, 9th, and 10th graders.

An email has been sent to families of potential confirmands requesting a response about meeting times. Please respond to help us choose the best time for everyone. The first meeting will be on Sunday, Aug. 29th .

If you know someone who is interested in participating that did not receive the email, please contact Bonnie Wiggins at bwiggins@cantoncpc.org.

The purpose of confirmation is to enable youth to confirm that the faith into which they were baptized (for most as children) is indeed the faith they want to follow into adulthood. By studying major topics and having a safe space to ask the big questions, we believe that this experience will help the youth to grow stronger in their faith and confirm their commitment to Christ. We will be using the "Big God, Big Questions" curriculum which incorporates student journaling, videos, infographics, and even home/ mentor guides for each confirmand. We will meet most Sundays throughout the school year, and our schedule is being finalized now. We will also have a retreat as part of our confirmation class.

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explore

The Parkinson Fund Ministry recently posted an informational video on the Church website. Its purpose is to raise awareness and educate church members within the Muskingum Presbytery that there are funds available to individuals who may want to pursue a call to the Ministry. The video was a group effort of the Parkinson Ministry but particular thanks go to Joel Maze, Bert Smith and Pastor Michael.

To watch the video go to Cantoncpc.org, click on the "Learn and Grow" section and start the video. Please share this link with anyone that you think might benefit. https://cantoncpc.org/learn-grow/parkinson-theological-education-fund/

BE the BRIDGE

MOVING TOWARD
RACIAL RECONCILIATION

I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one—
I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved

Come early September, you will have the opportunity to delve deeply into one of the defining issues of our day, and to do so in a thoughtful, personally meaningful way. COVID grabs the immediate headlines, but the continuing conversation (a conversation that began in this country over 400 years ago!) will revolve around the elusive goal of racial unity. CPC will be partnering with a Canton area African America congregation to share conversation through a conversation-based program called ***Be the Bridge.***

Further information will be coming shortly but now is the time for you to consider your place in the dialogue. For the next several weeks, consider pondering and praying on the following questions. Which challenge(s) strike you most?

You are heartbroken by the racial divide in our country, our city, our church, or our families?
You want to experience greater diversity, richness, and depth in your relationships?
You want the church to demonstrate God's heart for all people groups from the world?
You feel fearful and awkward about connecting with others of a different race?
You no longer tolerate the injustice, apathy, and fear you see around you?

DIANE NAVE ACCEPTS NEW CPC STAFF POSITION

The Session and Personnel Ministry are pleased to announce that Diane Nave, who previously served this congregation as Financial Assistant/Secretary has taken the position of CPC Assistant Treasurer/Business Administrator. Having worked for 26 years beside Don Weltlich, Diane starts this position having a broad knowledge and considerable experience with the many facets of the position. Still, the position entails extensive responsibilities, so when you see her, offer her both your congratulations and your encouragement.

WE WELCOME TRACIE SCHMOLT TO THE CPC STAFF

The Session and Personnel Ministry are delighted to introduce Tracie Schmolt to the staff of CPC. Tracie has accepted the position of Financial Assistant/Secretary previously held by Diane Nave. Tracie comes to CPC well prepared for the position and armed with an engaging smile and a spirited sense of energy. Tracie is a native of Massillon. In her free time, Tracie enjoys spending time with her family, especially her nephews, and reading.

Please extend a warm and encouraging welcome as she becomes part of the CPC staff family.

Thank you for supporting a great summer at Camp Wakonda!

We're still hosting guest groups, and we are looking forward to a fabulous fall! Look for more information soon about the Ox Roast!

Still want to support Wakonda??

Go to http://give.classy.org/SupportWakonda and make a donation today!

AUGUST

Sunday Morning Schedule

8:30-9:15 am Gathered Worship Service—Chapel
9:00-9:15 am Kids' Chapel Time—via ZOOM
10:30 am Gathered Worship Service—Sanctuary
Also on Facebook, YouTube, and WHBC

Monday - 10:00 am - Staff Meeting—Parlor

Sunday, 8/1 - Communion
Tuesday, 8/3
9:30-11:00am Dave's Bible Study – Zoom
Wednesday, 8/4
8:00-9:00am Men's Bible Study - Zoom
9:00am-1:00pm Children's Summer program
7:00pm Deacon's meeting – Zoom
7:30-9:00pm Dave's Bible Study - Zoom
Thursday, 8/5
9:30-10:30am Women's Bible Study-Zoom
1:30-3:30pm Alzheimer Support Group – West. Hall
Friday, 8/6
6:00pm First Friday Concert
Monday, 8/9
1:00pm Property – Parlor
Tuesday, 8/10
9:30am-11:00am Dave's Bible Study – Zoom
12:00-2:00pm Personnel Ministry – Parlor
Wednesday, 8/11
7:45-11:00am Food Ministry
8:00-9:00am Men's Bible Study – Zoom
1:00-2:30pm Small Group-Parlor
7:30-9:00pm Dave's Bible Study - Zoom
Thursday, 8/12
9:30-10:30am Women's Bible Study - Karen Dominik's
Sunday, 8/15
11:30am Annual Congregational Meeting
Tuesday, 8/17
9:15am Endowment Meeting – West. Hall
9:30-11:00am Dave's Bible Study – Zoom
6:30pm Session Meeting – Dave's de Vries house
Wednesday, 8/18 – TYDINGS DEADLINE
8:00-9:00am Men's Bible Study – Zoom
7:30-9:00pm Dave's Bible Study - Zoom
Thursday, 8/19
9:30-10:30am Women's Bible Study – Zoom
Tuesday, 8/24
9:30-11:00am Dave's Bible Study – Zoom
Wednesday, 8/25
7:45-11:00am Food Ministry
8:00-9:00am Men's Bible Study – Zoom
1:00-2:30pm Small Group-Parlor
7:30-9:00pm Dave's Bible Study - Zoom
Thursday, 8/26
9:30-10:30am Women's Bible Study – Zoom
7:15pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Tuesday, 8/31
9:30-11:00am Dave's Bible Study – Zoom

The Chapel is open Monday—Friday, 9:00am—3:00 pm daily for quiet prayer and meditation.

FINANCIAL NOTES

		YTD 6/30/21	YTD 6/30/20
Beginning Balance Operating Funds as of 7/1		$ 125,138	$ 152,147
Revenue	Pledges	548,385	608,129
	Other	265,876	194,048
	Trusts & Endowments	100,929	95,487
	Total Income	$ 915,189	$897,665
Expenses	Operating Expenses	(768,585)	(924,674)
Ending Balance Operating Funds as of 6/30/21		$271,742	$125,138

This reporting reflects the General and Camp Funds from July 1, 2020-June 30, 2021.
PLEASE REMEMBER TO KEEP YOUR PLEDGE CURRENT. THANK YOU!

Gifts can be given online at www.cantoncpc.org or mailed to the Church office.

STEWARDSHIP—June		
Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 2 Corinthians 9:7, NIV		
Average Monthly	**June—21**	**June—20**
Attendance	125	0*
General Fund Income	$45,411	$75,217
G/F Budget Needed	$61,033	$62,235
Monthly Net + / -	(15,622)	12,982

*ONLINE STREAMING OF SERVICES DUE TO COVID-19
**Limited Capacity Due to Covid Restrictions

THE CATHEDRAL HOUR
Sunday Morning Broadcast on WHBC-1480

The Cathedral Hour's value to shut-ins, those unable to attend Church for various reasons, and also those without a Church home, has been invaluable over the years. Your continued support is needed, to sponsor a complete program at a cost of $300.00 per Sunday. However, partial contributions are extremely important to the continued existence of this program, and it is to this end that we encourage you to consider contributions to the Cathedral Hour as part of your "above and beyond" support of our Church. Please contact the Church Office for available dates.

Sunday Morning Chancel Flowers

If you would like to sponsor flowers for a Sunday morning, please contact the Church office at: cpcoffice@cantoncpc.org or by calling 330-456-8113.

"Saints and Sinners" Westminster Hall Sunday School Class

Starting in September

As we celebrate our bicentennial and consider those faithful Christians who have gone before, our Westminster Sunday School class will begin a new year-long course this September entitled "Sinners and Saints." We will welcome various teachers, including our local Rabbis, some professors from Malone, and Pastor Michael. Progressing chronologically throughout church history, each class will focus on a particular person or group of people. At the end of the year, we will focus on the saints of our church and share our own stories. Our prayer is that, as we consider Church history and those saints who have gone before, we might be inspired and challenged in our faith journeys. Mark your calendar now for Sundays at 9:15 AM in Westminster Hall.

Monday, September 6, 2021

The Church office/building will be closed in observance of

CHRIST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
530 Tuscarawas Street, West
Canton, Ohio 44702

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

The Church is charged for every returned Newsletter.

If you have moved,
or changed a seasonal address,
please notify the church office.
Thank you.

To be added to the Tydings email list or to submit an article for *Tydings*, please email tschmolt@cantoncpc.org no later than **Wednesday, August 18.**

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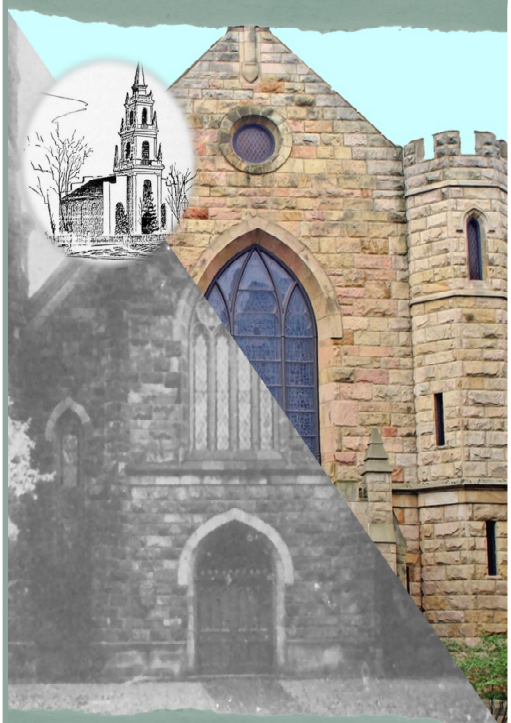
August TYDINGS

Christ Presbyterian Church

Celebrating 200 years
in Downtown Canton



1821-2021

Join us in kicking off our year long Bicentennial Celebration as we dedicate our Sanctuary and recent renovations on

Sunday, September 12th

10:30am Worship

Sanctuary Dedication

(with special music)

3:00pm-6:00pm

Community Open House and Reception

4:00pm

Dedication Ceremony

(with special music)