

WINDOW

SEPTEMBER 2020



The Monthly Newsletter
of First Presbyterian Church
Athens, Ohio

September 2020

(In church article, page 3)

Sunday, Sept. 6th Labor Day Sunday Worship via YouTube (see below)

Sunday, Sept. 13th Worship via YouTube (see below)

Sunday, Sept. 20th Worship via YouTube (see below)

Sunday, Sept. 27thWorship via YouTube
(see below)

Each week FPC creates a worship video - a service featuring organist, guest musician, and Pastor, Rob Martin. FPC's worship services can be found on YouTube channel here: https://www.youtube.com/user/athensfpc/search?query=sermon

You can access them directly on the FPC YouTube channel and on the church web site under the Worship.



"We are a Christian community of faith that shares the love of God with all people everywhere."

From the Pastor....

It's hard to believe that American poet, memoirist, and civil rights activist Maya Angelou has been gone six years now. I for one would welcome her voice and perspective on all that is happening in our country and world. Fortunately, her writings live on. Here, Angelou shares a few of the things she learned over the course of her long, rich life:

"I've learned that no matter what happens, or how bad it seems today, life does go on, and it will be better tomorrow.

I've learned that you can tell a lot about a person by the way he/she handles these three things: a rainy day, lost luggage, and tangled Christmas tree lights.

I've learned that regardless of your relationship with your parents, you'll miss them when they're gone from your life.

I've learned that making a 'living' is not the same thing as making a 'life.' I've learned that life sometimes gives you a second chance.

I've learned that you shouldn't go through life with a catcher's mitt on both hands; you need to be able to throw something back.

I've learned that whenever I decide something with an open heart, I usually make the right decision.

I've learned that even when I have pains, I don't have to be one.

I've learned that every day you should reach out and touch someone. People love a warm hug, or just a friendly pat on the back. (In these days a phone call, email, or text will be fine).

I've learned that I still have a lot to learn.

I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."

I am grateful today for these reminders from Maya Angelou. I need to thank Garrison Keilor for drawing my attention to this aspect of our life. I need to thank him for reminding me in an interview in Christian Century that the Christian life begins in gratitude. The source of faith itself is certainly elsewhere and mysterious beyond my understanding, but gratitude is the starting block for what ye theologians called sanctification, leading a holy life. Here's what Garrison Keilor said:

"Thank you, Lord, for this amazing and bountiful life and forgive us if we do not love it enough. Thank you for this laptop computer and for this yellow kitchen table and for the clock on the wall and the cup of coffee and the glasses on my nose and for these black slacks and this black T-shirt....Thank you for the odd delight of being 60, part of which is the sheer relief of not being 50."

And then he said, "One should enumerate one's blessings and set them before the Lord. Begin every day with this exercise." Sometimes thanks comes easy as breath itself; sometimes, it's just plain hard work. True gratitude doesn't deny what's in front of us, but looks for the Kingdom of God more deeply, into what's here, and into ourselves. It assumes we can already taste the Kingdom, can catch glimpses of it. It assumes God made the world good and goodness is all around us. To rejoice in the good does not deny the evil or the brokenness. It acknowledges all that is here. But this means that we acknowledge the goodness, too.

~ Pastor Martin

Caring For the Congregation

Pastor Rob and the Deacons place a priority on visiting hospitalized members of the congregation. Hospitals no longer provide information on admissions and dismissals. Please notify the church if you know of someone who should be visited in the hospital or while recovering at home or at a nursing facility.

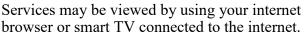
Thank You!

Janice Robison thanks all those who sent her cards and messages during her recent recuperation.

The good wishes were very much appreciated.

TV Service Broadcast





Go to https://www.YouTube.com/athensfpc Select the "Video" tab. Services and other videos are arranged by date.



New Directories for Fall

FPC will have a new church directory the end of September.

If you haven't returned your information form, there is still time to get it in so info will be updated.

Please respond with changes/corrections, or just to say that everything is the same.

Thank You.

Prayer Concern Requests and Visitation



Prayer request slips are available in the narthex. If you would like others in the church to pray for a person or for a concern near to your heart, place the slips in the Prayer Request box in the narthex. If you or someone you know would enjoy a visit from Pastor Rob and a Deacon (*listed below*), or appreciate receiving communion at home, phone the office (593-3351) or email: office@athensfpc.org

Holy Bible

September Worship *Preaching texts

September 6th First Reading Exodus 12:1-14, Psalm 149 "Practicing Connections"

Second Reading Romans 13:8-14, *Gospel Matthew 18:15-20

September 13th First Reading Exodus 14:19-31, Psalm 114:1-8 "Reconnecting Through Welcome"

*Second Reading Romans 14:1-12, Gospel Matthew 18:21-35

September 20th First Reading Exodus 16:2-15, Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45 "Struggling to Stay Connected"

*Second Reading Philippians 1:21-30, Gospel Matthew 20:1-16

September 27th First Reading Exodus 17:1-7, Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16 "Called to be Humble"

*Second Reading Philippians 2:1-13, Gospel Matthew 21:23-32

Habitat for Humanity Metal Drive

Habitat for Humanity will hold a scrap metal drive on Saturday, October 3rd at the county fair grounds. This will be a solid waste disposal event, so you can bring not only scrap metal, but also glass, paper, wood, tires, etc. For metal items, appliances, lawn furniture, car parts, fencing, household items are all welcome.





Thrivent International, a Lutheran philanthropic organization, has awarded Habitat for Humanity of Southeast Ohio a grant of \$37,500 toward the construction of the house now being built in Glouster. Thrivent is an internationally known philanthropic organization and has given millions of dollars to nonprofits like Habitat. A condition

of the award from Thrivent is that Habitat raise an equal amount of money to match the pledge. Habitat has raised most of that already, but area churches are kicking in to help. The good news is that contributions from our churches can be used to leverage another Thrivent grant for another house in Glouster, possibly as early as next year. Session has approved a \$3,000 goal in a campaign for First Presbyterian to support the work of Habitat.

The deadline for the campaign is December 31st.

UPDATE

To date, the church has received \$2,220 in pledges and donations.

What a wonderful start!

If you would like to help keep the momentum,
please send your donation to Jane Baker in the church office.

(9 North College Street, Athens, OH 45701).

First Presbyterian Family,

I'm writing to you after having spent some intentional and important time – remembering to reflect, make new memories, look ahead, listen and look for God's presence in stillness and beauty, through laughter and tears. I thank God that we are on this journey together. I thank God for scripture's clear call to cling to faith, hope, and love through each peak and valley we encounter.

We have an update to share on in-person worship at First – something that is deeply important to each of us. Our hope had been to gather for in-person worship, with new protocols and processes, as early as September 6th. However, current increases in Covid-19 cases at Universities around the country with returning students, and warnings against returning too soon make it clear that we must carry this hope further down the road. For now, we will continue to worship virtually through at least Sunday, September 27th. At our September session meeting we will examine where we are as a community to see if returning to in-person worship is a possibility for October.

Mitigating the known risk of the spread of COVID-19 within large, confined gatherings, and maintaining our steadfast commitment to the health and safety of our full congregation and the greater community make this the right decision for First Presbyterian Church.

For some of us, this decision will be a source of comfort and relief; for others of us, this decision may bring disappointment, even disagreement. I understand. While these decisions are never easy, and while a unique part of our strength at First is our breadth of perspective and opinion, I do pray that each of us will be guided by the values of our faith as we engage in conversation in these trying times. I hope and believe that we can continue to model the unity of Christ's church and above all else, reach out to those within our congregation and beyond with compassion, hope, and care.

Even in the uncertainty of these days, I am absolutely convinced that God is calling us to be faithful to Christ in this moment. In the midst of this pandemic you have proven in word and deed what we have always known - the church is the movement of those called by God to serve Jesus Christ in the world. God is building the church in powerful ways and equipping us to join in that vital work. Keep following this path of service, stay up to date on events and happenings, dive deeper into worship and ways to grow your own faith journey. Let us always carry out our mission as a welcoming community of faith where Jesus Christ transforms lives.

Second, this is our time to lead as ambassadors of Christ's love and faithful work. No distance of time or space will separate us from this mission. We have much more to do and many pages yet to write. Do not grow weary in doing what is right. Trust the promise of faith.

With peace and grace, Rob Martin

Windows ON: Christian Education WOMEN'S BOOK STUDY

Want to be happy? Everyone does. Money, time and energy is spent, chasing each person's version of the "good life". And on the way, people run themselves into physical, mental and emotional exhaustion. But what if the happiness everyone is striving for, isn't the happiness that each person is created for?

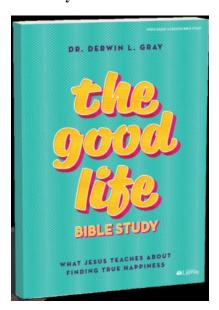
Pastor and author Dr. Derwin L. Gray believes there is a better road to happiness, and it is found in the Beatitudes of Jesus. In this section of the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus revealed the shocking, countercultural path to true flourishing. It come not through wealth, fame, or

pleasure, but through poverty, obscurity, and mourning.

This eight-section Bible Study demonstrates how Jesus taught people to search for, find, and hold on to the good life. Join FPC Women's Book Study on Fridays (via Zoom) at 12:00 Noon to see that true happiness comes from a heart directed toward the kingdom of God and satisfied in Jesus the King.

Any questions?
Contact Nana Jenkins at cedirector.afpc@gmail.com

LifeWay.com/TheGoodLife



Windows ON: Presbyterian Women THIS MONTH



Circle - Until the Circles can safely meet somewhere outside, the Coordinating Team and Circle meetings will have to be suspended. Lillian Dinos, Moderator is open to try almost anything within the guidelines. Phone or email her, or your Circle leader. The PW goals may be achieved differently during these chaotic times, but the talents of the PW members can still use their talents to strengthen FPC locally and worldwide as the group works for justice and peace. Think what you can say YES to.

<u>Bible Study</u> books will not be ordered until more is known about

meeting. There are still three lessons that can be discussed until the new booklets arrive.

Thank You for sending cards to Ann Fox and Carolyn Reed, both at Kendal in Granville.

Ann reports that she is staying busy while in quarantine in her apartment. Meals are delivered, and son Nelson brings breakfast groceries and his loving support when he makes short drop-off visits. Unfortunately, Ann's TV was not connected before the quarantine, so she has been listening to OSU Radio classical music and finding lots to read instead. Knowing Ann, she says she is not feeling deprived of tv.

The PW's prayers are with Carolyn Reed and her family, especially at

a time when visitors are not allowed during this epidemic. PW supports all who need its members' good thoughts and God's healing in body, mind, or spirit. Remember that great "cloud of witnesses" who went before us in faith. And today, people are not alone because God is with us. He is everyone's strong salvation, help, and light wherever people are. Look for his guidance.

A Labor Day Blessing

Psalm 90:17

Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and prosper for us the work of our hands...

May our work and the work of others around the globe be a blessing to all. Amen.

Windows ON: Church Support - Property PUTNAM ROOF REPLACED AUGUST 3rd

BK Exteriors' crew removed the old roof, installed the new flashings and roof, and cleaned up the job site all on August 3rd.



Windows ON: Amesville/New England THIS MONTH'S NEWS

The Amesville/New England Parish has not worshiped together since March, but hopes to keep in touch with each other via phone calls and email notes. Sundays are rather strange without the ritual of church attendance.

There have been good comments about "Camp Stay at home" held the middle of July. The Parish is now beginning to survey parents and children to see whether they are interested in having packets of resource material to replace the

usual Bible
School Mondays.
Using the theme
"God is With Us,"
the Parish plans
to provide Bible
lessons, music
activities, crafts,
song sheets, etc.

Everyone misses the face to face activities in the Parish, but this too shall pass.



Windows ON: Property Committee DURABLE SLATE COMPLETES STEEPLE REPAIR, DURABLE RESTORATION COMPLETES PAINING. WINDOW GLAZING AND FLASHING

Durable Slate has completed their portion of the Steeple Repair Project which included:

- Set up scaffolding to access steeple. Removed and replaced the decorative hip metal on all four hips with new custom fabricated hip metal (Zinc & Tin alloy coated copper), similar to the existing profile.
- Removed and replaced the steeple finial with a new custom fabricated finial, similar to the existing finial. Removed and replaced the four decorative corner caps on the steeple, with new custom fabricated caps.
- Removed slates on the perimeter of all four lower sloped slate roofs above the louvers on the steeple. Installed ice and water shield around the perimeter and new drip edge on the rake edges and eaves. Installed new transition flashings where the steep roof transitions into the lower sloped roofs.

Durable Restoration has completed their portion of the project at the end of August.

- The existing flashing was removed from the eight-side dormer cheeks, and new metal flashing was properly installed.
- The existing flashing below the window sill was removed and replaced with new metal flashing.
- The window sill was clad with metal.
- The caulking on the window glass was removed, and new window glazing was installed and painted.
- The paint tested hot for lead, so an abatement enclosure was installed during the paint removal process: Applied up to two applications of wet method paint stripper to all of the wood surfaces on the tower (any additional applications required was quoted upon discovery). Sanded down any high grain. Neutralized the wood. Applied two coats of paint.
- The wood on the tower was painted with a top coat of paint that matches the existing color.



Lindley Hymn Sing Volunteers

It is uncertain when everyone will be able to meet again, but each should take each day in trust and confidence that FPC will again be able to greet and sing with friends at the Lindley Inn. In the meantime, wear your masks and practice social distancing so everyone can all be well when FPC volunteers and Lindley Inn attendees can once again openly praise God in music and the Word.

Windows ON: FPC Member FPC MEMBER ANN FOX RELOCATES TO GRANVILLE, OH

Ann came to Athens in September, 1988, after a career as a geologist in oil/gas exploration and production which took her and her four children George, Nelson, Mimi, and Glenn all over the world. She and her former husband Robert continue to operate the Term Energy Corporation, Harrisville, West Virginia.



Ann joined First Presbyterian on November 27, 1988. She served several terms on Session. Tom Bolland created a poem in her honor:

For Ann Fox

Ann used to play softball,
I understand the position she played was catcher.
Since retiring from active pursuits
she now plays hardball in the field of finance,
But now she's a pitcher, not a catcher.
The Church's financial conditions
in better shape
than it might have been
without her constant encouragement
to mind our budget,
to cut spending before taxing,
and similar fiscally wise endeavors.

She has been a valuable member of the Finance Committee and stepped up to serve as Interim Treasurer after the death of John Woodrow in 2013. Both she and John established fund accounts with the Presbyterian Foundation the income of which support our annual church budget.

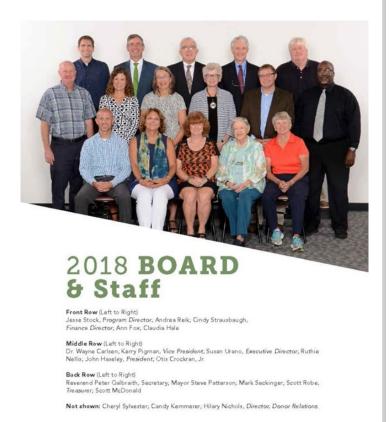
Ann has been active in Presbyterian Women, participating in the Tuesday Circle, serving as cashier for fundraisers, and delivering prayer shawls with Patty Frost. She researched hymns for the monthly Lindley Inn Hymn Sing.

Ann Fox was born in Wilmington, Delaware. She and her sister Miriam were graduates of the College of Wooster, Wooster, Ohio, as was their father George C. Strouse.

Ann continues to support the Ohio Light Opera's productions at the college. Ann also holds a master's degree from University of Illinois at Evanston.

In Athens Ann participated in the Athens Reading Club, the Social Literary Club, the League of Women Voters, and many local organizations including a recent term on the Board of The Athens Foundation. She established an education fund at the Foundation in 2016.

Ann has relocated to Kendal at Granville, OH. Her new address is 129 Kendal Drive, Granville, OH 43023.



Connect, Reconnect, Stay Connected

From Pastor Martin...

I wanted to share some thoughts on this years Theme at First Presbyterian Church – *Connect, Reconnect, Stay connected*.

"Resilience: we are strong.
Shoulder to shoulder, keep moving on.
Resilience: make a new plan.
Stand up again and say, 'Yes we can!'"

(Resilience from Justice Choir Songbook)

Composer Abbie Betinis wrote that simple song to encourage and celebrate what she found within herself. By the time she reached the age of 40 she had survived cancer three times. "Resilience," she says, "Is a mindset born in the hardest days, when you're scared or sad or tired, when progress toward your goal is slow, and the barriers seem impenetrable...and yet you keep going, because somewhere deep down you know that what you're fighting for will be so much better." We understand this as we are waiting for some sign of a let-up in the pandemic. All of us are struggling to find resilience these days.

The writer of the Epistle to the Hebrews must have known this kind of struggle. "Therefore," the letter says, "Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us." (Hebrews 12:1)

After five months of living with the uncertainty and social dislocation and unrelenting death of Covid-19, and with the exhaustion that comes from the daily news, *thank God for perseverance*. The writer of Hebrews, facing something 2000 years ago that must have felt similar to the challenges of our time, sends us a note to encourage us: "You will find strength to keep going. You will persevere. And remember, even when the goal seems out of reach, you do not run alone – a great cloud of witnesses runs with you."

Things today are actually not better than they were when we suspended back in March. And by every indication, it's probably going to be a long while before it's safe for us to be together again. I'm missing you. I'm missing the laughter and I'm missing the singing. I'm missing the handshakes and the simple exchanges of compassion. But, even in these days, we are still being the church. I encourage you, stay connected with us online. We are doing the very best we can to speak to the needs of this church family and of this community. And in a variety of ways, we are being here for you and for one another. So, I encourage you, stay connected. It's a longer journey than we wanted, but we can get connected, re-connect, and stay connected.

I am convinced that the journey to knowing the gracious heart of God comes through community. I am also convinced that a genuine connection with God will result in transformation. By your participation in the life of First Church, I hope you will be inspired to continue growing in faith, discovering who God is and there fore who you are. I pray that you will be changed by that encounter to give thanks for every good gift from God and to respond in ways that share the goodness you have discovered.

How can we connect? First, we should be faithful in our Joyful Worship even when it is delivered to us electronically. The reality that we worship *together*, even from our own homes, is a powerful testament to our belief in God's Gift. Second, we as faithful believers should practice prayerful study using the materials we are receiving from FPC. This includes material for our youth and Bible Study opportunities for adults. The power of prayer is palpable and so needed in our world right now. Pray for the doctors, nurses, medical personnel, first responders and essential workers. Pray for our leaders locally, state-wide, nationally and globally. And, pray for our church as we turn to new, creative ways to deliver the message and meaning of discipleship.

God is listening to our prayers, and God will see us through even this most challenging time. Jesus urged us over and over again to act from a place of love, unafraid. God invites us to connect during these challenging times with *fearless* love. The times are uncertain. God's love is not.

Windows ON: FPC Member CHARLES E. Woods

FPC member, Charles Eugene Wood, passed away on August 13th.

Charles was born in Huntington, WV, the son of Charles and Elva Wood.

He married Nancy Garrett in June 1957. They have three boys, and each graduated from Ohio University.

Charlie served in the Army. He graduated from Marshall College in Huntington in 1956 with a BBA degree. Charlie worked as an Internal Revenue Agent for 34 years and was formally recognized by the United States District Court

Income and Evnenses 2020

of Southern Ohio to testify and did so as an expert in Federal Taxation. At retirement he received The Treasury Department Gallatin Award.

He was preceded in death by parents and sisters.

Charles is survived by his wife, Nancy and three sons: Charles (Ellen), Frisco, TX; James (Judith Richard), Pickerington, OH; and Stephan (Brenda) of Melbourne Beach, FL, and several grandchildren. Also a "special extension" daughter, Francoise Cauchie, Athens, OH.

His body has been donated to the Ohio University Medical School

for student medical research. Burial at Rocky Branch Cemetery in Roane County, WV.

In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to Ohio Health Hospice, 444 W Union St. Athens, OH. 45701, or the Nancy G. Wood Scholarship Fund at Alexanders' Future Foundation, P. O. Box 204, Albany, OH 45710.



Windows ON: Church Support Committee FINANCIAL REPORT

Income and Expenses, 2020			
Offering Budgeted for 2020	\$256,000	Offering Received to Date	\$151,408
Other Income Budgeted for 2020 (endowment, parking lot lease, Putnam apt. rent, interest)	\$156,448	Other Income Received to Date	\$103,061
2018-2021 Capital Campaign (\$200,000)	\$16,000	Campaign donations this year	\$18,612
Total Income Budgeted 2020	\$428,498	Total Income (Received to Date)	\$302,081
Current Assets (checking & petty cash)		Total Cash on Hand	\$59,456
Expenses Budgeted in 2020	\$428,413	Expenses to Date	\$239,661
Other Endowment and Contribution Activity in 2019			
Special Offerings (Christmas Joy, Pentecost, One Great Hour of Sharing, and Peacemaking)	\$2,010	Sent to Presbytery (40% of Pentecost is retained for local use/25% of Peacemaking offering is retained for local use)	
Offering Gifts (Athens Co. Food Pantry, Good Works, My Sister's Place, Planned Parenthood, Habitat for Humanity, etc.)	\$2,166	Disbursed to appropriate agency or group	
Memorial Gifts (Walton Beauvais, Chris Dinos, Janet Izard, and Marjorie Malcom)	\$800	Disbursed as directed by donors	
Offering gifts designated for the Discretionary Fund (Local Emergencies)	\$575	To be distributed by the Pastor for local emergencies	
Local Emergencies (Special)	\$1,185	Community donations for a refugee family. Flow-through account for AFPC to pay family bills.	
Gifts supporting AFPC Mission Projects	\$245	Used for AFPC mission work projects	
Gifts Supporting Trail Mix Ministry	\$105	Used to buy supplies.	
2020 Bratton College Scholarship (income from Presbyterian Foundation Endowment account established by Dr. James and Martha Bratton)	\$3,169	Scholarship applications evaluated by a Session committee and recipients approved by Session.	

September Birthdays

- 3 David Coon Clarice Swisher
- 4 Abigail Brown Emmalyn Brown Pastor Rob Martin
- 6 John King
- 8 Ben Morrow Anna Nagy Heinrich Aaron Wright
- 9 Lee Gregg
- 11 Kimberly Jordan H. Grant Stephenson
- 12 Lloyd Culbertson

- 17 Dale W. Hoffman Gwyneth Philips Hugh Woods
- 20 Aldene Burcher
- 21 Timothy Broadbent
- 22 Alan Boyd Kathy Malesick
- 24 Connie Hunter
- 26 Charles Parks
- 29 Jeffrey Hughes
- 30 Terri Gillespie Barbara Martin Avani Yun

September Anniversaries

- 1 Scott and Megan Broadbent
- 10 William and Lois Harkins
- 17 David and Debbie Coon
- 24 Alan and Stephanie Goldsberry
- 24 Darryl and Louise Markland
- 30 Jeff and Sara Hughes
- 30 Aaron and Hilary Wright

FPC Church Elders:

2020: Carl Franz, John King, Sandy Nesbitt, and Debbie Perry

2021: Carla Boyle, Anne Kemmerle, Katie Tadlock, and Keith Wiens **2022:** Carolyn Allen, Pamela Harvey, John Hauser and David Tees

FPC Board of Deacons:

2020: Harvey Ballard, Margaret Bourke, Martha Johnson, and Carol Perry **2021:** Nancy Hartley, Marla Longenecker, Danny Moates, and Marge Shelton

2022: Harold Robison, Andrew Stuart, and Patrick Tegge

Kroger Rewards Program - Join Today!



First Presbyterian received \$80.80 from 17 households Krogers for May-July, 2020 - JUST FROM YOUR GROCERY SHOPPING and using the Rewards Program! A total of sixteen families used the rewards program for FPC for those months. Won't you join others in the program and earn \$\$ for FPC just for doing your grocery shopping at Krogers, at NO cost to you!

How to register? Go to: www.krogerrewardsprogram.com to establish your account.

Next - click the button for "Ohio" and then scroll down to the bottom and click the "enroll" button. You are required to have an email address and create a password.

You will need your 12 digit Plus Card number that can be found under the bar code on the back of your Plus Card.

Once you have an account established you may need to click "My Account" and then again click "Edit Kroger Community Rewards."

If you registered last year—YOU MUST REGISTER EVERY YEAR! To link your account, use AFPC's Kroger non-profit number [NPO] 84190 or select First Presbyterian Church from a drop down list.

Any questions? Phone Krogers - 1-800-KROGERS.

[Your Plus Card can be linked to only one non-profit charity.]

Sign up today, and see what FPC can make just by YOUR grocery shopping!



September 2020



First Presbyterian Church 9 North College Street Athens, OH 45701



Phone: 555-555-555 Fax: 555-555-5555 Email: someone@example.com

Web: athensfpc.org

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/AthensFPC/

https://www.Youtube.com/athensfpc

Pastor: Rev. Robert E. Martin

Church: Corner of Court and Washington Streets

Office: 9 North College Street

Office Hours: Monday - Friday - 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Clerk of Session: Andrew Stuart

Choir Director: David M. Tadlock **Organist:** Janice Robison **CE Coordinator:** Nana Jenkins Bell Choir Director: Tyler Thress Administrative Assistant: Jane A. Baker

Phone: (740) 593-3351 **FAX:** (740) 593-3352 **E-Mail**: office@athensfpc.org Web: www.athensfpc.org

Worship Service: The service can be seen on YouTube.

Bible Study: Tuesdays at 12:00 Noon in the church library

(via "Zoom")

Newsletter Helpers: Jane Baker, Lillian Dinos, Catherine Hare, Susan Loughridge, Robert Martin, Danny Moates and Harold Robison.

October 2020 Newsletter Deadline: Noon Monday,

September 21st

First Presbyterian Church, Athens, Ohio - FPC has occupied its site in the center of Athens, Ohio since 1809. Among the founding fathers was Ohio University's first president, a Presbyterian minister, the Rev. Jacob Lindley. Dr. Lindley served this congregation as Moderator and Pastor until 1824. Over the years, thirteen pastors of the church have been either university presidents or members of the faculty. Dr. William Holmes McGuffy, author of the McGuffy's Readers, was called to serve as President of Ohio University and served as pastor of the church in 1839.

Presbytery of Scioto Valley - The Presbytery of Scioto Valley encompasses twenty-six counties in south central Ohio. From Ironton in the south to Ibera in the north: Hanover in the east and London in the west, FPC's presbytery consists of 95 congregations many of them historic where Presbyterians today are carrying on a long tradition of witness and service in their communities. All over FPC's presbytery, Presbyterians reach out to welcome the stranger, sharing the Gospel and God's love as Christ bids us to do.

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) - The PC (U.S.A.), with denominational offices in Louisville, Kentucky, has approximately 2.3 million members, more than 10,000 congregations and 14,000 ordained and active ministers. Presbyterians trace their history to the 16th century and the Protestant Reformation. Its heritage, and much of its doctrine began with John Calvin (1509-1564), whose writings crystallized much of the Reformed thinking that preceded him.