



Chimes



Dear Church Family,

Once again, we are in the middle of baseball season, and I'm pretty sure that my absence from Sunday worship has not gone unnoticed. Devin's team has been playing in a tournament every weekend. Mostly, the players do a good job of supporting each other as a team. Some are more vocal than others in cheering on their teammates. Others are quieter but clearly help the team play better both by their example and their encouragement. Inevitably, the players make errors and bad choices, some more than others. When those things happen, they are disappointing, of course. How could they not be for a bunch of 12-year-olds (and many parents) who are mostly very competitive by nature? Yet, some players react much better than others. Some provide support and encouragement, while others criticize. Some players look past their own shortcomings, blaming others instead of seeing their own opportunities for improvement.

Churches can be a lot like that. Some churches (not just pastors, but members, too) seem to have it all figured out. They know what they believe, and they know what God expects not only of them but of everyone else, too. They have great confidence in their beliefs, sometimes confidence to the point of arrogance. Yet, through their beliefs and teachings and confidence, they have hurt many people. There are many people in our community who have been hurt by one or more churches. Their experience of Christianity has not been a positive one. For some, it has been an experience that they are recovering from.

Other churches are much more accepting of people. The pastor and members understand that we are all on a journey of faith and that none of

us has it all figured out. We affirm that "God alone is Lord of the conscience, and hath left it free from the doctrines and commandments of [all persons] which are in anything contrary to his Word, or beside it, in matters of faith or worship." (*Book of Order*, F-3.0101a). Beyond that statement, with humility we recognize that our understanding of God's will as revealed in Scripture is not only less than perfect, but has evolved over time. That leaves us little ground for claiming with any certainty that our understanding is obvious and correct for ourselves, let alone for everyone else.

In the current political and religious climate of our nation, our Presbyterian guidelines for scriptural interpretation are very important. These guidelines appear in a statement that the 123rd General Assembly (1983) of the Presbyterian Church in the United States adopted. One of my favorite of the guidelines is known as the Rule of Love. The Rule of Love comes from Jesus' summary of law and the teachings of the prophets, which states that we are to love God above all and to love each other. The Rule of Love tells us that any interpretation of Scripture is wrong that sets Scripture in opposition to the commandment to love God and each other, as individuals and as communities.

I believe that our congregation is called to be a refuge for those who have been hurt by the church. None of us seems to believe that we have it all figured out. I know that your pastors don't. We all struggle with our faith and with God's will for our lives. Paul exhorts the Philippians to "work out [their] own salvation with fear and trembling" (Philippians 2:12). We need to be exploring our own faith, not once and done, but throughout our lives. We can offer our community a view of Christianity that emphasizes God's grace. We need to let our community know that our congregation welcomes everyone to come and explore their faith with us. Our congregation is a safe place where everyone will find not only acceptance, which sometimes is more like tolerance, but affirmation. After all, we're all in this together by God's grace alone.

Blessings,

Pastor Mark



PCC NEWS

May has slowly come to an end. With June's arrival, the first day of summer won't be very far behind.

On May 15, we celebrated the Pre-K Graduation. The children did a wonderful job and their families were so proud of them. We are very excited for the kids as they look ahead to kindergarten in the fall.

Abbey came back on May 20, after being on leave with the new addition to her family, baby Ezekiel. Ezekiel is doing fantastic and starting to grow like a weed. We are very happy to have Abbey back with us.

The school year ended on May 23. With the school age back full time, the PCC summer program officially begins June 3. We have some awesome activities and field trips planned for the students this year. We start on June 5 with a visit to Madison Lanes. On June 12, the children will take a field trip to the Historical Society. A new event for this year, the school age will go and see Inside Out 2 at the London State Theater on June 17.

We hope everyone was able to stay dry during the rainy days and got a chance to enjoy the warm sunny days. We know the PCC children have been very excited about getting to play outside again and go for walks. Most of all, they are looking forward to splash day!

News Flash!

The PCC is now accepting enrollment in our Pre-K classrooms and school age classrooms for the summer program and the fall school year. If you know of anyone, send them our way. Thank you!

~ Dusty

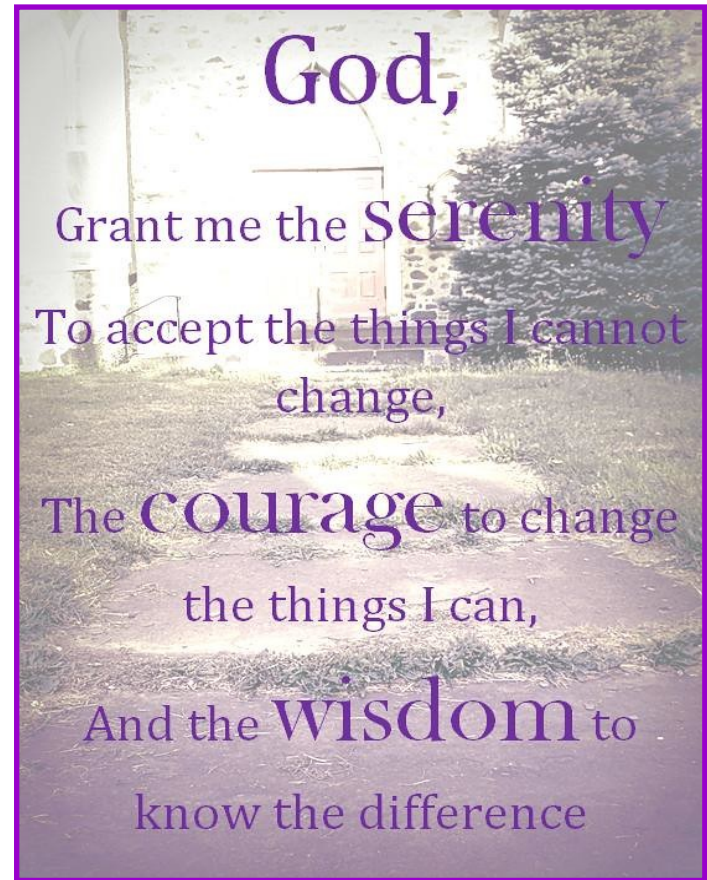


PRAYER LINE

All requests to be submitted to Shelley Jones at shelley.j.jones8@gmail.com or call 614-425-7570.

IMPORTANT: Due to privacy issues, please make sure any prayer request is with consent of the person concerned.

Let the pastor know when her presence is needed. If you wish to have prayer concerns lifted during the worship service, please email the church office.



God,

Grant me the **Serenity**
To accept the things I cannot
change,

The **COURAGE** to change
the things I can,

And the **wisdom** to
know the difference

PRAYER REQUESTS FROM PASTOR ABOU OF THE REFORMED NATIONAL CHURCH OF THE SAHEL (RNCS)

Pastor Abou sends his appreciation for our prayers for his younger brother. He is out of the hospital and doing well.

He is grateful for the prayers on behalf of those girls who were struggling in their faith. Things are improving for all of them.

Pastor Abou has been traveling since May to the countries of Guinea Bissau, Sierra Leone, and Liberia. His travels continue into June. Please pray for his safety during this time.

WHAT'S HAPPENING? ...

IMPORTANT DATES

June 2: Deacon meeting
June 6-9 & June 28-July 8: Pastors Désirée & Mark will be on vacation
June 9 & 30: Special Deacon meetings for the Cruise In
June 19: Office will be closed in observance of Juneteenth Day
June 24: Silver Cornet Band Concert at 7:00 pm, in front of the church
June 25 - July 4: General Assembly in Utah. Pastor Steve will be attending.

MEN'S GROUP

The next Men's Group lunch will be on Thurs. June 13, at 11:30 a.m. Lunch will be at Los Mariachi's, located at 289 Lafayette Street in London.

This is a great opportunity to stop by and see what the group is all about. Hope you can come!

HELP HOUSE MEAL FOR 150

The church is hosting the next Loving Kindness meal for the Help House on Monday, July 15. The following donations and volunteers are needed:

- 13 boxes Little Debbie Oatmeal Cookies (regular size)
- 15 boxes of rotini (16 oz)
- 12 bottles of Italian salad dressing (16 oz)
- 6 institutional size cans of pork and beans
- 3 bags of brown sugar
- 3 bottles ketchup (24 oz)
- 2 COOKS for baked beans (recipe and ingredients provided)
- 3-4 SERVERS (2:00-4:00)

Please notify Debbie Blaho if you want to help ... call (614) 736-5126 or email dblaho@columbus.rr.com.

Please have donations to the church by **July 7th**.

Sisters In the Lord

♪♪ Song Fest ♪♪

Faith Assembly Worship Center, 2600 US Rte 40, London

**Saturday
June 8
1-3 pm**

**Rain
Or
Shine**

Lunch, Music, & Praising God

Men Welcome

Bring a Chair

WELCOME TABLE MEAL

The Welcome Table meal will be on **Thursday, June 13**. About 100 meals will be served. The following is needed:

- ◆ No-Work Meat Loaf
- ◆ Cheesy Broccoli Casserole
- ◆ Little Debbie Oatmeal Cookies (regular size) for dessert

It is best to use a disposable pan. The food will need to be delivered to the St. Paul AME Church, located at 11 W. Center St., London, by 4:30 PM. They begin to serve the meal at 5:00 pm. Thank you for your continued support.

NO-WORK MEAT LOAF, 8 servings

2 lbs. ground beef	2 eggs
1 cup of pkg'd herb-seasoned stuffing	1 ½ tsp salt
1 8-oz can seasoned tomato sauce	¼ tsp pepper

Mix ingredients well. Shape into a loaf and place in a disposable shallow baking pan, or a jelly-roll pan. Bake at 350 degrees for about 1 hour.

CHEESY BROCCOLI CASSEROLE, 8 servings

2 10-oz boxes frozen broccoli florets, thawed	2 large eggs
1 10 ¾-oz can cream of mushroom soup	1 small onion, chopped
½ cup mayonnaise	48 round buttery crackers, crushed (= 2 cups)
4-oz shredded cheddar cheese (= 1 cup)	1 stick margarine, melted

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Coat 13" x 9" disposable baking pan with nonstick cooking spray; arrange broccoli in dish.

Combine soup, mayonnaise, cheese, eggs, and onion in medium bowl; stir to mix well. Spoon evenly over broccoli.

Combine crackers and margarine in medium bowl; stir to mix well. Sprinkle over soup mixture. Bake, uncovered, 30 minutes or until sauce bubbles and topping is lightly browned.

2024 CRUISE IN

FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

211 GARFIELD AVE.
LONDON, OHIO



SATURDAY,
AUGUST 17

10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

FOOD FUN CARS
RAFFLES AND MORE

In lieu of an entry fee for the car show, a donation of diapers & wipes for the PCC will be gratefully accepted.

****CRUISE IN Benefit recipients TBD****

Thank you for helping to make this a successful event.

If you are interested in volunteering to help with the Cruise In, there will be a sign up sheet in the Narthex.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

The First Presbyterian Church is working in partnership with St. John Lutheran Church for VBS this year.

It will be held at St. John on July 21-25 (Sunday-Thursday), from 6:00 - 7:30 pm. St. John is located at 380 Keny Blvd, London.

Christian Ed is looking for 2-3 volunteers to help at St. John during that week. If you are interested, please see Paul Oswalt. Thank you.



May there always
be work for your
hands to do.

May your purse
always hold
a coin or two.

May the sun always
shine on your
windowpane.

May a rainbow
be certain
to follow each rain.

May the hand of a
friend always
be near you.

May God fill
your heart with
gladness to cheer you.

- An Irish Blessing

Cody & Hope Smith	6-2
Francis & Virginia Murray	6-7
Zahid & Jennifer Siddiqi	6-15
Cary & Deena Bennett	6-16
Jim & Brenda Engle	6-16
Ken & Dot Morlock	6-20
Bob & Sylvia Blayney	6-21
Kelly & Doug Armfelt	6-23
Keith & Sue Miller	6-23
Larry & Tina Hart	6-24
Gordon & Ruthanne Johnson	6-28
Phil & Prudy Goodyear	6-29
Tom & Joyce Lloyd	6-29
Tona & Randy Avery	6-30



People born in June are either a *Gemini* (June 1-20) or a *Cancer* (June 21-30).

Geminis have a strong desire to explore new things and seek information. They are great communicators, and have strong problem solving skills, along with being a multi-tasker.

Cancers have exceptional emotional intelligence. They are devoted to their loved ones and have strong bonds to family and friends. *Cancer* babies are very resilient and have a keen sense of intuition.

In general, June babies are empathetic and sensitive. They are intelligent, charming, and able to adapt. On the negative side, they can be susceptible to emotional stress and lose focus on long-term goals. They can sometimes be impatient.

Some well known June babies are Marilyn Monroe, Natalie Portman, Chris Pratt, Paul McCartney, Lionel Richie, and Anne Frank.

Kyla Oswalt	6-1
David Ridenour	6-3
Marilyn Schellhaas	6-8
Tony Frey	6-12
Richard Huddleston	6-16
Tony Stuthard	6-23
Shauna Good	6-25
Emmett D. Schrock	6-27
Jay Phillips	6-28

This Month in History

June 5, 1783 - The first sustained flight occurred as a hot-air balloon was launched at Annonay, France, by brothers Joseph and Jacques Montgolfier.

June 5, 1968 - Robert F. Kennedy was shot and mortally wounded while leaving the Hotel Ambassador in Los Angeles.

June 6, 1872 - Pioneering feminist Susan B. Anthony was fined for voting in a presidential election at Rochester, New York.

June 6, 1944 - D-Day, the largest amphibious landing in history, began in the early-morning hours as Allied forces landed in Normandy on the northern coast of France. Operation Overlord took months of planning and involved 1,527,000 soldiers in 47 Allied divisions along with 4,400 ships and landing craft, and 11,000 aircraft.

June 10, 1652 - In Massachusetts, silversmith John Hull opened the first mint in America, in defiance of English colonial law. The first coin issued was the Pine Tree Shilling, designed by Hull.

June 14, 1775 - The first U.S. Military service, the Continental Army consisting of six companies of riflemen, was established by the Second Continental Congress.

June 14, 1777 - John Adams introduced a resolution before Congress mandating a United States flag, stating, "...that the flag of the thirteen United States shall be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white on a blue field, representing a new constellation."

June 14, 1951 - Univac 1, the world's first commercial electronic computer was unveiled in Philadelphia.

June 17, 1972 - Following a seemingly routine burglary, five men were arrested at the National Democratic Headquarters in the Watergate complex in Washington, D.C.

June 18, 1983 - Dr. Sally Ride, a 32-year-old physicist and pilot, became the first American woman in space, beginning a six-day mission aboard the space shuttle *Challenger*, launched from Cape Canaveral, Florida.

June 19, 1903 - Baseball great Lou Gehrig (1903-1941) was born in New York City. He played in 2,130 consecutive games and seven World Series for the New York Yankees and had a lifetime batting average of .340.

June 20, 1924 - American military hero and actor Audie Murphy (1924-1971) was born in Kingston, Texas. He was the most decorated American soldier of World War II.

June 20, 1782 - The U.S. Congress officially adopted the Great Seal of the United States of America.

June 23, 1865 - The last formal surrender of Confederate troops occurred as Cherokee leader and Confederate Brigadier General Watie surrendered his battalion comprised of American Indians in the Oklahoma Territory.

June 25, 1876 - General George A. Custer, leading 250 men, attacked an encampment of Sioux Indians near Little Bighorn River in Montana.

June 25, 1950 - The Korean War began as North Korean troops, led by Russian built tanks, crossed the 38th parallel and launched a full scale invasion of South Korea.

June 25, 1991 - Following the collapse of Soviet rule in Eastern Europe, the republics of Croatia and Slovenia declared their independence from Yugoslavia. Ethnic rivalries between Serbians and Croatians soon erupted.

June 26, 1945 - The United Nations Charter was signed in San Francisco by 50 nations. The Charter was ratified on October 24, 1945.

June 28, 1862 - During the American Civil War, the siege of the Confederate city of Vicksburg began as Admiral David Farragut succeeded in taking a fleet past the Mississippi River stronghold. The siege continued over a year.

June 28, 1914 - Archduke Francis Ferdinand, Crown Prince of Austria and his wife were assassinated at Sarajevo, touching off a conflict between the Austro-Hungarian government and Serbia that escalated into World War I.

June 28, 1919 - The signing of the Treaty of Versailles formally ended World War I. According to the terms, Germany was assessed sole blame for the war, forced to give up Alsace-Lorraine and overseas colonies, and pay reparations of \$15 billion. The treaty also prohibited German rearmament.

June 30, 1971 - The 26th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was enacted, granting the right to vote in all federal, state and local elections to American citizens 18 years or older.

FLAG DAY

Flag Day is a celebration of the American flag that occurs each year on the anniversary of the flag's official adoption, June 14.

The original 1777 flag was designed to represent the 13 original colonies with 13 white stars on a blue field and 13 alternating red and white stripes.

- * white for purity and innocence
- * red for valor and hardiness
- * blue for vigilance, perseverance, and justice

One of the first flag designs had the stars arranged in a circle, based on the idea that all colonies were equal. In 1818, after a few design changes, the United States Congress decided to retain the flag's original 13 stripes and add new stars to reflect each new state that entered the union. Each time a state was added to the union, a star was added. Today, there are 50 stars, one for each state in the union, but the 13 stripes remain.

Interestingly, the current American flag was designed by a high school student from Lancaster, Ohio, named Bob G. Heft! Even though Bob's history teacher gave him a "B-" for not knowing how many states the Union had, Bob submitted his design to the White House (unprompted) in anticipation of Hawaii and Alaska joining the Union. To his surprise, President Eisenhower called him! Today, it's Bob Heft's 1958 design—which shows 50 stars in a field that included five rows of six stars and four rows of five stars—which is now our 50-star American flag (and the history teacher changed his grade to an "A"!).

JUNE BITS

June's full moon, the Strawberry Moon, rises on Friday, June 21.

June's birthstones are alexandrite, the moonstone, and the pearl.

June's birth flowers are the rose and the honeysuckle.

Superman appears for the first time in D.C. comics in June 1938.

The summer solstice begins on June 20, heralding the beginning of summer in the Northern Hemisphere.

In 1919, the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, guaranteeing women the right to vote, passed by Congress.

In 1973, Secretariat became horse racing's first Triple Crown winner in 25 years.

On June 1, after sunset, a gorgeous three-way conjunction of Saturn, Mars, and the crescent Moon occurs.

In June 1885, the French gift to the United States "the Statue of Liberty", arrived in New York City aboard the French ship Isere.



FATHER'S DAY
IS SUNDAY,
JUNE 16

JUNE 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
26 Deacon Meeting, after worship ● 9am Sunday School ● 10am Worship	27 Memorial Day-Closed	28 Steve Off	29 ● 1pm PCC Leadership Meeting	30 Garage Sale Setup ● 7pm Choir Rehearsal	31 Church Garage Sale	Jun 1
2 ● 9am Sunday School ● 10am Communion & Worship ● 11am Deacon Meeting	3 ● 7pm Comet Band rehearsal Tom	4	5 ● 1pm PCC Leadership Meeting ● 5pm Christian Education Zoom IV	6 Pastors D&M vacation ● 6pm Worship Committee Meeting ● 7pm Choir Rehearsal	7	8
9 Pastors D&M vacation Blood Pressure Check, aft. worship ● 10am Worship	10 ● 11am PCC Leadership Meeting ● 11am PCC Leadership Meeting ● 7pm Comet Band rehearsal Tom	11	12 ● 1pm PCC Leadership Meeting ● 4pm Stewardship Commission	13 Mens Group & Welcome Table Me ● 4:15pm Mission Committee mee ● 7pm Last Choir Rehearsal	14	15
16 ● 10am Worship	17 ● 7pm Comet Band rehearsal Tom	18	19 Juneleventh-Closed ● 1pm PCC Leadership Meeting ● 4:30pm Session Meeting	20 ● 11am Session Review	21	22
23 ● 8:45am Nominating Committee ● 10am Worship	24 ● 6pm LLAMA ● 7pm Silver Comet Band Concert	25 Steve - study leave ... General Assembly (6-25 to 7-4)	26 ● 1pm PCC Leadership Meeting ● 6pm PCC Committee Meeting	27	28 Pastors Mark and Desiree on Vacation Cherie - vacation day	29
30 Steve - study leave ... General Assembly (6-25 to 7-4) Pastors Mark and Desiree on Vacation ● 10am Worship	Jul 1	2	3 ● 5pm Christian Education Zoom IV	4	5	6