

Chimes



The Grace of doing something in the Kingdom of Heaven!

“I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. And because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do the something that I can do.”
— Edward Everett Hale (1822-1909), American author, historian, Unitarian minister

The grace of doing just something, is powerful.

In the parable of the mustard seed, Jesus reminds us that the kingdom, which has already begun with Christ, does not come with a glorious bang. Rather, it comes unexpectedly, almost unnoticed.

The mustard seed is but a little spec of a seed. Jesus said “it is the smallest of seeds.” Sometimes we Christians forget the image of the mustard seed, and the encouragement it brings.

The mustard seed tells of a kingdom that starts very small, and grows large.

Mustard is an invasive weed, and Jesus refers to the way mustard works as examples of the way the kingdom of heaven works.

It may have begun from humble origins, but it is growing into something that cannot be contained. It may be hidden at the beginning, but it is unstoppable, pervasive, and abundant. Once a mustard plant takes hold, it spreads everywhere.

We look at huge, successful ministries and discount the importance of our local churches. We see a few Christians who impact thousands of people and figure that our contribution doesn't count. Our efforts are too tiny!

We try to live our faith in our workplace, but we don't see any major change in our jobs or our colleagues. When we retire, we may begin to sense that the winter of our life doesn't matter anymore. We go to school and get lost in the crowd. We sense in whatever facet of life we are living, if we aren't making noise, we are like that little mustard seed that doesn't matter.

However, God has chosen to use who we are, and what we have, no matter how small in the work of his kingdom.

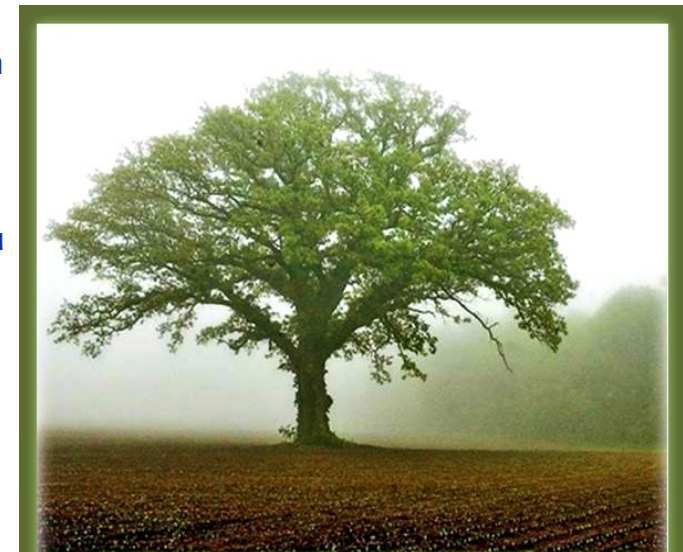
The faithful mustard seed of God's reign grows through us in our workplace, family, school, community, church, and society. We may not see it. We may not think we're making a major impact. But God is at work in and through us, extending his kingdom of the heavens in a broken, lonely world.

What I'm reminded of in this parable, is that the kingdom of heaven is already here. We are not gatekeepers; we are the welcome wagon to the kingdom of heaven!

God's kingdom transcends, it is both earthly and heavenly, and it bridges the two. The kingdom of heaven is both caught up in our ordinary lives and beyond our understanding. You see this in Matthew 13:31-32, which compares the smallest everyday miracles from mustard seeds to the labors of ordinary people.

We may be only one, we cannot do everything, but God gives us grace to do something in the kingdom of heaven!

~ Pastor Steve



**He put another parable before them, saying,
“The kingdom of heaven is like
a grain of mustard seed
that a man took and sowed in his field.
It is the smallest of all seeds,
but when it has grown it is larger than all
the garden plants and becomes a tree,
so that the birds of the air come
and make nests in its branches.”**

WHAT'S HAPPENING? ...

IMPORTANT DATES COMING UP

- Aug. 13 - Blood Pressure screening, after the service
- Sept. 7 - Choir Rehearsal resumes, Choir sings on Sept. 10
- Sept. 10 - PCC 50th Celebration
- Sept. 19 - Presbytery meeting at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Columbus
- Sept. 20 - Hump Day lunch

SISTERS IN THE LORD

Saturday, August 12, 2023

1-3:00 PM

Crossroads Community Church
2262 State Route 56, by Bluebird Retirement

Any questions, or need a ride, call Joyce Lloyd at 740-852-4229.

HELP HOUSE MEALS

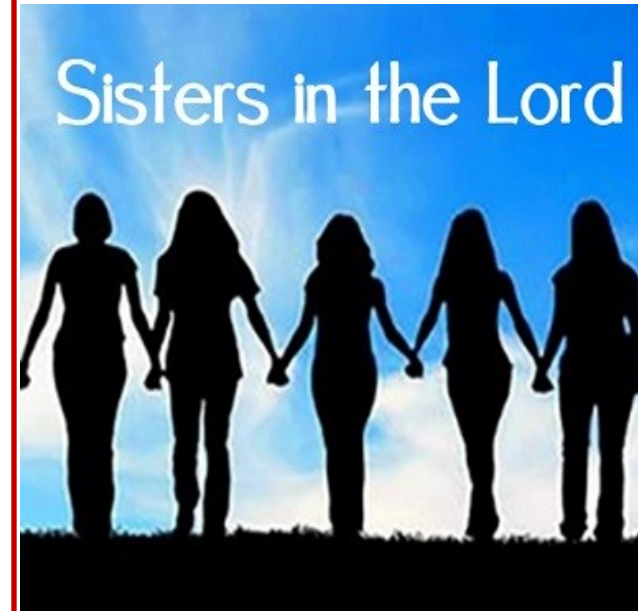
Thank you to all who helped with the July 17 meal through donations and preparation. We provided 164 meals for our neighbors in need. A special thanks goes to the following volunteers ... Joe Blaho, Jim & Melissa Canney, Roberta (Bert) Cwickalo, Connie Dwyer, Prudy Goodyear, Caryl Laney, Peggy Link, Joyce Lloyd, Dolly McDonley and Mindful Mothers.

The church is hosting the next Loving Kindness meal on **August 21**. The following donations and volunteers are needed:

- ◆ 8 boxes Little Debbie Oatmeal Cookies (regular size),
- ◆ 50 applesauce cups
- ◆ 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 92:00 - 4:00).

Please notify Debbie Blaho if you want to help (email: dblaho@columbus.rr.com or call (614) 736-5126). Please have donations to the church by August 13th.

PLANNING MEETING



Our church will be hosting the **September** Sisters in the Lord gathering.

In preparation of this, there will be a planning meeting on **Thursday, August 3, at 11:00 AM** in the church parlor.

We will be discussing programming, speakers, music, and logistics. If you have any questions, please see Rhonda Miller or Joyce Lloyd.

We hope you can join us as we prepare for the September gathering.

SILVER CORNET BAND

Stop by Cowling Park Gazebo (London) on Monday, August 14, at 7:00 PM to hear the Silver Cornet Band perform.

If it rains, the concert will move to the First Presbyterian Church.



The Christian Education Committee would like to invite you to become a...



~ PRAYER PAL ~

In Matthew 18:20, Jesus says for where two or three are gathered together in my name, there I am in the midst of them.

This is an opportunity to strengthen your relationship with Jesus Christ and with your church family. From September - December 2023, Prayer pals will connect each week to share prayer requests, pray for one another, and meet in person each month to pray for one another together.

All are welcome! Beginning August 20, there will be a sign up sheet in the Narthex, or you can contact a member of the Christian Ed committee ... Melissa Canney, Paul Oswalt, Gina Wells, Gailyn Whipple and Pastor Désirée.

UPDATES FROM MISSION

CRUISE IN

With heartfelt gratitude, we would like to thank everyone who helped to make the Cruise In a success through monetary donations, donated gift baskets for the silent auction, food donations and those who volunteered the day of the cruise-in. And a special thank you to those who attended that day. At the end of the day, July 29, we raised \$2,216.75 for the PCC ... with more donations still coming in!

With gratitude and thanks,
The Mission Committee
PCC Teachers and Staff

SUMMER BOOK DRIVE

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Book Drive. This year, we collected 336 books.

Books were distributed to children participating in the summer lunch programs at local churches as well as our own daycare children. Over 100+ children in the community were impacted.

With gratitude,
The Mission Committee

MARTHA GEIB SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER

Thank you to all who supported the fundraiser for the Martha Geib Scholarship which was held at the Butcher Block on July 18. We raised \$300, and you received a great meal. A win-win!

Our next event will be the online auction which will take place on the first Saturday in November (November 4). More information will follow. Thank you for all that you do to help.



PCC NEWS

Greetings Everyone!

Summer is slowly coming to an end at the PCC. We had a very busy month in July between the field trips and pool days! The school agers enjoyed going to the Doonshoff Museum of Discovery in Dayton, OH, the Madison County Fair, the pool, and the bowling alley!

The kids will get to enjoy an 'End of Summer Bash' on August 4! They will have a special lunch with fun activities that the teachers have planned for them!

On August 11, the teachers will have their second In-Service Day! We are planning a CPR and First Aid class that day for all of our teachers!

Can you believe that London City Schools start on August 16! Good luck to all of our school agers who are going back to school and to the kindergarteners who are starting school!!

Yep, it has been a wild and crazy summer!

~ Abbey



PCC 50TH CELEBRATION!

IN SEPTEMBER, THE PCC WILL BE 50 YEARS OLD.

PLAN TO ATTEND A SPECIAL SERVICE ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2023.

THE PCC TEACHERS AND STAFF WILL BE RECOGNIZED DURING OUR CHURCH SERVICE THAT MORNING. AFTERWARDS, YOU ARE INVITED TO STAY FOR LUNCH, A SILENT AUCTION AND FUN ACTIVITIES FOR THE CHILDREN.

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.



*The Lord will
give strength
unto his
people;*

*The Lord will
bless his people
with peace*

Psalm 29:11

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

Please continue to keep Pastor Abou and the RNCS, the people and the children in your prayers, while they continue to do God's work.

Pastor Abou has asked for prayers for a little girl has a broken leg (at the knee). She was admitted to the hospital for surgery last Thursday.

Please pray for her healing.



1973: Year That Changed the World ... From AARP

Hip-hop is 50; NASCAR is 75; Jeff Bridges is still a superstar.

Fifty years ago, Americans were worried about rising prices and a looming recession (sound familiar?). In 1973 inflation more than doubled, from 3.7 percent to 8.7 percent, and effectively ended the post-World War II economic boom. But everything is relative. You could afford to take the long way ... gas was 39 cents a gallon, eggs were 78 cents a dozen, and you could get 10 pounds of potatoes for less than a buck. A first-class postage stamp cost 8 cents. When compared to today, this doesn't sound too bad. But, the minimum wage was \$1.60/hour and the median family income was \$12,050.00.

Young Americans were ready for something new. On August 11, 1973, at a rec room party in an apartment complex in the Bronx, a couple of teenagers changed the world. A young DJ added a second turntable to extend the most danceable instrumental breaks in the music, set up the microphone, and a new culture was born. His name was Clive Campbell ... Later known as DJ Kool Herc, the father of hip-hop. Today, hip-hop is a global phenomenon with a style of its own.

That same year, in the south, NASCAR (which began in 1948) began to slowly break out of the Southeast to become a popular sport across the country in the early 70's. This brings us to Jeff Bridges, and the 1973 film, *The Last American Hero*, a movie about the Southern stock car culture. Dale Earnhardt Jr. called it the best of the NASCAR movies.

The main character was Junior Jackson, who was based on real-life racing legend Junior Johnson. He honed his driving skills outrunning reneuers on backwoods North Carolina roads. The story was written by Tom Wolfe, author and journalist, who saw the trend and popularity of the Southern car world. Johnson was a "modern hero", that people could identify with.

Southern stock car racing culture, like hip-hop, grew organically from a regional thing, until it ranked right up there with the NFL and the NBA in terms of popularity. 1973 was a remarkable year.

AUGUST WEATHER LORE

If the first week in August is unusually warm, the coming winter will be snowy and long.

If a cold August follows a hot July, it foretells a winter hard and dry.

"For every fog in August, there will be a snowfall in winter."

While many of us in the 21st century may think weather lore is more whimsical than wise, it's hard to discount all of these "natural forecasters," especially when they prove to be true. But how could a saying that's been passed down from sailor to farmer to business executive really predict the weather?!

While not all weather lore is accurate, there are many sayings that prove to be on the mark time and time again. When you examine weather folklore, you realize that the basics of this weather predicting method are careful observations that have been made over many years. Weather lore relies on the notion that there is a strong cause-and-effect relationship between nature and the weather.

A weather lore forecaster takes cues from nature at the time he or she needs to know what the weather is going to be like. It is more of a short-term forecast for a specific area, rather than a long-term forecast for broad areas.

Flowers that have a second bloom in the fall or hold onto their blooms late in the season forecast a colder winter.

Leaves which fall early indicate winter will be mild. When leaves fall late, winter will be wild. If the leaves wither on the branches in October instead of falling, an extra cold winter is in store.

Apple skins which are tougher and thicker also tell us a colder winter is expected.

Corn husks which are thicker and tighter than usual indicate a cold winter ahead.

Squirrels with very bushy tails in the fall cue a colder winter. If squirrels stash their nuts high in the trees, the snow will be deep.

Birds that migrate early are a cue to severe winter.

When wild turkeys perch in trees and refuse to come down, snow is imminent. If turkey feathers are unusually thick, look for a hard winter.

One final FYI ... The date of the first snowflakes tells how many times it will snow. Should the year's first snow, for example, come down on the 12th of the month, you can expect 12 more storms before the winter's done.

*"Flowers bloomin' in late Autumn,
A sure sign of a bad winter comin'."*

AUGUST FUN FACTS

August's first full moon, the Sturgeon Moon, reaches peak illumination on the night of Tuesday, August 1. It is also one of the four supermoons of 2023!

THE ANGLO-SAXONS CALLED THE MONTH OF AUGUST "WEOD MONTH" BECAUSE IT'S A MONTH WHEN WEEDS AND OTHER PLANTS GROW RAPIDLY!

On August 24, 79 AD, Mt. Vesuvius erupted near the city of Pompeii. The city was buried under molten lava, 7 ft deep.

On August 21, 1911, the Mona Lisa was stolen from the Louvre Gallery and not recovered for two years.

- ♦ **August 3** is National Watermelon Day
- ♦ **August 19** is National Aviation Day, which is the birthday of Orville Wright
- ♦ **August 20** is World Honeybee Day
- ♦ **August 25** is Kiss-and-Make-Up Day

August's birth flowers are the gladiolus which symbolizes strength of character, and the poppy which symbolizes eternal sleep.

August's birthstone is the peridot, which is said to symbolize strength & healing power.

You will be able to see another full moon this month as well - and it's going to be a doozy. On August 30, there will be a Blue Moon, which is the BIGGEST supermoon of the year

The Perseid meteor shower lasts from July 23 to August 22. It will reach its maximum between August 11 - 13. Be sure to keep an eye out, especially on the 16th, during the 'new' moon.

May God be with you and bless you.
 May you see your children's children.
 May you be poor in misfortunes
 and rich in blessings.
 May you know nothing but happiness
 from this day forward.



FRANK & NANCY POWELL	AUGUST 2
JEFF & BARB NIEMEYER	AUGUST 2
BOB & RHONDA MILLER	AUGUST 6



August babies tend to be confident, strong, organized and an outgoing personality. They tend to be confident and kind-hearted. August babies may like to be the center of attention, but they are able to along well with people, and are empathic listeners.

If you are born between August 1-22, you are a Leo. Leo babies are thought to be creative, theatrical, and passionate. They are dramatic and outgoing. Leos make great leaders.

If born between 23-31, you are a Virgo. Virgo babies are pragmatic, logical and down-to-earth people. Virgos have acute attention to detail. They are the people most likely to dedicate themselves to serving. Virgos are loyal, hardworking and analytical.

Roger Hamrick	8/4	Eileen Arikawa	8/17
Cheryl McSavaney	8/5	Bob Miller	8/17
Jeffrey Schrock	8/8	Carol Ansel	8/18
Joyce Lloyd	8/10	Cindy Newman	8/20
Melissa Canney	8/11	Jeff Niemeyer	8/22
Marci Bogenrife	8/11	Roselyn Justice	8/28
Ruthanne Johnson	8/11	Alice Phillips	8/30
Branden Miller	8/13	Carol Welk	8/31
John McSavaney	8/15		

AUGUST 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
30 ● 10am Communion ● 10am Worship ● 11am Nominating Committee	31 ● 5pm Christian Education Zoom IV	Aug 1	2 ● 1pm PCC Leadership Meeting ● 4pm Stewardship Commission	3 ● 11:30am Planning mtg for Sister: ● 6pm Worship Committee Meeting	4	5
6 ● 10am Communion ● 10am Worship ● 11am Nominating Committee	7 ● 5pm Christian Education Zoom IV	8	9 ● 1pm PCC Leadership Meeting ● 4pm Stewardship Commission	10 ● 4:15pm Mission Committee mee	11	12
13 ● 10am Communion ● 10am Worship ● 11am Nominating Committee	14 ● 11am PCC Leadership Meeting ● 7pm Silver Cornet Band	15	16 ● 1pm PCC Leadership Meeting ● 4:30pm Session Meeting	17 ● 11am Session Review	18 Abbey - off/vacation day	19
20 ● 10am Communion ● 10am Worship ● 11am Nominating Committee	21 Loving Kindness Meal	22	23 ● 1pm PCC Leadership Meeting ● 5pm Generation to Generation Fu ● 6pm PCC Committee Meeting	24 ● 10am LLAMA	25	26
27 ● 10am Communion ● 10am Worship ● 11am Nominating Committee	28	29	30 ● 1pm PCC Leadership Meeting	31	Sep 1	2

The Chimes

First Presbyterian Church
211 Garfield Ave, Box 226
London, OH 43140



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED