

Church Office
330-925-2651
Pastor Alex
404-447-0273



OCTOBER 2023

TIMELY NOTES



Milton Presbyterian
Church
250 North Street,
Rittman, OH 44270
(330) 925-2651

SUNDAY SCHOOL starts at *9:15 am*

WORSHIP time is *10:30 am*

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HERITAGE MEAL

We will be celebrating World Communion on Sunday, October 1st, 2023 at HUBBARD VALLEY PARK with worship at 10:30 a.m.

In honor of celebration of World Communion the Deacons are hosting a Heritage Take-in Luncheon. Please prepare a dish from your family's heritage. Deacons will provide beverages, meat and dinnerware. Hubbard Valley Park is on Hubbard Valley Road north of Greenwich Road near Seville.

There will be a Bible Study at 9:15 a.m. before the service.



Happy
Halloween

Do you enjoy looking at all the Halloween costumes? Milton Church is planning to give out hot dogs to Trick-or-Treaters on Saturday, October 28th from 4-6 pm as an outreach project. Anyone willing to help contact Pastor Alex.

Free Community Dinner



Thank you to Philip and Susan Lam and Dr. Steve and Laura Martins who brought us information about New Hope Foundation on Monday, August 28th. They brought a crowd of people with them; Martins brought their 5 children who have been brought up helping the ministry

On September 25th Jacqueline Flaker, director for Rittman Academy, will speak about how the school was conceived and changed over the years. Thank you Jackie for taking your time to spread the news about this great educational opportunity for our high school students.

The last community meal of the year at Milton Church will be held on Monday, October 30th. Kristen Buchs, the new pastor for Rittman's Methodist Church, will be our speaker. The Boy Scouts have agreed to supply the meal this October and are planning on a CHILI COOK-OFF! All contestants are welcome. Pull out your favorite chili recipe and be sure to enter. Cast your vote for your favorite one.



Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. —
Philippians 4:6-8

I don't often seek the news, because I know that it will often be bad. After all, the bad, scary, and tragic parts of our world grab our attention because they bring our minds to think of ultimate things. In a world where our own death is often not confronted, when we read or hear or see about the death of others in the news, we cannot help but be transfixed by thinking about how something like this could happen.

Then there are times when tragedy comes into our own experience, and we receive news that hits home and affects our family. It is at these times where our feeling of despair may be the strongest, and any amount of planning or rhythm that we may have hoped for our lives is upended in anxiety and confusion.

Over the last two weeks, as I have been getting excited about the sermon series at church and exploring the question "Who Is Jesus?", I have received news that was not so good. In the world news, I read of the catastrophic earthquake in Morocco and the torrential flood overcome Libya, in addition to the ongoing war in Ukraine. I then heard that mine and Andrea's cousin Jamie in Pennsylvania was hospitalized from side effects of lymphoma treatment. Not long after this, I heard from a number of you with prayer requests involving family members who were in the hospital as well. As the prayers went up, many were faithfully answered as people returned home, until more news of hospitalizations came in. Then, the whole town received news of a homicide and suicide that happened here in Rittman. The victim of the homicide was someone who came down to The Server almost every day. He often came into The Server and talked about his neighbor who threatened him with a gun multiple times, but his life was looking up as he had met a woman at The Server who he started dating, he started work again and was getting ready to move to a new place, away from his neighbor who was dangerously mentally ill. He was killed by this neighbor.

This has been my personal experience over the last week, but I know that for some of you, these moments come more often than for others. Sometimes, these moments of pain or anxiety or confusion come with merciless frequency. When this happens, we can be prone to seek answers from almost anywhere. We look for physical things that change the way we feel or think, or we may seek distractions that allow us to escape from the realities that haunt us.

These may help or hurt, but ultimately our answer lay in the guidance of the Holy Spirit and God's Word in scripture. It is for this reason why the apostle Paul wrote this word of clarity and truth that began this pastor's note. It comes near the end of Paul's letter to the believers in Philippi. When he writes this letter, he sits in prison, yearning to see his church family once again.

It would have been very easy for the Apostle to look at his surroundings and see a cage trapping God's work in spreading the gospel through him. It would have been natural for him to wonder, over and over again in his mind, what he could have done differently to avoid this position where he was trapped. It would have been perfectly understandable to be overwhelmed by despair. Yet he wasn't. Instead, he instructs the faithful with very clear words how we might overcome the anxiety that our fallen world brings to our doorstep, waiting for us to stumble.

When the Apostle tells us *no to be anxious about anything*, the order may seem cheap at first. Commanding another to feel something different has rarely worked. It never has in my experience! Rather, it is the words that follow which gives us the power to actually fulfill this request, and it all starts with prayer. The ability to *remember what we have to be thankful for*, and then ask God for very specific and real help, even if it doesn't come in words, for the wordless groans of the Holy Spirit will also be heard (Romans 8:26). Then God's peace, which makes no worldly

This is then followed by the command to willfully turn our thoughts away from the bad news to the things that are good and pure and right. In other words, turning to the good news, because no amount of bad news can overcome the promises that God has set forth in scripture – that Jesus has prepared a place for you and gave his life so you may have an eternal one.

Thank God that the power of the Holy Spirit can express itself with such power to transcend any circumstance, for a mere cage would never be able to contain the good news. When we can't escape or turn away from the bad news – and most news seems to be bad news – we have to cling ever more fiercely, creatively, and faithfully to the good news found in the story of Jesus and what he has done for us.

— Alex

If you wish to contact Pastor Alex please give him a call, email or text. If unable to reach him at the office, please call him at cell phone number 404-447-0273.

Operation Christmas Child

Plans are in the making to collect items for the Operation Christmas Child boxes. This is a good time of the year to buy school supplies, summer toys, and summer shoes on sale. Whether you want to buy miscellaneous items or fill a box, your help is appreciated.

Please see Cindy for more information. Bring your purchases anytime. Items and boxes will be collected until mid-November.



****NEW MEMBER CLASS****

Anyone interested in joining Milton Church? Please contact Rev. Barnes or the office. Also looking for Elder/Deacon helpers for the class.

Announcing a Fall Day Retreat: "Retreating... Praying...Creating"

*Presented by Retreat Ministry
Mission Group of Muskingum Valley
Presbytery*

**Where: Pleasant Hill Outdoor Center, 4654
Pleasant Hill Road, Perrysville, OH 44864**

When: Thursday, October 12, 2023

Arrive: 9:00am

Welcome and Worship: 9:30am

Final Blessing: 3:00pm

We will gather, worship, and have a day to pray, reflect, and meditate on scripture and nature in a tranquil setting. There will be opportunity to create visual patterns as one of the forms of prayer and meditation.

I meditate on your precepts and consider your ways. Psalm 119:15

Contact: Donna Robertson, text/voicemail 330 -241-9932/ or email: donnar100@embarqmail
Registration includes lunch: \$10/person...
Register before or by September 30, 2023.



LASAGNA MEALS TO GO

Tickets On Sale Now!

***Sunday, October 29th
Pickup***

***PLEASE SUPPORT THE MPW'S
MISSION WORK!***

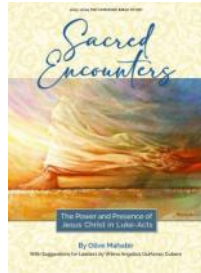
Lasagna prep day - Saturday, October 28th - 9:30 am. Helpers are needed! If you can provide a cake call Cindy.

Distribution - Sunday, October 29th from 11:45 am - 1:00pm.

Contact Cindy Mann for more information or to help (330) 927-3710 or (330) 835-8913.

MILTON PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

MPW Circle meets at 7:00 p.m. on the second Thursday of the month. Circle is using the Horizons study "Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts" by Olive Mahabir. This month's chapter is number 2 "The Exorcism in Gerasa". This has been a great parallel study to our current "Who Is Jesus?" theme. All are welcome!



Presbyterian Women's Honorary Member Award

Congratulations to two very deserving women, **Tammy Wilson and Christie Yoho**, for being awarded the Presbyterian Women's Honorary Member Award on Sunday, September 17th. Both of them have been church members for a long time, working in the background.



Christian Education

Tuesday Book Study, Sunday School, Junior Church

The Tuesday Bible Study group and Sunday School focus for the fall will be more in depth about "Who Is Jesus?" The Sunday School class is using the **Andy Stanley's** online study "Investigating Jesus". The Tuesday Bible Study is viewing and studying the online series by "**The Power of Jesus' Names**" by **Tony Evans**. If you can, check out both studies.

Jr. Church is doing another "Gospel Project" series for your younger children based on Jesus the Servant.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Thank you for your continued support!

Summary of August Revenue & Expenses

Financial Update – Budgeted Accounts Only:

Income from month of Aug.	\$ 7,147
HeadStart Fees	<u>+2,400</u>
	\$ 9,547
Expenses from Aug.	<u>\$ 9,589</u>
Aug. Net Income/Expense	\$ 42
Annual Net Income/Expense	\$ -4,802
Without Transfer from Session\$	-7,802

August 2023 Boiler Donations: \$170

Total donations to date: \$47,609

Balance of Lance Fund loan: \$20,811

Thank you for all your donations!



Electronic giving services powered by Presbyterian Foundation.



WANTED: Volunteers for The Server
Bagged frozen meals that can be handed out

If you can spare 4 hours a week and are willing to help, please let Rev. Barnes know that you would like to be a part of this ministry!



The next Youth JAM will be Sunday, December at Seville Presbyterian Church. The group meets quarterly throughout the year. The youth are encouraged to bring friends of course!



**OCTOBER
2023**

TIMELY NOTES

Our Mission Statement:

Believing in one Lord, one faith, and one baptism, the Milton Presbyterian Church, as the Body of Christ, will carry out the ministry of Jesus within the congregation, within our community, and to the world.

To accomplish this mission we will:

**Experience God's presence through worship, prayer, Bible study, the sacraments, fellowship, and service;*

**Demonstrate our Savior's compassion through our daily lives to those in need;*

**Give our time, our talents, and our material possessions to serve and glorify God .*

**Share the Good News of Jesus Christ by word and deed to all the world.*

Moved by the Holy Spirit, our mission as a congregation of forgiven and loved disciples will be carried out in the Name of Christ.

Our website is back up and running!
Visit us at: www.miltonpreschurch.org



Thank you so much for all the prayers, cards, food, phone calls, and good wishes I received after my hospital stay. It means a lot to be in such a caring church. —Justine Brandes

Thank you for the Presbyterian Women Honorary Life Membership Award alongside co-recipient Tammy Wilson. I was humbled and honored. I'm grateful for all the women of faith, past and present, who have a servant's heart. — Christie Yoho

Our prayers and thoughts go out to the family of Irene Chorba after her passing on September 2nd.



We also pray for Ron Chapman's family after his passing away. Ron was Denise and Mike Bennett's brother. He had been a member of our church in the 1970's.

Please remember the family and friends of Tim Bower who died. He was a regular visitor at the Server.



***Please remember our church family members who are in our local area nursing homes:**

Inn at CoalRidge , (1300 CoalRidge Rd., Wadsworth, 44281) - Elsie Richards

Apostolic Christian Homes, (10680 Steiner Rd., Rittman, OH) - Dorothy Johnson, Ron Steele

Village of St. Edwards, (880 Main St., Wadsworth, OH 44281) - Sally Barnes

Altercare of Wadsworth, (147 Garfield St., Wadsworth, OH 44281) - Judy Twinem

Dick Baker, Linda Beddow, Megan Blosser, Charlie Brandes, Jan Champa, Thelma Chapman, Terri Click, Marie Cole, Tanya Coleman, Conner Compton, Mike & Mandii Cramer, Megan Crawford, Nicholas Dras, Deb Easterday, Jordan Edgar, Scott Erwin, Darla Fletcher, Donnie Foutty, Patrick Gable, Shawn Gammell, Marcia Geyer, Pam Graff, Reed Heggie, Renee Heslop, Dwayne Hopton, Lori Johnson, Alex Karther, Debbie Keel, Mike LaBo, Kevin and Linda Lampar, Abbey Lentine, Lisa Lipscond, Bob Ludolph, Lauren Mackie, Laurel Mader, Helen Mann, Keith Marsden, Lisa Martin, Gemma Matthews, Finegan and Slone McGee, Erin McGorry, Linda Melenbacker, Lois Middleton, Kristen Morris, Taylor Netting, Frances Nichols, Lee Owen, Ethan Porter, Sally Porter, Ron and Sue Price, Geoff Pyle, John Ramsier, Sue Ramsey, David Robey, Pat Rossmiller, Haylee Rufener, Linda Rutter, Sheryl Saunders, Rose Serna-Wallander, Rick Shreve, Tina Simcox, Rick Singleton, Paul Sparkman, Verns Steele, Robin Stefan, Todd Stephan, Gloria Stroll, Patti Stuart, John Swarzentrubler, Bill Timmons, Laura Toledo, Luke Truman, Judy Twinem, Anita Vohar, Amy Wilson, Bobby Wolf, Jeff Yund.



GROWING UP FAST!


In September, Monarch butterflies migrate to warmer climates. In God's wonderful design, these butterflies have gone through an amazing transformation. This craft will remind you of the ongoing transformation that God has planned for you, too.

What you need:

- Clear, one-gallon zipper baggie (with no writing)
- Colored tissue paper
- Scissors
- Wooden, one-piece clothespin
- Pipe cleaner
- Black permanent marker
- Glue and wiggly eyes (optional)
- Magnet tape

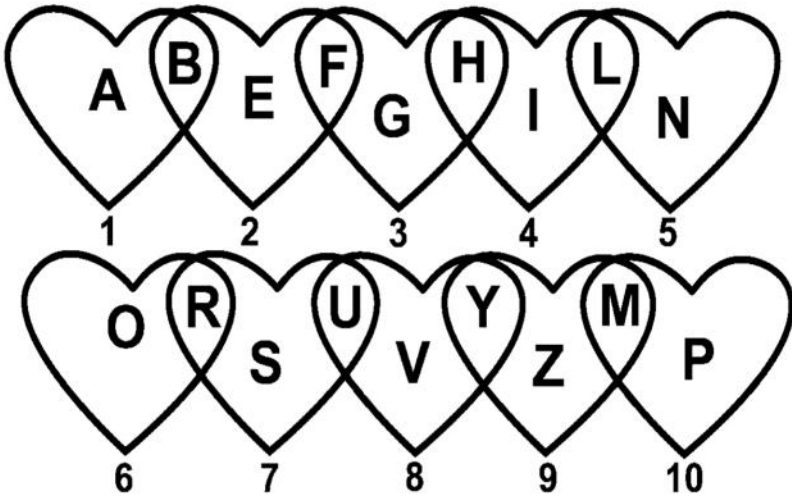
What you do:

1. Turn the baggie inside out and rub it on your head to create static cling. Then turn the baggie right-side-out again.
2. Cut tissue paper into 2" x 2" squares.
3. Fill the baggie with tissue squares.
4. Press excess air out of the bag and zip it. Lay the baggie on its side (this will form the butterfly's wings) so the zipper is at the top.
5. Pinch the baggie with the clothespin so it divides the baggie into two equal parts to create the butterfly's head and body.
6. Thread the pipe cleaner through the hole atop the clothespin to form the antennae.
7. With a permanent marker, write "Romans 12:2" on the bottom half of the clothespin.
8. Draw on eyes (or glue on wiggly eyes).
9. Attach a strip of magnet tape to the back of the clothespin. Then display the butterfly on your refrigerator.



THE SECOND GREAT Commandment

In the Gospels, Jesus tells us that the greatest commandment is to "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind" (Matthew 22:37, NIV). Do you remember what the second great commandment is? Use the code below to discover it.



"L

4,5	6	8	2		8,9	6	7,8	6,7
5	2	4	3		3,4	1,2	6	6,7
					1	7		
"								
8,9	6	7,8	6,7	7	2	4,5	2,3	

Matthew 22:39, NIV

Answer: "Love your neighbor as yourself."



October 2023



BIRTHDAYS

- 5 Zane Wilson
- 8 Lonnie Fletcher
- 8 Vickie Schumacher
- 12 Kendall Knight
- 14 Jeff Yoho
- 15 Reid Fetter
- 17 Kayla Baisden
- 18 Klayton Knight
- 19. Linda Labo
- 19 Jim Fletcher
- 20 Jacob Williams
- 24 Donna Robertson
- 28 Garrett Shreve
- 30 Gregg Shreve

ANNIVERSARIES

- | | | |
|----|-------------------------|---------|
| 3 | Jeff & Christie Yoho | 42 yrs. |
| 9 | Rick & Kim Adams | 47 yrs. |
| 11 | Rachel & Joseph Freeman | 9 yrs. |
| 20 | Mike & Manadii Cramer | 16 yrs. |
| 21 | Reid & Morgan Fetter | 1 yr. |
| 24 | Keith & Julie Todd | 9 yrs. |

JR. CHURCH SCHEDULE

- 1 Tammy Wilson
- 8 Vickie Schumacher
- 15 Andrea Barnes
- 22 Angel Mackey
- 29 Cindy Mann

FLOWER SCHEDULE

- 1 Heritage Meal
- 8 Sheri & Mark Wachtel
- 15
- 22
- 29

MEETING DATES

Deacons Meeting - Sun., Nov. 12 at 11:45 am

Session Meeting - Wed., Oct. 25 at 7:00 pm





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship (Communion) HERITAGE MEAL-PICNIC AT HUBBARD VALLEY 3:00 pm Tai Chi	2 10:00 am Worship & Music (Library) 7:00 pm Rittman Garden Club (FH) 7:00 pm Cub Scout Den	3 Noon - Bible Study (Library)	4 6:00 pm DAA (FH) 7:00 pm Bldg. & Grounds (Library) 7:00 pm Pack Leaders (Parlor)	5	6	7
8 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 3:00 pm Tai Chi	9 7:00 pm Cub Scout Den Meeting	10 Noon - Bible Study (Library) Noon-6:00 pm Bloodmobile at Methodist Church	11 6:00 pm DAA (FH)	12 7:00 pm MPW Circle (Library)	13	14 Private Rental Fellowship Hall
15 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 3:00 pm Tai Chi	16 7:00 pm Cub Scout Den Meeting	17 Noon - Bible Study (Library)	18 6:00 pm DAA (FH) 6:00 to 8:00 pm Free Laundry Day At Laundromat	19	20	21
22 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 3:00 pm Tai Chi	23 7:00 pm Cub Scout Den Meeting	24 Noon - Bible Study (Library)	25 6:00 pm DAA (FH) 7:00 pm Session (Library)	26	27 Make sauce for Lasagna-to-go	28 9:30 a.m. Make Lasagna-to-Go Meals 4 pm Trick Or Treat Host
29 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:45 am Lasagna-to-Go Pickup Day 3:00 pm Tai Chi	30 6:30 pm Community Meal (FH) 7:00 pm Speaker-Kristen Buchs 7:00 pm Cub Scout Den	31 Noon - Bible Study (Library)				

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