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SEPTEMBER 2026

TIMELY NOTES

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

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WORSHIP TIMES

**COMMUNION SUNDAY, AUGUST 30TH, WILL BE
INSIDE AT 9:30 AM.**

**WORSHIP TIME WILL RETURN TO 10:30 AM ON
SEPTEMBER 6TH. WORSHIP IS OUTDOORS UNLESS
WEATHER DOES NOT PERMIT.**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL IS AT 9:15 AM AND RETURNS
SEPTEMBER 20TH.**

You're invited to a picnic! On Sunday, September 13th, at 10:30 a.m. Milton Presbyterian Church will be joined by the Presbyterian congregations in Seville, Orrville, and Creston to worship together at Hubbard Valley Park. Everyone is invited to come to a carry-in meal after the service. Please invite your friends and family to join in this celebration!



Free Community Dinner



On Monday, August 31st, the National Alliance of Mental Illness will be partnering with us to invite a professional chef to prepare a soup supper for the community dinner and speak on the support programs available in our county! Please note that they would like know how many are coming because seating will be limited. Use the QR code on the flier or email to <https://tinyurl.com/35dx9k2v>.

September's meal will be on Monday, September 28th. Margaret Nardecchia will join us to speak on hospice care.

Breaking Bread:

A Celebration of Community & Connection
with NAMI Wayne and Holmes Counties

August 31, 2026

6:30-8 p.m.

at Milton Presbyterian Church
250 North St.
Rittman, OH 44270



Free will donations accepted
Seating is limited!

RSVP: <https://tinyurl.com/35dx9k2v>
by August 20, 2026



NAMI Wayne and
Holmes Counties

Pastor's Note - September Timely Notes

Just one bite, and you knew that this corn was special. Whenever I've bought sweet corn before, I was always taking a chance. Often one is hopeful that once the cob was unhusked, you managed to get anywhere from a 7 to a 9.5. Half the time it is closer to a 4 or 5 — but not this corn. This corn was so good my kids made a song about it. This was a solid 10, and there was no guessing as to whether it would be, because I knew where this harvest was coming from.

My wife Andrea has known the value of a good harvest from an early age, having picked corn at her father's farm and then spending time over at the Witmer's humble farm, home of her best friend in high school. For the past few years she's been capitalizing on this connection by getting 3 bushels of Witmer's sweet corn to can and preserve throughout the year. Up to now, I have avoided the workday by finding a way to be invited to golf outings, tactfully arriving just in time to ask how I could help as the work was wrapping up. A few weeks ago, I made the trip down to the farm with the fam, and I am glad I did. It was a beautiful place, and Bob Witmer was very glad to give us a tour. At the far back of the field to the west of the house was a row of round, uncut sandstone piled on top of one another to form a snaking wall. As I felt the warm damp drizzle on a grey day and looked out over the rolling hills of deep green drawn out by the water, the wall fit right in. If I didn't know any better, I would think I was somewhere on the emerald isle.

Bob was happy to explain that as he would plow the fields, rocks were pushed up from the ground, and as they appeared he would take them one by one over to add to the wall. As he was describing this, one of my favorite parables that Jesus taught came to mind. "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field (Matthew 13:44)." Obviously, an unwanted rock dulling the edge of your plow blade doesn't seem like much of a treasure—especially when it happens all the time and interrupts your work. Yet it is the image of finding things hidden in the earth and taking ownership of the field that digs up this parable in my mind. Perhaps one day the plow will hit something of more value?

When we got home later that day, tired and satisfied after a day of canning corn, I read an article where a construction worker in Belgium discovered 10 million dollars worth of gold hidden in the wall of a home. I can imagine the excitement of such a discovery! Of course, it makes you wonder what you would *do* with such a treasure. This is the reason people buy lottery tickets after all! But here, Jesus tells his disciples that after discovering the treasure, he hides it again, and *sells* everything he has to buy the field. Rather than the treasure being a *source* of money, or even money itself, the person exchanges all of their own wealth to buy the field where they found the treasure. It is not written how valuable the field is—just that the man gives everything for the field itself. And the treasure itself is quite literally *priceless*. As we enjoy the time of harvest and see the combines working the fields, ask yourself:

When have I discovered unexpected treasure?

Where did I find it?

Where have I seen God's Kingdom hidden in myself? In our midst?

What does it mean for something to be priceless?

Why does Jesus instruct us to take *ownership* of the field?

What does it *take* for us to own the place where we found the treasure of the kingdom?

Often after tasting the corn, people ask what variety of corn it is. So Andrea responds, 'I don't know. He keeps this a closely guarded secret ...' I am certain the same is true for certain family recipes closely guarded and passed down to the trustworthy. Like any truly great thing, the secret is never disclosed. It is meant to be enjoyed, safely hidden away where it was found, ready to produce again, year after year.

-Alex



Thank you for all the donations given for the MPW school supply drive. The Rittman Elementary School was very grateful for the items that were dropped off.



Assistant Principal Alyssa Rahe and teacher, Tammy Wilson

Neighborhood Kids Club Bible Study

Our next Neighborhood Kids Club is Sunday, September 20th from 4pm to 6pm. All children ages 4-14 years of age are welcome!



SPECIAL MUSIC, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20TH



On Sunday, September 20th, Milton Church will enjoy some special music by Heather Evert and her father, Richard Evert.

Heather, who has played here before, grew up performing on the violin and singing in the church choir with her mom, an organist. She was a member of the youth orchestra and a pre-professional ballet company in Cincinnati. She enjoys living on the family farm caring for her animals and singing with cantata singers.



Heather's father, Richard Evert, was raised in Sturgis, Michigan and attended the University of Michigan. He travelled to Russia with the University Symphonic Band under the President's Cultural Exchange Program. He played in the United States Air Force Band in Washington, D.C. Richard holds degrees in Music Education and Clarinet Performance and has worked with the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra. He taught private students of all ages and performed with ensembles and as a soloist.



On August 10th, our guest speaker was Nadine Kirkland, founder of "Welcome to Recovery", a ministry that prepares 'welcome bags' to people entering into addiction recovery. She brought an inspiring message for those entering recovery. Thank you Bill for the yummy meal of barbecue chicken, mashed potatoes, and pasta salad.



Nadine and "Welcome to Recovery" Board Members

MILTON PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

CIRCLE MEETING

MPW will be start meeting again on Thursday, September 10th at 7:00 pm. The book that we used this past year "Called to Inspire" by Marsha DuCille will continue to be used.



If you are interested in coming to meetings please let Kim Hart know. Her telephone number is 330 612-3302. Study books are available in the church office.

Upcoming Events from the Worship and Music Committee

Worship and Music Committee has been arranging some special events for the church. Watch for more information as it unfolds:

September 13th, the Milton Church will meet with several other Presbyterian churches for a service/picnic at Hubbard Valley Park.

On September 20th, Heather Evert and her father will play during our service.

Rose Darling won't return to play until spring 2027 due to schedule conflicts.



Adult Sunday School will return on Sunday, September 20th!

The Tuesday Bible Study will continue to meet at 2:00 p.m. in the library. The bible study will follow along our reading of the New Testament over the course of the year.

Junior Church has been studying discipleship.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Summary of July 2026 Revenue & Expenses

Income July	\$ 6,633
HeadStart Fees	+2,400
	\$ 9,033
Expenses from July	\$ - 10,223
July Net Income/Expense	\$ - 1,190
<u>2026 Net Income/Expense</u>	\$ - 5,585

Transferred \$2,000 to cover bills in May. Please donate! Transferred another \$1,000 in June. Transferred \$1,700 in July. Total \$4,700.

Boiler Monthly Donations are \$225

Balance of Lance Fund Boiler loan: \$ 6,651

Roof Monthly Donations are \$100

Balance of Lance Fund Roof loan: \$ 27,351

Thank you for all your donations!

Electronic giving services powered by
Presbyterian Foundation.



Events for Children & Youth:

The next **Youth JAM**—our combined youth group for kids in MS/HS—will be meeting at Seville Presbyterian Church at 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, **September 27th**.

Our next **Neighborhood Kids Club Bible Study** for kids ages 4-12 will be held on **September 20th**, 4-6pm.

The Neighborhood Kids Club is held on the third Sunday of each month. If you would like to help out with preparing a meal for a kids club or 'shepherding' the kids, please let Rev. Barnes know at (404) 447-0273. Thank you so much!

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.

Grief Support Group

As part of Marilyn Dlesk's ministry, she is now leading a grief support group every third Thursday at the Milton Presbyterian Church library. Her first topic covered the stages of grief. She plans to cover various topics over the next year. The next session is Thursday, September 17th.



Marilyn did grief support groups as part of her job duties as a hospice social worker for 35 years. She holds a LISW-S (licensed independent social worker with supervision designation). These sessions are free as part of her student pastor project.



Thank you so much for the cards, prayers, and kind words of comfort in the passing of my brother. All were greatly appreciated.

-Justine Brandes

***Please remember our church family members in nursing or assisted living homes:**

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

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

Judy Twinem - Heritage Crossing (251 Cleveland-Massillon Rd., Montrose, OH 44333)

Jim Davis - Autumnwood Nursing & Rehab (275 E. Sunset Ave., Rittman, OH 44270)

Rev. Jim and Joan Watt - Story Point (629 N. Huntington St., Apt. 2742, Medina, OH 44256)



Karen Aberegg, Dale Alexander, Shae Allis, Maryann Barnes, Barbara Bartholomew, Linda Beckstein, Jonathan Bonilla, Josue Bonilla, Charlie Brandes, Boyd Breece, Courtney Breece, Levi Buxman, Sandy Calvert, Elisa Cano, Jan Champa, Thelma Chapman, Marie Cole, Tanya Coleman, Mike & Mandii Cramer, Lesa Crawford, Iris Dango, Jim Davis, Marilyn Dlesk, Nicholas Dras, Deb Easterday, Jordan Edgar, Scott Erwin, Anne Fischer, Lonnie Fletcher, Debbie Fortunot, Donnie

Foutty, Patrick Gable, Arlenea Hostetler, Veronica Hughes, Cathy Imhoff, Madi Jackson, Dorothy Johnson, Debbie Keel, Donald "Skip" Kiene, Kevin and Linda Lampar, Nola Lee, Abbey Lentine, Chad Lightner, Sophia Lightner, Bill Loebick, Bob Ludolph, Don and Martha McDonald, Joshue Makaryk, Charles Mann, Keith Marsden, Janelle Martin, Gemma Matthews, John McAnlis, Sherri Miglio, PJ Miller, Kristen Morris, Corey Mullinax, John Musgrave, David Nardechia, Denise Neeley, Joyce Nichols, Tom Niehaus, Charlie Owen, Dale Owen, Bob and Sue Plank, Ethan Porter, Sally Porter, Ron and Sue Price, Linda and Geoff Pyle, John Ramsier, Roger Ramsier, Sue Ramsey, Matt Reid, Jim Roberts, Dave Rogers, Linda Rutter, Emily Mann Schott, Joanna Shankland, Colleen Sheppard, Betty Shreve, Sarah Shreve, David Simpson, Rick Singleton, Jim Skolnik, Paul Sparkman, Meghan Stanbaugh, Verns Steele, Debbie Steiner, Todd Stephan, Ginger Stucky, John Swarzentruer, Doris Taylor, Phyllis Teter, Ella Thomas, Kelly and Holly Thomas, Bill Timmons, Elena Toledo, Judy Twinem, Tim Van Arsdale, Larry Weller

Children's Activity



GOD'S INSTRUCTION

The Bible is a guide for how we should live. In Sunday school and at home, we learn how God loves and saves us. Solve this puzzle to find Proverbs 4:13 (NIV), which tells about the importance of God's Word.

First, write the word that means the opposite of the one given. Then write the correct letters on the number-coded lines below.

young death cold come

sweet can't no later

"H

6 15 10 5 12 11 13 5 6 1 15 ' 3 1

15 1 5 2 8 5 6 5 9 1 ;

9 11 14 12 3 6 5 17 8 2 2 ' 7 1 12

6 5 6 10 16 1 11 12 2 6 7 8 "



"Hold on to instruction, do not let it go; guard it well, for it is your life." (Proverbs 4:13, NIV)

Answers: old, life, hot, go, sour, can, yes, now

Smart cookies

September is an exciting time, as you begin growing in wisdom with a new year of school and Sunday school. Be a "smart cookie" by making this special container for your kitchen. Change the pictures as your year goes by. Or fill the container with cookies to give as a gift.

What you need:

- 2 identical disposable plastic containers (rectangular and clear)
- 1 lid
- 4 photos or drawings
- Scissors
- Sticky bow or ribbon (optional)
- Cookies

What you do:

1. Cut four different pictures or drawings to fit the sides of your container. Allow the edges to slightly overlap around the four sides of one container.
2. Gently set one container inside the other. Then slide the pictures or drawings down between the two containers to cover the four sides. Press the inner container down to secure the pictures in place between the sides.
3. Fill the container with cookies, and put the lid on top of the inner container.
4. You can put a sticky bow or ribbon on the lid to make the container look like a present.



September 2026



Birthdays

- 1 Sheri Wachtel
- 3 Kris Fetter
- 5 Aaron Aberegg
- 5 Lisa Miller
- 6 August (Gus) Barnes
- 6 Christie Yoho
- 7 Amy Fletcher
- 15 Michael Williams
- 16 Kristen Shreve
- 19 Tammy Wilson
- 20 Bodie Freeman
- 22 Samantha Labo
- 24 Cora (Wilson) Fox
- 25 Kelly Thomas
- 27 Jesse Hunt
- 29 Tracy Wilson
- 29 John Hoover
- 30 Cassie Shreve

Meeting Dates

- Building & Grounds - Thurs., Sept. 3 at 6:30 p.m.
- Worship & Music - Thurs., Sept. 10 at 9:30 a.m.
- MPW Circle Meeting - Thurs. Sept. 10 at 7:00 p.m.
- Grief Group - Thurs., Sept. 17 at 2:00 p.m.
- Session Meeting - Wed., Sept. 23 at 6:30 p.m.

Anniversaries

- 2 Rev. Alex & Andrea Barnes - 10 yrs.
- 6 Cora & Nathan Fox - 1 yr.
- 7 Doug & Sally Schar - 30 yrs.
- 11 Tim & Kris Fetter - 44 yrs.
- 15 Fred & Vikki Weller - 21 yrs.
- 21 Gretchen & Charles Dixon - 7 yrs.

Jr. Church Schedule

- 6 Angel Mackey & Lindsey Millan
- 13 Cindy Mann & Kelly Hartshorn
- 20 Vickie Schumacher & Elena Swartzentruber
- 27 Andrea Barnes & Renee Busic

Liturgist Schedule

- 6 Donna Robertson
- 13 Readers from Combined Service
- 20 Mandii Cramer
- 27 Jesse Hunt

Flower Schedule

- 6 Marge & Larry Boggs
- 13 Hubbard Valley Picnic
- 20 Linda & Geoff Pyle
- 27 Linda & Bill Crawford

Coffee Hour Schedule

- 6 No Coffee Hour
- 13 Hubbard Valley Picnic
- 20 Justine Brandes &
Donna Robertson
- 27 Linda & Bill Crawford

If you would like to help provide flowers, handle the liturgical reading or help with Jr. Church, church events, or coffee hour, please contact the office at 330-925-2651.



SEPTEMBER 2026



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 2:00 pm - Bible Study (Library)	2	3 6:30 pm Building and Grounds (Library)	4	5
6 10:30 am Worship	7 	8 2:00 pm - Bible Study (Library)	9	10 9:30 am Worship and Music (Library) 7:00 pm MPW Circle (Parlor)	11	12
13 HUBBARD VALLEY PICNIC 10:30 am Worship 11:30 Picnic	14 6:30 pm - Rittman Garden Club (Library if raining)	15 2:00 pm - Bible Study (Library)	16 6:00 - 8:00 pm Free Laundry Day at laundromat	17 2:00 pm Grief Support Group (Library) 6:00 pm Cub Pack Meeting (FH)	18	19 9 am to 3 pm MVP Presbytery Meeting in New Philadelphia
20 9:15 am Adult Sunday School (Library) 10:30 am Worship (Special Music) 4-6pm Neighborhood Kids Club Bible Study (Library)	21	22 2:00 pm - Bible Study (Library)	23 6:30 pm Session (Library)	24	25	26
27 9:15 am Adult Sunday School (Library) 10:30 am Worship 6:00 pm Youth JAM at Seville Presbyterian Church	28 6:30 pm Community Meal 7:00 pm Speaker Margaret Nardecchia	29 2:00 pm - Bible Study (Library)	30			

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Visit us at: www.miltonpreschurch.org

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