



PRESBYTERIAN TIDBITS

The Newsletter of Ottawa Presbyterian Church

150 N. Oak St., Ottawa, OH 45875-1810 ♦ (419) 523-3694

9:00am Worship/10:15am Sunday School ♦ ottawapresby.org

Lance Wiesmann, *Pastor* ♦ Andrea Morman, *Secretary*

January 2023



And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year:

'Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown.'

And he replied:

'Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God. That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way.'

So I went forth, and finding the Hand of God, trod gladly into the night. And He led me towards the hills and the breaking of day in the lone East.

This poem was written by Minnie Louise Haskins (1875-1957) and has featured rather prominently in many end-of-year and beginning-of-year events over the decades.

A fresh new calendar year is upon us! 365 new days to plan and do. By the end of January, if all goes according to plan, I will have been to the Holy Land (Israel & Palestine) and back, and will have added another two Countries to my travel diary. I am very much looking forward to this opportunity to see this part of the world, and try to imagine what it might have looked like 2,000+ years ago when Jesus walked there.

While I am gone, Rev. Tom Steensma has graciously agreed to fill the Pulpit for us. He has also agreed to be "on call" in the event of an emergency, if you should need Pastoral Care. His phone number is: 419-393-4111

The Session voted at our December meeting to have our monthly meetings in 2023 after Church on the 3rd Sunday of each month. If you wish to stay and participate in the "inner workings" of the Church, this will make it easier for you to participate at any level you feel comfortable.

A couple of reminders to put on your (new) calendar: there will NOT be any Sunday School on January 29th. We will be having our Annual Congregational Meeting after Church on Sunday, January 29th. We'll also have a potluck lunch just before the meeting. I hope your 2023 is off to a GREAT start, and this will be the beginning of new, uplifting, and exciting days in the life of Ottawa Presbyterian Church!

As a reminder, I am in the Office (or in the Ottawa Community) on Thursday mornings and afternoons. I am also available for an hour (or 2) after Sunday Worship each week, if you want/need to talk or visit.

Remember, if you need to contact me for any reason, my email address is: wiesmannlance@gmail.com or Pastor@ottawapresby.org. My mobile phone number is: 517-270-4837 and (if I don't answer) you can either text or leave a message. I will return the message/call as quickly as I can.

Peace,

Pastor Lance



Prayer Concerns

Please note: Specific information about those included in our prayers is available during worship, from Pastor Lance, in our office, or from our Session members. However, specific names will not be posted on this web version of the newsletter.

Please pray for those with **health concerns** no matter what their stage of life.

Please pray for those **serving in the military**, both at home and overseas, as well as the families who watch and wait for them.

Please pray for those who are either waiting for or who have received **organ transplants** and the families who face difficult decisions.

Please pray for **those facing decisions** in their personal lives, their professional lives, their family lives, or their spiritual lives.

Please pray for **Pastor Lance** and his ministry here. And finally, please say a prayer of thanksgiving for the **blessings of this congregation**—especially as we celebrate over 175 years of congregational life here in Ottawa!

The Prayer Circle is a group willing to confidentially pray for your joys and concerns.

Please contact prayercircle@ottawapresby.org.

Financial Reports

Financial reports for the church are available in the hard copy version of this newsletter. If you would like more information, you may also contact our treasurer (treasurer@ottawapresby.org).



Happy New Year!
Thanks to all for my Christmas gift. My treats were very delicious, and I will have no problem spending the monetary donation 😊 It's all very much appreciated! Andrea



Dear OPC Family, THANK YOU for the AMAZING Christmas Gift! The sugar-free candy was absolutely divine, and the gift of cash is much appreciated. I will be using the cash to supplement my upcoming trip to the Holy Land. You are all such wonderful people and I am blessed to have the honor to serve as your Pastor. I am very much looking forward to what 2023 has in store for all of us. Peace, Pastor Lance

Also: My NEW address is: 5930 Walnut Circle, Apt. C; Toledo, OH 43615
THANK YOU (again and again and again) for ALL you do to make my life so much easier! You are a GEM!! HAPPY NEW YEAR!! Peace, Lance



Dear OPW, How does one even begin to thank an amazing group of women who go above and beyond to make a beautiful celebration possible? Words cannot express my gratitude for all your love, joy, friendship, leadership, cooking, and light!!! Thank You! I hope you all have a blessed holiday season! - Amy Remaklus



The Annual Congregational meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 29 after worship. Please have your articles for the Annual Report turned into the office by Wednesday, January 18th. A Potluck will be held also. No Sunday School will take place this day.

Each year our local congregation must pay an “apportionment” to the PCUSA. This “per capita” is an amount based on the number of active members in our congregation. For the year 2023, the per capita for each active member is \$38.60. The amount per individual doesn't seem like much, but when it's multiplied by the number of members on the church's active membership list, the number grows quickly. These amounts are used to pay the expenses of the various governing bodies of our denomination. We appreciate your help in defraying this yearly cost.

The church directory will be updated this month. Please get any changes, (email, address, baby, phone, etc.) to the church office ASAP. Thanks!



Signup sheets are on the bulletin board for anyone willing to volunteer to be a liturgist, help with coffee, or provide flowers on Sundays for the 2023 year.

**Session will meet Sunday, Jan. 15
after worship.**

OTTAWA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
150 N. OAK ST.
OTTAWA, OH 45875-1810
419-523-3694



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Presbyterian Tidbits is published once a month by:

Ottawa Presbyterian Church, part of the Presbyterian Church (USA).

Our website is ottawapresby.org

DATE	ELDERS IN CHARGE	FLOWERS
January 1	Stan B.	Poinsettias
January 8	Becky R.	Poinsettias
January 15	Carrie J.	Hirzel
January 22	Katelyn G	TBD
January 29	TBD	TBD

2023 Committees Chairs and officers:

Treasurer - Beth Myers

Financial Secretary - Lynne Hirzel

Worship and Music - Nancy Kaufman

Fellowship - Carrie Johnson

Mission and Evangelism - Stan Beckman

Stewardship - Wayne Badder

Presbytery Rep - Beth Myers

Young People Group - Katrina Riepenhoff

Christian Education - Katrina Riepenhoff

Clerk of Session - Karl Hirzel

Operations - Karl Hirzel

OPW - Nancy Kaufman

Session:

Class of 2023: **Wayne Badder, Carrie Johnson**

Class of 2024: **Stan Beckman, Katrina Riepenhoff**

Class of 2025: **Katelyn Gerding, Becky Riepenhoff**