



# PRESBYTERIAN TIDBITS

The Newsletter of Ottawa Presbyterian Church  
150 N. Oak St., Ottawa, OH 45875-1810 ♦ (419) 523-3694  
9:00am Worship/10am Breakfast ♦ ottawapresby.org  
Andrea Morman, *Secretary*

## July 2023

The month of June has brought changes at Ottawa PC, as well as some new activities at the church. The following are highlights from Session over the last month:

Session voted to terminate the contract with Lance Wiesmann after serving our church since early April 2021. His service has been valuable through this transition time, but also with the expressed desire of our congregation from the very beginning to move towards a called pastor, the action of terminating his contract would have been the end result at some point regardless of timing, and so session felt that this was an appropriate time to do so. With that, they ask for your patience and understanding as we now work with a selection of pulpit supply pastors during this new phase of pastoral search.

The PNC since being elected in February has been meeting each week, and has moved through the preliminary but necessary steps towards seeking a new call for Ottawa. This has involved working extensively on a document for the Church Leadership Connection which is ultimately the way in which churches are matched with potential candidates seeking a new call. After a brief scare through the suggestion that we had to start fresh on a new document, we were able to submit this finalized and approved document to Louisville CLC and now have been issued our first batch of candidates to review. Please include our committee in your prayers as they start to evaluate and reduce the list of matched candidates to a handful that they might take further steps in contacting through interviews, reference checks, and sermon videos.

Thursdays have brought a lot of activity to the church with our "Presbyterian Potty" community service event, in allowing the public to utilize our church bathroom during the Cultural Committee concerts on Thursday evenings at the Rex Center. This has brought many new faces into our church, and has included requests to tour the sanctuary and questions about our congregation. We also are wrapping up the Happy Campers vacation bible school put together by several of the young people in our congregation. It was a great success and brought some outside children into our church in a casual but fun and educational setting.

We hope to have you attend church on July 16th as we hold another Congregational Conversation where we will discuss some strategic future items well as the financial implications of pursuing a full time pastor. This will be informative to Session, the PNC, and yourself as a member of the Congregation!!

See you in church!



## **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 our congregation and its **PNC (Pastor Nominating Committee)** as we look to our future.

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](mailto:prayercircle@ottawapresby.org).

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## **Financial Report**

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](mailto:treasurer@ottawapresby.org)).

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**Session will meet Sunday, July 16**

## **Upcoming Happenings**

A Congregational meeting will take place on Sunday, July 16 after worship.

There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board for anyone who would be willing to volunteer to help mow the church lawn for a week. If you need a tutorial on the mower, see Becky.

Liturgists are needed for the month of July. Please sign-up on sheet on bulletin board if you are willing to help. Thanks!

Volunteers are needed for the Thursdays of July 13 & 27 for opening the church for restroom use during Thursdays at the Rex. Please sign-up on sheet on bulletin board if you are able. Rex starts at 5, but a volunteer(s) are needed from 6-8:30 pm.

Outdoor Worship will take place on Sunday, August 6<sup>th</sup>. Bring a dish to share and table service.

## **Community Happenings**

New Creation Church and Trinity United Methodist Church will be hosting a Vacation Bible School on Monday, July 10 though Thursday, July 13 in our community. It will be from 6-8:30 pm at New Creation. The theme is Stellar-Shine Jesus' Light. The program will be for kids in Pre-K through completion of 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Participants must be at least 5 yrs by June 1<sup>st</sup>. The children will enjoy singing, Bible stories, crafts, games, snacks, and much more! Online registration will be available through New Creation Church on Facebook or you may pickup forms at Trinity Church. Pre-registration is due by June 30<sup>th</sup>.

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The Parker family is so grateful for all the ways our church family and friends celebrated with us on our Golden Anniversary. The day was



wonderful, and we feel so blessed by the cards, phone calls, and visits from so many of you. It was a great day. Tom and I very much appreciate all the best

wishes from everyone. Thank you.

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



**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

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Our website is [ottawapresby.org](http://ottawapresby.org)

<b>DATE</b>	<b>ELDERS IN CHARGE</b>	<b>FLOWERS</b>
July 2	Kate G.	TBD
July 9	Becky R.	Hirzel
July 16	Stan B.	TBD
July 23	Wayne B.	TBD
July 30	Carrie J.	TBD

**2023 Committees Chairs and officers:**

Treasurer - Beth Myers  
Financial Secretary - Lynne Hirzel  
Worship and Music – Kate Gerding  
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  
Building/Operations – Becky Riepenhoff  
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**