



# PRESBYTERIAN TIDBITS

The Newsletter of Ottawa Presbyterian Church

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

9:00am Sunday School/10am Worship ♦ [ottawapresby.org](http://ottawapresby.org)

Rev. Amy Remaklus, *Pastor*; Andrea Morman, *Secretary*

## October 2024

Dear stewards of God's love,

In Matthew's Gospel (10:6), Jesus instructs his disciples to go to the "lost sheep of the house of Israel" and proclaim, *The kingdom of heaven is at hand*. The kingdom of God is at hand when we are healing the sick and tending to the needs of the community -- when we are properly stewarding the earth and all that is on it.

Here at Ottawa Presbyterian Church, we have spent the month of September talking about the history of stewardship in the Christian church more broadly and in the Presbyterian church more specifically. Thank you, Kate Gerding, for your leadership on the stewardship front. Your wonderful research and teaching skills have been instrumental this past month. **THANK YOU**, dear reader, for your participation in the important conversations we have had during worship, at various meetings, and at the September 15<sup>th</sup> congregational conversation. If you've missed anything this past month and would like to catch up, please find our sermons online at [ottawapresby.org/sermon](http://ottawapresby.org/sermon). You can also access the notes from our congregational conversation attached to this newsletter.

During the month of October, the stewardship conversation will continue. This month, we will highlight Ottawa Presbyterian Church's stewardship by remembering the stewardship of this church from years past and looking toward the future of this congregation and its ministries. We will share personal stories and invite regular participation from YOU on Sunday mornings and throughout the month! **Do you have ideas to share about stewardship or dreams for the future of this congregation?** Share those ideas in writing by sending them to me at [amyremaklus@yahoo.com](mailto:amyremaklus@yahoo.com). Friends, as always, I strongly encourage your prayerful participation and discernment with God about the stewardship of this congregation.

Outside the stewardship conversation, here are a few important and exciting details to know:

- **Sunday school for all ages will continue to start at 9 a.m.** Join our adults, high school group, elementary/middle school group, or nursery/preschool group.
- **We are looking for help with the youth group!** We have several youth interested in doing activities outside the regularly scheduled worship times. We would love to take them to overnight camps and other similar events. If you're a youth guru who'd be interested in doing an overnight trip with our young people, please inform me soon!
- **You have spiritual gifts to share!** Andee Parker and I are preparing a session about spiritual gifts utilizing Charles V. Bryant's *Rediscovering Our Spiritual Gifts*. We have done a group like this in the past. The new group will start in November. This month, we are looking for interested individuals! If you're one of them, send me your name!

Friends, thank you for your love and grace, and your continued good works in this community. You are a blessing, and your gifts are a blessing to the world.

In service,

Pastor Amy

(419) 890-9145



## **Prayer Concerns**

Please note: Specific information about those included in our prayers is available during worship, from Pastor Amy, 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 include a prayer of thanks for our congregation and its **PNC (Pastor Nominating Committee)** and the work they have done to bring Rev. Amy Remaklus to serve our congregation on a part-time basis.

And finally, please say a prayer of thanksgiving for the **blessings of this congregation**—as we continue to celebrate and enjoy more than 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) or [amyremaklus@yahoo.com](mailto:amyremaklus@yahoo.com).

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

## **Upcoming Happenings**

Quarter Auction is Thursday October 3. Doors open at 6:30pm. Nancy has tickets to sell.

Hayride: Saturday, October 26, at 6pm at the Riepenhoff's 12503 Road G12 Ottawa Ohio. Bring a pumpkin to decorate. Chili and hot dogs provided. Bring a blanket to sit on the straw bales on the wagon if desired. Invite people! Friends and kids all welcome.

We celebrate World Communion every year, but we may not know much about its origins. It actually began in the PCUSA!

The following is an excerpt from the Presbyterian USA Mission website. World Communion Sunday (originally called World Wide Communion Sunday) is a gift of the Presbyterian Church to the larger ecumenical church. The first celebration occurred at Shadyside Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh, PA, in 1933 where Dr. Hugh Thompson Kerr served as pastor. Churches in other denominations were invited to celebrate with us from the beginning, but it wasn't until 1940 when the Department of Evangelism of the Federal Council of Churches (a predecessor body of the National Council of Churches) promoted extending the celebration to a number of churches around the world that the practice became widespread. Today, World Communion Sunday is celebrated around the world, demonstrating that the church founded on Jesus Christ peacefully shares God-given goods in a world increasingly destabilized by globalization and global market economies based on greed. World Communion Sunday is also a time when we receive the annual [Peace and Global Witness Offering](#) as a way of continuing the ancient Christian practice of sharing what we have with brothers and sisters in need.

**World Communion 2024 will be celebrated on Sunday, October 6. Please join us with Christians from around the globe to partake in Communion and pray for peace.**

***Liturgists are needed for the  
Sundays of October 13 & 27.  
Coffee after worship, needs  
volunteers.***



**What are Spiritual Gifts? How do we get them and use them? What are your spiritual gifts?**

If you are interested in the answers to any of these questions, there will be a group study to explore the gifts listed in the New Testament by the Apostle Paul. Group sessions will be an hour or so starting soon. The times and days will be determined by your interest and availability to meet. For more information, ask Pastor Amy or Andee Parker.

## Community Happenings

**CHALLENGED CHAMPIONS EQUESTRIAN CENTER**, located outside of Ottawa, is a nonprofit therapeutic horseback riding center that helps over 450 individuals annually with special needs. With that, we need a lot of people to help these individuals during our riding lessons. The volunteers participate in classes by being horse leaders (keeping the horse on task throughout the lesson) or side walkers (aiding the rider with balance, communication or encouragement). There is NO horse experience needed, volunteers must be 14 years or older and be able to walk for an hour. Classes are offered in the mornings, afternoons and evenings Monday through Friday. Call Olivia at 419-235-0626.

**THE FRIENDS OF THE PUTNAM DISTRICT LIBRARY** are sponsoring a Bus Trip to Frankenmuth, MI on Thursday, October 24. There will be downtown shopping, chicken dinner at Zehnders, Bronner's Christmas Wonderland shopping (with a coupon) and a winery visit. Leave Ottawa Walmart at 7 a.m. and return at 7 p.m. \$125 includes transportation, lunch, and gratuities. Contact Nancy Ruhe at 419-231-0531.

### Tips for Building Stronger Passwords

**Date:** Monday, October 28, 2024  
**Time:** 1:30 p.m.  
**Location:** Putnam County District Library  
136 Putnam Parkway, Ottawa  
**Presenter:** Addie Kaple-Sguerra, Technology Trainer  
with the Putnam County District Library  
**RSVP:** Registration is required by 10-21-24  
Space is limited! Don't wait to register!

#### Join us and learn about:

- 10 Tips for creating a strong secure password.
- Things you should and should not do.
- Making a strong password or two.

A take home handout will be provided for attendees.

Event Sponsored by:



## GIFT OF GRAIN

Area farmers your gift of grain to LifeWise Academy Ottawa-Glandorf will help support Bible Education for Public School Students during school hours. Gifting grain permits you to donate without being personally taxed on the income, allowing you to give and save!

Notify your local grain elevator at time of delivery a dollar amount or number of bushels you would like to donate and specify your donation to LifeWise Academy Ottawa-Glandorf(P.O. Box 492, Ottawa, OH 45875). A receipt will be mailed to each farmer acknowledging their donation to LifeWise Academy Ottawa-Glandorf.



PUTNAM COUNTY SENIORS AGE 60 AND BETTER ARE INVITED TO A

## HARVEST PARTY

OCTOBER 31, 2024

10:00 AM- 12:00 PM

AT:  
OTTAWA VFW HALL  
212 WEST SECOND STREET  
OTTAWA

sponsored by:

Putnam County Council on Aging



RSVP by October 18, 2024  
419-523-4121 or 1-877-796-1760







Maumee Valley Presbytery Invites you to our

## Fall Spiritual Formation Retreat October 13, 14, & 15, 2024 "The Imprint of Christ"

*Artist Joyce Nafziger along with Pamela Short will lead us in reflecting on the marks Jesus makes on our lives. Nature walks will be followed by very simple print making. You may go away with a modest bookmark or a stunning bulletin cover.*

*If art is not your thing, come anyway and take in the mystery of God's creations at Lial. The grounds are particularly beautiful in the fall. Woods and meadows, little lakes and large hospitality provide opportunities for rest and reflection.*

### Location:

**Lial Renewal Center,  
5908 Davis Road  
Whitehouse, Ohio**  
[www.lialrenewalcenter.org](http://www.lialrenewalcenter.org)

### Arrive Sunday

Any time after 3:00 p.m.  
A lite supper will be  
available at 5:30 with  
devotional time beginning  
at 7:00 p.m.

**Depart Tuesday  
at noon**

### BASIC RETREAT

**\$25 per person for  
all sessions and meals**  
**OVERNIGHT LODGING**  
**\$35 per person/per night**  
with a shared bathroom on the hall  
**\$40 per person/per night**  
with a private bath

Don't let the cost stop you!  
Scholarships available!

Email [matt@maumeevp.org](mailto:matt@maumeevp.org)

### REGISTRATION:

[www.maumeevp.org](http://www.maumeevp.org)

Joyce W. Nafziger was a K-12 art teacher for 34 years, most of it at Pettisville School. She earned her B.A. in Art Education from Goshen College in 1980, and a Master of Arts in Education from Bluffton University in 1997. She has taken numerous art classes from various other universities to enrich her art experience. A photography class at Arrowmont School of Arts & Crafts in Gatlinburg, Tennessee, and a class in Florence, Italy with fellow art educators were a couple of her favorites.

Joyce enjoys working with all art media, but especially enjoys drawing and printmaking. She has worked collaboratively with her husband and potter, Mark Nafziger on several art projects. One joint project is the ceramic mural showcasing the history of Pettisville School installed in the Pettisville School atrium. Her life is marked by the gentle strength of the Holy Spirit.



Rev. Pamela Short is a retired pastor who serves on the MVP Spiritual Formation Team. She carries the message of God's love to various churches in the Presbytery through pulpit supply. "God's call on my life includes a particular emphasis on blessing others. It is my hope that through this retreat your heart and eyes will see anew the imprint of Jesus' blessings on your life."

## IMPORTANT ELEMENTS OF SUNDAY WORSHIP

- *Special Services*
  - Ash Wednesday simple dinner & short service w/ ashes
- *Communion*
- *Songs*
  - Enjoy “Glory to God Whose Goodness Shines on Me”
  - Contemporary music on occasion
  - Short videos “like Patrick”
  - Guitar music or choir at Advent
  - Like the Doxology
  - **Softer organ or piano so voices can be heard**
  - **Avoiding difficult songs, because the lyrics get lost in the challenge of singing.**
- *Choir*
- *Sunday school*
- *Sermon*
  - Challenge us to serve others and bring friends to church
- *Scripture reading*
  - Practiced
  - All ages and abilities
  - Different interpretations
  - **Old and New Testament readings**
- *Interpretation of Scripture*
  - Sermon
  - Liturgical dance
  - **Historical context**
  - **Illustrations and visual aids are appreciated**
- *Action steps*
  - 1, 2, 3
  - **Homework is helpful**
  - **List of resources (include in bulletin)**
- *Children in worship*
  - Coloring and activity at the table
  - Children’s Moments
  - **Use hand microphone during Children’s Moments**
- *Consistent childcare*
- *Safety*
  - Avoid running in the sanctuary
- *Hospitality*
  - Welcome kits for families
  - **End Sunday school at 9:50 a.m. and services at 11 a.m.**
  - **Clock at back of church**
  - Fellowship, greeting one another
- *Prayer*
  - **Silent prayer AFTER communal prayer of confession**

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**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](http://ottawapresby.org)

DATE	ELDERS IN CHARGE	FLOWERS
October 6	Mike K.	TBD
October 13	Victoria O. (Communion)	TBD
October 20	Lynne H.	Hirzel
October 27	Kate G.	Myers

**2024 Committees Chairs and officers:**

Treasurer - Beth Myers  
Financial Secretary - Lynne Hirzel  
Worship and Music – Lynne Hirzel  
Fellowship/OPW Rep. – Becky Riepenhoff  
Mission and Outreach - Stan Beckman  
Stewardship & Communication – Kate Gerding  
Presbytery Rep - Beth Myers  
Young People Group -  
Christian Education – Victoria Otto  
Clerk of Session - Karl Hirzel  
Building/Operations – Mike Kaufman

**Session:**

Class of 2024: **Stan Beckman, Victoria Otto**  
Class of 2025: **Katelyn Gerding, Becky Riepenhoff**  
Class of 2026: **Lynne Hirzel, Mike Kaufman**