



OHIO UNITED

Presbyterian Church



October 6 through October 12, 2024

Beloved,

By now it is likely that you have read about or have seen photos of the devastation left in the wake of Hurricane Helene across Eastern Tennessee, Western North Carolina, and Northern Georgia. The flooding that happened might happen once every thousand years - no one could have been prepared for this unlikely amount of rain (40 trillion gallons) to be dumped into that valley in the mountains, flooding, devastating the communities there. For reference, 40 trillion gallons of water is “enough to fill the Dallas Cowboys’ stadium 51,000 times, or Lake Tahoe just once. If it was concentrated just on the state of North Carolina that much water would be 3.5 feet deep (more than 1 meter). It’s enough to fill more than 60 million Olympic-size swimming pools.”¹ There are many first hand accounts being shared on social media. These are stories of real time pain, loss, and trauma. The totality of devastation will take time to uncover, but we do know it is immense. I want to honor those moments of devastating loss, while also taking a moment to acknowledge the glimmers of hope amid these stories of horror and heartache.

If you haven’t already, you should look for the stories being shared about the mule train being used to deliver supplies. Gas for vehicles is impossible to find, and even if there were gas, many of the roads have been washed away, broken and impossible to pass in a vehicle. Yet these same roads, unusable for modern day transportation, were easily traversed by the beasts of burden, the mule. These animals that are often overlooked and used mostly to carry tourists on trail rides are being led by people on horseback, traveling the devastated areas in the mountains of Western North Carolina with desperately needed supplies like clean water, insulin, and other medical supplies. These mules are bringing gifts of salvation to those in a weary world.

As Christians, I hope that your minds and hearts turn to the stories of beasts of burdens in the Bible - there is Balaam’s donkey who speaks to him, saving him from death at the hands of an angel of the Lord (Numbers 22:1-39), the donkey that Mary, mother of Jesus, travels on to Bethlehem (an idea found in early church writings and seen in many, many Christmas pageants), and the donkey which Jesus rides into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday (Mark 11, Matthew 21, John 12).

The donkey, the mule - they are humble but sturdy, reliable creatures. These mule trains are carrying a glimpse of salvation, a glimmer of hope to those in dire circumstances right now. And I am grateful for the resourcefulness and the gift of wisdom that called upon these often-looked-over beasts to carry salvation in the form of God-with-us, our Christ who comes not powerfully in the way of beautiful dominating horses or camels or fast cars or big trucks but in the humble, sturdy, reliable way of a mule, carrying a burden which frees each and every one of us to live fully, able to stand up after devastating loss, to rise again and again as we strive to live into God’s call for each one of us to do justice, love kindness, and to walk with humility with our God.

May we strive to be a light, bringing that same relief to those in need in the coming days, weeks, and months - let us emulate Christ (and the mules) by sharing our own gifts, time, and talents to lighten the burden of this world.

Grace & Peace,
Pastor Kalyn

¹ source: <https://to.pbs.org/4eJhRow>

Places to give for Hurricane Helene relief:

<https://pda.pcusa.org/situation/hurricane-helene/> - Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

- Designate financial donations with the code [DR000169](#)
- They are also looking for clean-up buckets to be donated: <https://pda.pcusa.org/page/kits/>

<https://www.redcross.org/donate/donation.html/> - The Red Cross

<https://www.aspca.org> - The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

<https://belovedasheville.com/get-involved/> - BeLoved Asheville

- This organization has become a hub in Western North Carolina for resources

<https://bmpcnc.org/give> - Black Mountain Presbyterian Church

- BMPC has become a resource hub in the Montreat area of North Carolina. They are handing out resources and seeking out specific needs as they arrive - please do look at their facebook page to see how you might help in the immediacy.

<https://bountyandsoul.org/> - Bounty & Soul

- This organization is delivering meals to those in need in the Western North Carolina area.





Hello fall



Worship

- We gather for worship Sundays at 10am
- 92 in Worship on September 29
- Choir rehearsal is on Thursday, October 10 at 7pm
- Youth Choir Rehearsal for Christmas Program is every Sunday through December 1 at 9am-9:45am

Congregational Care

- **STORY TIME ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9 AT 9:30 or 10:30**
- **SAVE THE DATE**—Women’s Retreat is on October 26th. Details to follow.
- **SAVE THE DATE**—Sunday, October 27 for a special service celebrating our 225th birthday with a delicious meal following the service
- **SAVE THE DATE**—COOKIE BAZAAR IS ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14

Missions

- Manna is Tuesday, September 24. Volunteers needed to bake cakes, to help serve and to clean up. If you can help contact Linda Duganich at 724-622-7929 or lindaduganich@gmail.com
- **Women’s Association is visiting Beaver Elder Care on October 7 at 2pm. It is a great hour of hymns, bingo, and fellowship. All ages are welcome! If you are able to help, we will meet in the church lot at 1:30 (if you want to carpool) or you can meet us there.**

Operations

- August YTD expenses— \$135,232 & YTD receipts-\$134,839
- Property Meeting is on October 7 at 6:30pm

The **Ohio UP Safety & Wellness team** is holding a class at the church on November 2nd. It will cover First Aid, CPR/AED and Stop the Bleed. The hours are 7am to 12pm and the cost is \$120/person. You do not need to be a member of the team or the church to attend.

Hand Bells

Practices 6:30

October 14
 October 28
 November 11
 December 9

Performances

October 27 –Faith of Our Fathers
 November 24 – We Gather Together
 December 9 – Oh Come Emmanuel

WE CELEBRATE 225 YEARS

It was a shame we had to wait so long for another minister who would really “connect” with the congregation and the community but obviously, God had plans for us. I think that was his way of getting us all prepared for our next minister. It was then, in April of 1981, that He sent us Rev. Don Michael Hurray (pronounced like you’re in a hurry). He came with his wife, Lauren (almost ready to have their second baby) and their 10 month old son, Stefan. All the church women hosted a surprise baby shower for her and God had plans there, too, because she had the baby that night!

Rev. Hurray and his wife were tireless workers for the church and Don invested plenty of time in the community. It was during his service that the puppet ministry was started by Diana and Larry Martin, the Children’s Sermon was reinstated as were Cherub Church and Junior Church. Don was active in the church’s Boy Scout troop, the township fire department and also served as Chaplin for the local police department.

But it was in September of 1994 that God called his psychology and ministry backgrounds to really come into play with the crash of Flight 427 into a local hillside. He started counselling families, volunteers, fire and police personnel; but something was missing. He said he felt he needed to look at the horrific site on that hill to truly help people. That was Don.

Under Don’s leadership, the church became a host organization for the local “Foodshare” program. This required many volunteer workers and oftentimes their trucks to pick up, sort and distribute food. In 1991 Five Points Meals On Wheels was supported by the Ohio Church.

In 1986 First Presbyterian Church in Aliquippa was forced to close its doors. Many of those faithful members joined the Ohio Church. Later in 1995, Ohio U.P. found that Woodlawn U.P. was also dissolving their fellowship. After many meetings and a congregational vote, Woodlawn and Ohio officially merged. July 1995 was the first service of worship for the unified Church. To symbolize the union as a single body of believers, a cross from the Woodlawn Church was placed atop the Ohio Church cross that is located on the front wall in the choir loft.

We were all very surprised and saddened when Don and Lauren decided to move on in August 1995.

More to Come,

Lynn

OHIO UP 225TH ANNIVERSARY SHIRTS. IMPRINT WILL BE THE SAME AS THE T-SHIRTS. CASH OR CHECK TO OHIO U.P. CHURCH. T-SHIRTS ON MEMO LINE.

	TODDLER						YOUTH	ADULT						
	2T	3T	4T	5T	6T	XS		S	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	
SHIRTS														
LONG SLEEVE T-SHIRT														
GREY														
RED														
BLUE														
2T - 6T - \$26														
Y - ADULT XL - \$27														
ADULT 2XL - \$29														
ADULT 3XL - \$32														
CREW NECK SWEATSHIRT														
GREY														
RED														
BLUE														
2T - ADULT XL - \$30														
2XL - \$33														
3XL - \$34														
DRAWSTRING HOODIE														
GREY														
RED														
BLUE														
2T - ADULT XL - \$35														
2XL - \$40														
3XL - \$41														
NAME														
TOTAL SHIRTS ORDERED														
AMOUNT OWED														
PAID														

DEADLINE 15 OCT. 27th.



<u>Anniversaries</u>	<u>Birthdays</u>	<u>Birthdays</u>	<u>Birthdays</u>
Ken Jones 10/5	Joe Gavita 10/3	Shanna Rastetter 10/12	Lillian Otto 10/19
Nancy & Kevin Hribar 10/11	Tom Owczarzak 10/3	Janis Lewis 10/13	Peggy Franzese 10/20
Caitlin & Nick Colesar 10/15	Patrick Gregory 10/8	Dana Gavita 10/14	Emmet Rastetter 10/22
Jeff & Jen Davis 10/16	Greg Holsinger 10/8	Breyson Hoth 10/14	Andrew Shaffer 10/22
Scott & Sharon Neville 10/16	Eleanor Pike 10/8	Brittany Smith 10/16	Peggy Atwell 10/24
Susan & Larry Palochak 10/23	Alaina Stroud 10/8	Patti Strominger 10/18	Keith Murdoch 10/24
	Lois Kearns 10/10	Calliope Hoth 10/19	Trent Nan 10/29
	William Arzberger 10/12	Kenneth Kearns 10/19	

SESSION TEAMS AND LEADS

Worship Team Lead: Gina Arzberger
 Congregational Care Team Lead: John Martin
 Mission Team Leads: Casey Honess/Rayna Knox
 Operations Team Lead: Wendi Rybicki



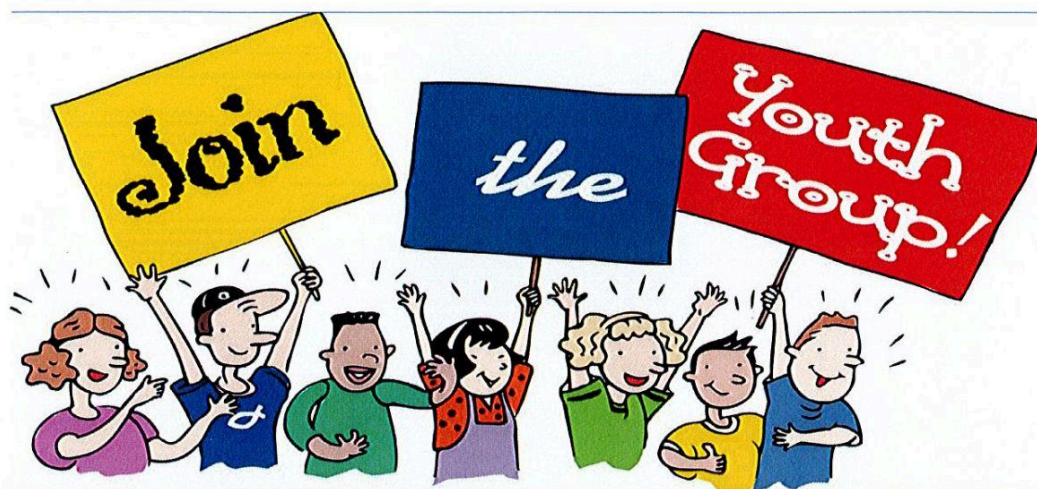
- Diane Gennaro–Jack will see an oncologist on Friday and start a new chemo pill
- Bonnie Martin–Dale & Kathy Fouse’s granddaughter, Sophie, is having eye surgery
- Missy Sardo–Prayers for Elias. He is having a liver resection
- Marsha Douglass– Prayers for Dave and Sue Proctor. Dave is having stomach surgery
- Karen Keller–Prayers for Tom & Terri Owczarzak. Tom’s mom passed away.
- Christina Palmer–prayers for friend, Tom, who was in a car accident
- Amanda Collins–Husband Brett is home. There is still a small chance for surgery.
- Sue Hughston–Prayers for hurricane victims.
- Wendi Rybecki–Sherri and Doug are okay in FL
- Peggy Franzese–prayers of joy for furniture that was donated to Youth Group.
- Everett Laird has been admitted into Beaver Medical Center. He is currently under observation
- Mark Mitchell had a procedure on Wednesday to remove the hematoma and alleviate the pressure on his brain. Everything went well and they are hoping that things are on the upswing

Women’s Association is asking if anyone is interested in starting up Prayer Partners. It’s an adult member of the church paired with a child from Kindergarten to Sixth Grade. The group meets here at the church twice a year and sends the children birthday and Christmas cards. If interested, see Sharon Neville.

Little Free Pantry

The Deacons stock the Little Free Pantry on a daily basis with the following items. If you would like to contribute items for the pantry, we ask that they not be expired nor in glass containers. Please place them in container labeled Little Free Pantry in the narthex. Thank you for your support.

Canned corn	Ramen noodle packets
Canned carrots	Cake mix
Canned beans	Ready-made frosting
Canned pasta	Granola bars
Canned peas	Peanut butter crackers
Pasta	Fruit snacks
Pasta sauce	Pop tarts
Macaroni & Cheese	Instant oatmeal packet
Fruit cups	Single roll toilet paper
Applesauce cups	Feminine products
Peanut butter	Toothpaste
Jelly	Toothbrushes
Boxed cereal	Bars of soap
Instant mashed potatoes	Men's deodorant
Canned tuna	Women's deodorant
Chicken noodle soup	Shampoo
Tomato soup	



Please Note: Youth Group is now on
Monday from 7:00 - 8:30

September 30 – Youth Group 7:00 – 8:30

October 7 – Youth Group 7:00 – 8:30

October 14 – Youth Group 7:00 – 8:30

October 20 - 1:00 (**Sunday**) – Youth Group
Pumpkin Carving – Families invited

Please **RSVP** (light lunch made by YG kids)

October 21 – 7:00 – 8:30 Bonfire \ Lesson at
the Manse

October 28 – Windmill Scary Golf

Parents please volunteer where you can!