



August 30 through September 5, 2026

Both the one who makes people holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters (Hebrews 2:11).

Dear Friends in Christ,

I looked at last week's newsletter, and it seems like lots of you took my advice and came to the picnic! I am praising God for a wonderful event last Sunday. Thanks also to the Deacons (and everyone else) for the work and effort invested to make it successful. (Presbytery Exec Tom Harmon, who brought his family, said it was one of the best he'd ever experienced.)

It's obvious you all get along and have high affection for each other – I've seen that since the day I interviewed with the Session. But again, it's not because you happen to be members of a particular non-profit organization, with similar goals and objectives – it's because you (we?) are members of the family of faith, the Body of Christ called Ohio Church.

Some of you have been members of that Body all your life; others "married into" that Body; still others came because you were "shopping" for a church. But you ALL have been made holy by the one who makes us holy – our Savior and Lord Jesus Christ. It is Christ who has brought you together, and it is Christ who keeps you together. Last Sunday's picnic illustrated that "bringing together."

Speaking of being together in the family of faith. A few have expressed interest in officially joining Ohio Church. In response, we will be holding a New Members' class in September. Two classes will be held after worship – September 20 and 27. I have confirmed this with some, but if you are not yet an member, and are interested in joining the Body, please see me or give me a call.

Work is continuing as we move to the future. The Property Committee (and others!) are working on the manse – painting is currently underway, with much to follow. Everyone is optimistic it will be finished soon.

Training for the Pastor Nominating Committee is set for Monday, September 21 – continue to pray for them as they begin their journey. And pray that God will reveal the name of your next pastor soon. (But in God's time, not ours – pray for patience!)

Blessings abound for me at Ohio Church, and I continue to be filled with joy. Indeed, *Jesus is not ashamed to call [you] brothers and sisters.*

In Christ,
Pastor Jim

CALL PROCESS CHECKLIST

1. Dissolution of pastoral relationship (Ministry & Vocation, Congregation)
2. Discern the next stage of the life and mission of the church (Transition Team, Session, Congregation, MVC)
3. Self-Study Approved (Session, Congregation)
4. Assess the financial capability of the congregation (Session, MVC)
5. Call details and criteria for the new Position (Session, MVC)
6. Elect Pastor Nominating Committee, representative of the congregation
7. MVC trains Pastor Nominating Committee on Call process
8. Session shares criteria for the new Position with the PNC
9. PNC prepares the Ministry Discernment Profile
10. Session and MVC approve the MDP
11. MVC invites Clerk of Session to access Church Leadership Connection system.
12. PNC enters MDP into the CLC system
13. MVC trains PNC on Personal Discernment Profile review and interview process
14. PNC receives and reviews PDP (Candidate) matches and referrals
15. Reference & background checks (PNC, MVC)
16. Select a Nominee (PNC)
17. Extend a Call (PNC)
18. Negotiate terms of Call (PNC, Session)
19. Approve terms of Call (PNC, Session)
20. Call Congregational meeting to elect the pastor, introduce Candidate (Session, PNC)
21. PNC presents the Candidate to the congregation
22. Candidate sermon, congregation votes (If congregation votes “No”, back to step 16)
23. Sign the call. (PNC, Session, MVC)
24. Welcome the new Pastor to the Congregation and community (PNC, Congregation)



Worship
• Sunday School for children 3yr.-6th grade is during worship after the children’s chat • No Sunday School on September 6 • 67 at the church picnic
Congregational Care
• Tuesday, September 1 is Women’s Association at 6:30. • Ruth Circle is on September 9 at 1pm • FALL SUNDAY SCHOOL KICKOFF IS ON SEPTEMBER 13. DONUTS AFTER WORSHIP AND A SPECIAL ACTIVITY FOR EVERYONE
Mission
•
Operations
• Property Meeting on September 7 at 6:30pm

We have been blessed with a wonderful team of Sunday School teachers, but we would love to add more to our team or if you are not feeling called to teach we are also in need of Sunday School helpers to assist the younger children’s class. The helper would be there to help children with crafts, assist in taking children to the restroom, and in any way the teacher might need an extra pair of hands. If interested please contact Patti Strominger for more information. Phone: 724-494-2160 or email: Pattistr@gmail.com



Anniversaries	Birthdays	Birthdays
Ryan & Katie Lucas 8/05	Alan Repman 8/03	Brooke Otto 8/13
Steven & Monica ward 8/08	Breanna white 8/04	owen Smith 8/13
Andrew & Casey Honess 8/16	Kristy otto 8/05	Leah Moreno 8/14
Corinna & Joe Petrella 8/22	Zbig Lachowicz 8/06	Slade McLynden 8/15
Ken & Trevis Gregory 8/28	John Martin 8/09	Hayden Lewis 8/18
Dylan & Chelsea Winkle 8/28	Nancy Hribar 8/11	Shirley Fluharty 8/22
	Catherine Kapton 8/12	Rachel Colesar 8/27

.....september

Anniversaries	Birthdays	Birthdays	Birthdays
Chris & Kristy Otto 9/02	Edward Burak 9/01	Charles Hendrick 9/17	Emma Diccico 9/26
Charles & Linda Hendrick 9/04	Karen Gartley 9/03	Karen Keller 9/17	Kiara Kapton 9/28
Elizabeth & Alan Repman 9/15	Ken Jones 9/5	Terri Owczarzak 9/20	Michael Sardo 9/28
Donna & Mark Olexick 9/25	Sue Hughston 9/10	Nicholas Barth 9/22	Ella Mae Spieker 9/28
Eleanor & Richard Pike 9/26	Ginny Adams 9/12	Linda Hendrick 9/22	
Diane & Jack Gennaro 9/30	Chris Humi 9/15	Parker Hoth 9/23	



- Jen Davis–Evelyn Lawson was taken to Mercy Hospital on Friday due to double vision. They ran some tests and she is now home.
- Caroline Steiner–Thankk you for prayers for baby with no immune system. He has been getting anti-rejection meds and the transplant procedure was on Monday. Prayers also for his sister as she's having a hard time understanding.
- Rich kerlin–A ladder fell on him while he was mowing. He has a large slice and bruch burn on his arm.
- Diane Gennaro–Joy for brother Ron and sister-in-law Chris celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary
- Eleanor Pike–Thankful for Deacons and all the work for the picnic
- Pastor Jim–Prayers for Skye as she begins her junior year at college
- Jen Davis–So thankful for Eleanor and her wonderful team of cleaning ladies and their super job on the manse
- Diane Gennaro–Prayers for Donna and Mark Olexick. Donna is in the hospital with kidney problems and Mark is in the hospital with a-fib.



**On Sunday,
September 13, we
will hold a special
collection to
support the Garden
of Knowledge
Library and help us
automate our book
collection and**

**lending process. Our children's library continues to grow
and now includes more than 1,300 books. Last year, over
50 children participated in Storytime, with more than 20
children regularly checking out books to enjoy at home
each week .**

**Automating our library will allow us to better organize and
track our growing inventory, manage book checkouts and
returns, and ensure that our collection remains a valuable
resource for the children and families we serve. Please
consider making a special contribution on September 13
to help us continue growing and improving this important
ministry. If making your donation by check, please write
“Library Automation” on the memo line.**