

October 2022 - #2

Worship - Sunday 10 AM Sunday School - during worship (Sep-Jun)



Pastor's Corner

Greetings to you from the frozen North!! It was such a treat to work on the "feast" and share in the fun and camaraderie! And to see so many faces the next day in church was a gift and a joy! Come some more! For as with all things, the more the merrier!!

At the service I spoke of hope and perseverance and justice! This justice thing keeps resonating in my head and is a topic we are hearing about

at all levels of our church! So some thoughts for your contemplation. All of us are called to work for justice. There is no "right way" to do justice. Justice is about God's love and how we let it flow to ourselves and to others. It's not about revenge or vengeance: it's about healing and restoration. And it's for all God's people!

We focus on justice for groups downtrodden and discriminated against as well we should. Yet justice is also for the sick and the afflicted, those who are suffering right next to us!!

In reading I was doing this week I came across words that seemed to clearly express what we are seeking and why:

"For theologians Grace Ji-Sun Kim and Graham Hill, we restore justice when we practice "hospitality of heart' inspired by Jesus.

Jesus embodied the justice of God in his love, hospitality, truth, and grace. Jesus had a just mission. Revealing the justice of God, Jesus welcomed the stranger, rejected social discrimination, confronted economic injustice, spoke against institutional power, and repudiated war and violence. . . . "

Even from our homes and chairs we can seek Jesus' justice! I hope, as we go forward, we can have conversations about how we can intentionally seek justice by following Jesus' example of love for all!

Enjoy your week, be happy, be safe and "reach out and touch someone!!" Steve

"No one has ever seen God; but if we love each other, God lives in us!" 1
John 4:12



New Sound System Installed

Our brand new sound system was installed this week.

- With a new choir microphone, the music will be even more angelic.
- With a new lapel microphone, speakers can move around and use their arms freely.
- When the new hearing assist earbuds arrive (they have been shipped), we pray that everyone will hear it all.

Hopefully the new system will not give us any feedback, but we would love to hear your feedback, good or bad, so that we can make any necessary adjustment.

Octoberfeast





Our 40th Annual Octoberfeast is now behind us! We were very successful in putting together the 300-serving, drive-thru dinner on Saturday, October 15th, with only a few leftovers to sell the next day. Everyone involved felt that we had planned and prepared well, and that we were able to get the dinners out to cars much more quickly and smoothly than last year. Workers and customers agreed that the pre-sale tickets were a big improvement.

A lot of hard work and many hours were involved, starting from our organizational meeting on September 11. With a turkey disease scare, finding out if we could even get 14 large turkeys was first priority. Then freezer space to store them, finding take-out containers that didn't leak, coming up with a ticket system, contacting Stewart's for donations of bread, containers, and large paper bags, and shopping for and prepping potatoes. An apple-pie-making party was held, as well as a bread-tearing gathering. Volunteers sat alone in church to sell tickets to the public, and others cleaned the kitchen, pans and appliances. In addition to all this, our wonderful church family made 60 pies and close to 50 quarts of squash!

What a fantastic group who volunteered all day Saturday. They cooked squash, potatoes, and gravy, reheated turkey, cut all the pies, put cranberry sauce into 300 containers, and bagged 300 dinner rolls. Potatoes were mashed, and at 3:45 we were ready for the first car and the runners went into action! The last of the workers were home by 7 PM.

With unanimous agreement to not raise our dinner price in spite of inflation, our net profit was over \$3,500.



Stained Glass Windows on Display

These beautiful stained-glass windows were removed from the choir room when the Sunday School addition was built and have been in storage for decades. After a nudge from Evelyn Clark, the Session decided to find a place for them. The sanctuary makes the perfect location to display these works of art. Thanks to Cindy Rye for making it happen. Next time you're in the building, make sure you take notice. We can't wait to see them at night!



Worship Schedule

Oct 23 Naomi Kelly

Oct 30 Steve Vance

Nov 6 Steve Vance - All Saints Sunday

Nov 13 Naomi Kelly

Events

Oct 22 Park Coffeehouse - Alexis Loomis and Rattlin' Bog

Oct 30 Session Meeting following worship

Nov 5 - Park Coffeehouse - Pandemic Therapy and Cincinnati Creek

- Chiari Benefit at the American Legion (contact Peg Curtacci for info)

Sharing the Stories Cherishing the Memories



Marlene once gifted me with a bouquet of her zinnias in a Campbell's Tomato Soup can. The whole arrangement was adorable. In her memory we grow zinnias in our garden (pictured). We also share ours with others, but I use vases, no pretty soup cans available.

Marlene was a fun lady. She enjoyed playing scrabble with friends, going to camp on North Lake, even fishing branches out of their pond.

You could always count on Marlene to help out with church activities. For the Octoberfeast she would help with veggies. I remember one year being short of staff and she had her dear Ted tearing lettuce for hours, always with a smile and his "ahhhhh-um" reply to my comments. The photo I included was from one of our Christmas Advent Gatherings, where she could be counted on to help Pastor Susan with the lighting of the Candle Creche

She was a proud Mom who loved talking about her grandchildren and sharing photos. Marlene shared her camp fun with my daughter Heidi Taubert's family. Her grandson, Trevor and my grandson, Thomas are friends. They have great memories of Marlene and camp. If you have a story or memory to share, please send it on to Secretary, Carol Heburn, so we can all enjoy.



Gail Smith, long-time member of our church, will be 90 on November 18th. If you want to send her a card, her mailing address is:

3801 Village View Apartment 1105 Gainesville GA 30506

She and her husband Milt (who passed away a few years ago) raised their children in our church. She was the Presbytery Administrative Assistant for many years, and a good friend to us all.