



WBPC Messenger

The Small Church with a BIG Heart!

7/2017

West Berlin Presbyterian Church

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From the Pulpit...

By Robert J. Gustafson

I am very pleased with the support and interest the whole congregation has been taking in our continued New Beginnings activities and planning. One of my jobs in this process has been to look around to see what others are saying that could be helpful. I recently came across an article by entitled **3 Starter Principles for Becoming an Innovative Small Church** (Karl Vaters, *Copyright © 2015 by the author or Christianity Today/Leadership Journal.*) I would like to share his three principles for your consideration as we consider our church's action plan.

1. Connect the Congregation to the Church's Innovative Heritage

No one starts a church because they have a set of hymns they plan to sing forever; or because they want to maintain a building; or because they expect the preacher to do all the work. Churches are started by visionary people who want God to do something in and through their lives and their community. One way to get excited about the next wave of visionary thinking is to tie the new ideas back to the original church visionaries – some of whom might be our own ancestors.

2. Strip Away Everything but Jesus

We get together every week to hear teaching from the bible, a book whose newest sections are almost 2,000 years old, and then we can't understand what makes for resistant to change. Really? We need to tie today's changes back to that amazing, life-giving, truer-than-ever 2,000-year-old book. But remember, Jesus Christ was the most revolutionary, innovative, world-changing person who ever lived. His followers should be the same.

3. Make it a Conversation

There's an old saying that you need to earn the right to be heard. That used to be true. Not anymore. Years of manipulative advertising have made people very savvy to social cues. We can tell when someone's listening with genuine interest. And we can tell when they're just keeping quiet until it's their turn to talk. We have to do more than earn the right to be heard. We have to *actually listen* to what people are saying. Monolog has to be replaced with dialog. Dialog doesn't earn you the right to make your point – dialog *is* the point.

Finally, Vater closes with the idea that we need to realize that, while some resistance to change may come from people's fears, some resistance may actually be the voice of experience and wisdom. You can't know which is which until you know the person better. And you can't know the person without listening.

Food for thought
Pastor Bob

Mission and Ministry Activities July 2017



WBPC ICE CREAM SOCIAL - Friday, July 28, 2017 4:30-7:00 PM

Please join us for our annual WBPC Ice Cream Social and More. Bring family, friends, neighbors and co-workers for homemade ice cream Russell Jordan style, and food for complete meal. Come for some great eats and even better, fellowship!

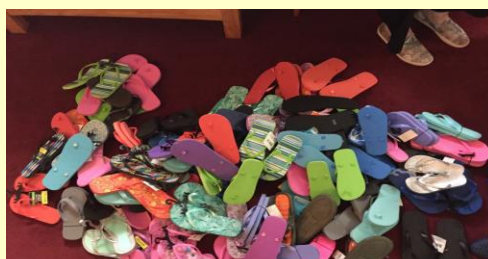
Come and join the fun. Bring friends. Hope to see you there!!!!

Flip Flops for Isaac's School

As you are aware, WBPC is collecting flip flops to send to Isaac's School this fall for the children to wear. There is a need for flip flops for all age groups in children's, men and women's sizes. They can be bright, have bling, or plain. We have collected 76 pairs of the 176 goal!!!!

(Another 100 pairs are needed by the end of August!!!!)

Below is a picture of what has been collected so far, so bring in flip flops and help us make our goal!!!



West Berlin Presbyterian Church on Facebook!!!!

If you have a Facebook Account or don't (you may want to get one!!!), you can follow the weekly activities of West Berlin PC through picture, words of encouragement, upcoming activities and worship service on our Facebook Page. Jennifer Jordan is posting updates on a regular basis so you don't want to miss the news!!!! Further information will be forthcoming. If you don't know how to access Facebook or how to access our page, please contact Jennifer Jordan, Amy Martindale or Jerianne Gooding and they will assist you.

Family Promise Donation Items for July 2017

We will be collecting bath towels and liquid laundry soap for Family Promise for the month of July. Please place item in the box in the church annex. Your support is appreciated!!!!



You Are Invited to the Reformation 500 Crawl!!

On July 29 and October 21, 2017, the Northwestern Ohio Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America will be providing Reformation related experiences at 22 locations. Each site will be open 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Some will be posted "Open House" format, others will offer short presentations. All is free. Check out the poster on the WBPC bulletin board or go to <http://nwos-clca.church/> to plan an excursion.

Fall Older Adult Rally



The Presbytery of Scioto Valley (PSV) **Older Adult Rally** will be held on Sunday, August 27, 3-6 p.m. Registration begins at 2:30—All Ages Welcome! The Rally will be located at Overbrook Presbyterian Church, 4131 N. High Street, Columbus, Ohio.
Cost: \$5 per person (includes refreshments) *Now Moses was faithful in all God's house as a servant, to testify to the things that would be spoken later. Hebrews 3:5*

Back by popular demand, Rabbi Cary Kozberg will be speaking to us about the death of Moses. Last year's attendants found Rabbi Kozberg to be a very captivating speaker. Rabbi Kozberg is Rabbi Emeritus and former Director of Religious Life at Wexner Heritage Village, a senior residential care facility in Columbus. He is a past chair of the Forum on Religion, Spirituality and Aging, a constituent group of the American Society on Aging.

Please register by Monday, August 14 if you are interested in attending.

Pastor Bob's Summer Plans



Because of professional obligations and summer travel scheduled, Pastor Bob and Yvonne will be out of town on the following Sunday's. You can look forward to worship leadership in his absence as follows:

July 16, 2017 – Rev Betsy Rice, Pastor for Member Service, Worthington Presbyterian

August 27, 2017 – Russ Jordan, Elder, West Berlin Presbyterian

September 3, 2017 – Rev Wayne Morrison, Parish Associate for Visitation, Worthington Presbyterian



Mission Work Trip Announced

The 2017 Presbytery Mission Work Trip will be October 22-28. The trip will engage in recovery and restoration work from 2016 wild fires in Gatlinburg, Tennessee. The work trip is organized in conjunction with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA).

- ◆ Who may go? Presbytery of Scioto Valley Adults - age 18 and over.
- ◆ How many may go? We will have up to 32 participants.
- ◆ What is the total cost? \$300 per person
- ◆ Applications and more information on the Presbytery Web site:
www.psvonline.org
- ◆ What type of work? Demolition/Clean-Up/Building Repair/Recovery Work
- ◆ How will we get there? Cars, trucks, or church vans.
- ◆ Where will we stay? In-group housing is available at the Gatlinburg Presbyterian Church.

For questions contact Jeannie Harsh at 614-847-0565 office, cell 614-562-1775, or by email: jeannie@psvonline.org



Aspire Women's Events Presents – ASPIRE 2017 Tour
October 2017
Grace Polaris Church
8225 Worthington Galena Road
Westerville, Ohio 43081

One night – 3 hours – Just for Women
An evening full of laughter, learning, stories, and music!!!

Speakers & Artist

Melissa Spoelstra
Speaker & Author

Shannon Hoffpauir
Speaker & Bible Teach

Mia Koehne
Worship Leader

Group tickets are available for groups of 10 or more
Admission is \$20

Anyone interested in attending this event as a group, please let Lou Ann Shy or Yvonne Gustafson know by July 31, 2017 so we can plan accordingly.

This will be a time of fun and fellowship for all!!!

July 2017 Calendar of Events

Sunday, July 2, 2017 (10:30AM)	Communion/Worship/Session Meeting
Tuesday, July 4, 2017	Happy 4 th of July!!!!
Sunday, July 9, 2017 (10:30AM)	Worship/Second Sunday Fellowship
Wednesday, July 12, 2017 (11:00AM)	John Rae Class Gathering at Bob Evan's Restaurant (I-71 @ 36/37)
Sunday, July 16, 2017 (10:30AM)	Worship – Rev. Betty Rice, guest preacher
Wednesday, July 19, 2017 (6:30 PM)	Ladies' Night Out – Wholly Joes (Polaris Parkway behind KFC)
Sunday, July 23, 2017 (10:30AM)	Worship
Friday, July 28, 2017 (4:30-7:00 PM)	ANNUAL ICE CREAM SOCIAL
Sunday, July 30, 2017 (10:30 AM)	Worship

LOOKING AHEAD...

Sunday, August 13, 2017 (10:30AM)	Annual All Church Picnic - Second Sunday Fellowship - Church Potluck - Bring a special dish to share!!!
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July Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

3-Josh Ford; 6-Christine Cox, Bonnie Cozzie; 12-Michelle Melen
13-Adam Glenn, June Just; 16-Becky Donovan; 27-Jaymi Roll; 30-Penny Ford

Anniversaries

7-Rex and Leigh Coldren

Happy Birthday U.S.A!!!!

