



**PARMA CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ)**

**7000 Ridge Road, Parma, OH, 44129 (440)842-1614**

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# THE CHRISTIAN CALLER

Interim Minister: Rev. Nancy Dunn

Worship Service: Sundays at 10:45am. (Streamed online)

July 29, 2020

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Dear Church Family,

A quote from Parker J. Palmer reads:

*Solitude does not necessarily mean living apart from others –  
it means never living apart from one's self.*

*Community does not necessarily mean living face-to-face with others—  
it means never forgetting that we are connected.*

Even though we are not worshipping face-to-face with one another, we cannot forget that we are still connected as a community of faith. We are connected with one another through our shared past and, most importantly, our shared faith in Jesus Christ. This faith is what bonds us to each other, no matter what may keep us from being together. Through this faith, we are connected and bound together by love--the love of God for each of us and the love we have for one another. Let us never forget that connection which holds our community of faith together wherever we may be.

It is because of our love for one another through Jesus Christ that we must take extra precautions as we consider when we should gather together again for worship. Worshipping together in person in the sanctuary is something we all long to do. Yet, as long as the case numbers continue to rise, we need to take care of one another and the most vulnerable in our congregation. We do this best when we worship virtually.

The Elders are continually evaluating the situation. Included in this newsletter is a survey. This survey will help the Elders gather your thoughts into one place as we consider when in-person worship may begin again. Please complete this survey, either by paper or online, by August 9. If you'd like to complete it online, please go to <https://forms.gle/LE9Mf4aArRBjPnDf6>. (Dick will include this link in his email newsletter.)

Looking ahead at the month of August, you can continue to worship at home with us each Sunday at 10:45 AM on our Facebook page. To help you prepare, I am providing you with a list of scriptures that I will use for my sermons each week. Please use these readings during your devotional times. Rev. Melanie Harrell Delaney will preach on Sunday, August 2 as I will be on vacation.

## Date

Sunday, August 2  
Sunday, August 9  
Sunday, August 16  
Sunday, August 23  
Sunday, August 30

## Scriptures

Jeremiah 17:7-8 & Matthew 13:3-8  
Matthew 14:14-21  
Matthew 16:13-20  
Romans 12:1-8  
Romans 12:9-21

It is my fervent prayer that as we all continue to practice social distancing, mask wearing, and staying at home as much as possible, that soon our numbers for Covid-19 cases will drop and we will be to worship together again soon. I also pray that a vaccine will be released soon that will help us to put Covid-19 behind us all.

Please know that you are in my prayers.

With the Love of Christ,  
Rev. Nancy

### **DEACONESS FOR JULY**

Mary Anne Woodward

### **DEACONESS FOR AUGUST**

Mary Anne Woodward

### **SHUT-INS**

Here is the shut-in list of PCC members and friends. Please visit them, if you can, phone them, or drop them a note or a card. Above all, please **PRAY** for them!

Charlotte Mickovic  
Falling Water Health Care Center  
18840 Falling Water Room 213-W  
Strongsville, Ohio 44136  
440-238-1100, Room 213-Window

Ann Tyma  
Sunrise of Parma  
7766 Broadview Road  
Parma, Ohio 44134

**OUR DAILY BREAD** booklet is available on the table in the rear of the sanctuary, and it's **FREE!** If you would like to make a donation in the box, that's fine, but there's no obligation!

### **BIRTHDAY-ANNIVERSARY OFFERING**

Parma Christian Church has had this celebration offering for quite a long time. A dollar per year of your birthday and/or wedding anniversary is a wonderful way of thanking God for all His blessings AND helping your church. But if that's too much \$\$\$ (Everyone is getting older, after all!) just give whatever you can.



Volunteers are needed to pack the food bags once a month. Food is passed out the **3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday** of each month so the bags must be packed before that date. If you would like to help bag please call Debbie Hannan our church secretary at 440-842-1614.



It is summer and the grass is growing!

It takes about two hours to mow our large church lawn. The dryer weather of summer sometimes allows us to mow less often. Contact Dick Woodward if you would like to sign up for mowing or otherwise help with lawn maintenance. We will check you out, if necessary, on how to use our church mower. Many thanks to those who helped with the mowing, weeding, trimming, etc.!



### **Happy August Birthdays!!**

We send our birthday wishes to Julie Green and Berda Allen (August 8<sup>th</sup>), Debi Schnell (August 12<sup>th</sup>), and Doreen Sykes (August 15<sup>th</sup>).

**Happy Anniversary Wishes** to Dick and Mary Anne Woodward (August 1<sup>st</sup>).

Elders Meetings - **Sunday, August 9<sup>th</sup> at 7pm (Via Zoom).**

**Just A Reminder:** The new Offering Envelopes for the 2020/2021 are now available at church. If you would like to stop by and pick up your envelopes please call Debbie at 440-842-1614. She is in the office Monday through Friday from 9am until 12:30pm. Thank You.

We ask that you please continue to financially support your church. Our bills need to be paid monthly. You can mail in your donation to the church or you can drop it off at the church. Debbie is usually in the church office Monday through Friday from 9am until 12:30pm. We now have online giving using Givelify available on both our website and Facebook Page.

### **PLEASE CONTINUE TO SUPPORT OUR PAPER DRIVE!!**

Parma Christian Church still has the recycle container located in the church parking lot. We are asking you, your family members and friends to save your papers. Items that can be put in the container are: Newspaper, magazines, catalogs, phone books, junk mail, office and school papers, hard and soft bound books and cardboard. The cardboard must be flattened before putting it in the bin. Items NOT accepted in the recycle container are Styrofoam, metal, glass, trash, any type of plastic, aluminum.

### **ELDERS' CORNER:**

Poem from God's Glorious Design by James Uline (local poet)

#### **Let Him Lead**

The pathway of life can be a treacherous one,  
You'll face many difficulties before your journey is done.

There will be roadblocks and detours along the way,  
You will encounter obstacles that can cause many a delay.

Life certainly brings all sorts of ups and downs,  
Some days will bring smiles, others will bring frowns.

When dark clouds fill the skies,  
Don't let tears fill your eyes.

Keep your head lifted up high and don't fret,  
Don't take action that may cause you regret.

Keep a positive attitude no matter  
How poor the condition,  
Don't permit skepticism or pessimism to win

God is there for you, let Him lead,  
Give your life to Him and you will surely succeed.

(Submitted by Donna Marchese, Elder)

## **Keeping in Touch**

Hi there! Hope this finds you well and happy and staying healthy! It has been over two months since I wrote one of these columns -- we'll see if I have enough news to fill the entire sheet! This has already been a long, hot summer, due the covid-19 crisis, everyone staying home for the most part, and the lack of our usual worship opportunities. So many events that we were used to experiencing have been cancelled or postponed.

We have been visiting my mother outdoors with a plexiglass screen between us -- not the best, but better than nothing! (You may remember that my mother, who will turn 97 in late September, was transferred in March to Ancora, the new memory-support facility which is part of Mt. Alverna.) I was in her new room only once, to help her move in; then after that we visited once a week through a window, which was nearly impossible due to her hearing difficulties. The "outside" system is much better, but we can't touch her, hug her, or kiss her.

Our food pantry pass outs have been held outdoors since April. The one in July was really hot!!! We will have at least a few more outside, but hopefully it will be cooler. The same faithful crew of Debbie Hannan, her brother David, Daryll Krivanos, Walt and Nancy Kusen, Julie Green, Kim Wainwright, Dick and myself are carrying on! (We can always use more help if you're interested. Call the office.)

The elders have been calling the folks on their shepherding lists every few weeks to keep in touch. We continue with our live streamed worship services on Sunday mornings at 10:45 a.m. Rev. Nancy has a wonderful sermon, an elder says a prayer at communion, and Dick provides piano and organ music. All of this is broadcast on Facebook, thanks to Daryll. We wish that everyone in the congregation had the online capability to be part of this service! If you have access to a computer and need help setting up the link, please contact Daryll at 440/779-7346 or my husband Dick at 440/885-1199. (Like visiting my mother, we know that this system isn't perfect, but right now it's all we have!)

If you have received prayer chain calls, you are aware that there have been lots of them lately! Let's see if I can remember them all!

Joe Marchese is recovering after a nasty fall, though fortunately there was no permanent damage. Donna's foot surgery went well, so she is getting around better. Donna asked prayers for her cousin Nancy Eden, who underwent heart bypass surgery this week, and for her friend Mary Ann Lamb, who is hospitalized with pneumonia.

Rev. David Loar, the interim pastor at Ridge Road UCC, recently underwent back surgery, but then suffered a heart attack. He is improving. Fran Sykes' daughter Cheryl suffered a broken leg, as did Sandy Stansky's friend Irene. Sandy also requested prayers for David Ornoff, who was recently diagnosed with covid-19 and has other major health concerns. Bob Delozier's sister Rita is recovering from a stroke. Berda Allen has been having some unresolved eye problems, so please pray for her. Debbie Hannan's husband Terry is awaiting treatment plans, so please pray for him, and for Debbie as well.

The co-worker of Elaine Ferguson's daughter-in-law Pam Gering has been battling cancer. Her name is Shana, and she could also use your prayers. As I was writing this, word came of the death of former member Dale Paddock, who passed away on July 25. I have no other details, but please pray for his family.

Wow, I said there were a lot of names! Also, please continue to pray that the covid-19 crisis will soon be over, with no more loss of life. We all have been inundated with the increasing numbers, and the maps, and the suffering. All we can do is pray, and hope, and keep ourselves as healthy as we can. God will take care of us, but we can't take any chances. It is my fervent hope and prayer that we will all be together again before too many weeks pass. We'll see!

If you have any news you'd like to share, or folks you want on the prayer chain, please let me know. Helene Delozier told me that her daughter Denise and family visited from Atlanta, and the family staged a "graduation ceremony" for one of her grandsons in the metroparks, complete with "Pomp and Circumstance." Grandpa Bob presented him with his diploma!

I'm out of room! Till next time, take care and God bless!

Mary Anne Woodward