



Chimes

October 2012
Christ Presbyterian Church

Sisters and Brothers,

The first time I voted, as an 18-year-old in California, it was on a punch voting machine in a low-turnout election of local races and state propositions. Still, I felt eight feet tall, pushing the stylus through the ballot paper with a satisfying “pop:” my voice mattered; I was making democracy work; I was living out citizenship in the United States of America. There remains a sacredness to me about voting, but more and more it is out of citizenship in the kingdom of heaven, which no nation-state can grant or take away.

The great 20th-century theologian Karl Barth famously said that preaching should happen with the Bible in one hand and the newspaper in the other. I suppose the same could be said about voting while holding the Bible and a ballot. The thing is, in a nation profoundly both democratic and religious, people holding Bibles and ballots can end up voting differently from each other.

I have dear friends whose earnest searching of Scripture, probing of the “issues,” and desire to obey Christ will lead them to vote for opposing candidates on November 6. Some might say this is emblematic of a divided nation and a conflicted American church. I say it means, to quote a bumper sticker, that “God Is not a Republican or a Democrat,” and that the kingdom of heaven and the way of Christ aren’t identifiable with particular candidates or a party platform.

It’s not that Jesus is apolitical. If politics is, at root, about who has power and how it is used, Jesus used political speech all the time—he just had a tendency, to use Emily Dickinson’s phrase, to “tell it slant.” Rather than get sucked into the variety of political agendas of his day—among Jews living under Rome’s occupation there were definitely camps and agendas!—Jesus spoke “covertly” in the name of the God who has all the power and who desires people’s fundamental loyalties.

This means that voting as Jesus’ follower is about a lot more than desiring the victory of a certain party or candidate. Voting is an act of discipleship when it comes from a longing for God’s heavenly kingdom to take hold in the things of earth, whether political or otherwise. When we wake on November 7, Jesus will still be Lord of all, God’s rule will still stand over the nations, and the church will still live its primary citizenship out of the heavenly day when Jesus will clearly be King over all creation.

I am choosing to pray for the coming election remembering that the kingdom, the power, and the glory belong solely to the God we see in Christ. God bless Jesus’ disciples to vote out of faith and hope in this Lord.

The Lord be with you all,

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

OCTOBER 7th FOLLOWING WORSHIP
for the purpose of electing at-large
members to the Nominating Committee

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Jen Congdon, Director
jen@christpcusa.org



The CPC school year really took flight in Children's Ministries. The Butterfly Launch was a huge success! Some of the butterflies have even been spotted in the Reeves' flower garden!



The children have begun gathering in Discovery Time. Their first meeting was spent talking about everyone's week, eating doughnuts and painting handprints on a canvas. Over the next several months, Children's Ministries invite you downstairs to view the "gallery" of artwork displayed in the hallways. The children had fun picking their colors and painting their hands.



Brinn and her friend Taylor were a huge help with the handprint project.

Joyful Noise



Mrs. Wood and Mrs. Frankmann led a group of around 15 children in singing "The Butterfly Song". The Joyful Noise Choir will sing on September 30th, during worship.



Friendships begin early at CPC

Isaac, Daniel and Austin had fun in their Sunday school class playing in the sand. Friendships start so young.



CPC IS TAKING OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD TO THE NEXT LEVEL.

This year CPC will be a relay center for Operation Christmas Child. During the week of November 12-19 CPC will be open for the public to drop off boxes. We will store the boxes at church and then drop them off at the OCC headquarters on Monday, November 19. If there are any committees/groups that would like to assist during any of the below hours, please contact Jen Congdon for more information. Our youth group is going to assist on Sunday November 18.

Also, if you simply want to donate items, money and/or boxes, the children involved with the Discovery Time will be packing boxes during one or two of our meetings. Any donations would be much appreciated.

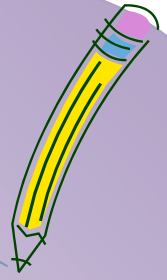
Last year we had a goal of 50 boxes and we met our goal. Our 2012 goal: **55 BOXES.**

HOURS OF OCC OPERATION AT CPC

Monday 9/12	10:00am-2:00pm
Tuesday 9/13	6:00pm-8:00pm
Wednesday 9/14	5:30pm-8:00pm
Thursday 9/15	2:00pm-4:00pm
Friday 9/16	4:00pm-7:00pm
Saturday 9/17	11:00am-1:00pm
Sunday 9/18	6:00pm-8:00pm
Monday 9/19	10:00am-1:00pm



Session



Fall is upon us! Much of the Session's ministry looked to the new church program year.

The Session started its Tuesday, September 18 meeting with prayer and reflection with Psalm 131, a psalm that, to paraphrase Charles Spurgeon, takes a short time to read but a long time to learn.

The Session hired a new nursery caregiver, Paula Zerbian, to the nursery staff. Recently retired from a career of work with children, Paula is also the mother of Abby Zerbian, our former nursery attendant who recently moved to Columbus.

The Session looked toward the nominations process, taking steps to form the Nominating Committee that will nominate elders and deacons for election this fall. They also decided to take part in a special offering commended by the Presbytery of the Western Reserve. To be collected on October 28, this offering will support construction of a new ecumenical ministry space to serve homeless and other neighbors in downtown Cleveland.

The Session also responded to a matter regarding the Board of Pensions of the Presbyterian Church (USA), which administers the benefits plan for Presbyterian ministers and other church workers. At the urging of the 219th General Assembly (2010), the Board will begin extending benefits to plan members' domestic partners and their children. The Board has given opportunity for congregations that object to this change to do so, and the Christ Church Session voted unanimously to file such a formal objection. In the same vote, the Session also decided to participate in a "relief of conscience mechanism" to be created. By these actions, Christ Church's minister's dues contributions to the Board will not be used to fund benefits to plan members' domestic partners and their children, but, rather, will be diverted to another purpose. If you have questions about this matter, please speak with Session moderator, Pastor Reeves, or any Session member.

In all, the Session is grateful for God's work in Christ Church, and looks forward to the ministry ahead of us.

Your Clerk,
Chuck Scott

CHAPEL CIRCLE

Chapel Circle will meet at the church on Wednesday, Oct 17th. Ruth Scharlotte, hostess, has chosen lunch out at Danny Boy's. Jan Davis will lead Lesson 6 pp. 47-52. Ruth Scharlotte will give the devotions.

OCTOBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 9:30am Children's Ministry Meeting 7:00pm Deacons 7:30pm Men's Discussion Group	2 9:30am Prayer Group 6:30pm Bootcamp	3 6:30am Men's Bible Study	4 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal 8:15pm Grateful Praise Rehearsal	5 7:00pm Couples Bible Study	6 8:00am Men's Tres Dias Reunion
7 *Sunday Morning Schedule 11:30am Congregational Meeting 5:00pm Youth Group	8 11:00am Staff Meeting 7:00pm Property & Maintenance Meeting 7:30pm Men's Discussion Group	9 9:30am Prayer Group 6:00pm Fellowship Meeting 6:30pm Bootcamp 7:00pm Youth Ministries Meeting	10 6:30am Men's Bible Study 7:00pm Girl Scouts	11 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal 8:15pm Grateful Praise Rehearsal	12	13 7:00am Youth Group "BIG DAY of SERVING" -Akron 8:00am Men's Sat Bible Study
14 *Sunday Morning Schedule 11:45am Mission Committee Meeting	15 7:30pm Men's Discussion Group	16 9:30am Prayer Group 6:30pm Bootcamp 7:00pm Session	17 6:30am Men's Bible Study 11:00am Chapel Circle	18 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal 8:15pm Grateful Praise Rehearsal CHIMES DEADLINE	19 7:00pm Couples Bible Study	20 8:00am Men's Tres Dias Reunion 6:00pm CPC Potluck
21 *Sunday Morning Schedule 5:00pm Youth Group	22 11:00am Staff Meeting 7:30pm Men's Discussion Group	23 9:30am Prayer Group 6:30pm Bootcamp	24 6:30am Men's Bible Study	25 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal 8:15pm Grateful Praise Rehearsal	26	27 8:00am Men's Sat Bible Study
28 *Sunday Morning Schedule	29 7:30pm Men's Discussion Group	30 9:30am Prayer Group 6:30pm Bootcamp Meeting with Presbytery	31 6:30am Men's Bible Study			

***SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE:**

- 9:30am Sunday School for Adults and Youth
- 9:30am Discovery Time for K-5th grade
- 10:30am Worship
- 10:30am Sunday School for 3 years-5th Grade

YOUTH MINISTRIES

Rob and Lindsay Russell, Advisors
rlrussell8709@gmail.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, October 7th -Youth Group 5:00-6:30 p.m. @CPC
Tuesday, October 9th -Youth Committee Meeting 7:00- 8:00 p.m. @CPC

Saturday, October 13th **THE BIG DAY OF SERVING**
a one-day youth mission event

7:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. in Akron, OH
Sign up by Oct 6: \$29/person.
After Oct 6: \$40/person

Sunday, October 21st -Youth Group 5:00-6:30 p.m. @CPC

Also, get excited about our new youth group topics of discussion!!!

- *Valuing the Bible as the Word of God*
- *Learning how to share faith with friends*
- *Knowing how to respond to people of other faiths—or no faith*

*Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young,
but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in
love, in faith and in purity.*
-1 Timothy 4:12



Thank you Mary and Nancy!

The Geauga Hunger Task Force serves the emergency food needs of Geauga County. Christ Presbyterian Church has supported this mission for many years by operating a Food Pantry for residents who are in need of non-perishable food and supplies. Mary Goodman and Nancy Kule have been volunteers for our Food Pantry since the early 90's. While they will stay on as the pantry's "shoppers", they have passed the torch to a new group of ladies. Betty Addison, Beth Bouchek, Jayne Fairfield, Mary Minor, Susan Marino and Marsha Zimmermann will take care of the day-to-day food Pantry responsibilities. Thank you to all of you, and especially to Nancy and Mary for their many years of service!

**Fellowship Committee
Presents...**



Italian Feast & Blind Auction

**Saturday,
October 20, 2012
6:00 - 9:00pm**

This auction has a twist!

**Each item for auction is
hidden inside a bag.
A clue will be given as to what
the bag may hold.
Your successful bid
will reveal the prize!**



**Please sign up in the Fellowship Hall for
auction donations and potluck
All proceeds will benefit CPC's Food Pantry.**

ALL VOCALISTS ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE MESSIAH CHORUS OF LAKE COUNTY. This year, the 64th annual presentation of Handel's "Messiah" will take place on Sunday, December 2 at 7:00 pm in St. Gabriel Church at 9935 Johnnycake Ridge Road in Mentor. Rehearsals for singers begin Sunday, October 21 from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. in St. Gabriel Church. (There are a total of 6 Sunday rehearsals, and you are allowed to miss a few.) Several people from our church again will be participating. If you are interested in finding out more information about this moving and spiritual experience please ask Josh Chenoweth or Carol Hong. If you don't feel sure you can sing the entire Messiah, please consider attending the presentation on December 2 at 7:00 pm.



Deacons

DEACONS AND COFFEE HOUR NEED YOUR HELP!!



Deacons are responsible for providing over 50 coffee hours a year, as well as hosting luncheons, receptions, etc. We are looking for help with our weekly coffee hour after Sunday worship.

Coffee Hour is a fun social experience, and set-up and clean-up are breeze! Deacons will “show you the ropes” and supply the snacks if you do not provide them yourself.

Please prayerfully consider sponsoring and/or hosting a coffee hour or two by partnering with us. We would love your help! Contact Barb Albrecht at 440-729-1277 or Mike Maclellan at 440-668-4053.

-CPC DEACONS

HUMOROUS STORIES FROM THE PEW

When Dave Wunderle told me he had some funny stories for my Chimes articles I knew I hit the jackpot for the ultimate source of funny stories! Dave submitted the following:

New to CPC, I decided to join the choir. One rehearsal it was noted that we had a "sound" issue with Sunday's anthem. After practicing it four or five times, we just didn't sound right. Therefore, the director decided to rearrange the seating in hopes it would sound better. She moved the altos into the tenor section, tenors into the alto section, then she did the same with the sopranos and bases.

Secretly, someone in the base section suggested we sing the anthem as "sopranos," since we were in their section, so we did!! After four measures the director, who was unaware of the plan, had the organist stop, we sounded horrible, and she wanted to know whose idea it was. No one answered. Finally, one of the men (who sings beautifully by-the-way...wink...wink) raised his hand and said, "I have to admit it...it was JIM KULE'S idea. I tried to talk him out of it! He even suggested we do it on Sunday too!" Everyone roared!

Ok...it really wasn't Jim Kule's idea. Guess who's idea it really was???

- Dave Wunderle

Remember, give me your funny stories so we can all laugh with you. Cyndie Tropf (729-3764)



OCTOBER

Church office hours:
9:00 am - 2:00 pm
Monday - Thursday

Contact Information
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Church Office e-mail:
office@christpcusa.org
karen@christpcusa.org

Pastor Matt's e-mail:
matt@christpcusa.org

ANNIVERSARIES

Dushan & Beth Ann Boucek	10/05
Robert & Linda Russell	10/05
Robert & Debbie Brooks	10/18
Rich & Brenda Levine	10/25

BIRTHDAYS

Chris Dawson	10/03
Henry Fischer	10/04
Emma Fischer	10/06
Audrey Martillotta	10/06
John Martillotta	10/06
Cameron Zimmermann	10/07
Skyler Troyer	10/08
Marjorie Veraguth	10/08
Carol Hong	10/09
Cory Boucek	10/12
Richard Rye	10/12
Alexandra Paris	10/13
Barbara Albrecht	10/17
Ethan Lyon	10/18
Craig Zimmermann	10/19
David Douglas	10/20
Kelly Douglas	10/20
Sean Arp	10/21
Samuel Martillotta	10/22
Shelley Brown	10/28
Melissa Gear	10/28
Shirley Wood	10/29

CPC Financial Update 2012 Operating Budget

<u>Month</u>	<u>Actual Income</u>	<u>Actual Expenses</u>	<u>Difference (Income – Expenses)</u>
Jan-August	\$156,756.96	\$140,179.85	\$16,577.11
		Reserve as of Jan 1	\$ 6,676.52
		Operating Fund Balance	\$23,253.63