Pastor’s Pen by Nathan Custer

If you are a fan of the Ohio State Buckeyes football team, you can probably skip to paragraph two. Here’s background for everyone else: For the first two weeks of the season, the Buckeyes looked to be not nearly as good as we hoped. Their defense was giving up big passes and big runs, and freshman quarterback C.J. Stroud looked perpetually nervous. We lost our second game of the season, and I confess – (Father I have sinned and it’s been a while since my last confession…) – I thought our season would be a disaster and I said that starting Stroud this early in his career was probably a huge mistake.

Well, I was wrong. It only happens a couple times a year, I know – but in this case, I was wrong. In fact, I so wrong that it made buying real estate in 2007 look brilliant! A switch in the coaching duties on defense and starting Stroud just one more game to boost his confidence, and the team was transformed. By the end of the third game and through the next few games Ohio State has looked like a good professional team! OH MY GOODNESS what a turn-around!

In our daily lives, our current view of reality at any given moment might be dead-wrong. We might think the world is against us and that there’s no hope, we might think our child will forever be lost or that our pain is going to drive us crazy, but the truth is that our current view of reality only includes what we know. But what we know isn’t the full story! There’s a whole universe out there beyond our own understanding, and an enormous God beyond that who’s full of surprises. God is orchestrating things behind the scenes in ways that might just blow our minds in just another week or two.

In Ephesians 3:20, it says that God “is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us.” Some of us need to start up our imaginations, first to imagine how things might turn out for the best, and then to remember that God might make things turn out even better than we can imagine! Similarly, in Romans 8:28 we read that “in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.” Even the pain, the heartache, and the disappointment – God is going to transform all of it and use it for good somehow in a way we can’t yet imagine. Trust him, don’t give up, and don’t give in to the negative thoughts. God has surprises just around the corner, and his mercies are new every day!
2022 Winter Bluegrass Series

KICK OFF NIGHT FOR 2022
Bluegrass Kick off Band Hammertowne will be giving a free concert on November 6th. Doors open at 6:00pm and the show begins at 7:00pm. Advanced series tickets (4 shows for $80) will only be available from 6pm until close on November 6th. Series Tickets make great Christmas gifts! Please be aware that ticket sales through the Church Office will not begin until November 8th.

Friday, January 7
Joe Mullins & The Radio Ramblers

Friday, February 18
Michael Cleveland & Flamekeeper

Friday, March 18
Rhonda Vincent & The Rage

Friday, April 22
Larry Sparks & The Lonesome Ramblers

Live onstage at...
Marysville First United Methodist Church’s
Burnside Family Life Center
www.MarysvilleWinterBluegrass.com
(937) 642-4712
3 Ways To Purchase Tickets:
1. Online @ Itickets.com
2. Via Phone @ (800) 965-9324
3. In Person @ 207 S. Court St., Marysville, Ohio
Monday - Friday 9:00AM to 5:00PM

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November Birthdays
2 Al Gleine
8 Joan Schwaderer
15 Darlene Ligget
22 Marianne Birt
27 Barbara Brake
30 Panda Wagner

November Anniversaries
24 Bud & Sherry Herriott

Regional Charge Conference—This is an upcoming opportunity to ‘virtually’ meet the new District Superintendent, Dr. Tim Bias, and connect with the other 15 area United Methodist Churches who will all be online at once. Held on Nov 4, 2021 at 7 PM, you can use the zoom link below to attend. While we held our own Church Charge Conference business meeting on Oct. 24 that officially voted in our leaders and adjusted our Guiding Principles document, we will also participate in this online gathering to celebrate what God is doing in our Conference and district. The meeting is held virtually-only on Zoom at: https://wocumc.zoom.us/j/86832340509?pwd=RjRqZG1KRXNlWDZGSWJJJeVM2dUlZz09 Meeting ID: 868 3234 0509; Passcode: 507298; One tap mobile +13017158592,,86832340509#

Love and sympathy are extended to:
Priscilla Powers and family in the loss of her husband Paul.
David (Ginny) Green in the loss of David’s sister Patty.
Ashley Alonso and family in the loss of her aunt Ruth Ann Rider.
The family and friends of Don Henshaw.
The Mabry family in the loss of Nancy’s mother.
The Schimmel family in the loss of John’s brother.
Peggy Henman in the loss of her sister Patsy (Pat) Lowry.
Nancy (Scott) Thomas in the passing of Nancy’s brother Walter Fisher.
How could a city girl from Chicago meet and marry a farm boy from South Vienna, Ohio? It must have been part of God’s plan for us!

We met in 1963, at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. Jim was a sophomore majoring in education and playing football. I was an incoming freshman majoring in elementary education and excited to be at Miami. Even though we grew up with very different experiences, we had one thing in common...we had been raised in a church. Finding a church in Oxford was one of the first dates we had. This again, must have been God’s plan! We both loved life in Oxford...football, student activities, and studying kept us very busy. We loved Miami and over the 4 years we grew to love each other.

We were married right after we graduated. We moved to Pontiac, Michigan, where I taught 3rd grade while Jim taught math and coached football at Pontiac Central HS. Moving to Pontiac during the Detroit riots in 1967, was quite an experience. We lived in Pontiac for 2 years where we made good friends and enjoyed teaching and coaching in a very diverse community. We learned a lot! Again...God’s plan!

In 1969, we moved to Durham, New Hampshire. Jim was hired to coach football at the University of New Hampshire. As he jumped on the “College Coaching Train” our life definitely changed. Jim was gone more. Especially during the season and recruiting. However, one thing remained the same-church on Sunday morning. It was our time together as a family, and our family had grown. Kris was born in January 1970 and Lance arrived 2 years later.

Jim coached in college from 1970-1981. We lived in beautiful, Williamsburg, Virginia, for 2 years while he coached at William and Mary, and then we moved to, not so beautiful, Syracuse, New York, where he coached at Syracuse University and our son Ryan was born. Again, in each move we made good friends and became active in the local church, especially in the Sunday school program since we wanted our children to grow up knowing Jesus.

After losing my parents and brother in a couple years, and Jim losing his job at S.U. we decided we needed to settle down and give our 3 children roots. Jim gave up coaching and studied for his insurance and investment license. We moved back to Ohio to be closer to his parents who still lived on the family farm near Springfield. He worked in the insurance industry until retiring in 2012. (He still manages the farm in Clark County.) I began teaching full time when our children were all in school, and I retired in 2010. I truly believe that was also God’s plan for us and our family.
We have lived in Loveland, Worthington, and Blue Ash before moving to Marysville. We moved each time due to job opportunities for Jim, but each time God blessed us with a wonderful church family and an excellent teaching position for me.

Throughout these years we were both able to attend our kid’s school activities and cheer them on at all their athletic events. What a blessing! We definitely gave our children roots when we moved back to Ohio, but we also gave them wings. They have flown further than we could have ever imagined. Kris, Brian and Bennett (21) have lived in California for 20 years. They are currently making a move to NYC. Bennett is in college at The University of California in Riverside. Lance, Sharon, Lily (16) and Lucas (14) live in Dublin. They are one of the reasons we moved to Marysville, and we are so thankful that we did! Ryan, Erin, Sierra (18), Kaito (13) have lived all over the world because they teach for the Department of Defense School System. They currently live in Vicenza, Italy. Sierra is a freshman at Fontys University in the Netherlands.

We are thankful that God lead us to Marysville First UMC. Our church family has been an amazing support to us in the good times and the bad. We continue to learn and to grow in our faith because of Church, Sunday School, Emmaus Walks, Life Group, Bible Studies, WIM, and fellowship with so many faithful followers of Jesus. God has truly blessed us everyday, and we know he has even more plans for us in the future.

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**Recipe of the month: Presbyterian Patience Cake from the kitchen of Sue Goodfellow**

**Filling:**
- 2 cups fresh or frozen shredded coconut
- 2 8oz. cartons of sour cream
- 1 1/2 cups powdered sugar
- 1 tsp. vanilla

**Cake:**
- 2 layers of rich yellow cake
- 1 8oz. Carton whipped topping
- 2 cups coconut

Prepare filling and refrigerate for 24 hours.

Make cake, cool completely and split each layer in half. Put cake together by stacking the 4 layers (lay split sides up, so filling will soak in). Gently cover cake with whipped topping and cover with 2 cups coconut, cover and refrigerate for 5 days (thus using your Presbyterian Patience!!)

Makes 12 large servings.

Make 5 days ahead.

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“As God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and PATIENCE”

*Colossians 3:12*
Quake traveled to Heartland for their Fall Retreat this year
Financial News

Thank you for your faithful giving of finances, prayers, and time to Marysville FUMC. As you can see, the year to date (YTD) giving is close to the giving budget projections and is slightly lower than the current YTD Expenses. As we seek to have a strong 4th quarter, we are doing our best to honor your faithful giving by being good stewards of your gifts.

Gifts designated to the organ fund do not become part of the formula that determines our annual apportionments to the conference and district. If you enjoy the organ music, please consider giving to the organ fund. Thank you!
Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever.

Psalm 107:1