



# PERRY CHRISTIAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

THE CRIER—JULY 2018

VOLUME 10, ISSUE 7



## PASTOR'S PONDERINGS...

Within most circles of passed along information, the biblical character Barabbas, may indeed get a very bad and mostly underserved rap. I mean, after all how bad a guy could he have been? Yes, according to New Testament writings he was an imprisoned “notorious” criminal, and he had been imprisoned due to having tried to lead some type of revolt against the Roman occupiers of the region. His insurrection was what had seemed to have gotten him in trouble, and he, along with Jesus had been condemned to die because of his “not at all acceptable” scheme. Note, that Barabbas as written about, was guilty of rising-up against the social and political injustices of his day. Hmmm, now that I think about it, it makes him sound an awful lot like Jesus. In case you had not known, the name Barabbas literally means, “son of a father.” Gee, that’s an insightful type of name to somehow want to bestow upon a young boy at a very early age! I’m glad my parents were at least just a bit more creative than that. So, if Barabbas was the “son of a father,” and was therefore not singled out in any other way, he too could be considered a child of God! Wow, I had not thought of that prior to this!

There are some biblical scholars that doubt very much that a man named Barabbas ever existed from within the time of the New Testament period of history. Now before you decide to go off half-cocked and loaded for bear, consider the literary purpose behind the creation of a character named Barabbas. If you, the author of a written gospel, decide to depict a man, who like Jesus was guilty of rebelling against the social and political injustices of his day, you have just created a guy who is not Jesus in name, but a guy who is Jesus-like through his actions. You’ve also created a very nice companion piece to the entire Jesus story by having introduced into the story, a guy who then is somehow miraculously freed by the Roman officials in charge. Jesus, our Savior, (and hero from the story) becomes unjustly condemned, while the “true criminal” in the developing dramatic scene, is set to go free. If Barabbas did not truly exist, why bring him in at all as a major character and dramatic player on the world’s stage? Jesus, our Savior dies on behalf of the injustices to others not just in the world, but also on behalf of those perpetrated against him directly. Without Barabbas, the sharpest edge of the sword of injustice thrust into the side of Jesus is not in place. So, here this man named “son of a father,” which is not all that uniquely descript in its naming, becomes just like any son, of any father, anywhere upon the face of this earth, who somehow joins right in with others and gets off scot-free because of their actions of injustice brought against others, while Jesus steps up to the front of the courtroom and “volunteers” for the job of becoming a crucified criminal.

And you thought that the actor Anthony Quinn played the part of Barabbas so brilliantly in the movies? No, he was simply dressed up like you and me every time we create unjust situations for others within this world.

I’ll hope to see you Sunday,

Pastor Paul

## WHAT IS THE WALK TO EMMAUS?

It is an experience of Christian spiritual renewal and formation that begins with a 3-day short course in Christianity. It is an opportunity to meet Jesus Christ in a new way as God's grace and love is revealed to you through other believers. It is open to members of any Christian denomination. You will enjoy three days of singing, learning, laughing, special times of worship, reflecting, praying and participating in small groups. Discussions center around fifteen talks given by laity and clergy. You will have the opportunity to participate in the daily celebration of Holy Communion and to understand more fully the body of Christ. You will leave with an experience of Christian love in action. This year the women's walk is scheduled for October 4th through 7th, 2018 and the men's walk is October 25th through 28th, 2018. At this time we have one person interested in the women's walk. Do you have questions? Talk to one of us and we will do our best to answer them.



"Wasn't it like a fire burning within us when he talked to us"

Frankie Blanchard--Penny Harrison--Sherry Smith--Linda Warfield

---

## PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE



The pastoral search committee consisting of Don Bartlett, Rick Bartlett, Aaron Brewer, Ellen Maier Carole Martin, Laurie Martin, Sherry Smith, Donna Van Boxel & Eric Van Boxel have been meeting to complete a 10 page document stating who & what our church is. Our beliefs, goals, & statistics were part of this document. Pastor Paul wanted us to fill this out so we as a committee would all be of one mind as to who & what our church is & where we are going. We have completed the document & have given it to Pastor Paul. Our next task is to take our recommendation to the general board meeting which will be held on July 11,2018. We will be holding a congregational meeting after worship on Sunday, July 15th, to vote on the settled pastor.

---

## FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

Every 2 months, we hold a general board meeting. The members of the board are the Elders, Deacons, Trustees and Sacristans. The last few meetings have had very sparse attendance and those attending have become concerned. A handful of people shouldn't be making decisions for the entire congregation, but we've had no choice. I strongly urge each and every one of you who hold one of the above positions to make every attempt to attend the meeting to be held on Wednesday, July 11th at 7:00 p.m. We will be making some very important decisions for the future of our church. Hope to see all of you there.

I also want everyone else to be aware that if you do not hold one of the positions mentioned above, you *are* welcome at the meeting and we'd love to have you. Please be aware though, that you do not have voting privileges. God Bless,  
Sherry Smith, Board Chair



# TACO TIME!

## Sunday, July 1st

DELICIOSO

## after worship

BUENOS TACOS

No RSVP Necessary

### IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY!

Posters are up, flyers and invitations are ready to go, hopefully we will be hosting our first Birthday Parties in August! I am excited to announce that members of the Perry United Methodist Church will be joining us in these endeavors. If you know of any needy families, with children from 4 – 10, please let Carole or Jeray know so that we can make sure they receive the information.



Please consider donating party supplies – balloons, party favors, paper plates, cups, and cutlery, or volunteering to help in some of many different ways. We're really excited and we hope you are too.

Laura and Shelley Braden, Frankie Blanchard, Pat Boehnke, Penny Harrison, Connie Smith, Jackie Fernandez, Carole and Laurie Martin, and Jeray Bunnell

### PROJECT HOPE SATURDAY SIDE DISH

We'll gather to prepare the food for the "Saturday Side Dish" for Project Hope on Thursday, July 19th at 6:00 p.m. The food delivery will be on Saturday, July 21st at 6:45 p.m. We do need a volunteer to deliver the food that day.

#### Here's what is needed:

- 3 loaves of French or Italian Bread not sliced.
- 1 lb. Sliced ham
- 1 lb. Sliced salami
- 1 lb. Sliced turkey
- 2 lb. Sliced cheese
- 1 Small bottle Italian dressing
- 1 Small bottle ranch dressing
- 2 Small bags shredded lettuce

For the sack lunches that we provide to Project Hope clients we need:

- 1 Large Jar of Jelly
- 5 Loaves of bread
- 2 Cases of Water bottles
- 3 Bags of 20 individual chips
- 10 Boxes of Fruit/Granola Bars
- 55 Apples (or donation of money)



Sign-up sheets for food needed and delivery people are on the church bulletin board. As always we are most grateful for your generosity in providing for this ongoing mission.

Frankie Blanchard and Brenda Carr

# JULY 2018

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

<p>1</p> <p>9:30a Worship 10:45a Fellowship &amp; TACO LUNCH</p>	<p>2</p> <p>6p Worship Team</p> <p>Virginia Brennan </p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Independence Day Church office is closed.</p> <p>Andy Brewer </p>	<p>5</p> <p>9:30a Prayer Team</p> <p>7p. Mtg. with PUMC (here)</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p>9:30a Worship 10:45a Fellowship</p>	<p>9</p> <p>7p Trustee Mtg.</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Laura Braden </p>	<p>11</p> <p>9a Community Outreach Mtg.</p> <p>6p Elders' Mtg. 7p Board Mtg.</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9:30a Prayer Team</p> <p>Joyce McCrea </p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>9:30a Worship followed by Congregational Meeting 10:45a Fellowship</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Jeff Bartlett </p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <p>9:30a Prayer Team</p> <p>6p Project Hope Food Prep</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>6:45p Project Hope Food Delivery</p>
<p>22</p> <p>9:30a Worship Followed by Bell Choir Mtg. 10:45a Fellowship</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Rick Bartlett </p>	<p>26</p> <p>9:30a Prayer Team</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Tim Johnson </p>
<p>29</p> <p>9:30a Worship 10:45a Fellowship 4p Potluck Picnic with PUMC at Perry Twp. Park</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Louise Burzanko </p>	<p>31</p>				

<i>July Service Schedules</i>			
	<i>Worship Leaders</i>	<i>Elders</i>	<i>All Month</i>
1	Penny Angeloro	Vicki Wakelee Carole Martin	<u><i>Deacons</i></u> *Bob Wright Rod Collins
8	Isabelle Martin	Laurie Martin Linda Warfield	<u><i>Sacristan</i></u> July 1 & 8—Taunya Brewer July 15, 22 & 29—Laura Braden and Shelley Braden
15	Frankie Blanchard	Don Bartlett Rick Bartlett	
22	Sydney Martin	Carole Martin Vicki Wakelee	<u><i>Counters</i></u> Judy Bartlett Vicki Wakelee
29	Laurie Martin	Rick Bartlett Don Bartlett	<u><i>Hostess</i></u> Linda Warfield Sherry Smith

## CWM — CHRISTIAN WOMEN’S MINISTRY

We are still collecting empty medicine bottles which will be sent to Cincinnati-based “**Matthew 25: Ministries**,” an international humanitarian aid and disaster relief organization. They accept donations of empty plastic pill bottles (prescription or over-the-counter) and send them to places where medical supplies are needed.



## CHINESE AUCTION



Even though we certainly do not want to rush the summer, before you know it, it will be October 28<sup>th</sup> and time for our fundraiser. We would love to have you prepare a basket and we do have ideas. If you prefer to purchase the items for a basket, we will assemble it for you. We also love gift cards to include in our baskets or lottery tickets for our lottery tree. Please let us know if you would like to help to make our Chinese Auction wonderful again this year.

Carole Martin & Penny Angeloro

## OHIO WOMEN’S MINISTRIES FALL RETREAT

The OWM Fall Retreat is scheduled for one day this year, Saturday, September 8, 2018 from 9a—5p. Arrangements for those who want or need overnight accommodations are available. The theme for the day is "Blooming Where You're Planted" and the book "Blooming Where You're Planted", by Emily Rose Lewis is being used as a resource. Music will be provided by Candace Jerew and Christy Johnson this year. We will have the silent auction so please continue to bring your beautiful baskets. The committee has planned an exciting and informative day for you this year. More information and registration information will be published soon. Please save the date!

# THIS AND THAT

## VISITORS COMING TO PERRY CHRISTIAN CHURCH

At times we get the impression that we are “out there” on some type of island all by ourselves. We feel stranded, abandoned, and left alone, having to fend for ourselves in primitive surroundings where all manner of scary creatures or objects are just off in the distance waiting to pounce upon us as we make our way in this world. The structures of what used to be a vibrant Regional Office in Ohio of our denomination seem to be fading from our sight. The Christian Church’s D.O.C. denomination’s headquarters in Indianapolis seems even further away than what it used to be. If one did not know better, they’d presume that Indianapolis had moved to Taiwan because the food in that part of the world is better.

Indianapolis has not moved, nor has the denomination’s willingness to join in partnership with individual congregations who face their own unique and special circumstances. To that end, we have been in contact with Indianapolis, and more specifically, with the denomination’s Center for Faith and Giving. The director of that center, Rev. Bruce Barkhauer, hopes to join us for an upcoming weekend of sharing and learning as he, or someone on his staff, bring to us some tremendous supports that will allow us to flourish as we obtain useful and insightful information that can truly be of assistance to us. No specific date has been arranged for that visit. Please watch the newsletter and other sources of information for updates as they become known. A probable time-frame is late summer, or early fall.

Pastor Paul

---

## GARDENING TEAM



Well, summer is here now. The garden team is taking a break for now. The planting boxes were offered to the congregation if someone wanted to use them this year for their family. Penny Harrison and the Hale family have planted them. We would like to give a shout of thanks to Dave Kendrick for using his tiller to get them ready for planting. We got a late start this year, so thanks to everyone for their patience.



The Garden Team

Linda Warfield & Penny Angeloro, co-chairs

---

## FUNDS/GIFTS/ENDOWMENT TEAM

The Team met on June 13, 2018. The original investment of Dream Funds was for \$500,000.00 in the Fall of 2017. We reviewed the 2017 year end statement and the 1st quarter of 2018 statement. The fund has a balance of \$522,691.58 as of March 31, 2018. There was a conversation with Christian Church Foundation and the fund has grown again in April & May. As a reminder when there are market fluctuations, any investment will be affected. We ask you to continue to support Perry Christian Church and its mission work in Perry, in Ohio, the United States and the world. There are many opportunities for you to support any of these mission projects now and for the future. Thank you for your support.

Team members: Aaron Brewer, Joyce McCrea, Linda Warfield/Pastor Paul Bomeli, Carole Martin & Sherry Smith.



## GETTING TO KNOW YOU, GETTING TO KNOW MORE ABOUT YOU...

From time to time you may see this extra feature in the Crier. It's intended to give us a closer glimpse of each other. Today's questions were asked of Pastor Paul.

- What was the last book you read? "Well, one might suspect the Bible itself and you'd be correct in making that assumption."
- What are some of your personal hobbies, if anything at all? "Well, I've been a plastic model maker ever since I was a kid. My personal favorite things to construct are WWII military, or other historical period types of models. One of my ultimate dreams would be to somehow spend the time and effort needed to reconstruct either Custer's Last Stand, or the D-Day invasion at Normandy in a diorama or scale model vignette format. I also like to ride motorcycles, (I've owned three different ones down through the years,) and goof around with magic tricks just for fun."
- What is your favorite food? "Unfortunately, I like just about anything - although a favorite might be seafood of various types."
- Please tell us something that others would always likely find in your refrigerator? "A person could almost always find cheese of some type in my refrigerator. I like a lot of different types of cheese both domestic and imported."

## THANK YOU!

Dear Pastor Paul and PCC Congregation,

We want to thank you for your gifts of bag lunches and submarine sandwiches which were donated on May 19 and June 16, 2018. Our community helped us give support to 475 guests last year. We also continued to see a huge success with positive transitions in over 80% of those we served! This means the cycle of homelessness is ending, and our guests are finding the hope and victories they have needed.

I'm enclosing a story that demonstrates just what kind of impact you are having on our community. May you receive great blessings this year, just as you have been a blessing to those we serve.

In Service,  
Judy Burr,

Executive Director, Project Hope for the Homeless

**(Here's the story that was included with the thank you letter.)**

### HOPE FOR A NEWBORN

Project Hope had a married couple staying with us in January. The wife was 5 months pregnant and her husband was unable to work due to multiple mental health issues including: schizophrenia, PTSD, bi-polar disorder, and ADHD. He was untreated at the time of entry. During his stay he experienced many mental health issues. This was jeopardizing his stay and putting him at risk for eviction from the shelter. Due to our professional staff and a strong partnership with the crisis team at Beacon Health, we were able to get him the treatment that he required.

She was working in a hotel for \$200/month and they were eligible for short-term assistance from HCRP funding (Homeless Crisis Response Program). They were able to transition into their own housing where today he maintains good mental health and they are preparing for their new baby!



Thank you PCC for celebrating my graduation from MHS! Thanks for the awesome cake and all the wonderful gifts. I am very excited to attend John Carroll University!

Rachel Collins

## TINNITUS ANYONE?

## BRIEF MEETING AFTER CHURCH – JULY 22ND.

I don't want to be an alarmist, but I do need to pass along to this congregation that I'm giving serious, (me?) thought to having to go see a doctor, or a specialist. I am not at all certain that the problem, as I'm noticing it, is anything major, or even a bit on the serious side, but I've been giving thought to going to see a medical specialist anyway. Quite recently, I've detected a gradual growth within my ears that many people know of as tinnitus, or a ringing in the ears. The sounds are not equally distributed between both of my ears, and as everyone else in this church knows, there is likely not a single thing located between my ears! (A little "brain" humor for all of you!) Anyway, the ringing sounds intensify and diminish at times, and if a pattern is at all noticeable for me to have noticed, I guess I'd have to say that the ringing sounds seem to intensify during worship itself on Sunday mornings. One more interesting item of note is that the ringing sounds often play a very familiar musical tune. If one did not somehow know better, they'd swear. (Oops, I'd originally meant to somehow extend the sentence I just finished writing.) It should have read: If one did not somehow know better, they'd swear that the musical tune was, "Fairest Lord Jesus." (Or, any other familiar hymn or tune suitable for a worship gathering.)

My greater point through all this beating around the bush stuff, is that because of the thoughts I've had about ringing sounds, or ringing bell sounds in general, let us see if anyone here within the church has any interest at all in somehow resurrecting the English Hand Bells that the church already has in its possession! Interest alone is what needs to be conveyed at this point. No special or unique commitment is required, and, absolutely, no "technical" ability to read music, or to understand musical notation is needed. I myself as a youngster used to participate in a bell choir in which 2/3 of the people in the choir could not read music. That factor is no more of a detriment than what it was to have foolishly included me in the choir in the first place. My initial thoughts about this informational meeting would include the factors which open the choir to anyone who wishes to have fun along with me, and for anyone, (man, woman, child, or really talented pet dogs and cats capable of holding one of the bells,) who may want to play every so often here in church. At the time of this writing, I do not know who would lead the group, but I would suppose that Alexander Graham Bell, if he's available, would make some sense. I guess, I could always give him a call just to see...?



## COMBINED POTLUCK PICNIC



Please join us for a combined potluck picnic with Perry United Methodist Church on Sunday, July 29th at 4 p.m. We'll gather at Perry Township Park (2815 Perry Park Rd.).

Please bring a dish or two of your favorite summer food. It will be a great time of food, fun and fellowship!



# MOVIE UNDER THE STARS!

SPONSORED BY

NOPEC AND PERRY TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES

**Tuesday, July 17th**

**at Perry Township Park**

**2815 Perry Park Rd.**

**Inflatable Slide and Giant Games...**

**6:30-8:30p**

**Feature Film at 8:30p**

**“Moana”**

In Ancient Polynesia, when a terrible curse incurred by the demigod Maui reaches Moana's island, she answers the ocean's call to seek out the demigod to set things right.



**Free popcorn will be available.**

**Concessions will be available for purchase.**

**Bring your own lawn chairs & blankets.**