

# THE CHIMES

## Everything Else Can Wait

During a particularly grueling and busy week, I was complaining to Alex, a friend, about all the projects getting pushed to the side for more urgent matters. After some good natured razzing (one of Alex's favorite quotes is "Get it together, man!"), Alex asked an important question: "What's truly important? Everything else can wait."

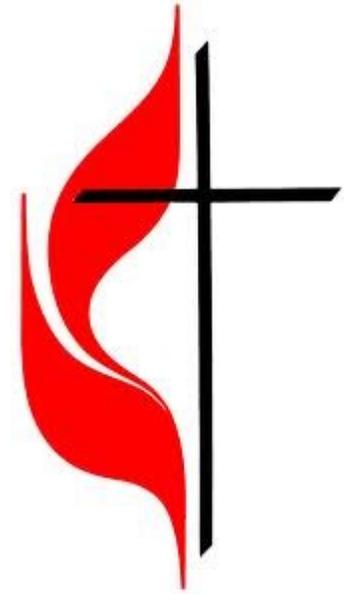
Fall is my favorite season. Professional soccer has started its new season. Football will start soon. The weather is slowly becoming cool (my favorite), and soon pumpkin-flavored everything will be available (one of my particular weaknesses). Fall is also one of the busiest seasons, which forces the question: what's truly important?

When we're busy, we forget what's truly important. We can get so tied up in the school year beginning, running the kids around, preparing for upcoming holidays, trying to get our last summer projects done. In the midst of all of these, we forget what is most important. When Jesus was asked what was most important, he did not hesitate: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, mind, and soul, and love your neighbor as yourself." Examine your fall routine. Are you concentrating on what is truly important?

In Philippians 3:12-16, Paul writes: "Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on towards the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus. Let those of us then who are mature be of the same mind; and if you think differently about anything, this too God will reveal to you. Only let us hold fast to what we have attained."

Remember what is truly important, and push on towards that goal. Everything else can wait.

-Pastor Jonathan



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### Special points of interest

- It's Music Time
- ? Devil ?
- Let Us Pray



## "Ring to the Lord a New Song"

It is time to start a new choir year. Are you ready? The Chancel Bell choir will begin practices on **Tuesday, September 15th** at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. We welcome anyone who is interested in learning to ring bells and enjoys music. We provide on-the-job training along with great fellowship. The Chancel Bells have become a great tradition in our church with a musical offering once a month for over

35 years.

Where do you fit into the ministries of our church? Have you ever thought about the Chancel Bell choir? We are in need of new ringers and subs since some of our faithful members have left for college. Won't you consider coming out to see what bell choir is all about?

For more information contact Jan Aller 419 673 0187.

*"Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises."*  
*Psalms 47:6*

### Firm Foundation Thoughts

The discussion group Firm Foundation has met for many years, led by Scott, who would like to continue this year if there is sufficient interest. We would meet each Sunday morning from 10:00 to 10:45. This year we might study Bedrock Beliefs of the Faith, using the Bible as our primary source (after all, we are a "people of one book.") The group normally meets through June, and then breaks for July and August.

If you are interested in participating in this study group please tell Betty Augsburg or Scott. We will compile a list, and if there is sufficient interest we will begin the first Sunday in October.

I have loved leading this group, and hope we will be able to continue this year. -Scott

## Sing to the Lord

The Chancel Choir is gearing up to begin a new season of ministry. Our first rehearsal will be **Thursday, September 17th** at **7:30** in the loft. We will sing the following Sunday.

No try-outs! We provide on-the-job training. All you need is a desire to "Sing to the Lord". We will provide the rest.

Things are hopping at First Church, and our music ministry has always been an integral part of our worship.

Please join us for a special time of music, worship and fellowship!

And encourage others to do the same!



Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.



Ephesians 5:19-20

## Facebook Starting Again

If you use Facebook, we want to be able to communicate with you! We are beginning to use Facebook to pass on important announcements and other communications from the office. If you use Facebook, but are not connected to the new page, you can go to <http://www.facebook.com/kentonfirst> and connect to the new page!

## First Church History

In 1839 the 35x40 feet First M.E. Church building was so crowded by additions to the congregation, another 40 feet was added making it 35x80 feet. The narrow building that resulted was nicknamed the "Steamboat Church" because of its appearance. This provided room until 1950 when the growing congregation outgrew it again.

In 1951 a new church structure was built on North Main Street where the Sullivan-Johnson Museum now stands, directly across from the present education building. This building was of brick material and two stories high. The lower rooms were for church school meetings and the upper story for public worship. The new church was dedicated in March 1852 and the entire cost of the building is believed to have been about \$10,000.00.

A Sunday school class of 200 members in average attendance was part of the expanded worship service. In 1859-60 the memberships were listed by classes with a total of 235 in 7 classes of approximately 30 members.

When Kenton was laid out, a small plat was reserved in the northeast corner for a cemetery but was never used for burial. Soon after the location of the county seat in Kenton, subscriptions were taken and 92-100 acres were purchased for a cemetery from Jacob Houser located on E. Franklin Street, near the suburbs of the town. The land was partly donated by Mr. Houser. After the survey was made, the question of to whom the deed should be made arose.

The Methodists claimed that their church, being the only one then organized, ought to have the title in the name of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Others objected to this, and the ground was deeded to the county commissioners, who subsequently deeded it to Pleasant Township. The first burial there was Maria, infant daughter of Robert McCloud. It was so overgrown and primitive that Mr. Houser had to point it out so this 1834 burial could take place.

Soon after the old graveyard was platted, the M. E. Church bought the point of land between Columbus and Carrol Streets, and laid it out as a cemetery. This was used for several years, but when it was abandoned, the Methodists buried their dead in the public ground. Most, if not all, of the bodies were removed, the land sold, and it is now covered with private residences.

(edited from Church History 175 years)



THANK YOU

Thank you! Thank you for choosing me to be one of the recipients of the church scholarship. The scholarship will help me reach my goal of becoming an Intervention Specialist. Braiden Brady

Thank you for the wonderful food prepared for the luncheon after our mother's (Marilyn Hiller) funeral. We so appreciated all of it, and for the love shown to her. -Lynn Merchant and Laila Rigel

Thank you for the sweet send-off! We felt very loved and bolstered for our new journey! The girls loved their thoughtful gifts and we so appreciate the help with our moving expenses. You covered every penny! We continue to pray "that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ to the glory and praise of God." (Philippians 1:9-11)

-The Dakin Family



9/14 Eve Johnson-Timmons

402 Chesney St. Kenton

9/22 Kenneth Rossman

725 Morningside Dr. Apt. 103  
Kenton

9/23 Neil Good

3481 TR 125 Dola, Ohio 45835

## Prayer Concerns

**Dennis Alexander, Marilyn Arn, Allison Buehler, Karlee Hooker, Jane McGee, Christine Stahler, Sonny Weatherholtz, Sawyer Wright, Bobbi Tandon, Peggy Wills, Karl McNeal, Sara Hoenshel, Jack Alexander, Hazel Bennett, Bill Hommel, Tom Taylor, Margie Osburn, Tyson Kelly.**

**Sympathy to the family of Lois Taylor and to the family of Olive Wuethrich.**

DO NOT BE ANXIOUS  
ABOUT ANYTHING BUT IN EVERYTHING  
BY PRAYER AND PETITION  
WITH THANKSGIVING  
PRESENT YOUR REQUESTS TO GOD  
*Phil 4:6*

## September Sermon Series

September 6-Joshua 6:1-5, 12-20

"The Circlemakers"-The story of Joshua marching around Jericho. Learning to pray through a crisis rather than just out of a crisis.

September 13-Acts 2:1-4, 37-47

"I Did Not Expect This!"-Story of Pentecost. Learning to pray for big--big miracles that give lots of glory to God.

September 20-Luke 2:25-38

"Simeon and Anna"-Story of Simeon and Anna after the Christmas story. Learning to pray long-pray for

miracles that may not been seen for many years.

September 27-Philippians 4:4-7

"In All Things"-Learning to pray to God in all things, rather than just seeing prayer as the last resort.



## Cottage Meetings- Meet, Greet, and Share

Cottage meetings allow our church to meet and greet Pastor Jonathan and share insights of our church. Over the next months you have the opportunity to choose a cottage meeting to attend. Look for sign -up sheets in the cookie room for the following dates:

September 22- 7:00 pm —Bob and Lyn Davis

September 24- 5:30 pm —Bud and Barb Winzenried

September 29- 6:00 pm- Mark and Marsha Watkins

October 5- 7:00 pm— Steve and Candy Callinan

October 13- 12:00 noon- Church lounge

October 27- 6:00 pm- —Jim and Sandy Pruden

### *UMW News*

#### *September 17th*

*11:00 Meeting, lunch following*

#### *September 28th*

*Red Cross Blood Drive*

*11:00-6:30*

*Call Gladys if you can help- 419-673-0328*

### *One Day Women's Conference*

*University of Findlay  
Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup>*

*9:00-3:30*

*Speaker: Jeannie Allen  
Call Marsha Watkins for  
details: 419-674-6721*

# Turning Turmoil into Peace

When Christians are up against a wall, it's interesting that they finally turn to prayer. The only thing that will work is the last thing we try. Take a look at this: "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus" ([Phil. 4:6-7](#)).

Most Christians are so familiar with those words, I fear they may have lost their punch. To guard against that, let's read them from another translation—*The Amplified Bible*: "Do not fret or have any anxiety about anything, but in every circumstance and in everything, by prayer and petition (definite requests), with thanksgiving, continue to make your wants known to God. And God's peace [shall be yours, that tranquil state of a soul assured of its salvation through Christ, and so fearing nothing from God and being content with its earthly lot of whatever sort that is, that peace] which transcends all understanding shall garrison and mount guard over your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus."

Now that's a mouthful! If I understand this correctly, the anxiety that mounts up inside me, the growing irritation and the struggles that make me churn, will be dissipated and, in fact, replaced with inner peace if I will simply talk to my God. Prayer is the single most significant thing that will help turn inner turmoil into peace. Prayer is the answer.  
-Charles Swindoll

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*"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God."  
-Philippians 4:6*

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## The Book Nook #2

### Good Reading for the Believer

At the height of the World War II C.S. Lewis wrote a series of "letters" which were published in an Anglican Church magazine on topics of Christian theology. They were published in 1942 as a novel titled "The Screwtape Letters," and consist of 31 letters from a senior devil (Screwtape) to a junior devil (Wormwood) concerning how the junior devil can get the human assigned to him to reject Christianity, and end up "safely in Hell."

It is theology "turned upside down," and sees Jesus and the Church as the devils' enemies (which they are!) Specific advice is given in the attempt to keep the man "out of the enemy's (ie. Jesus') camp." For example:

My dear Wormwood:

... It does not matter how small the sins are provided that their cumulative effect is to edge

the man away from the Light and out into the Nothing. Murder is no better than cards if cards can do the trick. Indeed the safest road to Hell is the gradual one – the gentle slope, soft underfoot, without sudden turnings, without milestones, without signposts. ...

Your affectionate uncle,

Screwtape

What insightful advice!

*The Screwtape Letters* is perhaps Lewis' most popular book for adults (I would believe *The Tales of Narnia* to be better known to the world as it has great appeal to children) and the popularity of *The Screwtape Letters* continues unabated. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia recently mentioned in an interview carried in *The New Yorker* magazine that he believed the Devil is a real person (as do I) and when

the interviewer seemed surprised the Justice asked the interviewer "Have you read *The Screwtape Letters*?"

The book has been produced as an audio book, and dramatized by Focus on the Family; it has also been adapted into an audio drama by John Cleese. Fox owns the film rights and there is talk about producing it; and recently a stage adaptation appeared in New York.

Not bad for a book originally published in a church magazine!

Everyone can benefit from the thoughts of Mr. Lewis, and be entertained in the process. It is a great book to read and discuss with friends.

Next month: *The Tales of Narnia*.

Good reading--

-Scott

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Rev. Jonathan Hanover

*Mission Statement:*

To Invite, Disciple, Send, and Serve  
in the name of Jesus Christ

## Attendance and Offering

|           | <u>Attendance</u> |       |       | <u>Offering</u> |
|-----------|-------------------|-------|-------|-----------------|
|           | 9:00              | 11:00 | Total |                 |
| August 2  | 99                | 95    | 194   | \$6373.00       |
| August 9  | 62                | 105   | 167   | \$5645.77       |
| August 16 | 82                | 94    | 176   | \$6541.00       |
| August 23 | 65                | 124   | 189   | \$3457.00       |
| August 30 | One Service       | 149   |       | \$5057.00       |

# September 2015

**Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat**

|                             |   |  |  |  |  |   |
|-----------------------------|---|--|--|--|--|---|
|                             |   | <b>1</b><br>5:30 NOC mtg<br>7:30 11:00 Wor-<br>ship mtg                        | <b>2</b><br>6:30 Kid's Club<br>planning meeting    | <b>3</b><br>7:30 AA  | <b>4</b>   | <b>5</b><br>11:00 AA                    |
| <b>6</b>                    | <b>7</b><br>Labor Day<br>Office Closed<br>7:30 AA       | <b>8</b><br>Hardin Co Fair   | <b>9</b><br>Hardin Co Fair                         | <b>10</b><br>Hardin Co Fair<br>7:30 AA                                 | <b>11</b><br>Hardin Co Fair                                  | <b>12</b><br>Hardin Co Fair<br>11:00 AA |
| <b>13</b><br>Hardin Co Fair | <b>14</b><br>7:30 AA                                    | <b>15</b><br>5:30 SPR mtg<br>6:30 Youth mtg<br>6:30 Bells<br>7:30 Trustees mtg | <b>16</b><br>1:00-3:30 Culture<br>Club mtg, lounge | <b>17</b><br>10:30 UMW mtg<br>11:30 UMW lunch<br>7:30 AA<br>7:30 Choir | <b>18</b>  | <b>19</b><br>11:00 AA                   |
| <b>20</b>                   | <b>21</b><br>6:30 Children's<br>Ministry mtg<br>7:30 AA | <b>22</b><br>7:00 Cottage mtg<br>Lyn Davis, host                               | <b>23</b><br>7:30 Elizabeth<br>Circle              | <b>24</b><br>6:00 Cottage mtg<br>Winzenried's, host<br>7:30 AA         | <b>25</b><br>4:30 Feed the Band<br>5:00 Wedding<br>rehearsal | <b>26</b><br>2:30 Wedding<br>11:00 AA   |
| <b>27</b>                   | <b>28</b><br>6:30 Lead Team<br>mtg<br>7:30 AA           | <b>29</b>  | <b>30</b>  |  |  |   |