

THE CALL

Fairmont Presbyterian Church

August 2018
Volume 74, Issue 6

THOUGHTS FROM BRIAN

On Sunday morning in coffee hour I sometimes get the question, “So what is the answer? What is the point?”

Preaching is a profound conceit. Faced with the impossible task of translating, unpacking, contextualizing, explaining, interpreting, examining, testing, orienting, illustrating, dramatizing, and applying God’s Word in fifteen minutes or less, one is set up to fail. This impossibility is compounded by the alien content of this uniquely peculiar revelation contrasting so sharply with the assumptions (stated and unstated) of the modern world. At best, one can aspire simply to point towards the truth. I take my cue from John the Baptist’s index finger pointing towards the one who is to come whose sandal he is unworthy to untie. No human speech, rhetoric, explanation, or drama can ever fully comprehend our subject because our subject is God. If we could fully comprehend it, we would not be talking about God.

Throughout this summer, we have been preaching through the Book of Genesis. These short, Bronze-Age stories convey through narrative the most profound questions of human identity and divine purpose: who is God, who am I, what is freedom, what is goodness, and what is our purpose? The Bible does not provide concise, propositional answers to these questions. Instead, the Bible reads our lives and, if we are honest and open to it, forces us to wrestle with them, which of course means to wrestle with God. The Word of God is not the words of scripture. The Word of God is the vulnerable, intimate encounter between you and God all facilitated by this ancient book.

So what’s the point? That’s between you and God.

NOTES FROM KELLEY

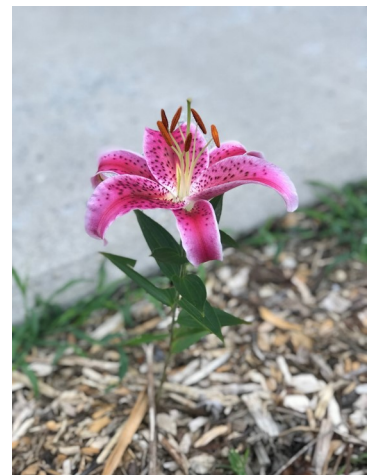
“Signs”

“For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.” - Isaiah 55:12-13

I was ordained as a minister on May 17, 1987, at First Presbyterian Church in Tulsa, Oklahoma...more than thirty-two years ago! The scripture passage read at my ordination service was Isaiah 55:10-13. All these years later these are still my favorite verses of scripture. The promise of joy and peace set in the visual images of nature speak to my scattered and sometimes anxious mind. Isaiah 55 paints an image of what will be one day and what can be today, and sets before us a sign of the everlasting. One of the gifts given to me for my ordination was a simple painting of a woman dancing with her arms raised in joy.

I get a glimpse of this joy and see signs of God’s presence here in our family of faith at Fairmont and beyond in the surrounding community. In simple and sometimes profound ways, I see signs of God in each of you. One of the closing rituals with our youth during the week at Montreat Youth Conference was to reflect on the question, “Where did you see God today?” Their answers were varied and wonderful!

There are signs of God around us each day. Where did you see God today?



Classes for Kids: We will be offering two classes for our children this month in preparation for a new program year:

First Communion Class: Saturday, August 24, 2:30-3:30pm
This class is for children who are entering third grade and their parents. We will meet in the sanctuary where we will give an overview of the communion elements and their significance in our Presbyterian faith. We will then move to the kitchen where the children will learn to bake their very own communion bread. Please let Rachel know by August 18 if your family will attend.

New to the Pew: Sunday, August 24, 3:30-4pm This class is for children entering third grade and their parents. The children will be taught about our worship bulletin, the parts of our service, and be given resources to use during worship as they learn how to be in "big church." The parents will also be given resources to help guide their children in learning to worship. Please let Rachel know by August 18 if your family will attend.

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Youth Ministry

PYC Trip 2019: Montreat, North Carolina: Thank you so much for all of your support and prayers last week for our youth and chaperones who traveled to Montreat, North Carolina for the annual youth conference. We had a wonderful week of spiritual growth and renewal, making new friends, learning about God and ourselves, and adventurous hiking, rock sliding, and rock hopping! It was a formative experience for youth and adults who went, and we are so grateful. If you would be interested in sponsoring a youth's Montreat trip, the cost each student must pay is \$312. Please make your check out to Fairmont Presbyterian Church and write "Montreat" in the memo line. Thank you!



Student Testimonies

While we were there, I developed a new relationship with God that will be with me forever. I enjoyed learning about God and the amazing things and ways God can impact everyone. -Isabel Glueckert

My experience at Montreat was fantastic. I had so much fun, made so many new friends, and found a deeper meaning in faith. -Max Borneman



I'm very grateful that I got to be a part of it. I'm so excited to hopefully go back in the future. Since I've been to Montreat, I've learned so much more about my faith in God. -Rose Martin



BUDGET AND STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship Update: Thank you for your faithful financial support of our ministries throughout this summer. While giving often dips during the summer months, we are currently receiving 95% of pledges. Your generous financial support of Fairmont's ministries empowers our congregation to reach out in new ways to new people, glorify God in inspiring worship, shape and form us as disciples, and reach out to young people in our community. None of our ministries would be possible without you, your prayers, your labor, and your generosity. Thank you!



Sunday		Monday		Tuesday		Wedn	
Communion 8:30am: Casual Service (fh) 9:30am: Fellowship (fh) 10:30am: Traditional Service (sanctuary) 11:30am: Fellowship (fh)	4	Office Closed 7pm: Kettering Civic Band	5	11am: Fit 4 You (fh) 12pm: AA (012) 12pm: OA (rc) 7pm: Team Meetings	6	2pm: Pastors B (Upper Room) 6:30pm: Praise 7pm: AA (012)	
WOF Box Lunch 8:30am: Casual Service (fh) 9:30am: Fellowship (fh) 9:30am: Acoustic Grace (fh) 10:30am: Traditional Service (sanctuary) 11:30am: Fellowship (fh)	11	Office Closed 7pm: Kettering Civic Band	12	11am: Fit 4 You (fh) 12pm: AA (012) 12pm: OA (rc) 7pm: Finance, B&G, Trustees	13	2pm: Pastors B (Upper Room) 5:30pm: GIFT 6:30pm: Praise 7pm: AA (012)	
8:30am: Casual Service (fh) 9:30am: Fellowship (fh) 9:30am: 3rd Sunday Mission 10:30am: Traditional Service (sanctuary) 11:30am: Fellowship (fh) 12:30pm: VBS lunch (off site)	18	Office Closed Preschool Starts	19	11am: Fit 4 You (fh) 12pm: AA (012) 12pm: OA (rc) 7pm: Session (Upper Room)	20	11:30am: Fairm Group (Winsup) 2pm: Pastors B (Upper Room) 6:30pm: Praise 7pm: AA (012)	
8:30am: Casual Service 9:30am: Fellowship (fh) 10:30am: Traditional Service 11:30am: Fellowship (fh)	25	Office Closed 6:30pm: WOF Coord. Team Meeting (Upper Room)	26	11am: Fit 4 You (fh) 12pm: AA (012) 12pm: OA (rc) 7pm: Deacons (Upper Room)	27	2pm: Pastors B (Upper Room) 6:30pm: Praise 7pm: AA (012)	

August

Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
		7pm: NA (012)	1	11am: Fit 4 You (fh) 12pm: OA (rc) 5pm: Theology on Tap (church patio)	2		3
Bible Study	7	7pm: NA (012)	8	11am: Fit 4 You (fh) 12pm: OA (rc)	9	9:30am: Kinship Support Group (chapel) 9:00am: Session (Upper Room) 10:00am: Veteran's Museum Trip Departs	10
Band (fh)							
Bible Study	14	1pm: Craft Group (012) 7pm: NA (012)	15	11am: Fit 4 You (fh) 12pm: OA (rc) 5pm: Theology on Tap (church patio)	16		17
(fh)							
Band (fh)							
Front Men's (apply)	21	1pm: Rug Hooking Group (fh)	22	11am: Fit 4 You (fh) 12pm: OA (rc)	23	10am-2pm: Choral Workshop 2:30-3:30pm: First Communion Class 3:30-4pm: New to the Pew Class	24
Bible Study		7pm: NA (012)					
Band (fh)							
Bible Study	28	7pm: NA (012)	29	11am: Fit 4 You (fh) 12pm: OA (rc)	30		31
Band (fh)							

MISSION BEYOND THE CONGREGATION

Helping Hands, Helping Hearts



August Third-Sunday Mission Project: On **August 18**, we are writing notes of love and encouragement to all of our school-age students as they begin a new year. Join us in Fellowship Hall after each service in this loving project.

Back-to-School Supplies! We are collecting school supplies for **John F. Kennedy Elementary School**. Please leave your donations in the Black & White Narthex.

box of 24 Crayola crayons	Red pens
various highlighters	large glue sticks
scissors	erasers
pocket folders	wide-ruled paper
boxes of tissues	Clorox wipes
gallon Ziploc bags	paper towels

Thank You: One of the Mission Team’s projects is at Fairmont Alternative School. The school is at Barnes right across the street from the church. The students are in grades 8-12.

These students learn better in a non-traditional setting. Ninety percent of the students are on some sort of public assistance. Fairmont Church provides food for the students when the families don’t have food at home. Unlike the Back-Pack Program which we previously supported, the food is only given to students when the teacher becomes aware of this situation; enough for the entire family is sent home. We also provide snacks (chips, candy bars, etc.) for the teachers to use for rewards.

This past Thanksgiving we provided food for a Thanksgiving meal for 20 of those families. Here is one of the many thank you notes we received from the students:

“Thank you for donation to our school. I know it means a lot to most of the kids here. I don’t look at this school how some people do of, “bad kids” -we’re all probably more creative and mentally smarter. So I appreciate you guys for seeing the hope in us and generosity you show. I know I have personally gotten something donated to my home. So being able to write you to say thank you means a lot. I continue to hope you guys will have this unconditional love for future generations’ students. Thanks so much to you and your wonderful team mates.”

How Else Can You Serve as a Disciple? We continue to collect various items in the Black & White Narthex: Soda Can Pull-tabs (Ronald McDonald House), BoxTops for Education (J.F. Kennedy Elementary), and One-Pound jars of peanut butter and men’s belts (House of Bread). Remember to bring non-perishable food for the FISH/South Dayton Food Pantry!

WITHIN THE FELLOWSHIP

Where’s Brian? Pastor Brian will be away in Albuquerque studying at his Living School Program on Christian contemplation and spirituality on August 2-9. Later in the month he will be leading an inter-faith trip to the Holy Land with the Jewish Center on Learning and Leadership August 19-30.

WOMEN OF FAIRMONT

Save the Date! The Women of Fairmont Fall Gathering will be September 21 at 11:30am.

Join a Circle! Women of Fairmont has 5 Circles that meet on different days at the church, members' homes, and occasionally restaurants throughout the month and it is never too late to join a Circle! Our Circles will resume their regular meetings in September. The focus of WOF Circles are Bible Study, Prayer, Fellowship, Community, and Mission Giving. Even if you aren't able to commit to a Circle at this time, you can still become a WOF Member-at-Large and we'd love to have more women join us.

Circle Leadership:

- 1 - Monica Mantia and Wynn Adam
- 2/3 - Doris Olt and Betty Brown
- 6 - Jackie Vickroy and Deb Wright
- 7 - Barb Shinn and Kathy Akers
- 8 - Kate Barnett and Becky Sennett

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Fairmont Men's Group will meet on **Wednesday, August 21st**, at the offices of Winsupply on their support services campus at **11:30 am**. The lunch and meeting will be held in the 6th floor conference room of the Winsupply 6th story building in Moraine at **3131 S. Dixie Dr. 45439**. The elevator to the 6th floor is located off of the south facing lobby of that building. Parking is available on the north and south sides of the building.

Rick Schwartz will speak about Winsupply's unique business model which delivers "inclusive" Free-Enterprise Capitalism to its 600 locally owned and managed wholesale supply companies in 45 states. Winsupply is one of the largest privately held companies in our area and the 3rd largest wholesale distribution company in the plumbing, heating and air conditioning and industrial piping and water works industries in the U.S. Rick is currently the Chairman of the Board of Winsupply after retiring as its CEO three years ago, having served the company for 44 years.

All the men of the church are welcome to attend. Reservations will be needed by signing the Attendance Pad prior to the meeting or calling the church office by August 20th at 12pm.

The Fairmont Men's Group is planning a **25 passenger Veterans Bus Trip to Columbus** to visit the new National Veterans Memorial Museum on **Saturday, August 10th**. Since our group only numbers about 15 we are inviting spouses, friends, current military, and any members of the church to join us. Reservations are needed by **Monday, August 5th**. The cost with reservations would be about \$35 per person for the bus and the admission to the Museum.

Group Sales Rates:

Adult (18-64): \$13.50

Senior (65+): \$12.00

Youth (6-17): \$8.00

Child (under 5): Free

Veterans: Free (Veterans need proof)

Active-Duty Military: Free

Gold Star Families: Free

We would leave our parking lot at 10 am., tour the museum, have lunch at a nearby restaurant (meal on your own), and return home by 4 pm. Contact **Ken Ginader** or **Harry Bradbury**.

Connections: Israel and the Biblical World: Starting on Wednesday September 11 at 6:30pm in the chapel and every following Wednesday evening, come and learn about the world of the Bible, specifically the geography, history, and culture of Israel that shapes our scriptures. Pastor Brian will be sharing from his extensive travels in Israel, Jordan, and Turkey. This will also be an excellent preparation for anyone who may wish to go on the Israel trip in February.

August 16 Cookout at the Valley Vineyards: Join us for a cookout at Valley Vineyards August 16 at 6:30pm. This is a cook your own steak, share a bottle of wine or craft beer, wine tasting of 2-3 different wines before you choose what you want. Singles get 2 glasses of wine. Dinner buffet includes 2 salads, sides of green beans, rice pilaf, baked potato and hopefully corn if the farmers can get into the fields. The enormous grills are outside and you will grill your own steak and put on any seasoning you might want. There is also salmon to grill. Please contact Carolyn Wimer or Marilyn Dickey for more information or to reserve a spot. Cost is \$38 per person. We will carpool from church at 5:30pm and it takes approximately 45 min. to get there. Located in Morrow, Ohio.

Just an update from the Arts and Crafts Committee: We have been busy collecting, sorting, pricing, packing, and working on the Nov. 16 Art, Craft, and Antique Show. We are collecting seasonal decorations, plain wreaths (green pine & grapevine), wine corks, nautical items (shells, sand dollars), collectibles, vintage, cookbooks, pint jars, jewelry, linens, smaller furniture, and don't forget about decorated wreaths for the raffle! Questions, call Carolyn at 705-6451.

Making Music with Acoustic Grace—We continue our monthly gathering to play and sing for about 50 minutes starting at **9:30am on the second Sunday of each month**. Song/chord sheets are provided. All skill levels are welcome. There's always room for you at our hootenanny!

PRESCHOOL CORNER

Registration for Preschool for the 2019-2020 school year is open. Registration forms may be found under the Preschool tab on the church website. A non-refundable \$50 registration fee is due at the time of registration. Contact **Tracy Landgren** at 299-3539 or tlandgren@fairmontchurch.org with questions.



Fairmont Presbyterian Church

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www.fairmontchurch.org

Twitter: @FairmontChurch

Facebook: Fairmont Presbyterian Church - Kettering, OH

Instagram: fairmontpresbyterianchurch

STAFF

Pastor/Head of Staff: Brian Maguire

Associate Pastor: Kelley Wehmeyer Shin

Director of Christian Education: Rachel Boden

Administrative Assistant: Jennifer Mason

Bookkeeper: Martha Keil

Custodian: Louis Weyrauch

Preschool Director: Tracy Landgren

Preschool Teacher: Amber Reshad

Preschool Aide: Liz Lewis

Organist: Judy Bede

Praise & Worship Leader: Jerry Mahn

August Birthdays

Jacquelyn Rouhier	08/01	Karl Borneman	08/10
Robert Pace	08/01	Nancy Kanis	08/11
Marge Cavender	08/02	Juli Cohen	08/13
Khloe Parcels	08/02	Laura Kelly	08/14
Mary Haffner	08/03	Christopher Buchheit	08/14
Kathy Akers	08/03	John Van Deursen	08/15
Susan Brasier	08/03	Wally Taylor	08/16
Harold Spicer	08/04	Stephanie Porter	08/16
Ken Dunlope	08/06	Chad Sakada	08/17
Larry Ridings	08/06	Trina Brander	08/18
Diane Weyrauch	08/06	Cindy Cavey	08/20
Catherine Staton-House	08/07	Michael Maddux	08/21
Robert Athmer	08/07	Barbara Wunder	08/26
Emma Garcia	08/08	Jeffrey Grieco	08/26
Betty Glisson	08/09	Lucy Bruzzese	08/26
Karen York	08/09	Phyllis McDermitt	08/27
Patricia Smith	08/10	Alex Mann	08/27
		Jeanne Matson	08/29



DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT CALL

The deadline for next month is Friday, August 23, 2018.

Please submit articles to: rboden@fairmontchurch.org.