

# Saints Alive!

Volume 15, Issue 5  
October 2017  
"Friends in Christ, Serving  
Together with Love"



**Christian Education's Reformation Study**  
**Thursday nights at 7:00 pm** [read page 5](#)

**Avon Lake's Homecoming Parade**  
**Saturday, October 7, meet at Bleser at 9:15 am**

**LCM Pasta Dinner**  
**Saturday, October 21, 5:00—7:00 pm** [read page 4](#)

**Presbyterian Women Sponsored**  
**Rummage and Bake Sale**  
**Wednesday, Thursday and Friday**  
**October 11, 12 & 13**

**Fall Clean up and Browns Watch Game!**  
**Sunday, October 22, after worship** [read page 3](#)



As the Christian Education Committee continues its relationship with Cornerstone Preschool, a ministry of our church, we encourage the congregation to participate in the third annual Hallelujah-ween. Various stations are set up where church members sit and hand out candy to the children as they safely parade around the building in costume. Children of our church and their friends are also invited to trick-or-treat in this safe environment. The last two years were successful with about 75-85 children participating. Church members as well as the children had a fun time. If you are interested, please bring some candy and come to the church on Monday, October 30 at 6:15 pm. Trick-or-Treat time will be from 6:30 to 7:30 pm.



## FROM THE PASTOR/ Charlie Swartz

*Dear Friends,*

Oh my goodness, what a success our "Bid of Class" Silent auction was! Wow, wow, wow! We all owe a debt of gratitude to Sue Maloney and her awesome team of 25 talented, dedicated members who created this fantastic experience. Of course, I need also to thank YOU for your participation in your enthusiastic offering of your talents and treasures as worthy items to be bid upon. And then I want to thank all of you who came and generously spent money all for the ministry of our amazing church. What a party! The superb playing of Muriel Homer and Susan Richardson (piano and flute) throughout set the tone as one of elegance and pleasure.

I must thank Phil Barnes and his daughters and wife Bernadette who prepared, donated, and served us the tastiest, most opulent feast imaginable! Again, -- wow, wow, wow! Was my favorite the luscious roast beef, or the garlic and cheese puff pastry? I just can't decide. Thanks to all who brought remarkable desserts.

Sue Maloney was a paragon of organization, forethought, inspiration, planning, and an outstanding example of one taking ownership of a project.

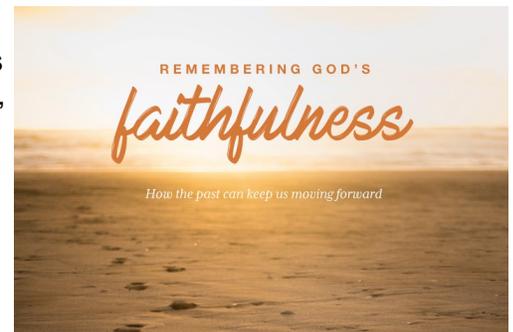
This all church event was a towering success. Our goal was to garner \$5,000 for our church, and we blew that away with a total of \$11,600 received! Praise God for his blessings distributed through our willing and generous hands!

Because of the success of this auction, and thanks to a member generously giving to a sign fund, we are proceeding with long held plans to purchase an electronic sign with the hopes of installing this valuable evangelism tool before Christmas. As the cost is around \$30,000, any additional gifts to that project are welcomed.

The Presbytery has invited an experienced church consultant, Ray Schulte, to work with congregations wanting to experience more of God in their lives. Our Session thought this would be a great opportunity to get some wise help so that we can maximize our faithfulness to God and expand our mission. Margre Mills and I are in the beginning stages of learning how this process will work, and like what we are seeing. More to come!

In Christ's love, Pastor Charlie

"Friends in Christ, Serving Together With Love"



## Session Highlights

*September 18, 2017 meeting:*



- \* Voted to spend no more than \$30,000.00 for a new sign out front. The final cost will be determined once all the bids are received and reviewed.
- \* Approved John Weeden to preach on October 15, when Pastor Swartz is on vacation. Charlie is mentoring John and planning the service. Members of the Worship & Spiritual Life Committee will be handling all other duties of that service.
- \* Approved discontinuing the mailing of pledge envelopes, beginning in 2018. They will be printed for the year and available for pick-up at the church.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Kathy Navarro

# News from the Deacons

Although the temperatures have not been any indication of it, we are about to enter into another beautiful Fall season!

On Oct. 22nd, the Deacons are pleased to team up with the Property Committee for our first

*"Fall clean up Browns watch party"!*

We encourage all that can help to wear your work clothes to church, then jump in with rakes and shovels to help keep our church grounds the beautiful place that it is! I understand we all have busy schedules, but you truly walk away with a sense of community and a warmed heart from pitching in for the greater good, plus raking leaves always gives a sense of *instant gratification!*

At 1:00 pm, after the yard work is done, The Deacons will be hosting a Browns watch party at the church! We will be grilling Deacon dogs served with all the fixings, along with homemade chili, chips, drinks, and of course something sweet to enjoy while kicking back watching the Browns "hopefully" defeat the Titans! All are welcome, whether you are able to work or not, your company would definitely be appreciated!

So throw on your Browns garb and "holy" jeans, and join us for some good old fashioned hard work, fresh air, food and great fellowship!



**CLEVELAND  
BROWNS**

See you there! (rain day set for Nov. 12th)

John Weeden, Moderator of Deacons

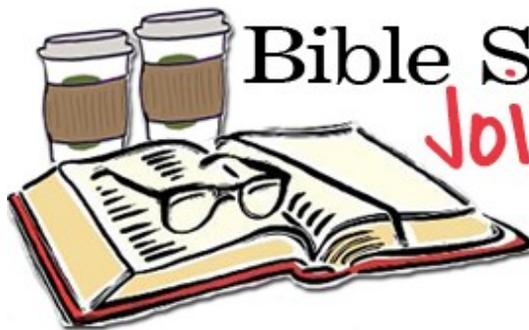


# Bible Study

*Pastor's Bible Study on Mondays 12:00-1:00*

The Bible study meets in the Session room. It seems most of us have little understanding of the books of the Bible that are the "prophets". Except for the prophecies about Jesus, they seem to have little to

do with our lives, or seem "un-Christian" and dangerous. Come and learn how the Spirit of God speaks vibrantly through those mysterious scrolls to us today! Each week in October we will study a different prophet: 10/2 Joel, 10/9 Amos, 10/16 Hosea, 10/23 Micah, 10/30 Nahum.



**Bible Study**  
*JOIN US!*

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# Stewardship



*At the end of last year,* the Elders approved a balanced budget for 2017 with the expectation and hope that income would equal or even exceed expenses. Within the budget, the Elders decided after a careful review of expenses and giving projections, that an additional \$15,000 would need to be raised to balance the budget. Eight initiatives were identified by Session as possible fundraisers to generate this income. Two were chosen by the Stewardship Committee – a tithing challenge and a silent auction. The tithing initiative challenged members to tithe 10% or more of their income in the second quarter of the year. Thirteen individuals/families took the challenge and \$8,100 was raised over and beyond what was normally given by these members.

The silent auction was a huge success and generated more income than most people imagined. The \$11,600 generated from the auction and the \$8,100 from the tithing challenge totaled \$19,700 and easily surpassed the \$15,000 goal. Based on the fundraising totals, a generous gift of stock donated during the year and financial results for the first eight months of 2017, our church is well positioned to achieve the balanced budget we had hoped for. And if the generous giving continues for the remainder of the year, we may even realize an operating profit which could be used to rebuild our reserves and provide fresh funds for our ministries.

As stewardship chair, my eyes are always on the numbers. But the generosity of our members seen during the tithing challenge and auction was equally inspiring.

And seeing how many dedicated members of our church came together to make the auction a success is something I will always remember. At the auction, a friend of ours who goes to another church, saw how many members were involved in the festivities and felt the joy of the event. She remarked that “this is a special church.” Yes, this is a special church INDEED!

Dan Maloney, Stewardship Chair

# Mission

## *Just a few reminders for October....*

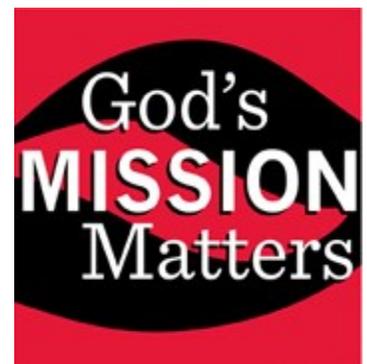
Heritage Presbyterian Church in Amherst is hosting a benefit dinner for LCM (Lorain Cooperative Ministries) The Pasta dinner will take place on Saturday October 21st. Tickets are \$10 which includes your dinner and dessert. They will be selling raffle tickets for baskets too. Mandy Robison and Carol Madson have tickets. Special thanks to Mandy and Carol for their donations to this event. The proceeds help fund the various food pantries and community meals like our Lunch Bunch.

Monetary donations are being collected in October for our annual "Thank-a-Soldier mission." You may make the check payable to ALPC and put *Thank-a-Soldier* in the memo line. More details are in the bulletin and the article by Mandy Robison in the September/October issue of *Saints Alive!*

There will be a "side dish" food drive for Thanksgiving meals. We will be collecting donations of food to go along with Thanksgiving turkey dinner. For instance: canned sweet potatoes, green beans, stuffing mix, etc. More information will be provided soon.

Watch for details: Mini mission in Lorain on November 4th with Lauren Vann and the ALPC youth. Mandy and Terry Robison and Jim and I are already planning to participate in building a ramp for a family in need.

Information regarding a benefit Gala for Dougbe River School in Liberia is on the community bulletin board in the main hallway. Remember: Mission Meetings are held the first Monday each month at 7:00 pm at the church. Come visit. We always welcome new ideas. Beth Janis 440-522-1771.



## Human Resources



*After posting a job opening in June,* ALPC has hired Lauren Vann as Youth Director, effective August 16. Lauren was the Next Step Ministries Team Leader at the Long Island location where our missionaries worked this summer. Lauren attended Liberty University from which she will receive a Bachelor of Science degree in psychology of counseling and clinical research this December. Lauren now lives in Lakewood where she shares a place with her friend, Rachel, who is the Youth Director at Rocky River United Methodist and also a former Next Step team leader. Lauren played an active role during the ALPC retreat at Beulah Beach in September, and got to know our youth who were in attendance. Please introduce yourself to Lauren and welcome her to the ALPC family.

The HR committee is in the process of posting the job opening of Contemporary Worship Director. It is our goal to fill this position in the upcoming months.

After years of service, Scott Francy has stepped down as the chair of the Human Resources committee, as he rotates off of Session. He is being replaced by Matt Wendling, who is new to Session this year. Scott plans to remain a resource to the HR committee. Please thank Scott for his effort and cheerful service, and welcome Matt to his new role. The balance of the committee remains Terry Linick, Carol Unger, Carolyn Beeler, and Sandee Herbert.

## Christian Education



*On behalf of the Christian Education*

Committee, thanks and kudos to the Evangelism Committee and the Deacons for helping us with Rally Day. God blessed us with a beautiful day for outdoor activities and lunch. What a great way to kick off the new program year! Hopefully

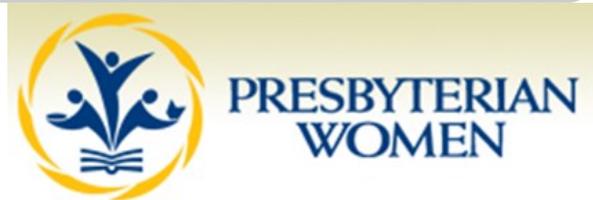
people who passed by noticed that good things are happening at Avon Lake Presbyterian Church.

We are starting a Sunday School class for pre-school children. For the past few years, due to low numbers, the preschool-aged children played in the crib and toddler room. Even though the preschoolers enjoy playing, they are ready to hear Bible stories to start forming a faith of their own. The class will take place in Room 7 after the children's sermon.

## Presbyterian Women

*The Fall Gathering* of Presbyterian Women in our presbytery will take place on Saturday, November 4 from 8:30 am to 1:30 pm at Noble Road Presbyterian Church in Cleveland Heights. The theme is, "Who is Your Neighbor?"

All women in our church are invited to attend. The cost is \$10 in advance and includes lunch. Details and registration forms are on the information table in the narthex or contact Lee Lohr (440-396-6593; [LeelaAnn60@gmail.com](mailto:LeelaAnn60@gmail.com)).



Submitted by Lee Lohr

# Newsletter dates/calendar/office closed

## *Avon Lake Presbyterian Church 2017-2018*

### Saints Alive Article

September- October issue  
November issue  
December issue  
January issue  
February/March issue  
April issue  
May issue  
Summer issue

### Articles Due

August 20  
October 15  
November 15  
December 15  
February 15  
March 15  
April 15  
May 15

### Issue Mailed

August 31  
October 25  
November 22  
December 22  
February 23  
March 23  
April 25  
May 25

## *Church Calendar*

### **Community Lunch Bunch – every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday**

September 10	Rally Day
September 17	Silent Auction
September 23-24	Beulah Beach
October 11-13	Rummage Sale
November 5-12	Collection of Halloween Candy
November 23-24	Thanksgiving Holiday
December 3-24	Advent
December 25	Jesus' birthday
January 14	Annual Reports due
January 28	Congregational Meeting
February 14	Ash Wednesday
March 25	Palm Sunday
March 29	Maundy Thursday
March 30	Good Friday
April 1	Easter
April 26-27	PW Rummage Sale
May 12	PW Spring Banquet
May 13	Graduation Sunday
May 20	Pentecost
TBA	Vacation Bible School

### **Church office closed:**

Labor Day	September 4, 2017
Thanksgiving	November 23, 24, 2017
Christmas & day after	December 25 & 26, 2017
New Year's	January 1, 2018
Martin Luther King Day	January 15, 2018
President's Day	February 19, 2018
Day after Easter	April 1, 2018
Memorial Day	May 28, 2018
Independence Day	July 4, 2018
Summer Hours	After Memorial Day to Labor Day

# Ministries of the church

## Reminder:

If you or a loved one are in the hospital and wish prayers or visits from the pastor or your Congregational Care Friend, please call the church office (933-6240). Otherwise, we may not know you're there!



## *Spirit Moves—Yoga for Nicaragua*

**Spirit Moves** yoga classes, with ALL proceeds going to the children's shelter in Estelí, Nicaragua, will be held for eight (8) weeks at Mona Lisa Eco Spa'Lon in Avon Lake. (That's at Stop 65 or the old Avon Lake Theatre.) Classes will be held Thursday October 19-December 14 (no class Thanksgiving Day) from 7:30-8:30 PM. The \$70 fee (less than \$10 a class!) is due October 19. **Spirit Moves** is the new name of the group that provided classes at the church last Fall. Music, scripture, fellowship and yoga will be the order of the evening. Mona Lisa has offered their facility free of charge that is why ALL proceeds will be for the children. We hope you will choose to join us, thus helping the children Avon Lake Presbyterian has so generously supported in the past. If you have any questions, please see Kathy Leopold. Looking forward to seeing you there on October 19th at 7:30 PM. Kathy Leopold



## The Gobbling Goblins

### will be coming back!

These hauntingly hungry goblins are dying to get their claws on your leftover Halloween candy!

Want to rid your castle of excess Halloween candy? Then bring your bags of leftover or unwanted candy to church on Sunday, November 5th – Sunday, November 12th. A “Gobbling Goblins” box will be in the foyer.

Our church office will put your candy to good use!

## On the Table in the Foyer

Please know that all booklets and pamphlets available on the table in the foyer are yours for the taking.

**Presbyterians Today** is a monthly publication which includes a variety of articles of national interest in our denomination.

**These Days** is a quarterly daily devotional guide that is an excellent resource for thought and inspiration.

Extra copies of the monthly newsletter, **Saints Alive!** are on the table.

A **directory of members** names and addresses is updated every two months. They are available for anyone who would like to have one.

## *Avon Lake Presbyterian Church* *Mission Statement*

In awe, we Receive God's Grace and Gospel.  
In gratitude, we Respond with Worship and Servanthood.  
In love, we Represent Jesus Christ  
as we minister to transform lives  
in family, community, and the world.

Avon Lake Presbyterian Church  
32340 Electric Blvd.  
Avon Lake, OH 44012  
Return Service Requested

## **Sunday Worship**

**Worship at 10:00 am**

**Youth & Children's Sunday School at 10:15 am**

**(440) 933-6240**

**[www.avonlakechurch.com](http://www.avonlakechurch.com)**

**[www.facebook.com/avonlakepc](https://www.facebook.com/avonlakepc)**

**[alpresby@avonlakepc.org](mailto:alpresby@avonlakepc.org)**

Pastor	Charles E. Swartz
Pastor Emeritus	Alfred A. Hart
Custodian	Jessica Hughett
Director of Christian Education	Lee Lohr
Director of Music	Muriel Homer
Director of Youth Ministries	Lauren Vann
Financial Secretary	Lynn Morway
Lock-up Custodian	Ed Homer
Office Administrator	Cindi Dansizen
Social Media Director	Julie Burr
Treasurer	Marcy Uhl
Director of Preschool	Julie Erker