

September 2018

Sunday, September 2nd

10:30 a.m. - Communion

and Baptism during

WINDOW SEPTEMBER 2018



The Monthly Newsletter

of First Presbyterian Church Athens, Ohio

Drive Safely! School has begun and busses will be on the road!

From the Pastor....

For last year's words belong to last year's language and next year's words await another voice. \sim t s eliot

A WORD is dead When it is said, Some say. I say it just Begins to live That day.

~ Emily Dickinson

This year we are going to spend time with our STAR words. A word that you, will hopefully meditate on throughout the year. In the epistle of James, he says that God gave us birth by the word of truth. James then goes on to say that God brought us to being through the act of divine speech. After God had said, "Let there be light...Earth...Seas... plants...birds...cattle and creeping things and wild animals of every kind," God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our own likeness"—and it was so.

God gave us birth by the word of truth in fulfillment of God's own purpose, James says, which was to make us chips off the old block, "a kind of first fruits of God's creatures." God could have made us stone creatures, tree creatures, sea creatures, or winged creatures, but God made us speech creatures instead human beings made in God's own likeness, which is to say, capable of joining God in the work of creation by speaking things into being ourselves.

The problem with this plan is that we turned out to be really good at it.

In short order, God's precious word babies were all grown up, using language to blame each other, curse each other, mislead and lie to each other. Of course, they also used language to praise, bless, and woo each other, but the words rolled off their tongues so easily that sometimes people did not even know what they were going to say until they heard themselves saying it. The words just flew out of their mouths, floating in front of their eyes in shimmering globes that looked like soap bubbles at first, then hardened into small worlds of their own creating that spun away from them to go do whatever they were created to do.

If 20th century philosophers of language like J. L. Austin of Oxford can publish a book called How to Do Things with Words and talk about "performative utterances" as part of a speech act theory, in which words become acts such as greeting, warning, or inviting, then James can invite us to ask ourselves, "What do we do with our words?" How does our speech act? Because once we have spoken, our words never return but travel in the acoustical atmosphere, doing things. What kinds of things will your word ask of you? Where will your word lead you this year? I look forward to my own word, and sharing my journey with you.

 $\sim R$ Martin

Worship Sunday, September 9th 10:30 a.m. - Worship 11:45 a.m. - Earth Justice Group meeting

Sunday, September 16th 10:30 a.m. - Puppets during Worship 1:00 p.m. - Lindley Inn Hymn Sing

Sunday, September 23rd Food Pantry Sunday Trail Mix Assembly 10:30 a.m. - Worship

Sunday, September 30th Youth Sunday 10:30 a.m. - Worship 11:45 a.m. - After Church CE Event (see page 3 for more info)

"We are a Christian community of faith that shares the love of God with all people everywhere."





FPC's 2018-2021 \$200,000 Capital Campaign is focused on three areas: retiring the accessibility loan from the PC USA Investment and Loan Program which was used to repair our elevator last year (\$70,000); restoration of our 1985 Holtkamp Organ (\$70,000) this summer; and mission projects (\$60,000).

2018-2020 Capital Campaign Cards are available in the narthex and at the church office

Organ Restoration 2018

FPC's organ remains fundamentally as it was designed to be at the time of its installation in 1982. This is the first major work on the instrument since then.

Some of the pipes were removed and repaired. They have now been installed and voiced.

This project was undertaken to ensure that it continues to function optimally for generations to come.

Windows ON: Presbyterian Women THIS MONTH'S NEWS

PW Coordinating Team will meet on Tuesday, September 11th at 9:30 a.m. at the home of Rita Oberholzer, 51 Eden Place.

PW Combined Circles plan to meet on Tuesday, September 25th from 10:00-11:30 a.m. at Wyngate (Bonnie Savage and Martha Johnson hosting). Pastor Rob will introduce the new Bible study for the year. "God's Promise: I Am with You." Please bring your study booklet and/ or a Bible. For more information call 740-592-3853.

One of the PW purposes is to commit ourselves to nurture our faith through prayer and Bible study. Let's welcome everyone back from the summer break, and start the year others around the globe be a with Lesson One: "God with Us Wherever We Are."

*Labor Day - originated in 1882 to honor the working class, a wide variety of workers who contribute to our well-being. Look around vour home and be grateful for items you use every day made by hands of skilled workers from around the world.

"Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and prosper for us the work of our hands." ~ Psalm 90:17 May our work and the work of blessing to all. Amen.

*Nilsen Family

WHY?

Ouestions we never answer Decisions we never make *Fears we never conquer* Roads we never take.

by Marlene Weinfurtner



Need a ride to Church? Know someone who does?

Contact Mary Costello, Deacon of the Month



Phone - 740-592-3444 Email - mbcostello@hotmail.com

Communion

Communion at FPC offers gluten-free bread along with regular bread for communion.



Lost In Translation: Paul's Use of the Greek Language

Join FPC family and friends for the first event in this year's education year on <u>Sunday</u>, <u>September 30th</u> <u>following worship</u>. A luncheon of Greek food will be followed by a program given by Steve Hays. The topic will be the Apostle Paul's use of the Greek language as he worked to spread the Christian message and support the early church. We hope you will mark your calendars and plan to attend the event!

Welcome College Students!

We are glad you are worshiping with us today! Fellowship and activities for college students are available. Please contact Kirsten Trachsel (ktrachsel1@gmail.com) for more information.

Women of Faith Book Study to Begin

A new Women of Faith Book Study group is forming and will begin in September. Two times, Wednesdays at noon and Sundays at 9:00 a.m., will be offered. Participants are welcome to chose whichever time works best for them. This will be a six-week study from Wednesday, September 6th-October 10th or Sunday, September 9th-October 14th. The group will be discussing "More Than Enough: Living Abundantly in a Culture of Excess" by Lee Hull Moses. Please RSVP to Kirsten Trachsel (ktrachsel1@gmail.com) so that books can be purchased in advance.

Star Gifts

On Rally Day, everyone in the congregation will receive a Star Gift. What is a Star Gift? Just a piece of paper with a word printed on it that you will be asked to reflect on during the coming year. What could this gift bring to you? What possible significance could it hold? Let's find out together!

Christian Education Theme 2018-19 "Lost in Translation"

Words can be tricky. Do they really mean what we think they mean? Are they being used correctly? Has the meaning of the word changed over time or has it been "Lost in Translation"? This year we will delve into the world of words - words in the Bible and words in our every day lives. Join us as we unravel, decipher, and bring new and deeper understanding to words and the way they enrich (or muddy) the stories that contain them.

Sunday Morning Schedule

Nursery available - 9:30 a.m. Children's Chime Choir - 10:00 a.m. (starts September 9th) Worship Service and Children's Church - 10:30 a.m. Children's Craft Time - 11:30 a.m. Booklets Available in Narthex and Fellowship Hall

Read the Bible in a Year - 2018/2019 and Pastor Rob's weekly commentaries

Coming in October....

Fall Canoe Outing on Dow Lake

FPC's annual summer canoe event was cancelled due to rain, but we won't let that stop us from enjoying God's amazing world from the water! Mark your calendars for canoes and fall foliage. On the afternoon of <u>Saturday</u>, <u>October 13th</u> we will meet at Dow Lake at Stroud's Run State Park for fellowship, food, and canoes! Stay tuned for more details to come.



Placing Events on the Church Calendar

All occasions/events should be listed on the church calendar to avoid conflict over use of the facilities. The sponsoring group must cover out-of-pocket expenses. Please phone the church office (593-3351) to request a form for placing your event on the calendar.

Church Office Volunteers Needed

Would you like to be a church office volunteer? Basically the only duty is to be the office to answer the phone and take messages. You can volunteer for a whole day or a half day (mornings 8:30 a.m.-Noon and afternoons 1:00-5:00 p.m.).

Interested? Please email Jane at email office@athensfpc.org or phone the church office (593-3351) to get more info. It is easy, really!



United Campus Ministry Celebrating 50th Anniversary Invitation

This fall, UCM is celebrating the 50th anniversary of incorporation as a nonprofit serving the Ohio University and Athens communities. Save the date, Saturday, November 17th at 6:00 p.m. at Arts West. Celebrate with UCM!

Event details TBA--but put it on your calendar, because you're going to want to be there!

Windows ON: Church Community LINDLEY INN HYMN SING

"Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things."

The songs those attending heard were old and familiar, but the praise for God's blessings was heart-felt. Harold and Clarice Swisher, Dick and son Mark Nostrant, and Mindy King were welcomed to the crowd of thirty-one residents and FPC volunteers.

The hymn sing was joyfully opened our service with "I Will Sing the Wondrous Story." With Mary Costello at the piano and readers of scripture (Jean Drevenstedt, Benji Martin, Rita Oberholzer) setting the stage, attendees continued with "Love Lifted Me", "Trust and Obey", and "Old Rugged Cross". Ann Fox revealed answers to the questions about the balm and location of Gilead before the FPC Quartet (Betty Lacy, Danny Moates, Melanie Schori, and David Tees) sang the spiritual.

Margaret Bourke, Martha Johnson and Barb Martin introduced several more favorites, before Benji Martin, in the absence of Pastor Rob, gave those in attendance a Gaelic blessing.

All those attending look forward to another hymn sing on September 16th.

Please join FPC family and friends if you are able.



Windows ON: Amesville/New England THIS MONTH'S NEWS

Twenty-five hygiene kits containing items for girls to care for their monthly cycle were sent with Dr. Tracee Laing, Granville, Ohio, to the Dumay Clinic, Haiti, in August from the Amesville-New England Parish. (Dr. Laing is founder of the program). These kits will be distributed by the clinic nurses. Dr. Laing posted pictures on Facebook (Healing Arts Mission) showing the nurses receiving the kits and one of the nurses and her daughter who was the recipient of one of the kits. These items will enable teen-agers to attend school all of the time instead of missing a week each month.

Dr. Laing sent a note that said, "please pass this information on to the sewing team. Supplies were passed out to the clinic nurses. They seemed very excited. Catherine Hare told them they need to give feedback and it can be known if the girls like them and are using them. About fifteen Parish women and friends worked on the kits. The group is planning to assemble 20-25 more kits to go to Haiti in October when Dr. Laing makes another trip. How excited the people of the Parish were to see these kits being used in a place they know about!

Thirteen children shared activities that had been part of the Vacation Bible School program held in July. On Sunday, August 19th, the group sang songs that they had sung, did a scarf activity to music, led by one of the older elementary school girls and listened to a story on Kindness by preacher of the day, Steve Hays.

Monday after school Bible School Days will start at the church for children pre-k through 6th grade on Monday, September 10th from 4:00- 5:30 p.m. Organizers of the program are Kathy Elasky Canaanville United Methodist Church) and Catherine Hare (Amesville-New England Parish).

Windows ON: Christian Education Committee READ THE BIBLE IN A YEAR

You are invited once again to enrich your under-standing of the Bible by reading it on a daily basis with the "Read the Bible in a Year" program. A new program booklet undated for the 2018-19 year is available. Readings begin on September 1st. Daily readings usually include about 1 or 2 chapters from two different books of the Bible. There will also be a companion booklet that includes all of Pastor Rob's writings from the weekly email blasts. Contact Kirsten or Pastor Rob with any questions.

Windows ON: Christian Education Committee GOING DEEPER BIBLE STUDIES

The Going Deeper Bible Study series will continue! Pastor Rob has agreed to continue holding the studies which focus on a single book of the Bible at each meeting. Participants this past year have enjoyed the opportunity to take a closer look at the overall composition and content of each book they have discussed. It has brought deeper understanding and wider perspective on the history and purpose of the writings.

The study does not require participation in the "Read the Bible in a Year" program and participants do not need to have read the book that will be discussed prior to the evening of the study. The studies take place on Tuesday evenings about once a month. A light dinner is served at 5:30 p.m. with discussion from 6:00-7:00 p.m. Stay tuned for further information and a schedule of dates.

Going Deeper Dates

Tuesday, October 16, 2018 Tuesday, November 13, 2018 Tuesday, January 15, 2019 Tuesday, February 19, 2019 Tuesday, April 30, 2019 Tuesday, May 21, 2019 Summer 2019 - TBA

BIBLE Study

Windows ON: FPC Elders and Deacons 2018-2020 Elders and Deacons

FPC Church Elders:

- **2018:** Carla Boyle, Penny Shelton, David Tees, and Andrew Trachsel
- **2019:** Carolyn Allen, Pamela Harvey, Susan Loughridge and Andrew Stuart
- **2020:** Carl Franz, John King, Sandy Nesbitt, and Debbie Perry

FPC Board of Deacons:

- **2018:** Mary Costello, Benji Martin, Harold Robison, Calista Strickmaker and Margie Shelton
- **2019:** Kimberly Jordan, Helen King, Patrick Tegge, Linda Parsons, and Wendy Toadvine
- **2020:** Harvey Ballard, Wanada Baxter-Potter (moved), Margaret Bourke, Martha Johnson, and Carol Perry

Kroger Rewards Program

During 2017 First Presbyterian received four quarterly rebate checks from the Kroger rewards program. These checks totaled \$380.57 (102.29, 99.99, 91.59 and 86.70).

During the past year AFPC received rewards from twelve households. Please consider participating in this program.

How to register? Go to: <u>www.krogerrewardsprogram.com</u> to establish your account.

Next - click the button for "Ohio" and then scroll down to the bottom and click the "enroll" button.

You are required to have an email address and create a password. You will need your 12 digit Plus Card number that can be found under the bar code on the back of your Plus Card.

Once you have an account established you may need to click "My Account" and then again click "Edit Kroger Community Rewards."

If you registered last year— YOU MUST REGISTER EVERY YEAR!

To link your account, use AFPC's Kroger non-profit number [NPO] 84190 or select First Presbyterian Church from a drop down list.

[Your Plus Card can be linked to only one non-profit charity.]

Any questions? Phone Krogers -1-800-KROGERS.



Sign up today, and see what AFPC can make just by YOUR grocery shopping!

Windows ON: Church Community Committee INTERNATIONAL FOCUS OF 2018-19 TAKES SHAPE IN COLLEGE LUNCH PLANS

Each Thursday during the school year at Ohio University, Athens FPC serves a free lunch for college students in the fellowship hall from 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. This year's plans continue a long-time emphasis on welcoming and conversing with international students. The first college lunch of fall semester is to be on September 6th.

About 42 Saudi Arabian students will be taking part in a year-long program arranged by the Ohio Program in Intensive English at Ohio University, according to Jerry Krzic, OPE director. Also, on August 25th, 45 students from Chubu University in Japan are expected to begin an experience lasting several months. This is an extension of a long-running exchange program between OU and Chubu. And, in late October, 20-40 Mexican students are expected to arrive for about four weeks of study.

"OPE encourages these folks to attend college lunch where they can practice speaking with native English speakers," according to Krzic. "In addition, they can learn about American culture and have a chance to observe and learn about programs such as My Sister's Place (a refuge for battered women and children), The Gathering Place (a facility that helps people with mental illness prepare to do well in society's main stream), and Habitat for Humanity (which helps families create and move into attractive homes)."

Jerry and his staff encourage students to attend college lunch, but with recognition that FPC can accommodate only about 8-10 international students comfortably on a given Thursday. FPC members and volunteers who provide food and do other jobs at college lunch have a chance to learn about foreign lands, do some informal teaching, and make friends.

Lee Gregg, coordinator for college lunch, has already signed up volunteers to provide about three fourths of fall-semester main courses and one half of desserts. People interested in working at college lunch or providing food can contact Lee (tleegregg@gmail.com / 740-592-3622), or phone Jane Baker at the church office (740-593-3351).



Do you like to cycle? Would you be interested in a "Presby Peddlers" group? Fun exercise and great fellowship. If interested, contact Paul Mullins at 740-591-4162 or pbmullins@columbus.rr.com

Windows ON: Church Support Committee FINANCE REPORT

Income and Expenses, 2018			
Offering Budgeted for 2018	\$ 263,000	Offering Received to Date	\$179,207
Other Income Budgeted for 2018 (endowment, parking lot lease, Putnam apt. rent, interest)	\$ 137,085	Other Income (Received to Date) \$50, 13	
2018-2021 Capital Campaign (\$200,000)	\$67,000	Campaign donations to date	\$57,449
Total Income Budgeted 2018	\$ 467,085	Total Income (Received to Date)	\$289,788
Current Assets (checking & petty cash)		Total Cash on Hand	\$78,108
Expenses Budgeted in 2018	\$ 466,868	Expenses to Date	\$256,887
PCUSA \$90,000 Accessibility Loan for Elevator Repair		Current balance	\$64,052
Other Endowment and Contribution Activity in 2018			
Special Offerings		 \$2,583 \$2,583 \$2,583 \$2,583 \$40% -of Pentecost is retained for local use and 25% of Peacemaking offering is retained for local use) 	
(Christmas Joy, Pentecost, One Great Hour of Sharing, and	\$2,583		
Peacemaking)			
Offering Gifts - (Athens Co. Food Pantry, Good Works, My Sister's Place, Planned Parenthood, Habitat for Humanity, etc.)	\$3,051	Disbursed to appropriate agency or group	
Memorial Gifts - (honoring Nick Dinos, Lyle McGeoch, Ruth Nostrant and Rieta Shoemaker)	\$3,810	Disbursed as designated by donors.	
Offering gifts designated for the Discretionary Fund (Local Emergencies)	\$3,248	To be distributed by the Pastor for local emergencies	
Local Emergencies - Special	\$6,198	Designated community donations (a refugee family and other specific individuals). Flow-through ac- count for Athens FPC to pay family bills.	
Gifts supporting AFPC Mission Projects	\$125	Used for Athens FPC mission work projects	
Gifts Supporting Trail Mix Ministry	\$235	Used to buy supplies.	

Windows ON: FPC Member ELSA HEFFELFINGER

FPC member Elsa Heffelfinger passed away on August 20, 2018.

She was born January 10, 1920 in Havana, Cuba to the late Dr. Viggo and Hilda Ingeborg Thulin Javert.

Elsa was a graduate of Ohio State University. She taught Spanish at Athens High School for 25 years. She was a member of many organi-

Windows ON: Earth Justice Group WHAT DOES ZERO WASTER REALLY MEAN?

The international definition of Zero Waste is a 90% reduction in waste materials going to landfills.

Rural Action's Zero Waste program helps organizations and businesses to recycle and compost as much of their trash as possible. Signing their pledge means working to reduce trash going into garbage cans by agreeing to take a few steps to reach that goal e.g. at FPC we might start to compost paper towels in the restrooms. The 90% reduction is a

Windows ON: Mission Outreach Committee GOOD WORK'S FRIDAY NIGHT LIFE DINNER

The Missions Outreach Committee hosted a Friday Night Life dinner for Good Works on August 19th.

The dinner was served picnic style at Good Works' Luhrig Road site. The guests were anyone who had ever participated in any of Good Works' 20 programs. zations and enjoyed travel, Bridge, sewing, cross stitching and fishing. Elsa was a fan of OU and OSU football.

Elsa is survived by two daughters, Karen (Dan) Olson and Jan Heffelfinger; a son, Ret. Lt. Col. Jim Heffelfinger, US Army, granddaughters, and two great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Clifford Heffelfinger, her parents and a sister.

Funeral services were held August 24th at Jagers & Sons Funeral Home with Pastor Doug Jenkins officiating. Burial

will be at the West Union Street Cemetery.



composting efforts. At the Lutheran church better signs and containers were devised to help the congregation to participate more easily.

First Presbyterian is already actively recycling and composting, so it's unlikely there would be many changes suggested. The EJ Group is looking forward to better signage to clarify where to put what, and other help from Rural Action's Zero Waste team.

goal which fits well with The Presbyterian Church USA's commitment to sustainability.

More than thirty businesses and organizations in Athens have taken the Zero Waste pledge, including a number of Athens City buildings.

An important first step is to have a waste audit. A team from Rural Action will go through the garbage from FPC to determine what could be done to facilitate recycling and

Friday Night Life occurs every

Friday night of the year, and many

of its guests have been showing up

for years. For some this is their best

meal of the week. The sixty guests

this time shared a dinner of fresh

vegetables for an appetizer, pork

or chicken salad sliders (Susan

Loughridge even fixed a vegan

alternative), green beans, leafy salad, and fresh fruit for dessert. Food not eaten went home with those guests

who had signed up for it ahead of time.



ATHENS COUNTY FOOD PANTRY

Food Pantry

<u>On September 27th</u>, The Athens County Food Pantry will benefit from a partnership with Gourmet Your Way, a local business that sells pre-assembled frozen dinner kits. Sales take place at "Raid our Freezer" events, held every 5 to 6 weeks at ACENET from 4:00-6:00 p.m. Ten percent of all the food sold at that September 27th Raid will benefit the Panty. Jonathan Leal, the owner, sells a large variety of frozen entrees, soups, and sides. A current menu and instructions on how to pre-order are available at http://www.gourmetyourway.biz/. Order before September 27th or drop in to enjoy chef-prepared meals and help the Food Pantry at the same time!

Worship Information for SEPTEMBER

September 2nd September 9th September 16th September 23rd September 30th Psalm 15 and James 1:17-27 Psalm 125 and Mark 7:24-37 Psalm 19 and Mark 8:27-38 Psalm 1 and James 3:1-12 Psalm 124 and James 3:13-4:8 The Power of Words A Tenacious Witness Leaking Hope Watch Your Words Words of Wisdom



Caring For the Congregation

Pastor Rob and the Deacons place a priority on visiting hospitalized members of the congregation. Hospitals no longer provide information on admissions and dismissals. Please notify the church if you know of someone who should be visited in the hospital or while recovering at home or at a nursing facility.

Did you know... you can find recordings of the sermons, music, and puppet skits each week on the church's Facebook page. It is a public site so you do not have to be a Face book user to access the recordings and content. Simply go to: <u>https://www.facebook.com/AthensFPC/</u>

Newsletter Helpers

Jane Baker, Hugh Culbertson, Lillian Dinos, Ann Fox, Lee Gregg, Betty Lacy, Susan Loughridge, Danny Moates, Robert Martin, Paul Mullins and Kirsten Trachsel.

Prayer Concern Requests and Visitation

Prayer request slips are available in the narthex. If you would like others in the church to pray for a person or for a concern near to your heart, place the slips in the Prayer Request box in the narthex. If you or someone you know would enjoy a visit from Pastor Rob and a Deacon, or appreciate receiving communion at home, phone the church office (593-3351), place a note in the collection plate, or email: office@athensfpc.org



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Janet Izard
- 3 David Coon Clarice Swisher
- 4 Abigail Brown Emmalyn Brown Pastor Rob Martin
- 6 John King
- 8 Ben Morrow Anna Nagy Heinrich Aaron Wright
- 9 Lee Gregg
- 11 Kimberly Jordan H. Grant Stephenson
- 12 Lloyd Culbertson

- 13 Roger Varner
- 17 Tom Burcher Dale W. Hoffman Gwyneth Philips Hugh Woods
- 20 Aldene Burcher
- 21 Timothy Broadbent
- 22 Alan Boyd Kathy Malesick
- 24 Connie Hunter
- 26 Charles Parks
- 29 Jeffrey Hughes
- 30 Terri Gillespie Barbara Martin
 - Avani Yun

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Scott and Megan Broadbent
- 10 William and Lois Harkins
- 17 David and Debbie Coon
- 24 Alan and Stephanie Goldsberry
- 24 Darryl and Louise Markland
- 30 Jeff and Sara Hughes
- 30 Aaron and Hilary Wright

The FPC Worship Service is aired on Athens City Community TV Channel 9 Monday-Friday - 9:00 a.m. Saturday/Sunday - 5:00 p.m.

Bible Study - Noon, Tuesdays, Library

Church Office Hours 9 North College Street Monday-Friday - 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Food Pantry Sunday

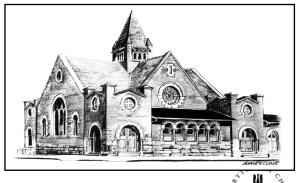
Food Pantry Sunday is the

fourth Sunday of each month.





September 2018



First Presbyterian Church 9 North College Street T.

Phone: 740-593-3351 Fax: 740-593-3352 E-mail: office@athensfpc.org Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/AthensFPC/

Pastor: Rev. Robert E. Martin **Clerk of Session:** Andrew Stuart

Choir Director: David M. Tadlock Organist: Janice Robison CE Coordinator / Bell Choir Director: Kirsten Trachsel

Adm. Assist.: Jane A. Baker

Office hours: Monday - Friday - 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Church: Corner of Court and Washington Streets Office: 9 North College Street

Phone: (740) 593-3351 E-Mail: office@athensfpc.org		(740) 593-3352 www.athensfpc.org			

Worship Service and Children's Church - 10:30 a.m. Coffee/Fellowship - 11:30 a.m. The Worship Service is aired on Athens Community TV Channel 9 -Monday-Friday - 9:00 a.m. and Saturdays-Sundays - 5:00 p.m.

Bible Study: Tuesdays at 12:00 Noon in the church library

Deadline for October 2018 Newsletter: Monday Noon - September 24th **First Presbyterian Church, Athens, Ohio -** AFPC has occupied its site in the center of Athens, Ohio since 1809. Among the founding fathers was Ohio University's first president, a Presbyterian minister, the Rev. Jacob Lindley. Dr. Lindley served this congregation as Moderator and Pastor until 1824. Over the years, thirteen pastors of the church have been either university presidents or members of the faculty. Dr. William Holmes McGuffy, author of the McGuffy's Readers, was called to serve as President of Ohio University and served as pastor of the church in 1839.

Presbytery of Scioto Valley - The Presbytery of Scioto Valley encompasses twenty-six counties in south central Ohio. From Ironton in the south to Ibera in the north: Hanover in the east and London in the west, FPC's presbytery consists of 112 congregations many of them historic where Presbyterians today are carrying on a long tradition of witness and service in their communities. All over FPC's presbytery, Presbyterians reach out to welcome the stranger, sharing the Gospel and God's love as Christ bids us to do.

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) - The PC (U.S.A.), with denominational offices in Louisville, Kentucky, has approximately 2.3 million members, more than 10,000 congregations and 14,000 ordained and active ministers. Presbyterians trace their history to the 16th century and the Protestant Reformation. Its heritage, and much of its doctrine began with John Calvin (1509-1564), whose writings crystallized much of the Reformed thinking that preceded him.