



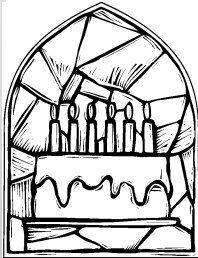
Celebrate the Church's 186th Anniversary!



On Sunday, August 24 the Church will celebrate its 186th Anniversary. The Fellowship Committee has planned an Ice Cream Social on that day from 2:00 - 4:00 pm. It will be held in the side yard of the church. The Western Reserve Saxophone Quartet will be performing. Bring chairs or a blanket to sit on the lawn. If the weather is foul, we will meet in Fellowship Hall. Volunteers are needed to make homemade ice cream. If you have any questions or wish to make ice cream, please see Gayle Davet or leave a message at the office.

A PUBLICATION OF THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

The Tower August 2008



Church ANNIVERSARY

The following people have been active members in our church for fifty years or more. Congratulations to these long-time participants! Please join us on August 24th as we celebrate the church's anniversary and our members' commitment.

50 Year Members

Don Bissell	1939	Robert Richner	1948	Grace Fedor	1957
Charles Crouse		Mary Lou Sheller		Bob Heston	
Harold Munn		Paul Munn	1950	Marge Heston	
Natalie Nichols		Blanche Davies	1951	Kay Percy	
Helen Greene	1941	Daryl Van Bogart		George Richner	
David Lane	1945	Marianne Davet	1952	Betty Eshelman	1958
Marjorie Richner		Marian Flynn		Betty Palmer	
Virginia Richner		Joan Terrill		Dick Sheller	
Lea Bissell	1947	Larry Hurd	1953		
Jane Gant		Stanford Jewell	1954		
Marjorie Percy		Mabel Price			
Dorothy Lippitt	1948	Mary Williams			

Dear Friends,

Our life together begins August 1, though you have been in my thoughts and prayers for many weeks. I am grateful to Jim Link for the ways he has helped make visible the love of Jesus Christ in his ministry with you. Beginnings hold such promise for people and pastor. I met many of you at the gatherings your Search Committee arranged prior to the June 1 worship. In the mean time, I've studied some earlier First Congregational picture directories. Please be patient with me as I learn your names. Don't hesitate to re-introduce yourselves.

I am aware of losses in the community. Two church members have died and a Twinsburg policeman has been shot and killed. How these losses impact the community is still unfolding. Healing rarely happens quickly, but our hope lies in the One who makes and keeps promises, who wants relationship with us, who won't let us go even in the most difficult times.

Please pray with me that we are able to bear with one another both the sorrow and joys of life together. Pray that we might be willing to be bearers of the Spirit's renewal here at First Congregational Church and in Twinsburg.

Blessings,
Kay Krejci

Benevolence News . . .

Thanks for YOUR support for the annual One Great Hour of Sharing observed in May at First Congregational. Between the coin banks returned, direct donations to OGHS, and non-directed Benevolence funds, \$1,000. was disbursed to One Great Hour of Sharing. A reminder that through this offering we join nine Christian denominations working alongside Church World Service, transforming lives in this country and around the world. See YOUR gifts to OGHS at work by viewing the Church World Service web page at www.churchworldservice.org or refer to the CWS hotline report posted and updated weekly on the downstairs hall bulletin board.

SPREAD THE LOVE is the theme for this year's annual Strengthen the Church offering, which has been traditionally observed on the church's anniversary, Sunday, August 24th this year. One of five annual mission offerings in which FCC participates, Strengthen the Church helps build our denominational future by:

funding new congregations, renewing existing congregations, encouraging and building church leadership, supporting programs for youth and young adults, aiding the "God is Still Speaking Ministry" and its message of inclusivity.

Strengthen the Church giving envelopes will be in the pew racks August 17, 24, and 31 for your convenience. Thanks in advance for your support.

A.S.A.P.

Ever wonder about the abbreviation A.S.A.P.? Generally we think of it in terms of even more hurry and stress in our lives. Maybe if we think of this abbreviation in a different manner, we will begin to find a new way to deal with those rough days along the way.

* * * * *

There's work to do, deadlines to meet; You've got no time to spare, But as you hurry and scurry- ASAP - ALWAYS SAY A PRAYER

In the midst of family chaos, 'Quality time' is rare. Do your best; let God do the rest- ASAP - ALWAYS SAY A PRAYER.

It may seem like your worries Are more than you can bear. Slow down and take a breather- ASAP - ALWAYS SAY A PRAYER

God knows how stressful life is; He wants to ease our cares, And He'll respond to all your needs A.S.A.P. - ALWAYS SAY A PRAYER.

* * * * *

Knitwitter Update

The Knitwitters will have in indoor picnic luncheon following their meeting on August 7th.

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to service on the Alter Guild. The schedule is rotated on a monthly basis. Responsibilities include:

1. Keep the candles filled with oil.
2. Keep the candelabrum clean.
3. Keep the communion cloths clean and repaired.
4. Change the paraments as needed, following the church liturgical calendar year.

Please see Louise Jackson if you have any questions, or call the office if you are interested.

ATTENDANCE

	Sunday School	Worship Service
June 29 th	None	77
July 6 th	None	86
July 13 th	None	85
July 20 th	None	65
July 27 th	None	82

Congratulations!

Twin girls, Campbell Grace and Evelyn Elizabeth, were baptized at the church on July 6. Proud parents are Erin and Patrick Hooper. Proud grandparents are Dave and Elizabeth Murch.

Jason Fennell and Nicole Staltari were united in holy matrimony on July 19, 2008 in the sanctuary. Good luck to the happy couple!

Guidelines for Submissions

Set by CHURCH WOMEN UNITED OF NORTH
SUMMIT COUNTY

April 1992



1. The College Book Fund applicant must be:
 - a resident of North Summit County *and*
 - a member of one of the churches affiliated with Church Women United of North Summit County.
 - a college undergraduate.
2. Application for a grant is made by letter, stating the student's need. Letters must be endorsed by the applicant's Pastor.
3. Grants of \$75.00 per semester are to be used for books only.
4. Application letters for the Fall Semester must be submitted to Marge Roberts or the office by August 15th (received by the Book Fund Chair by August 31st). Application letters for the Spring Semester must be submitted by mid-December (received by December 31st).

*To the students getting ready to enter college—**please have your letters of application turned in by August 15th**—it will soon be upon us! Completed letters may be given to Marge Roberts or dropped off at the church office. If you have any questions about this opportunity, please call Marge Roberts at 330-425-4821*

Christian Women's Fellowship Retreat
Shaw Retreat Center Camp Asbury
September 26-28, 2008

It is not too early to start planning for the annual retreat at Camp Asbury in Hiram, Ohio. The theme is **There's a hole in my boat—now what?**. *“Depend on the Lord; trust Him, and He will take care of you.”* Psalm 37:5 (NCV) Some of the topics to cover related to the theme will be “my boat has a slow leak, or is it deterioration?”, “my boat has a hole”, “my boat is sinking”, “different boats” and “S.O.S.S. (sailing on smooth seas)” It should be an outstanding time of prayer and praise for our Lord and Savior. The total cost is \$80.00, which includes 5 meals and 2 nights lodging. Everyone must prepay! The registration deadline is September 14. Send registration fees and forms to: Dana Flenner, 11977 Waywood Drive, Twinsburg, Ohio. Registration blanks and information are available from Marge Roberts. Any questions, please see Marge Roberts or email Dana Flenner at flenner@roadrunner.com.

All games are played at the Glenwood Park ball fields. The games are being played on Sundays this season. Come on out and play or support our team. Games will continue through August.

August 3 6:30 pm Field No. 2

First Congregational Church vs. Twinsburg Church of Christ

August 10 5:00 pm Field No. 2

First Congregational Church vs. Christ the King



Annual Twins Days Festival Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, August 3

8:00 am - 1:00 pm

Twinsburg Activities & Senior Center

Seniors & Children \$4.00

Adults \$6.00

Menu includes pancakes (all you can eat), sausage links, coffee, milk or juice

Sponsored by Christ the King Church

2008 Multiple Sclerosis (MS) 150 Pedal to the Point

DON'T FORGET - On August 16th & 17th Dick Sheller will be doing his annual 75 mile bicycle ride from the Berea (Cuyahoga County) Fairgrounds to Sandusky High School, near the entrance to Cedar Point and back on Sunday for a two day 150 mile event. Pedal to the Point is a National MS Society major fundraiser. Over 2,000 bicyclists participate in this annual event over the two days. If anyone is willing to help by being a sponsor for his ride this year it will be greatly appreciated. Any amount would be very helpful. Please make your tax deductible checks payable directly to National MS Society and give them to Mary Lou or Dick Sheller.

Good Luck Dick!

True giving is done without the slightest trace of expecting to receive.—Alice R. Pratt

In Remembrance of -

WILFRED H. TERRILL, age 94, of Twinsburg, beloved husband of Joan (nee Wales) and the late Carol (nee Richner); dear father of Wilfred (Deborah), Elizabeth Ann (David) Murch and Russell (Coleen); stepfather of Robert (Janey) Ford; grandfather of Lisa (Scott) Burnett, Russell, Erin (Patrick) Hooper, David, Jennifer (Ross) Moore, Amy (Jim) Tippens, Robert, Katherine and Vincent; great grandfather of 12. Died Monday June 23, 2008. Wilfred was the owner of Richner Hardware in Twinsburg. He served in the Ohio National Guard for three years and in the Navy during W.W. II. He retired from the Naval Reserves after 20 years with the rank of Lt. Commander.

Member News

Happy Birthday to:

Marjorie Richner	08/01/08
Heather Hoyt	08/01/08
Blanche Davies	08/02/08
Lacey Bowers	08/03/08
Ken A. Prentice	08/05/08
Janet Paiser	08/08/08
Melissa Schilling	08/08/08
Brenda Adkins	08/09/08
Lisa Davet	08/09/08
Steve Conway	08/09/08
Kevin Murphy, Jr.	08/10/08
Tiffany Neal	08/10/08
Lori Bensie	08/10/08
Jane Weiss	08/10/08
Helenann Conway	08/11/08
John Towslee	08/11/08
Ray Keffer III	08/14/08
Marie Maynard	08/15/08
Jason Powell	08/16/08
Pat Barnes	08/18/08
Dick Sheller	08/19/08
Brianna Pratt	08/20/08
Chrissy Sterling	08/21/08
Stephanie Schultz	08/22/08
Daryl Van Bogart	08/28/08
Robert E. Davet	08/31/08

Happy Anniversary to:

Don & Shari Schultz

08/01/1981

Stan & Jan Cook

08/11/1951

Mark & Donna Miller

08/11/1990

Ken & Kim Lacy 08/14/2004

Jim & Mitzi Karabec 08/18/1956

Joe & Mary Biaglow 08/19/2000

Jon & Chrissy Sterling 08/31/1996



If we missed your anniversary, please contact the church office to update our records.

Youth Group Schedule

August 30—Redwood Day in the afternoon.

Sept. 14—Canoeing after Worship Service



Scrap Booking

Friday, August 15

6:00 p.m.—midnight
in the Fellowship Hall

Council will meet on August 13 instead of August 20 due to school starting. Please mark this on your calendar!

Communion Servers

Rick Sheehan
 Dave Schilling
 Aaron Mayer
 Ken Prentice
 Judy Turk
 Bonnie Williams - Bread
 Dan Richner - Greeters



Communion will be
Sunday, August 24th
this month

Acolytes Schedule

August 3, 2008

Gordon Weiss
 Caitlin Sheehan

August 10, 2008

Melissa Schilling
 Madelyn Sokolowski

August 17, 2008

Emma Link
 Sophie Keith

August 24, 2008

Mark Holzwarth
 Brianna Pratt

August 31, 2008

Brad Verbic
 Jared Doe

The families of the names in **bold** have Acolyte Coordinator Duty and should light the sticks and assist the acolytes.

Please see the instruction sheet posted on the wall next to the sticks.

If you are unable to serve on your assigned week,

please find a replacement and notify the church office of the change.

Thank you!

Lay Reader's Schedule

August 3—Tom Holzwarth
 August 10—Melissa Schilling
 August 17—Terri Bissell
 August 24—Gayle Davet
 August 31—Kayla Bencie

Children's Sermon Schedule

August 3—Gayle Davet
 August 10—Ariel Bissell
 August 17—Tom Holzwarth
 August 24—Terri Bissell
 August 31—Denice Sheehan

If there are any changes to this, please let the office know so that it can be correct in the bulletin.



Summer Music

August 3—Kayla Bencie/Kathy Lessman
 August 10—Mark & Tom Holzwarth
 August 17—Mikki Pietrantozzi
 August 24—Dottie Lippitt
 Walter & Eleanor Sterling
 August 31—Kayla Bencie/Kathy Lessman

Lockup Trustee for the month of August - Bob Davet

It's a little hard to know where to begin, and even harder to know where to stop this month. This year I think we can drop the lazy and hazy, and keep the crazy to describe these days of summer.

We've bid the Link family farewell and thanks, and are preparing to start living our ministry anew with our new Pastor. This will be an exciting time, so let's get at it.

Council will meet on August 13th. It's a week earlier than normal, but I hope to stay well away from the start of the school year as several of our council members will be preparing their families for school. If this date is inconvenient for you please let me know, as always we will meet at the best time for the most folks.

I just can't believe we're making these plans already when I'm still recovering from Memorial Day. I feel sort of like Rip Van Winkle, except that I'm not the least bit rested. My parents told me it was going to be like this someday. It was to mean I had grown up, and I'm simply not ready.

This past month also saw many of us take time away from what we were doing to pay honor to the first Twinsburg safety officer killed in the line of duty. We know how and when and where Josh Miktarian died, we just don't know why. Until the wheels of our justice system stop rolling, all we can do is pray for Holly and Thea to be able to feel God's comfort, and support them however we can. Twinsburg is less of a place than a way of life. Even though we watch the news every evening, we only expect to see the cameras and reporter among us one weekend a year. Let's pray that we can go back to watching, not living the news. Let's also continue to remember Josh, and all our safety officers, fire and police. They are awake nights, and at work on weekends and holidays to protect us and come to our aid when we call. They always deserve our thanks.

We also witnessed the entire circle of life within a single family in July. Will Terrill passed from our sight and into the peace of everlasting life. We said good bye to him with the sorrow of knowing we will miss him. Then, as the circle became complete, we welcomed the Hooper twins, Will's great grandbabies, into the light and life of the church. It was certainly a good week to be part of this church.

Finally a bit of personal news. We have a new grandbaby. Sydney Angelina was born to my son Larry and his wife Vanessa, on June 15th. Along with big sister Natalie, she will be coming north to visit soon. They are currently at home in Memphis, but building a new home in Reminderville, with plans to move yet this year. Emily has a bit of news as well. She will become a mommy in December. All is going well and I'm sure I'll keep you all posted. She will be staying in Florida, she says it's something about the weather.

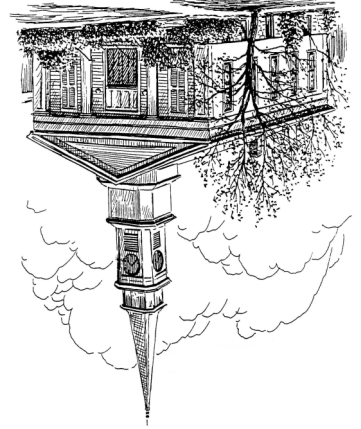
So this all leads us to a new quandary. Many of you know that Marge and I have, for some time, planned to move south to be closer to children and grandchildren. Now we have sons in Reminderville and Mantua, and daughters in Mobile and Tampa. Where do we go from here?

I think we'll go to church. We can always find answers to our questions if we're quiet and listen, and there's always good folks to hang out with in the mean time. See you there.

God's Peace,

Will

On the square in Twinsburg
since 1848



Dated Material—
Please Rush!



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Office Hours:
Monday through Friday
9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

A Publication of the First Congregational Church of Twinsburg
9050 Church Street
Twinsburg, OH 44087

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TWINSBURG, OH
PERMIT NO. 113

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Come worship with us
and bring a friend!
Sunday School 9:15 a.m.
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

Tower Submissions

Articles for the *Tower* may be e-mailed directly to the church at firstcongregational.church@windstream.net. Hard copies, CD's, or diskettes may be dropped off at the office.

Tower deadlines are posted on the monthly calendar and in the Sunday worship bulletin. For questions, or to be added to or taken off the mailing list, please send an e-mail or call the church office at 330-425-2181.