



# Tidings

September 2024

## COMING EVENTS

- Sunday, September 1:  
- Worship Service @ 10 AM
- Thursday, September 5:  
- Grief Support Group @ 4 PM
- Sunday, September 8:  
- Worship Service @ 10 AM  
- Sunday School Starts today!  
- Ice Cream Get Together @ 11 AM  
Front Lawn
- Tuesday, September 10:  
- Esther Circle @ 10 AM (Parlor)
- Saturday, September 14:  
- Men's Square @ 9:00 AM @ Denny's
- Sunday, September 15:  
- Worship Service @ 10 AM  
- Coffee Hour @ 11 AM
- Wednesday, September 18:  
- Session @ 5:30 PM
- Thursday, September 19:  
- Tidings articles deadline  
- Grief Support Group @ 4 PM
- Sunday, September 22:  
- Worship @ 10 AM  
- Coffee Hour @ 11 AM
- Sunday, September 29:  
- Worship @ 10 AM  
- Coffee Hour @ 11 AM
- Monday, September 30:  
- **Rev. Christin Moreland starts at  
Parma-South**

## ANNOUNCING OUR NEW PASTOR!

**Parma-South  
Presbyterian Church  
Elected a Called  
Pastor**

by congregational vote  
August 18, 2024



## Rev. Christin Moreland



**Start Date:**  
Sept. 30, 2024

**First Sunday:**  
Oct. 6, 2024

If you want additional information on Rev. Christin Moreland, you can find it on our Parma-South website, [www.parma-south.org](http://www.parma-south.org).



The Bible doesn't always mean what you think it says. There's something we can learn from that.

Don't get me wrong: We Presbyterians know the Bible to be the "unique and authoritative witness" to God's nature and plan as revealed in the Son Jesus Christ. The Bible is what our Book of Confessions describes as "a witness without parallel," meaning that it's the original and unique source of information that's not available anywhere else: not in the *Farmer's Almanac* or the *Wall Street Journal* or Wikipedia. ([Constitution of the Presbyterian Church \(U.S.A.\) Part I: Book of Confessions, 9.27-29](#)). We look to the Bible for guidance, inspiration, hope, comfort.

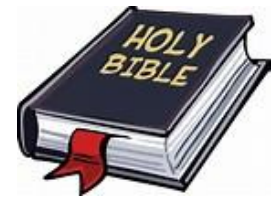
But there's something we usually don't give much thought to: The Bible we read isn't the Bible as it was written. It wasn't written cover-to-cover, beginning-to-end. It was written piecemeal over hundreds of years, in various places and at different times by a variety of authors. What's more, it was written in the languages of Hebrew and Greek. What we read is an English translation of those languages.

The business of translating from one language to another is tricky stuff: Sometimes a word in one language doesn't have a clear counterpart in another language, and other times a word in one language could mean two or three or four different things in another language. Scholars spend their entire lives trying to figure out some of those complex and confusing issues.

Let me give you an example: In the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew Chapter 5 Jesus concluded some encouragement to be compassionate by saying, "Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect" (Mt. 5:48).

Yikes! "Be perfect"?? Right away we know that that's not realistic for us. Except....

Except the Bible doesn't mean what we think it says.



Bible scholars have discovered that the Greek word that's translated as "perfect" doesn't mean "to be without fault or error." A more accurate translation would be "total devotion." So, when we read Jesus' encouragement to "be perfect," what he was saying is that we should strive to be "completely devoted" to serving others just as God is "completely devoted" to our well-being.

So why do I mention the importance of "what's realistic" and the real meaning behind the biblical use of the word "perfect"? Because in a matter of weeks you will be blessed by the gifts of your new minister, Pastor Christin Moreland. As impressed as I am with her biblical scholarship and pastoral sensitivity and personal humility, I can guarantee you that she is no more "perfect" than you or me. But she will be "completely devoted." She will be completely devoted:

- to honoring and serving God by striving to follow the way of Jesus;
- to leading others along that same path;
- to supporting this church's compassionate ministry to its members;
- to inspiring Parma-South's ministry to the community and the world.

Pastor Christin's complete devotion will be God's blessing to us all.

See you in church.

--Jon Fancher, Gap Pastor



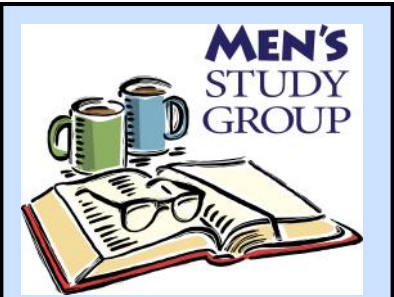
## JOIN THE NEW TECH TEAM!

Skills required: 1) willingness to learn/research and 2) reasonable comfort using computers.

Parma-South post-covid has had an explosion of tech. Our balcony has computers and monitors to facilitate live streaming and also broadcasts to the new sanctuary monitors. Our boiler, door locks, and robo-call systems are all computer-controlled. We've been purchasing equipment on an as-needed basis. It's time to start thinking ahead and planning. How will the choir be able to see what is on the monitors? What type of computer should we buy for the new called pastor? What outdated applications are we still using in the office? Is it time to update our phone system? Is our 11 year old outdoor sign still sufficient?

Up until now, our fantastic albeit overburdened Properties Committee has been the default for all things in the building. It's time to move tech equipment off their plate. Are you willing to learn about the church's many systems and help decide what needs to be done? We need folks willing to give their time to meet & discuss tech topics. If you are the kind of person who checks email daily and owns a smart phone, you have enough tech savvy to help.

Let's meet, say, monthly. To formally volunteer, please contact Audrey at (440) 582-1418. (Yup, an old-fashioned land line!) All are welcome!



The Men's Square group will resume our regular meetings in September. The next meeting is scheduled for **Saturday, September 14, at 9:00 AM.**

The group will be meeting for breakfast at Denny's Restaurant located on Day Drive in Parma. We normally gather in the back room. Our usual agenda is to have our group discussion following breakfast, and then head over to the Church for our current project.

Anyone needing more information, please contact Ed Walker. Hope to see you there.



Love INC  
Love In the Name of Christ

Ninety two golfers enjoyed a beautiful sunny day for the annual Love INC golf outing at Pine Hills Golf Course. The golf outing raised over \$28,000.00. This money will be used for those in need in Cuyahoga County. This was the largest amount ever raised from their annual golf outing.

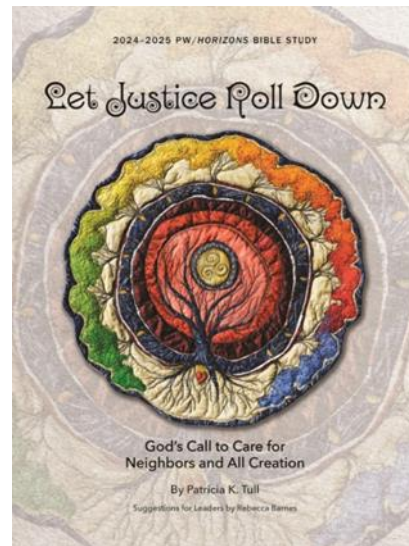


### ESTHER CIRCLE

Esther Circle meets on the **Second Tuesday, September-December and March-June.**

Where: Parlor Parma- South

When: Tuesday September 10 @ 10:00 am



Kathleen Snyder no longer works for Parma-South as our Church Administrator. During the search for Kathy's replacement the following actions have taken place to handle the various administrative needs of our church:

The title of this year's study is **Let Justice Roll Down**. Through the year we will be looking at issues that impact the earth and those who live there. Join us for a time of study and fellowship. **All Women are welcome.**

Nicole Cockrell from Ministry Architects will be handling the weekly bulletins and numerous office requirements remotely. If you have bulletin announcements, please send to Nicole at [officeadmin@parma-south.org](mailto:officeadmin@parma-south.org).

In addition, Cathy DeMoss will be at the church Monday-Thursday from 9:00a.m. – Noon functioning as our church receptionist and performing various office duties.

We Thank Nicole and Cathy for providing their skills and support during this time of transition.



Articles for our monthly Tidings Newsletter are normally due the day after the regularly scheduled monthly Session meeting. Note that articles for the October Tidings will be due no later than **Thursday, September 19.**

### ICE CREAM GET TOGETHER!

Welcome back to "Sundae" School! We encourage everyone to join us on the front lawn after the service on Sunday, September 8th for a sweet treat and fellowship!





Gerald J. Nagy  
July 15, 2024



### SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- |              |          |
|--------------|----------|
| 1 Ellen      | Snyder   |
| 10 Donald    | Sinko    |
| 11 Linda     | Topor    |
| 11 Logan     | Diedrich |
| 12 Anna      | Graham   |
| 16 Emma      | Diedrich |
| 18 Gabriella | Molua    |
| 19 Nicholas  | Sivik    |
| 23 Allison   | Coleman  |
| 23 Sharon    | Bible    |
| 24 Gregory   | Sinko    |
| 27 Brandon   | Smith    |
| 29 Arline    | Ferencz  |



### Memorial Carillon

Carillon music during September will be played in loving memory of:

- Sept 1 Mary Jane McMichael  
Marilyn Weiss
- Sept 8 Mr. & Mrs. Alex Michak
- Sept 15 Mr. & Mrs. Adam R. Kroehle
- Sept 22 Maud C. Dexter
- Sept 29 LaVerne Mackert





## Tidings

Parma-South Presbyterian Church  
6155 Pearl Road, Cleveland, Ohio 44130  
Office Phone (440) 885-2652

Rev. Dr. Jon M. Fancher, Gap Pastor  
Email: [pastor@parma-south.org](mailto:pastor@parma-south.org)  
Phone: (440) 263-8872

Visit our website: [www.parma-south.org](http://www.parma-south.org)

*Thank you to our advertisers and sponsors, listed below, for their support. If you would like to place an advertisement or become a Tidings sponsor, please call the church office.*

**Busch**  
Cremation • Burial • Pre-Planning  
[www.buschcares.com](http://www.buschcares.com)

*(your business ad here)*



### SCHOOL BACKPACK BLESSING

Our school children got off to a good school year with our “Blessing of the Backpacks” on Sunday, August 25. **THANK YOU** Kathy Zietlow for making these cute tags for the children to put on their bookbags!