

November 2023



From The Pastors Desk...

A surprise attack by Hamas on Israel and its citizens...thousands killed including children, women, men. Then, Palestinians told to leave everything and migrate south where they were told they would be "safe"...only to be bombed by Israeli planes where they were told to gather.

Violence begets violence.

Soon these kinds of circumstances spiral into more and more complex and deadly issues. And they spiral into more and more difficult issues to resolve and the patterns repeat themselves.

Muslims, Jews, Christians, and people of all faiths claim to worship a God of peace and peacefulness and believe in the universal value of peace as an ultimate goal. Jesus Christ is referred to as "The Prince of Peace" within our Christian traditions and teachings.

But the patterns of violence and acts of destruction are all too visible and grow more and more common.

We are about to enter into the season of Thanksgiving, then quickly shift toward our celebration of the coming of God's only child- the advent of God becoming with us. Our celebrations can divert our attention from the grim and horrible images on our TV screens of death and suffering of others in other places. But even these holy celebrations of the coming months cannot insulate us from reality.

Enthusiastic, genuine commitment and dedication to our faith does not call us to screen out the events of the wider world. Rather we are called to acknowledge those events no matter how unpleasant and brutal. Further we are called to act wherever we can and whenever we can in ways that will reduce and erase violence...and the root causes of violence that seem to infect all cultures and societies.

All Saints Day, Thanksgiving, Advent, Christmas, a new year. Each in their own way call us to fresh, new opportunity and challenges. As we enter this intense and rich, unique season let each of us seek the empowering presence and inspiration of the Holy Spirit that we shall be led to become renewed servants of Him whom we seek to worship not only through our words but through how we behave.

-Pastor Bill



Bible Study at Fairgreen IS for Everyone

We are continuing with the hybrid model of in-person and zoom access for our 3:00 pm Wednesday Bible Study. In-person study is in the church's lounge.

Zoom participation can be accessed in three ways:

by clicking on/entering this link which will be resent by email prior To each study (if you are not receiving this link in an email on Tuesday and Wednesday, contact Mike):

<https://zoom.us/j/4194754436?pwd=Z3RBSVVCUkxTMjdpODlibUZTTjFJQT09>

or go to <https://us04web.zoom.us> and enter

Meeting ID: 419 475 4436

Passcode: 4754436

or on your smart phone Dial (312) 626-6799 and enter

Meeting ID: 419 475 4436

Passcode: 4754436

All are welcome!

News from Mike Roadruck:

Saturday Bible Study sessions continue @ 10:00am. There will be breakfast at 9:30am as well. This month the dates will be 11/11 & 11/18.



***There will be no Saturday bible studies in November and December.**

***The men of Fairgreen and friends will not be meeting in November or December**

The Lord Restores My Soul

The late Christian author, W. Phillip Keller, was born in East Africa; he spent much of his life out-of-doors. He was trained in agriculture and eventually lived on ranches in British Columbia where he observed sheep and their relationship to the shepherd.

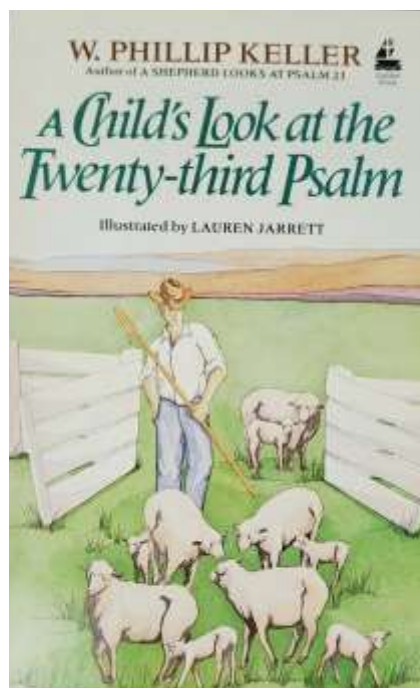
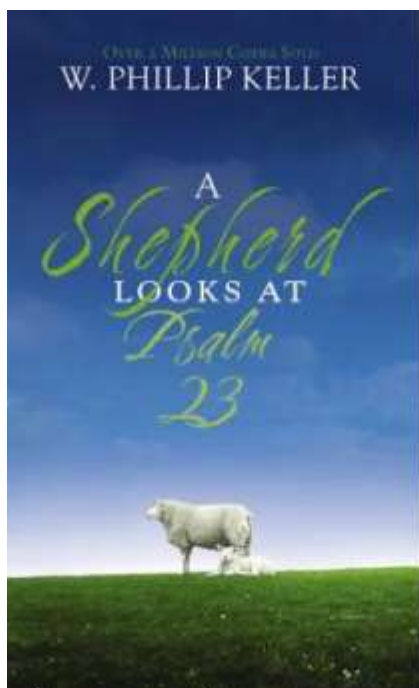
I was first introduced to his writings through the adult version of the book A Shepherd Looks at Psalm 23 and then A Child's Look at the Twenty-third Psalm.

The words, "The Lord restores my soul" may sound familiar. They are taken from the first part of verse three of Psalm 23. At our annual Fairgreen Women's Retreat we will be exploring the meaning of this Biblical passage through knowledgeable authors, including Phillip Keller, as its meaning from Old Testament times to our own lives today.

The day retreat will be held at the Lial Renewal Center on Davis Road near Whitehouse, Ohio on Saturday, February 24, 2024 from 9:30am to 3:30pm. The doors will open at 8:30am for gathering, fellowship, and a light breakfast.

Sign up to attend the retreat and to bring a food item for either breakfast or lunch, will be in February...but plan, now, to gift yourself with a time of renewal in this quiet corner of God's creation.

Pat Gibson
Retreat Coordinator



Fairgreen Scholarship Application Time!

Even though you may be reading this in November, now is the time to be thinking of whether you want to avail yourself to the gift of Scholarship assistance from Fairgreen for your 2024 schooling.

Have you graduated from High School?

Are you planning or in the midst of furthering your education?

Have you been an active member of Fairgreen, attending worship and serving or participating in the life of the church, for at least 6 months?

If so, you are invited to consider applying for monetary assistance for your undergraduate schooling through the Foster Scholarship Fund. We are grateful for the foresight of UT Professor and his wife Emily, who were long-time members of Fairgreen, in establishing this fund.

If you are applying for and/or in Graduate School, consider applying for monetary assistance through the William Smith Scholarship Fund. Bill, who was a member of Fairgreen, established this fund for those seeking monetary assistance for graduate school.

Guidelines and applications are located outside the Bookkeeper's office.

December 15 is the deadline to apply for the Winter/Spring, 2024 semester. Applications may be put in the Scholarship mailbox located across from the Pastor's Office. The Scholarship Commission, composed of Cindy Bandfield, Pat Gibson, Patti Nordhoff, Dick Schroeder, and Pastor Bill Dunifon will be reviewing the applications.

Pat Gibson, Chair





Coffee Hour



Coffee Hour continues! After the Sunday worship service, Coffee Hour is a perfect time to stop for a moment to visit with others, extend a "hello" and wish others a wonderful day and week ahead.

It is not difficult to host a coffee hour. Congregational Life supplies the coffee, tea, sugar and cream and all the paper products. Coffee Hour is meant to be just a simple treat; not brunch, not an extension of breakfast or lunch, just a simple treat that we can enjoy while fellowshiping with our friends. Cookies, donuts or fruit are always welcome. Keep it easy!

Sign-up sheets for November and December are posted on the wall next to the kitchen window. Congregational Life will host November 19th. Please volunteer by signing your name on one of the vacant dates. You can partner with another person, that's always fun. It is truly a blessing when we step from our comfort zone and say "yes, I'll help". Thanks for volunteering.

P.S. If you have any questions, just talk with someone behind the kitchen window.

-Marilyn McAfee



From The Congregational Life Committee:

Dinner and a Movie Event:

On Tuesday, November 7th at 5:00pm we will be serving Lasagna Casserole, Chicken & Stuffing and a few surprises. We will be watching a Movie called ***I Believe***. Bring your appetite and a lovely time can be had by all.



**To Honor Our
Veterans and all who
serve to keep our
Nation safe, Fairgreen
is inviting you to -**

DINNER & A MOVIE

Thursday, November 9
at Fairgreen Church Commons
(3220 W. Laskey Road)
at 5:00pm

Lasagna, salad and dessert

and

***"I BELIEVE
with God All Things are possible"***

**Join us for good fellowship,
a good dinner and a good
movie.**

**Please indicate on the sign-up
sheet your name and any
guest(s).**



****Flyer to share on the next**



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Congregational Life Committee (cont.):

Monthly Meeting:

Next Congregational Life meeting is Nov. 16th @ 10:30 am

BREAKING BREAD with FAIRGREEN FRIENDS

Breaking Bread with Fairgreen Friends will be meeting at:
@ 1pm at Hot Sizzling Wok on November 14, 2023



Thanksgiving brunch on **Sunday, November 19th** after church:

After the service on Sunday, November 19th we will gather in the Commons to have our annual Thanksgiving Brunch. The Congregational Life committee will be bringing in breakfast casseroles and pastries. We are asking the Congregation to bring Fruit cut and cleaned to be added to a fruit salad.

All are welcome; just bring your smile!!!



Congregational Life Committee (cont.):



Fairgreen will be packing Samaritan Christmas Shoeboxes again this year. They are available in the Narthex. Please return your Samaritan Christmas Shoeboxes by **Sunday, November 12th** for us to pray over them to reach that special child.

Lord, we pray that these children can find the love we send to them and that they will "Receive Jesus in their hearts".

Donations for shipping has been raised to \$10.00 per box for this year.

If you have any questions contact Joyce Koback.

Congregations Grow

God is using shoebox gifts to start and grow churches among ethnic groups that have never heard of Jesus before. Working among the unreached Saramaccans of Suriname, Pastor John said, "The shoeboxes are an open door for us to spread the Gospel." As children are disciplined through The Greatest Journey, families come to faith, too, eventually forming new groups of believers.



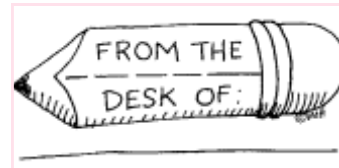
In Other News:



All are invited to join us in celebrating the Hanging of the Greens after the worship service on Sunday, December 3rd, 2023. We need your help to decorate the Sanctuary for Advent. We will have Christmas music and Christmas cookies, and we'd love to celebrate the beginning of the Advent season with all of you!

-Worship Committee

From the Secretary's Desk:



A friendly reminder when you need my assistance with something please put in your request in advance and give me as much detail as possible. This includes when you need it, how many items, copies, etc. and provide all the information necessary to complete your request. I may not be able to accommodate last minute requests due to my own responsibilities.

Thank you so much!!

Also Please Note:

December will be extremely busy with many holidays and events so please get your articles, dates and announcements, etc., to me as soon as possible for the December Newsletter. The Deadline to submit material will be **Monday November 20th.**

I appreciate everyone who contributes each month!

-*Tricia Manner*
Administrative Assistant



Featuring: Fairgreen's First Community Trick or Treat



The rain began before the scheduled Saturday, October 21, outdoor event, but the change of plans to move into the Fairgreen Commons for the Trick or Treat did not "dampen" participant's spirits! Pictures are worth a thousand words, and the below pictures definitely depict the festivities, joy and fabulous fun.

Kudos and gratitude to Mary Jo Feldkamp who brought the idea to Matthew 25 members and organized the event. A huge thank you to all of the participants, who offered an enthusiastic welcome, engaged with guests of all ages, and creatively decorated tables. Eleven "candy stations" surrounded the Commons and were manned by Fairgreen members, food pantry friends, Mary Jo's family members, and Whitmer teens. Additional thanks to the many anonymous angels who donated loads of candy and treats.

The visiting families loved the quieter environment and the mellow atmosphere. They also appreciated that the kids could have a space, in the open gym area, to move, run, and walk, play with a ball (making new friendships) and even join in a game of Musical Chairs, led by Fairgreen's joyful "Game Master", Julie Murray.

Mary Jo's assessment comment at the end of the afternoon was the perfect summary, "Next year, we will grow even more." Indeed, Fairgreen has certainly been led to a new community ministry!





From the Food Pantry:





Next Food Pantry
Friday November 17, 2023
From 4-6 pm

Did you know that the FAIRGREEN FOOD PANTRY FACEBOOK PAGE has a whopping 915 members now?



We are still in need of the really nice Kroger bags that you receive when you do the click list grocery pick up. They are white, very heavy duty and have handles. We also need regular size paper



November 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Bible Study @ 3pm	2 Wellness Day 4:15-7pm	3 Rams Cheer Practice 6-8pm	4
5 10am Worship Service	6 Office Closed Wellness Day 5-7pm	7 Session Mtg @ 6:30pm Rams Cheer Practice 6-8pm	8 Bible Study @ 3pm Wellness Day 4:15-7pm	9 Dinner & A Movie @ 5:00pm	10 Rams Cheer Practice 6-8pm	11 Bible Study 10am(9:30 breakfast)
12 10am Worship Service *Return Date for Christmas Shoeboxes	13 Office Closed Wellness Day 5-7pm	14 Presbyterian Meeting @ 10am (Findlay) BBFF Hot Sizzlng Wok @ 1pm	15 Bible Study @ 3pm	16 Cong. Life mtg @ 10:30pm Wellness Day 4:15-7pm Worship Comm. Mtg @ 6pm	17 Food Pantry 4-6pm	18 Bible Study 10am (9:30 breakfast)
19 10am Worship Service Thanksgiving Brunch after Service	20 Office Closed Wellness Day 5-7pm	21 Thanksgiving Feast for Preschool	22 Thanksgiving Feast for Preschool	23 	24 Holiday Office Closed	25
26 10am Worship Service	27 Office Closed Wellness Day 5-7pm	28	29 Bible Study @ 3pm	30 Wellness Day 4:15-7pm	*Calendar is Subject to Change	



NOVEMBER

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Rachel Buehrer	November 20	Bonnie Buehrer	November 25	Gary & Karen Herren	November 16
Tricia Manner	November 23	Marilyn Kolbow	November 29		

DECEMBER

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Sharon Durrant	December 1	Wade Lee– Smith	December 16	Gary Herren	December 22
Danilo Gonzales	December 6	Kiara Gonzales	December 17	Ellie Henning	December 30
Patricia Close	December 15	Kayionna Rogers	December 18		
Linda Hoover	December 15	Erika Dunn	December 19		

**Fairgreen Presbyterian
Church
3220 Laskey Rd.
Toledo, Ohio 43613
419.475.4436**

**Pastor Bill Dunifon
Senior Pastor, Head of Staff
Cell: 419.205.5037
Email:
wdunifon@gmail.com**

**Dr. Mike Roadruck
Commissioned Lay Pastor
Home: 419.260.7429
mroadruck@accesstoledo.com**

**Office Hours
Tuesday-Friday
9:00—1:30pm**

**Email:
fairgreen.church@gmail.com
Fax: 419.475.6404**

**Worship Service
10:00am Sunday**

**Website:
fairgreenoutreach.com**



**Fairgreen Preschool
3220 W. Laskey Rd.
Children ages 3, 4 &
Young 5's**

**For information call:
419.475.5367**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

