

# AUGUST 2023

# INSIGHTS

## The Newsletter of Mitchells Presbyterian Church

### Looking ahead:

- August 5--**Fred/Nats Game  
**August 12--**Womens Retreat  
**Aug 20 to Sept 24--** New Members Class
- Sept 9--**Steak Dinner Fundraiser  
**Sept 9--**Fall Fun Festivities



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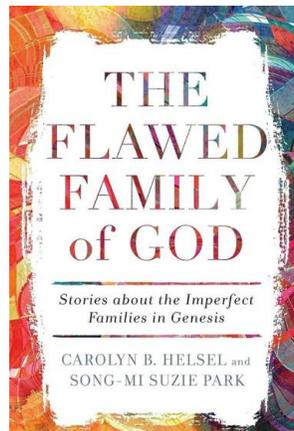
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## THE PASTORS CORNER

by Pastor Patrick



At the time of my writing for this month's newsletter, we are in the midst of our most sustained heat this summer of 2023. Several days will be pushing triple digits without any humidity or heat index added to the forecast. Therefore, if you are looking for an excuse to stay in the A/C or place yourself in front of your favorite fan, then I'd encourage you to get a copy of the book I read this summer, and one that has helped me through our summer sermon series "Journeying Through Genesis".

**The Flawed Family of God: Stories about the Imperfect Families in Genesis** by Rev. Dr. Carolyn Helsel and Dr. Suzie Park has been a great book for me, and I believe that it can be a thought provoking book for you as well. Both the authors of this book are professors at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary in Austin, TX. They each bring a wealth of knowledge to this book, both from a technical perspective in regards to the theology and the ancient Hebrew language/cultural norms of the age, as well as, from relating the material to our modern context of the 2020s. It is a very accessible book for all to read, and includes questions at the end of each chapter to reflect upon, if you'd like to use this book for your own book study around the foundational family of our faith.

The book focuses on the first three generations of the patriarchs from whom we attribute our religion and faith coming out of their agreements with God. *The Flawed Family of God* analyzes each character within these stories, and the roles that they play. Some characters are acknowledged as furthering ancient stereotypes and others are shown in a new light that I had never thought about. This book does a great job at taking stories that are rarely talked about in-depth, and doing a deep dive into who these people are and how we relate to them. It highlights the humans who are placed above others due to their faith or their actions in our biblical text, while also showing us that they are still imperfect beings. As always with books that bring about new perspectives, and to some may be asking uncomfortable questions, I have my issues with some of the ways they relate stories to modern times, or some of their choices in writing this book, but that is something I enjoy in a book like this.

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## Pastors Corner (Continued)

The more questions, the more I can advance my thoughts and my faith as use this as another resource to study and learn. If you have a chance, I encourage you to read this, less than 150 page book, about the family who forms the covenant with God, and the reality that they are more like us than we may have thought before.

(The book is available on Amazon from \$8-\$15, or \$10 on Kindle. If you read this book and want to chat about it, let's plan a time to sit and chat!)

Blessings,  
Pastor Patrick

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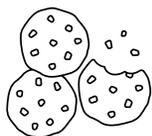
## NEW MEMBERS CLASS

August 20th-September 24th, 2023. Classes are open to all who wish to become rostered members of MPC and those who wish to learn more about being Presbyterian. The classes will be held after worship and fellowship time on Sundays with lunch provided.

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Coffee Hour Under the Pavilion, Sundays after Service:

Drinks and snacks under the shade of the pavilion. In case of inclement weather, we will move it to the Fellowship Hall.



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## Good Timers

August 24 - Tim's on Lake Anna

September 28 - Graves Mountain Lodge

We are still checking out other places for the next 3 months of the 2023 year. If you have any suggestions, please contact Alice or Vickie with some information.

We invite you to join us any time you can and feel free to bring friends. We welcome everyone. By the way, there are no age restrictions!!!

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## Treasurer's report:

Mitchells Presbyterian Church Family:

The budget approved by Session for 2023 was \$143,990.62. This represents the anticipated expenditures for the year and hopefully the collections in the form of tithes and offerings.

I want to update you as to our status through the second quarter (January through June).

Based on the budget we would hope to have collected \$71,995.71 and to have expended that amount (1/2 of \$143,990.62). As of June 30, 2023:

Collections of tithes and offerings and various other revenue (poll rent, investment revenue, miscellaneous collections)- \$71,785.96 - which is \$209.35 less than the anticipated.

Operating expenditures - \$65,233.15 - which is \$6,762.16 less than the anticipated.

Therefore, we are looking at a net overage of \$6,552.81 (\$6,762.16- \$209.35) as far as meeting the budget/anticipated expenditures for operations.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to each and every one of you for your continued support.

**PAPERLESS:** We would like to eliminate "snail mail" as much as possible. If you have email, you may print at your discretion. If you are not on our email list, please submit your address ASAP to receive electronically. Our contact information is on the first page. Below are a couple examples, if needed, for setting up email accounts.

**How to set up GMAIL account:**

- Go to the Google Account creation page at <https://mail.google.com> or open the Gmail app on your phone.
- Create an account and follow the steps on the screen.
- Enter your name, username, password, and other personal details.
- Use the account you created to sign in to Gmail.

**How to set up YAHOO account:**

- Go to Yahoo Sign up page.
  - Fill out the form and choose a username.
  - Set up two-factor authentication, then proceed to your new account.
- iPhone users can connect to Yahoo Mail from the iOS Mail app.

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## Mitchells Presbyterian Church Committees

**Christian Education** -- Brett Massey, Susan Wohlleben

**Worship** -- Scott Mitchell, Roxy Mitchell, Janet Miller, Susan Wohlleben

**Building and Grounds** -- Conley Wallace

**Safety and Security** -- Chuck Gyory, Conley Wallace, James "Smitty" Smith, Alan Wohlleben

**Congregational Life & Ministry** -- Roxy Mitchell, Kim Hicks, Crystal Settle, Mary Lou Phillips, Kaye Inskeep

**Missions & Outreach** -- Carol Inskeep, Roger Eakin, Janet Miller, Crystle Settle, Denita Cuccherini, Patti Weaver, Kathy Massey

**Youth** – Pat Payne, Ann Walker, Denita Cuccherini

**Finance** – Ron Evans, Tom Cuccherini

**Nominating Committee for Class of 2026** – Jimmy Walker, Kaye Inskeep, Becky Payette, Tom Cuccherini

**Notes:** 1. This is not a comprehensive list, currently no full roster is available.  
2. Pastor may be a part on all committees, as appropriate.

# Session News

No Report

## Presbyterian Women

**Women's Summer Retreat:** Saturday August 12th 9 am - 4 pm --The Chipped Cup --Pastor Joquan White  
Morning refreshments-Bag Lunch from Steak N Cheese ----Chipped Cup Craft and lots of Christian Love  
**RSVP by August 4th**

## Men of the Church

The Men will not hold meetings in August. Next meeting will be September 7.

## Worship Committee

No Report

## Safety & Security Committee (SSC)

Nothing to report -- Chuck

## Missions & Outreach

- M&O committee continues to support our adopted family with a monthly grocery offering.
- Supplied a stove for the SAFE community program.
- Supported Manna with check for \$1250
- Monday Manna served 135 meals in July to those in need in our community.

## Buildings & Grounds

Nothing to Report -- Conley

## Congregational Life & Ministry

**August 5th** – FredNats Game-- 6:05pm--Tickets \$17 -- Invite friends & sign-up in the fellowship hall.

**September 9th**--Fall Fun Festivities--Bounce House/Slide Combo & other fun activities 3pm-7pm--  
All are welcome, come out for fun & fellowship--and stay for the Steak Dinner

**September 9th** – Annual MPC Steak Dinner 5pm-7pm-- All are welcome, so invite friends!



PRESBYTERY OF THE JAMES

PASTOR/HEAD OF STAFF

SESSION OF THE CHURCH

Elected to

MPC CONGREGATION MEMBERS AND MINISTRY PARTICIPANTS\*

\*Note: A single individual may be a part of multiple areas of responsibility and ministry. Those who are a part of the life of the church make up all aspects of leadership



### Overall Tasks and Structures for All Committees (as established by 2022 MPC Session)

**Roles to be filled on committees:**

- Chair of Committee
- Vice Chair of Committee
- Member of Session to serve as liaison
  - Pastor serves as Ex Officio on all church committees as able

\*Note: Committee Members can hold multiple roles at once, and committees are tasked to fill membership roles and positions on their own.

- There must be a minimum of three members on each committee, and committees must have 50% of membership at their meeting to conduct business.
- All committees are to keep records of meetings of what occurred/actions taken.
  - Should provide small reports to be published after meetings to inform the church of committee actions/plans.
  - Liaisons are responsible for providing reports to session following each meeting.

### Overall Tasks and Structures for All Committees, cont. (as established by 2022 MPC Session)

- The session should publish and/or provide an explanation of when/how to be a member of a committee if desired.
- Committees are tasked with actively seeking out new full voice members to serve, as well as, seek members to be in participation with the tasks of said committee.

**Mission Statement Created at 2022 Session Retreat:**  
**“We, the session of Mitchell's Presbyterian Church, believe in peace, love and service based in the light of Jesus Christ. In order to grow and serve through adaptive ministry, we seek to expand our outreach and grow our family of faith. By providing for the community with our resources, our energy and our hearts, we work to show and teach the love of Jesus Christ through our actions”.**

### PC(USA) Constitutional Questions for Ruling Elders

- a. Do you trust in Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?
- b. Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God's Word to you?
- c. Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God?
- d. Will you fulfill your ministry in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and be continually guided by our confessions?
- e. Will you be governed by our church's polity, and will you abide by its discipline? Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit?
- f. Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world?
- g. Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church?
- h. Will you pray for and seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love?
- i. (1) (For ruling elder) Will you be a faithful ruling elder, watching over the people, providing for their worship, nurture, and service? Will you share in government and discipline, serving in councils of the church, and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ?

# August 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 Vera Somerville	2 Collin Cuccherini	3	4	5 Terry & Patti Weaver <b>FRED/NATS GAME</b>
6 <b>WORSHIP IN PAVILION</b>	7 Alice Hopkins Chuck & Mary Scott Gyory	8	9 Tommy Cuccherini (III)	10 Gale Gibson	11	12 <b>WOMENS RETREAT</b>
13	14	15 Roger Eakin Tom & Kim Nixon	16	17 Jon & Ruth Sousa	18 Robert & Judy Norris	19 Debbie Long-Smith Conley Wallace
20	21	22	23 Allyson Thorpe	24 <b>GOOD TIMERS</b>	25	26
27 Tommy Cuccherini	28	29	30	31		