

PASTORS PONDERINGS

A FAITH THAT HEALS

Over the Memorial Day Weekend Robin and I and the family went to stay at an Airbnb in the Allegheny River Valley near Kennerdell, Pennsylvania. From the parsonage in Poland, it is about an hour and a half drive. One of the things I have noticed the last couple of years with arthritis in my back and right hip is that longer car rides add to the stiffness in my back and hip. When I stop and get out of the car, I find myself hunched over and lunging forward when walking. If I sit too long, I have a tougher time trying to move. Once I get moving, I feel a little better and more mobile.

One day while on Robin and I and the family went to a waterfall and sat in the pool underneath it. The water was very cold but felt good on my back and right hip. While I am sitting in the cool water, I thought of the man who could not walk or move closer to the alleged healing pools at Bethesda. Jesus approaches the man at the pools and has a conversation with him. Read and reflect on the conversation in John 5:1-9 NIV, ¹*Sometime later, Jesus went up to Jerusalem for one of the Jewish festivals.* ²Now there is in Jerusalem near the Sheep Gate a pool, which in Aramaic is called Bethesda^[a] and which is surrounded by five covered colonnades. ³Here a great number of disabled people used to lie—the blind, the lame, the paralyzed. ^[4]^[b] ⁵*One who was there had been an invalid for thirty-eight years.* ⁶When Jesus saw him lying there and learned that he had been in this condition for a long time, he asked him, “Do you want to get well?”

⁷“Sir,” the invalid replied, “I have no one to help me into the pool when the water is stirred. While I am trying to get in, someone else goes down ahead of me.”

⁸Then Jesus said to him, “Get up! Pick up your mat and walk.” ⁹At once the man is cured; he picked up his mat and walked.

During the conversation, the ailing man has with Jesus he is asked a question by Jesus, “Do you want to get well”? The man had been ailing for thirty-eight years and Jesus ask him a simple but profound question that challenges the man and his desire to be healed. The gentleman response to Jesus by saying, “I have no one to help me into the pool when the water is stirred. While I am trying to get in, someone else goes down ahead of me”. Jesus simply says, “Get! Pick up your mat and walk”. All at once the man can get up and walk. Note that Jesus does not lay direct hands on the man or pray over him but simply tell the man to get up and to move forward in faith that Jesus’s words provide healing. With just a little faith in Jesus the man finds healing. Over the last year and a half, I have collaborated with doctors and physical therapist and the doctor has told me that I will know when I need to have a complete hip replacement. With the pain I am having I have come to realize that on June 18th I will be ready to have my hip replacement and to lose the pain that I am physically having. I have appreciated all the prayers I have received from the congregations at the Canfield and Poland United Methodist Churches. The prayers and words of encouragement and love have embodied Jesus Christ grace and have echoed his healing words of love. I will be off the last two weeks of June and the first two weeks of July recovering from my hip replacement and I will be think of you all as brother and sisters in Christ that encourage myself and us all to get up and be healed and to follow Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior to bring healing to the world. Amen!

MISSIONS

ISAIAH 40:10-11

Thank you all for your generosity for the PUMC Mission Trip to Joshua Mission Trip in Steubenville, OH which is scheduled for July 9th – July 13th. There will be 10 persons attending from PUMC as well as volunteers from Canfield and Boardman UMC.



JUNE MISSION: THE BEATITUDE HOUSE

The June Mission Spotlight will be for the ladies and families at the local Beatitude House in Youngstown. They need items such as women's undergarments, toiletries, sanitary napkins, facial tissues and facial creams. To check out the Beatitude House and their mission on the web please go to www.ursulinesistersmission.org

POLAND INTERFAITH FOOD PANTRY

Thank you to all who donate their time and food every month. In May, the pantry distributed food to over 50 needy families in the Poland Struthers zip codes. Anyone in those zip codes or affiliated with any of the Poland churches is eligible for help.

Thanks to the incredible amount of generous donations from the participating churches and community the Pantry is well stocked so please if you know of someone or family in the community that needs food, please let them know. The Pantry is in a great position to help them.

THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR GENEROSITY. MAY GOD BLESS YOU AND YOUR FAMILIES

PUMC Cabinet



"For I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat..." Matthew 25:35

PEDAL WITH PASTOR PAUL

June 9th @ 4:30PM | Stavich Bicycle Trailhead

(300 E. Liberty St. (by Melillo's Grill), Lowellville, OH 44436)



Dress for the weather, bring a helmet, water and snacks!

LET'S RIDE AND ROLL WITH THE LORD, AMEN!

TRUSTEES

Nehemiah 2:18

Lots of people to thank for assistance around the church.

Another “thanks again” to Sandy Beckwith, Shannon Paris, Sandy Kerr, Candy Morgan and Larry Warren for their work cleaning the sanctuary. Thanks also, to Dan Klimas, Doc Resch, Marty Malenic, Marty Mattison, Kitty Mattison, Patti Prentiss, Rob Simon and Janell Prater for their help working on various cleaning and organization projects.

Tom Semer and Budd Barger for their work on the timers for the outside lights.

Dan Klimas for organizing the grounds keeping workday last month.

If we have missed anyone, please forgive us.

If the Lord is calling you to use your gifts and talents, please see Pastor Paul or any cabinet member who can guide you connect.

There are many opportunities in the ministries of education, worship, missions, leadership and facilities.

Upcoming projects include roof repair at the parsonage, roof repair above Fellowship Hall, replacement and fastening of soffit vents at the church and parking lot repairs, sealing and striping.



WE'RE BACK!

Poland UMC'S
Drive-Thru Chicken Dinner

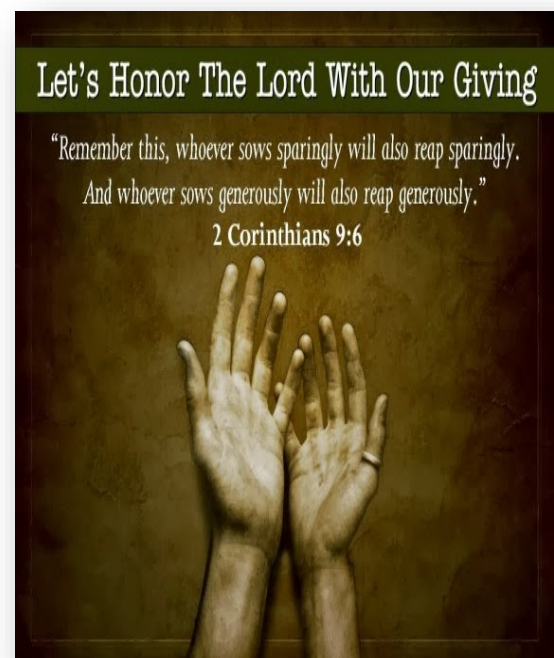
Thur, June 6th
3:30PM til Sold Out
\$10 ea

1940 Boardman Poland Rd., Poland OH 44514
To support our UM outreach and Missions

NO CHICKEN DINNER IN JULY!

GLANCE AT FINANCE

	<u>APR</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Monthly physical contributions	\$20,149.00	\$ 79,557.00
Monthly on-line contributions	\$ 3,289.00	\$ 12,684.00
Other revenues	\$ 1,675.00	\$ 6,802.00
Less monthly expenses	<u>\$18,247.00</u>	<u>\$ 92,321.00</u>
Net impact to Budget	\$ 6,866.00	\$ 6,722.00
<i>Thank you to each one who continues to support PUMC!</i>		



Let's Honor The Lord With Our Giving

*"Remember this, whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly.
And whoever sows generously will also reap generously."*

2 Corinthians 9:6

SAVE THE DATE
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



POLAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

JULY 15-22 6-8:30 PM

COME & JOIN THE PARTY **SOMETHING NEW EVERY NIGHT**
BIBLE/MUSIC/KID-FRIENDLY DINNERS DINNER/CRAFTS/ACTIVITIES

A big thank you to everyone who supported our Vacation Bible School Fundraisers; we have lots of fun things planned for this summer's program.

START THE PARTY VBS will celebrate the Good News of Jesus! At VBS, we will show the kids why Jesus is the good news. He gives us friendship, belonging, forgiveness, abundant life, & purpose. These are all great reasons to decorate the walls, turn up the music, invite some friends & throw open the doors to have a big party & loads of FUN!

VBS is a free program & we welcome kids ages 3 years thru 6th grade. We have Bible class, music, crafts & activities and dinner and featuring different FUN every night! Registration begins soon.

We already have our table set up in the narthex with a list of items needed again this year; we appreciate your help. Items are due back June 23. And we always need extra helpers the week of VBS/July 15-19 6-8:30pm.

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News from last month:

The children in the Teddy Bear Class had learning experiences based on the following themes:

All About My Mom, Happy to "Sea" You, Let's Get Ready For Summer, and "Last Days of Preschool Fun".

The themes in the Rainbow Class were: My Mom Is Special, All About Bugs, Summer Is Coming, and Last Week Of Fun.

In the KR Classes they finished up their lessons on letters: J (Jellyfish), F (Flowers), and

B (Bumblebees). They also made special Mother's Day gifts.

They ended the month with a very special KR Graduation Program featuring the theme of Disney:

After the guests watched a photo presentation, the children paraded in to the theme song from Tarzan: You'll Be In My Heart

Then they came up one at a time and represented an individual letter character.

After that they sang the following songs:

Heigh Ho (Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs)

You've Got A Friend In Me (Toy Story)

Try Everything (Zootopia)

It's A Small World (Disney Park Theme)

Following the final song they received their diplomas and bibles and danced to the Hot Dog Song from the Mickey Mouse Club.

They did a wonderful job and we are so proud of them! We will miss them and wish them the best of luck when they start kindergarten next Fall!

*We are still enrolling for the Fall and Summer term—for more information call Erica at the child care office (330-757-9747) or email: pbccc@polandumc.org.



CLASS
OF
2024



polandboardmanchildcarecenter.com