



# What's Up Wickliffe!

SEPTEMBER 2023

## THE GARISH ORANGE FRAME

It was suitable punishment I suppose. Fifty hours of community service in payment for one act of vandalism. I'd thought it funny at the time – letting the air out of the wheelchair's tires - but looking back, it was pretty dumb.

My heart plummeted when I heard where my sentence was to be served. The Haven. A home for those with physical and intellectual disabilities. Around town, it was commonly called the 'funny farm'. It was the last place a cool teenager wanted to be. My friends cackled like a bunch of hyenas when they found out.

I noticed the picture frame the very first day the social worker marched me through the doors. It was hard to miss as it was almost as tall as I and so bright. The garish, orange plaster had to be four inches wide and was pocked with bits of broken mirror and lime green beads. Some clown had daubed purple paint here and there and the whole effect was seriously ugly. It dominated a whole wall in the reception area.

I initially worked at the home for three hours each weekend and the frame was the first thing I saw each time I dragged my self through the doors. Ugly I thought. Ugly like the judge who had sent me here. I wasn't a willing worker but the staff were glad of my assistance anyway and soon trained me in the basics of care-giving. It was an uncomfortable process; learning to change nappies on a teenager, spoon-feeding those who had limited movement. Wiping drool from a ten year old chin and reading Chicken Little to an eighteen year old.

My social life suffered and soon I was alone on the weekends. "Funny farmer." My friends would chant. "Shelley belongs on the funny farm." One day I realized they weren't the type of friends I wanted and turned my attention to completing my community service so I could move on with life.

I doubled my hours at The Haven and before I knew it, the kids started to worm their way into my heart. Henry was a giant eight year old with bug eyes and a terrible stutter. He spent his days crawling around the playroom and whenever he saw me arrive he would shout "Mmme first. Mmme first. Shelly hhhhelp me fffirst." Then there was Martin. He would face the corner and rock on his knees, murmuring to himself. One day I went and rocked with him and later he calmly allowed me to feed him. Great progress according to the staff. My favorite, however, had to be Alyssa. She was sixteen and had been born with no legs, stumps for arms and was severely mentally impaired. Nevertheless, her eyes shone when she saw me and I would sit with her, rubbing cream into her withered stumps and

singing softly so only she could hear. She reminded me of an angel with her short blonde curls and clear, babyish skin.

It was at the start of my ninth shift that I finally noticed the painting inside the garish orange frame. Of course, it had always been there but the frame had been my focal point, drawing my attention away from the true artwork. The delicate water-colour depicted a toddler in a wheelchair, sitting in a garden of beautiful roses and fountains. She was golden haired and a soft pink blanket was wrapped around her torso. Where her hands should have been were shrunken stumps. A small sign rested on her lap and I moved closer to read the neat, fluid script.

At last you've noticed me, seen past the frame that holds me in...

Don't be put off by my body, my exterior

Look past that and see the real me

I feel pain as you do

I feel rejection as you do

I rejoice at the wind in my hair and love a beautiful garden as you do

Will you look past the frame and see who I really am?

I stood there for at least ten minutes, tears running down my cheeks. Eventually the receptionist came and pressed a tissue into my hand.

I nodded to the child. "Alyssa?" I questioned.

She nodded. "Her father painted that and presented it to the home when she moved in." She smiled gently. "It always has an impact when people truly see it."

Taken from *Faithwriters.com* by Debbie Roome

### Check Out What's Inside

Page 2	September Schedule Birthdays/Anniversaries
Page 3	Per Capita Info Peace & Global Witness Special Interest Article
Page 4	WPC Picnic Photos
Page 5	In Memorium Needle's Eye Ministry New Recipe
Page 6	September Calendar



# SEPTEMBER SCHEDULE

\*\*\*\*\*



September 3 Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost

September 10 Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost  
♦ 9:00 AM Deacons Meeting

September 17 Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost  
♦ Support Meeting

September 24 Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

## Happy Birthday!

- September 8 Tracy Martin
- September 13 Kimberly Clark
- September 14 Debby Fabian
- September 15 Donna Cooper
- September 16 Bob Fabian
- September 22 Carole Leslie

**PLEASE NOTE:** There will be a Deacons Meeting held September 10 at 9:00 AM.

## Happy Anniversary

- September 3 Rich & Janelle Truslow
- September 24 Jeff & Jamie Bryant
- September 25 Ricky & Nancy Witt

**Church Office Hours:**  
 Monday - 9:00am - 12:00pm  
 Tuesday - Closed  
 Wednesday - Closed  
 Thursday - 9:00am - 12:00pm  
 Friday - Closed

**(Hours may vary. Please contact the office for an appointment if you need in the church)**  
 Church Website: [www.wickliffepc.com](http://www.wickliffepc.com)  
 Secretary's Email: [wickliffepc@gmail.com](mailto:wickliffepc@gmail.com)

---

Wickliffe Presbyterian Church  
 45 Idlewood Rd.  
 Austintown, OH 44515  
 P: 330-792-6441 F: 330-792-1006

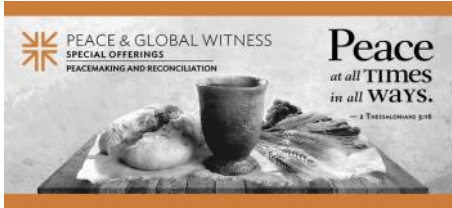
---

TLCC Daycare and Preschool  
 Director, Norma Johnson  
 330-792-9048





**2023 Per Capita is \$32.50. Per Capita information flyers are available at the church.**



**PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS  
SPECIAL OFFERING  
OCTOBER 1, 2023**

On **World Communion Sunday, October 1, 2023**, we Presbyterians celebrate that Christ's peace extends throughout all creation. Whenever the church gathers for worship, we are assured of Christ's peace. We celebrate that we are connected, we are loved, and we are not alone. We worship together at Christ's table of peace. Extending the peace of Christ is part of an active, engaged faith that make us a part of the Church together. We are connected to each other. We are not alone.

Peace begins with each of us.

25% of the Offering stays with local congregations.

25% goes to mid councils to support peacemaking in our region.

50% of this Offering supports the work for peace and reconciliation being done by Presbyterians across the globe.

**This Offering will be received on Sunday, October 1, 2023.** Please consider what you are able to give.

Grateful thanks, Donna Cooper

On Sunday, August 20, we were blessed to have Barb McKinney in Worship and presented her with a gift and cards as she is moving to Poland. She still plans to worship with us on occasion, as one of our members has volunteered to pick her up.

Barb joined our Church in 1964. She's been a wonderful friend and has given her all to our Church Family. She has been an Elder, Financial Secretary and Deacon, and has contributed so much to helping in any way she could. Back in the day when we had luncheons, funeral dinners, etc., it was Barb who headed up the kitchen staff to make all run smoothly. Recently, out of the goodness of her heart, she has paid for the Daily Bread booklets to benefit our members. She also helped pass the word for the prayer chain. I'm sure I've forgotten something that she has been involved with during her time at Wickliffe. We all have fond memories of her kindness.

Please keep her in your prayers and drop a card or call on occasion. Her family has been a great help in supporting her and aiding her in the move.

Her new address is :  
The Inn at Poland Way  
Room 228  
6501 Poland Way  
Poland, Ohio 44514  
330-531-1390

**We  
love  
you,  
Barb!**





# WICKLIFFE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PICNIC

Sunday, August 13, 2023



Thanks, Wonderful Wickliffe, for coming and adding fun to our annual picnic! What can be better than happy people, great Gospel music, delicious food, some crazy attire, fine fellowship, and praising God.

You know the Lord created our sense of fun and laughter, and Wickliffe Presbyterian people know how to use that heavenly gift!



Many thanks for our contestants, Harriet and Joe DiNobile, Nancy O'Hara and Gracie for wearing very creative, crazy clothes for our first annual contest! Perhaps their participation will encourage more members to join in next year! Hint! Hint!



Thanks to so many who pulled all the loose strings together to make the picnic a success: Debby Fabian, Janelle Truslow, Jeff and Jamie Bryant, Jeff Pennington, Grace Brown, Bill Cooper, Tex Martin and those who lent a hand who I have not saluted!! Grateful thanks to all!!

Blessings for the "Groupies" who follow The Renewal Trio and attended and added to our numbers: 51 people total!!



The Stacey Pavilion is reserved for next year. August 11, 2024! Same time, same place. Save the date!!

Donna Cooper, Debby Fabian, Janet Walston

WPC Growth Committee





### MAY SHE REST IN PEACE

Our sympathy and prayers for comfort are extended to the family and friends of **Sondra Jean Perkins**, who passed away on Thursday, July 27, 2023. Her memorial service was held Saturday, August 19 here at Wickliffe Church. Sondra and her husband James, who passed away in July 2016, were long time members of Wickliffe Church, joining in 1969. Sondra leaves to mourn her loss her four daughters, Diane Malys, Sherri Walden, Julie Shuttleworth and Michelle Smith, as well as ten grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren. May she rest in peace and may perpetual light shine upon her.

### Needle's Eye Soup Ministry

**WOW! WOW! WOW!** Our basket was full last month! So excited to take so much to Needle's Eye! How happy Emmeline, Betty, Dennis, and the Bishop were to see our bountiful basket! Let's fill it up again for September!

**Thank you!!  
Donna Cooper**



### BLUEBERRY GLAZE (for Chicken or Pork)

- 2 Tbsp Olive Oil
- 1 Tbsp. Butter
- 1 Minced Shallot
- 2 tsp. Garlic
- 2 tsp. Rosemary
- 2 Tbsp. Balsamic Vinegar
- 1 Tbsp. Honey
- 1 tsp. Cinnamon
- 1 Pint Blueberries



Sauté shallots and garlic in olive oil and butter. Add rosemary, vinegar, honey and cinnamon. Stir and bring to a boil over medium heat. Add blueberries. Stir to thicken and the blueberries pop. Let cool. Brush on chicken or a pork loin and bake as usual.

*Submitted by Norma Johnson*

**Want to submit a recipe for a future newsletter? We welcome your great ideas!  
Just send an e-mail to [wickliffepc@gmail.com](mailto:wickliffepc@gmail.com) or drop it off on Sunday**

# September 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 10:00 AM Worship Service  8:00 PM AA Mtg.	4 	5	6  11:30 AM Goodtimers	7  5:45 PM Tops	8	9
10 9:00 AM Deacons Mtg 10:00 AM Worship Service 8:00 PM AA Mtg.	11  TLCC Board Mtg at 6:00 PM	12	13	14  5:45 PM Tops	15	16
17 10:00 AM Worship Service Support Mtg.  8:00 PM AA Mtg.	18	19  Discovery Group at 12:30 PM	20	21  October Newsletter Deadline  5:45 PM Tops	22	23  
24  10:00 AM Worship Service  8:00 PM AA Mtg.	25	26  Session Mtg. at 6:00 PM	27	28  5:45 PM Tops	29	30