



What's Up Wickliffe!

OCTOBER 2023

"I REMEMBER"

The pony-tailed doll she clutched under her arm was topsy-turvey, but she didn't notice. As she approached me, she clasped her hands anxiously and asked, "Have you seen Mom and Dad?"

"No, not today."

I settled her onto the soft-cushioned sofa and patted her hand. Reassure and redirect, I'd found, was the best advice. It was true; I hadn't seen her mom and dad today. My grandparents passed away over three decades ago. Telling my mother that her parents were dead would be cruel and futile. Not only would she relive the sorrow and loss unnecessarily, but she would forget almost immediately and ask all over again.

Mom had resided with me and my family for years until her declining condition forced us to make the heartbreaking decision to move her into a monitored facility. She eventually adjusted to the change and didn't seem to hold a grudge against me.

Yet guilt stabbed me whenever well-meaning people suggested what they thought could have been done. If we truly cared, they implied, we would find a way to keep her at home. As if we could change an impossible situation. As though my older siblings and I had taken this decision lightly. Faced with Mom's unpredictable and often bizarre behavior, my siblings were no more up to the task than I was. We could no longer assure her safety. I'd never been one to subscribe to the notion that it takes a village to raise a child, yet it was a different story with an adult who daily grew more child-like.

She was relaxed now, hugging the upside-down doll to her chest and studying my face. With her thoughts focused today on her parents, she was confusing me with her sister. Her eyes drifted to her surroundings, taking in the soothing paintings on the pastel walls as if seeing them for the first time. Sitting opposite her, I began to hum the tune of Jesus Loves Me. I smiled to see her moving her hands to the music.

Her once strong hands had planted gardens, canned vegetables, kneaded bread, and bounced babies. When her brain was still healthy, her hands could crochet intricate doilies without a pattern. In my earliest memories, I see her hands, red and chapped, as she wrestled the white bedsheets onto the clothesline on frigid winter days. And in the summertime, that hand stretched out, the forefinger extended. I'd grab her finger in my tiny fist as we strolled together down the lane.

Her finger continued to sway as I sang: "Jesus loves me. This I

know, for the Bible tells me so." There was no need to ask God for the thousandth time, "Why?" Why had he allowed this horrendous disease to chop away pieces of her bit by bit? I never got an answer, but I learned to accept the reality.

"Jesus loves us!" I told her. "Isn't that nice?"

"Yes," she replied softly. Then she lost interest and wandered off.

Mom became compliant once she adjusted to her life in the nursing home. She was seldom argumentative or mean, as many patients can be. Her caretakers grew fond of her and gave her so many baby dolls that her bed overflowed with them. She spent hours a day restlessly roaming the corridors. Once I watched as she stopped outside one of the glass-fronted offices. She tapped timidly on the glass wall until she had the nurse's attention. Mom smiled sweetly, waved, then blew the woman a kiss. I'd never felt so proud.

I was blessed, and I knew it. Although Alzheimer's disease robbed my mother in many ways, it couldn't destroy the love in her heart. Growing up, my siblings and I always knew we were the top priority in Mom's life. We never had to question whether or not she loved us. Even now, when she struggled to remember who I was, I knew she still loved me. If she thought I was her sister, that was okay with me; I knew she loved her sister, too.

My mom's human frailty didn't diminish her love. I remember that Jesus loves us. I trust that better days are coming soon.

Taken from Faithwriters.com by [Marilyn Borga](#)

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OCTOBER SCHEDULE



- October 1 Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost
 - ◆ World Communion Sunday
 - ◆ Peace and Global Witness Offering
- October 8 Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost
- October 15 Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost
 - ◆ Support Meeting
- October 22 Twenty-first Sunday After Pentecost
 - ◆ Soup & Sloppy Joe Luncheon
 - ◆ Stewardship Sunday
- October 29 Twenty-second Sunday After Pentecost



October 6	Marcy Clark
October 8	Jeff Bryant
October 12	Vivian Manenti
October 13	Ruth Capper



October 4	Glenn & Norma Johnson
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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
 Secretary's Email: wickliffepc@gmail.com

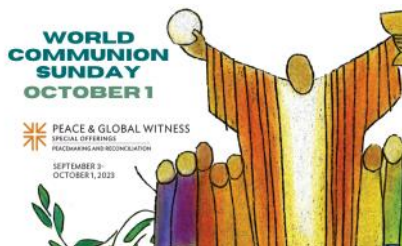
Wickliffe Presbyterian Church
 45 Idlewood Rd.
 Austintown, OH 44515
 P: 330-792-6441 F: 330-792-1006

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



October 1, 2023

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



PEACE AND GLOBAL WITNESS

As the Presbyterian Church enters into the Season of Peace, we pray; GOD OF PEACE, we embrace Your joy and go forth to connect with others in building a world where all can find compassion, peace and justice. Amen

Our Offering will be taken up on Sunday, October 1, 2023 - World Communion Sunday.

- 25% of this offering stays with our congregation to support peacemaking and reconciliation in our own community.
- 25% of this offering goes to our Presbytery and joins with other congregation gifts to support peacemaking work in our region.
- 50% of this offering supports the work for peace and reconciliation being done by Presbyterians across the globe.

Please consider what you might give to this Offering on Sunday, October 1st.

“A LITTLE ADDS UP TO A LOT!”
Grateful Thanks, Donna Cooper



The Deacons are starting the fall in a busy way! There will be a Worldwide Communion served October 1, 2023. Then we will be having the Soup and Sloppy Joe Lunch on October 22 after church. A free will offering will be encouraged to help with our Deacon missions. There will be a variety of soups, sloppy joes, chips and pickles. We are asking the congregation for a donation of cookies to finish the yummy menu!

Please submit any needy family name who might need a food basket for Thanksgiving or Christmas. We will gladly help. Keep bringing in food items and paper products for the Deacon's cupboard. This really is a congregational effort to help people in need.

The Samaritan Purse Christmas Child Shoebox and instruction label will be in the Narthex this Sunday. Last year we packed 17 boxes for children. Let's try to increase our numbers this year. You can also do it online if that would be easier for anyone who doesn't want to shop. The last day to return the box will be Nov. 12.

Keep in mind we will be having the Head-to-Toe Tree for Protestant Family Service again this year in December. This is where a gift can be purchased, labeled and wrapped for any age person. And lastly there will be the Tree for hats, mittens, gloves, scarves, and socks. These items collected will be given to the Fish Samaritan House to be distributed.

Wow, that is a lot of activities!! The holidays are the perfect time for giving to others. Thank you for your wonderful support. If we all do a little it will help a lot of people and share God's love.

Debby Fabian and the Deacons,
Nancy Truslow, Sherrie Wolfe, Sherry Yacucci, Bobbi Jo Smith and Patti Cramer.



STEWARDSHIP 2024 CAMPAIGN

The past years have seen a dramatic change in our world, community and especially our church. We have lost members, incurred unexpected expenses and endured ever-increasing costs. Yet, here we are. Still a strong church family meeting the needs of our day to day operations while at the same time generously giving to those in need in our community and world around us.

On October 22, Stewardship Sunday, we are asking for monetary commitments for the upcoming 2024 year. You will receive a letter and a pledge card to be turned in so that we may start working on the 2024 budget. In addition, please consider where your time and talents can be put to use in the life of our church. There are many opportunities and openings available.



IN STEP WITH SESSION

The Session finally met after taking the Summer off and it was nice to be able to get back on track. We had kept in contact during the summer months to take care of any business needing addressed.

Just a few updates on items we discussed are listed below.

**The Pledges are down a little which is expected during the summer months. Stewardship Sunday will be held on October 22nd the same day the Deacons will be holding their Soup and Sloppy Joe Luncheon. Please give your giving practices some thought as we are trying to keep afloat financially.*

**We are concerned about repairs needed in the Church...the roof, electrical issues and driveway by TLCC, etc. You will see envelopes periodically in your offering box entitled Capital Fund Campaign. This money goes to defraying costs for any issues that arise. Thank you for helping in any way possible.*

**Session also finalized the Wedding Policy. A motion was made to accept the policy as written.*

**The Nominating committee which includes Janelle Truslow, Patti Cramer and Bev Bagoly will be busy trying to fill vacated positions for Elders, Deacons and TLCC Board. Your help is greatly needed.*

**Janelle is still working diligently to fill the pulpit. With the Holidays approaching, it is somewhat difficult to find Pastors/Elders to step forward but with prayer all will work out. Finding a solution to hiring a Pastor is a slow process. We thank you for your patience.*

As we move forward into the busy months ahead, please reach out to your Session if you are in need of any help in any way.

Blessings to all in Jesus' name.... Nancy O'Hara, Clerk of Session



A very special thank you to **RUTH CAPPER** for all the beautiful cards she makes for all of us to take and send out—at no charge!

Without Ruth, we would be lost. So many, many thanks to Ruth for your kindness and generosity!
Bev Bagoly and Friends

Needle's Eye Soup Ministry

Good job again! Our basket was full last month! How happy Emmeline, Betty, Dennis, and the Bishop were to see our bountiful basket! Let's fill it up again for October!

**Thank you!!
Donna Cooper**



SHE MOVED!

Our own **Edith Muzenic** moved on Saturday, Sept. 23, 2023. Her new address and phone number are:

**Inn at Ironwood
6699 Ironwood Blvd.
Suite 220
Canfield, OH 44406
330-286-1751**



All our best wishes to Edie for happiness in her new home!



**Ronald
McDonald
House**

"POP TABS—Reminder"

This is a reminder that you take time to collect **Pop Tabs** for our **RONALD McDONALD HOUSE Outreach**. You will find the tall plastic container in the Narthex. Let's please see how fast we can fill the jug this time. Blessings to all for your support of this worthy cause!
~ Nancy O'Hara, Clerk of Session

REQUEST FROM JEFF—Reminder

Jeff Bryant is collecting **aluminum cans** for a project with the VFW called "**Cans for Vets**". Please bring your cans to the church (garbage can is placed near the door). Jeff will be collecting the cans for the remainder of the year. Thank you in advance for your Christian generosity!



October 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1 10:00 AM Worship Service</p>  <p>8:00 PM AA Mtg.</p>	2	3	4 11:30 AM Goodtimers	5 5:45 PM Tops	6	7
<p>8 10:00 AM Worship Service</p> <p>8:00 PM AA Mtg.</p>	9	10	11	12 5:45 PM Tops	13	14
<p>15 10:00 AM Worship Service</p> <p>Support Mtg.</p> <p>8:00 PM AA Mtg.</p>	16	17 Discovery Group at 12:30 PM Session Mtg. at 6:00 PM	18	19 5:45 PM Tops	20	21
<p>22 10:00 AM Worship Service</p> <p>Stewardship Sunday</p> <p>Soup & Sloppy Jo Luncheon</p> <p>8:00 PM AA Mtg.</p>	23 <i>November Newsletter Deadline</i>	24	25	26 5:45 PM Tops	27	28
<p>29 10:00 AM Worship Service</p> <p>8:00 PM AA Mtg.</p>	30	31 				