

CORNERSTONE

PEWEE VALLEY
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

JUNE / JULY
2022



What Makes a Congregation Vital?

From the Desk of
Reverend Joel Weible

I'm pretty sure that many of you will not do this, but this opening letter will be much more provocative if you stop reading now, read the rest of the newsletter, and come back to this only after you've seen what's included in this double-month summer edition of *Cornerstone*. Try it, I dare you. ***Stop reading this opening letter now and come back after you've finished the rest of the article ...***

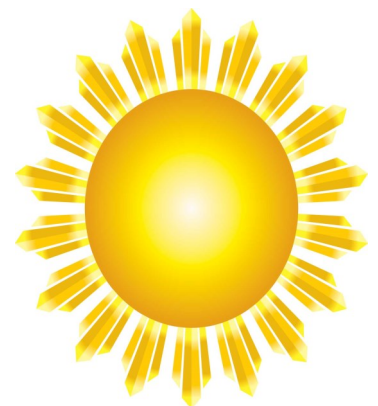
... Welcome back. Having read some of the exciting news that this edition contains, specifically our "first full-time non-Pastor/Head of Staff pastoral position ever" and the exciting conversation that continues in Session about our future, allow me to ask again the question above, with a slight alteration: ***Other than membership numbers, what makes a congregation vital?*** I really want to hear from you what you think (pastor@pvpres.org).

You just read the reminder about the *Vital Congregations* conversation that is happening, a reminder that included "seven marks of a vital congregation." And you've just read about the new staff position that includes some of the things your Session, Ashia, and I think make for a vital conversation. What do ***you*** think? Outside of membership growth itself (which, this community should know better than most, is no sure predictor of vitality), what could we be doing, discussing, discerning and deciding to increase our congregational vitality?!

Other than your own imagination and creativity, you have "prompts" in the article in this month's *Cornerstone* and a "prompter" in the Holy Spirit, itself. So ... now that you've already read the whole newsletter: Close your eyes, imagine, follow the Spirit ... and let me know what *you* think. I really want to hear from you (pastor@pvpres.org).

See you in church (one of the moves to deeper vitality),
Pastor Joel

Pastor Joel's Message	1
Church News & Events	2-6
Small Group Calendar	7
Birthdays & Anniversaries	8
Prayer Requests	9





SUMMER 2022 WORSHIP SCHEDULE

*May 29th (Memorial Day Weekend) through
September 4th (Labor Day Weekend)*

Worship Service remains at 10:30 a.m.

We are excited again this year about the fellowship before and after worship that the “lazy days of summer” provide as we celebrate the love, life, and promise of God this summer.

Your Christian Education Team Reminds You ...

Beginning on May 29th (Memorial Day weekend), all of our “regularly scheduled” Sunday School classes, from preschool to adult, will take the Summer off to re-group for the Fall.

We will be providing nursery and toddler care, of course, beginning at 10:15 a.m.

Be sure to let the CE Team know of any other ideas or needs that arise this summer so that we may continue to meet the

GUEST PREACHERS IN JULY

Ashia will be preaching on July 10th and 17th, but we will have two guest preachers in July with Pastor Joel on sabbatical: **Rev. Dr. Wayne Willis**, our former Interim Pastor (2006-2008) will return to the pulpit on July 24th. He couldn't be more excited, and neither could we! Our General Presbyter, **Rev. Dr. John Odom** will be preaching on July 31st. John has been leading the Presbytery since 2015, and we are very grateful that he

PASTOR WEIBLE ON SABBATICAL LEAVE

July 4 through August 1

IT'S COMING TOGETHER! I will be with you all on the first Sunday of July, share Communion with you, and then leave you in the hands of our Director of Small Group Ministry and Congregational Vitality (that is our very own Ashia Stoess, if you haven't read *that* exciting news, yet).

I will spend July 4th -18th in “retreat” where I will seek to recenter by reading, writing and spending most of my time alone. On July 19th, I'll fly with our sons Gabe and Sam to London where we will join daughter Annie and Katie, who has received a scholarship from the English Speaking Union's Kentucky Branch to study at the Globe Theatre in London in July. I hope to spend about 5-6 days involved with a local church that is engaged in a form of Christian Community Development that we are exploring for our future at PVPC. I'm finding that most of the Pastor/leaders of these worshipping communities are on vacation themselves – several of them to the United States! I will return to the States on August 1st and to all of you on August 2nd and look forward to sharing my experiences – ones that you are helping to create – with you in every way possible. I am so grateful to the Personnel folks, the Finance Team, and all of you for the love and support expressed to me and my family in this incredible way. Thank you PVPC!

Pastor Joel

PENTECOST SUNDAY – June 5TH

As recorded in scripture, we gather “all together in one place” to celebrate the arrival of the Holy Spirit! Historically and symbolically, Pentecost is related to the Jewish harvest festival of Shavuot, the day that is fifty days (hence its name) after the Exodus, on which God gave the Ten Commandments at Mount Sinai. In the Christian church, Pentecost now celebrates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and other followers of Jesus as described in the Book of Acts, chapter 2.

Red symbolizes the “fire” of the Holy Spirit that descended from heaven like a violent wind and gave to each prophetic speech in their native tongue.

***So, let's set our hearts on fire Pentecost Sunday
and live into the symbolism of our attire! (Hint: wear red)***

A CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF SIS MARKER

On Saturday, June 4th at 2:00 p.m., two years and one day after her death and Resurrection, we will gather to celebrate and witness to the Life of our beloved matriarch, Louise “Sis” Herdt Marker. Sis died at the onset of the COVID pandemic and donated her body to the University of Louisville. Her cremains have been returned to the family and they have set aside this time to gather together in this sanctuary where Sis shared her life so fully and completely. More details will follow.

April 2022 Financial

	Current Month	Current Month Budget	Year To Date	Year To Date Budget
Member Contributions	\$28,577	\$21,228	\$125,691	\$84,911
Loose Plate Offerings	\$624	\$167	\$1,019	\$667
CDC Contributions	\$8,250	\$8,850	\$33,000	\$35,400
All Other Income	\$1,823	\$1,148	\$0	\$4,591
Expenses	\$27,486	\$26,989	\$119,002	\$121,704

FELLOWSHIP EVENT PICS



The Winning Trivia Madness Team



**Derby
Hat
Contest**



Introducing our New Staff Position:

DIRECTOR OF SMALL GROUP MINISTRY AND CONGREGATIONAL VITALITY

While the position is new, the Personnel is not: Ashia Stoess will step into the first new full-time position at PVPC in over two decades! As all of you are aware, we are engaged in a deeper conversation at the Session and Congregational levels on *Congregational Vitality* – what is a “vital congregation” in the 21st century? How can “vitality” be understood as *more* than numerical growth? How might increased community engagement lead to deeper vitality? These are only a few of the questions already being asked. In a very real sense, this new position will find its “job description” as it begins, but engagement may include:

- ***Increased involvement in the Child Development Center outreach with the children, directors, staff, and parents;***
- ***Deeper engagement with groups currently using PVPC’s facilities (BSA, volleyball and basketball groups, and other community groups, as identified);***
- ***Engagement in the wider community (communities) in which the congregation is situated (other congregations in South Oldham County, businesses and schools in Pewee Valley and Crestwood, social clubs and arts organizations); and,***
- ***Deeper involvement in the Mission Outreach of PVPC that includes participating in “Works of Mercy” (e.g., providing food for families), and enable the congregation to identify and implement “Works of Justice” (e.g., being involved in work that helps eliminate hunger in the first place).***

One of the biggest ways that each and every member can get involved is to share with Ashia what you think Congregational Vitality can look like. ***Note: It is most helpful to think of MORE than church growth!***

We look forward to what the future holds for all us and we couldn’t be more grateful that Ashia feels called to be a part of the future of our beloved community.

YOUTH AT MONTREAT

June 12 - June 18

We have three youth traveling to Montreat in the month of June with Small Group Director Ashia Stoess and Pastor Joel. Jackie Meade, Will Meade and Sarah Volk will participate in this summer’s **Montreat Youth Conference II: More Than Enough**.

The Montreat Youth Conference affirms youth in their calling to be and to shape the church of Jesus Christ, helping them to know and believe that they are the beloved of God. Because our culture is overwhelmed with messages of scarcity and criticism and our problems can seem insurmountable, the Youth Conference this year will explore how God has always provided, not only what we need to survive but the great abundance needed to thrive. We are enough, we have enough, and we are empowered to do more than enough.

Please let your youth know that you are praying with them and look forward to hearing about the experiences they will share during this week together

Seeking to Be a Vital Congregation: An Ongoing Conversation

At the Elder Retreat in mid-February of this year, your session began talking about *who and how PVPC “is”* and wondering *who and how PVPC “should be”*. Using material from our denomination’s Vital Congregations: Revitalization Initiative to guide us, we began asking questions centered on “how we engage our current reality” to best ensure “a better future.” How do we redefine and redevelop what “is” into “what can be” to better ensure a future in which PVPC may remain *vital*.

This year, every Session meeting begins with an hour long devotion/discussion on one particular “mark” a vital congregation, identified in our denominational material. The marks includes:

*Lifelong Discipleship Formation / Intentional Authentic Evangelism /
Outward Incarnational Focus / Empowered Servant Leadership / Spirit Inspired Worship /
Caring Relationships / Ecclesial Health*

Most of you attended a lunch after worship on April 3rd where we shared this new conversation with you, laid out our “calendar plans”, and asked for your input. We will gather again in this way on September 11th, after worship to provide more updates and hear more input. To date we have engaged the first two “marks” listed about, and June’s Session meeting will include a devotion/discussion of the third.

One of the most exciting things that has grown out of this conversation is the identified need for another full-time pastoral staff position. Details of that position are in another article in this Newsletter, but that new full-time staff person is our very own Ashia Stoess and she will begin in July. We hope that all of you will continue to engage and help us in the Spirit led conversation that has begun once again. Pull an Elder aside, pull Ashia or me aside, and let us know how all of this makes *you* feel. *Return when ready to Pastor Joel’s opening letter, respond to the questions yourself, and share!*

“Just” Conversations: Summer Book Club

Just Conversations has been meeting on Sunday nights over Zoom for the last two years to talk about how our faith calls and influences us to respond to issues of justice. This summer we are hosting three *in-person* book clubs 6:30p–8:00p.

June 26th Discussing Antiracist Baby by Ibram X. Kendi at Larry and Connie Vice’s Home

July 24th: Discussing Jesus Takes a Side: Embracing the Political Demands of the Gospel by Johnny Rashid / Location TBA

August 21st: When We Belong: Reclaiming Christianity on the Margins by R. Nagassar / Location TBA

If you would like more information, contact Ashia at
youth@pvpres.org.

SMALL GROUP

SCHEDULE FOR JUNE

Saturday , June 4: COLLEGE STUDENT BRUNCH AT ASHIA'S
Sunday, June 5 : POSSIBLE SGMT MEETING (????)
Wednesday, June 8: SMALL GROUP DOG-WALK
Meet up at 8:30a, Location TBA
Sunday, June 12 : LEAVE FOR MONTREAT— meet at church at 8:30a
Tuesday, June 28: HIGHPOINT CHARITABLE SERVICES
5:15—7:45p

JUNE 12—JUNE 19TH MONTREAT!!

Sunday, June 26 : FAMILY SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:00a in the Parish House-

SCHEDULE FOR JULY

Sunday, July 6: SMALL GROUP DOG-WALK
Meet up at 8:30a, Location TBA
Saturday, July 16: SMALL GROUP / YOUNG ADULT PROGRESSIVE DINNER
Tuesday, July 26: HIGHPOINT CHARITABLE SERVICES
5:15—7:45p

Family Sunday School

All are welcome to Family Sunday School held on June 26th, July 31st, & August 28th from 9a-10a in The Parish House. During this hour we share a light breakfast, catch up and explore our faith through conversation and spiritual practices. We are all part of this family and we do hope you will join!

June Birthdays

2	Steven Fisher
9	Benjamin Faul
9	Kyle Malone
12	Ed Staats
12	Jake Trimpe
14	Sue Toole
14	Jack Wood
15	Anita Hicks
22	Roy Wayne
23	Betsy Warren
28	Quinlan Morris
28	Shirley Orr
28	Ron Warren



July Birthdays

5	Judy Hall
9	Bob Payne
9	Richard Wayne
9	Katie Weible
10	Celeste New
10	Edessa Stoess
10	Sarah Volk
14	Kathy Haid
16	Serayah Fletcher
16	Patty Weeks
17	Ashia Stoess
18	Linda Heleringer
18	David Malone
23	Jill MacNiven
25	Paul Culbertson, III
29	Mary Boone
29	Mary Ann Warren
30	Laura Volk

June Anniversaries

06	Jack & Peggy Wood
09	Joel & Katie Weible
10	Rock & Debbie Thompson
10	Roy & Wilma Wayne
18	Mike & Maria McC Carson
20	Allen & Peggy Morris
29	Kenny & Stephanie Willis

Summer Ushers

JUNE

5	Vices and Warrens
12	TBD
19	TBD
26	TBD

JULY

3	TBD
10	TBD
17	TBD
24	TBD
31	TBD

July Anniversaries

06	Dan & Laura Fisher
12	Alan & Joanie Walser-White
22	Regan Moore & Margaret Hill

Worship Attendance

05/01/22	55
05/08/22	60
05/15/22	49
05/22/22	54
05/29/22	xx

Summer Office Hours

The Church Office will be open for normal hours this summer, except for the following:

July 4: Closed

July 11-15: Closed



Members:

Jan Beaverson

Mary Boone

Anna Faul

Ann Finney

Lee Goss

Kim Pappas

Karen Poole

Jim Stoess

Jim Trimpe

Roy Wayne

Family and Friends:

David Goodman (D.D. Hendrickson)

Dickie Poe (Connie Vice)

Linton Plattner & Family (Regina Bates)

Vivian Smith & Family (Regina Bates)

Todd & Deloris Vance (Karen Wood)

Alicia Lechleiter (Mark Lane)

Joshua Roh (Gary & Arlene Torrens)

Robbie Mueller (D.D. Hendrickson)

Bill Vance (Karen Wood)

Ursula Brooks (Barbara Staats)

Flo Campbell (Clare Grant)

Aunt Geneva (Larry Vice)

Linda Hyatt (Shirley Hawkes)

Gavin Elder (Mark Lane)

Michelle Hendrickson (D.D. Hendrickson)

Donna Stephan (Karen Wood)

Ginny Whitlow (Connie Vice)

Mike Coyle, Sr.

Betty Kessinger (D.D. Hendrickson)

Eric Hawkes (Shirley Hawkes)

Brick Presbyterian Church (Ashia Stoess)

Beth Adams (Clare Grant)

Violet Sears (Debbie Thompson)

Bob Bruns (Karen Wood)

Debbie Chadwick (Virginia Baumann)

Mark Shircliff (Virginia Baumann)

Tommy Boone (Mary Boone)

Scott Hood (Shirley Hawkes)

Alice Walser Booker (Joan Walser)

Rev. James Byford (Rebecca Byford)

To add or remove a name, complete a Prayer Request Card

or email us at: office@pvpres.org

Pewee Valley Presbyterian Church

119 Central Avenue

P.O. Box 365

Pewee Valley, KY 40056



PeweeValleyPresbyterian.org

Address Service Requested

Big News from the Little Valley!



**CHURCH OFFICE
HOURS:**

Monday - Friday

8:30a –2:30p

(502) 241-4326

office@pvpres.org

