



Liberty Rings

A PUBLICATION OF LIBERTY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Delaware, Ohio

July/August 2020

Dear Friends,

As you may have heard by now, August 23rd will be our last Sunday at Liberty. We will be writing more as the date draws nearer, but for now we want to share our deepest thanks to each of you for the past 14 years. We have grown so much over this time, and we hope that you have too! To work with this staff, these Elders & Deacons, and others, as well as to worship alongside each of you in this church family—what a great privilege. Liberty will be forever engraved on our hearts.

Now, we have to be honest—we had hoped for things to slow down a bit before we left! But instead, we are working hard with our church officers to offer some steps in reopening Liberty, while also maintaining the highest safety standards during this pandemic and continuing to offer an online service of Sunday worship as our primary service. To that end, we have three opportunities to join us on campus:

1) Open Prayer Times in our Sanctuary
Join us Mondays at 12:00-1:00 p.m. and 4:00-5:00 p.m., and on Thursdays at 12:00-1:00 p.m. and 7:00-8:00 p.m. in July in our Sanctuary for a time of open prayer. This is not a service, but a Pastor will be there

with you for private prayers. Benches will be marked for social distancing, and masks are required. Prayer request cards will also be available & coloring for our youngest members! Please sign up on the link provided [HERE](#).

2) Sundays@Seven

Starting July 12th through August 2nd, we will be offering small outdoor vesper services from 7:00 to 7:30 p.m. on Liberty's lawn (or Shelter House/Sanctuary in the rain). We greatly miss regular outdoor worship, which we are confident will resume next summer. But in the midst of Covid-19, we are practicing a much smaller outdoor time of informal worship, reminiscent of vespers at summer camp, or of our Lenten services, with singing and prayers, and sharing by a layperson. We hope to bridge the gap between past summers and a return to normal next summer with this offering. Since numbers are sadly limited due to Covid, please sign up through the link provided [HERE](#), and please only sign up for two services total.

3) August Barn Worship

For Sundays in August, starting August 9th, we plan to worship in our beautiful Barn Sanctuary at 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.,

with all safety protocols in place. Our goal is to have a few trial services inside in place for when the Bridge/Transitional pastor arrives. These services will depend on the latest Covid-19 numbers. [Please check our website for the latest!](#)

We are asking everyone to go the extra mile for their brothers and sisters in faith. Masks and social distancing are required on Liberty's campus for ALL of these opportunities—and we do ask folks to take their temperature and use the facilities at home before joining us! Unfortunately, we cannot offer childcare. We also ask our vulnerable population to consider carefully whether or not you should join us. Staying home is always the safest option—going out is always a risk, for all ages and stages. (See *Disclaimer on the next page.*)

Someday, we will look back at this time and see how we grew in faith through these challenges. We may even remember our extra time at home and our small services fondly! But for now, put your trust in our Lord who walks with us through every hill and valley, and will never let us go.

Blessings,
Becky & John

LIBERTY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Public Disclaimer – COVID-19

COVID-19 is an extremely contagious disease. This means that the disease is spread from one person to another by direct or indirect contact. The disease can lead to severe illness and death. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, senior citizens (age 65 & up) and individuals with underlying medical conditions are especially vulnerable. Because other people are on the property and using the facilities at Liberty Presbyterian Church, the Church does not guarantee or, in any way, assure your safety related to exposure to COVID-19, and you assume all risks of such exposure by also being on the property and using facilities at Liberty Presbyterian Church. By attending you are acknowledging and accepting these risks.



APPROVED BY SESSION MAY 27, 2020

SUNDAYS@SEVEN

Starting July 12th through August 2nd, we will be offering small outdoor 'vespers' services from 7:00 to 7:30 p.m. on Liberty's lawn (or Shelter House/ Sanctuary in the rain). We are calling these *Sundays@Seven!*

This is bring your own chair, social distances pre-marked on the lawn, and yes, wearing a mask. All of this is to go the extra mile for our brothers and sisters in Christ. If for any reason we need to cancel, we will email you directly. We hope this is an extra blessing in these summer days!



SUMMER WORSHIP THEMES

The first two Sundays in July our sermon series is "Good News Encounters with Jesus". Starting July 19, we will dive into the beloved 23rd Psalm.



All September/October newsletter articles are due by **August 10**. Please email your submissions to: deanne@libertybarnchurch.com



Whether our worship is online or in person—please join us!

(www.libertybarnchurch.com)

Our services are on our website from 10:00 a.m. on Sundays. Now more than ever, it is important that we stay connected to one another in all faith, hope, and love.

COMING THIS AUGUST



August 16:
Heritage Sunday

August 23:
Hart's Last Sunday

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GOD IS CHANGING LIVES AT LIBERTY

“I just want to say how much Liberty has changed our lives. My husband and I both have grown up in the church, but with almost every class, study and sermon at Liberty we find ourselves learning something new and challenging for our faith journey. I love that Liberty continues to teach me things and help me grow in my faith. I am so blessed to have found this church.”

(A member)

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WHAT IS STEPHEN MINISTRY?

Stephen Ministry is a way of caring for individuals who are going through difficult and challenging life situations. It is a ministry for the whole congregation. We have a cadre of individuals who, over the past 12 years, have gone through training in order to be listening, prayerful friends. I believe that having a congregation with so many trained listeners and prayers

greatly effects the shape of our community. So beautiful!

If you are going through a tough time, please contact one of our Stephen Leaders for a confidential conversation or referral: *Linda Burnworth, Vickie Doyle (Parish Visitor), Jim Mohr, Rayna Kaasa, and Jerry Willet.* We look forward to sharing a little of life's journey with you.

Dear Congregation,

As you all are aware, the Harts have postponed retiring into late summer. Clearly, we will have to adjust accordingly to comply with any current government regulations regarding crowd numbers and social distancing. We are still planning on fully celebrating the Harts before they retire and look forward to doing so in a safe and meaningful way. As we mentioned before, a part of the celebration is providing them a monetary gift from the congregation. If you would like to contribute, please notate in your check or online donation that it is for the Harts' retirement gift. We appreciate your understanding and will continue to keep you up to date as we have more information to share. Blessings,
Harts' Celebration Committee



CONGRATULATIONS CONFIRMANDS

- Will Bartley
- Jackson Basnett
- James Brickner
- Nicholas Burger
- Jillian Christie
- Tyler Dailey
- Ian Dally
- CeCe Dreischarf
- Connor Dutton
- Sallie Gerich
- Katie Haapala
- Zac Heyob
- Nathan Johnson
- Audrey Kalmar
- Brady Kaasa
- Madden Kenny
- Ana Cate Loftus
- Audra Lyon
- Kaitlyn McClosky
- Thomas Peterson
- Brady Quillin
- Emerson Thompson
- Alyssa Wickes

