

# Sandpiper

## May Worship Schedule

**Sunday School 9:00am**  
**Worship 10:30am**

Child Care available during the Worship Service for ages infant through 5 years



## Word From the Pastor

### Patience and Prayer

*“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”*  
*Philippians 4:6-7*

As I reflect on what God is doing in the life of Middle Sandy Church, I believe it is a good time to direct our attention to the command and promise of Philippians 4:6-7.

The command is not to patient or not anxious about anything, but to pray. This church is going through a couple of different processes. We are going through the process of finding a new pastor and the pastoral search committee is working diligently. We are going through the process of developing a renewed vision for the church and the vision team is working toward that goal. These two efforts are critical as this church continues its journey through transition. Both these efforts need to be bathed in prayer.

What should we do when we feel anxious? Paul says pray. Pray for the people on the pastoral search committee and vision team. Pray for patience. Pray for your next pastor. Pray for the people who will be impacted by our renewed vision. Pray for unity. Pray for our community. Pray for the elders. Whatever the anxiety, pray about it with the promise that Paul provides in verse 7. The result will be the peace of God which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. We will be guarded from the bad fruit of anxiety that includes complaining, a critical spirit, gossip, ungratefulness, and a host of other rotten characteristics. Would God give us all the grace to pray and experience the blessing of patience and prayer during our time of transition.

With Love,  
Pastor Eric

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- **Article Deadline Note:**  
Please turn in any articles or announcements for the Sandpiper to Carolyn Slingerland by the **22<sup>nd</sup> of each month**. You can e-mail them to [middlesandy@frontier.com](mailto:middlesandy@frontier.com).

# Sands Through the Hourglass...

From the hourglass in May topple lovely lilies of the valley whose beautiful fragrance fills the air.

We are grateful for the devoted guidance for the past several months of our transitional pastor Eric Phillips.

However, our congregation is also led by seven Elders who serve as the Session. From the scripture in I Peter 5, instructions are directed to the office of elder: "To the Elders among you...be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, serving as overseers.. not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be.. being examples to the flock." Elder David Socotch shared the following facts: "The Session shall make provision for courses of instruction in the following matters: church government, the Sacraments, the faith, the worship, the discipline, the history, of the church, and the understanding of the office to which one is elected."

Elder Carolyn Slingerland is the Clerk who records the minutes of congregational and Session meetings. She keeps track of the membership roll, and is responsible for updating the church records.

Elder Vicki Smith chairs both the Christian Education and the Personnel committees. Christian Ed is in charge guidance and decisions concerning Sunday School classes, Youth Fellowship and Biblical education. The members of the Personnel committee oversee the employees at Middle Sandy: the secretary, organist, treasurer and janitor.

Elder Barbara McCain presides over the Concerns committee members who help to take care of those in need, whether the need is for prayer, visits, financial assistance or encouragement. Cards are sent to the ill and for members' wedding anniversaries and birthdays. The prayer chain is organized by a member of the committee. Mission donations are given to Acts 2 and the Alliance Pregnancy Center. Barbara is also in charge of the Memorial Committee. She records donations given in memory of someone, sends thank you notes to the donors and informs the family about who gave the memorial gifts, but not the amount of the donation.

Elder Joe Schopfer leads the Finance committee. They are called to manage the church's finances and coordinate with the treasurer, Dorothy Burbick, who is responsible for the payment of the bills.

Elder Dave Socotch and the Missions committee supply support to our missionaries and national Christian groups here in the United States and abroad. Dave keeps a record of all expenditures that are made. Each meeting is opened with prayer, as are all the other committee gatherings.

Elder George Bush and the Property committee members are responsible for the maintenance of the church building and the grounds at the present time. They also focus on future maintenance needs and projects. Recently they directed the clean-up of the grounds around the church.

Elder Linda McQuilkin and her committee's duties include preparation and promotion of annual events: Trim-a-Tree, the summer picnic, the Sunrise service and breakfast, and any other particular events. As choir director she also plans for special worship services.

Middle Sandy Elders and the committee members are conscientious servants of the Lord in and for our congregation. They deserve our deep appreciation for all of their work. Hopefully you have learned a little more about what helps keep Middle Sandy "on track".

Mothers' Day is May 12. Give God praise and thanks for your mother and her love for you.

A closing grin: A Sunday School class was being quizzed on the story of the prodigal son. The teacher asked one child, "Who was sorry when the prodigal son returned home?"

The child gave some thought, then answered, "The fatted calf."

## Calling All Women of Middle Sandy

Calling all women of Middle Sandy and your guests for a day's outing. The Presbyterian Women's group is planning a touring day on Saturday, June 22 to the Maps Air Museum and Fannie May Chocolate Factory, both near the Akron-Canton Airport. The cost for the 2 to 3 hour guided tour at the museum is \$10. for adults or \$9. for seniors (60 or older). Touring Fannie May is free. Following the tours, the ladies are planning to eat at a restaurant in Canton. Specific details will be published in the June Sandpiper and in Sunday bulletins. Plan to join your MS friends for an educational, (both sites), and (yummy), Fanny May and the late afternoon meal.



# In Our Prayers

We encourage you to send a card or letter to one or two each month. Addresses are available in the church directory or in the church office.

## Birthdays

### Name - Date

Debbie Socotch – 1  
Dorothy McKinley – 3  
Susan Schopfer – 3  
Joyce Cameron – 4  
Steve Snyder – 5  
Marjorie Smith – 11  
Rachel (Gimmi) Gamble – 12  
Karen Legros - 26

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### **Continuing health needs:**

Dorothy Smythe (Brookdale - Salem)  
Tim Hume (blood disease treatments)  
Diane Sanor - (foot surgery)

### **Military Service:**

Brian Burbick (Navy - NY)  
Chad & Christina Gimmi (4823 Unit D Thomas Paine Circle, Scott AFB, IL. 62225)  
Eric W. Hampe (Ohio Army National Guard, Stow, OH)  
Jason Snyder (Ft. Drum, NY) (Carole & Don Mathey's grandson)  
Jon Pagnucco (Jane Stryffeler's grandson) - Navy (Alexandria, VA)  
-John Hampe (Marines)

## Anniversaries

### Couple – Date

Leonard & Anna Mapes - 10  
Brian & Michelle Slingerland – 20

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Sgt. Ryan Lee was deployed in February to serve in Iraq where he is stationed with the 638<sup>th</sup> Army Aviation Support Battalion. Ryan's wife SFC Teddi Lee is active Ohio National Guard and serves at the Highland Hills Ohio NG installation.

***When we Pray,  
God listens.***

***When we Listen,  
God talks.***

***When we Believe,  
God works.***

***Our Missionaries - for Holy Spirit protection and great perseverance in their work.***

Jeff & Natasha B. (EPC missionaries in Asia)  
Abe & Diane Bible (Missionaries to the Ukraine)  
Lisa Smith (Indianapolis)  
Paul & Reinhild Sydnor (ministry to refugees in Lille, France and Malta)

### ***In Nursing Homes or Home-bound:***

Pauline Martin (Crandall Medical Center)  
Dorothy Smythe (Brookdale, Salem)  
Dorothy McKinley

