



Fall 2021

Pastor MiMi's Monthly Musings:

How do you measure a year?

You may be familiar with the musical and movie Rent and the beautiful signature song:

Seasons of Love.

Five hundred twenty-five thousand six hundred minutes.

Five hundred twenty-five thousand moments so dear.

Five hundred twenty-five thousand six hundred minutes.

How do you measure, Measure a year?

In daylights? In sunsets? In midnights? In cups of coffee? In inches, in miles, in laughter, in strife?

In five hundred twenty-five thousand six hundred minutes.

How do you measure a year in a life?

How about love?

You are probably also familiar with the feeling that time seems to pass more quickly as we age.

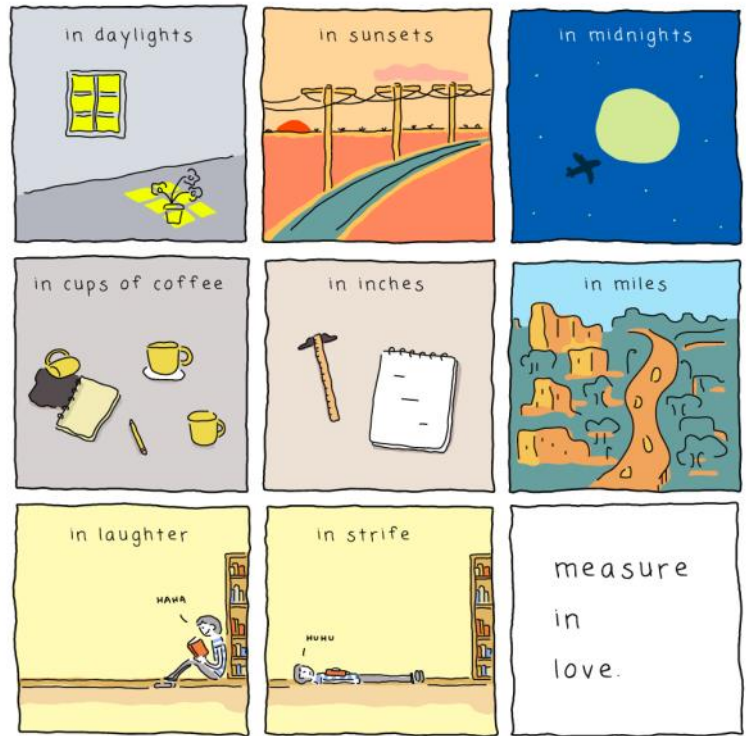
I cannot believe we have been together a year already - and what a year it has been!

I have been blessed getting to know you individually and as a faith community. I am enjoying expanding my knowledge of Cincinnati's Westside. I am continually grateful to have found a home in the United Church of Christ.

As I reflect on our year together, my observations and measures of Pilgrim are framed by our Lenten reading and discussion.

VINTAGE Past: confirmation classes (complete with photos), candy sales, nativity displays, talent shows, VBS, Ladies Guild, memorials, Sunday school, youth group, a beautiful sanctuary, chapel, and education building – these are all measures of Pilgrim's faith journey. These memories and moments are to be cherished. There is also

how do you measure a year?



(after jonathan larson)

centimentalcomics.com

grieving and acceptance that there are fewer people participating and some traditions no longer continue. We treasure those who are still connected with Pilgrim, especially the witness of those with decades of participation who join us in their 80's and 90's!

VITAL Present: "Best of the West" Pilgrim preschool, our creativity in adapting to the pandemic, support and involvement with mission partners like Washington UCC and the Mission Priority Board, Giving Tree, special music, our inaugural Memorial Day outreach, Boy Scouts, faithful gatherers for Sunday worship, party on the Patio and Parkway, Sunday breakfasts at Diane's, and more. Pilgrim is serving within and beyond our walls.

THRIVING Future: This is where we are called and where we need to focus. Church is Sunday worship and so much more. We continue to love God and love neighbor. We can celebrate and strengthen our church family, our Preschool, our buildings and grounds, and our larger community.

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Please see the enclosed article on our Reboot 2.1 effort to faithfully move forward. We need to have our internal foundational documents, policies, and processes updated so that we can continue to grow in faith, hope and LOVE. A group has been working steadfastly so that we can be prepared to vote at our January meeting.

There is also information and a survey for your ideas on how to make our physical worship space more welcoming and conducive to a sense of togetherness.

Our Fall Pledge campaign “Rooted in Love” is coming up in November – watch and listen for details.

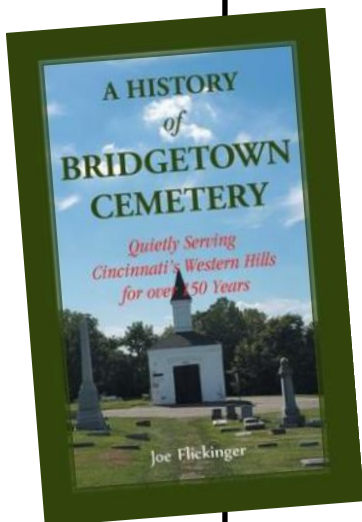
In our past, present and future, we always need to ask: How about love? With that in mind we have created a Covenant of Grace that we will adopt as our promise to each other to live and work together as a Pilgrim faith community.

By all measures, this year in our life together has been filled with graced moments and is full of promise for the future. Let us continue our journey of faith to love God and love neighbor – in every season.

Thank you for welcoming me as your Pastor.



2021 Pledge Campaign is coming in November! Watch and listen for details!!!



Worship Service & Party on the Parkway Sept. 26—Welcome Special Guest Joe Flickinger

Joe Flickinger, VP of the Green Township Historical Association is the author of: “A History of Bridgetown Cemetery; Quietly Serving Cincinnati’s Western Hills for 150 Years.” He will speak during worship, and stay for our Party on the Parkway, where you can ask him your questions about Green Township and Bridgetown Cemetery.

You can also listen to his podcast, *Working Historians* at workinghistorians.com/?p=255

A big thanks to Joe for scanning our original Permanent Records and sending us both books as pdfs. This will help preserve the original books.

Mission & Outreach Report

The Mission and Outreach Board is now working on Washington UCC Back to School Outreach Program. We will be collecting money through October to purchase uniforms for the Homework Club children. We will also collect food for Camp Cupboard in November before the Thanksgiving Holiday. **We thank everyone for their ongoing support** for the services that we provide to enrich the lives of others. Stay tuned for new programs and opportunities coming in the fall.

Stewards Committee Report

The Steward's Committee is charged with maintaining the building, dealing with the church's contracts and organizing the Stewardship Campaign along with many other issues. The members of the committee are David Hoehn, Terry Bossman, Denny Schmidt and Debbie Wooton. David Hoehn is chair.

This past year, Stewards have been finding, assessing and completing projects in the church. Due to the Pandemic, trying to find contractors to complete the work has been challenging. Ordering, and receiving materials has been taking much longer than we would like. Thus, completing our tasks has been slow.

Stewards have been working and finishing the following projects: replacing and repairing lights, improving the Fellowship Hall doors, replacing the blinds facing Bridgetown Road, repairing the Pre-School wall, and dealing with the chiller.

Other news of interest: an audit of the church's books will be conducted, Oak Hills Mini's Dance continues to rent space and the Stewardship Campaign members are planning for this year's drive .

Questions?

Contact David Hoehn at hoehndoo1@gmail.com or call 513-378-2091.

Report submitted by Debbie Wooton, Stewards Secretary

Reboot 2.1 Pilgrim Team is hard at work!

Our Constitution states that we need to review the Constitution and By-Laws every five (5) years; it has been 8 years since our last review. We made a few additions to the By-Laws at our last annual meeting but that was changing what Covid brought to light. In March of this year, Council moved to start a complete review of our Constitution, By-Laws, Organization Chart, Policies and Procedures. A working group was formed.

As the team works and asks questions, we keep hearing: *this is how we have always done it*. We have to break from that mindset. We used to have a very large volunteer base, we were a large church. Now our board sizes are too large. We are looking into how to make meetings more efficient. The role of the Council and the Pastor is changing in churches and Pilgrim is no different.

Also we have become disjointed over time with our Preschool. We need to re-embrace ourselves with our wonderful Preschool that has been part of Pilgrim Church for over 60 years.

The area the team has been concentrating on is the review and rewrite of our Constitution and By-Laws. We are currently reviewing our final drafts of these. Next we will have an additional group review what we have done to get their thoughts. After that we will have the rewrite (Constitution, By-Laws and Organization chart) available for everyone to read. The hope is for all of us to be prepared to accept them at the next council meeting.

In September, we will begin reviewing our policies and procedures, along with creating new ones, that we need but are not in place.

Reboot Team: David H / Debbie H / Nancy M / Pastor MiMi / Susan S / Daryl S (chair) 8/30/21

Preschool News

The Preschool is in full swing. The children have made a very smooth transition. We are so proud of them. Thanks to the children, families and wonderful preschool staff for making the first month of school a huge success. September has been a month of making friends, learning new routines and getting used to new surroundings. We started talking about colors, shapes and learning our numbers. We also met Miss Judy and Miss Lynne and had lots of fun in Gym and Music.

October will look a little different due to Covid, but we will make the best of it. We will begin talking about Fall. The 5's will take a walking field trip to the library and the 4's will have a Barn Program presented by the Museum Center. Our 3's will have a pumpkin patch. Joe Biggs will be doing our school pictures on October 11th, 12th and 13th. We will end the month with lots of Halloween fun (hopeful for a parade).

Everyday is a new day and a blessing. We are thankful that our doors are open and we are able to serve the community.

Thanks to the Monday Crew for all their quick fixes over the summer.

Sincerely, Chrisy Greene and Preschool Staff



New year, new logo, new website!

<https://pilgrimpreschool.com>

A Picture is worth a 1000 words!

Thanks to Jan Nailor, Carolyn Scheidt, and Jean Eagan for checking names on the confirmation photos that were water damaged.

Carolyn and Jean painted the frames and are helping reassemble. Soon the photos will be hanging in the hall by the Weirman entrance once again!

If anyone has the photo from the confirmation year 1946, we would love to borrow it and have a copy made to hang on the wall.



Get a great meal while supporting Pilgrim Church. Visit Diane's and 10% of your total bill will go to support Pilgrim. Must show a flyer, available in the Narthex. **Join us Sundays after Worship.**

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Bridgetown Church Unit Completed

Service of dedication of the new Church School Building of the First Evangelical Congregational Church, 4418 Bridgetown road, Bridgetown, will be held Sunday at 2:30 p.m. The service will be held in the sanctuary of the Church followed by a procession to the new building, a guided tour and an open house. Members and friends of the Church are invited to be present.

The service of dedication will be conducted by the pastors of the Church, Rev. William A. Slater and Rev. John E. Kingsbury Jr. Max Hillman, president of the Church Board, will present speakers who will bring greetings. They include Rev. John Byers, assistant superintendent of the Ohio Conference of Congregational Christian Churches; Brooks Schwarberg, moderator of the Cincinnati Association of Congregational Christian Churches; Lauren Schram, president of Council of Churches of Greater Cincinnati; Rev. Grover Letner, president of the Western Hills Federation of Churches; Clarence Rehtin, Green Township Trustee, and Norbert Brinker, president of the Bridgetown Civic Association.

The chairman of the Building Committee, Henry E. Betz, will introduce the members of the Church Board, the Building Committee, the



New Church School Building of First Evangelical Congregational Church as seen from the corner of Bridgetown road and Nicholas avenue.

architects, Betz & Bankemper and representatives of the contractors. The new building has been under construction since May 15, 1955. It is of contemporary design and will house facilities for the Church School and Church offices and will include a fellowship hall, kitchen and parlor for parish activities. The total cost of construction and furnishings is approximately \$220,000. The building fund

was established in 1949 and in February, 1954, a campaign for funds was conducted under the leadership of Curtis R. Schumacher, of the Board of Home Missions of Congregational Christian Churches. This building is the first of two stages in the building program of the Church. The second stage will include a new sanctuary, chapels and additional facilities. The date for the beginning of construction

of this second stage has not been established. The new building is located at the corner of Bridgetown road and Nicholas avenue and is not connected with the existing Church. The new sanctuary will front on Bridgetown road, adjoining the new unit to the west. It will occupy the site of the old parish house soon to be razed, and a portion of the present Church site.

Thanks to Joe Flickinger, for sharing this clipping.

WE LOVE PETS, BUT
ONLY SERVICE ANIMALS
INDIVIDUALLY TRAINED TO
HELP PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES
ARE PERMITTED



NO Comfort, Emotional Support or Therapy animals

Thanks! for understanding



WE NEED YOUR FEEDBACK AND INPUT

To have Pilgrim continue as a Vital Vintage church, the Worship Committee has been looking at ways we can improve our worship experience, including updating the sanctuary. Before beginning any project, it is always best to get input from everyone to make sure we are moving in the right direction. The Worship Committee has put together a survey that lists various options that the team would like you to consider. The survey is enclosed in the newsletter and is available in the back of church, along with a drawing that helps to identify proposed modifications. Please take some time and complete the survey, returning it on Sundays or to the church office by OCTOBER 3rd. As always, all suggestions and comments are gratefully appreciated and will be considered. Thank you.

The Worship Committee
 Vickie Clark, Jim Esmail, Debbie Heintz, Shelley Kiefer, Scott Kiefer, Pat Neidhard, Daryl Sroczynski and Pastor MiMi

Pilgrim Patio Party!

This past summer, on July 23, we had a patio party! The weather was beautiful and the conversation was fun. It was a “bring your own” event that was enjoyed by all.



Music Minister update

We will be interviewing applicants in the next 2 weeks and inviting candidates to lead music during services in October.



Thanks for your enthusiasm

but please...do not drop off items for the rummage sale until a date is set.

Thank you!

September Birthdays:

Ben Hess	9/01
Irene Freese	9/02
Carolyn Scheidt	9/02
Jackie Brockhoff	9/07
Sharon Siefert	9/14
Karen Essell	9/15
Irmgard Schulten	9/16
Geraldine Backer	9/16
David Backer	9/16
Adam Woods	9/16
Luke Williams	9/19
Gordon Hemsink	9/22
Jayson Essell	9/22
Betty Pfaff	9/26
Debbie Heintz	9/28

October Birthdays:

Shari Etris	10/3
Lois Ivey	10/3
Bud Rullmann	10/4
Jay Essell	10/11
Jason Brockhoff	10/13
Lillian McIntosh-Waples	10/14
Cindy Jordan	10/15
Amber Tenhundfeld	10/17
Nancy Matthew	10/18
Ian Cameron	10/20
Susan Sroczyński	10/20
Noah Esmail	10/27
Terry Bossman	10/29

November Birthdays:

David Hoehn	11/01
Paul Maurer	11/07
Emily Woods	11/08
Lori Essell	11/09
Nathaniel Esmail	11/12
Denny Schmidt	11/12
Pamela Hoetker	11/14
E. Dennis Ostholthoff	11/16
Gail Yust	11/16
Bryan Jordan	11/17
Hayley Rohr	11/24
Barb Mechler	11/26
Paxton Tenhundfeld	11/26
Bob Girard	11/27
Nolan Sroczyński	11/27



October Anniversaries:

Arthur & Patricia Siefert	10/01/1960	61
Nick & Amanda Monroe	10/06/2012	9
Ronald & Maureen Markgraff	10/10/1964	57
Gordon & Wendy Hemsink	10/20/2012	9

September Anniversaries:

Cody & Jennifer Freese	9/02/2016	5
Meredith & Ben Amlung	9/04/2005	16
Vickie & Russ Clark	9/04/1976	45
Bob & Diane Girard	9/06/1969	52
Jay & Lori Essell	9/08/1990	31
Thomas & Sharon Woods	9/18/1981	40
Pamela & Joseph Hoetker	9/24/1983	38
Abbie Clark & Jeff Robison	9/30/2006	15



In Memory of Lynn Harris
From Donna Bundy

Please remember our homebound friends
in your prayers and with cards.

Bob Girard Barb Mechler

Pilgrim United Church of Christ
4418 Bridgetown Road
Cincinnati, OH 45211
513-574-4208
www.pilgrim-ucc.org



Spring/Summer2021 Issue Return Service Requested



PILGRIM PARTY ON THE PARKWAY

*We are cancelling the
Pilgrim Church Picnic this year due to
Covid uptick.*

**Join us Next Sunday,
September 26 for**

Party on the Parkway

Here at church in the front
courtyard after service.

We will serve coffee and individual juices,
plenty of individually wrapped bakery
goods and snacks.

Let's all pray for cooler weather. Plan to
stay and enjoy our shady garden with
your Pilgrim Family.

