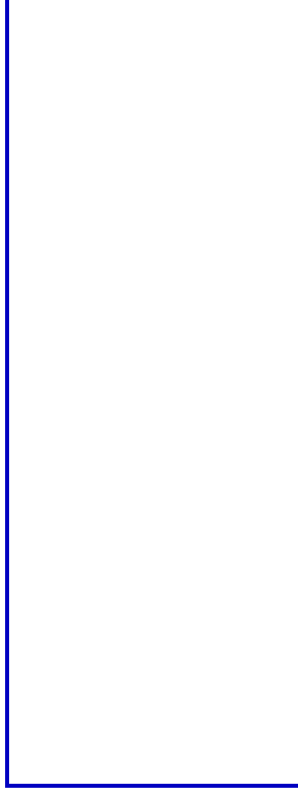




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THE CHIMES

Starkdale Evangelical Presbyterian Church
July 2015 Newsletter



Stand beside her and
guide her—

Through the night with a
light from above.

A Message from the Pastor

Dear Starkdale Family (Members, Regular Worship Guests, and Friends),

Sadly, this is my last open letter to a congregation I have loved so dearly. I can't imagine what it would be like for Vickey and me after July 30, which marks my last day of serving you as pastor. Of course, staying in town and visiting with you from time to time will make the separation easier to bear. In addition, **I am committed to finishing our study in the Book of Revelation each Tuesday until the study is completed.** We are now in chapter 7 and we have 15 more chapters to go. Yet, a new pastor may join your staff and may feel more comfortable if he leads the class.

Regarding your future pastor, I am confident that the leadership of both, the Presbytery of the Alleghenies and the Starkdale Session will see to it that the right pastor is called. The Presbytery of the Alleghenies is deeply committed to the health and spiritual growth of its congregations. **Moreover, a good number of the Starkdale Session has attended a variety of seminars on church vitalization and growth.** They know how to conduct envisioning processes that involve the entire congregation to participate. The envisioning process would help elders and church members decide the type of pastor they would like to have. **Members must be present in big numbers** for those envisioning meetings. The congregation as a whole needs to be part of planning for the future.

While it may not be my place now to ask you to participate, **I am compelled to even beg you to do so for the following five reasons:**

First, a new pastor would have an extremely difficult time if he senses that much should have been taken care of by the church before his arrival but hasn't. This would **delay and possibly hinder his effectiveness** from day one. The new pastor will find himself spending a great deal of time figuring out what the vision of the congregation for their ministry together is, rather than attending to the demands of his call as a minister of the church.

Second, it would thrill the new pastor to sense from day one that the

wife in Naples. Ironically, my son's church was in the same Presbytery as Philip's, so I was able to talk to many pastors who knew him and confirmed what we had already learned from his references.

I then met Philip and Vickey in Fort Myer and visited their home.

The committee developed the following description of characteristics and qualifications needed in a person who would fill the position of Pastor:

To have the ability to teach and preach God's word according to the Bible in an emotionally uplifting manner causing enthusiasm, and encouraging us to follow Christ's teachings, which will spill out into our community.

Be warm, caring, loving, and nurturing to a congregation that is desiring to grow.

Possess good leadership skills.

Possess good time management skills.

To be professional in and out of the pulpit by holding himself or herself to high standards of living.

To have a heart for God.

To stand by his or her convictions.

We believed that he possessed all of those qualifications and characteristics.

We invited him to preach at the Mingo Presbyterian Church. The PNC voted to offer a call to him and **THE REST IS HISTORY!**

Praise God for sending Philip Makari to lead us into a shared experience of God's awesome presence.

Carolyn Glaub

THE JOURNEY

On June 14, 2004, Brad Albert, Marge Allan, Ella Jane Burns, Donald Eft, Carolyn Glaub, Donna Huff, and Doris Wickham met for the first time as the newly elected Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC). I remember feeling a bit overwhelmed at the task at hand. However, our congregation, prior to this, had met for 8 - 2 hour sessions for re-visioning. Following the meetings, the active elders met for a day long retreat to pull together the information gained. This was not to see what the congregation wanted for our church, but to pray for God to give us discernment over the information gleaned from the congregation. We knew that God would give us clear direction, and He did.

Four and one half months later on October 31st, I, as chairman of the committee, entered our Church Informational Form (CIF) into the computer on the Presbyterian Church, USA website. On November 1, 2004, The Reverend Dr. Philip Makari's Pastor Informational Form (PIF) arrived in my e-mail. He was a computer match. Little did we know that he had already been sent our CIF. I e-mailed him to let him know that we were interested in interviewing him. On November 3, he replied that he too was very interested. We also contacted the other applicants and conducted telephone interviews and continued to make decisions as a PNC.

God kept leading us to Philip. The words and comments used to describe him from his numerous references were kindest, joy, neat, exciting, uplifting sermons, biblically based, liked to entertain, excellent Bible study teacher, did visitations and counseling, man of God, good personality, superb preacher, loves fellowship, evangelist, good sense of humor, loves children, and was loved by everyone.

The committee listened to several of Philip's sermons and felt that we needed to meet him personally for a face to face interview. In late November, we met for dinner at the Steubenville Country Club. We conducted a formal interview and continued to believe that God's hand was present in this decision. I flew to Florida to visit my son and his

Rev. Dr. Philip Makari

Starkdale congregation **has done their homework** in preparation for this new phase in their ministry, that they have committed wholeheartedly to their goals and have understood that **church work is the work of the whole church** (the priesthood of all believers), and that they would not take him for granted.

Third, there is a **great sense of fulfillment and satisfaction as church members work together with elders, deacons, church staff, and representatives of the Presbytery**. This is a rare blessing that many congregations miss. Some of the benefits of members' participation are projecting **unity, learning from each other** about what is important for their ministry, **empowering communication skills, reaching a moment when they all are on the same page**, being **clear about objectives** which is a **key to avoiding future conflicts**, showing the new pastor their cooperation in **making ministry somewhat a pleasant experience** for him, expressing to him **that they respect his leadership** and that they have done all they could to help him be the pastor God wants him to be.

Fourth, the envisioning process is like the blueprints to a building. While **the mission of the church is the Great Commission** (i.e. making disciples), **the vision of the church points out to goals, methods, personnel, timetable, and other factors** that would make such mission a reality and a big success. The vision is the guiding light, the roadmap, the channel by which the mission is accomplished.

Fifth, when all members are part of the envisioning process, clear about their vision, and sure and determined to achieve their mission, the leadership will not have the option of leading the church in a different direction. There is a saying, and it is very true, that goes like this: **When the followers will lead, the leaders will follow.**

That is what the CIF (**Church Information Form**) or the church's resume is about. It tells pastors who are looking for a call, what a **particular church wants** from him. If he doesn't fit the mold, he shouldn't apply. **Church members have to design the mold** of what they want to see happen to their church. **The new pastor must fit that mold.** Envisioning does that.

An **Interim Pastor** or **part time Pulpit Supply** will be in place after my departure. That pastor will serve as long as the process of finding the suitable new pastor takes. A **committee** whose main responsibility is to fill the pastoral vacant position **has already been elected on June 21**. Those elected are **Dr. Thomas Brown, Mrs. Ruth Carson, Mr. Chris Dopp, Mrs. Jane Gambos, Mrs. Carolyn Glaub, Mr. Michael Paris, and Mrs. Janet Stukins**. This committee **will fill out the CIF form**, in light of what has been agreed on during the envisioning process. The CIF will be submitted to the Presbytery Ministerial Committee and posted on **the EPC denominational website**. After that, the committee will be involved in **visiting churches** of pastors interested in the position at Starkdale, **hearing pastors preach** and **observing the interaction with their congregations, receiving PIFs** (Pastor's Information Forms), **interviewing** the candidates desiring the position, **inviting them to preach**, and **calling for congregational vote**.

All this would require **prayers, patience, confidentiality** and of course, **congregational unity**.

GOD IS GOOD. HE HAS BLESSED STARKDALE WITH A COMMUNITY WIDE MINISTRY and WILL CONTINUE TO BLESS IT EVEN MORE.

IT WAS A GREAT PRIVILEGE AND HONOR INDEED TO SERVE OUR SAVIOR AND LORD ALONG YOUR SIDE. I WILL KEEP YOU AND YOUR MINISTRY IN PRAYER. BUT PLEASE KEEP ME IN YOURS.

God bless you all,

Philip Makari

Philip Makari

Brandon Lee Mathieu, son of Richard and Karen Mathieu, grandson of Helen Unsold, and nephew of Lynn Mikesell, graduated from Ohio State University with a Masters of Electrical and Computer Engineering. Brandon will be working on his PHD at Ohio State.

Erica Rene Mathieu, daughter of Richard and Karen Mathieu, granddaughter of Helen Unsold, and niece of Lynn Mikesell, graduated from Ohio State University College of Medicine and is a candidate for Medical Doctorate. Erica will be doing Family Medical Residency in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Gabe Ofca, son of Mike and Priscilla Ofca, graduated from Pittsburgh Techniccal Institute with an Associate Degree in Video/3D. Gabe was awarded Portfolio Best in Show.

Miranda Rachele Parkinson, daughter of John and Donna Parkinson, graduated from Catholic Central High School in the Honors Curriculum program. She plans to attend Ohio State University and major in Logistics Management. Her extracurricular activities included varsity basketball and track, National Honor Society, Pep Club, Starkdale Youth Ministry, and Young Ambassador. Miranda received the following awards: Geography Award, Academic Letter and Honor Roll. Miranda's favorite Bible verse is Deuteronomy 31:6 "Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you."

Emily Throckmorton, daughter of Terri and David Throckmorton and granddaughter of Fred and Donna Huff, graduated from Indian Creek High School. She plans to attend Franciscan University this fall to study Biology. Emily was invited to the Honors Banquet for achieving the Principal's List for the past two years. She is involved in sports, playing softball through the Tri-State League and is their leading homerun hitter.

Nicholas Yacovazzi, son of Larry and Carolyn Wickham Yacovazzi of Akron, Ohio and grandson of Russell and Rita Wickham, graduated Cum Laude from Belmont University in Nashville, Tennessee with a Bachelor of Business Administration Degree in Music Business.

GRADUATES—CLASS OF 2015



Megan Balvin, daughter of Jim and Lori Balvin, and granddaughter of William and Shirley McNeil, graduated from Indian Creek High School. She plans to attend college in the fall.

Rachael Biesecker, DPH, daughter-in-law of Dale and Pat Biesecker, graduated from West Virginia University with a Doctor of Physical Therapy Degree. She will be working with “Birth to 3” patients in multiple West Virginia counties. Rachael’s extracurricular activities included involvement with the Campus Crusade for Christ and the West Virginia 4-H. She was awarded the John P. Petronis Award for Outstanding Performance on the Comprehensive Exam.

Bethanie Bube, daughter of Robert and Christina Bube, graduated from Edison High School. Her extracurricular activities included soccer and track. In soccer Bethanie was named OVAC 4A player of the year, as well as 1st Team OVAC. She was also named 1st Team All Valley, 1st Team EDSSCA, and 2nd Team All State. Bethanie will be attending West Liberty University studying Nursing and will be playing on the West Liberty Soccer Team. Bethanie received the following awards: Milestone Benefits Agency Scholarship and Amsterdam VFW Post 232 Auxiliary Scholarship.

Daniel E. Hayes, son of William and Debra Wheeler and grandson of the late Edward and Audrey Evans, graduated from Steubenville High School. He plans to attend Duquesne University - Pharmacy and is enrolled in the fall semester, 6-year doctorate program. His extracurricular activities included being a Senior Class officer, member of the National Honor Society, Buckeye Boys State Representative, and SHS Choir officer. Daniel received the following awards: Barren Family Scholarship, Masonic Lodge Scholarship, Jefferson County Farm Bureau Scholarship and the Dr. Gary Patterson, D.M.D. Scholarship.

Cara Copeland LaBrake, daughter of Jeff and Debbie Copeland, and granddaughter of Joan Copeland, graduated from dental school at Midwestern University in Phoenix, AZ. Cara will teach at the university and join a dental practice with two dentists in the Phoenix area. We are proud that she is following in her grandfather’s footsteps. Cara and husband Bryan presented the family with a baby boy, Dominic Francis LaBrake, on April 23.

FROM THE SESSION:

As you know, we are now in the process of searching for a pastor. The congregation has elected Dr. Thomas Brown, Mrs. Jane Gambos, and Mrs. Carolyn Glaub to be the session’s representatives and Mrs. Ruth Carson, Mr. Chris Dopp, Mr. Michael Paris, and Mrs. Janet Stukins to be the congregation at large representatives on the search committee. The committee will begin the process of gathering Pastoral Information Forms, interviewing the applicants, visiting their churches, and hearing them preach and interact with their congregations, a process which will take time and will require our prayers due to the seriousness of the matter.

It is also worth mentioning that during the process of finding our permanent pastor, there will be a period of all-member participation in envisioning our future ministry which will be conducted by representatives from the Session and/or the Presbytery.

Meanwhile, the session is actively searching for a fulltime Interim Pastor or part-time Pulpit Supply to serve temporarily until a permanent pastor is in place.

Please keep this process and the church in your prayers.



Summer Mission trip to Philadelphia PA- July 19-25th - This city is awesome! If you have never been there, not only will we be able to serve the Lord by doing Habitat for Humanity projects and Children's ministry but will also be able to visit the Liberty Bell, Constitution Hall, The "Rocky" statue and much, much more! Details TBA soon!

Blessings! Pastor Bobbyjon
Associate Pastor for Youth and Young Families



2015 Baccalaureate Service

FLOCK TALK



Lindsay Busby was one of the Harding Middle School's fifth-grade D.A.R.E. essay contest winners! Congratulations, Lindsay! We are proud of you!



Rich and Beverly Wyman announce their 5th Great-Grandchild, **Parker**, who was born to **Ashley Eckenrode** June 15th in Canfield, Ohio. Ashley is a nurse anesthetist, and Parker is her first born.

Jaclynn Rose Stewart was received into baptism on June 14TH. Congratulations to parents, **R.J. and Margaret (Eva) Stewart**, and their family.

Dear Starkdale Congregation,
If you have any news about a sheep in our flock that you would like to share, please submit it to the church office by the second week of the month to be included in the following month's issue of the CHIMES newsletter.

AN ONGOING LEADERSHIP CLASS is beginning in July and will be held in the adult Sunday School Classroom from 9:30-10:30 A.M. The class will be taught by four Ruling Elders: Jeanne Cox, Jane Gambos, Carolyn Glaub, and Janice Whitaker. Why did we join the EPC? How did we choose this denomination? What is reformed theology? What is the government of the church and how does it affect the officers and church members? The class is for all in the congregation who may be led to learn the answers to these questions and more. Active, soon-to-be, and past elders and deacons, are urged to join us since “once a church officer, always a church officer and leader.” According to God’s Word, church leadership must be biblically sound and doctrinally convinced and uncompromising if the church is to be true to the faith. In order to keep the church healthy, the EPC requires those who are elected officers to be educated in these topics, and requires Session to facilitate the Biblical education of the congregation.

We will begin the study with Michael Horton’s thought-provoking book: *Putting Amazing Back into Grace*.

For a long time in Western countries, being a Christian was normal and rejecting the doctrines of the faith was considered heresy. Today, in nominally “Christian” cultures, it’s just the opposite. Being either apathetic toward or critical of orthodox Christianity is normal, and being a disciple of Christ is considered “heretical”—a departure from the spirit of the age. [...] We can’t go with the flow, letting others do our thinking, believing, and living for us. We have to investigate what we believe and why we believe it. We have to make a conscious decision to trust in Christ and be formed by his Word. - Excerpt from Ch. 1 “Jumping through Hoops is for Circus Animals”

If you do not already own the book, the cost is \$10. If you wish to have a free copy and like to participate, please contact the office. Please sign the sheet in the narthex or on the hallway table so, we can reserve a copy for you.

July Leadership Duties

Elders on Duty

Dr. Bob Archer
Steve Elliott
Scott Murison
John Parkinson

Deacons on Duty

Laura Chanoski
Kelly Dopp
Michael Paris

Nursery Helpers

July 5 TBD
July 12 Pat Daily
July 19 Ella Jane Burns
July 26 Toni Zajdowicz

Rev. Dr. Philip Makari-Senior Pastor

**Rev. Bobbyjon Bauman -Associate Pastor of
Youth & Young Families**

Rev. Tom Bullard-Visitation Pastor



Birthdays

3 Howard Cooper
3 Cathy Thoburn
4 Audrey Kerr
4 Barbara Wrkich
5 Abigail Kinney
6 Toni Zajdowicz
7 Thomas Brown
8 Fred Huff, Sr.
8 Etta Pyle
9 Felecia Elliott
10 Paul Visyak
11 Kim Criss
14 Ella Jane Burns
15 Bobbyjon Bauman
16 Brianna Kelley
18 Brian Gambos
19 Mary Hathaway
19 Kylee Paris
21 John Foley
22 Kaleigh Clevenger
22 Geary Harper
25 Brandon Pendleton
27 John Criss
27 Andrew Stewart
28 Ava Aftanas
28 Henry Vinco
29 Charlene Freshwater

JULY Anniversaries

2 Bob & Cindy Sagrilla
13 Dale & Eleanor Hewitt
15 Jeffery & Cindy Wilson
26 Jeff & Pam Shimon
27 Shannon & Jennifer Starr
28 Bob & Carol Oklok
29 Joseph & Debbie
Grecco



A PRAYER FOR OUR SOLDIERS

Oh Heavenly Father,
Help keep our men and women safe while they are
defending our freedom.
Help them fight with valor, serve with honor, and
come home when the fight is won.
For those who should fall to any harm, oh Lord, please
watch over them so that they can return home to the
families that love them.
In the dark of night and the heat of battle,
may our prayers— and your divine love—
offer them comfort and protection.
This we pray. Amen.



OUTREACH TO THE COMMUNITY

The Outreach Committee manned the Starkdale booth at the Hometown Celebration in downtown Steubenville on June 20th. Even though it was a rainy day, we were blessed to handout approximately 150 bottles of water and Starkdale totes stuffed with small Bibles, church-shaped magnets imprinted with our contact information, and flyers which list service and activity information. It was also great to talk with the people who stopped by our booth which was located on South 4th Street. Thank you to all who helped in any way.

SOUP KITCHEN REPORT

On June 11th, volunteers, John Criss, Joan Copeland, Roberta France, Janet Haverfield, and Stu Stukins served 74 people at the Soup Kitchen. The meal consisted of sloppy joes and potato soup. In addition, the desserts are furnished each month by Two Ridges Presbyterian Church.

4TH OF JULY PARADE

Starkdale will participate in the **WINTERSVILLE 4TH OF JULY PARADE!** The Parade begins at Riesbeck's at 10 A.M. and ends at Kroger. For those participating, line-up begins at 8 A.M. Please contact Scott Murison or John Parkinson for more information.



MY PRAYER
by Vickey Makari

Dear Lord,

We come humbly thanking you for allowing us to be born in this country and raised in this country. We love this country. We weep for this country. We pray for this country.

Our culture is like a 'run-away train' and the Church is on board. We need to get off and be the Church: the body of Christ.

We need to be true patriots. Our forefathers came to this country for religious freedom. We read in our history that those who came on the Mayflower did not come seeking comfort. They came facing the dangerous unknown so that they could worship and glorify you.

The Church has now become timid because we have allowed ourselves to be intimidated by a hostile, godless culture. We have become like children sent to the corner with our faces to the wall.

We have allowed television and radio talk show hosts to dictate to us what they consider to be the mission of the Church instead of what Jesus Christ says is the mission of the Church.

Adjust our vision to the Holy Scriptures. Give us the courage to be the Church you intended, so that we can bring revival to this country we so love.

In Christ's name we pray.

Amen.



July 2015



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

	<p><i>“Proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all inhabitants thereof.”</i></p>		<p>1 6 pm Bible Study</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	 <p>4 10 am Wintersville 4th of July Parade Independence Day</p>
<p>5 “Our Pastor’s Last Words” 6th Sunday in Pentecost</p>	<p>6 7 pm Worship Mtg.</p>	<p>7 10 am Bible Study</p>	<p>8 6 pm Bible Study</p>	<p>9 9 am Soup Kitchen 6 pm Session/Deacon Mtg</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11 9 am Quilters InC.</p>
<p>12 “Our Pastor’s Last Words” Communion 10:30 Called Session Mtg. Infant Baptism 7th Sunday in Pentecost</p>	<p>13 6:30 pm Property Mtg. 7 pm Administration Mtg.</p>	<p>14 10 am Bible Study</p>	<p>15 6 pm Bible Study</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19 “Our Pastor’s Last Words” 1:15 pm Carriage House SYM Mission Trip 8th Sunday in Pentecost</p>	<p>20 SYM Mission Trip</p>	<p>21 10 am Bible Study SYM Mission Trip</p>	<p>22 6 pm Bible Study SYM Mission Trip</p>	<p>23 CHIMES MAIL SYM Mission Trip</p>	<p>24 SYM Mission Trip</p>	<p>25 SYM Mission Trip</p>
<p>26 “Our Pastor’s Last Words” Fellowship Hour in honor of Rev. Dr. Philip and Vickey Makari 9th Sunday in Pentecost</p>	<p>27 6:30 pm Outreach Mtg.</p>	<p>28 10 am Bible Study</p>	<p>29 6 pm Bible Study</p>	<p>30 Rev. Dr. Philip Makari’s Retirement Date</p>	<p>31</p>	