

Tom's Message	2
The Amazing Talent Adventure	4
Session Highlights	6
Vacation Bible School	7
Youth Director's Page	8
Beulah Beach	9
Rock Pile Coupon	10
Presbyterian Women	12
Plant Sale	13
Prayer Concerns	15

Wills Emphasis Sunday, May 3

Read more on pg. 3

Celebrating Our Heritage Sunday, May 3

Our church began on December 12, 1954. That makes this the 55th year for our Avon Lake Presbyterian Church! To celebrate our Heritage, we are recognizing those church members that are in the "3 Digit Heritage Club." The "3 Digit Heritage Club" are the first 999 people who joined our church and are still members today. We will recognize these members Sunday, May 3 at both services, then have a Deacon's sponsored cookie reception following each service. Please plan to attend this worship service so you can let them know how much we appreciate their contribution to the life of our church.

Presbyterian Women Installation Sunday, May 10 at 11:00 am

Blue Jean Sunday, May 17

Be ready to clean our church inside and out after the 11:00 am service. The Deacons will provide hot dogs and drinks and the Property Committee will provide plenty of instruction!

Confirmation Class Joins May 17

Read more on pg. 8

Memorial Weekend Sunday, May 24

We will begin worshipping at 10:00 am every Sunday through September 6th.

Pentecost Sunday, May 31

Read more on pg. 5

Message from Pastor Tom

May can be a strange month. Sure we know about the “April showers bring May flowers” and all that, and there are parts of our community which just burst into beautiful bloom during this month as the trees come out. I know that our street in the Woodlands is like that, with all of the Bartlett Pear trees in full bloom – at least those that survived the last wind storm.

But May can also be blustery and a tease. When Mindy had her graduation party six years ago on the last Saturday of May, we were all ready for an outdoor bash – we got tables and chairs and planned for how people would congregate in our backyard. Sure enough, it didn’t get above 43 degrees that day and rained off and on throughout. We still had fun, we just had it indoors.

May can be strange – it might be warm and sultry, it might be cold and wet. But one thing we do know – May is also part of the church’s season of Easter. It is part of the church’s witness of resurrection, witness of new life. Our celebration of Easter doesn’t just come one day a year. It extends throughout seven weeks, right up until the Day of Pentecost, which this year is May 31. There is so much of May that brims with all kinds of Easter possibility.

This year we will begin May with a special celebration honoring “The 3 Digit Heritage Club.” When you join a church, you are given a number in the church’s registry. Our church is now well above the 1,000 mark, but we wanted to have a time to recognize and celebrate those people who have been

long-time members of this fellowship of faith. When we gather for worship on that Sunday, we will celebrate communion as we always do on the first Sunday of the month, but we will have a special part of our worship to lift up these saints (never mind the comments about ‘long-suffering’ for all the sermons they have had to put up with!).

The very next day, our Session will meet with this year’s Confirmation Class and hear their faith stories as these young people join the church. This is always a special time, as the stories these young people share inspire us to discern ways that God has been and continues to be working in our own lives.

Our Youth Director, Beau Dansizen, has been working with this class to address their questions, hear their ideas, and sense Easter possibilities as these people come to give expression to their faith. These young people will come before the congregation to make their professions of faith during worship on the 17th.

The day before that, the officers and the staff will meet at Rocky River Presbyterian Church for our annual retreat. This is always a time for us to explore new ideas of what it means to be a people of faith in these days and at this place. All kinds of ideas come out of this time away, ideas that help us to grow closer to our Lord and to each other; as well as to the community in which we serve.

May has all kinds of Easter possibilities. And when Pentecost comes, this, too, will be a new day and a new time to be filled with God’s renewing Presence. My prayer is that we will be open to that Presence as we journey, worship and pray together.

Grace and peace, Tom

Let's help fill the CRS Pantry



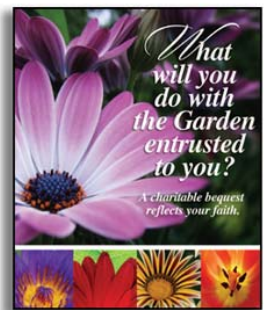
We are participating in an Avon Lake INTERFAITH food drive to help keep the CRS Pantry full. United Church of Christ led the way with a food drive in April and the other churches are going to try to follow their lead in May. As we all know, many more people are finding themselves in need of community services. Often, food is the most immediate need. So, please bring non perishable food to church over the next few weeks with a goal of pick up on May 4th. Suggestions include “box dinners” like Macaroni and cheese,

Hamburger Helper, pizza mix, pasta, canned stew, chili, tuna, juice, peanut butter and jelly and canned fruit and vegetables. Lunch box items might be a good idea as well.. Coffee or tea bags would probably be appreciated too. What you and your family would eat. No time to shop? We can do it for you, just call. Questions may be directed to Beth Janis 933-5621 Mission Matters.

WILLS EMPHASIS SUNDAY May 3rd

In the early 1990's after a planning team considered the need for expansion of facilities here at Avon Lake Presbyterian Church, one of our members passed away and left about \$50,000 to the church. This bequest along with some other leadership gifts became the seed for our Building the Vision campaign and the sanctuary in which we gather each Sunday. What a wonderful legacy!

If you would like to learn more about options to leave a meaningful legacy to the church, please join members of the Stewardship Committee at Bean Coffee Café in Lear Road Plaza on May 3rd after the 11:00 am worship service. We will gather in their conference room to enjoy lunch and hear Terry Linick and Susan Vasu share their expertise and answer questions. No registration is necessary, but if you need transportation, feel free to call Penny Helbig (933-2384), Lee Lohr (934-6757) or Arlene Strauch (933-5521).



The Amazing Talent Adventure
May 31st – July 19th
Based on “The Parable of the Talents” – Matthew 25:14-30

Are You Ready for a Challenge?
Do You Believe that With God All Things Are Possible?
Does Your Life Need Some Excitement? Would You Like to Stretch Your Faith?

If the answer to any of those questions is yes,
we have just the thing for you!

On Pentecost Sunday, May 31st, anyone who would like to participate in the Amazing Talent Adventure will receive a 20 dollar bill. There will be “funny” money in your bulletin with a place for your name on the back. During the last hymn, people will have an opportunity to trade in their “funny” money for the “real” thing. If you cannot be in church that day, a friend can pick up the money for you as there will be a place in the bulletin insert to document that as well.

During the next seven weeks, each participant will figure out and implement a plan to invest their \$20 by using their talent and imagination, such as making crafts and selling them, having a garage sale, babysitting, gardening, cooking, etc. Then, as we pray together and work together, we will watch the money grow. It is our hope that as we support each other in this amazing adventure, the entire congregation will experience the energy and joy of new possibilities, fresh creativity, novel discoveries and wonderful fellowship. On July 19th we will have a special worship service to collect the money and celebrate God’s goodness, mercy and generosity. We will be collecting the money (in an envelope with the participant’s name on it) during the first hymn so that we will have a final count by the end of the service. If a participant cannot be in church on July 19th they will want to turn in their money to the church office before the 19th. The money will go into the general fund so that Avon Lake Presbyterian Church can continue to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Those who would rather participate by being a prayer partner or a “cheerleader” will have an opportunity to partner up with a participant immediately following the Pentecost worship service in the front of the sanctuary.

(continued on next page)

Talent Adventure, Continued

There will be tables set up in Hart Hall on Sundays from June 7th through July 12th for those who have talents to share. The building will be open at 9:00 am so that you won't have to miss worship in order to set up. Then in worship, during announcements, Tom will give people a chance to announce what they have to share, whether it is fresh bread to sell, or boat rides to sign up for. There will also be room on the Stewardship bulletin board in the foyer to post pertinent information.

If you have any questions or ideas, please feel free to talk to anyone on the Stewardship Committee: Penny Helbig, Lee Lohr, Carolyn Rudd, Arlene Strauch and Bev Walbom.

Lorain County Paper Products

It's that time of year when we collect paper products for the Lorain County Paper Products drive. For the last several years, we have supported the project by providing bags of items for people in need in Lorain County. It has been suggested that we need paper products, cleaning supplies, and personal care supplies. These items cannot be purchased with food stamps

On Sunday, May 17th, we will be giving out empty bags. Please fill the bags with the suggested items, and return them to the church's foyer in June.



Pentecost May 31 Wear Red for Pentecost



Pentecost literally means “fifty days” or “the fiftieth day.” In the Jewish faith, it came exactly fifty days after the Passover and was the festival that celebrated the completion of the harvest. In the Christian community, Pentecost was the occasion of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2). Christians everywhere consider Pentecost as the birthday of the Church. “When the day of Pentecost came, all the believers were gathered together in one place. Suddenly there was a noise from the sky which sounded like a strong wind blowing, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. Then they saw what looked like tongues of fire which spread out and touched each person there. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit.” (Acts 2:1-4) We are asking everyone to wear red on Pentecost as it reminds us of the tongues of fire that surrounded the disciples. We will also provide “birthday” cake for everyone after both services to celebrate this joyous occasion.

Session Highlights April 20, 2009

Learned that:

- ◆ 354 persons received Communion on April 5.
- ◆ ALPC's longtime members will be honored in worship on Sunday, May 3.
- ◆ The Officer/Staff Retreat will be at Rocky River Presbyterian Church on May 16, from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- ◆ The next workday will be Blue Jeans Sunday on May 17.
- ◆ Three projects will be completed this Spring and Summer: The West-end boiler will be replaced. The outside brickwork will be re-pointed. The West-end driveway will undergo patching and asphalt repair.
- ◆ Summer outdoor services will be on the front lawn on June 14 and August 9.
- ◆ Summer outdoor services will be in The Chapel in the Woods on July 12 and Sept. 6.

Approved:

- ◆ For Ordination and Installation during the 11:00 a.m. service on April 26:
- ◆ as Elder, Class of 2012: David Brunner, Dick Francis, Karen Francy, John Kneiss, and Ruth Weeks.
- ◆ as Deacon, Class of 2012: Cindi Dansizen, Jay Knox, Cris Till and Marcy Uhl.
- ◆ as Deacon Class of 2011: Mary Lou Klier and Dave Taylor.
- ◆ as Deacon Class of 2010 Dave Littell.
- ◆ Examining at a later date, elected Deacons Megan Eisaman and Ruth Valtierrez who were unable to attend this Session meeting.
- ◆ Holding a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, May 3, after the 11:00 a.m. worship service, for the purpose of electing an Elder and the 2010 Nominating Committee.
- ◆ Mark Bennett, Dave Brunner, Dina Doughtry, and Shirley Hook to be Commissioners to the May Presbytery Meeting.

Heard :

- ◆ The Faith Journey Stories of the newly-elected Elders and Deacons.
- ◆ The Worship and Spiritual Life Committee will continue to explore the possibility of only one worship service in the fall.
- ◆ The PWR was most grateful for our hospitality extended at the March Presbytery Stated Meeting.
- ◆ The Transformative Leadership Coalition (TLC) will soon conclude its 40 week Discernment and Discussion process and will make its final report to Session in June.

Session Highlights, Continued April 20, 2009

Welcomed:

- ◆ The Elders and Deacons who are soon to be ordained and installed.

Thanked:

- ◆ The outgoing Elders, Michele Cold, Dina Doughtry, and Virginia Lockmeyer for their dedicated years of service.

Shirley Hook, Clerk of Session (from Clerk, Pro Tem, Virginia Lockmeyer's Minutes)



SonRock Kids Camp – VBS 2009 **June 15-19 9am – noon** **Where kids build their lives on the rock –Jesus!** **Mark your calendars now!**

We're getting excited about Vacation Bible School coming soon! As the children participate in Son Rock Kids Camp, they will learn how each one of them is loved by Jesus. We will have a great time singing songs, watching skits, creating crafts, and playing games. And don't forget about the snacks! There will be a Closing Program on Friday, June 19th at 11:00 followed by a family picnic. VBS registration began at the end of April - the cost is \$8 per child – Please sign up your children at the VBS table in the church foyer.

To make this event happen, we need volunteers to be a part of SonRock Kids Camp VBS in many areas including decorating, missions, Bible teaching, crafts, recreation games, skits, snacks, and nursery/toddler care. This will be one of the greatest opportunities you will have to make a difference in the lives of children as you serve the Lord by sharing His Good News. There is something for everyone. If you are interested in learning more about how you can be a part of this exciting experience contact Carolyn Dzuro at (933-6240 – church), (216-268-9488 – cell), or cjdzuro@peoplepc.com

Youth Director's Page ...

It seems as though it was only yesterday that I was typing out an article for the last *Saints Alive!* newsletter. It's amazing how time flies as the summer moves in. A lot has happened in the church and in my life this past month; and May promises to provide just as much excitement for me. I am venturing forth into the month with a bit of anticipation and even a bit of trepidation. I will have the privilege of seeing the Confirmation Class join the church as new members. I will get to experience the sun and surf of Cancun, and I will consider throwing my hat into the ring for the permanent position of Director of Youth Ministries. That's right, my "Interim" is just about up and a new position will open up here at the ALPC. Whether I am in the position or not remains to be seen, but I fully support the church in whatever decision they make. The past year has been amazing, and I thank the Lord for every moment in which He allowed me to participate.

On a different note, my family was devastated by the unexpected passing of my uncle. At only 50 years old and two children not out of high school, his death was a shock. Moments like these can shake us to the core and test our faith. To quote the musical *Jesus Christ Superstar*, "[Lord], you're far too keen on 'where' and 'how' – not so hot on 'why' ...". But it is in these moments that, if we open our eyes, we can see the Lord's light and compassion shining brightly as he embraces us and lets us know that He will always help us stay strong. Sure, it forces us to question, but that helps us to dive into our faith and grow into a deeper relationship with Christ. I've grown a little watching my extended family come together in an intense show of support. No, I don't have it all figured out, and I probably never will. But I know to spend every moment I have with my family like it could be my last...to appreciate my parents and siblings...to adore my wife and kids...and to love the Lord with all my heart. But then, I suppose that's all He really wants.

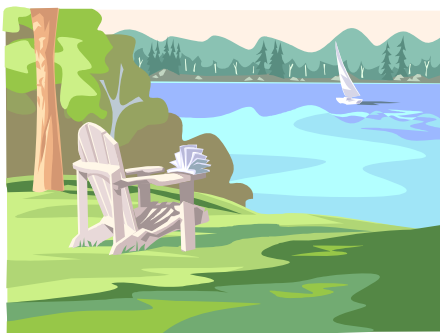
Thank you, uncle Rick, for all you've taught me. Say 'hi' to the Big Guy for me.

Beau Dansizen, Youth Director, Int.

Church Retreat at Beulah Beach September 26th and 27th

Jesus Still Heals Today

Come join us for our annual church retreat at Beulah Beach, a wonderful retreat area located right on Lake Erie in Vermilion, Ohio. We begin with an opportunity to get to know each other at 9:45 on Saturday morning and say good-bye at 1:30 Sunday afternoon. In between we have three sessions when we meet with our own age group (young children, older children, youth, and adults); lots of free time for fellowship including corn-hole, volleyball, walks in the woods, bicycle rides, paddle boat rides, card games, and much, much more; four delicious meals with a salad bar that has something for everyone; a bon-fire with s'mores; and a special worship service on Sunday morning.



The three adult sessions will be led by the Rev. Roger Perks who has been involved in the ministry of healing for many years and is passionate about educating and encouraging others to develop the healing ministry in their churches. He was the first Convener of the Westlake Chapter of the Order of Saint Luke's and is currently the State Chaplain for Ohio. He will guide us as we look at the following questions: (1) What is Christian healing? (2) How do we make ourselves available for healing? (3) How do we become a healing agent?

We handle the cost of the retreat as we do every worship service. All are welcome no matter how much they are able to contribute. The cost to the church is \$67.50 for those 16 and older; \$36.50 for those 12 to 15; \$22.00 for those 3 to 11; and those 3 and younger are free. We trust God will provide by inspiring all to give as they feel called.

If you have any questions please feel free to talk with anyone on the retreat committee: David Brunner, Leslie Knox, Gary and Rae Matthews, Craig and Beth Shoemaker, Arlene Strauch and Cris Till.



900 NAGEL RD
 AVON, OH 44011
 440.937.5100
 800.448.DIRT (3478)
 FAX 440.937.5468

HOURS
 MON-FRI 8AM-6PM
 SAT 8AM-5PM
 SUN 10AM-5PM

**Avon Lake
 Presbyterian Women
 Plant Sale 2009**

The Avon Lake Presbyterian Women along with the **Rock Pile** announce an addition to our traditional plant sale. This year we are extending our program to include both bulk mulch and topsoil thru the Rock Pile. When you call or stop by the Rock Pile to order your mulch, simply bring this form with you or tell the Rock Pile associate that you are a member of the Avon Lake Presbyterian Church and a portion of your order will be donated back to ALPW. It is just that simple! The Rock Pile has 11 types of mulch to offer, some of these are...

- Dark Double Shredded @ \$30/yard
- Enviro Color Enhanced, black-red-brown @\$36/yard
- Sweet Peat Organic @ \$40/yard
- and Premium Topsoil for \$30/yard

I WILL NEED:

_____ yds. of _____

_____ yds. of _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

*Delivery and sales Tax will be added to order
 Valid May 1st thru June 30th*

Ligonier Camp

**CHILDREN'S
CAMP**



Ligonier Camp is a Christian camp with one of the most diverse and extensive adventure education programs in the Eastern United States. The Camp's primary goal is to help children learn more about Jesus Christ as they grow in their knowledge of the Christian faith. However, understanding community by learning how to love, respect, and serve others, and their wonderful adventure program which helps children push past their "comfort zone" are also excellent features of this very special summer program.

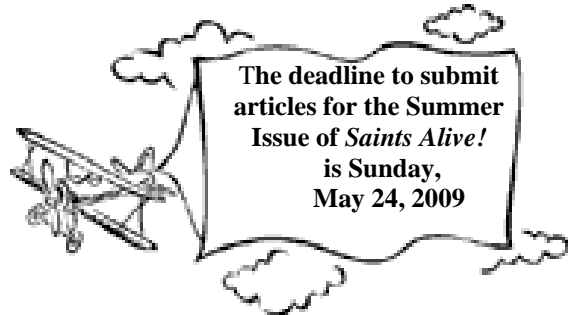
This camp is located in Ligonier, Pennsylvania and offers one and two week sessions for children 8 years of age through 17 and three day sessions for children 6 to 8.

There are brochures available on the table in the foyer if you'd like to take a closer look.

There are also many children from ALPC who have attended this camp and they would be happy to talk with you. If there is any way I can help you with more information, please give me a call or send me an email at

cjdzuro@peoplepc.com

Carolyn Dzuro



The deadline to submit
articles for the Summer
Issue of *Saints Alive!*
is Sunday,
May 24, 2009

Mission Statement

In awe, we Receive God's Grace and Gospel.

In gratitude, we Respond with
Worship and Servanthood.

In love, we Represent Jesus Christ
as we minister to transform lives
in family, community, and the world.

Church Officer Retreat

is

May 16, 2009

9:00 am to 3:00 pm

at

**Rocky River Presbyterian
Church**





**Presbyterian
Women of the
Presbytery of the
Western Reserve**

SPRING GATHERING

9-2 Saturday, May 2

Heritage Presbyterian Church, 515 N. Leavitt
Road, Amherst, OH
440-988-9409

“Nurturing the Nurturers – That’s Us!”

Learn about guided meditation

Opportunities to experience techniques for
self healing:

**MASSAGE, ACUPRESSURE, REIKI, RE-
FLEXOLOGY**

Led by Pat Jackson, Massage Therapist and
Reiki Master and

The Rev. Jonyrma Singleton, Associate Pas-
tor at Church of the Covenant
and Reiki Master



**Presbyterian Women
Meetings**

May meeting will be dinner
out.....Sarah Circle

Tuesday, May 12, 12:30 pm, at Legacy
.....Care & Share

Wednesday, May 20, 9:30 am in the church
libraryCircle of Hope

Thursday, May 21, at 7:00 pm at a
Member’s home.....Circle of SMILES

Thursday, May 21, at 7:00 pm in the Session
Room.....PW Board

Tuesday, May 19, at 5:30 pm for dinner
out.....Ruth Circle

Thursday, May 21, 6:30 pm at Marian Conn’s
.....Circle of Love

Tuesday, May 26, at 7:30 pm in the church
libraryCircle of Friends

Tuesday, May 26, at 7:30 pm in the church
office.....Serendipity Circle

Presbyterian Women High Tea

The Avon Lake Presbyterian Women are sponsoring a High Tea in Hart Hall on Saturday, May 9. Plan on inviting your mother, sister, daughter, sister-in-law, neighbor, granddaughter, daughter-in-law and best friend to this spring event. The cost will be \$5 per person. A light lunch will be served along with tea, of course. There will be a Mother’s Day raffle— items being donated by the Circles of Avon Lake Presbyterian Church. You will be able to bid on a Mother’s Day gift. We will have special music by Muriel Homer, Susan Richardson and The Presbyterones! You won’t want to miss it!

Presbyterian Women

Avon Lake Presbyterian Women 2009 Plant Sale



The ALPW plant sale will run from May 1st – June 30th

The sale will include coupons of \$15, \$25 and \$50 for PINEHAVEN GREENHOUSE of Avon. The sale will also include a special Mulch and Topsoil program with the ROCKPILE of Avon. See page 10 in this newsletter for that special order form.



MULCH

In the world today we are all aware of the many economic and financial hardships. This means that our Presbyterian Women are especially hard at work to build funds for all our very important missions that will continue to need our support. There will be many requests for help from those who are familiar and maybe from those who have never needed our help before. Please support your ALPW by using these two programs to complete your yearly landscaping needs. It is so easy! Coupons available all five Sundays in May. *Mother's Day Baskets* for sale May 3rd and May 10th for only \$15 each.

Sandi Ciarrone 933.7054

Presbyterian Women Installation

**Sunday, May 10, Mother's Day,
is when we will be Installing the
Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team for 2009/2010
at the 11:00 am service.**

Wanted

The Human Resources Committee is accepting applications for the position of Director of Youth Ministries. This is a part time position, 15-20 hours per week. The Director will provide Leadership for the Youth Ministry for junior and senior high school youth groups in cooperation with adult volunteer leaders. He or she will be responsible for planning age-appropriate activities for youth that engage them in worship, fun, fellowship and faith development.

Applicants must graciously demonstrate a commitment to youth ministry; possess a warm, caring and nurturing spirit, a strong Christian faith, and a comprehensive knowledge of the Bible and Reformed theology. Experience in youth leadership and team development is desired. An undergraduate degree is preferred with a combination of education and/or experience indicating a strong ability to communicate, relate, and lead youth in Christian discipleship. Salary is negotiable and will be based on qualifications and experience. Resumes may be submitted to alpresby@centurytel.net.



Coffee Servers

- May 3** The Deacons
- May 10** Tim & Linda Kurak
- May 17** David Littell & Kathy Leopold
- May 24** Cindi Dansizen
- May 31** Nancy & Skip Albrecht

Hall Monitors

- May 3** Dick Francis
- May 10** Kathy Leopold
- May 17** Bill Hamilton



Sound Room Technicians

- | | | |
|--------------|-------|-----------------|
| May 3 | 9:30 | David Littell |
| | 11:00 | Dave Taylor |
| 10 | 9:00 | Lee Lohr |
| | 11:00 | Mike Richardson |
| 17 | 9:30 | Paul Selvage |
| | 11:00 | Scott Seipel |
| 24 | 10:00 | Craig Young |
| | 10:00 | Larry Madson |
| 31 | 10:00 | Larry Madson |

Prayer Concerns

Serving in our Armed Forces:

Derek Fabry, Jennifer Homer, Matt Homer, Josh St. Clair, Jamie Waddell, Derek Weeden, Wes Wiblin, Aaron Angel (Scott Hay's niece's husband), Joshua Asire (Fran and Allan Asire's grandson), Bill Brown III (Sue Tompos' nephew), Tony Carosella (Carolyn Dzuro's nephew), Ben Donberg (a nephew of the Monjots), Robert Glover (Carol Egna's brother), Patrick Harris (Betty Harris' grandson), Richard Hebert (father of Waverly, Grace and Mallory), Ian Houston (a friend of Scott Simmons), Todd and Brett Kirwan (friends of the Wiblin's), Michael Marron (Dina Doughtry's son-in-law), Mike Medvic (friend of Becky Betts), Mark and Cheryl Monjot's nephew, Kevin Poyer (friend of the Lawson family), Joshua Reichlin (Ken Reichlin's nephew), Ryan and Kevin Tinsley (Nancy McBride's grandsons) and Adam Usher (Kay Usher's grandson).

Avon Lake Presbyterian Church
32340 Electric Blvd.
Avon Lake, OH 44012
Return Service Requested

Non Profit Organization
BULK RATE
U.S. Postage
Avon Lake, OH 44012
Permit No. 29

Sunday Worship
9:30 & 11:00 am
(440) 933-6240
www.AvonLakePC.org

Pastor	Tom Robinson
Pastor Emeritus	Alfred A. Hart
Dir. of Music	Muriel Homer
Dir. of CE	Carolyn Dzurro
Financial Secy	Sharon Pervo
Int. Youth Dir.	Beau Dansizen