

PROTESTANT FAMILY SERVICE

77 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

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PFS NEWSLETTER
Editor: Cathy Pokrivnak
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A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

"Rivers do not drink their own water; Trees do not eat their own fruit.

The sun does not shine on itself; Flowers do not spread their fragrance for themselves.

Living for others is a rule of nature. We are all born to help each other. No matter how difficult.

Life is good when you are happy; but much better when others are happy because of you.

Let us all remember then that every changing colour of a leaf is beautiful and every changing situation of life is meaningful, both need very clear vision.

Problems are a sign that we are strong. Prayer is a sign we are not alone! If we can acknowledge these truths our hearts and minds, our lives will be more meaningful and worthwhile. *"Author unknown"*

Dear PFS Friends,

I was catching up on some reading and came across the poem above. I realized this was a perfect interpretation of what I have been experiencing from the amazing people of the PFS family, supporters, friends, and community.

I am forever grateful to everyone, especially during the busiest time in PFS history. Recently, PFS began accepting applications for The COVID Cares Mahoning County Grant Money to help those in need with rent and utilities thus increasing our calls tenfold. **Volunteers doubled up and others jumped in to help with extra time and perseverance. You are all so appreciated.**

This poem also brought vision to this emotional season of so many changes. We are missing our sweet Caseworker, Judy Wilson. She recently retired after many years, and we wish her blessings in her next journey. Yes, we all are still missing Jackie terribly too, and I admit I have called out to her more than once in a moment of doubt or frustration. But when I read something that speaks to me like this poem, I feel comfort in knowing Jackie put it in my path.

In closing, as many know, Jackie was not one to write much down. ***"It's all up here," she would say as she pointed to her head!!!*** So, it is not a surprise I am enlightened daily of things Jackie carried out in her job which I had no way of knowing. So, please share anything I might not know.

Blessings to each and every one of you,
Cathy Pokrivnak

"The Son of Man did not come to
be served

**SERV
ANT
EAD
RSHIP**

but to serve others and give his life as a
ransom for many." -Matthew 20:28

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD

Greeting to all!

We are moving forward like Jackie would have INSISTED!

Our amazing Caseworker of many years, Judy Wilson, retired on September 30, 2021 and was celebrated at a luncheon that day at Celebrity Hall.

New Caseworker, Donna James is doing an outstanding job.

This season of PFS's changes, everyone is giving 100%! Thanks to you all!

Lastly, I want to thank Cathy Pokrivnak for the effective and efficient way she handles the job of Executive Director of PFS. Many of the tasks she has already been doing, but as of August 1, 2021, her title is official.

Thank you, Cathy! My hat is off to you.

**In His serviced,
Apostle Maralana Martin**

Be thankful

**IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES
FOR THIS IS GOD'S WILL
FOR YOU WHO BELONG TO**

Christ Jesus

1 THESSALONIANS 5:18

VISION: PFS seeks to provide, in a Christian manner, the necessary care and need to the individual that will give hope for a better life.

2021 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Board Officers:

Rev. Maralana Martin, President
Azell Burley, Vice President
Donna Hageman, Secretary
Harold Blackann, Treasurer

Board Members:

Willie B. Baker
Sandra Dean
Rev. Walter Hale
Rev. Gwen Johnson
Sandra Johnson
Shirley Megown
April Terrell

Committee Members:

John Dellick
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Staff:

Cathy Pokrivnak, Executive Director
Donna James. Caseworker
Charlene Bernard, New employee
paid by Vantage Workforce Solutions



**NEW ONLINE DONATION
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PASSING THE *Baton of Faith*



Newly retired Case worker, Judy Wilson, is passing the Baton of Faith and Service to new Caseworker, Donna James.

Judy was honored at a wonderful noon Luncheon on August 30, 2021. We thank her for giving so much to PFS and cherish all our memories. Though soft spoken, Judy always offered powerful encouraging words.

Judy, you are a blessing and are blessed. Enjoy spending more time with your family and friends. Don't forget your extended family as we will always be here waiting for you. Be sure and take some time out to "do you".

Love Your PFS Family

THOSE WE SERVE



The client of the month is a woman with six children from ages 5-16 who came to PFS for help with her utilities and food. She needed emergency food because she was in the middle of moving and had no food for her children. Earlier that day PFS had been blessed with a large donation of food from a local church which included many family size food items. We gave her some of those items for her large family. She was very grateful that we were able to accommodate her last-minute request.

As a new member of the PFS family I would like to thank all the organizations and people in the community who generously donate money, food, personal care items for our clients. I also want to thank the team of volunteers for welcoming me to this great organization and for all their hard work. We could not do what we do without them. A special thank you to Judy Wilson for training me to take her place so the transition would be as seamless as possible. Mrs. Wilson retired 9/30/21 and I wish her all the best. God Bless You All!

Donna James, MBA MS
Caseworker



THANK YOU IS NOT ENOUGH!

Words seem powerless to express our gratitude!

This year cannot even be explained.

What can be said is the vail of overwhelming love and support felt by PFS from all of you put something in the world that was not there before.

PFS is forever grateful!



- The Jackie Burley Memorial Charity Golf Tournament in July 2021 was a great success, and we broke our record for money raised at this event!
- The October 2021 CROP WALK, though part virtual, was a success. Maddie and I were out there in force manning the PFS table and providing water and candy.
- Thank you, Sam, Anne and all whom organized this amazing **Drive-Thru Food Drive at DMHD Family Practice** for Breast Cancer Awareness in October benefiting PFS. This blessing filled our Pantry!



THE YOUNGSTOWN FOUNDATION

DO NOT SEND CHECKS DIRECTLY

FIRST: We will still receive 10% from them for donations over \$100!

SECOND: Only their procedure has changed.

- The Youngstown Foundation **NO LONGER ACCEPTS CHECKS** mailed to them.
- All checks now must be mailed directly to PFS!
- Then we report all donations to them and get our extra 10%.

Please fill out the form, below!



Then just take picture with your phone and text or email it to contact information on back page. Or send via regular mail.

Name: _____

Phone (& can we text): _____

Email: _____

____ I would like to continue receiving this newsletter via regular mail.

____ I would prefer receiving the newsletter via email.

Let us know if you would be willing to pass out copies of newsletter to your church, group, friends or organization?

Volunteer Opportunities

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

**Could you give us just a few hours a month? A few times a year?
Please contact April at aprilshowers@zoominternet.net**

NOTE: Some of these jobs can be done from home!

- ✚ We need immediate help **ANSWERING PHONES** and taking messages Monday-Thursday 9am-2pm (Daily shifts can be split).
- ✚ We really need a person **ASAP** to keep the Website updated. Please ask around! *Someone knows a younger person that could do this by "second nature".*
- ✚ Media Person (send info/articles/pictures to local news outlets).
- ✚ Update Excel's file for address labels for newsletter and more.
- ✚ Help Director with organization/projects/correspondence.
- ✚ Help with newsletter, and/or fundraisers.
- ✚ Help Caseworker with paperwork/calling utilities.

**PROTESTANT
FAMILY
SERVICE**



Volunteer.

*Our appreciation for you
and all these things you do
grows and grows...*



*to our amazing
Volunteers!*

*"No one is more cherished in this
world than someone who
lightens the burden
of another."*

Blessings from,
April & Mary

VOLUNTEERS LUNCHEON MEETING

Time: NOON

Place: PFS

Date: Wednesday, 1-26-22

RSVP: Donna Hageman (call/text/email):

330 502-0729 or gdhage@sbcglobal.net

**This is an important meeting. If you cannot
attend, we could set up zoom or facetime!**



**DON'T FORGET TO
REMEMBER**

PROTESTANT FAMILY SERVICE
496 Glenwood Avenue, Suite 115
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TO DONATE!**

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