October 2026

THE HERALD

Newsletter of the Orrville Grace Brethren Church

Who's Who at OGBC?

By: Jodi Robinson

Bob and Laurie Geiser have attended OGBC for over 11 years. **Bob** was saved in 1968 in Spartanburg, Pennsylvania and was later baptized. He was baptized in 1995 at Wooster Grace Brethren Church. **Laurie** was saved when she was 11 years old on the corner of Route 250 and 44. She had recently been to church camp and had been thinking about what she had learned and made the decision in the car. She was rebaptized in 1995 at Wooster Grace Brethren Church.

Bob and Laurie met at Kidron Town and Country and were married June 18, 1983. They have 3 children, Jessika, Ben and Matthew. They have a dog named Sarah who is a hound mix.

Laurie was born on September 30, 1958 at St. Thomas Hospital in Akron. She has lived in Wayne County since she was 3 years old. Her earliest memory is walking up the hill to play with the neighbor girl, Gail when she was 3 or 4 years old. She had a cute nickname as a teen which she got because her father liked to pull pranks on the boy scout leader. He told the leader that there was a new family with a boy who might be interested in scouting. Then he dressed **Laurie** up as a boy, put her hair in a cap and took her that night to the boy scout campground and introduced her to everyone as **Tom Tedero.** She was told to put her stuff in a tent with a boy. But Laurie knew the boy and refused to go in, so the scout leader shined his flashlight in her face and then recognized her. From then on, the scout leader always called her "**Tom Tedero**." **Laurie** has two brothers; one has gone on to Heaven ahead of her.

Laurie's ancestry is German, English, Scottish and American Indian. She is related to several famous persons including the Harrison presidents; a first cousin's son, Zach who played for the Dallas Cowboys and his brother, Nick who played for Houston. She is also related to Chief Hokolewskwa Cornstalk, a Shawnee Chief in Pennsylvania in the 1700s who migrated to Ohio in the face of American Settler

encroachment. He was known for peacefully representing his people at treaty councils.

Bob was born on January 20, 1961 in Cleveland. His earliest memory is shoveling snow in the mornings on his way to do his chores as a preschooler. He has one brother who is in Heaven and also has a sister. He has lived in Wayne County since he was 1 year old. His ancestry is mostly Swiss with some German, Scottish and Irish. He is related to Thomas Johnson who was on the First Supreme Court and later became the Governor of Maryland.

Laurie's favorite subject in school was Reading. She says she liked school. She speaks a little bit of Spanish. She was in the band, playing the clarinet, was in plays, and choir. She co-managed the Girls' basketball team and did stats for the Boys' basketball team. She wanted to be a surgical nurse when she grew up but changed her mind when she took Chemistry. She then decided that she wanted to be a Special Ed Teacher. She attended Apple Creek Elementary, Waynedale High School, Wayne College and Akron University. She said the most important thing she learned in school was that "planning ahead makes life easier". As a child she enjoyed games such as Kick the Can, Baseball in the backyard, Ghost in the Graveyard in the woods, Jigsaw puzzles and Dutch Blitz.

Bob's favorite subject in school was Algebra II. He says he guesses he liked school as he never missed a day in 12 years. He can read some Spanish. He was in the choir, and played the coronet in marching band and symphony. He wanted to be an accountant when he grew up. He attended Kidron Elementary, Dalton High School, Wayne College and Akron University. As a child he enjoyed playing croquet, Rook and Dutch Blitz.

Laurie fulfilled her dream of being a Special Ed teacher and is retired from Waynedale schools. She continues to teach and tutor students, especially those with dyslexia. When asked what was the best thing she ever did for someone else, she said, "Teaching dyslexic kids how to read". Other work experiences included being a cashier at the Kidron Town and Country, as a waitress, receptionist, office assistant, and she also worked as a Day Camp Counselor at Ida Sue School.

Bob fulfilled his dream of being an accountant. He worked as an accountant and computer programmer for 42 years. He also gained work experience as a paper carrier and as a bag boy at Kidron Town and Country. Since retirement he has been the treasurer for the Apple Creek Historical Society. When asked what was the best thing he ever did for someone else, he said, "Providing DVDs with the Jesus story to people in Cambodia in their language."

Favorite things: **Laurie's** favorite thing to do with their family is playing board games. **Bob's** favorite thing to do with their family are the family meals. **Laurie** likes to crochet, cross stitch and do crafts. **Bob's** maternal grandmother taught **Laurie** how to crochet. **Bob** likes to make Party Mix. He makes it all through the fall and winter. He made **Laurie** a cedar chest which she still has. **Bob** likes to go biking. **Laurie** likes the colors of blue and yellow, brown-eyed Susans, daisies and Mexican food. **Bob** likes the color red and he loves spicy food. He collects books and DVDs. Bob's favorite Bible verse is John 3:16 "*For*

God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life". NKJV **Laurie's** favorite Bible verse is Psalm 59:17 "*O my Strength, I will sing praises to you, for you, O God, are my fortress, the God who shows me steadfast love".* ESV

Bob and **Laurie** love to travel. Bob filled me in on some great stories from their adventures:

"We (**Bob** and **Laurie**) went to Hawaii in 1998 where we saw circular rainbows below us from a helicopter, walked through lava tubes and walked on recent lava flows".

"I (**Bob)** went to Israel in 2014 and was baptized in a tributary of the Jordan River. Other highlights of this trip were standing in En Gedi thinking about David in 1 Samuel 24; standing in the Garden of Gethsemane and standing on the Temple Mount".

"We (**Bob** and **Laurie**) went to Cambodia in 2015 where we rode on an elephant, toured Angkor Wat and saw the stone carving of a stegosaurus at the Ta Prohm Temple made 700 years before the stegosaurus was named in 1877".

"We (**Bob** and **Laurie**) went to Kenya in 2016. They had a personal safari and visited an elephant orphanage. **Laurie** got face to face with giraffes who could grab food pellets from between her lips with their tongue."

In 2023, **Bob** and a friend biked the Camino from Saint-Jean-Pied-de-Port in France to the cathedral of Santiago de Compostela in Spain. We passed roads constructed by the Romans and passed over bridges and through towns that were over a thousand years old".

Currently, **Bob and Laurie** are kept busy with building a second home on their property.

Bob and Laurie support the local church, Right to Life for over 40 years, the Pregnancy Care Center and the Cultural Impact Team. They are both involved in the East Ohio Emmanuel Emmaus group which is aimed at renewing Christian Disciples, strengthening local churches and equipping servant-leaders. Laurie is very involved in teaching persons with dyslexic tendencies to read.

They both serve the local church; **Bob** serves as the Treasurer and is in the Bell Choir. **Laurie** is in charge of the church library, Directs the Bell Choir, and is in the Choir Ensemble. She also teaches Women's Sunday School classes and continues to be involved with tutoring children.

When asked if there was someone in her life that she admired, **Laurie** said, "All of those who are ahead of me in their maturity and Christian walk."

When asked where they would want to be if they could be anywhere: **Laurie** said, "Heaven so I could leave this corrupted world behind." **Bob** said, "I am happy right where I am.'

When asked what they would say to God when they meet Him in heaven someday, **Laurie** said: "I would be speechless due to the awesomeness and gratitude.". **Bob** said: "Thank you".

FAITH AND VOTING

by David Powers Robinson, Jr.

An Important Prayer Command in God's word is found in I Timothy 2:1-3:
I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour.

In verse one, notice the words supplication and prayers, intercession and giving of thanks; and that these are to be made for all men. Not only for all the saints, for all the churches of Christ, and ministers of the Gospel, nor only for our relatives and friends. But for all inhabitants of the country and city in which we live. The peace and prosperity of these are to be prayed for, yes, even for our enemies. And for such as reproach, persecute and despitefully use the saints. As well as for all sorts of men, both Jews and Gentiles, rich and poor, high and low in public standing, both good men and bad**.**

Verse two reminds us that we are to pray for our president, our governors, our congressmen and senators, right down to those who are in positions of authority in our local communities. As Christians, by voting for these men, we are saying that we trust them to enact laws and policies that we believe will promote a safe environment so our families can live out quiet and peaceful lives. We are saying when we vote for them that we believe that they will remember Godly principles as they go about writing and enacting new laws and policies that will have their effect on our civil liberties and religious rights. In short, we are to pray for the leaders of our nation and the leaders of other nations, that we might live peacefully among one another.

Verse three tells us to pray that we might live peaceably and quietly under the government of men, which is good and acceptable in the sight of God, since this form of government has been ordained by God.

This brings us to the point of our discussion as to why we as Christians should vote on Election Day.
Honor, privilege, and duty come to my mind as I consider the importance of my vote.
We, in America are blessed to have a government of the people, by the people and for the people. But democracy has one key requirement: Our Participation.

The most basic democratic participation is voting, yet it can also have the most profound impact. When you vote, you help determine who will lead our nation, state and local governments. You help determine those who will make our laws and protect our liberties.
More than a right, voting is a privilege that millions of people in other parts of the world can only dream about. Still, many in our nation choose not to vote.

Another reason we as Christians should vote is so that our government might have the benefit of or the influence of our faith.
Our faith in God should influence our values in life, and this includes the political arena. We shouldn't be bashful about injecting notions of right and wrong into debates. These ideas come from moral standards, which help prevent a free society such as ours from sliding into social chaos. People of faith, grounded in moral truth, must be prepared to discern those candidates best able to uphold moral values.

As we see in Matthew 5:13-16:
Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt has lost its savor, wherewith shall it be salted? It is thenceforth good

for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men. Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in Heaven.

God has a plan for each and every one of his people that he has put in a position to have influence upon the world in which we live. As Christ's representatives on earth, we are under a mandate to be "Salt and Light" in our culture.

Dr. James Dobson put it to us this way: We live in a representative form of government where we are its leaders. This means that every citizen has a responsibility to participate in the decisions that are made, and that includes people of faith using their influence for what is moral and just.

Billy Graham said this: If our nation is to survive, we must elect more God-centered men and women to public office, individuals who will seek divine guidance in the affairs of state.

Voting your values is important.

Voting is a ministry of giving.

That's right, your vote can be a form of ministry. After all, when you vote, you are directly and indirectly impacting people's lives. The people you select and the ballot you cast measures your support. You are making a practical difference – for good and bad – in the lives of unborn children. Have you ever considered how your vote affects the very life of a precious unborn child who has become so dependent on you – a stranger to him—simply because of elections past where we as a nation failed to uphold Godly principles in protecting them from those who we would naturally expect to nourish them and love them; who have instead opted to murder them for convenience's sake.

Your vote is a ministry of giving – in the lives of impressionable youth --concerning pornography laws and education policies. Have you ever considered how your vote affects the overall environment that our children will be subjected to as they grow into and through the formative stages of development into adulthood. The things that we as a society conclude as wholesome and acceptable will surely have its impact on our children.

Have you ever considered how your vote affects hurting souls, who are tormented by various addictions such as: homosexuality, gambling, alcoholism, and drug addiction.

This is why it is so imperative that we as believers know what God has to say concerning the issues we will be faced with in November.

So, this election year, lets prayerfully resolve to:
Number one: BE REGISTERED
Number two: BE INFORMED
Number three: VOTE OUR VALUES.

As a final word:
It is absolutely critical that Christians be registered, be informed and vote our values. As believers, we have a duty to be involved in the democratic process.
But our charge is not simply to vote the way our friends or family vote, or the way our political party wants us to vote, or even with concern only for our pocket book. Instead, we must vote our values, our beliefs and our convictions. **An informed vote takes effort.**

FUNNIES

The disgruntled diner summoned his waiter to the table, complaining, "My oyster stew doesn't have any oysters in it."

"Well, if that bothers you, then you better skip dessert," replied the waiter. "It's angel food cake."

- -

Overheard: "The police in this town have a very tough sobriety test. Not only do they make you blow up a balloon, but then you have to twist it into a giraffe."

- -

At an airline ticket counter, a small boy, with his mother, told the agent he was two years old. The man looked at him suspiciously and asked, "Do you know what happens to little boys who lie?"

"Yes. My mommy says they get to fly at half-price."

- -

What an automated society we live in. Have you noticed that when a traffic signal turns green, it automatically activates the horn of the car behind you?

- -

Driving down a winding country road, a man came upon a youth running hard, three large dogs snarling at his heels. The man screeched to a halt and threw open the door. "Get in, get in!" he shouted.

"Thanks," gasped the youth. "You're terrific. Most people won't offer a ride when they see I have three dogs!"

- -

"One day, an explorer was captured by native warriors and taken to their chieftain, a gigantic man with teeth filed to dagger-like points. Desperately, the explorer tried to think of a way to save himself. He pulled out his cigarette lighter, held it in front of the chief's face and lit it, exclaiming, "Look! Magic!"

The chief's eyes were huge in astonishment. "It certainly must be magic," He said, "I have never seen a lighter light on the first try!"

- -

A pair of honeymooners checked into the Watergate Hotel in Washington D.C. That night, as the husband was about to turn off the light, his bride asked, "Do you think this room is bugged?"

"That was a long time ago, sweetheart," he reassured her.

But what if there's a microphone somewhere? I'd be so embarrassed."

So, the groom searched under tables and behind pictures. Then he turned back the rug. Sure enough, there was a funny-looking gizmo in the floor. He took out the screws, got rid of the hardware, and climbed into bed.

The next morning the newlyweds were awakened by a hotel clerk who wanted to know if they had slept well.

"We did," replied the groom. "Why do you ask?"

"It's rather unusual," the clerk answered. "Last night the couple in the room below yours had a chandelier fall on them.

- -

Two eggs were in a pot, being boiled. One said to the other, "It's so hot in here I don't think I can stand it much longer."

The other replied, "Don't grumble. As soon as they get you out of here, they bash your head in on the counter."