

# WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

February 2, 2025

Welcome to this service of prayer and praise at First Presbyterian Church. If we can be of service to you in any way, please call the church office weekdays from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. at (814) 333-2161. Childcare is available in Cornerstone Child Care during the worship service.

## SERVING THIS MORNING:

- **The Audio/Video Technician** today is John Alexander.
- **The Liturgist** today is Ryan Claspy.
- **The Greeters** today are Miles O'Shea and Keith Gushard at 8:30 a.m.; and Barb Grzegorzewski, Carol Huggins, Doris Morrow and Doris Foster at 11:00 a.m.
- **The Acolytes** today are Emmet Stoner at 8:30 a.m.; and Lydia Green at 11:00 a.m.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- † **Please pray for the families** who lost their loved ones in the plane and helicopter crash in DC this week.
- † **Friends and members hospitalized, ill, and recovering:** Marlene Braham, Randy Puno, Blessie Santos, Ruth Cooper, Cathy McKinney, Erin Hart, Marilyn and John Robb, Cheri McFate, Jeremy Pruskowski, Carol Young, Ginny Burchfield.
- † **The concerns of Lake Erie Presbytery this week:** Girard Presbyterian Church, Rev. Nicola Vitiello, Pastor; Marsha MacKinnon, Presbytery Webmaster, Presbytery of Lake Erie.
- † **Members' and Friends' Loved Ones Being Deployed:** Shawn Woolstrum.
- † **Service Personnel:** Tyler Schmidt, Karalyn Adams, Ben Bartoe, Donald Albaugh, Andrew Hall, Travis Jensen, Kirk Mumau and Kloe Peterson.
- † **"The work at Fairview/Fairmont Family Center."** Staff - Rosanne Sommers, Family Center Director, Emily Seibel, Assistant, and Allegheny Bonner students Azalia and Niyah.
- † **The mission work of Ross and Mary Hunter (Ecuador), Rev. Celestin Musekura (E. Africa - ALARM), Donnie Brake (South Sudan - SEA Partners), Andrew and Amy Funka (Ingalls Creek), Medical Benevolence, Living Waters of the World, Presbytery of Redstone, (PA Wee Kirk Conferences), Presbyterian Disaster Relief, Haiti Children (Compassion International), Myoung Ho Yang and Ji Yeon Yoo (Thailand - Payap University), The Carter Foundation, Josh Heikkila (West Africa - PCUSA), Rev. Mark Adams and Miriam Escobar (U.S./Mexican Border - PCUSA), Cindy Corell (Joining Hands Against Hunger, Haiti - PCUSA), Rev. Cathy Chang and Juan Lopez Migration and Human trafficking, Philippines - PCUSA), Dr. Larry and Inge Sthresley (Health, Hunger and Malnutrition Programs, Democratic Republic of the Congo - PCUSA), Josh and Carli Cumpston (Frozen Chosen Artic Barnabas Ministry) Remote Alaska.**



The **Prayer Lifeline** is available to pray for your joys and concerns. Call the church office at 814-333-2161 to make your request. You can also e-mail Laurel Porter at [hlporter20@yahoo.com](mailto:hlporter20@yahoo.com). All requests will be kept confidential.



**PASTORAL VISITS AND MINISTERIAL CARE.** If you or a loved one have been hospitalized, have undergone a large life change, or need spiritual guidance and would like a visit from your pastor, please contact Rev. Ben Black or the church office. Additionally, The Stephen Ministry has 6 people who are available to pray with you and render spiritual support.

## THIS WEEK AT OUR CHURCH

### Sunday, February 2



Blanket Plus Sunday

8:30 a.m. – Worship/Communion  
9:30 a.m. – Adult/Youth Sunday School,  
Confirmation Class, Choir Rehearsal  
11:00 a.m. – Worship

### Monday, February 3

### Tuesday, February 4

3:00 p.m. – Personnel and Property  
Committee Meeting  
5:30 p.m. – Liberty Bells Rehearsal

### Wednesday, February 5

10:00 a.m. – Staff Meeting  
11:00 a.m. – Presbyterian Women's  
Coordinating Team Meeting  
5:30 p.m. – Session Meeting  
7:15 p.m. – *Soulstice*

### Thursday, February 6

### Friday, February 7

### Saturday, February 8

### Sunday, February 9

### **SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY**

8:30 a.m. – Worship  
9:30 a.m. – Sunday School, Confirmation  
Class  
10:00 a.m. – Liberty Bells Rehearsal  
11:00 a.m. – Worship

### Attendance Last Week (January 26, 2025):

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.: 102  
Online Views: 56  
Total Giving – \$3,630.00  
2025 Per Capita to date – \$279.00  
Total Due to Presbytery – \$20,860.00  
(2025 Per Capita per member - \$35.00)



**Presbyterian Women's  
Mission Focus for  
February is Church  
World Service Blankets  
Plus:** Blanketing the  
world in love is easy

when people of faith unite through the Church World Service (CWS) Blankets and Kits ministry. Together, we can offer comfort, hope and warmth to our neighbors during their most challenging times. Imagine the impact of your compassion. Each blanket and kit serves as a tangible expression of God's love—sharing warmth on a cold night, relief in a crisis and a reminder that someone truly cares. Join other generous donors and share tangible expressions of love with our neighbors in need:

**\$10** - Provides a CWS Blanket to someone in need.

**\$25** - Provides a CWS Blanket and a CWS Hygiene Kit, offering warmth and essential supplies.

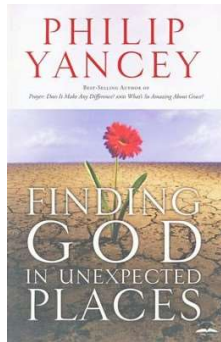
**\$60** – Provides a Family Bundle! Provides blankets and hygiene kits for an entire family, ensuring that they have what they need during challenging times. Please make checks out to "FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH" and put "PW BLANKETS PLUS" in the memo.

The **Presbyterian Women** will continue to collect sample size shampoo, hand sanitizer, bath gel, lotion and toothpaste for the homeless patients at the Free Clinic. Please place your donations in the PW bin in the church office.

## NEWS OF THE CHURCH ALIVE



**Stephen Ministry:** If you have an immediate prayer need, contact the on-call Stephen Minister listed below. (Please note this is meant to supplement, not replace, the prayer line, which offers long-term, ongoing prayer.) Our goal is simply to offer the important ministry of one-on-one, confidential conversation and prayer as the immediate need arises. **For this week, the on-call Stephen Minister is Barb Grzegorzewski. She can be reached at 814-336-1447.**



**Finding God in Unexpected Places by Philip Yancey:** Classes will take place on Sunday, February 2, 9, 16, 23. Philip Yancey returns to his journalist roots as he explores the unlikely places that God prefers to occupy. This globe-

circling journey gives surprising glimpses of God in a South American prison, a slum in Atlanta, and a pod of whales off the coast of Alaska. God shows up in the background of world events, in great art, at the workplace, and, yes, at church. Yet all too often we overlook God hidden within the everyday rather than the miraculous. Join in this journey to discover new ways to see God in your own world, in settings and circumstances where you may not have thought to look. And as you catch sight, you will also discover new ways to make God visible in those around you.



**Our next Soulstice** gathering will be on Wednesday, February 5 at 7:15 p.m.



**The WiNS Project** needs good clean plastic bags (no wine and spirits bags). Please collect your bags and drop them off at their designated spot across from the church office. Thank you.



**ALL PRESBYTERIAN CIRCLE MEMBERS** are invited to attend the Presbyterian Women's meeting on Wednesday, February 5<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 a.m. to noon in the Culbertson Room. Please come prepared to share your creative thoughts and ideas!

**Grace Circle** meets Thursday, February 6<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am in the Library.

**Hope Circle** meets Thursday, February 6<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 p.m. in the Library.



**This year's Church Carnival will take place on Saturday, FEBRUARY 22 from 6:00 p.m. until 7:30 p.m.** We are also looking for volunteers for the following: Help run the games; Provide new or slightly used toys or gifts for prizes; Provide cookies or other treats to be bought with prize tickets as well. **Please sign up in the foyer by Wednesday, FEBRUARY 19, to help us make this a fun successful event.**



The following items are needed to help fill our food pantry: Spaghetti sauce, pasta, canned chicken, canned tuna, canned soup, peanut butter, saltine crackers, oatmeal, cereal, and powdered milk.

**"Praying for Children"** (momsinprayer.org) February prayer focus for our children: James 1:17 Lord, may my children see their many blessings and be grateful.



**SAVE ON TAXES:** If you are of the age at which you must take Required Minimum Withdrawals from your IRA, you may not be aware that you can have part of that withdrawal paid directly to FPC and it will not be considered part of your taxable income. Ask your financial adviser for details.



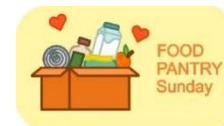
**KNIT UNTO OTHERS:** Get your needles and yarn out! Knit Unto Others will meet on Wednesday, February 12 at 1:00 p.m. in the church library. Anyone interested in the fellowship of knitting, crocheting or cross stitching is welcome. We make prayer shawls for those in need of the warmth of God's love, and the comfort, prayers, and support from their friends of faith. If you have any questions, you can contact Kandy Davis at [ksdavis70@zoominternet.net](mailto:ksdavis70@zoominternet.net) or 814-807-0156.



**B.L.A.S.T.** will be doing two service projects. On February 12<sup>th</sup>, they will be preparing and serving supper to the P.R.A.Y. kids. On February 22, they will be helping with the Winter Carnival from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. It is great to see our youth setting examples for our young disciples. They will also have their regular Sunday morning meeting on February 16<sup>th</sup>.



**P.R.A.Y.** meets on February 12. The topic for the day is LOVE. The children will be creating Valentines for our homebound members.



**Souper Bowl Sunday Food Pantry Collection:** On Sunday, February 9 the children and youth of our church will be collecting food items and monetary donations from the congregation after the 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services. The young disciples will be located at the entrances to the sanctuary prepared to take your donations. Please demonstrate to these young people what it means to "give unto others," by donating a few of the following items: instant potatoes; instant rice; pasta; pasta sauce; canned meat; pork and beans, black beans or kidney beans; canned vegetables; canned soup or ramen noodle packs; cans of ravioli; macaroni and cheese; peanut butter; saltine crackers; oatmeal packets; box of cereal; canned fruit; applesauce; or small packets of powdered milk.



**On Sunday, February 23,** the Personnel and Property Committee will be hosting the congregational lunch after the 11:00 a.m. service.



**Did you know that we have some SWEET BOOKS and DVDs** for you in the CHURCH LIBRARY and on the table at the top of the stairwell? **Come In and Check Them Out!**



**Please plan to attend the Ash Wednesday Simple Supper Service on Wednesday, March 5.** Our Deacons will begin serving the soup at 6:00 p.m., followed by the Sacrament of Holy Communion and the imposition of ashes (for those who choose). Hope to see you and your family at this service held in Fellowship Hall. Note: Please bring your own table service. Extra bowls and silverware will be available for those that need them.