



The First Presbyterian Church Library has many books and DVDs for you to choose as you continue to “BLOOM”! **COME IN and CHECK THEM OUT!**

### THIS WEEK AT OUR CHURCH

Sunday, March 31



### EASTER SUNDAY

8:30 a.m. – Worship  
9:30 a.m. – Choir Rehearsal  
*No Sunday School*  
11:00 a.m. – Worship with Choir and Brass Quintet

Monday, April 1  
April Fool’s Day  
**Office Closed**

Tuesday, April 2  
5:30 p.m. – Liberty Bells Rehearsal

Wednesday, April 3  
10:00 a.m. – Staff Meeting  
11:00 a.m. – Presbyterian Women’s Coordinating Team Meeting  
3:45 p.m. – P.R.A.Y.  
5:30 p.m. – Session Meeting  
7:15 p.m. – *Soulstice*

Thursday, April 4

Friday, March 5

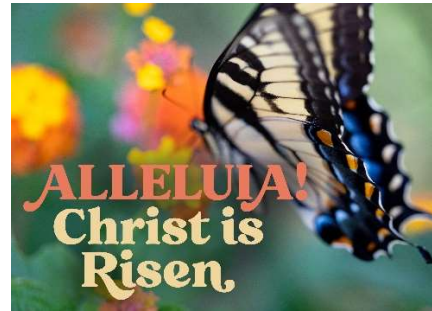
Saturday, April 6

Sunday, April 7

8:30 a.m. – Worship with Communion  
9:30 a.m. – Choir Rehearsal, Sunday School, and Youth Group  
11:00 a.m. – Worship  
12:00 p.m. – Congregational Lunch Hosted by the Mission Committee

### Attendance Last Week (March 24):

8:30 a.m.: 52  
11:00 a.m.: 98  
Online Views: 45  
Total Giving - \$6,580.10  
2024 Per Capita to date – \$4,960.00  
2024 Per Capita Budgeted – \$6,000.00  
Total Due to Presbytery – \$20,774.00  
(2024 Per Capita per member - \$34.00)



“Easter” comes from an old English word related to dawn and shining. At Easter we stand in light of the resurrection to see a new creation, transformed by the grace and glory of God. We celebrate the presence and power of the risen Christ in his church, proclaiming his good news through Word and Sacrament. We rejoice in the gift of the Holy Spirit, who is the “Lord and giver of life.” In the fullest sense, Easter is a new of life, in which we are “dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus” (Rom. 6:11).

## WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

March 31, 2024

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 downstairs in Cornerstone Child Care during the worship service.

### SERVING THIS MORNING

- **The Audio/Video Technicians** today are Ross Feltz and Lydia Green at 11:00 a.m.
- **The Liturgist** today is Dianne Eakin.
- **The Greeters** today are Joy Jordan and Patti Wetherbee at 8:30; Ryan and Anna Claspy and Mark and Mary Lynn Bartoe at 11:00 a.m.
- **The Acolytes** today are Alyssa Moose at 8:30 a.m.; Emmet Stoner at 11:00 a.m.
- **The Crucifer** today is Anastasia Bilka at 11:00 a.m.
- **The Guest Musicians** today at 11:00 a.m. are the French Creek Brass Quintet: Jennifer Dearden & Carl Miller, trumpet; Laura Kahle, horn; Kyran Miller, euphonium; and Lowell Hepler, tuba.

### PLEASE PRAY FOR

- † **Friends and members hospitalized, ill, and recovering:** Barb Kaputa, Bonnie Murphy, Joe Shutsa, Selene McGowen, Bob Hotchkiss, Marlene Braham, Christianne Marawba, Lydia Marquinez, Virginia Oback, Linda Bennett, Ruth Cooper, Darrell and Kathy Sivik, Cathy McKinney, Erin Hart, Marilyn and John Robb, Tom and Cheri McFate, Jeremy Pruskowski, Carol Young, Ginny Burchfield.
- † **The concerns of Lake Erie Presbytery this week:** Tionesta Presbyterian Church and Roger Snyder and Kevin Vinson, preaching; 12 Members of the Commission to Unify the Office of G.A. and Presbytery Mission Agency.
- † **Members’ and Friends’ Loved Ones Being Deployed:** Tyler Schmidt, and Shawn Woolstrum.
- † **Service Personnel:** 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 (Czech Republic - Along Side Ministry Int.), 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 Sthreshley (Health, Hunger and Malnutrition Programs, Democratic Republic of the Congo - PCUSA).



The church would like to take advantage of its online presence to connect with members of the community outside our walls. If you have photos of a church activity or group, you can send them to [kdill@allegheny.edu](mailto:kdill@allegheny.edu) so he can post them on our website or Facebook page. If you’re a Facebook user yourself, please ‘like’ and share our posts so your friends can see what we’re up to. Let’s spread the word about what goes on here!

## NEWS OF THE CHURCH ALIVE



### THE PRAYER LIFELINE

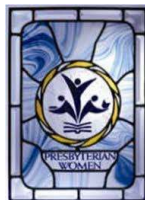
is available to pray for your joys and concerns. Call the church office at 814-333-2161 to make your request. You can also e-mail Laurel Porter at [hlporter20@yahoo.com](mailto:hlporter20@yahoo.com). All requests will be kept confidential.



**Praying for Children** ([momsinprayer.org](http://momsinprayer.org)) will resume meeting every Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. starting April 16. All are invited to come together to pray for children and schools. **Prayer focus for our children this month is from Matthew 10:29-31.**



**Soulstice gatherings** continue this coming Wednesday. Join us at 7:15 PM in the downstairs chapel for a time of music, prayer, and silence.



**Update from Presbyterian Women:** Check the April Evangel to learn more about our new monthly mission partner, Common Roots. Also, brochures are available in the church office or check their website at [commonrootspa.org](http://commonrootspa.org).



### 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. We can visit with you by way of phone calls, virtual connection, or social distancing. **For this week, the on-call Stephen Minister is Doris Foster. She can be reached at 814-336-2575.**

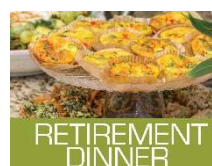


**New Members will be received in the near future.** If you are interested on becoming a member of First Presbyterian Church, please let Rev. Corll or an elder know.



### Presbyterian Women's April Mission Focus:

The women are collecting **monetary donations** to make **"Welcome Kits" for new residents arriving at Fairview/Fairmont Apartments.** The "Welcome Kits will provide a few of the essentials needed to get an apartment started. If you choose to donate, please make checks payable to **"First Presbyterian Church"** and write **"F/F Welcome Kits"** in the memo. Donations can be mailed, dropped off at the church office or put in the Sunday offering plate.



### Soup Kitchen Volunteers:

If you have worked at the Meadville Area Soup Kitchen over the years and would like to attend Beverly Nutter's Retirement Dinner on June 1, 2024, please stop in the church office on or before April 15 for more information and a registration form.



**One Great Hour of Sharing** will be received during the month of March. For 75 years, One Great Hour of Sharing has partnered with others to take action to share God's love. Through these three life-saving programs, **WE ARE THERE** to advance the causes of justice, resilience, and sustainability: **The Presbyterian Disaster Assistance** (Restoring Streets to Live In), **The Presbyterian Hunger Program** (Sharing Bread with the Hungry) and **The Self-Development of People** (Loosing the Bonds of Injustice). Please give what you can. If we all do a little, it adds up to a lot!



**Presbyterian Women of Lake Erie Presbytery Spring Gathering is on Saturday, April 20** from 10:00 a.m.

to 1:30 p.m. at Girard Presbyterian Church. Keynote speaker Katie Kretz, Executive Director of the Multi-Cultural Community Resource Center in Erie, will share with us how MCRC assists refugees in resettling in our communities. **If you have any questions, please contact PWLEP Moderator Karen Haas at 814-397-1619 or [karenhaas79@gmail.com](mailto:karenhaas79@gmail.com).**



**The April Congregational Lunch will be held on Sunday, April 7, after 11:00 a.m. Worship.** The Mission

Committee is planning to prepare some delicious pulled pork sandwiches. They are asking the congregation to bring side dishes and desserts to share. Please plan to attend!



**Adult Sunday School:** Matthew 25 on April 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, and 28<sup>th</sup>. Matthew 25 has become an important focus in the mission and ministry of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Specifically, it informs, inspires, and influences

our work on three strategic priorities: eradicating systemic poverty, dismantling structural racism and building congregational vitality. The adult Sunday school class will be considering how Matthew 25: 31-46 speaks to, and leads us to pursue, these areas of work. We also will look at three different ways of interpreting the biblical text: a literal/plain reading, a historical/critical reading, and a spiritual/symbolic reading. Join us as we read, reflect, and respond to how God's word speaks to us as we strive to live a life that reflects Christian love.



If for some reason you must leave the sanctuary during the 11:00 a.m.

worship service, but would like to watch the service, we now have the capability of watching our services in the youth room.



### The Pastoral Nominating Committee

has continued to meet regularly and has completed the Ministry Discernment Profile. The profile has now been submitted for both session and presbytery approvals. After approval, the committee will upload the profile to the Church Leadership Connection system where we will be matched with profiles of prospective candidates. The committee thanks the congregation for their continued support and prayers.