

# WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 1, 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 in Cornerstone Child Care during the worship service.

## SERVING THIS MORNING:

- **The Audio/Video Technician** today is Chuck Jones at 11:00 A.M.
- **The Liturgist** today is Margaret Nelson.
- **The Greeters** today are Henry Dewey and Patti Wetherbee at 8:30 A.M.; and Madalyn Davis, Doris Foster, Clare and Owen Dill at 11:00 A.M.
- **The Cantor** today is Nancy Smith at 11:00 A.M.

Today's flowers are given to the glory of God, and in loving memory of our parents and brothers, given by Scott and Joyce Ladner.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- † **Friends and members hospitalized, ill, and recovering:** Chuck Koller, Bonnie Murphy, Marlene Braham, Christianne Maramba, 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:** Erie Eastminster Presbyterian Church and Commissioned Pastor Henry Rafferty; Rev. Emily Rodgers Bissett, Valid Ministry, Presbyterian Church, Canada.
- † **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 Sthreshley (Health, Hunger and Malnutrition Programs, Democratic Republic of the Congo - PCUSA).**



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.

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## THIS WEEK AT OUR CHURCH

### Sunday, December 1



8:30 a.m. – Worship/Holy Communion  
[No Sunday School this week]  
11:00 a.m. – Worship/Holy Communion

### Monday, December 2

### Tuesday, December 3

9:30 a.m. – 2025 Anniversary Committee Mtg.  
5:30 p.m. – Liberty Bells Rehearsal

### Wednesday, December 4

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

### Thursday, December 5

### Friday, December 6

### Saturday, December 7

### Sunday, December 8



### **Service of Lessons & Carols**

[No 8:30 service this week]  
9:30 a.m. – Sunday School/Youth Group  
11:00 a.m. – Worship  
12:00 p.m. – Chili Luncheon

### Attendance Last Week (November 17):

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.: 127  
Online Views: 68  
Total Giving – \$8,495.89  
2024 Per Capita to date – \$6,086.00  
Total Due to Presbytery – \$20,774.00  
(2024 Per Capita per member - \$34.00)  
(2025 Per Capita per member - \$35.00)



**LIBRARIAN'S PICKS FOR DECEMBER:** "The books were hung on the shelves with care, in hopes that the readers soon would be there. Merry Christmas from your Library Elves."



Our annual Service of Lessons & Carols is on December 8 at 11:00 AM. Through Scripture, music, and prayer, we'll encounter anew the story of humanity's fall from grace and the promise of the Messiah. (By decision of the Session, there will be no 8:30 service that morning.)



**IT'S BACK!** "Chili, Cornbread, & Carols" will follow the service on December 8. The Worship and Music Committee will provide the chili; *the congregation is invited to bring a dessert to share.* (Did we mention there will be carol singing too?)



PWCT will meet at 11:00 a.m. on December 4<sup>th</sup> in the Youth Director's Room. HOPE CIRCLE will not meet in December. GRACE CIRCLE will meet on December 12 in the chapel at 9:30 a.m.

## 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 Phyllis Carr. She can be reached at 814-763-3926.**



### CHRISTMAS DONATIONS REQUESTED:

Donations of the following items are being requested for two Sunday school projects in December. The first is a list of items for Cornerstone Daycare that include coloring books, crayons, play dough, and/or small toys. The second list of items is for St. James Haven that include socks, toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, nonperishable snacks, and warm hat or gloves. We will accept monetary donations, too. Please send your donations to the church office by December 4th. **THANK YOU, Vickie**



**ADULT EDUCATION: JOIN US IN DECEMBER** as we watch the DVD, **Prepare the Way for the Lord: Advent and the Message of John the Baptist**, by Adam Hamilton. This study explores the Advent themes of John's life and ministry, and how John calls all followers of Jesus to prepare our hearts for his coming.

**There is no Sunday school on December 29, 2024. We will return on January 5, 2025.**



**SOULSTICE**  
**Wednesday, December 4**  
**at 7:15 p.m.**  
**Scripture, Music,**  
**Prayer, and Silence**



**The Technology Committee** is aware of the sound quality issues with Rev. Black's microphone. When the sound board was updated several years ago, there was a similar issue with Rev. Jensen and a new type of microphone was purchased. This style of microphone is not working as well for Rev. Black. Please be patient with us and Rev. Black, as we find the best possible solution.



**CAN YOU RING THE SALVATION ARMY BELL** for the kettle collection for an hour Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at Tops?

The Deacons are ringing that day and need someone to fill the 7 p.m. hour. It's inside the Tops lobby. If you can, please contact the church office or put a note in the offering plate.



**KEVIN DILL** will present his 19<sup>th</sup> annual holiday-themed organ recital on Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.



**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.



The holidays are quickly approaching, and the Deacons are requesting your help to make some of our Cornerstone families Christmas special. **There are 5 more ornaments left on Kate's Angel Tree.** Please

consider picking up an ornament to add to your Christmas shopping list. **The gifts will be due back to the church office by Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>.** Thank you for helping to make someone's Christmas special again this year. Last year's recipients were very thankful for your generosity.



**BLAST will be Caroling** on Thursday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at the Embassy of Park Avenue.



**THE 2025 ANNUAL REPORTS** are due in the office by December 30. Please call the church office at 814-333-2161. Reports are due from the following: Pastor, all Committee Moderators, Board of Trustee, Board of Deacons, Presbyterian Women, Cornerstone Childcare, Fairview/Fairmont Outreach, Stephen Minister, and Financial Secretary. Thank you!



**The 2025 Flower Chart** is hung in the foyer behind the sanctuary. Please sign up for the dates you would like to help beautify our sanctuary for Sunday worship!

**STEPHEN MINISTRY:** Thank you, Stephen Ministers, members and friends of the church for your submissions to this year's Advent Devotional Booklet. We had an amazing turnout. Booklets are available in the church office and at the entrances of the sanctuary. We encourage you to share the booklets with your friends and family.



### Christmas Eve Family Service



**6:00 p.m.**

**The Children and Youth will participate in a special nativity drama.**



**9:45 p.m. – Instrumental Prelude**  
**10:00 p.m. – Candlelight Service**