

WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

May 4, 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 on 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.
- **The Liturgist** today is Chuck Claspy.
- **The Greeters** today are Paul and Francie Huber and Jerry and Madalyn Davis.
- **The Acolyte** today is Emmet Stoner.
- **The Choir Accompanist** today is James Ross.
- **The Bagpiper** today is Natalie Smith.

The Chancel Flowers today are given in Celebration and Honor of our members who have been committed to our church for over 60 years.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- † **Friends and members hospitalized, ill, and recovering:** Donna Putney, Rebecca Borthwick-Aiken, Darrell Sivik, Marlene Braham, Randy Puno, Blessie Santos, Ruth Cooper, Erin Hart, Marilyn Robb, Cheri McFate, Jeremy Pruskowski, Carol Young, Ginny Burchfield.
- † **Sympathy to the family and friends** of Betty Schellberg who passed away on April 28.
- † **The concerns of Lake Erie Presbytery this week:** Watson Run and North Shenango Presbyterian Churches, Greg VanderVeen, preaching; Rev. Sylvester Gawuga, Wa District Pastor, Rev. Seth S. Nipani, Bimbilla District Pastor.
- † **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, WA), 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), Josh and Carli Cumpston (Frozen Chosen Arctic Barnabas Ministry) Remote Alaska.**

THIS WEEK AT OUR CHURCH

Sunday, May 4

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER HERITAGE SUNDAY

9:30 a.m. – Sunday School, Choir Rehearsal
11:00 a.m. – Worship
12:00 p.m. – Reception in Fellowship Hall

Monday, May 5

5:30 p.m. – Liberty Bells Rehearsal

Tuesday, May 6

1:00 p.m. – Praying for Children

Wednesday, May 7

7:15 p.m. – *Soulstice*

Thursday, May 8

1:30 p.m. – Hope Bible Study

Friday, May 9

Summer Evangel Due: (June, July, August)

Saturday, May 10

Peg Weymer Funeral
2:00 p.m. – Visitation
3:00 p.m. – Funeral Service

Sunday, May 11

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



8:30 a.m. – Worship
9:30 a.m. – Adult Sunday School and Mother's Day Brunch
11:00 a.m. – Worship

Attendance Last Week (April 27, 2025):

8:30 & 11:00 a.m. – 126
Online Views – 47
Total Giving – \$11,918.59
2025 Per Capita to date – \$1,538.00
Total Due to Presbytery – \$20,860.00
(2025 Per Capita per member - \$35.00)



The Mission Committee 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 Mission Committee bin in the church office.



FAIRVIEW FAIRMONT FAMILY CENTER

Lots happening this Spring! Pastor Kendra came for Messy Church at the beginning of Lent and we enjoyed pancakes together. We celebrated Ms. Emily's birthday this month and went on two different field trips (one for each age group). Our 4th-6th graders visited Lehman's Maple Farm in Guys Mills this month. The kids had a wonderful time learning all about how maple syrup is made, and each received a small bottle of syrup to take home. Grades K-3 went on a walking field trip to the FCCA Pre-K Counts Literacy Night. We got to participate in fun activities and had spaghetti and meatballs!

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 Veronica Asay. She can be reached at 814-336-5408.**



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL: May 4, 11 & 18 SOUL KEEPING by John Ortberg

In *Soul Keeping*, John Ortberg helps Christians rediscover their soul—the best connection to God there is—and find out why it's hurting and why neglecting it has set so many believers back spiritually.

In this video-based Bible study, John Ortberg takes us on an exploration of the soul from the perspective of someone who has struggled to understand and care for his own soul. Ortberg highlights his relationship with Dallas Willard, “a professor of the soul,” and what he learned from this wise guide amid his own struggles and hardships. Ortberg shares his honest, funny, moving, insightful, and tender journey with us so that we can better care for our own soul. Join the Adult Sunday School in the Culbertson Theater Room on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m.



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



KNIT UNTO OTHERS: Get your needles and yarn out! Knit Unto Others meets on the second Wednesday of every month in the church library. The next gathering is May 14. 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 814-807-0156 or ksdavis70@zoominternet.net.



“Praying for Children” (momsinprayer.org). Please join us in the Library at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesdays to pray for your children and their schools. Every child needs a praying Mom, Grandma or Friend!!



Congratulations to Maddie Black, Anna Claspy, Lydia Green, Carson Hilburn, and Perry Hilburn. These teens joined First Presbyterian Church after a year of study lead by Chuck Claspy and Chris Lafferty.



PASTORAL VISITS AND MINISTERIAL CARE. If you or a loved one has been hospitalized, has undergone a large life change, or needs 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.**



Thank you to the church members and friends who donated candy for the Easter Egg Hunt. We had a wonderful time. If by chance you find an egg in the sanctuary, please take the treat inside, but place the plastic egg in the basket on the Welcome Table. Your support for the children of our church is amazing. Hope you had a Happy and Blessed Easter. —Vickie

The Worship & Music Committee will soon begin sorting through the music storage area, located off the choir room. We anticipate removing hymnals, books, vinyl records, percussion instruments, posters, and other items we haven't used in decades. Please feel free to peek in and take anything that might be of interest to you, before it ends up in the dumpster!



The Church will be closed on Saturday mornings unless there is a major event taking place. **So please call the church office if you need to plan an event.**



Hope Bible Study will meet the second Thursday of each month (except June, July and August) in the library at 1:30 pm. All women of the church are invited to attend.



THE ANNUAL WOMEN'S SUMMER PICNIC will be held at Venango Valley Inn on Thursday, June 12th. More details will be in the bulletin and the June Evangel. Looking forward to seeing you there!



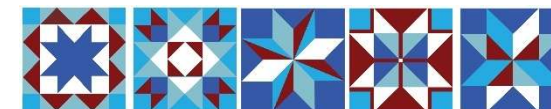
The Mission Committee is taking over the PW monthly mission projects.

The Mission Committees' focus for May is the St. James Haven Men's Shelter. We are collecting paper products, laundry detergent, dish soap and bleach. We are also collecting hygiene products including three-in-one or two-in-one liquid shower wash (no bar soap please), oral hygiene products, deodorant and shaving cream. Items can be placed in the Mission Bin (formally the PW Mission Bin) that is in the church office. Thank you for your continued support.



The Personnel and Property Committee is preparing to update and refresh the parlor (the room located off the

kitchen). Part of the plan is to replace all the furniture in the room. Anyone interested in having any of the pieces should let Mary Zahora know and arrange to have them removed. Whatever is left by the end of May will be donated to various charities and/or organizations. The committee thanks you for your consideration in this project.



In honor of the 225th Anniversary of our church, a new quilted wall hanging has been created. The pattern is called “Farmhouse Cross.” It was pieced by Ruth Prest, machine quilted by Marci Finton, and the binding and rod pocket were stitched by Suzanne Malone. The quilt is dedicated to the glory of God and to the congregation and staff members of First Presbyterian Church in Meadville.