

Worship-10:00 am
Fellowship following Worship
Sunday School

First Presbyterian Church

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Office Manager: Wenda Smith

Leader of Family Ministry: Nikki Hogarth

Parish Associate: Rev. Oluf Kongshaug

Director of Music: Ruth Rabby

Organist: Joseph Musser

Financial Secretary: Barbara Ross

Financial Coordinator: Nancy Reynolds

Custodian: Peg O'Brien

Outreach Coordinator: Ellen Watson

Nursery Attendants: Melissa Curtis, Kendra Hart

Newsletter Editor: Diane Welker

Media Coordinator and IT: Taylor Smith

Corp. Investment Team: Jack Flury, Bob Douds

OFFICE HOURS: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9:00 AM-12:00

CLOSED ON WEDNESDAY

Bulletin Deadline Wednesday at Noon

Newsletter Deadline NOON on the 20th of each month

spire@midohio.twcbc.com



Dear Friends,

Thank you for joining in on the first congregational get together with Dr. Eric Law's associate Linda Young. I had begun to read Dr. Law's book Holy Currencies, but had yet to work with his ideas, his theories first hand. The worship service was very out of the ordinary for FPC as we met downstairs in the social room at tables and yet it was a powerful time of worship for me.

We drew our voices together with hymns and brought our hearts together over scripture. The table settings afforded us the opportunity to share how the scripture touched us, with a word or a phrase. We learned a way to listen more closely to one another and honor each person's insights. We prayed together.

As our voices rose together in that one room and we had to lean in to hear one another, I thought of all the home churches that had sprung up following Jesus' death and resurrection. As the cacophony of voices rose I thought of the Day of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit descended on the disciples with tongues of fire and each spoke the good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ, their risen Lord in the languages of all people so that God's word could be heard and understood by all. The people gathered outside the house that day had to listen so that they could hear. We had to listen so that we could hear.

As we concluded our worship time, we took a break and enjoyed an awesome feast together. We have done a lot of potlucks in my time at FPC, but that my friends was a heavenly feast filled with food, flavor and fellowship.

When we came together again to continue our learning we were introduced to an exercise that asked each of us to remember the decade that we joined the church and then name a strength and a challenge we felt the church faced at that time. We then recorded those by decades. It was fascinating to see FPC's strengths and challenges. Those papers are still on the wall in the social room if you would like to review them or add your thoughts to them.

The one exercise that stuck in many of our minds was when 8 people were asked to build a "statue" of sorts that would convey FPC today. I'm going to leave you hanging with what was created. Maybe we will replicate it sometime as part of worship.

I really feel that Session made a great decision to begin this work with Eric Law and his Kaleidoscope Institute. It is a new experience for FPC. To be honest it is cutting edge in the church world. FPC is unique in its own right and we don't

want to follow the “church trends” of the time. We want to expand and become confident in what God calls us to do and be.

Now the Leadership Committee has met again with Linda Young and as I write, they are preparing another congregational gathering. We are not sure if it will start in worship or follow worship. This time we will try to be clearer about the plan in advance. This process was new to many of us, me included.

I think that this work with Dr. Eric Law is going to be insightful, life-giving and offer us an opportunity as a congregation to grow in our own faith life and strengthen our relationships with one another. That in turn will translate into our ministry and outreach.

There will be 5 more congregational gatherings scattered throughout the rest of the year. My hope and prayer is that each and every one of you who is able could participate in as many of these as possible. God is doing a good work among us.

Blessings,
Pastor Deb



SPECIAL OFFERINGS
ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

This year we are celebrating 70 years of One Great Hour of Sharing! Each year, churches from every corner of the denomination rise to meet the needs of our brothers and sisters who need a hand up. One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) is one of four church-wide offerings of the PC(USA) and is collected in the Lenten Season, a time when we intentionally focus on aligning our lives with God's calling for us. Money collected through OGHS is directed toward hunger, disaster, and development. This special offering, collected this year from March 6 to April 21, provides relief in three specific ways: 32% is used to restore hope through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance; 36% is directed to reducing hunger; and 32% funds the self-development of people (SDOP) program. Your generous support is greatly appreciated!

Music Notes

by Ruth Rabby



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN MUSIC AT FPC?

Well. All groups are rehearsing and preparing music for Lent and Easter.

March 3rd a Men's' Chorus will be singing in worship. All men and boys are invited to join us. We will rehearse at 9 am before the service.

March 6th will be the Ash Wednesday service at 7:30 pm. Chancel Choir will sing for that service.

The Chancel Choir is rehearsing anthems for the Sundays of the Lenten season and for Easter to follow.

Adult Handbells and Carillon will each be playing during the month and perhaps there will be a handbell solo.

Choristers and Cherubs will have an opportunity during the month to prepare a special musical presentation for spring.

Presbyterian Pickers will share their talent with Ostrander Presbyterian Church during their worship service on March 3rd.

Beginning Thursday, March 14th, we will again reflect on Lenten themes by participation in Holden Worship as we have done the last few years—**a weekly service of music and meditation following a light meal together each Thursday in Lent.**

CARILLON

Friday, March 1 4:30-5:00 Practice

Sunday, March 3 9:30 Play "Do Lord" by David R. Kent in worship

Friday, March 8 4:30-5:00 regular rehearsal

Friday, March 15 4:30-5:00 regular rehearsal

JAZZ SUNDAY

James Miglia, woodwinds; Ben Huntoon, trumpet; Bradley Sowash, keyboard; Chad Greenwald, bass; and Joel Steward, drums



Leigh Rabby shares children's moment about the "joy of God" through improvisation of jazz music and God's improve on humankind to make us each unique!



Dick Thayer requests Leigh throw him some Mardi Gras Beads!



Presbyterians CAN clap and sing "Every Time I Feel the Spirit" and "When the Saints Come Marching In"!





Are you interested in attending a New Members Class?

Please join us on March 24th at 11:15am.

Lunch and childcare will be provided.

We're here to help you get better acquainted with FPC!

Call the church office 740-363-1205 with questions and to get registered.



Join us for Lenten Dinners followed by a service of
Holden Evening Prayer.

- **Thursdays from 6-7pm during Lent, starting on March 14th and ending on April 11th.**
- **Come and enjoy a simple Lenten Supper with your church family.** Each meal will be followed by a short worship service. This prayer service lifts up the beauty of God and centers us in His love. There is a place for everyone at this table.
Nourish your body and soul, no prep needed!
- Special Lenten Programming for little ones during the worship service!



March Laundry Love

March 27th 5-8PM @ Super Wash and Tan!

Please let Nikki know if you would like to volunteer!

PREBYTERIAN DISASTER FUND HIGHLIGHTS



Damage to Camp Dogwood Acres structures as a result of Hurricane Michael in Panama City, Florida.

Mid Western Presbyterians Jim Hoovler, ?, ?, Bob Wattenschaidt, and ? unite and leave for Presbyterian Disaster Fund Project in Florida.



Developing "how to put on a metal roof" skills .



Roof crew poses with a building after they had completed the new metal roof.

IN SYMPATHY

Please keep Jim and Whitney Franklin and their family in your prayers following the loss of Jim's mother, Becky Franklin.

Joy Slover passed away February 5, 2019 at her daughter's home in Henderson, Kentucky. A Celebration of Life service was held here at FPC on February 23, 2019. Joy, along with her late husband Jerry, was a faithful member of Delaware First Presbyterian.

Please keep Joy's family and friends in your prayers.

PRESBEES

Travel to Australia.

Travel to China and Tibet.

Carol Evan's bike trip across America.

What's available at the Delaware Library.

What's the history of our Apostle Banners?

These topics and others will be part of another exciting season for the FPC Presbees group this year. The group meets at noon on the third Wednesday of the month, beginning April 17th, for a light lunch with a program following.

This fellowship opportunity is open to all ages but is especially geared toward our life-experienced members' There are no dues, but a donation for lunch (on the day of Presbee meeting) will be accepted.

Chuck and Peggy Stringham have taken over the helm for this year.

THANK YOU

Thank you so much to everyone who made my birthday so very special. It was worth waiting around for all these years!

Barbara Welker

Please tell the deacons I said thank you for the care package they sent. I greatly appreciate all the snacks and home baked cookies, and it is nice to know my First Pres family is still thinking of me.

God Bless,
Cory Beam

AWESOME!

Babs Tull got the following note from her son, Steve, for our FPC family:

"So Mom, here's a nice bit for you. At my last meeting today, I got talking with the head of the NGO that benefited from your church's contribution and implemented the well project in Mandelia. He expressed deep appreciation to you for organizing that and for the contribution, and assured me the community is still very appreciative and aware of where the aid came from too. We will try (again) to find a chance to go to Mandelia together."



Babs posing in Joshua Tree National Forest.

Babs Tull worshiped at this impressive church nestled against the mountains. Dwight Eisenhower was on the original building committee of this Palm Desert Community Church. (SW California)



Will and Charlie Thacker will be performing in Olentangy Berlin High School's first-ever musical, *Seussical*. Will has the part of Mr. Mayor (of Who-ville), and Charlie is one of the Wickersham brothers. There are three showtimes: Friday, March 1 at 7:00, Saturday, March 2 at 7:00, and Sunday, March 3 at 3:00.

They are also preparing to perform in "A Night of Jazz" with their show choir at the high school on Tuesday, March 12 at 7pm. (It was postponed due to all the snow days.)

For more information, contact any of the Thacker family OR go to Olentangy Berlin High School website!

LECTIONARY

March 3	Exodus 34:29-35; Psalms 99, 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2; Luke 9:28-36 (37-43)
March 6	<i>ASH Wednesday</i> Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 or Isaiah 58:1-12; Psalms 51: 1-17; 2 Corinthians 5: 20b-6:10; Matthew 6: 1-6, 16-21
March 10	Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Psalms 91:1-2, 9-16; Romans 10:8b-13; Luke 4:1-13
March 17	Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18; Psalms 27; Philemon 3:17-4:1; Luke 13: 31-35
March 24	Isaiah 55:1-9; Psalms 63:1-8; 1 Corinthians 10:1-13; Luke 13: 1-9
March 31	Joshua 5: 9-12; Psalm 32; 2 Corinthians 5: 16-21; Luke 15: 1-3, 11b-32

Opportunities to Increase Giving to Church

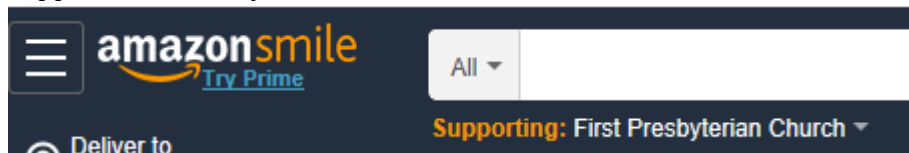
Rebate programs can be a great way to generate donations for the church while doing the shopping you always do. Here are two such offers:

If you do business with Kroger and have not claimed First Presbyterian Church as the beneficiary of your shopping, please consider doing so. You can apply for the Kroger Community Rewards program on-line. If you need assistance, bring your Kroger Plus Shopper's Card to the church office and we will give you a hand. Here are the steps:

1. Go to www.kroger.com
2. Under the dropdown for Savings & Rewards, select 'Kroger Community Rewards'
3. Click on the 'View Details' button under "I'm a Customer" to enroll
4. Enter your email address and your Kroger password
5. Select First Presbyterian Church; if it asks for an Organization number, ours is IX087 (letter I, zero 87)

If you are an Amazon shopper:

1. Sign into www.amazon.com using your password.
2. At the right, where it says, "Hello, <your name>" use the dropdown box labeled "Accounts & Lists"
3. Under Your Accounts, select Your AmazonSmile
4. The First Presbyterian Church code is 31-4383796. Select this.
5. Then, whenever you shop on Amazon, use smile.amazon.com (not www.amazon.com). You will see a confirmation that your purchases support First Presbyterian Church.



6. If you are an Amazon Prime user, it will pull all of your preferences and benefits over automatically.
7. Best of all, 0.5% of your purchases will be rebated to First Presbyterian!

By allowing your normal shopping to benefit the church, you are helping us pay off our building renovation loan. And, if you know of other businesses with similar programs, please let us all know!

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

*Boy Scout Sunday will be February 24.

*A new members class will be held March 24.

*Ordination and installation of new officers will be June 9.

*Next communion will be March 10.

RENEWAL

The committee plans the next church wide meeting for late March or early April but was not established before Spire printing.

TRUSTEE HIGHLIGHTS

Boy Scouts have removed a truck load of trash from the basement; painted the smaller back room; moved cleaning supplies to back room with Peg's permission; replaced sump pump.

New office copier delivered- many helpful new features.

Apartments sewage line scoped and cleaned. A clean out was located for future use.

New snow removal service doing well so far. Thanks to each month's "snow captain" trustee who shovels and salts walks on Sunday mornings.

Contract approved for landscaping services.

The chancel organ needs gaskets on stop action magnets- motion approved for estimated cost to begin work.

DEACON HIGHLIGHTS

The deacons filled 9 boxes for college students. They included Sean Hazelton, Curtis Herzog, Claudia Macri, Drew Niemi, Alison Williams, Cory Beam, Tracey Sumner, Justin Lowry and Daniel Lowry. Thank you to everyone that contributed to our efforts.

Kathy Duis shared briefly the journey our church is embarking on this year as we begin the renewal process.

Care Team concerns were discussed and addressed.
Next meeting is March 5th at 6:30.



SUNDAY, MARCH 10th

WHITE SCHOLARSHIP

The Elizabeth and Eugene White Scholarship Committee is accepting applications for the 2019-2020 university school year. Consideration will be given to students who show academic promise and have financial need related to their post-secondary education. Applications may be picked up and returned in the church office and must be completed in full for consideration. The deadline is April 15, 2019.

Like most scholarships, there is a limited amount of award monies to be used and some applicants may not receive awards.

BOY SCOUT SUNDAY



Troop 318 served as ushers, took up the offering and led the Children's Moment on February 24th.

SUPPORTING A CAUSE!



Bobby Douds hanging out during the JV game with the FPC, friends, and family crowd at Elgin's Girls Basketball Cancer Awareness Night.

Team dedicates the night and money raised to their coach to help in his personal fight against cancer.



Elgin students form line to high five the team members as they are introduced!

Coach Douds gets down to the business of winning the game.



Halftime fun!

Sarah, Kennedy, Mandy and Bob Douds, Jr. with Laura Frum (Bob's sister and last year's recipient)



Following the game a prayer circle of spectators formed on the gym floor and continued with many in the hallway who also participated. This editor estimates 85-90 % of the



crowd at the game joined others at the invitation of the Elgin Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Prayer was offered for cancer survivors, family of those dealing with cancer, and people fighting cancer in their present day lives. It was an impressive, awesome God moment!



Carillon prepares *All Night, All Day* for the Prelude on February 24th!



Tuesday, March 19, 2019
4:30-7:30pm
St. Mary School Beitel Commons
66 E. William Street, Delaware, Ohio

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY FUNDRAISER

SOUPS FROM LOCAL RESTAURANTS

17th Annual
**Soups
for
Shelter**

SILENT AUCTION

50/50 RAFFLE

CARRY-OUT AVAILABLE

