

FPC NEWS

A NEWSLETTER FOR FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



THE RESURRECTION & THE LIFE

Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" John 11:25-26

The words of the text above are among the most prominent quotes from Jesus in all the gospel accounts. Screensavers, posters, and magnets proudly display them in Christian bookstores, homes, and churches across America. As usual we are best served by the Word of God as we observe what we find in its pages as part of the context. In this case, we understand that Jesus utters these words in response to the question posed to him by Martha after the death of her brother Lazarus.

The startling reality of a fallen world often causes us to question God. We wonder why things happen.

(Continued on page 8)

KEY DATES

MARCH 3

Communion Worship | 10AM

MARCH 16

Ribbon Cutting | 10AM
BFB Revitalization Dinner | 5PM

MARCH 17

Festival Interest Mtg. | 11:15AM

MARCH 24

Palm Sunday | 10AM

MARCH 28

Maundy Thursday Worship | 8PM

MARCH 31

Easter Sunrise Worship | 9AM

DEEPEN YOUR FAITH

THE WESTMINSTER LARGER CATECHISM

Q. 68. Are only the elect effectually called?

A. All the elect, and only they, are effectually called.¹ Although others may be and often are externally called by the ministry of the word,² and although the Spirit may work in them in some of the same ways he works in the elect,³ from their own willful neglect of and contempt for the grace that is offered them, they are justly allowed to remain in their unbelief and never truly come to Christ.⁴

1. Acts 13.48, Jn 6.39,44, 17.9.
2. Mt 22.14.
3. Mt 7.22, 13.20-21, Heb 6.4-6.
4. Jn 12.38-40, 6.64-65 Acts 28.25-27, Ps 81.11-12, 95.9-11, Prv 1.24-32.

Q. 69. What communion in grace do members of the invisible church have with Christ?

A. By their communion in grace with Christ, the members of the invisible church share the dynamic power of his mediation in their justification,¹ adoption,² sanctification, and in all the other ways that show their union with him in this life.³

1. Rom 8.30.
2. Eph 1.5.
3. 1 Cor 1.30.



READING PLAN

WEEK 1 | MARCH 1

□ Psalm 27

WEEK 2 | MARCH 4-8

□ Psalm 28

□ Psalm 29

□ Psalm 30

□ Psalm 31

□ Psalm 32

WEEK 3 | MARCH 11-15

□ Psalm 33

□ Psalm 34

□ Psalm 35

□ Psalm 36

□ Psalm 37

WEEK 4 | MARCH 18-22

□ Psalm 38

□ Psalm 39

□ Psalm 40

□ Psalm 41

□ Psalm 42

WEEK 5 | MARCH 25-29

□ Psalm 43

□ Psalm 44

□ Psalm 45

□ Psalm 46

□ Psalm 47

YOUR MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

PSALM 32:1-5

Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man against whom the Lord counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit. For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and you forgave the iniquity of my sin."

BIRTHDAYS

- 03/01 Bettye Laughlin
03/06 Bev Shively Boyer
Glenn Mitchell
03/08 Woody Conway
03/09 Don Lockhart
03/11 Ben Clark
03/12 Jim Fryman
03/17 Enelessi van der Walt
03/18 Garrison Henry
Bre van der Walt
03/29 Steve Headley
03/30 Gary Riegle
03/31 Paulette Garrison

ANNIVERSARIES

- 03/01 Ray & Bettye Laughlin
03/28 Jim & Rebecca Detling



HOLY WEEK



SUNDAY, MARCH 24

Palm Sunday Worship, 10am

Kick off the week with a celebration featuring the FPC Kids in the annual palm processional!

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27

Prayer Night, 7pm

Set aside the time to prepare your heart for the somber days ahead. There are no expectations for this event. Prayer night simply provides you quiet time with the Lord.

THURSDAY, MARCH 28

Maundy Thursday Worship, 8pm

Communion will be served, and foot washing will take place* during this sobering service.

(Note: The service time has been pushed back to 8pm this year to support the youth at Waves of Pride beforehand.)

FRIDAY, MARCH 29

Good Friday Men's Breakfast, 7am

The men of FPC are encouraged to invite their friends and coworkers to a special Good Friday breakfast featuring a guest speaker.

Prayer Night, 7pm

Prayer night provides a space for you to be alone with the Lord. Please be on time and plan to stay until 8pm. This will be a full hour of quiet, individual prayer in the sanctuary.

SUNDAY, MARCH 31

Easter Sunrise Worship, 9am

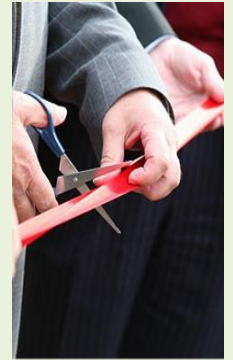
Join us again for worship as we celebrate the true joy of Christ's resurrection together!

RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY AND OPEN HOUSE

DATE: Saturday, March 16, 2024

TIME: 10am-2pm

This is our BIG community open house. Everyone who did the construction (painting, technology, graphics, cabinets) will be here, along with local representatives and the newspaper. This is the perfect opportunity to invite someone to our church to check it out. After the ribbon cutting, there will be light refreshments served and we invite everyone to tour all the new spaces. Mark your calendars! You won't want to miss it!



ANNOUNCEMENTS

HOSPITALITY TEAM

We are looking for 2 more volunteers to join the Hospitality Team. This team will help maintain The Nook for the rest of the year. This commitment would be to serve 6 Sunday's this year and you will be able to decide when those Sundays are. Sign-up at the Welcome Desk or contact the office today.

FOOT WASHERS*

We are looking for three different volunteers to wash feet during the Maundy Thursday service. If you are available and willing, please contact the office.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

Scholarship applications are due to the office by Sunday, March 31st. If you cannot make this deadline, contact the office. Scholarship recipients will be chosen in April and announced during worship on Sunday, May 19th. Applications are available online under the Resources tab. [Note: There are new eligibility requirements this year.]

OFFICE MAILBOXES

Are you an elder, deacon, staff member, or regular part of the worship team? You have a mailbox with your name on it in the office. Use it how you want.

LENTEN SERVICES

You're invited to attend the weekly Lenten services across the street at St. Paul's. They begin at noon every Wednesday with lunch provided after.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

The community-wide stations of the cross event will take place on Good Friday from noon-2:00pm. It will begin at St. Mary's Church.

GROW OPPORTUNITIES

MEN'S STUDY

The men will meet again on Saturday, March 2nd at 8:30am at the church, in The Nook. Their current study, "Transformation" is based off Romans 12:2. Contact Augie R. (906-523-4459) for more details.

WOMEN'S STUDY

The women will meet again on Saturday, March 9th at 8:15am at the church in The Nook. Contact Jan Roestamadji (937-692-6404) for more details.

PASTOR'S STUDY

Every Wednesday at 10:30am, Pastor Andrew will continue his study through Ezra. All are welcome to attend. This study takes place in The Nook.

COVER THE CHURCH

In the parlor, this prayer group focuses on praying for FPC, its' Sunday morning worship service and ministries. You are invited to pray silently in the parlor or pray aloud as you feel led. They will meet every Sunday at 9:30am and pray until 9:45am, leaving plenty of time for socializing before church!

BFB REVITALIZATION DINNER

This month's dinner is scheduled for Saturday, March 16th from 5-8pm at Chenoweth Trails. Childcare is provided, but RSVPs are required. Contact Paige Ervin in the office if you are interested in attending.



PRAYER

Please continue to pray for the following updates from last month.

February 2024 Prayer Updates:

02/23/2024: Please be praying for Dale and Anna Lee Dickerson as their grandson, Jordan Bailey, passed away unexpectedly. Your specific prayers for Jordan's mom, Sarah Cline, brother, Zach Bailey, and sister, Liz Brunson are appreciated as well. Jordan was 26 years old with children of his own. The whole family is really grieving right now. Your prayers are needed.

02/21/2024: Please be in prayer for Lindsey Rickman, niece to Tina and Kurt Smith and mother of two. She is having brain surgery on Feb 28. She was in an accident a few years ago and some things need to be repaired. Please pray for a full recovery.

02/20/2024: Please pray for Didi's grandfather, Norb. He had a stroke. He is doing ok, but he has paralysis on the right side of his body, and he can't speak. He is very weak and frustrated since he can't communicate, but very grateful it wasn't worse. Please pray for the family, Norb is Chris Lachat's father. And now they're trying to figure out what to do with Norb's wife, Rose. She has Alzheimer's and can't be alone.

02/15/2024: Please keep the Finnarn family in your prayers. Ted's sister, Janis Wells, passed away Tuesday. Services will take place Monday, February 26 at Zechar Bailey.



FPC LIFE (CONT. PG. 11)

BIG ACCOMPLISHMENT

Congratulations is in order for the new Rev. Dr. Tisha Hodson Shepherd! Tish has been a dedicated volunteer in our worship team for a couple years now and has been working on her degree throughout that time. She just passed her doctoral defense on February 20 in Biblical Studies. We are all so proud of you Tish! Congrats!

ASH WEDNESDAY THANKS

Thank you to everyone who ate dinner and supported the youth at the Ash Wednesday Valentine dinner. They raised close to \$1500 for their next mission trip! Thank you to the youth for their work in planning and serving the dinner. Pictures from the night and a short review from one who attended can be found on p. 11.

PRESBYTERY THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who stepped up to serve as we hosted the Midwest Presbytery meeting. We could not have done it without all your helping hands! A special thank you to Rebecca Detling for coordinating all the details for dinner (which was delicious by the way) and to our worship team for all their work in preparing three back-to-back-to-back worship services for the weekend!

FPC KIDS SPECIAL

Look to hear from another one of our FPC Kids next month!

HIGHEST HONORS | HONOR ROLL | MERIT ROLL

Congratulations to all our youth and youth group participants who received Highest Honors, Honor Roll, and Merit Roll at the Junior High and Senior High.

Highest Honors: Shane Gilman, Tessa Leensvaart, Reese Stewart

Honor Roll: Sienna Gilman, Rylan Grosch, Carson Henry, Ethan Henry, Taylor Holzapfel, Hallie Riethman, Kamdon Riethman

Merit Roll: Braxton DePoy, Braxton Moore, Callee Moore, Amelia Zimmer

First Presbyterian Church of Greenville Ohio
Minutes of the Session of
January 11, 2024

I. Opening

A. Call meeting to order with reading of the Word and prayer

The January 2024 stated meeting of the Session of First Presbyterian Church of Greenville was called to order on January 11, 2023, at First Presbyterian Church at 7:00 PM by Pastor Andrew Gilman. Pastor Gilman opening the meeting with prayer.

Members Present: Pam Bowman, Wes Jetter, Jan Roestamadji, Helen Miller, Craig Leland, and Randy Tester (6)

Members Absent: Peter Haviza

Guests: Page Ervin and Don Stevenson

Approval of Agenda A motion was made to approve the agenda, and to give Paige Ervin a “voice” at the meeting by Jan Roestamadji and seconded by Craig Leland. The motion passed 6-0.

Approval of Minutes Jan Roestamadji motioned to approve the December 2023 minutes. This motion was seconded by Helen Miller. The motion passed 6-0.

II. Agenda Items

Renovation Project John Vehre presented a brief report on the current state of the building project. He mentioned the current status of various changes orders and presented invoices from Brun to the session. He also shared the most recent invoice from Garamn-Miller. JV indicated that the project was still on schedule to be completed prior to the Presbytery meeting in early February. He mentioned that there will be a building inspection on January 29, 2024, conducted by the city. Finally, he indicated there is still one invoice yet to be presented by Bruns, but as of this time 75% of the cost of the project has been invoiced. JV motioned to accept this report, seconded by Craig Leland and it passed 6-0.

Pam Bowman submitted a written report of furnishings and indicated that the price of \$68,722 came out a little below the budget. These items were purchased from Innovative Office Solutions with the process beginning on October 17 and finishing by November 13, 2023. Actual installation is projected at taking place on February 2, 2024. In her report she indicated the proceeds toward these furnishings came from donations in excess of pledges for the overall project and money received from the sale of the Don Nease property. Her report also indicated a small fund-raising drive was made for various children’s items and toys, which amounted to around \$4,500.00. Pam Bowman made a motion to accept this report, seconded by Wes Jetter and passing by 6-0.

Financial Report Craig Leland presented the financial report. For the meeting he had the usual written documentation. Verbal highlights that he mentioned tonight, included that end of year giving for 2023 was \$150,703. This was \$4,500 higher than 2022. Receipts in December amounted to \$20,419. During his report, he also mentioned categories on the spread sheet will be changing and in particular Paige’s financial information should be transferred from the youth area to administration. This likely will be carried out in 2024. He also indicated that the Maintenance manager allocation at \$5,122 was considerably higher than the budgeted \$2,500 and explained that was a result of Ben’s added responsibilities. After these and other items were discussed, Wes Jetter motioned to accept this report, seconded by Jan Roestamadji and passing 6-0.

Craig also submitted a written annual report. In it he mentioned changes to the per capita Benevolence Expense, which now is based on a percentage of the church’s budget versus a head count. He also indicated that the church has received \$32,194.00 from the sale of the Don Nease property. This represented the church’s share of 7/15 from the total sale of that property. Finally, the report indicates that an internal audit of the 2022 and 2023 finances will be done in 2024 led by Becky Luce. After some discussion, Jan Roestamadji motioned to accept this report seconded by Helen Miller and passing, 6-0.

FYI Elder Training Andrew Gilman presented a brief discussion on Elder training based on commentary from Charles Spurgeon.

Mover Pay for Clearing out the storage unit Andrew has approached members of the Littlefield family, who will help move items from storage back into the proper location in the church. He has negotiated an amount of \$800.00 to carry out this work. Jan Roestamadji motioned to accept this moving fee, which was seconded by Craig Leland and passed 6-0.

FYI Youth Employees Andrew Gilman mentioned that Brandon and Kelsey Ervin have been approached and have agreed to handle the twice-a-month youth meetings. They will be paid \$100.00 a session for a total annual cost of \$2,400.

FYI Worship Committee A written communion schedule for 2024 was presented. Session members were asked to review and verify if the dates work for everybody.

Annual Congregation Meeting Agenda Andrew Gilman presented an agenda for the upcoming January 21, 2024 Congregation Meeting. It included 25 items. Pam Bowman motioned to accept this agenda, seconded by Jan Roestamadji and passing 6-0.

Pastor's Report (Andrew Gilman – written submission) Pastor Gilman submitted a written report of his activities for December. He also mentioned that he will be taking an extended vacation to South Korea, this summer and will miss church services on July 13 and 20. Jan Roestamadji motioned to accept the report, seconded by Wes Jetter and passing by a margin of 6-0.

FYI Helen Miller indicated that for the February 4 luncheon, it would be nice if session members could provide a few desserts.

Stanley Steamer Pastor Gilman reported that Stanley Steamer has been approached to clean carpets and cushions in the sanctuary and chapel. Various levels of service were contemplated, but the carpets and cushions cleaning were considered in our price range. This work can be carried out for \$2,209.00. Pam Bowman, motioned to go ahead with this cleaning seconded by Jan Roestamadji and passing by 6-0.

Deacon's Meeting A written Deacon's report was submitted to session. After reviewing it a motion was made by Helen Miller to accept the report, seconded by Wes Jetter and passing 6-0.

III. Closing

Prayer. A closing prayer was made by Pam Bowman.

Adjournment. Wes Jetter motioned to adjourn, which was seconded by Helen Miller. The motion passed 6-0.

John Vehre
Clerk of Session

Andrew Gilman
Moderator of Session

LEADERSHIP MEETINGS THIS MONTH

DEACONS	MONDAY, MARCH 4, 2024	7:00PM
STAFF	THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 2024	7:00PM
SESSION	THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 2024	7:00PM

THE RESURRECTION & THE LIFE (CONT.)

We want to understand why things are the way they are, especially when so many of our churches tell us only grace, goodness, light and love without any reference to sin, death, the devil and the curse of Genesis 3. This lack of complete teaching leaves us to struggle in our lack of understanding of biblical things and God's providential purposes.

I think it is the case that most of our knowing comes through asking questions. From our earliest days as children, when we wanted to know something, we asked questions of our parents: "Mom, what is the moon made of?" "Dad, how do birds fly?" "Mom, where do babies come from?" "Dad, how do you build a fire?" Our questions lead us on to answers that help us to know.

But some questions seem unanswerable: Why did God allow that man to have colon cancer? Why did God take that woman when she was still relatively young? Why didn't God heal when so many people were praying? Does God even know and care about our sorrows, grief, and pain?

I think there is some measure of comfort that the Bible encourages us to ask these questions by presenting us with people who have the same types of questions. For instance, the scene in John 11—the events connected with Lazarus' death and resurrection—is filled with people asking such questions.

Why didn't Jesus come to heal Lazarus? Three times, the text implicitly asks that question (vv. 21, 32, 37). That question is present because the people believed—just as we believe—that Jesus has the ability to heal. Now, Bible readers already know the answer to the question, because Jesus had already said—"It is for the glory of God" (v. 4) and "So that you might believe" (v. 15). In other words, Jesus didn't heal Lazarus because not healing him would further God's glory and His disciples' salvation.

Such an answer may calm our minds, but it doesn't soothe our aching hearts. It raises a second question found in John 11: Does Jesus

care about our grieving? The answer from the text is that He does care; in fact, He cares deeply. He was stirred (vv. 33, 38)—deeply moved in His spirit, greatly troubled, agitated, and angry—because of His friend's death. Also, He sorrowed (v. 35)—He wept, He burst into tears, He cried with those who were crying. He cared and continues to care for those who weep tears of heartbreak, loss, and grief.

Thankfully, though, Jesus' caring doesn't end with tears. In answer to the final question that this text asks—Can Jesus do anything about our dying?—the Bible gives a glorious affirmative. Not only did Jesus promise that "everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die" (v. 26), He gave a demonstration of His power by raising Lazarus from the dead. He said and showed that He is "the resurrection and the life."

This story of Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead is the final story in a series of miraculous works done by Jesus. John writes them down for us in his gospel and theologians often refer to this as John's "Book of Signs". This is a record of 7 such miraculous deeds that Jesus performed to show the world His true identity. The act of raising Lazarus from the dead was perhaps the most amazing feat which turned the heads of many Israelites causing them to lay down their palms and clothing before Jesus as he rode into Jerusalem on a donkey. We know this today as "Palm Sunday".

The excitement at Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem that day was a result of the word of Lazarus' miraculous resurrection by Jesus. But only a few short days later, the crowds would drastically turn on Jesus. Even the disciples would have doubts and questions causing them to fear for their lives and abandon Jesus in his hour of need. They grieved the loss of their friend and Lord all day Saturday. They wondered how the one who they believed was the Messiah could die in such a horrible manner on a cross as a criminal. They were left to ask; what do we do now?

It wasn't until Sunday that Jesus showed them the answer to their questions and gave them hope

THE RESURRECTION & THE LIFE (CONT.)

and joy. Even as Jesus showed himself to them after the stone was rolled away, they struggled to comprehend what God had done on their behalf. But as they came to grips with this new reality where God's Kingdom broke into the world and defeated Satan once and for all; forgiving their sins, and redeeming the world God made, they would go on to live bold lives sharing their faith across the ancient world.

So this Easter season, I hope you are all wrestling with your 'Friday and Saturday' (Jesus in the grave) questions in light of the glorious Day of Resurrection (The stone rolled away). It may not mean that your situation or struggles have automatically been resolved or brought to a tidy

conclusion, but it does mean that we get to ask these questions with the hope and expectation that God has provided everything we need in Jesus.

So, we can bring our questions to this Jesus because He offers us a definitive answer. Thanks be to God, even though our hearts fill with questions in our sorrows, we look forward to the day when He once again will shout, "My children, come out!" And we will rise, body and soul together, (just like Lazarus) made whole, made new, with no more tears or questions. Jesus' answer to Martha's question was to let her know that He is the Resurrection and the Life. This is true for us as followers of Jesus today as well.

DOOR UPDATES

FIRE DOOR PROTOCOL

Part of the renovation we just completed included updating the fire alarm system. Part of this update included adding "hold opens" on the double door entries to the Sanctuary and The Hall (see image at the right). These hold opens are magnetic and in case of a fire, would release the door to shut on its own. This means these doors should never be shut and can always stay open.



However, every other door that has the same brown wood look as the double doors should be shut when not in use. These are fire doors and are responsible for containing the flames, if there were to be any. If you are ever in the building and see one of these fire doors propped open, please shut it. This also includes the large metal roll up service counter doors in the kitchen. These should be kept down at all times when not in use.

LOCKED-DOWN CHILDREN'S WING

The children's wing of the building is now locked down during worship. The doors are open before and after worship. However, once service has begun, the doors will be shut and locked. If you need to go into the children's wing during worship, press the doorbell on the double doors and one of the volunteers inside will be able to buzz you in.

The locked down wing is new still. Please be patient with us as we get it all figured out and work out any kinks. We are still training on how to lock/unlock the doors.



MARCH 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
25	26	27	28	29 29	Mar 1	2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Worship Team Rehearsal 9:30am Cover the Church (Pray) 10am Worship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7pm Deacons Meeting 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:30am Bible Study 12pm Lenten Service, St. Paul's 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7pm Staff Meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Office Closed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30am Men's Study
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Communion Sunday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Worship Team Rehearsal 9:30am Cover the Church (Pray) 10am Worship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7pm Deacons Meeting 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:30am Bible Study 12pm Lenten Service, St. Paul's 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7pm Staff Meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Office Closed 6pm Private Event 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30am Women's Study
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Daylight Savings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Worship Team Rehearsal 9:30am Cover the Church (Pray) 10am Worship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7pm Youth Group 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:30am Bible Study 12pm Lenten Service, St. Paul's 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7pm Session Meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Office Closed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am Ribbon Cutting Ceremony 5pm BFB Revitalization Dinner
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Worship Team Rehearsal 9:30am Cover the Church (Pray) 10am Worship 11:15am Festival Volunteer Intk 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7pm Private Event 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:30am Bible Study 12pm Lenten Service, St. Paul's 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Office Closed 	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Palm Sunday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9am Worship Team Rehearsal 9:30am Cover the Church (Pray) 10am Worship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7pm Youth Group 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12pm Lenten Service, St. Paul's 7pm Prayer Night 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8pm Communion Worship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good Friday Office Closed 7am Men's Breakfast 7pm Prayer Night 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holy Saturday
31	Apr 1	2	3	4	5	6
Easter Sunday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8am Worship Team Rehearsal 8:30am Cover the Church (Pray) 9am Sunrise Worship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Office Closed 7pm Deacons Meeting 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7pm Staff Meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Office Closed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30am Men's Study 5pm BFB Revitalization Dinner

*This calendar can always be found on the app under the heading "Ministry Reminders".

ASH WEDNESDAY RECAP

A VALENTINE'S DAY DINNER REVIEW

The Valentine Dinner was superb! I give it a 5 star rating. We were treated to a delicious Italian dinner and given choices, but all the amenities were over the top. The hand written notes (I know the effort given here), the lovely name tags, roses, conscientious servers, hostess, and again scrumptious food. Many thanks! Please consider doing it again. –Anna Lee Dickerson



MIDWEST PRESBYTERY

NEW STANDARD OF EXCELLENCE

Thanks again for hosting the February MWP meeting. This is no small undertaking and the hospitality from First Pres was evident throughout Friday and Saturday! Your team set a new standard of excellence for these gatherings!
– Andy Warner, Assistant Stated Clerk



NOTE OF APPRECIATION

Truly, I cannot thank you all enough for the ways you stepped up to serve at Presbytery this past month. We pulled this event off with really only about a week or two of planning and prep because of the renovation reveal butting right up to it but THANK YOU! Thank you for being flexible, willing to serve wherever needed, and still saying yes with very little details to where you would be needed or what you would be doing. Andy Warner's comment above saying we "set a new standard of excellence" for Presbytery meetings is such a HUGE compliment to all of you (and that is even with the fire alarm going off)! Thank you again! We look forward to hosting more events like this in the future. –Paige Ervin

MIDWEST PRESBYTERY



RENOVATION REVEAL

Congratulations! You survived Reno 2024! SO MANY LONG days and hours have been poured into this project and to see it all finished and functioning for the glory of God is a true blessing! Conversations for this project began way back in 2019 when the Christian Education committee brought the need for updated classroom spaces to the session and 5 years later God made it a reality! Thank you to everyone who has served on the following committees over the years: Christian Education (2019; Randy Tester, Ginny Bertram, Holly Finnarn, Marnelise van der Walt, Paige Ervin), Revitalization (2020-2021; Barry Hounshell, Jane Tester, John Vehre, Paige Ervin, Andrew Gilman), Renovation (2021-2024; John Vehre, Craig Leland, Jan Roestamadji, Wes Jetter, Paige Ervin, Andrew Gilman), Furnishings (2023-2024; Pam Bowman, Jan Roestamadji, Kelsey Ervin, Amanda Hines, Paige Ervin). A special thanks is also extended to everyone who has served on session since 2019 and been a part of these votes and discussions. Finally, thank you to all of you who have financially supported this project, covered the project in prayer, and endured the messes that came with it over the years! From the very beginning, we said we must stay united through it all and by the grace of God we have done just that! THANK YOU AGAIN! ALL GLORY TO GOD!

RENOVATION REVEAL

Our first lunch as a church family in the new space on Sunday, February 4, 2024. Thank you to Helen Miller and her team of volunteers for their efforts in preparing and serving the meal in the new space!



MISSION CORNER

Mission Corner is located in the narthex, and we encourage you to stop by and spend some time checking it out. Details about all the missions of the church are right here in one space. We have global missionaries and organizations we support. We also have local missionaries and organizations we support. If you are interested in serving locally in a missional way, please contact one of the Deacons as they are the ones who lead these ministries. If you are interested in our global missions or have a new missionary/organization you would like to see FPC support, please contact our Missions Elder, Craig Leland.

FISH CHOICE FOOD PANTRY

We are always collecting non-perishable food items and hygiene products for FISH. FISH serves all Darke County. The bin for collections is located right inside the cabinet with the fish symbol on it at Mission Corner, and donations can be dropped off at any time. Suggestions for what items FISH would like donated are listed on the counter to help you with ideas.



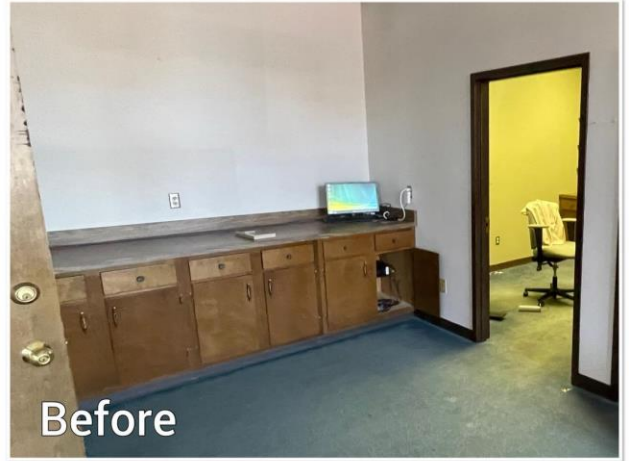
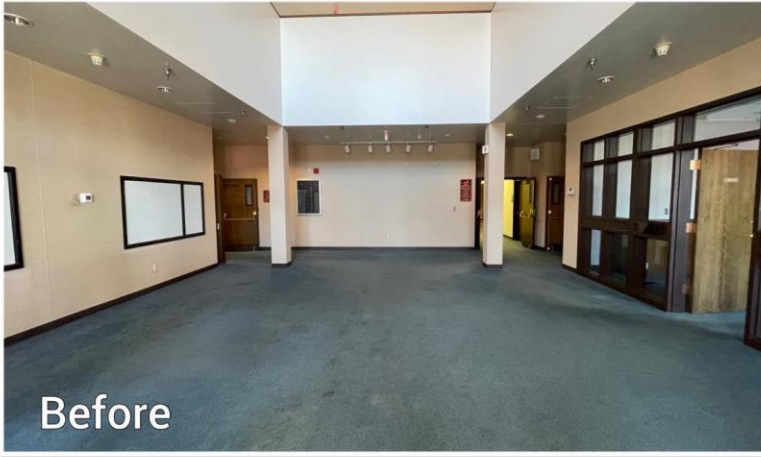
THE NOOK

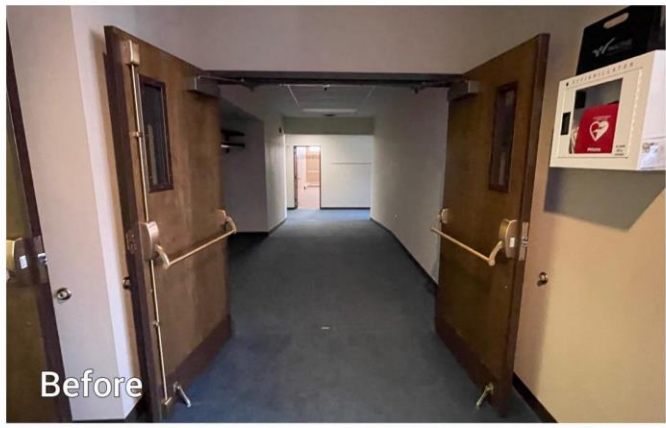
CARING CARDS MINISTRY

In the back corner of The Nook, you will find our Caring Cards carousel. We encourage you to utilize this ministry to stay connected with one another. We have cards for birthdays, anniversaries, sympathy, congratulations, and more. All you do is sign the card and label the envelope with the recipient's name. We'll take care of the rest!

HOSPITALITY MINISTRY

We hope you have been enjoying the coffee and donuts every Sunday before and after church. Your coffee and donuts are welcome to go with you into worship and if you ever need a refill, feel free to go get more!







COMING SOON: APRIL 2024

WORSHIP WITH THE WAVAIRES

Join us for worship on Sunday, April 7th. This is the week right after Easter. The Wavaires will be in worship with us that Sunday. We invite you to show up early and be a warm welcome to the Wavaires and their visiting families. Sienna Gilman and Carson Henry are both members of the group this year.

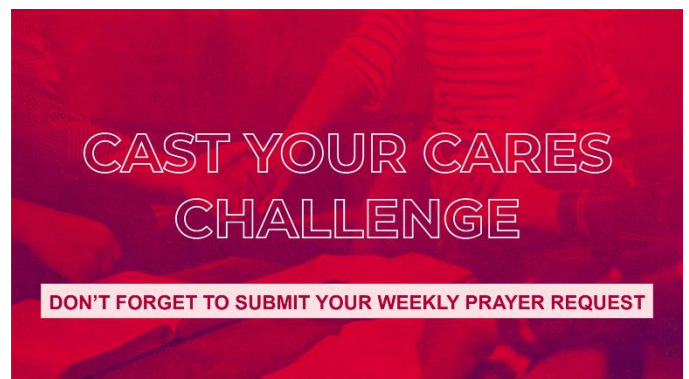
DEACON SOUP AND SALAD FUNDRAISER LUNCH

Due to renovations, the FPC Deacons did not hold a fall fundraiser. However, to continue financially supporting various ministries in our church and community a fundraiser is needed! Their spring fundraiser date is still to be decided. However, they do know it will be a Soup & Salad fundraiser luncheon after worship again. This will take place in April sometime. Keep this event on your radar. More details soon.

FESTIVAL OF THE RISEN KING

Mark your calendars and save the date! The Festival of the Risen King is back on Saturday, April 27 from 11am-2pm. This festival is a chance for us to love the families in our community and build relationships with them. Please keep this day open so you can serve as a volunteer during the event!

We will have a volunteer interest meeting after worship on Sunday, March 17th in The Nook. This will be when sign-ups to serve first open up. This will be a short meeting to simply give you an idea of what the day looks like. We'll have pictures to share and stories from past volunteers too. Please plan to attend if you are planning to volunteer. (We really like to see volunteers paired up with a spouse or friend during this event so everyone gets a chance to serve and enjoy the festival too!)





RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
114 EAST FOURTH STREET
GREENVILLE, OH 45331

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EMAIL: INFO@GREENVILLEPRES.ORG
WEBSITE: WWW.GREENVILLEPRES.ORG

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