



PASTOR'S PEN: "WALKING THE EMMAUS ROAD FOR LENT"

"Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?" (Luke 24:32)



After the resurrection, there are several appearances of Jesus to the disciples. I find the road trip to Emmaus as one of the most intriguing. Cleopas and a companion are traveling the eight miles between Jerusalem and Emmaus. Perhaps they were going home. Perhaps they, like many disciples, were scattering after the events of the crucifixion. The story gets more mysterious as Cleopas apparently hears the report that Jesus' tomb is empty.

While walking, a man joins them. They chat about the events of Jerusalem, and he seems to know more about what's going on than he admits. He walks them through the Hebrew Scriptures to explain the meaning behind Jesus' life and death. Arriving in Emmaus, Cleopas invites their guest to join them in a meal. As the man breaks the bread, we learn that he is in fact Jesus himself.

The Christian life is often a journey from crucifixion to resurrection. We experience the disappointment, confusion, and suffering found in this world, yet we know the promise of God's redemption. As we dwell between what we leave behind and where we are going, we have an opportunity to walk with Jesus through reflection, repentance, and renewal. Even as we feel burdened by doubts or weariness, Jesus will be there.

As we travel down this road, will we welcome Jesus as our companion? Will we listen as he opens the Scriptures to us? In what new ways, will Christ present himself to us. This month, we will begin Lent, a season of preparation before Easter. I pray that for us, Lent will be our Emmaus road.

*Grace and Peace,
Pastor James Hodsden*

NEWS FROM SESSION



FEBRUARY 2025

Session reaffirmed several policies and procedures. FPC will hold a Strategic Planning Retreat for Elders and Deacons on September 6, 2025. Required Boundary Training was presented to Elders. The job description for the Ministry Associate for Congregational Care was updated and the position is available. Anyone interested should contact Pr. James or a Session member. The Deacons reorganized their zones and assigned duties for 2025. During the February Keenager gathering, the Huron County Board of Mental Health and Addiction Services presented information on its services and classes.

Building and Grounds reported that boiler repairs are still being worked. A failed sump pump drain line was replaced. Flooring in the upper level of the CE wing will be replaced thanks to an anonymous donation. The roofing contractor will address leaks. The committee continues to convert to LED lighting to reduce energy costs.

Christian Education reported that Evan Hoffman started a young adult (ages 18-30) group and 12 people attended the first night. He is actively engaged in the youth programs. A new members (How to Spell Presbyterian) class has started. Bible Banter will resume during Lent with a look at the Psalms. Still planning a Parent Information Seminar on adolescent anxiety with Dr. Tony Donofri, Program Director, Clinical Mental Health Counseling Program. Planning has started for Vacation Bible School. The theme this year is Magnified. Fellowship reported that 60 people attended the Annual Congregation Luncheon. The committee is finalizing plans for Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner and Lenten Soup Suppers.

Outreach reported that the Radio Program is fully funded for 2025. The National Day of Prayer is scheduled for May 1, 2025. Amy Haynes has been invited to speak. The Worship Committee is preparing for Ash Wednesday, Lent, and Easter worship services. The Mid-Week Lenten worship services will focus on New Testament stories. Easter flowers will be on sale for \$10 in March.

Upcoming Events:

March 4 – Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner
March 5 – Ash Wednesday Worship Service
Lent – Mid-Week Soup Suppers & Worship Services
April 17 – Maundy Thursday Worship Service
April 18 – Good Friday Worship Service
April 20 – Easter Worship Services
May 1 – National Day of Prayer
May 3 – Spring Cleanup Day

NEXT MONTH'S MESSENGER DEADLINE IS FRIDAY, MARCH. 14, 2025

FYI: To avoid delays in reimbursement from receipts, PLEASE have them turned into the office no later than Sunday, to be reimbursed that same week. Thanks!



STEWARDSHIP CORNER

PER CAPITA for 2025: \$40.29 Per Member

CHURCH FINANCES AS OF JANUARY 31, 2025

YTD Income \$ 44,347.19

YTD Expense \$ 55,133.50

YTD Net Income \$(10,786.31)

Questions about the finances of the church? Please contact our treasurer,
Pat Babcock at pbabcock@bex.net

"A Family on a Mission to Love God and All People"



THE ROAD AHEAD

FPC NORMALC CORE VALUES

God

We are sinners called by God, redeemed by Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit.

FPC NORMALC CORE VALUES

Fellowship

We value doing life and ministry together, and alone.

FPC NORMALC CORE VALUES

Faith

We gather in worship and prayer, guided by Scripture and the Holy Spirit, to understand God and the new life God has given us.

FPC NORMALC CORE VALUES

Service

We encourage and support individuals to be reach out in God's love to meet the needs of our community.

FPC NORMALC CORE VALUES

Family

We care for the whole family of faith across five generations.

FPC NORMALC CORE VALUES

Sharing

We reflect Christ's grace by generously sharing our gifts of time and talent.

CORE VALUES

CORE VALUES

CORE VALUES



THE ROAD AHEAD - Key Targets

✓ **Children/Youth**
Sponsored by
Kathleen Wheeler

✓ **Involvement**
Championed by
George Scherz & Mike Wilde

✓ **Discipleship**
Sponsored by
Dr. Julie Murdock

✓ **Communication**
Championed by
Dirk Hiler

DATE	USHERS 8:30am—10:45 am	LITURGISTS 8:30am—10:45 am	COFFEE HOUR	VISITATION	GREETERS 8:30am—10:45 am	SCREEN OPERATORS 8:30am—10:45 am
March 2	Jim Rhoad & Harold Uther/ Joel & Wende Mersereau COMMUNION: Kelly & Eric Weisenburger & Iris Hammersmith / Russ White, Diane Eschen & Roger Knight	Eric Weisenburger / Bev Miller	Marilyn Huston	Marilyn Huston	Brice & Jaime Fries / Jack Churchill & Ralph Leber	Mindy Klett / Kayla Eyer
March 5 ASH WEDNESDAY 6:30 pm	John & Laurie Flickinger	TBD	N/A	N/A	Tracey & Norm Sommers	Brian Pancost
March 9	Jim Rhoad & Harold Uther/ Joel & Wende Mersereau	Marilyn Huston / Stacy Corfman	Monday AM Small Group	Donna Allen & Marilyn Huston	Brice & Jaime Fries / Jack Churchill & Ralph Leber	Brian Pancost / Brandon Schwinn
March 16	Jim Rhoad & Harold Uther/ Joel & Wende Mersereau	Youth /Youth	Christian Education	Janet Newcomer	Brice & Jaime Fries / Jack Churchill & Ralph Leber	Brian Pancost / Brandon Schwinn
March 23	Jim Rhoad & Harold Uther/ Joel & Wende Mersereau	Dirk Hiler / Craig Corfman	Kay Kersey	Kay Kersey	Brice & Jaime Fries / Jack Churchill & Ralph Leber	Amy Bower / Brian Pancost
March 30	Jim Rhoad & Harold Uther/ Joel & Wende Mersereau	Roger Knight / Katrina Dickerson	Christian Education	Donna Allen & Marilyn Huston	Brice & Jaime Fries / Jack Churchill & Ralph Leber	Brian Pancost / Kayla Eyer

Please keep in mind, the servers scheduled here are subject to change!

DATE	USHERS 8:30am—10:45 am	LITURGISTS 8:30am—10:45 am	COFFEE HOUR	VISITATION	GREETERS 8:30am—10:45 am	SCREEN OPERATORS 8:30am—10:45 am
April 6	Iris & John Hammersmith / Mark & Carolyn Strimpfel COMMUNION: Julie & Scott Gardner, Barb Fries / Michele Graves, John Flickinger & Chris Canfield	TBD / Julie Murdock	Shannon Sommers	Shannon Sommers	Bob & Marsha Sands / Jack Churchill & Ralph Leber	Amy Bower / Brian Pancost
April 13 Palm Sunday	Iris & John Hammersmith / Mark & Carolyn Strimpfel	Tom Root / Suzanne Boegli	Marcia Barlow	Marcia Barlow	Bob & Marsha Sands / Jack Churchill & Ralph Leber	Mindy Klett / Kayla Eyer
April 17 Maundy Thursday 6:30pm	Michele Graves COMMUNION: John & Laurie Flickinger, Chris Canfield	TBD	N/A	N/A	Eric & Katrina Dickerson	Brian Pancost
April 18 Good Friday 6:30pm	Diane Eschen & Connie Kluding	TBD	N/A	N/A	Wende & Joel Mersereau	Kayla Eyer
April 20 Easter	Iris & John Hammersmith / Patricia & Dwight Tkach	Youth / Youth	N/A	N/A	Bob & Marsha Sands / Jack Churchill & Ralph Leber	Amy Bower / Brian Pancost
April 27	Iris & John Hammersmith / Karen Becker	Kathy Root/ Brian Pancost	Marco Caponi	Marco Caponi	Bob & Marsha Sands / Jack Churchill & Ralph Leber	Mindy Klett / Brandon Schwinn



So you think you know.....

Pastor Sara Hodsden?



The first Sunday in March marks another semi-annual pulpit swap with the Huron Presbyterian Church. So who exactly is this pastor from Huron?

Pastor Sara Hodsden is the wife of our own Pastor James. She grew up in Berea, Ohio and attended Ashland University. She is a passionate fan of all Cleveland sports and The Ohio State University. (She coaches James so he doesn't make a fool of himself talking sports.)

Something you may not know about Sara is that she once attended a picnic at American singer-songwriter and musician, Amy Grant's house. She says, "It was a record industry thing." Sara's previous career was in radio which probably reflects her lifetime love of music.

One band in particular has shaped her worldview. The Irish rock band, U2, has been composing and performing since 1976, and Sara has been a fan since she was a teenager. The subject of faith comes up again and again in their music. She says, "Each new album mirrors my own spiritual development." Her favorite song currently is "Beautiful Day" from 2000.

As far as worship music, Sara loves the traditional hymns of the church, like "Be Thou My Vision," but she has a special place in her heart for the music of Rich Mullins. She especially likes his song, "Creed." In the chorus, Mullins sings about our faith, "I did not make it. No, it is making me." Sara says, "What we believe about God makes us who we are."

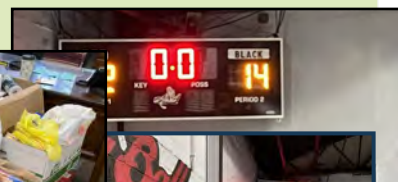
Sara loves Jesus and is excited to see what he is planning for the Huron Presbyterian Church. She likes that the congregation is both traditional and creative. She looks forward to helping the church establish a "unique witness of the Reformed faith in Huron."

Grace and Peace,
Pastor James

"A Family on a Mission to Love God and All People"



H.Y.P.E.'D Whirlyball & "Souper" Bowl Sunday!



Do you have a teenager, grades 7th -12th ?? Have them join us for all the fun and fellowship, on Sunday evenings at 6PM SMALL GROUP AND 7PM for HYPE'D!
Helping - Young - People - Explore - Discipleship



FEBRUARY'S E.D.G.E SUNDAY FUNDAY –NACHO GAME DAY! **ETERNALLY—DRIVEN—BY—GOD'S—EXAMPLE!**



Do you have a 3rd-6th grader?? Have them join us for all the fun and fellowship at EDGE! 1st & 3rd Thursdays at 4:30pm!

Also, JOIN US MARCH. 2 @ noon— Shamrock Shindig!



**"Your word is a lamp
to guide my feet and
a light for my path"
(Psalm 119:105)**

**MARCH'S
VERSE**
Every month
we will challenge
the congregation to
memorize a Bible verse!



MARCH'S MEMORY VERSE



**All year, we are challenging
our congregation, from youngest
to oldest, to memorize a
monthly Bible verse.**

"A Family on a Mission to Love God and All People"



**Shrove
Tuesday
Pancake Dinner
Tuesday
March 4, 2025
@ 5:30 pm
Fellowship Hall**

Join us

for a pancake supper to welcome the Lenten Season. Shrove Tuesday, March 4th, we will be serving a pancake dinner in our Fellowship Hall beginning at 5:30pm.

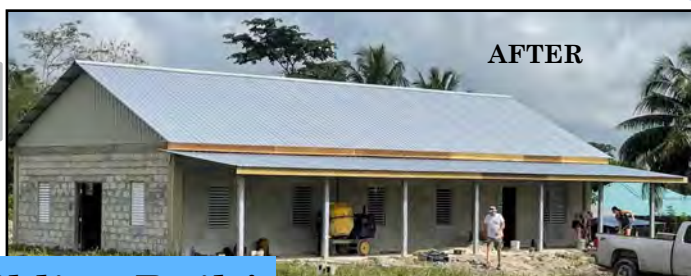
**All are welcome
to come!**

Another Successful Mission Trip to Belize!

BEFORE



AFTER



Hospice Building Built!



"A Family on a Mission to Love God and All People"



E.D.G.E



E.D.G.E. 3RD - 6TH GRADE YOUTH GROUP

SHAMROCK SHINDIG

SUNDAY, MARCH 2, 12-2PM

- IT'S TIME TO PARTY IT UP ST. PATTY'S DAY STYLE! WE'VE GOT LOADS OF FUN ACTIVITIES, GAMES, AND EVEN A TREASURE HUNT TO KEEP YOU ENTERTAINED. PLUS, LET'S NOT FORGET ABOUT ALL THE DELICIOUS GREEN GRUB WAITING TO BE DEVoured! SO, RALLY UP YOUR SQUAD AND LET'S ROCK THIS CELEBRATION!

pick up and drop off at the church gym doors

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
21 Firelands Blvd, Norwalk
kwheeler@firstpresbyterian.net

NO HYPED

3/23
3/30

SERVE LASER BOWL

3/2

FOOD DROP OFF, LASER TAG, AND BOWLING ALL IN ONE NIGHT.

HYPED

SERVE - LASER - BOWL:

Remember when HYPE'D took in all of those canned food donations and centered it around a really bad pun? Well now HYPE'D is taking those donations to the food bank and properly sorting it out and working the food bank for a Sunday! Once they are done serving God and the community, they will head out to the Thirsty Pony to play laser tag and bowl. It will be a great night of fellowship, and a good time to show off your bowling skills. For more updates join our band group, or contact Youth Director, Evan Hoffman.

YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY

EVERY THURSDAY @ 6:30PM



Please contact Youth Director, Evan Hoffman at the Church to join!

Contact Pastor James for details!



Join us Sundays @ 7pm
in the Underground

7th - 12th Grade Youth
Helping • Young • People • Explore • Discipleship

"A Family on a Mission to Love God and All People"



MARCH

April



**Friday,
March 7th
at 1:00pm**

in the great room
we'll welcome
Pastor James with
highlights from the
Belize Mission Trip!

Are you 70 years or
older?? If so,
come join the fun!!

JOIN US FOR KEENAGERS

**Friday, April 4th at 1:00pm
in the great room!**

Are you 70 years or older??
If so, come join the fun!!

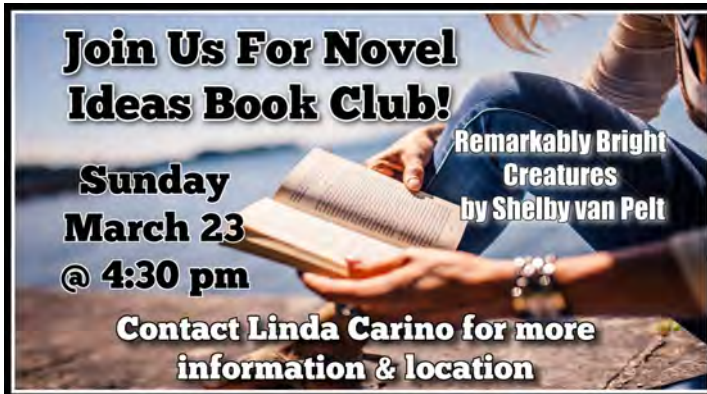


**Join Us For Novel
Ideas Book Club!**

**Sunday
March 23
@ 4:30 pm**

**Remarkably Bright
Creatures
by Shelby van Pelt**

**Contact Linda Carino for more
information & location**



**Join our
"BIRTHDAY BUNCH"
the 3rd Wednesday
of every month!**

**EVERYONE
has a
birthday!
Let's
celebrate
together with
pizza
every month
@ East of
Chicago Pizza
at 12:30pm!**



Purchase in person on
March 2nd, 9th & 16th,
or online at
www.firstpresbyterian.net/flowers

\$10 each

Easter Flower Sales



Help Needed!

**Would you like to help fill
Easter Eggs for our Hunt?**

Egg Tables will be in the Narthex during
the month of March.

Use pre-packaged sweets, play jewelry, stickers, erasers,
money, miniature cars, bouncy balls,
Polly Pockets, and more!

Return them by Palm Sunday, April 13th.



**Cheers
to 80+
Years!**



Happy "80 PLUS" birthday to:

03/02 Judy Uther
04/02 Joan Ackerman
04/09 Jan Graves
04/29 Joyce Ditz
05/05 Jan Fegley
05/14 Judy Eckler

03/08 Wilhelm Benz
04/05 Lois Rafie
04/12 Kay Kersey
05/03 Dolores Hodsden
05/12 Steve Trimble
05/27 Shari Smith

**Are we missing your birthday?
Contact Kathi at the church office to get us updated!**



"A Family on a Mission to Love God and All People"



ASH WEDNESDAY

March 5 @6:30 PM

The Ash Wednesday service will
begin our Lenten journey.
During this service ashes will be distributed
to those worshipping in person.

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Dinner at
5:30pm
Worship
Service
April 17, 2025
at 6:30 pm



TODAY YOU WILL BE WITH ME IN PARADISE
LUKE 23:43

WORSHIP SERVICE
APRIL 18 AT 6:30PM

GOOD FRIDAY

He is Risen!
HAPPY
Easter



EASTER SUNDAY
WORSHIP SERVICES
APRIL 20
AT 8:30 AM
AND 10:45 AM

“A Family on a Mission to Love God and All People”



Thank you for the outpouring of love and support for the new chapter in my life.
I was overwhelmed by the cards and gifts showered upon me.

Julie Murdock



Thank You!

Thank you all for the blessings that you have given Abby and I. You have all been so welcoming and for that we are thankful. We are excited to put all the gifts that the church has gotten us to use, and to see what God has in store for the coming years for First Presbyterian. Thank you again for everything.

Evan and Abby Hoffman

Dear Church Family, Thank you so much for all the heart felt cards and Godly healing thoughts. This was all quite a shock as I have always been healthy. It was my annual check up with my doctor who found an issue that soon escalated into surgery. The morning before surgery our daily devotion was by Max Lucado, in short it said: “Anxiety or worry has never solved a problem or cured a disease. God will do the right thing at the right time.” Pastor James prayed for me on the phone that evening & touched on those same words. How meaningful and at peace I felt for the following days open heart surgery. I knew God’s hand would be with the surgeon and his whole team who performed the operation. Again, thanks to all my Brothers and Sisters in Christ. God’s peace and blessings to all!

Sincerely, Mark Strimpfel

THANK YOU!



Youth Director, Evan Hoffman’s Commissioning - Sunday February 16, 2025.

Thank you to the Youth for their help in commissioning Evan,
and to all of you who gave so generously.

Welcome to the First Presbyterian Church
of Norwalk, Evan!

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

March 5 - April 20
Envelopes available from the
ushers or the church office

**SCREEN OPERATOR
HELP
NEEDED**

Would you be willing to
assist the church by
running slides during
worship services?
It's simple, easy, and
we will train you!

Please contact
Mike Matter for more info!

"A Family on a Mission to Love God and All People"



**BECOMING
MOM
STRONG**

HOW TO FIGHT
WITH ALL
THAT'S IN YOU
FOR YOUR FAMILY
& YOUR FAITH

Heidi St. John

MARCH PARENT BOOK NOOK FEATURE:

"BECOMING MOM STRONG"

By Heidi St. John

**God wants to use this
generation of mothers to do
something extraordinary!
Childrens wing, 2nd floor**

MARCH PARENT BOOK NOOK FEATURE:

This month's featured book is entitled, "Becoming Mom Strong," written by Heidi St. John. Today's mothers need a special kind of strength. We need to be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Author Heidi St. John has a powerful message just for you—the mom in the midst of it all. Through encouragement, practical prayer points, and authentic "me-too" moments, Heidi equips you for a job that only you can do: to train your children to hear God's voice and to walk in truth no matter where our culture is heading. God wants to use this generation of mothers to do something extraordinary! If you are interested in checking out this book or many other helpful parenting resources, visit our Parent Book Nook located next to the Christian Education Office on the 2nd floor of the Children's Wing.



SIGN UP TO HELP WITH VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

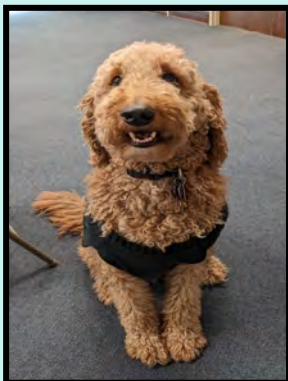
2025—JUNE 16-20:

IT'S COMING! Vacation Bible School, June 16th - 20th from 9 - 12:30pm daily. This year we welcome all of our preschool through 6th grade students as we learn that God made us, cares about us, loves us, forgives us, and is faithful to keep all His promises to us, in this year's, "MAGNIFIED!" VBS. We would love for you to join us as kids get ready to look closely at the details of God's amazing world and magnify, or proclaim, the greatness of God!

Vacation Bible School isn't just for the kids! Won't you consider volunteering to help make this year's event a smashing success? If you are willing, we will find a place for you! We need everyone from teachers to craft prep to snack providers to those dedicated to praying for this year's VBS - all are welcome. Visit our volunteer station in the Fellowship Hall during the month of March to sign up, or contact Kathleen Wheeler,

kwheeler@firstpresbyterian.net today!

Keenagers



The Keenagers had their February meeting soaking in all the information from the Huron County Mental Health Services.

Welcome Shannon Sommers, your new organizer!

Join us **Friday, March 7, 2025 at 1:00pm** as we hear from Pastor James about the Mission Trip to Belize! Always wonderful and uplifting stories come from this trip!

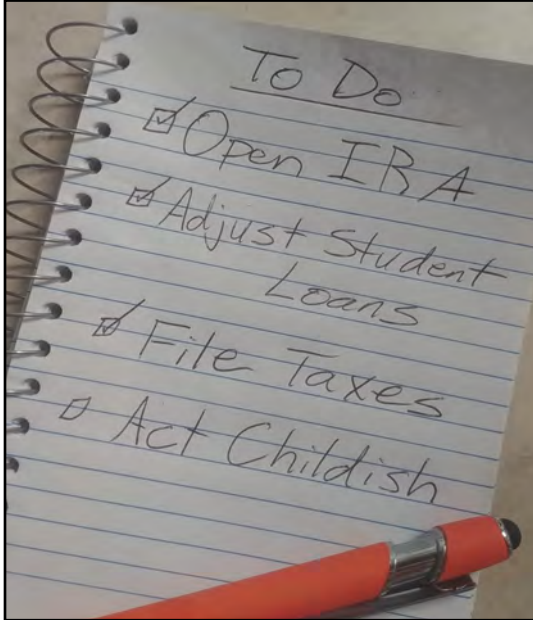
Also keep Friday, April 4th on your calendars too! Are you 70 or older? If so, come join us!!!

Dog hugs, Winston

“A Family on a Mission to Love God and All People”



From the Underground.....



I want a refund. No one told me there would be consequences to growing up. Grown-up problems are so different from the problems of my youth. The burden of homework and tests, music and soccer practices, and being forced to go to bed at a decent hour just out of the blue turns into the tasks of feeding myself, earning enough for rent and loans, and becoming very familiar with the special letters of IRS and the word taxes. On the plus side, I can now stay up to an indecent hour.

I was recently reminded of the story of Jesus and the children. I used to read the passage as a child and think: those meanie disciples, Jesus knows what's up, kids are cool. As an adult, I read it in a whole new light. Let's see how you read it.

Matthew 19:13-15, "One day some parents brought their children to Jesus so he could lay his hands on them and pray for them. But the disciples scolded the parents for bothering him. But Jesus said, 'Let the children come to me. Don't stop them! For the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to those who are like these children.' And he placed his hands on their heads and blessed them before he left."

So? What'd you think? And be honest, would you be acting like a disciple or more like Jesus?

I've worked many a VBS. There are a few things scarier on this earth than an angry mob, especially if that mob is a bunch of sugar-fueled, needing a nap children. Most of you know the might of a pack of youngins.

But think about the context of this chapter. Matthew 19 is just a couple of chapters before Jesus' triumphant entry on Palm Sunday. Jesus is super-well known at this point. Everyone wants to see and meet Him. Jesus is teaching, preaching, and healing almost nonstop. The Pharisees are throwing him tricks and riddles. And his disciples are trying to keep Jesus safe through all of this. They're his crew and protect Him. Jesus is going through the gauntlet physically and spiritually and the disciples know this. Then the kids show up.

I know if I was a disciple and in this position, I would have done the same thing. Come back later or stop by tomorrow would have been what I was thinking. But Jesus thinks differently. And I do see where He's coming from.

With all the pressures, stresses, and fears that come with growing up, it can be really easy to forget our childish roots. There's beauty in the simple trust, wonder, and love that kids have. Jesus knows this is how our relationship with the Father should be, and it's really important that it is. I mean the Lord's Prayer starts with it, "Our Father, who art in heaven..."

No matter how much we grow up during life, we will always be children of God.

Stay HYPE'D,

Dawson Strong, Youth Director Emeritus

VISIT OUR NURSERY:

All children from birth to Preschool age are welcome to visit our staffed nursery any Sunday during either of the services (8:30 or 10:45am) as well as during Sunday School (9:30). Our nursery caregiver, Jennifer, would love to meet you and show you around our facility! The nursery provides a safe and creative environment for your child to play and learn beginning Bible stories while you attend worship or Sunday School. You can find the nursery on the lower level of the children's wing, beside the library and across from the family room.



HEY KIDS, JOIN US!

Please have your children meet the teachers at the back of the church after our Children's Moment! 10:45 service only Room 206



JOIN US FOR KINGDOM KIDS!

Our Kingdom Kids Program gives our preschool - 3rd grade students a chance to have an age-appropriate worship and learning experience all their own. If your kids would like to join our Kingdom Kids,

simply attend our second worship service on Sunday mornings with your family, and after the children's message, follow the Kingdom Kids leader to their worship room located on the lower level of the children's wing across from the library.

“A Family on a Mission to Love God and All People”



MAKING SUMMER PLANS?



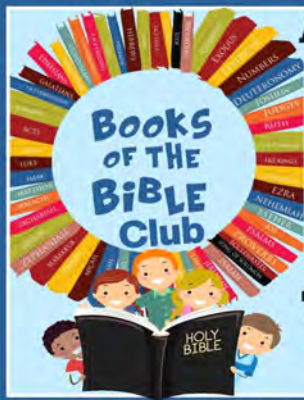
CONTACT PAT AT THE
CHURCH OFFICE FOR
SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS
BEFORE APPLYING AT
WWW.PHOC.ORG

JOIN US AT SUMMER CHURCH CAMP!

AGES 3-17 * AGE 17+ BE A COUNSELOR

PLEASANT HILL OUTDOOR SUMMER CAMP

Are you making summer plans? Don't forget to include summer church camp! Full camp schedules, prices, descriptions and registration forms for the 2025 season are available at www.phoc.org. They have camps available for a family experience for 3 years olds all the way up to 17 year olds! Older than 17? Pleasant Hill is always looking for great camp counselors as well! Camp scholarships from our church are available for all church members. If you are interested in a scholarship, please talk to Pat Babcock in our church office and return your scholarship applications by May 1st.



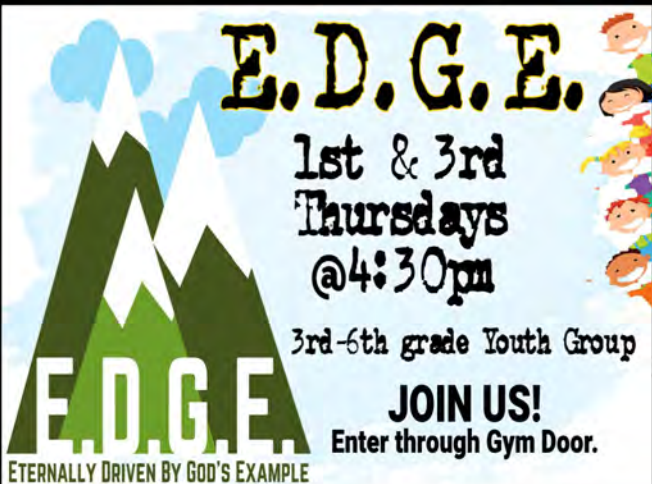
ATTN: Sunday School Students -Grade 1-6

Recite the
New Testament
Books of the Bible,
and become part of
**THE BOOKS OF THE
BIBLE KID'S CLUB!**

Contact Kathleen Wheeler for details

BOOKS OF THE BIBLE KIDS' CLUB

Once again, we are encouraging our kids to memorize the books of the Bible in their Sunday School classes. If any student grades 1st - 6th can recite the first half of the New Testament books in order, they will be added to our Books of the Bible Club! Once you're in the club you will receive clues to find hidden treasure! There are 5 levels to obtain as you keep memorizing the order of the Bible books. Reach all 5 levels and become a GOLDEN STAR member! See Kathleen Wheeler whenever you are ready to begin!



3RD - 6TH GRADE E.D.G.E. YOUTH GROUP

E.D.G.E. meets every 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month from 4:30 - 5:30. Pickup and drop off at the gymnasium entrance. Also, keep an eye out for our monthly SUNDAY FUNDAY! We hope to see you and all of your friends at E.D.G.E. Check out our current schedule!

SUNDAY FUNDAY (Sunday, Mar. 2, 12-2pm):

SHAMROCK SHINDIG!

Session 1 (Thursday, Mar. 6, 4:30-5:30pm): What Do I Believe About My World?

Bible passage: Genesis 1:1-2:3

Session 2 (Thursday, Mar. 20, 4:30-5:30pm): Is There Absolute Truth?

Bible passage: John 17:6-19

Session 3 (Thursday, Apr. 3, 4:30-5:30pm): How Did I Get Here?

Bible passage: Genesis 1:26-2:25; Jeremiah 1:5

SUNDAY FUNDAY (Sunday, Apr. 6, 12-2pm):

RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS PARTY!

Session 4 (Thursday, Apr. 17, 4:30-5:30pm): Value Those Who Believe Differently?

Bible passage: John 4:1-42

SUNDAY FUNDAY (Sunday, May. 4, 12-2pm):

END OF YEAR FIESTA!

Join us for E.D.G.E. (Eternally Driven by God's Example) as we finish up our study all about school, and begin a brand new study on perspective! We are answering some big questions with this study: things like what do we believe about our world, is there absolute truth, and how did we get here? These will be exciting lessons as we pour over God's word, revealing what He has to say about it all!

“A Family on a Mission to Love God and All People”



**SOUP SUPPERS!
HELP NEEDED WITH:**

- *Soups**
- *Breads**
- *Desserts**
- *Set up**
- *Clean up**

SIGN UP IN NARTHEX

Are you able
to help with Soups, Breads,
Desserts, or Clean up?
Please sign up in the
Narthex for
3/12, 3/19, 3/26, 4/2, 4/9.
Any and all help is greatly
appreciated!

PLEASE JOIN US!!!

Please mark your calendars to join us for
our Lenten Soup
Suppers every Wednesday,
beginning March 12.

Soup supper begins at 5:30pm, with a
Lenten worship service to follow at
6:30pm. This is a wonderful time of dinner
and fellowship to celebrate the Lenten
Season!

See you in the Great Room
(Rm. 109/111).



Soup Suppers!

**Join Us Every Wednesday
March 12 – April 9**

Dinner at 5:30 pm, Service at 6:30 pm

EASTER EGG HUNT - APRIL 20TH, 10AM

Easter Sunday, April 20th, we will host our annual
Easter Egg Hunt for all children! All who would like to
participate can meet in the fellowship hall at 10am.
If you would like to **help fill our Easter Eggs** with all
kinds of small goodies, please find the Egg tables in the
Narthex starting the last couple weeks of March.
Take as many egg cartons as you'd like, fill up the eggs
with small pre-packaged sweets, party trinkets,
stickers, coins, etc. and return them back to those
same tables by April 13th



Easter Egg Hunt

**Sunday April 20th
10:00 am - Meet in Fellowship Hall**

Hallelujah! He Is Risen!

**Hosanna
Celebration
for all!**

**Join us Sunday, April 13th
in Fellowship Hall at 9:30
to kick off the events of
Holy Week!**

HOSANNA CELEBRATION - APRIL 13TH, 9:30 - 10:30AM

Even though we just began our Lenten Journey, we will be rejoicing
in Easter Sunday before you know it! This year we are bringing back
our **“Hosanna Celebration,”** for all ages! Located in the fellowship hall
on Palm Sunday, April 13th, we will have all kinds of activities related
to Holy Week. This celebration will take place from 9:30 - 10:30 in
place of our regular Sunday School classes.

"A Family on a Mission to Love God and All People"



Can't make it to church as often as you'd like?

Would you like us to add you to our HOMETOUCH mailing list? We would like to keep our community strong and vibrant, so we offer a variety of adult devotionals, activity pages, coloring pages, prayers, and crossword puzzles from both the Old and New Testaments, as well as our weekly worship folders. Contact the church office to be added 419-668-1923

Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.
1 Thessalonians 5:18

What's up with Building & Grounds?

- We have brand new chairs for the Great Room.
- Scott Howell has been working for several months on our boiler system. We are trying to be more cost effective and energy conscious. This is a very big task, the boiler/heating system is very complicated, and at this time, one of the boilers is still being worked on.
- The sump pump in the hallway of the old basement was clogged somewhere in the plumbing. Scott Howell is re-plumbing this.
- Our Christian Education Wing is getting new flooring on the upper level!
- Larry Carpenter is working on making signs for all the Christian Education rooms, upstairs and downstairs. These will hang on the outside of the rooms to make it easier for folks to find.
- Gutters - there are several areas that get plugged often. We are looking into getting gutter guards, especially for the Courtyard area.
- Our Building & Grounds Committee is planning ahead for Work Days! Mark your calendars for the Spring clean up on May 3, and Fall clean up on October 18.
- There are new chairs placed in the Narthex for the folks that need to sit while visiting, before they head to Fellowship Hall for coffee hour.
- The Bride's Room is getting revamped. Please, if you need to use a room for an uncomfortable child during church services, you are asked to go to the Family Room #202/204. The live stream of the worship service will be offered there soon!
- Revamping the Great Room has been started. Drywall repairs are complete and painting has begun. The Session Room will be next. If anyone is interested in painting, please let Wende Mersereau know.
- If you see something or have a project in mind, please contact a member of the Building & Grounds Committee. The committee can then discuss it at their next month's meeting.
- Russ White, Landon Klett & Brian Klett have been working on replacing some lighting in the sanctuary.



This will be a monthly update from our committee. We want to share the care and updates with all of you!

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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CHURCH STAFF:

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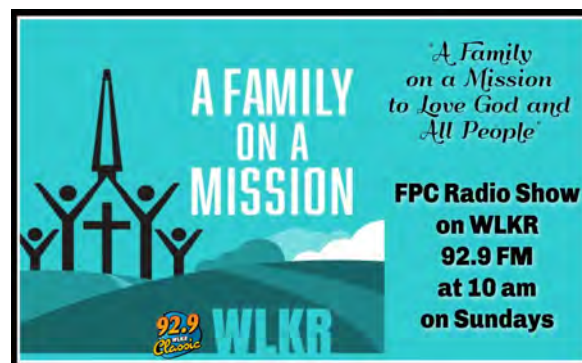
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Kathi Flew, Church Administrator

admin@firstpresbyterian.net

Serena Bowles, Organist

Jennifer Orth, Nursery Caregiver



8:30am & 10:45am—Worship Services



*“A Family on a Mission to
Love God and All People.”*

