

THE FORECASTER

A publication of the First Presbyterian Church of Youngstown, Ohio.

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Welcome to Summer!

We have settled into the long season of Ordinary Time.

I find a certain beauty in Ordinary Time that parallels something I have begun to appreciate in my studies of the Old Testament. In a recent preaching seminar taught by my Hebrew Exegesis professor, Dr. Dennis Olson, he made a statement I have been sitting with and slowly digesting. Among the multitude of gems he gave us in his talk, he spoke about how the genealogies throughout the Old Testament beautifully speak to a God invested in our everyday lives.

In the New Testament we are confronted with the urgency of a potential near-term return of Jesus in glory. There is beauty in the story, but it is not always well suited to lifetimes and generations of waiting for God's work to reach fruition. We get this in the Old Testament, a series of writings covering about 1000 years of Jewish history and life with God, as compared to the New Testament's 30-60 years.

As I think about Ordinary Time, and the seasons of growth and life that it covers, we have time and space to live into our lives with God. We do not need to feel the expectation and urgency of Advent and Lent. We do not need to look for an eminent return of Christ's eternal kingdom. We do need to put in the time and effort to build our relationships with God and each other. Let us revel in God's love for us and share that love with each other and the people around us. A love that nurtures us through all the seasons of our lives.

God's blessings,

Rev. M. Payne Warner

July 2024

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From the Session

The Vision Statement of the First Presbyterian Church of Youngstown

The First Presbyterian Church, an increasingly diverse faith community,

- *opens its heart and doors to all,*
- *serves everyone with compassion,*
- *fosters spiritual growth through scripture-based worship and study*
- *works for racial and social justice for all; and,*
- *models the principles of Jesus' life and teachings in the world.*

PER CAPITA

It is not too late to get your per capita in. A few people have made their per capita payments. This is just a reminder about the necessity for per capita. Every year, members of Presbyterian churches, and specifically FPCYO, make a payment for per capita.

What is per capita? According to the Presbyterian Church (USA) web page: "In essence: Per capita is a set amount of money (apportionment) per member that congregations pay to the larger Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)." As members of the PC(USA), we share in the system of government, and also share in the cost associated with church government. When we pay our per capita, we are participating in a system that started through a letter to ministers in 1734!

This year, the amount of per capita is \$32.50, the same amount it was last year. This amount is divided between the three parts of our church governance. The breakdown is \$9.85 to General Assembly, \$3.25 to the Synod of the Covenant, and \$19.40 to Eastminster Presbytery.

FPCYO has a proud history of paying per capita, even if some of our members cannot. The church will not default on its per capita responsibility. If you have not made your per capita payment, it's not too late. Bring your per capita envelope to worship on Sunday and place it in the offering plate. Or you can go online and make your payment electronically.

If you have made your per capita payment, thank you. Your payment of per capita prevents the church from exceeding our budget. There is a concept in fundraising of "second mile giving" where those who have made a donation give an additional donation. If this is something you feel moved to do, it would be welcomed.

Thank you all for giving of your time and talents.

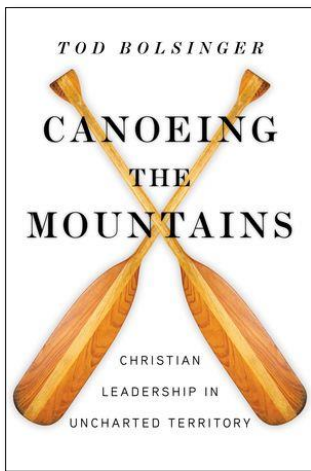


COMMUNION DATES FOR 2024

In order to prepare for the celebration of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, the following dates have been approved by the Session:

- *Sunday, July 7
- *Sunday, August 4
- Sunday, September 1 – 225th Anniversary
- Sunday, October 6 – World Communion
- Sunday, November 3 – All Saints Day
- Sunday, December – First Sunday of Advent

*Indicates that Communion will be served by intinction.



SESSION UPDATE

The Session's next meeting is scheduled for August 13, 2024. In the meantime, we are reading the book *Canoeing the Mountains: Christian Leadership in Uncharted Territory*. Using the expedition of Lewis & Clark as a template, the Reverend Doctor Tod Bolsinger explores how the church leads when the landscape (or ministry field) is different than anything that has been experienced before. Rev. Warner and members of the Session have met twice and have three more meetings planned as we continue our exploration. If you are looking for a summer read, this is an interesting book, challenging where we are as a faith community and where we want (or need) to go.

Mission and Community Ministry

Little Free Libraries

Our Little Free Libraries are still being used by adults and children. As always, we can use more books. Please keep in mind books that help youth and children understand social justice, ways to be kind, anti-bullying, care of our earth and each other, etc. Also please be mindful that youth and children's books represent various cultures, skin colors and gender diversity. There are two large blue totes just inside the church doors off the parking lot. Thank you!



MISSION COINS REMINDER

We are still collecting coins for the **Red Door Café and Food Pantry at St. John's Episcopal Church**. Your loose change helps provide a meal and groceries to our community neighbors in need. You can help by depositing your coins in the collection plates on Sunday mornings.

THANK YOU,
The Mission Committee

First Presbyterian Women

Collecting School Supplies

The First Presbyterian Women are now collecting school supplies for area children. The items can be placed in the designated box in the Garden Room.

The supplies will be donated to Making Kids Count, an area agency that has year-round outreach to local families. We will collect the items all summer.



FPW Picnic

Our annual picnic will be held on Wednesday, July 31st at 6:00 p.m. at Karen Cooper's home in Canfield. Mark your calendars for this evening of food and fellowship. Carol Reed will lead us in a craft. Meat and refreshments will be provided. Please bring a side dish, salad, or dessert to share. Bring your picnic chair if you have one.

Guests are welcome!

**R.S.V.P. to the church office,
330-744-4307**

Upcoming Events

You are invited to join us for any or all of the following activities.

Saturday, August 10th – Day trip to Hartville. Lunch at the Hartville Kitchen (on your own). Watch for details.

Tuesday, September 3rd – Pumpkin craft by Bev Porter (Marilyn Shakley's niece). Watch for details.

Early December – Either Sunday Brunch or a weekday dinner at *The Federal* (decorated for Christmas) in downtown Youngstown, depending on reservations. Watch for details.

FPC BOOK CLUB

TUESDAY, JULY 16, 2024 AT 10 A.M.

Our selection for July is *The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store* by James McBride. This is a murder mystery about when workers in Pottstown, Pennsylvania were digging the foundations for a new housing development and uncovered a human skeleton. Who the skeleton was and how it got buried were two of the secrets that had been kept for decades by the residents of Chicken Hill, the dilapidated neighborhood where immigrant Jews and African Americans lived side by side, sharing ambitions and sorrows.

We hope you will join us on July 16th in the Parlor of the Church. Please join us even if you haven't finished the book. Call Becky Murray 330-360-7526 if you have any questions.

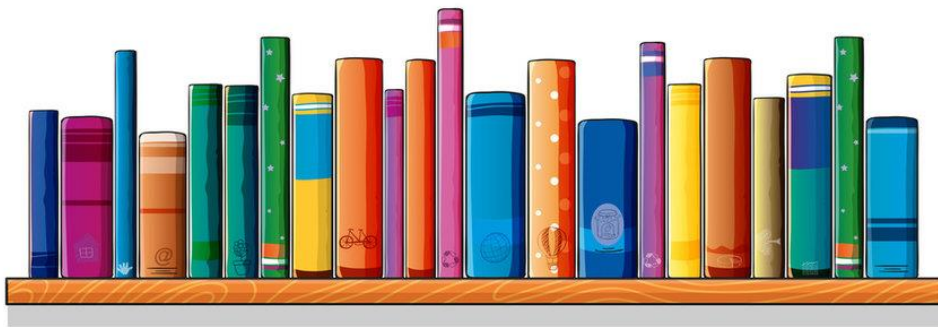
Below are the books we are reading this year.

AUGUST – Memoir - *Inheritance: A Memoir of Genealogy, Paternity, and Love* – By Dani Shapiro. A DNA test tells Dani that her beloved father is not her biological father.

SEPTEMBER – Historical Fiction – *Foundling: a Novel* – By Ann Leary. In 1927 18-year-old Mary Engle is hired as a secretary to work at an institution for mentally-disabled women of child-bearing age. Based on a shocking and little-known piece of American history.

OCTOBER - Nonfiction – *Eat a Peach* – By David Chang and Gabe Ulla. Chang shares the amazing story of his coming of age from starting a little noodle place to a restaurant empire.

NOVEMBER - SciFi /Fantasy - *Fourth Wing* – By Rebeca Yarros. (Empyrean Book 1). An epic of a world-building story, this is a tale of a kingdom under duress, a deadly competition to become an elite dragon rider, and the woman who bucks the odds.



Prayer List

Please keep these members of our congregation, our family and friends, our neighbors, our mission partners, and people around our nation and world in your prayers.

- The family and friends of Terry Murray
- The family and friends of Barbara Kaminsky
- The residents of the Realty Building & International Tower
- Jayne and Chuck Mansfield and their family
- The people of East Palestine, Ohio
- The people of the Ukraine
- The people of Israel and Gaza
- Our Mission Partners including Mahoning Valley Association of Churches, Wick Transition Housing, Community Education & Schools (with Taft School), Ethiopian Children (EECMY), Protestant Family Services, CityScape, Needle's Eye, RAHAB Ministries, and Meals on Wheels, the City of Youngstown, our community, and for one another.
- NuShawn Moore (Jackie Rogenski's daughter)
- Patrice Hight (Carol Reed's sister)
- Lila King (Lynn Toman's mother)
- Debbie Osman (Chet Cooper's sister)
- Cheryl (Lynn Toman's sister)
- Ron Strasik (Renae Scharf)
- the Sarver family (Lynn Toman)
- Caleb (Barb Altman's grandson)
- Mary MacGregor Neff (Wilma Miller)
- Barb Altman
- Dave Todd
- Pat and Bob Fitch
- Lynne Pebworth
- Hillary Hamilton
- Leeann Comstock
- Martin Goss
- Rick Benson
- Bridget Benson
- Cindy Milicich
- Janis DePasqua
- Rev. Jim Ray
- Mary
- Jackie Rogenski
- Julius Balogh
- Arlene Wright
- Marien Sue Martin
- Tim Keenan
- Marion Kohler
- Victor Wan-Tatah
- The Pickett family
- Terry Gregory


July Birthdays

7-1	Eric Monroe
7-8	Claudia Sturtz
7-9	Violet Warner
7-9	Nolan Wittenauer
7-9	Lisa Einfalt
7-12	Sandy Benson
7-12	Elsie Dursi
7-12	Payne Warner
7-13	Lindsay Goodman
7-15	Julius Balogh
7-20	Jolien Helsel
7-26	Stella O'Harra
7-29	Michael Klaus
7-30	Elias D'Amico
7-30	Eric Scharf





JULY 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 5:30-7 pm – NAMI Yoga – HC	3 11-1 pm Citizens Circle – Parlor	4 OFFICE CLOSED 	5	6
7 Worship Service 11 am Communion Sunday	8	9 1 pm – 3 pm OL Mtg – Parlor DR 6 pm – Mission Mtg – Library	10	11 MFHC PT 3 pm – 8 pm Clinic 5 pm – 8	12	13
14 Worship Service 11 am	15	16 10 am – 11 am FPC Book Club - Parlor	17 10-11:30 am – Saving Our Seniors – HC	18 MFHC PT 3 pm – 8 pm	19 8-1 pm – OL – Living Well – HC	20 Memorial Service Terry Murray 10 am-Visitation 11 am-Service
21 Worship Service 11 am	22	23 6 pm Scouts	24	25 MFHC PT 3 pm – 8 pm Clinic 5 pm – 8	26	27
28 Worship Service 11 am	29	30	31 6 pm – FPW Annual Picnic – Karen Cooper’s Home			

ALL CHURCH OUTDOOR WORSHIP AND PICNIC

SUNDAY, AUGUST 11, 2024

Church Members and Open to the Public

Worship will begin at 11 a.m.
in the church parking lot under the tent

The picnic will begin immediately following the service
The meat and beverages will be provided

If your last name begins with

A-L Bring a dessert

M-Z Bring a side dish or salad

Church Picnic



SURVEY FROM THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE OF THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF YOUNGSTOWN

The Christian Education Committee needs to hear from you!

We are planning for adult church school opportunities and want to know what you might be interested in. Also, would you be interested in meeting in groups outside of the church school hour for discussions and/or community?

Please respond to the following questions and place your completed survey in the collection plate or hand it to an usher. You can also email your response to Patti Gruver at *xlacal@hotmail.com*. Your responses will be greatly appreciated.

- | | YES | NO |
|---|-----|-----|
| 1. Would you like to see the following adult Sunday school class(es): | | |
| A. Bible Study | ___ | ___ |
| Name a book(s) of the Bible you are interested in studying: | | |
| _____ | | |
| B. Current events | ___ | ___ |
| Name a specific topic: _____ | | |
| C. Spiritual practices for daily living | ___ | ___ |
| Anything in particular? : _____ | | |
| D. Spiritual disciplines | ___ | ___ |
| Anything in particular?: _____ | | |
| E. Other. Specifically: _____ | ___ | ___ |
| 2. Would you be interested in leading a Sunday school class? | ___ | ___ |
| This might just be for one class, or a series of classes. Your choice. | | |
| 3. Do you have a particular interest/expertise for a Sunday school class? | ___ | ___ |
| What is that expertise? _____ | | |
| 4. Would you be interested in gathering with a group of people on a day other than a Sunday for community and/or discussions? | ___ | ___ |
| 5. Is there a particular group you envision? | ___ | ___ |
| Specifically: _____ | | |
| A specific topic? _____ | | |
| 6. What days and times would you be available to meet in a group for community/discussion? | | |
| _____ | | |
| 7. Your Name: _____ | | |

Thank you!
The Christian Education Committee

