

THE FORECASTER

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

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From the Pastor's Desk

Happy New Year, again!

Last month I greeted you with "Happy New Year!" since the church calendar, at least for liturgy, starts around the beginning of December. Now I get to wish you a happy New Year for the calendar year. Thank you for continuing to give me the opportunity to serve both God and you, the congregation of First Presbyterian Church of Youngstown.

I am excited for everything coming up this year, we have The MLK Workshop on January 20, our Annual Meeting where we lay out our successes of the last year and what we are looking forward to this year (as well as the Birthday Lunch, I'm waiting with anticipation for your favorite soups and cakes) on January 26, Lent in March and April, Easter on April 20, and the Schaff Lecture on April 23.

To say the least, we are going to be busy.

As we look at this New Year, may we look forward with anticipation to all the things God is doing in our community and doing through us, may we follow the Spirit's direction, and may we work together in our congregation and with our community to further God's kingdom in Youngstown.

Rev. M. Payne Warner

January 2025

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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.*

SESSION UPDATE

Clerk's Corner

The Session of the First Presbyterian Church of Youngstown met on Tuesday, December 17, 2024. We discussed the finalized 2025 Budget. Covered a few small items of discussion, and enjoyed a time of fellowship with our outgoing Session members.

The next meeting of Session will take place on Tuesday, January 21, 2025 at 7 p.m.

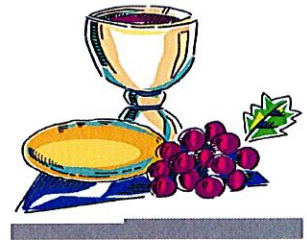
-- Patricia L. Gruver, Clerk of Session

COMMUNION DATES FOR 2025

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, January 5
- Sunday, February 2
- Sunday, March 2
- Sunday, March 9 – The First Sunday in Lent
- Sunday, April 6
- Thursday, April 17 – Maundy Thursday
- Sunday, May 4
- Sunday, June 1*
- Sunday, June 8* – Pentecost
- Sunday, July 6*
- Sunday, August 3*
- Sunday, September 7
- Sunday, October 5 – World Communion
- Sunday, November 2 – All Saints Day
- Sunday, November 30 – First Sunday of Advent
- Sunday, December 7

* Indicates Communion by intinction.

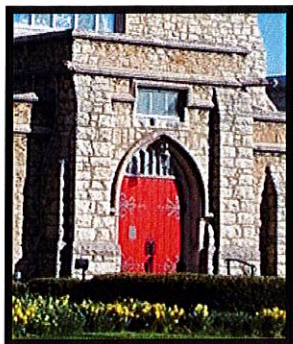


Called Meeting of the Congregation

We will have our Annual Meeting of the congregation on **Sunday, January 26, 2025** following worship to receive the Annual Report and accept the budget for 2025.

Mission and Community Ministry

The annual **Martin Luther King, Jr. Workshop** will be held on **Monday, January 20 from 8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.** We will be hosting this workshop in partnership with the Martin Luther King Day Committee. The focus of this year's workshop is Saving our Democracy. The event will begin with a continental breakfast at 8:30 a.m. and the workshop will begin at 9:00 a.m. You are invited to be involved as a participant or as a volunteer. If you are able to serve as a volunteer, we are looking for help with set up and tear down on the day of the event, help with the continental breakfast, and also for people to help our visitors find their way around our building. Please contact Margie Patterson or the Church Office to let us know you would like to help.



MISSION COINS REMINDER

We continue to collect 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. You may write a check and put in the the memo – RDC.

THANK YOU,
The Mission Committee

First Presbyterian Women

Nineteen women attended our Christmas party at Piccadilly Parlour on Tuesday, December 10, 2024. It was a festive evening filled with fun and fellowship. Lots of laughter and conversation could be heard. Following our meal we each received an ornament in our gift exchange. Pam Root led us in a great rendition of Happy Birthday to Karen Cooper who celebrated her birthday that day. The party favors were candy canes and Santa hats that made for a great group picture.

Upcoming Events

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

ANNUAL BIRTHDAY LUNCH

Join us on Sunday, January 26, 2025 for the All-Birthday lunch. It will take place in Helen Chapel following the church annual meeting that will be held immediately after worship that day. This (free) lunch is sponsored by First Presbyterian Women. You will enjoy homemade soup, salad, rolls and birthday cake. We ask that you sit at the table signifying the month of your birthday. This is a fun and popular event. If you are able to provide a homemade soup or a cake for one of the months, please see or call Karen Cooper.



CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS



The 225th Anniversary Committee is selling ceramic Christmas ornaments with all proceeds going to the church general fund. These ornaments are 3 inches in diameter with a picture of the church on one side and the wording "First Presbyterian Church 1799-2024" on the other side. The cost is \$5.00 per ornament. They can be shipped at an additional cost of \$13.00. Shipping will be through UPS. The ornaments are a **limited edition**, only 100 are available. We received preorders at the anniversary luncheon and will continue taking orders until the ornaments are sold out. If there are any still available, they will be sold after worship beginning Sunday, December 1st. Please see Patti Keenan to place an order. You may also email her at pbk1010@gmail.com or call Patti at 330-770-0999.

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 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
- Pat and Bob Fitch
- Lynne Pebworth
- Leeann Comstock
- Martin Goss
- Rick Benson
- Bridget Benson
- Cindy Milicich
- Janis DePasqua
- Rev. Jim Ray
- Jackie Rogenski
- Julius Balogh
- Arlene Wright
- Marlen Sue Martin
- Tim Keenan
- Marion Kohler
- Victor Wan-Tatah
- The Pickett family
- Terry Gregory

January Birthdays



1-1	Jeanne Goodman	1-23	Noah Funk
1-1	Nancy Hauser	1-24	Jayne Mansfield
1-2	Marion Kohler	1-28	Robert Mossman
1-4	Harper Fredrick	1-31	David Burnette
1-12	Pam Toman	1-31	Simuben Wan-Tatah
1-21	Michael D'Amico		

FPC Book Club

TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2025 AT 10 A.M.

Join us on the second Tuesday of each month for FPC Book Club held in the Parlor at 10 A.M. We aim to read a variety of books—classic, mystery, nonfiction, romance, biography, humorous, historical fiction, etc. (We are a little heavy on the historical fiction). This is a chance to expand your types of reading material and then discuss what you have read. Yes, we are all women, but we promise to welcome men, too. You don't have to be a church member. Give it a try. More information—call Becky Murray 330-360-7526.

Below is the rest of the books we are reading this year

February – Classic/Humor. *A Confederacy of Dunces* by John Kennedy Toole – Winner of the 1981 Pulitzer for fiction. Set in New Orleans in the early 1960's. It follows the adventures of Ignatius J. Reilly, an educated but lazy 30-year-old man still living with his mother. In his quest to find a job, Ignatius finds himself caught up in hilarious adventures with colorful French Quarter characters. A wildly inventive, comic masterpiece.

March – Historical Fiction. *The Book of Lost Friends* by Lisa Wingate. Brings to life startling stories from actual "lost Friends" advertisements that appeared in Southern newspapers after the Civil War, as newly freed slaves desperately searched for loved ones who had been sold away.

April – Nonfiction. *The Spy and the Traitor: The Greatest Espionage Story of the Cold War* by Ben McIntyre. Story of Oleg Gordievsky, the Russian whose secret work helped hasten the end of the Cold War. Best Seller NY Times.

May – Historical Fiction. *The Women: A Novel* by Kristen Hannah. In 1965, Francis "Frankie" McGrath joins the Army Nurse Corps and follows her brother's path to serve in Vietnam.

June – Romance. *The Paper Palace* by Miranda Cowley Hiller. A story of summer, secrets and lies. In the course of a single day on Cape Cod, one women must make a life-changing decision that has been brewing for decades. Best Seller, Reese's BC

July – Biography. *Bonhoeffer: Pastor, Martyr, Prophet, Spy* by Eric Metaxis. The author takes Bonhoeffer's life—the theologian and the spy—and draws them together totell a searing story of incredible moral courage in the face of a monstrous evil.

August – Young Adult Fiction. *The Last Brass Ring* by Liz Hill. Lilli Whitaker spends the summer of 1989 before her senior year with a job at a run-down amusement park, which leads to romance, new friendships, and a long-hidden family secret.

September – Historical Fiction. *The Butcher: a Novel* by Joyce Carol Oates. A harrowing story based on history about Doctor Silas Weir, a gyno-psychologist at a women's asylum in the 19th centry.

October – Nonfiction. *Heartwood: The Art of Living with the End in Mind* by Barbara Becker. Becker inspires readers to live with the end in mind and proves that turning toward loss rather than away is the only true way to live life to its fullest.

November – Historical Fiction. *This Tender Land* by William Kent Krueger. The unforgettable story of four orphans who travel the Mississippi River on a life-changing odyssey during the Great Depression.





JANUARY 2025

			1	2	3	4
			OFFICE CLOSED 	12 pm – Staff Mtg Parlor DR		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Worship Service 11 am Communion Sunday 		6 pm Scouts	11-1 pm Citizens Circle – Parlor 6:30 pm – Finance Mtg – Pastor’s Office	MFHC PT 9 am – 12 pm PT 4 pm – 8 pm Clinic 5 pm – 8 pm		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Worship Service 11 am 12 pm – Worship Committee Mtg – Pastor’s Office		10-11 am – FPC Book Club – Parlor 5 pm – BEG Mtg – Pastor’s Office 6 pm – Mission Mtg 6 pm Scouts	10-11:30 am – Saving Our Seniors HC	MFHC PT 9 am – 12 pm PT 4 pm – 8 pm 4-7 pm – MVAC Annual Mtg – HC	10-1 pm – OL – Living Well – HC	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Worship Service 11 am	8:30 am-12:30 pm Martin Luther King Workshop – HC OFFICE CLOSED OFFICE CLOSED	6 pm Scouts 7 pm – Session Mtg		MFHC PT 9 am – 12 pm PT 4 pm – 8 pm Clinic 5 -m – 8 pm 6-7:30 pm – NAMI Volunteer Recognition Dinner – HC	11:30-1 pm – OL Veterans Luncheon – HC	
26	27	28	29	30	31	
Worship Service 11 am 12 PM Annual Congregational Mtg 12:30-2:30 pm – Birthday Luncheon HC		6 pm Scouts		MFHC PT 9 am – 12 pm PT 4 pm – 8 pm		