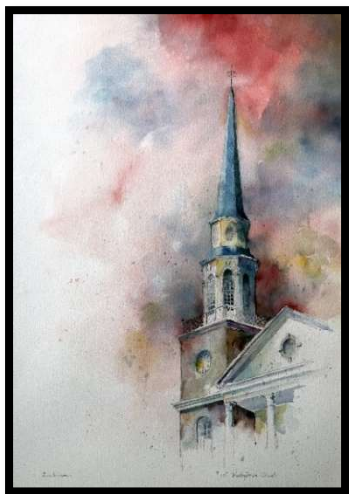




THE FORECASTER

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

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David Pratt, Financial Secretary
Patty Schuley, Church Secretary

From the Pastor's Desk

It is time for us to once again consider what we give and how we give it to the church. I'll let you in on a secret. I am not the biggest fan of stewardship seasons. I didn't really like them as a parishioner, and I think I may like them even less as a pastor.

In my prior lives, fundraising and asking people for money was my least favorite thing to do. This ran across all of my career paths, whether in teaching, political campaigning, or youth ministry. One of the greatest blessings of my time in youth ministry was when a couple in the church came to me and basically offered a blank check for the needs of the youth, and especially for taking kids to camp. It gave me the space to tell others I didn't need a check; I needed them to show up for the kids. Unfortunately, that didn't turn into an army of volunteers, but it gave me the space to not have to worry about raising money all the time.

In full honesty, the church needs your financial support. We cannot exist without your giving. Your gifts and the gifts of those that have gone before us not only keep the utilities on and the building maintained, but they are the resources we then pour back into our congregation, our community, and the world. But money is not everything the church needs of you.

Like asking for money, I am not the best at asking for help. Part of it is knowing that if I do it, then I know it is getting done (even if it isn't done well). Part of it is knowing that everyone else has busy lives and way too much on their plates. The reality is that the church, our community, and the wider world need you to show up beyond any financial gifts. We need you to be active and involved. We need your participation. We don't just need you on Sunday morning. We need you in Bible Study. We need you for mission projects. We need you for church workdays. We need you on boards and working with community groups. We need you as we work to build our congregational community and the community around us.

This month, I am asking you to prayerfully consider your annual pledge. Consider what God is doing through you and us, and contribute financially to that work. As you do that, also look for ways to work to build our community through gathering and working together. Join a group in progress, or start a new one that does what you want to do. I'll support you however I can.

Blessings,

Rev. M. Payne Warner, Pastor

October 2026

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From the Session

First Presbyterian Church of Youngstown Vision Statement

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 FPC met on Tuesday, September 15, 2026 at 7:00 pm in the church library. Opening devotions on Colossians 3:23-24 and prayer were offered by Ruling Elder Chuck Mansfield.

Discussions have continued on what our internal and external focuses should be to build community. For an external focus, Pastor Warner will reach out to the Youngstown YMCA to see how FPC can be involved in the new Foster Youth program they are developing. Additionally, we may be able to provide meeting space to an SA Anonymous group that is trying to get started in the Mahoning County. For internal focus, we are currently providing a Wednesday night Bible Study/dinner, and Sunday lunches after church once a month. Other suggestions included starting a men's group, and possibly having game or movie nights. This will be an ongoing discussion and suggestions are welcome.

According to information that the Mission Committee has gathered on the UndueMedicalDebt.org program to reduce medical debt in our area, the congregation will have to raise \$10,000 to purchase debt in our area. Mission Committee will work on the details and a plan to accomplish this goal.

Updates were given on the current BEG projects. Session approved a request to purchase 4 horn strobes for the second and third floors at a cost of \$6,760.00. The gate for the alley next to the Helen Chapel is progressing. The new doors will be installed in September, starting on the 22nd. Session was also informed that there will be no voting poll at the church in November, per the Board of Elections.

Rev. Warner shared a letter that was received from a former parishioner who visited while in town for a 60th reunion. He also reported that a Child Protection Policy is being prepared by Eastminster Presbytery, which we will adopt. Rev. Warner also reported that, according to the Book of Order, Boundaries Training is required every three years. He will gather information to share with all church officers.

The meeting closed at 8:03 pm with prayer by Ruling Elder Chuck Mansfield. The next Session meeting will be Tuesday, October 20, 2026, at 7:00 pm in the church library. Opening devotions and prayer will be given Ruling Elder Daniel Ayana and closing prayer will be given by Ruling Elder Margie Patterson.

~ Karen Cooper, Clerk

Livestreamed Worship

Livestreamed worship: We are livestreaming our worship services to those who ask to be added to our distribution list. Please contact the church office to be added to the list.

UPCOMING COMMUNION DATES

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

Oct 4, 2026 Nov 1, 2026
Dec 6, 2026

PER CAPITA 2026

Thank you to everyone who has already paid their Per Capita fee for 2026. This year's fee is \$35.00 per church member (1=\$35, 2=\$70, 3=\$105, etc.). We have a budget of \$4,356 that will be sent to Presbytery, and we need everyone's help to try and achieve that goal. As of 4/30/26, we have received \$820, so we have a long way to go! Please prayerfully consider giving your Per Capita to help us meet our budget. Thank you!

From the Committees

Mission Committee News

Join us on Saturday, November 7th at 1:00 pm to pack Christmas bags for our neighbors, the residents of the YWCA. Supplies and snacks will be provided.



Flowers for Worship

We welcome your participation in making the chancel a visual representation of the worship we offer our almighty God each week. If you are interested in helping keep fresh flowers for the chancel, contact Patty Schuley in the church office.

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

Our post-worship coffee hour is a great time to gather with other members and guests in fellowship. We are looking for new hosts to join the rotation. If interested, please speak to Margie Patterson, or any of the other hosts. You provide the snack (homemade, store bought, donuts, crackers and cheese, whatever your heart desires), the church provides the beverages, the staff will help you prepare, and you just need to step out during the closing hymn to move things from the parlor kitchen.



FPW NEWS

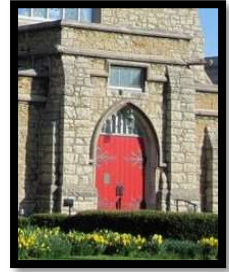
Join us for lunch after church on **Sunday, October 25th**. Everyone is welcome. This is not just for the women! We'll meet after coffee hour in the Garden Room and travel to **Double Bogey's** located in the Southern Park Mall in Boardman. We'll each pay for lunch on our own.



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 food 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 memo – RDC.

THANK YOU,
The Mission Committee



HARVEST FOOD DRIVE



The Mission Committee, with Session's approval, has decided to collect non-perishable items and monetary donations for Protestant Family Service. The collection will take place from September 1st through the end of October. The former PCUSA's Peace and Global Witness Offering has been replaced by the World Communion Offering. This new offering does not allow for a portion of the money collected to stay with the local community, as the former offering did. Instead, churches may apply for grants from PCUSA. We decided that we would like to use our collection locally. Thank you for your donations.

FPC Book Club

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2026 AT 10 A.M.

Our selection for October is a Historical Fiction – *Canticle* by Janet Rich Edwards. This historical fiction is about Aleys, 16 years old and unusual: stubborn, bright, and prone to religious visions. She runs away from home, finding shelter among the beguines, a fiercely independent community of religious women who refuse to answer to the Church. Illegal translations of scripture and a sudden rash of miracles all draw the attention of an ambitious bishop and bring Aleys and those around her into ever-increasing danger, a danger that will push Aleys to a new understanding of love and sacrifice.

We hope you will join us on October 13th in the Parlor of the Church. Please join us even if you haven't finished the book. For more information – call Becky Murray 330-360-7526.

Below are the books we are reading this year

NOVEMBER – Nonfiction – *Everything is Tuberculosis* by John Green. Tells a deeply story illuminating the fight against the world's deadliest infectious disease.



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 residents of the Realty Building & International Tower
- 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)
- Carol Reed
- Patrice Hight (Carol Reed's sister)
- Lila King (Lynn Toman's mother)
- Cheryl (Lynn Toman's sister)
- Ron Strasik (Renae Scharf)
- the Sarver family (Lynn Toman)
- Caleb (Barb Altman's grandson)
- Mary MacGregor Neff (Wilma Miller)
- Jennifer Patterson
- Barb Altman
- Pat and Bob Fitch
- Lynne Pebworth
- Bridget Benson
- Cindy Milicich
- Janis DePasqua
- Marlen Sue Martin
- Frank Harry Martin
- Tim Keenan
- Marion Kohler
- Victor Wan-Tatah
- The Pickett family
- Terry Gregory
- Sandy Benson
- Libby Benson
- William Miller
- Virginia Dineen
- Ronald Musgrove



October Birthdays

10-1	Nancy Sutton	10-14	Cherry Poteet
10-3	Jessica Bestic	10-19	Mia Cooper
10-6	Darlene Graft	10-20	Alex Esseniya
10-9	Estelle Miller	10-20	Rachel Watts
10-10	Patti Keenan	10-23	Cammie Toman
10-10	Marilyn Shakley	10-27	Carrie Wittenauer
10-11	Rev. Richard Fruit	10-28	Carol Higgins
10-12	Becky Murray	10-29	Joanna Forbes
10-13	Lauretta Amanor		



OCTOBER 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
				1:30-4 pm – YSU Exercise Class – HC 1:30-8 pm-Penguin PT 6-7:30 pm-T'ai Chi-HC		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 am Worship Service Communion Sunday World Communion Sunday 		1:30-4 pm – YSU Exercise Class – HC 1:30-8 pm – Penguin PT 5:30-7 pm – NAMI Yoga – HC 6 pm Scouts	11-1 pm – Citizens Circle – Parlor 8-12 pm – Lunch Time Learning – HC 5:15 pm-Bible Study & Potluck	1:30-4 pm – YSU Exercise Class – HC 1:30-8 pm – Penguin PT 3 pm – Facilities Staff Mtg-Pastor's Office 5-8 pm – Clinic 5:30-7:30 pm – Nonviolence Spoken Word – HC 6-7:30 pm – T'ai Chi – HC	8-12 pm – Juvenile Ct Seminar – HC	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
11 am Worship Service	OFFICE CLOSED COLUMBUS DAY 	10-11 am – FPC Book Club – Parlor 1 pm-BEG Mtg – Pastor's Office 1:30-4 pm – YSU Exercise Class – HC 1:30-8 pm-Penguin PT 6 pm Scouts	12:30 pm – Mission Mtg – Pastor's Office	1:30-4 pm – YSU Exercise Class – HC 1:30-8 pm-Penguin PT 6-7:30 pm – T'ai Chi – HC 6-7:30 pm – NAMI Bd Mtg-NAMI Office		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
11 am Worship Service		1:30-4 pm – YSU Exercise Class – HC 1:30-8 pm – Penguin PT 7 pm-Session Mtg - Library 6 pm Scouts		1:30-4 pm – YSU Exercise Class – HC 1:30-8 pm-Penguin PT 5-8 pm – Clinic 6-7:30 pm – T'ai Chi – HC		4-7 pm – 50 th Birthday Party Michele Gotch HC
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
11 am Worship Service		1:30-4 pm – YSU Exercise Class – HC 1:30-8 pm – Penguin PT 6 pm Scouts		1:30-4 pm – YSU Exercise Class – HC 1:30-8 pm-Penguin PT		HAPPY HALLOWEEN 