

The Presbyterian

A Newsletter of the First Presbyterian Church
125 South Poplar Street, Bucyrus, OH 44820

May 2022

Exalting Christ. Denying Ourselves. Loving our Neighbors.

In-Grown Toenails

That got your attention, didn't it? Sure, it's kind of gross, but I'm going to use it to make a point. If you've never had one, good for you. But for those of us who have, we know that they are not good. An in-grown toenail happens when, instead of growing outward, part of the toenail grows into the toe. It becomes extremely painful, and can cause a bad infection. Healthy toenails grow outward.

So why use such a weird illustration? Because Christians and churches (at least in this regard) are kind of like toenails. If our focus is solely on ourselves, and what we like, and what makes us comfortable, we "grow in" on ourselves. We become an in-grown Christian, or an in-grown church. And, like an in-grown toenail, we end up doing more harm to ourselves than good. Focusing on what we like and what makes us comfortable might seem like a good idea at first, but in the end, it causes spiritual pain and infection that spreads throughout our whole Christian life. We become selfish and self-centered Christians... and those terms are oxymorons.

It's easy to fall into that pattern of thinking—especially since we live in a culture that thrives on it. We find ourselves grumbling and complaining that such-and-such at the church is not to our liking. Then, instead of focusing on the mission and purpose of the church, we find ourselves sitting in our pews, scowling, huffing, and eye-rolling. And the infection begins.

So, what's the alternative? Growing OUT! That is the mark of healthy toenails and a healthy church. We don't turn in on ourselves, but we are thinking about how we can reach out to our neighbors and our communities. But, this isn't solely the corporate responsibility of the church, it is also the individual responsibility of each believer. Jesus tells us that we are like lamps. Lamps do no good if they are hidden under a basket. Lamps are meant to be placed out in the open so that their light can shine forth. But, most of us would rather hide in our baskets. That's not what lamps were made for! Start with something simple: Talk to your neighbors. Ask them how they are doing. Find out what they struggling with. Ask to pray for them. Invite them over for dinner. Offer to help them with something. Then, ask them to join you in worship. You never know what putting yourself out there can accomplish.

If we want our church to grow, we can't grow inward. That will just lead to pain and infection. We need to grow outward, loving our neighbors, and seeking to serve them with Christlike hospitality. Get out, and shine forth!

For His Kingdom,
Jeremy W McNeill
Pastor, First Presbyterian Church
Bucyrus, OH

Group and Committee Dates
Please check with the
Committee Chairperson for information.

Deacon's Meeting

The Deacons will meet on **Wednesday, May 11, @ 5:00** in the parlor.

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee will meet on **Monday, May 16, at 4:45 PM**

Session Meeting

The Session meeting will be on **Thursday, May 19, @ 5:00 PM** in Fellowship Hall.

Discipleship Group

The Ladies' Discipleship group will meet **May 3, & 17, at 6:15 PM**, *Mere Christianity*, on May 3, will discuss Chapters 7 & 8, and on May 17, Chapters 9, 10, & 11. The men's group will meet on **May 10 and 24, at 7:00 PM**.

Table Toppers

The Table Toppers meet Wednesday afternoons at 2:30 until 5:00. All ages are welcome to join in for an afternoon of board games and card games. Bring your snacks and beverage.

Presbyterian Men

The Presbyterian Men's group meets each **Friday @ 7:00 AM, at the Pelican**. All men of FPC are invited to attend.





Happy Birthday

- 3 Bridget Kohls
- 4 Dana Griffith, Alan Bacon
- 7 Kathy Randall, Jared Young
- 9 Megan Young
- 23 Ronda Hoerig, Tommy Randall
- 24 Al Fulton
- 26 Elijah McNeill
- 29 Kenny Hablitzel

Anniversaries

- 1 Dan and Barb Price
- 6 Al and Jan Fulton,
- 13 Tom and Vickie Ahlefeld

Flowers

- 01 – Dan & Barb Price
- 08 – Tom & Vickie Ahlefeld
- 15 – Duane & Connie Watts
- 22 –
- 29 -

Liturgist

- 01 – Tom Britton
- 08 – Courtney
- 15 – Tami Robinson
- 22 – Debbie Hablitzel
- 29 – Marcia Stout

Greeters

- 01 –
- 08 –
- 15 –
- 22 –
- 29 -

Deacon of the Month: Marcia Dishon

Elder of the Month: Marcia Stout



Special Prayers

Dan Price, Debbie Hablitzel

Shut-Ins:

Mary Lou Hastings, Sue Headley, Grace Kearns, Marcia Dobbins

Cancer

Avery, relative of Judy Eichhorn
Crosby Hieber
Chuck Miller, friend of Alan Bacon
Linda Hess, friend of Kelli Patterson
Jay Owen, Barb Price's Son
Jennifer Barnes, friend of Connie Watts
Annette Cheney, a friend of Kathy Bardon
Ellen Andrews, Kathy Bardon's cousin
Bruce Price, Dan's brother
Ruthie Robinson, friend of Gennie Rios

Members, Family and Friends of Members:

Bonnie, Sue Irwin's sister
Danny Nickler
Baby Gideon, baby of Barb Price's co-worker
Jacqueline (Dishon) & Stephen Sutherland's baby they are expecting
Danny Johns, Donna Watts brother
Ricky Cray
Jorri Barnes & the family of Jake, Sue Irwin's great-niece
Mary Dunham, Kathy Byrne's friend
Chet Johnston
Jo Anne Johns
Marv Hauenstein
Anya Schell
Gary Hess, Friend of Kelli Patterson
Bill Irwin, Gary Irwin's brother
Sylvia Lane, Kelli Patterson's grandmother
Donna Watts
Jo Anne Johns
Sandy Will, Carrie Diebler's mother
Connie Watts is asking for prayers for her son's wife's family, her step-mom and sister have cancer and prayers for all the caregivers giving their support.

Military:

John T. Ballinger III, Cody Gibson, Keagan Rios, Levi Diebler, Zach Wilson

Special Prayers

Special prayers for the family of Nancy Crum who passed away Sunday, April 24. Nancy was a member of First Presbyterian Church and the Administrative Assistant for 5 Years.

First Presbyterian News

Adult Education

Adult Education is at 9:00 AM on Sunday mornings. A new session starts May 1, and will be led by Tami Robinson. This series will be “The Holiness of God” by R.C. Sproul, and will last for 6 weeks.

Kudos and Updates

from Jan

Thank you to the Deacons for the [social hour](#) they hosted after worship on Palm Sunday, April 10th. Love seeing our FPC family enjoying each other in such a warm and inviting setting.



Scholarships & Graduation

The next Deacon event will be on [Sunday, May 15th](#) in the Welcome Center right after worship. We will be congratulating **Victoria Hoerig Lohr** (who will be on vacation) on her graduation from THE Ohio State University on May 6th with a Bachelor of Science degree in Dental Hygiene. We will also be honoring **Courtney Posey** and **Sam Rager** with FPC college scholarships for the 2022/2023 academic year. Please plan on joining us to celebrate these wonderful young people.

We are using the [LED screens](#) now during the worship service. KUDOS to Jeremy and Michelle for coordinating the worship information shown on the screens...and to Peyton and Courtney for monitoring the screens during the last several services. The difference in the strength of our corporate voices is amazing when we are all LOOKING UP and singing!!!



Many thanks to everyone who ordered Easter flowers. They add so much beauty to our Easter service.

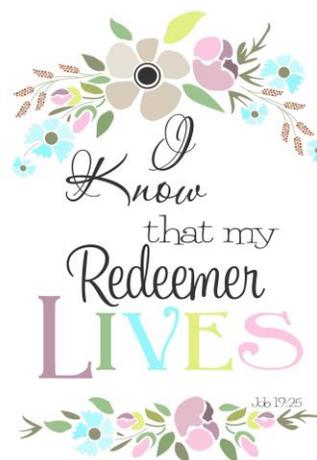
Jan Fulton, 419/561-0263

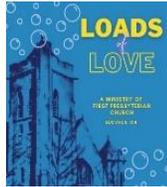
Ladies Discipleship Schedule

Ladies Discipleship will meet on at 6:15 PM on **May 3** to discuss Chapters 7, “Let’s Pretend” and Chapter 8 “Is Christianity Hard or Easy?” They will meet again on **May 17** to discuss Chapter 9, “Counting the Cost,” Chapter 10, “Nice People or New Men” and “The New Men.”

New Look for the Bulletins

On May 8 or 15, we will try a shortened version of the bulletin to follow the worship service on the screens. Please bear with us as we try something new.





OUTREACH PROJECT

2022 “Loads” of Love – On June 18th, the Elders are sponsoring an Outreach project that will be held at Stouts Laundry. Let’s make this a great project that can be done every other month. They are asking for the congregations help with:

- collecting cash for quarters
- Allergy free detergent pods
- a box of spaghetti & jar of sauce
- 2 hours of your time.
- A Prep Team to help count coin, pack detergent and food items

There are sign-up sheets in the Welcome Center on a table by the office door. There is a detergent bottle to collect quarters/coin (cash only), a basket for the food items and a box for the detergent pods. If you have any questions please call the office 419-562-0861.

COMMUNITY NEWS

May Community Breakfast

The upcoming Bucyrus Community Breakfast is scheduled to take place at the **Trilium Event Center** located at 1630 East Southern Avenue in Bucyrus on Wednesday, May 11, 2022 at 7:00 am. There will be a full breakfast for only \$9.00 per person. Ladies are more than welcome to attend as well. It would be good to arrive early for breakfast so you can get a good seat. Please RSVP so we can be assured there will be enough food from the cater, RSVP me, Jim Rowland at 614-307-0077 or e-mail: jimwrowland@yahoo.com, Can only accept cash for the breakfast. There is no access to a credit card machine.

Mr. Jamal Luke, Motivational Speaker, Athlete, Trainer and Coach who or that IN-SPIRES Audiences to ASPIRE to Win, will be the guest speaker for the Bucyrus Community Breakfast. Mr. Luke also was 1-Year Letterman - Big Ten Champion in 2002 and a member of the 2002 NCAA Division 1-A National Championship Team.

Jim Rowland
Cell: 614-307-0077
E-mail: jimwrowland@yahoo.com

Happy Mother’s Day to all the Mothers and Grandmothers May 8, 2022

Mothers Day Word Search

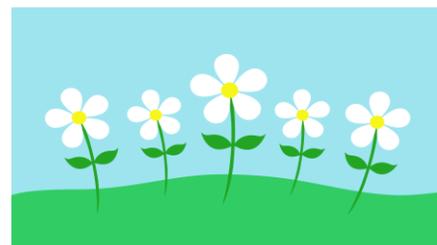
Find the hidden words.

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F R C B Y Y H C L Y L I M A F
G S E T H O U E V U U O G I M
N O N S N P G L F K M V M O X
I U E O P W S T W M D P T X U
V R R M I E H E Y O D H M E B
I F D T C G C W I W E E K K A
G R L A U G H T E R V H I Z Y
Z C I O R R W O R O O E S L J
Y Z H S W E E T L A T M S Q P
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CARING	GIVING	KISSES	NURTURE
CHILDREN	HEART	LAUGHTER	PARENT
DEVOTED	HOLIDAY	LOVE	RESPECT
FAMILY	HOME	MEMORIES	SPECIAL
FLOWERS	HONOR	MOMMY	SWEET
GIFTS	HUGS	MOTHER	THOUGHTFUL

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