

# The Presbyterian

## A Newsletter of the First Presbyterian Church

November 2023

Exalting Christ. Denying Ourselves. Loving our Neighbors.

### Being a Great Commission Church

Puritan preacher Richard Baxter said, "I preached as never sure to preach again, and as a dying man to dying men." The heart of this message is a fervent desire to fulfill Christ's command: "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you" (Matthew 28:19-20).

This should be the impulse of our church! Yet, we are prone to find reasons why we can't or won't share the gospel. In the words of John Calvin, "We are not our own; therefore, neither our reason nor our will should predominate in our deliberations and actions. We are not our own; therefore, let us not make it our end to seek what may be expedient for us according to the flesh."

Our obedience to the call of evangelism is a reflection of our desire to seek God's kingdom above all else, demonstrating our love for our neighbors. As the Apostle Paul declared, "For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died" (2 Corinthians 5:14). Let this love be the driving force behind our evangelistic endeavors.

In this season of reflection, let us assess our church's commitment to fulfilling the Great Commission, examining the ways in which we are actively reaching out to the lost, nurturing new believers, and equipping ourselves to be effective witnesses for Christ. The call to evangelism is not a mere suggestion but a command, an integral part of our identity as followers of Jesus.

Let us also remember the words of the Apostle Peter: "But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have" (1 Peter 3:15). Our obedience to the call of evangelism is our readiness to share the hope that is within us.

Together, as a body of believers, may we renew our commitment to evangelism, fervently praying for opportunities to share the good news, and diligently preparing ourselves to give a reason for the hope that dwells within us. In our obedience, may we be a beacon of light in our community, extending the grace of God to all who will hear.

May the Lord bless our endeavors, and may His grace empower us as we obediently answer the call to share the Gospel with a world in need.

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, November 8, @ 6:15 PM** in The Welcome Center.

### Gamma Delta

The Gamma Delta group will meet **Thursday, November 16, @ 1 2:30 PM at Pisanello's.**

### Session Meeting

The Elders will meet on **Thursday, November 16, @ 6:00 PM** in the Welcome Center.

### Discipleship Group

**The Lady's Discipleship** groups will meet **November 14, & 28, @ 6:15 PM.**

**The Men's Discipleship** groups will meet on **November 7 & 21, @ 7:00 PM.**

See the schedule in the newsletter.

### 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.

### Finance Committee

The next Finance Committee meeting is "IS TO BE ANNOUNCED."



Daylight Savings time ends on November 5<sup>th</sup>.

Don't forget to set your clocks back 1 hour.



### Happy Birthday

- 10 Duane Rios
- 15 Dave Hablitzel
- 16 Carol Griffith, Laney Hablitzel
- 22 Carson Britton
- 28 Mary Ann Basinger,  
Hannah Schafer  
Julie Wells

### Anniversaries

- 1 Ron & Marcia Burkhart
- 10 Jared and Brooke Young
- 14 Scott and Mary Lou Hastings

### Liturgist

- 05 – Tasha Nickler
- 12 – Tami Robinson
- 19 – Duane Watts
- 26 – Bob Thompson

### Ushers/Greeters

- 05 – Tom & Sandy Britton
- 12 – Barb Price & Lori Rager
- 19 – Carrie Diebler & Tami Robinson
- 26 – Carrie Diebler & Tami Robinson

### Flowers

- 05 – Kathy Bardon
- 12 – Lori Rager
- 19 – Tasha Nickler
- 26 -

**Deacon of the Month:** Barb Price

**Elder of the Month:** Carrie Diebler

The office will be closed November 22-24.



### **Shut-Ins:**

Mary Lou Hastings, Sue Headley, JoeAnn Johns

### **Cancer**

Anya Schell  
Melody Fagan, friend of Sandy Britton  
Annette Cheney, a friend of Kathy Bardon  
Ellen Andrews, Kathy Bardon's cousin  
Bruce Price, Dan's brother

### **Surgeries**

Tim Mutchler for his hip replacement

### **Members, Family and Friends of Members:**

Judy Diederich, Recovering from heart surgery  
Whitney Hildebrand, Courtney Posy's sister  
Abigail Sutherland, recovering from heart surgery  
Mike McKee, Heart problem. Friend of Kathy Bardon  
Becky Bellamy, Parkinson's, friend of Kathy Bardon  
Mary Dunham, Kathy Byrne's friend  
Sandy Will, Carrie Diebler's mother

### **Military:**

Keagan Rios, Gennie Rios grandson  
Levi Diebler, member and Carrie Diebler's son  
Grayson Robinson, Tami Robinson's grand-nephew



# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN NEWS



## Kudos and Updates from Jan:

**PLEASE READ:** B.O.R.N. is already reporting a rise in clients coming into their office needing assistance with the high rate of utilities. Our homeless population has also begun to go to B.O.R.N. for much needed gloves, scarves, hats, socks and blankets. There is a laundry basket near Michelle's office for your clothing donations. Don't forget to help us keep the B.O.R.N. Blessing Box filled with canned and dried goods too. I pick up all of your donations on Sunday and deliver them to B.O.R.N. every Monday. This is how we reach out to those in our community who need us... not for just one week... but every week. No donation is too small!!!

**NOTE:** I've had to throw out a lot of the food that is being donated because it has expired or the packaging is damaged. Please check your donations carefully.

**On Sunday, November 19th,** the Deacons will host a luncheon after the worship service for the **SPARK** program. We will provide three different soups, condiments, beverages and table service. We are asking for donations of small sandwiches and desserts. Please call me if you can help us with a food donation. Everyone is invited to this time of fellowship and inspiration for the future work of our congregation.



**The first Sunday of Advent is December 3rd.** The Deacons invite you to help us decorate the church on Wednesday, November 29th at 6:00pm.

Jan Fulton, 419/561-0263



## The Mission Team

“The Mission Team will receive **Operation Christmas Child** aka OCC shoeboxes at our church on **October 29, and November 5 & 12th, 2023.** The Mission Team has in our budget, covering the shipping cost of \$10.”

### Mission Organization Support –

The Mission Team wants to share information on one of the organizations our church supports:

This month, we are sharing about “**Crawford County Council on Aging**”. Meals on Wheels lunch delivery is a big part of the work done at Council on Aging. You might want to receive a meal. You might want to volunteer once a week or once a month to deliver meals. Here is the contact information. 419-562-3050, 800-589-7853, email – [coa@cccoa.org](mailto:coa@cccoa.org) or [crawford-countyaging.com](http://crawford-countyaging.com). Hours are Monday – Friday 8:30am – 5pm. Located at 200 S. Spring Street. You can sign up for a monthly newsletter, and read online. You can also have a monthly newsletter mailed to you for 1 year at a donation cost of \$3.

Sincerely,  
Debbie Hablitzel 419-561-8823  
OCC Project Leader

## Discipleship Groups

### Women's Discipleship

Fall Schedule for the Women's Discipleship Book Study continuing *Gentle and Lowly* by Dane Ortlund:

- 11/14 – Chapter 20
- 11/28 – Chapter 21
- 12/12 – Chapter 22 – to the end

### Men's Discipleship

- 11/07 – Chapter 18
- 11/21 – Chapter 19
- 12/05 – Chapter 20
- 12/19 – Chapter 21
- 01/02 - Chapter 22 – to the end