




March



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:15a –Adult SS 10:15a –Coffee Hour 10:45a –Worship Communion 	2	3 12-1p- SPARK Free Lunch	4  LENT Lenten Service noon at 2 nd Pres.	5 10:00 Good Morning BS 7p-Women's AA	6 Wilson Gift Cards go on Sale Feb 1st thru March 31	7 
8 9:15a –Adult SS 10:15a –Coffee Hour 10:45a –Worship	9 	10 12-1p- SPARK Free Lunch 5:30p-E&O Meeting Gold Circle	11  LENT Lenten Service noon at 2 nd Pres. 7-8p- Choir Practice	12 10:00 Good Morning BS 7p-Women's AA	13	14
15 9:15a –Adult SS 10:15a –Coffee Hour 10:45a –Worship St Patricks Day Meal	16	17 12-1p- SPARK Free Lunch 4:00p  Candlewick Commons St Patrick's Day	18  LENT Lenten Service noon at 2 nd Pres. 7-8p- Choir Practice	19 10:00 Good Morning BS 6-8:00p Father Factor 7p-Women's AA	20	21 
22 9:15a –Adult SS 10:15a –Coffee Hour 10:45a –Worship Noon -Extended Church Meeting	23	24 12-1p- SPARK Free Lunch	25  LENT Lenten Service noon at 2 nd Pres. 7-8p- Choir Practice	26 10:00 Good Morning BS 6-8:00p Father Factor 7p-Women's AA	27	28
29 9:15a –Adult SS 10:15a –Coffee Hour 10:45a –Worship Noon - Session	30	31 No Spark 	1  LENT 7-8p- Choir Practice	2 10:00 Good Morning BS 6-8:00p Father Factor 7p-Women's AA	3 One Great Hour of Sharing Offering runs Feb 26- April 5th 	4



A P R I L



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Last Lenten Service at 2 nd Pres Noon	2 10:00 Good Morning BS 6-8:00p Father Factor 7p-Women's AA	3	4
5 9:15-10:15a Sunday School 10:15-10:45a Coffee Hour 10:45-Noon Worship Palm Sunday 	6	7 Noon-1p Spark Lunch	8	9 10:00 Good Morning BS 6-8:00p Father Factor 7p-Women's AA	10 Time: 6:00 Good Friday Service in the Chapel w/Communion 	11
12 9:15-10:15a Sunday School 10:15-10:45a Coffee Hour 10:45-Noon Worship Easter Sunday 	13  Annual reports due	14 Noon-1p Spark Lunch 5:30p-E&O Meeting Gold Circle	15 Noon-Lunch Bunch @ Watt's	16 10:00 Good Morning BS 6-8:00p Father Factor 7p-Women's AA	17	18
19 9:15-10:15a Sunday School 10:15-10:45a Coffee Hour 10:45-Noon Worship FH being used for AA Celebration	20	21 Noon-1p Spark Lunch	22	23 10:00 Good Morning BS 6-8:00p Father Factor 7p-Women's AA	24 	25
26 9:15-10:15a Sunday School 10:15-10:45a Coffee Hour 10:45-Noon Worship/ Potluck /Annual Mtg.	27	28 Noon-1p Spark Lunch	29	30 10:00 Good Morning BS 6-8:00p Father Factor 7p-Women's AA		

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

65 North Third Street
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740-345-1480

Pastor's E-mail: firstnewark@gmail.com
Church E-mail: firstpresofc@gmail.com
Web Address: www.1stpreshnewark.com
Office Hours: Tuesday-Thursday 9-2pm

Rev. Steven Brand, Pastor
Emily Hare, Treasurer
Gary Collins, Custodian
Sheri Bogardus, Secretary
Thom Ogilvie, Choir Director

March, 2020



All services are being held at 2nd Presbyterian Church

Feb. 26th – First Pres
March 4th- Trinity AME
March 11th- First United
March 18th- St. Francis
March 25th- Trinity
Episcopal
April 1st- Second Pres.

Services start at 12:00-12:05
with lunch to follow for \$7.00

SERMONS

March Sermons

March 1 – Nicene Creed on Lent: For Our Sake
March 8 – Nicene Creed on Lent: Crucified
March 15 – Nicene Creed on Lent: Under Pontius Pilate
March 22 - Nicene Creed on Lent: He Suffered
March 29 - Nicene Creed on Lent: He Died

April Sermons

April 5 – Nicene Creed on Lent: He Was Buried
April 12 - Nicene Creed on Lent: He Rose Again
April 19 - Nicene Creed on Lent: In Accordance to the Scriptures
April 26 – After Easter

Coffee Hour - Make sure to join us each Sunday at 10:15 a.m. for some refreshments and fellowship in the Fellowship Hall. Sign up to bring snacks.

Church Emails – Every Wednesday, a church wide email is sent out with announcements, prayer requests, volunteer schedules and other information. Please send your email to firstpresofc@gmail.com if you are not receiving these emails.

No Email? – We are compiling a list of individuals with no email that would like to be called if important information arises. This would include: church cancellations, event changes, important events, or serious events. Please call the church office to be placed on this list.



Gluten Free Communion Available

We now have gluten free communion wafers available for anyone who wants them. They are in the communion cup trays.

CHURCH OFFICE

Prayer Chain – The prayer chain is an email list that updates everyone on new prayer requests as they come in. If you would like to be added to the prayer chain, email Kim Dershem at kdershem@windstream.net.

Bulletin Boards– please feel free to pencil in events on the calendars outside of Sheri's office. Check out the E&O Bulletin Board for updates on our missionaries.

Pictures – Please remember to take pictures of church events as they happen. Send them to the church office email if you take a picture you wish to share. firstpresofc@gmail.com



CHURCH LIFE –Looking Back

“Souper” Bowl Sunday

February 2, 2020



Many families gathered for a Souper Day on Super Bowl Sunday. The coveted “Golden Ladle” award returned to Pastor Steve and Diana Brand for their award winning Zuppa Toscana Soup. Above is last year's winner, Rose Novell, handing over the trophy to this year's winners. Congratulations to the Brands on your outstanding entry. Below is the red and white Jello salad recipe that everyone was requesting.

Red and White Jello Salad by Pat Mattern



2-3oz boxes strawberry jello

1 ½ cup boiling water

1 pint frozen strawberries (keep frozen)

10 oz. sour cream

1 20 oz. can crushed pineapple, drained

Mix jello and water well. Add frozen strawberries and pineapple, stir well.

Pour ½ mixture in a 9x13 pan and chill

(it sets quickly)

Spread the sour cream over the chilled jello and then pour remaining jello over the top and refrigerate.



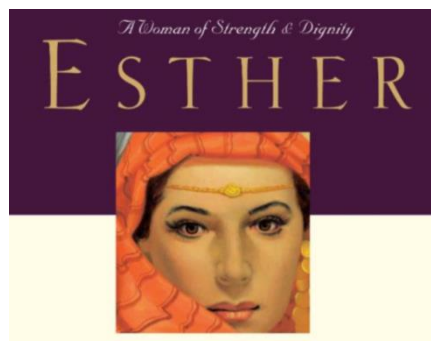
Finger Foods, Fun-Games-Puzzles

First Presbyterian was busy the weekend of February 14th, but really good things happened! Linda Mattis' funeral ended up facilitating some healthy healing within our congregation which I count as a win for the Kingdom.

Twenty-seven members had lunch on Sunday at our Games event from the leftovers that the Mattis family graciously left for that purpose. The Brands and the Bowles kids and adults were able to play, thanks to some wonderful folks who jumped in and handled the kitchen both before and after the meal. There are so many people to thank yet again for prayers, food, cleaning, setup/teardown, host/hostessing, listening, etc. How blessed we are to be serving in the midst of active servants!

Some day we will be able to schedule a game event that is not nudged off folks calendars by ice storms or funerals or ...

SUNDAY SCHOOL



The Adult Sunday School class is continuing our study on Esther. Written by Chuck Swindoll, this is a thought-provoking

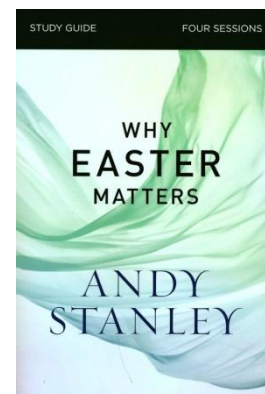
study of God's invisible hand writing silently and unseen across the pages of human history. Esther's story is the account of godly attributes like courage, dignity, wisdom, and strength – attributes that blocked an evil plot, overthrew an arrogant killer, and replaced terror with joy in thousands of Jewish homes.

We are seeing how the qualities that formed and empowered Esther can be ours as well. She was just an ordinary orphaned girl that God used to change the course of history. She didn't become great in her own strength, but was empowered by God when she surrendered her life to Him. God can use us in the same manner when we, too, submit to Him.

It's not too late to join us Sunday mornings at 9:15 in the Journey Room.



Why Easter Matters - Have you resisted, defied, or tried to bargain your way out of what you thought God wanted? You aren't alone, Scripture documents similar stories. In our Lenten study this year, the Adult Sunday School class will be looking at some of the people whose lives intersected with Jesus in the weeks leading to his crucifixion. Each of them had an agenda that put them at odds with God and Jesus. We will discover that there is a little bit of them in all of us. Please join us Sunday mornings beginning March 22nd at 9:30 in the Journey Room for this 4-week study.



Good Morning Bible Study

The Good Morning Bible Study will resume on March 5th at 10:00-12:00 in the library. No book to buy, just bring your Bible and meet us in the library for a time of prayer and the study of 2nd Samuel.

EVANGELISM & OUTREACH

Action for Children



FATHER FACTOR

Fatherhood skills, resources, and support

Do you like to bake or entertain?

Would you like to provide a treat or snack for Father Factor Meetings?

Father Factor, a parenting skills, resource and support group, has been meeting at the church for the last few years and will soon begin their 13th session. This next session will run on Thursdays from March 19 through May 5. Would you like to help bless this group by providing a treat for one of the weeks? If you'd like to help out, just sign up on the sheet at the back of the church. You can provide cookies, brownies, chips, fruit, donuts, ice cream bars or whatever you'd like. Please have the treat at the church in the Journey Room by 5:45pm on your chosen night. Please be sure to put out whatever paper products are needed, too. Those can be found in the cupboard behind the folding door just past the ladies restroom. The leaders will be sure all is cleaned up. If you have any questions, please contact Kim Dershem at 740-877-0346 or kdershem@windstream.net.



Thank you for taking on this opportunity to bless men who seek to be better fathers.

CANDLEWICK COMMONS

You are invited to join our neighbors at Candlewick Commons on **Tuesday, March 17** for dinner. We will be serving meatloaf, cheesy potatoes, mandarin salad, green beans, cake and beverage. Ann Robinson will be sharing music, and there will be singing as we celebrate St. Patrick's day. Pastor Steve will be sharing a devotional with the group.

We need three sheet cakes for our dessert. We would like a chocolate cake, a white cake and a cake of another flavor to share. If you can provide one of these cakes, please let us know by signing up on the sheet in the sanctuary or call Gaye Gibson at 740-344-3933 or email at lgayegibson@gmail.com.

Thank you to all of you for reaching out to these special neighbors.



Wilson Gift Cards: Orders for Wilson's Garden Center Gift Cards will be taken between February 1 and March 31.

The cards will be sold by prepaid order. Orders received by Sunday, February 23, will be delivered on Sunday, March 1. Orders received by Sunday, March 29, will be delivered on Sunday, April 5.

Order forms are available in the sanctuary on the sign-up table. Please make your check payable to First Presbyterian Church with Wilson Gift Card in the memo line. Orders can be given to Debbie Blamer or dropped into the offering plate.



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

The adult Sunday School class has been studying the book of Esther. The most conspicuous feature of Esther is the complete absence of any mention of God. However, as we study this book, we clearly see God's sovereign power at work to preserve and

deliver His people. The verse that speaks to me about God's work through human decisions comes when Mordecai answers Esther saying, "And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for a time such as this?"

In our world, we see poverty, hunger, homelessness, refugees, natural and human-caused disasters, injustice and oppression of people. We pray and ask God to change these things, and that is good. But in addition, is He not calling us to sacrificial giving in a time such as this to bring about change in our world? We have the opportunity to share in God's work for change as we receive our One Great Hour of Sharing Offering during the Lenten season from Ash Wednesday, February 26 to Palm Sunday, April 5, 2020. It is to be equally divided among the local Salvation Army, World Vision and Presbyterian Disaster Services.

The Salvation Army of Newark, Ohio is located at 250 East Main St. and is dedicated to serving the men, women and children at risk and in need of financial, social service and spiritual support. They work every day to elevate individuals from despair to provide hope and assistance. In teaching life skills, they provide individuals with the opportunity to maximize their physical, emotional and spiritual being to affect life change. The Salvation Army is an evangelical part of the universal Christian church. Its message is based on the Bible. Its ministry is motivated by the love of God. Its mission is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in His name without discrimination.

Presbyterian Disaster Services works alongside communities as they recover and find hope after the devastation of natural or human-caused disasters including the refugee program of PC/USA. In 2019, PDA granted \$3.3 million nationally in 29 states including Puerto Rico and \$1.6 million internationally in 19 countries. 438 National Response Team members spent 1680 days in the field in 52 presbyteries, and 7354 volunteers served in 10 states, donating more than \$10 million in volunteer labor. \$403,420 was granted refugee ministry nationally and internationally to presbyteries and partners assisting refugees, asylum seekers and internally displaced persons.

World Vision states their vision is for every child a life in all its fullness, and their prayer is for the will to make it so. World Vision is a Christian humanitarian organization dedicated to helping children, families and their communities worldwide to reach their potential by tackling the causes of poverty and injustice. World Vision's passion is to secure a better future for the world's poorest children by focusing on community-based transformation. World Vision partners with individuals and communities to develop

sustainable access to clean water, food supplies, health care, education, safe environments and economic opportunities. World Vision was founded in 1950 and has assisted millions of children, their families and communities all over the world.

As we prepare for the celebration of Easter, let us set aside time for reflection on Jesus, his suffering, sacrifice, life, burial and resurrection and perhaps a period of fasting, repentance, moderation and self-denial. Let us seek what God has called us to do in a time such as this.

One Great Hour of Sharing envelopes and fish banks are available in the sanctuary. You may also simply write a check to the church and indicate it is for One Great Hour of Sharing in the memo.

"Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. Command them to be rich in good deeds, and be generous and willing to share." I Timothy 6:17-18

Boston International Student Ministry

David Miller, Boston International Student Ministries shared a communication from a pastor in Wuhan, China with us in his latest communication. Some of the students they minister to are from China and the coronavirus affects them directly, and is affecting the lives of the entire world more each day. We are sharing parts of the letter dated 1/23/2020 with you, but the complete letter can be found on the bulletin board across from the office.

"I believe this is the command of God calling us living in Wuhan. We are to seek peace for this city, seek peace for those afflicted with this illness, seek peace for the medical personnel struggling on the front lines, seek peace for every government official at every level and seek peace for the people of Wuhan! And we can through online networks, guide and comfort our friends and loved ones with the gospel, reminding them that our lives are not in our own hands, and to entrust their lives to God who is faithful and true."

"The past few days I have received many inquiries from foreign pastors. They and the whole church are concerned for this city, even more for us, and confronting this epidemic, seek to serve the city with us."

"Thus I especially ask them to turn their eyes upon Jesus. Do not be concerned with my welfare, nor be agitated or fearful, but pray in the name of

Jesus. Good hearted people are through their actions serving this city, especially the medical personnel who are risking their own lives. If they can take on such worldly responsibilities, how can we not more readily take on spiritual responsibilities?"

"If you do not feel a responsibility to pray, ask the Lord for a loving soul and earnestly prayerful heart; if you are not crying, ask the Lord for tears. Because we surely know that only through the hope of the Lord's mercy will this city be saved."

Please join in praying for all those affected by this crisis.

Operation Christmas Child



There were 278 boxes filled with donations from 1st Pres and the community. There were 72 dresses, hats, purses, hacky sacks, and headbands from our creative seamstresses and crafters. Donna Kinney created

52 burrito babies. These babies were of different races, different hair colors, and wore many cheerful expressions sure to spark joy in those received them. Some of the boxes went to Ukraine, many went to Ecuador, and other "hard to reach areas."

March Collection Items: Hats and Gloves



LUNCH BUNCH

**Come to Watt's Restaurant in Utica
Wednesday, April 15th @ Noon
for food and fellowship.
Everyone is invited.
Please RSVP to Louise Whitis at
345-5426.**



Kroger Rewards: Did you know you can link your Kroger Rewards card to 1st Presbyterian Church? Kroger Community Rewards donates money to your favorite charity every time you use your Kroger card. All you must do is go online to Kroger.com. Go to the community section of the drop-down menu, and click on Kroger Community Rewards. Then you sign in with your Kroger Card ID and click on enroll. Search for First Presbyterian Church 84451 and enroll. Doing this does not affect your regular Kroger Rewards or Gas Points. The more folks we have registered the more money Kroger donates to our church.

SCRIP Cards – Come to the library before or after each Worship service the first Sunday of each month to buy gift cards for all sorts of different stores and restaurants. Pick up your order the next Sunday. It is easy and there are volunteers in the library to help you with your purchase. Your purchase of SCRIP cards supports the programs and needs of First Pres.

March Birthdays!

Joe Nichols 3/1
Erin Montgomery 3/6
Nicholas Barr 3/7
Hannah Weekly 3/14
Becky Mahon 3/16
Calvin Brand 3/21
Seth Cain 3/21
Karen Fish 3/29

