

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Gary Collins, Custodian
Sheri Bogardus, Secretary/Treas.
Tara Lewellen, Music Coordinator
Jesse Ryals, Provisional Pastor



PASTOR JESSE's INFORMATION

Jesse's contact information is:

Cell (740) 507-5727 call or text

Jesse.ryals@gmail.com

Text or email is preferred

WORSHIP

COMMUNION WILL BE
FEBRUARY 5TH IN THE
MORNING WORSHIP.



Pastor Jesse will be on study leave Feb 19th but Kathleen A. Nice will be filling the pulpit for us. She is the Transitional General Presbyter for the Scioto Valley Presbytery and was looking for opportunities to meet the various congregations.

Enjoy your study leave Pastor Jesse and we will look forward to meeting Kathleen on Sunday, Feb. 19th.

The annual **Congregational Meeting** is scheduled for February 19th. We will be having a potluck in the Fellowship Hall after the morning worship service. Kathy Nice has agreed to moderate the meeting for us. Please mark your calendar and plan on being here for this important meeting and fellowship.

PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The PNC has completed the Ministry Information Form (MIF). The MIF was submitted to Session and approved. We then submitted it to and it was approved by presbytery.

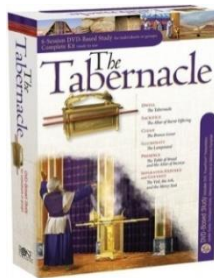
We have uploaded our MIF to the Church Leadership Connection site and are approved to start receiving Pastor Information Forms.

We are awaiting a new liaison to be assigned to our congregation by presbytery.

Please continue keeping the committee in your prayers. Also, please pray for our future pastor, that they feel a call to our church.

Respectfully,
Sarah Bowles and the Pastor Nominating Committee

SUNDAY SCHOOL



This new The Tabernacle DVD is a fantastic 6-session video-based study on the biblical Tabernacle. Learn more about this movable tent of meeting in the wilderness of Sinai where God dwelt with his

people. Shawn Barnard, the author, explains the significance and symbolism of each section of the Tabernacle. Facilitator is Ed Jobes.

January 29 – March 5, 2023
in the Fellowship Hall and on Zoom.

EVANGELISM AND OUTREACH

Ways **you** can help with the **Y-Healthy Kids Backpack Program**

We hosted two packing parties this month. The Presbyterian Church Partnership members came together for an afternoon pack event. We also had a family gather to catch up with each other over a service project. We look forward to hosting the Lion's Club in February.

Financial contributions are always welcome and can be made to:

Buckeye Valley Family YMCA
Attn: YHKN Backpack Program
470 W. Church Street
Newark, OH 43055

If you would prefer to give through the church, make sure that "For YHKN" is clearly stated on the envelope you use, and we will make sure your gift gets directed properly.

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## Fostering Further Apartment Kits

There are thousands of kids in central Ohio foster care, along with their families and social workers. This represents an enormous opportunity for a support system to help these youths be successful. In 2018, Fostering Further began partnering with Licking County Job and Family Services to mentor young people who were aging out of foster care. The mentoring relationships exposed Fostering Further to the many overwhelming challenges that emancipating foster youth face and inspired the board of Fostering Further to launch the Starting Strong programs in 2019. These

programs are designed specifically to support youth as they navigate the challenges of transitioning from foster care into their adult lives. **Please sign up in the back of the sanctuary if you can help purchase items for apartment kits. Let's help kids that are aging out of the system get set up for success!**

## EVANGELISM AND OUTREACH

### One Great Hour of Sharing Offering

As we turn our calendar to February and look down the page, Ash Wednesday appears and reminds us that the season of Lent will soon begin. Lent is a season of preparation to celebrate Easter. It is a season of fasting, prayer and sacrificial giving as we commemorate all that Jesus, our Savior and Lord suffered that we might be forgiven and spend eternity with Him.

As the church has been doing for more than seventy years, the Session has once again approved the receiving of the One Great Hour of Sharing offering from Ash Wednesday, February 22, 2023 through Palm Sunday, April 2, 2023. The offering will be equally divided between our local Salvation Army and World Vision. The total was \$1077.16 given in 2022.

World Vision, an international evangelical organization was founded in 1950. Their purpose is to help vulnerable children and their communities overcome poverty and experience a full life. Inspired by Christian beliefs, children of all backgrounds are helped, even in the most dangerous of communities. World Vision seeks to promote human transformation, seek justice and bear the good news of the kingdom of God to children and their communities by working with the poor and oppressed. These are not short term fixes, and World Vision often works in communities for many years until the communities can be self-sufficient.

The mission of the Newark Salvation Army is to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in His name without discrimination. It is an evangelical part of the universal Christian church, and its message is based on the Bible.

The Salvation Army provides a multitude of services to alleviate poverty in our community. Those services include: food giveaways, emergency assistance to prevent homelessness,

emergency shelter, emergency food pantry, soup kitchen, combating addiction, youth, young adult and senior programs, back to school and summer feeding programs and the Christmas cheer program. Need knows no season, and the Salvation Army provides year round programs to help those with low income thrive. Of course, we need to remember that they are also a church and provide worship to the community.

Offering envelopes and coin banks will be available beginning February 19 at the sanctuary doors. May you give generously to support these Christian charities.

"For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich." II Corinthians 8:9

## CHURCH LIFE

Good Morning Bible Study will resume on March 2<sup>nd</sup> weather permitting.

### Volunteer Opportunity:

Please contact Priscilla Hare if you would be willing to coordinate the flower orders for our Church for special occasions.

### Blessings Box



**The items for the blessings box are getting low.** If you care to contribute there is a box on the floor outside the Sanctuary door in the hallway heading to the offices.

Donation suggestions are:

protein bars, pop top canned items, protein drinks, crackers, small jars of peanut butter and then Ritz crackers. With the weather changing we could also start adding gloves, socks, scarves and winter hats. Thank you for supporting this ministry. *Donation monies have been given toward this cause and thank you to Sarah Bowles for shopping with the donations to get needed items for the Blessings Box.*

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Ever Wonder Why?

Many members have put in lots of time cleaning, decluttering, organizing, repairing, replacing, and maintaining the physical space we refer to as First Presbyterian Church-Newark. This is not the purpose nor identity of the church. The individual members as children of God are our identity. The purpose is to seek and save the lost, comfort the afflicted, grow in our understanding and then likeness to the One who saves us, show love to all, be the people of the One True God... But we are also called to be good stewards of that which we have been given. As individuals we are encouraged to tithe our time, gifts and wealth. It is all God's. Our returning a portion to His Kingdom is an action that we take acknowledging that fact. In our individual lives we make choices, stewarding what we have been given. Some are given much and some little. Amount isn't important. Response is. Response separates good stewards from bad.

We as a group of followers of Christ have been given the space we currently worship and study in. We did not build this structure, but it is ours to steward for this time. It serves as space for worship, study, fellowship, and as a staging area for many of the mission and outreach efforts instigated by our members. We have also been blessed to serve a variety of outside groups with use of this space. SPARKS trained and served meals for a number of years out of our kitchen. Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, Father Factor (court appointed training), homeschool classes, school testing, legal aid, NARFE... so many groups have been blessed by this building in the past. YHealthy Backpack program is able to feed additional students because we have provided space.

In the last couple months we have given building tours to two different groups seeking what we have. Space. One group we thought we might be welcoming immediately which prompted a nonofficial property and session conversation after church several Sundays ago. While that group found a place to land at a church that was not in the city, other groups are out there for us to potentially partner with.

We do not have lots of energetic people. We do not have tons of money. We DO have this building and open arms and a future. So we

will continue to bring our tithe of time and skills to readying these spaces, because we believe God will continue to send those who need space to us. God willing, we will also welcome a new shepherd for our dedicated congregation. So we prepare the space.

Faithful stewardship is the why.



SCRIP: Feb 5th is SCRIP Sunday. Please see Gaye Gibson in the library before and after the worship service if you would like to purchase gift cards from the SCRIP program.

PRAYER CHAIN

Prayer Chain – Please send all prayer requests to Kim Dershem at kdershem@windstream.net. Please state whether requests are for Prayer Chain Only or should also be distributed to the church body. You can also do a reply all on one of your prayer chain emails to get a quick prayer request sent to the prayer team. **Thank you to everyone that faithfully prays. Prayer is of vital importance in the life of a church family.**

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

February Birthdays

Rose Gibson	02/07
Peggy Lieb	02/08
Diane Dodson	02/11
Chris Rainey	02/13
Tracee Barr	02/18
John Mattern	02/20
Donna Kinney	02/23

February Anniversaries





Robert and Phyllis Fish	02/03
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March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat.
			1	2 10:00am Good Morning Bible Study- Gold Circle Room weather permitting	3	4
5 SCRIP orders 2nd Sunday of Lent 9:15 Adult SS in FH & Zoom 10:15-10:45 Coffee Hr. FH 11:00 Church – Sanctuary/ Communion	6	7	8	9 10:00am Good Morning Bible Study- Gold Circle Room	10	11  Daylight Savings Time Begins
12 – Daylight savings begins 3rd Sunday of Lent 9:15 Adult SS in FH & Zoom 10:15-10:45 Coffee Hr. FH 11:00 Church – Sanctuary	13	14	15	16 10:00am Good Morning Bible Study- Gold Circle Room	17	18
19 4th Sunday of Lent 9:15 Adult SS in FH & Zoom 10:15-10:45 Coffee Hr. FH 11:00 Church –Sanctuary	20	21	22	23 10:00am Good Morning Bible Study- Gold Circle Room	24	25
26 5 th Sunday of Lent 9:15 Adult SS in FH & Zoom 10:15-10:45 Coffee Hr. FH	27	28	29	30 10:00am Good Morning Bible Study- Gold Circle Room	31	
						

February 2023

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			1	2	3	4
5 SCRIP orders 9:15 Adult SS in FH & Zoom 10:15-10:45 Coffee Hr. FH 11:00 Church – Sanctuary/ Communion	6	7 7:45am DNA Mtg. at L.C. Library	8	9	10	11
12 9:15 Adult SS in FH & Zoom 10:15-10:45 Coffee Hr. FH 11:00 Church – Sanctuary	13	14 	15	16	17	18
19 9:15 Adult SS in FH & Zoom 10:15-10:45 Coffee Hr. FH 11:00 Church – Sanctuary Guest Speaker – Kathy Nice (from Presbytery) Congregational Meeting & potluck after worship	20 	21 3:30 PCP Mtg. Place TBD	22 ASH WED  11:30-12:30 Lions Club Packing party	23	24	25
26 - 1st Sunday of Lent 9:15 Adult SS in FH & Zoom 10:15-10:45 Coffee Hr. FH 11:00 Church – Sanctuary	27 	28				
			