

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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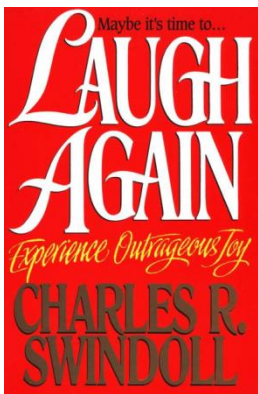
Rev. Steven Brand, Pastor
Gary Collins, Custodian
Sheri Bogardus, Secretary/Treas.
Thom Ogilvie, Choir Director





Ash Wednesday, February 17, 2021 marks the beginning of the season in the church year known as Lent. Lent is a time to prepare for the celebration of Easter and to renew our life in the mystery of the saving death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. We begin this holy season by acknowledging our need for repentance, and for the mercy and forgiveness proclaimed in the gospel of Jesus Christ. We begin our journey to Easter with the sign of ashes, a biblical symbol of mourning and penitence. This ancient sign speaks of the fragility of human life, and marks the penitence of the community of faith. I invite you, therefore, in the name of Christ, to observe a holy Lent by self-examination and penitence, by prayer and fasting, by works of love, and by reading and meditating on the Word of God.

ZOOM ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL



New Adult Sunday School class information:

'Maybe it's Time to Laugh Again' ... Welcome to 2021! I think we're all ready for a fresh beginning. After last year we may not be laughing much right now. The Adult Sunday School class will begin a new study January 24th looking at the topic of joy based on the book of

Philippians, using Chuck Swindoll's book entitled "Laugh Again". Through this study we hope to gain a new perspective on how to view these harsh days by looking at life from a different perspective. We will discover ways to live in the present, say 'no' to negativism, and choose joy. Books are available for \$11.00 if interested. The Zoom link for the 24th

is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84467248594?pwd=Z2FWTEcraHhwSnRka2NCZi9Cb2M2UT09>



Y HEALTHY KIDS- Backpack



Healthy Kids Network Backpack Program

The Healthy Kids Network (HKN) Backpack Program addresses the basic needs of students in Licking County by providing carriers of nutritious and easy-to-prepare food to take home on weekends when other resources may not be available. While free and reduced breakfast and lunch are available during the school week, unreliable access to food over the weekends can affect the level of food insecurity experienced by the student, increasing stress and decreasing productivity. Children who are hungry simply cannot concentrate to learn, have low energy, and reduced ability to fight off common childhood illnesses.

HKN launched the Back Pack Pilot Program in January 2015. Sixty five elementary students in one Newark school were served and it has expanded to six additional schools in need, serving nearly 300 students per week.

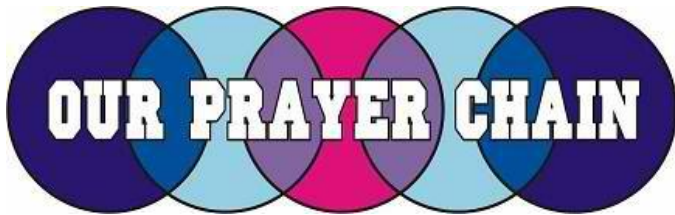
There are several advantages in the way the Backpack Program addresses the needs of hungry children:

- Referrals are made by Teacher, School Social Worker, Administrator, School Health Aide, and other staff who are in a position to identify hungry children.
- Children are not stigmatized because the food is given to them discretely.
- Food gets directly and immediately into the hands of hungry children.

- Children receive food that is appropriate for them to eat and meets many nutritional requirements.
- Children receive food with no questions asked and without bureaucratic requirements.

If you would like to find out more about the Healthy Kids Network or how you can help, please contact Ed Bohren at 740-349-9688 or edward.bohren@lcfymca.org.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE



Prayer Chain Updates – 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.

EVANGELISM & OUTREACH



Dear Prayer Partners.

Thank you for your prayers and thank you to those who gave to make the "Funds for a Replacement

Floatplane" campaign successful. God is great, and works in ways we could not have imagined! Praise Him! The announcement below is from the SAMAIR PERU website:

Please pray for us as we seek to purchase a replacement plane. Also, pray about the complicated process of getting it into Peru.



Update: We did it!!! Because of your generosity! Here on the last day of 2020, at about

1:30 pm EST, we crossed the finish line to be able to purchase, outfit, and import to Peru a replacement floatplane.

Now, additional funds raised will be used to rebuild the floatplane hangar that was destroyed in the storm, so, if you're able to give, please do and we'll invest your generosity wisely to bring the entire floatplane operation back online in 2021!

Nancy and I are grateful that we were able to complete most of our objectives in Ohio in December and spend time with Annette, Daniel and a few other family members. We are sorry we could not see most of you in person, but we had to pass a Covid-19 test to board our plane to Peru,

While we were in Ohio, the SAMAIR Peru maintenance team was able to get the registration process completed on the second wheel plane, so it is now resuming the role of "acting wheelplane". OB-1671 (our other wheelplane) is now on the repaired floats, and will be taking over the floatplane part of the program as soon as all of the approvals are complete. We hope to have it flying by the end of the month.

I returned and had to take care of some urgent banking for the program that took most of the first week. I will be busy with inventory and other year- end office items. It looks like I may have to export a used engine and propeller for overhaul as well.

Starting January 25, Nancy will be filling in for a teacher who has been delayed in the US due to Covid-19 They hope to return soon, but her family will have to do a 14-day quarantine. Pray for them and others who are traveling and having to quarantine on both sides of the trip.

Thank you again so much for your prayers and participation in our ministry.

Mike and Nancy Mahon



Candlewick Commons



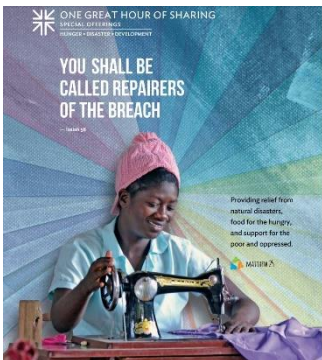
The Evangelism and Outreach Committee will be putting together a gift bag for the folks at Candlewick Commons. A Lenten devotional has been ordered for each resident and employee. Along with this, we'd like to give them some homemade cookies. The

residents were looking forward to cookies at Christmas, but Candlewick didn't allow us to provide them due to pandemic restrictions. Now we can.

Would you be able to help provide homemade cookies for them? Please let Kim or Sandy know. We would like to give each resident a couple different kinds, which means we need at least 90 bags of cookies. We would ask that you put 2-3 cookies in individual zipper bags. We will need your cookies before Feb 20th. You can deliver them to the church between 9:00-2:00, Feb 16-18 or call one of us and we can make arrangements to pick them up from you.

Contact information: Sandy Noland at rsjnloland@windstream.net or 740-323-0169 or Kim Dershem at kdershem@windstream.net or 740-345-6624.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING



Sharing has been defined as giving part of what we have to others, or not keeping everything we have but passing it around to others. It is often a difficult concept to learn, but once understood can bring

great joy to our lives as we bless others with our giving. During the Lenten season, our church has blessed the lives of others by participating in the One Great Hour of Sharing for more than seventy

years. The Session has again approved the receiving of this offering from **Ash Wednesday, February 17 to Palm Sunday, March 28, 2021.**

This year, as we have for the past few years, we will be collecting our One Great Hour of Sharing offering to be divided equally among World Vision, Presbyterian Disaster Services and the local Salvation Army. Please mark your check as One Great Hour of Sharing when you either mail it in or drop it off.

As you ponder what you will give, remember Hebrews 13:16 "And do not forget to do good and share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased."

Paul and Christy Knudson and family



Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever. (Psalm 136:1)

We have so much to be thankful for! We have all heard it... how 2020 has been a stressful and confusing year, a year in which we lost so much. While this is true, and I am not making light of those losses, God has also blown the door off his storehouse of blessings. It has been a year for people to take note of what is really important. When faced with the frailty of life, it has been a time to see God at work.

We love Thanksgiving and the opportunity to reflect on the year and to prepare our hearts for celebrating Christmas. This is a partial list of the rich blessings God has shown our family this year:

- Our fellow missionaries in Bolivia. Amidst quarantining at home, God has opened up new opportunities to share the Gospel, disciple and encourage believers, and provide food, medical assistance and help to those in need.
- YOU! We are so grateful for how you pray for us and help support our needs financially. We have loved getting short emails from some of you recently.
- Peaceful elections in Bolivia.
- Health. We have been healthy this year, but we all came down with COVID and were laid up for a few weeks in November. We are all thankful for God's healing.
- Abby has chosen biblical archeology as a major. We are thankful we were here so that she had a place to come to when campus shut down and for that extra time with her. We are also thankful for the good group of friends she has on campus.
- Caleb will graduate in January! He is still making big decisions about college and how to use the spring semester, but we trust God will guide him.
- Caitlyn has been able to continue flute and art, even as classes have been virtual.

- Christy is now about three fourths done with her Master's in special education!
- Paul is working daily with the team in Bolivia helping with the leadership.
- House. The Missionary Furlough Homes in Wheaton has been so gracious in allowing us to continue living in our home.

God is so good and faithful and loving, and he never changes!

Bolivia or Bust!

Plans are beginning to come together, at least as much as we can make them in the year 2020. Our return to Bolivia has been on hold for months now, but we are actively working towards a departure in February. Bolivia's border is open and flights are arriving. Besides needing to stay here until the kids finish their semester of schooling, we also need to get back to Bolivia for visa reasons. Christy and I last left Bolivia in mid-February of 2019, and we are only allowed to be out of the country for two years or we lose our visas. Our goal is to return to Bolivia the first week of February.

Support

Since COVID quarantining started in March and the chaos it has caused the economy, we have been amazed at the way God continues to provide. We are especially grateful to our many faithful supporters. Thank you so much!

Our support budget was reduced in 2018 to reflect the gifts and pledges we were receiving. One item cut was our passage account which means we now need to raise funds for return tickets to Bolivia. Would you be able to help with a one-time gift to help cover the \$3,500?

We have gotten by on our reduced budget, but

we need to increase the amounts in a number of our accounts. Would you please pray that God would increase our support by \$1000 and consider if you might be able to help?

Donations can be made by clicking on the red tab below, or a check can be sent to:

SIM USA
P.O. Box 7900
Charlotte, NC 28241

FYI



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

Gift card orders are taken on the first Sunday of each month in the library before and after Worship. Orders can be picked up the following Sunday. A list of retailers can be found at:
<https://shop.shopwithscrip.com/Shop/Product/Browse#?saved>
Click on either "Alphabetical List" or "Category List". Printed lists are also available in the Library.

Please contact Peggy if you have questions.



Covid-19 Vaccines

Licking County Health Dept.

Here is link to Licking County Health Department - Covid vaccine schedule, basic information and the form that must be completed:

<https://mailchi.mp/lickingcohealth.org/011521vaccinehoutine>

Forms can be mailed to you upon request. Email or call the church office.

You can go to this Licking County Health Dept. for more information and call the **hotline** to schedule your apt. at 740-670-0949

<https://www.lickingcohealth.org>

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

The Look Up Center

50 O'Bannon Ave., Newark

Look Up Center Skills Trade Class Needs

First Year Electrician Apprentice Tools:

The tool list may look similar to this

- Side cutters
- Wire Strippers
- 2 x Adjustable Pliers
- #2 Phillips Screwdriver
- Multi-tip Screwdriver
- Flat Blade Screwdriver
- Flat Blade Stubby Screwdriver
- Tape Measure
- Hammer
- Torpedo Level
- Hack Saw
- Needle Nose Pliers
- Tool Pouch with Belt
- Razor Knife
- Cordless Drill (DeWalt, Mitsubishi, Mac Tools, Craftsman, Stanley, Porter-Cable)

- [Sawzall](#)
- [Digital Multimeter](#) (learn the [basic multimeter functions](#))

If you have used items from this list that you would like to donate to our students in the Electrical program at the Look Up Center, please send Beth a message at Beth@LookUpCenter.org



Dear FPN Friends,

We are less than 40 days away from the kickoff of our 31st Operation Feed Campaign within Licking County.

Last year, was a very challenging year for all of us. The pandemic hit right in the middle of Operation Feed and the State shut down sent all non-essential workers home for 2 weeks. Most businesses have re-opened and are doing well, however we know the landscape for business/schools/organizations will never be the same. Last year we were blessed with many businesses and organizations who stepped up and found new ways to help raise money for the FPN.

This year we are promoting Operation Feed the normal way and Operation Feed the virtual way.

Here is the link to the Operation Feed Booklet for 2021, <file:///C:/Users/Charles/Downloads/2021-Operation-Feed-Coordinator-Handbook.pdf>

New for 2021! Operation Feed the Virtual Way! Create and manage a team page to raise money online. Click here<<https://p2p.charityengine.net/OperationFeed2021/Home/Index/>> to access our new online fundraising platform.

If you need support setting up your online team page, please contact Alyssa Shepherd at alyssa@foodpantrynetwork.net<mailto:alyssa@foodpantrynetwork.net>

Thank you for your past support and hopefully by the end of 2021, we will see a sense of normalcy.

Charles S. Moore, Executive Dir.



Fun Fact: Sixteen of the 61 individuals serving as chaplain for the US House of Representatives have been Presbyterian ministers, however a Presbyterian hasn't received an appointment since the 1960s. Enter retired Rear Admiral in the US Navy's Chaplain Corp, Rev. Dr. Margaret Grun Kibben who happens to be a minister of Word and Sacrament in the Presbytery of Philadelphia and has an interesting history of service with the Marines and Naval forces both domestically and overseas acting as chaplain for all. We pray for her as she provides pastoral care to members of the House and congressional staff, coordinates the scheduling of guest chaplains, maintains the Congressional Prayer Room and daily opens the legislative sessions with prayer.



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

| | |
|---------------|--------|
| Steven Brand | Feb 1 |
| Rose Gibson | Feb 7 |
| Peggy Lieb | Feb 8 |
| Diane Dodson | Feb 11 |
| Chris Rainey | Feb 13 |
| John Denison | Feb 14 |
| Bruce Weekly | Feb 16 |
| Michael Frick | Feb 20 |
| Donna Kinney | Feb 23 |

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

| | |
|-------------------------|-------|
| Robert and Phyllis Fish | Feb 3 |
|-------------------------|-------|

To the Brand Family:

Our deepest sympathies go out to the Brand family in the loss of Pastor Steve's Mother. She went to be with Jesus on Feb 1st at 6:00 am in the morning. Pastor Steve said she was ready! Please pray for the entire family in their time of grief!!

