

# THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Web Address: www.1stpreshnewark.com

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

## MARCH 2019



All Services are held at 2<sup>nd</sup> Presbyterian Church,  
42 E. Church St., Newark, OH

March 6	First Presbyterian Church
March 13	TrinityAME
March 20	St. Francis
March 27	First United Methodist
April 3	Second Presbyterian
April 10	Trinity Episcopal

12:00 -1:00 includes lunch



## *Peanut Free Worship, Sunday School & Coffee Hour*

Session has moved to make Worship, Sunday School & Coffee Hour Peanut, and Tree Nut Free. This is because of several individuals who have intolerances and allergies to nuts. A nut allergy is very serious and can easily lead to extreme reactions that can kill. 1% of people have a nut allergy. The number of people with nut allergies doubled between 1997-2002. We need to keep allergies from being a barrier. We can go two hours without nuts, so that other people can feel safe worshipping the Lord. Read labels carefully. Packaged items will say on them if they contain nuts or are made in a factory that processes nuts. Let's work to make sure that we aren't bringing anything with us to worship, to Sunday School or to Coffee Hour that contains or may contain nuts.



### **Gluten Free Communion Available**

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



**Coffee Hour** - Make sure to join us each Sunday at 10:15 a.m. for some refreshments and fellowship prior to worship. There is a sign-up sheet in the Sanctuary, if you would like to bring the snacks. Please remember NO PEANUTS.



**Annual Congregational Meeting** - The annual meeting of the congregation will be held at noon in Fellowship Hall on March 10<sup>th</sup>. Lunch will be provided.

## WORSHIP

### **March Sermons**

March 3- The Great Escape  
March 10 - Help for Those in Need  
March 17- Can I Wash Your Feet?  
March 24 - God's Plan Marches On  
March 31 - Paul was Sent and He Went

## CHURCH LIFE



The February make up lunch will be held on March 20<sup>th</sup> at noon at the Olive Garden in Heath.



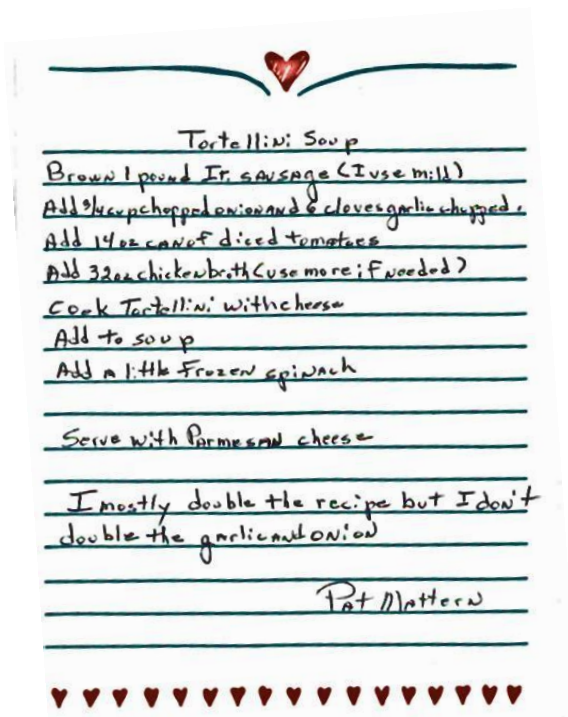
## **Souper-Bowl Contest was a Success!**



Over 40 people gathered to fellowship and feast, and fine feasting it was! Seven challengers brought stiff competition in hopes of wrestling the coveted golden ladle from the "well deserved but have had their quality time already" grip of the Brand family. All

soup entries were delicious, and we thank Keith Hare, Diana Brand and Peggy Lieb for participating. Linda Smith and Valerie Whalen tied for third place. Pat Mattern claimed 2<sup>nd</sup> with a yummy Tortellini soup. First Place and the "First Presbyterian Golden Ladle Trophy" were claimed by Rose Novell with her crowd pleasing Chicken Gnocchi. Thirty-two dollars and multiple nonperishable food items were donated to the

food pantry as part of the day. Thanks to each one of you for your help and for making the day special with lots of fellowship and laughter.



### Second Place Winner Soup Recipe by Pat Mattern

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



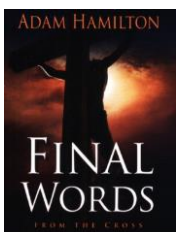
### Good Morning Bible Study

– The Good Morning Bible Study will begin March 7 at 10:00 am to noon in the Golden Circle room. We will

be studying the book of Judges.  
No book to buy, just bring your Bible.

## Adult Sunday School

### Final Words from the Cross



The Adult Sunday School class begins our Lenten study on Sunday, March 3rd. Over the next 7 weeks we will be focusing on the final words or statements Jesus spoke from the cross during his crucifixion.

Each week we will look at a different statement Christ made, looking at them from the perspective of those who stood near the cross. In life and in death, Jesus' words were powerful and meaningful. Despite the serious effort and increased pain required for Jesus to speak as he hung on the cross, He continued to teach us about himself, his Father and ourselves. Please join us in the Journey Room at 9:15 (no book required).



The sixth session of Alpha is off to a very good start. We began on February 21st and are having a wonderful time at the Look Up Center (the former Hazelwood Elementary on O'Bannon Avenue). We have a smaller group this time of about 6 guests, but God is still doing a mighty work with those that are coming! Their stories of how and why they came to Alpha are amazing!

It's not too late if you want to join us. Feel free to bring others with you!!!

Behind the scenes we have 7 committed prayer warriors lifting us up every Thursday evening, a rotating team of volunteers helping in the kitchen, as well as 8 leading table discussions. The meals are fabulous, the videos are very well done and the discussions around the table are filled with good conversation.

In the coming weeks we will be talking about prayer, the Bible, the role of the Holy Spirit, how God guides us and other topics. The highlight of Alpha is an all-day Saturday retreat which will be held on April 6th at the Central Christian Church Lodge on Roberts Avenue. Please pray for Alpha, especially for our retreat. We will conclude on Thursday, May 9th with our Celebration Dinner which is open to the entire congregation, friends and family. It's a great way to see what Alpha is all about.

If you would like to know more about Alpha, please contact Peggy Lieb or Kim Dershem.



# YHEALTHY KIDS- Backpack

## The Y-Heathy Kids Network Back Pack Program Involvement Opportunities

**Food Delivery (We Really Could Use Some Help) –**  
The Presbyterian Partnership is also tasked with taking these prepacked boxes to the Newark and Heath Schools every other Wednesday. We hope to be able to deliver to all 15 schools eventually, but want to start with a more manageable number. There are eight schools that we will be delivering to. 1<sup>st</sup> Pres is delivering to six schools, every other Thursday at 9:00am. You do not have to have a vehicle capable of delivery. To sign up for delivering or if you have any questions see Rev Steve.

## CONGREGATIONAL CARE



**Prayer Chain Updates –** Please send all requests to Tracee Barr at [hippieluv12@yahoo.com](mailto:hippieluv12@yahoo.com). Please state whether requests are for Prayer Chain Only or should also be distributed to the church for the bulletin.

## EVANGELISM & OUTREACH

### ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING



For centuries many Christian churches have celebrated the season of Lent. This 40 days, not including Sundays, is a season of reflection and preparation before the celebration of Easter. Lent is an opportunity to contemplate what Jesus did for us on the cross and points to our hope in the resurrection. For about 70 years, our church has been receiving the “One Great Hour of Sharing” offering as a part of our Lenten discipline. Again this year we will be receiving this offering between Ash Wednesday, March 6 through Palm Sunday, April 14. The offering will be equally divided among the local Salvation Army, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and World Vision.



## PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

### OUT OF CHAOS, HOPE

Presbyterian

Disaster Assistance enables congregations and mission's partners of our denomination to demonstrate the healing love of Christ through caring for communities adversely affected by crises and catastrophic events. At the present time, gifts are being used for work in the California fires, hurricane Michael, the earthquake in Haiti, the typhoon in the Philippines, the floods in India, the tsunami in Indonesia and refugee camps in Bangladesh. These communities are being blessed by the work of God in our world.



World Vision is an international partnership, whose mission is to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, work with the poor and oppressed to promote human transformation, seek justice and bear witness to the good news of the kingdom of God. They accomplish this by community based and sustainable development, especially focused on the needs of children. They are providing relief and assistance to people affected by conflict and disaster and promoting justice among the poor with whom they work. They continue to promote public awareness that leads to informed understanding, giving, involvement and prayer while witnessing to Jesus Christ by life, word and deeds that encourage people to respond to the Gospel.



DOING  
THE MOST  
GOOD

The work of our local Salvation Army is well known in our community as they seek to meet the basic needs of the poor and oppressed. We know of their daily soup kitchen and their 50 bed homeless shelter, which has been at capacity since October. Their work blesses some of the most vulnerable in our community. They also have a food pantry, after school programs, Bible studies, women's ministries, Christmas cheer programs and worship. All services are given in the name of Jesus for meeting human needs and caring for hurting persons.



SPECIAL OFFERINGS

In 2018, the “One Great Hour of Sharing” offering received by First Presbyterian Church was \$1029.22. Our prayer is that we match or exceed that amount this year. Coin banks will be available in the sanctuary, or you can write a check indicating that it is for “One Great Hour of Sharing” and place it in the offering plate.



*Now to God be the glory, who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than we can ask or imagine. Ephesians 3:20*



## CANDLEWICK COMMONS



The Evangelism and Outreach Committee has planned outreach to our neighbors at Candlewick Commons again this year. We have been taking meals to them four times a year for the past eight years. This year the meals will be on March 14, June 13, September 12 and December 12.

On March 14, we will be serving: meatloaf, parsley buttered potatoes, green beans, Asian coleslaw, dessert and drinks. Everyone is invited to come down and enjoy the music, eat and visit with our guests.

If you would be willing to provide a dessert, there will be a sign-up sheet in the sanctuary or contact Gaye Gibson at 740-344-3933 or email [lgayegibson@gmail.com](mailto:lgayegibson@gmail.com).

Thank you for all you support in the past. These folks are a great bunch of people and enjoy our visits and food very much.



## Shoebox Ministry

Operation Christmas Child is a project of Samaritan's Purse, an international relief organization. Their mission is to provide local partners around the world with shoeboxes filled with small toys, hygiene items, and school supplies as a means of reaching out to children in their own communities with the Good News of Jesus Christ. These simple gifts are shipped outside the United States to children affected by war, poverty, natural

disaster, famine, and disease; and to children living on Native American reservations in the U.S. Each October at First Presbyterian, we have the Operation Christmas Child Packing Party. Several people buy items for the packing party throughout the year. If you'd like to help contribute items for the packing party, or collect items throughout the year for your own box, a list of possible items to purchase each month is included. Often you can get items on sale after holidays or at the end of the season. Wrapped shoeboxes and money for shipping are always welcome.

We usually pack over 100 boxes and shipping is now \$9.00 per box. Your \$9 donation to Operation Christmas Child pays for processing and shipping and helps them train and equip local churches to use their Ministry Partner Guide. This resource shows churches how to share the Good News of the Lord Jesus Christ in a child-friendly way. Your donation also provides The Greatest Gift Gospel Booklets, which are written in the children's language and distributed along with shoebox gifts.

There is a Operation Christmas Child box at the front of the sanctuary for donations. Thank you for your help with this evangelistic outreach to children.



## Monthly OCC Purchase Suggestions

**January**-Christmas toys on sale

**February**- Valentine stuffed animals or small toys

**March**-washcloths and soap

**April**- Easter stuffed animals or small toys

**May**-Nail clippers, combs and band aids

**June**-small summer toys

**July**-School Supplies, including scissors, notepads, pencils, erasers, pencil sharpeners, pencil box or pouch, protractors, crayons, markers, pens

**August**-School Supplies as above

**September**- socks or footies

**October**- Bandanas and toothbrushes

**November**-OCC Shipping Money

Every month-shipping money, shoeboxes wrapped, plastic shoeboxes

## Father Factor

The Father Factor, a parenting skills, resource and support group, has been meeting at the church for the last few years. During their next session on Thursdays from January 24 through March 14, the Evangelism and Outreach Committee would like to again bless this group with a treat each week. 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 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](mailto:kdershem@windstream.net).

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

**Wilson Gift Cards:** The Evangelism and Outreach Committee will be taking orders for Wilson's Garden

Center Gift Cards between February 1 and March 24.

The cards will be sold by prepaid order. Orders received by Sunday, February 24, will be delivered on Sunday, March 3. Orders

received by Sunday, March 24, will be delivered on Sunday, March 31.

Order forms are available in the sanctuary on the sign-up table. 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.

## 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](http://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/> Click on either "Alphabetical List" or "Category List". Printed lists are also available in the Library.

Please see Peggy, Priscilla, Louise or Lois if you have questions.



**NCS Organ Concert by Ann Robinson on March 21<sup>st</sup> at First Presbyterian Church.** Fourth graders

from all of the Newark City Schools will be here. They will be listening to one of the few pipe organs left in Licking County. First Pres. folks are more than welcome to attend but the sanctuary will fill quickly so come early to get a good seat. Kids start arriving at 9:15 and concert will begin promptly at 9:30 and end at 10:30. ***We could use your help at the door and seating children in the balcony and floor and with getting kids to and from the busses. Please call the office or email us to let us know if you are able to help.***

Ann will be back on the same day, 3/21/19 at 5:00pm playing a fundraiser concert to benefit Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Licking County. Her cd's will be on sale for a donation and order forms will be available for additional cd's.



## PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

**Choir Director Needed** - The Church is in need of a new Choir Director. A full job description is available on the church's website. Please share this with anyone who might be interested.

**Church Organist Needed** - The Church is in need of a new Organist. If you know of anyone that may have an interest in filling this role please share this with them and have them contact the church office

*Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,*

*There are not enough words to express my appreciation for the kindness, love and concern demonstrated to me in the passing of my precious companion, Sally. Thank you for your prayers, cards, visits, flowers, gifts and expressions of concern for me. To say that my heart is broken is a vast understatement, but your demonstrations of love have comforted me in this very dark hour.*

*To those who knew Sally, and many of you did, church was one of the places she loved to be. I only wish that everyone was as excited to be at church as she was. God bless all of you.*

*In Him,  
Gaye Gibson*

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS



Angela Mehok	3/1
Joe Nichols	3/1
Melinda Talbott	3/4
Justin Carpenter	3/6
Phil Miller	3/6
Erin Montgomery	3/6
Nicholas Barr	3/7
Gabrielle Woods	3/12
Hannah Weekly	3/14
Becky Mahon	3/16
Timothy Campbell	3/19
Blake Talbott	3/20
Calvin Brand	3/21
Seth Cain	3/21
Gretchen Filmore	3/22
Marilyn Stocker	3/27
Brennen Bardsley	3/28
Karen Fish	3/29



Brandon and Michelle Gilbert 3/21