

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Gary Collins, Maintenance
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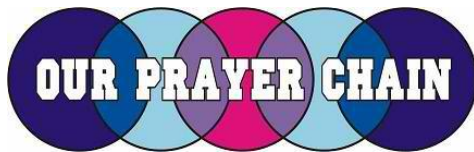
2022

WORSHIP



We will not be serving Communion on Sunday, Jan 2nd due to not having an ordained Pastor to preside over it.

Come join us at 10:15-10:45 in the Fellowship Hall between Sunday School & Church for some wonderful fellowship time. A sign-up sheet for snacks is in the back of the Sanctuary.



Prayer Chain Updates – Please send all prayer requests to Kim Dershem at kdershem@windstream.net or you can do a reply all on a previous prayer chain email. Please state whether requests are for Prayer Chain Only or should also be distributed to the church body.

Note from the Treasurer: Giving Statements will go out by the second week of January. Thank you to every person who faithfully gave this year to so many things.

Elder Training – Are you registered if you are attending the in-person training?

SAVE THE DATE!

“PIE”

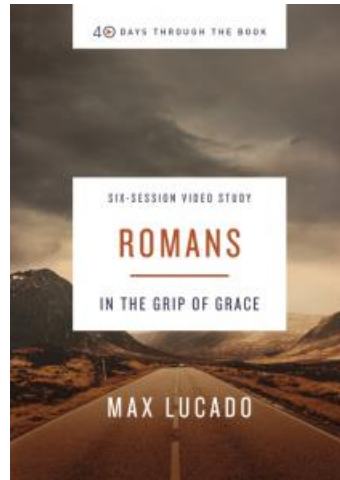


Partners in Education

In-person: SATURDAY, Jan 8th, 2022
9:00^{am}-3:00^{pm} at Worthington Presbyterian Church
\$15/person (covers lunch)

AND
Online: Tuesday, Jan. 11th, 7pm on ZOOM (free)

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL



Starting Jan. 2, 2022

6-session DVD Study of the Book of Romans

In this 40-Day study based on his bestselling book, *In the Grip of Grace*, Max Lucado illuminates one of the richest theological works ever penned, the book of

Romans. The core idea of Romans is that we are *saved by grace*, through faith. Max will guide you through this letter from Paul to the Romans, revealing what the apostle's words meant to his original readers and how they apply to you today. You will be encouraged as you listen to Max's teachings and challenged to study the book of Romans like never before!

Study Guides may be purchased directly through ChristianBook.com

<https://www.christianbook.com/days-through-book-romans-study-guide/max-lucado/9780310126119/pd/0126119>

It is a worthwhile guide as it has a few verses to read each day such that you will read the entire Book of Romans in 40 days.

Please contact the church office, a church elder or Carolyn if you are interested in receiving an email with the link to zoom the class.



SCRIP orders will be taken Jan 2nd. Please give your orders to Peggy. Beginning in February, Gaye Gibson will be taking over the SCRIP program. Many thanks to Gaye for her willingness to keep the program going!! In 2021 the SCRIP program earned over \$940 to assist in paying for non-budgeted expenses.

CHURCH LIFE

January 9th will be un-decorating the church following the worship service. A light lunch will be served.



The Christmas Meal for the Congregation was served on December 12th. Food was largely courtesy of Keith Hare. Music supplied by Becky Mahon. Assisting with set-up and clean-up the rest of all y'all with special shout outs to Jo Deweese, Sandy Noland and Rose Novell.

To acquire more of the turkey meatloaf that was a dinner favorite, visit Alfie's Wholesome Food in Granville located between the library and museum. They went out of their way to acquire GF oats for our order so we were ready for anyone who attended. I hope your January continues to be filled with glimpses of Joy!





Christmas Eve Service

It was good seeing many of our church family on Christmas Eve. We hope you all found moments of joy throughout your holiday season. Thank you to each and every one for your part in being there, reading scriptures, singing, playing or just fellowshiping.



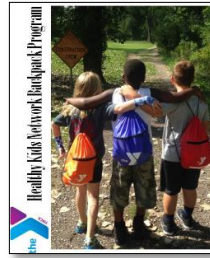
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Good Morning Bible Study, held on Thursday mornings in the Fellowship Hall from

10:00am noon is done for the winter but will resume the first Thursday in March, weather permitting. Plan on joining us in the Spring.

EVANGELISM AND OUTREACH



A big thank you to Jo Deweese, Diane Dodson, Keith Hare, and Chris Bowles for helping pack food bags for the back pack program. We were also joined by two middle school youth leaders from the Granville First Presbyterian Church. We packed 60 boxes (360 bags). Anyone interested in helping out with the program, please contact Sarah Bowles.

Visit to our Candlewick Neighbors

Thank you to everyone who made our Christmas visit to Candlewick Commons a great success. About 25 residents attended the meal. Our last visit was two years ago, and about 10 of the residents had attended in the past. They enjoyed a meal of: Chicken Kiev, Scalloped Potatoes, Green Beans, Cranberry Jello Salad and Pie. They are hoping that we can resume preparing a meal for them on a quarterly basis in 2022.

The next day each resident and staff member received a gift of your delicious homemade cookies and a Christmas devotional as a gift from the church. We ask that you pray for the staff and residents as they face the cold winter months and danger from the pandemic.

We are hoping to provide some music the next time we visit.

It was so good to be able to reach out to them again and could only be done with the help of many people.

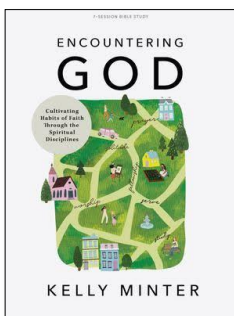
Thank you and blessings!! Gaye

Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Update – This Will Make Your Heart Happy!



Despite a global pandemic, 1.9 million shoeboxes were collected and distributed to more children in more than 170 countries and

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN ENCOUNTERING GOD?



Priscilla is hoping to study spiritual disciplines using Kelly Minter's study book and video teaching, Encountering God. Anyone interested in joining me can contact me about best day/time to maybe schedule. I plan to start up the week of January 16.

territories worldwide. Each gift-filled shoebox—packed with fun toys, school supplies and hygiene items—is a tangible expression of God’s love, and it is often the first gift these children have ever received.

100 of those shoeboxes were sent by our First Presbyterian Church family. Some of our boxes were tracked and we have just recently learned of some of their final destinations—Botswana, Madagascar, Jamaica, Tanzania, and Mali! Children in those countries are playing with Barbie dolls you sent, wearing their new dresses and hats, playing soccer with the first ball ever in their village, and enthusiastically coloring with pencils, markers, and crayons of every color.

Most importantly, many of these children have chosen to take part in a 12-lesson discipleship program, “The Greatest Journey,” a course designed for Operation Christmas Child shoebox recipients. Children who participate in the program learn how to follow Christ and share Him with others. As they do, entire families and communities are transformed by the power of the Gospel, and churches are started. More than 26.5 million children have enrolled in The Greatest Journey since 2009.

What a fun, easy, and inspiring (not to mention, comfortable!) way to be a missionary! Together, we are rallying around the opportunity and calling to serve Jesus in this way—with urgency to introduce more and more children to a loving God through His son Jesus Christ.” - Kenita

FROM SESSION



The Annual Congregational Meeting is tentatively scheduled for **February 13** and will be part of a lunch. Because we need a Presbytery moderator to oversee the meeting, it may or may not start immediately. We need to allow possible travel time from their morning church service. Put February 13 on your calendars and then please be gracious if we need to slide start time or even the date. Thank you for your continued support and flexibility! – Session



At the last session **meeting** **Tara Lewellen was hired** to fill our vacant accompanist

position. She aptly handled playing Christmas Eve and our hymn sing service on Dec 26.

Tara and her newlywed spouse Dale live on Hudson Ave and walk to church on good days. She has a long history of playing for churches and ballet groups. She recently played for over 4 years at a church in Mansfield, OH. Prior to that Tara lived in the metro Atlanta vicinity and has served in several accompanist positions. She is a graduate of the University of Akron in piano performance.

We have been blessed by her skillset, attitude, and joy in playing for worship. Dale is a principle in the Newark School system. Tara's title is Music Coordinator and will lead Worship music and rehearsals.

Please take time to welcome her and her family.

Ed

Pastor Search Update:

There have been some requests made for status on pastor search process to the session. One of the first things we need to have happen is to select a pastor to fill the role of an interim and help guide us through the process of selection of the PNC committee and initiate the mission study and self-evaluation process of the congregation desires and community needs. Currently there are 15 congregations in our Presbytery in the process of searching for interim or full time pastors. Demand exceeds the available supply. Covid is also slowing down the process and availability of candidates. The session has been discussing a best fit to move forward with this process that will serve our congregation.

I can speak from experience that a family member went through recently in another Presbytery where short cuts were taken with the process to hire a pastor and the selection turned out to be a mismatch.

We have great assistance from our Presbytery and will work together to complete the PNC selection and self-studies needed to get our church profile information completed. This is a

timely process and the thing to consider is that this works when allowed to be done in God's time. The session will update you as we move forward but the PNC committee must work in privacy and will not provide updates.

Ed



Your Annual Reports are due to Sheri no later than January 25th. Thank you for your cooperation.



Thank you so much for your generous Christmas gifts to Gary and I this year! Believe me, we feel loved and appreciated by all of you! I hope each of you has a happy and blessed New Year.

Thank you for the privilege of serving you!

Gary and Sheri

New Year's Prayer

As the dawn breaks on a new year, let us give thanks for all we hold dear: our faithful God, our health, our family and our friends.

Let us release our grudges, our anger and our pains, for these are nothing but binding chains. Let us live each day in the most loving ways, the God-conscious way. Let us serve all who are in need, regardless of race, color or creed.

Let us keep God in our hearts and bless God's name each day. Let us lead the world from darkness to light, from falsehood to truth and from wrong to right.

Let us remember that we are all one, embracing all, discriminating against none.

May your year be filled with peace, prosperity and love.

May God's blessings shower upon you and bestow upon each of you a bright, healthy and peaceful new year.

- unknown



January Birthdays

Joyce Carlyle	01/04
Cathy Cain	01/10
Kenita Keck	01/12
Keith Hare	01/14


January Anniversary

Diane and Jeff Dodson 01/06



*May the Lord bless you and keep you.
May the Lord make His face shine on you,
and be gracious to you.
May the Lord look upon you with favor.
And give you peace.*

January 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat.
						1 Happy New Year! 
2 SCRIP orders 9:15 Adult SS in FH & Zoom 10:15-10:45 Coffee Hr. FH 11:00 Church – Sanctuary	3	4	5	6 No Good Morning Bible study. Starts back in March	7 	8 P.I.E Elder Training 9:00am-3:00pm Worthington \$15.00 for Lunch
9 9:15 Adult SS in FH & Zoom 10:15-10:45 Coffee Hr. FH 11:00 Church – Sanctuary 12:00 light lunch and un-decorating the church.	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 9:15 Adult SS in FH & Zoom 10:15-10:45 Coffee Hr. FH 11:00 Church – Sanctuary	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 9:15 Adult SS in FH & Zoom 10:15-10:45 Coffee Hr. FH 11:00 Church – Sanctuary	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 9:15 Adult SS in FH & Zoom 10:15-10:45 Coffee Hr. FH 11:00 Church – Sanctuary	31					