

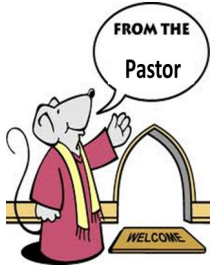
NOVEMBER 2019

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF MINERAL RIDGE



VOL. 47 NO. 8

WWW.FPCMR.ORG AND FACEBOOK



FROM THE
Pastor

Beloved Partners in Ministry,

I'll be the first to admit that sometimes it is hard to be thankful. Whether it's been a long day and I'm just too tired to think of things I should be grateful for, or because everything seems to be going wrong, gratitude is often far from my mind. But, I have also found that when I do take time to reflect on what I should be thankful for, it doesn't take long to come up with something, even if it seems small and I have found that the more I practice this, the easier it becomes, and the better I feel!

Calls for thanksgiving ring out in our Scriptures. Psalm 107 begins with a call for praise: "Give thanks to the Lord because he is good, because his faithful love lasts forever!" and then repeatedly echoes, "Let [God's people] thank the Lord for his faithful love and his wondrous works for all people."

The Apostle Paul continually offers thanks to God for his friends and co-workers in ministry and we are invited to do the same. In one way or another, the phrase "I thank my God every time I mention you in my prayers" makes its way into Romans, Corinthians, Philippians, and Colossians. It's not always easy, but as we reflect on the blessings God has given us, we cannot help but show gratitude to the one who showers us with abundant gifts.

Enclosed in this newsletter, you will find a "November 2019 Gratitude Every Day" calendar. For each day there is a thought-provoking prompt to help get you started. Some are simple- "A color I am thankful for..." Others invite us to go deeper- "A life lesson I am thankful for..." My hope is that you will take time each day or each week to reflect on the prompts given. You will also find an opportunity to share some of the things you are thankful for on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall throughout November.

As we begin worship each Sunday of November, we will sing the following words as we welcome God's presence into our worship space and into our lives:

Give thanks with a grateful heart; give thanks to the Holy One;

give thanks because we're given Jesus Christ, the Son.

And now let the weak say, "We are strong"; let the poor say,

"We are rich because of what the Lord has done for us!" Give thanks.

As we offer God thanks each and every day this month, perhaps a new habit will be formed in our lives where we begin and end each day giving thanks to God for all that God has done in our lives and in the world.

In gratitude for Christ's love,

Pastor Jamie

November Responsibilities

Elder: Jane Meyers

Deacon: Lori Brendlinger

Liturgists:

11/3 Yvonne Rentz

11/10 Jill Fabian

11/17 Darlene Smith

11/24 Nicole McMullen

Greeters:

11/3 Ginny Gilmore &
Ken Wilson

11/10 Gloria Murray &
Darlene Smith

11/17 Gayle Hollowell &
Ginny Gilmore

11/24 Ken & Cindy
Kaschak

Congregational Meeting

Session has issued a call for a Congregational Meeting immediately after worship on Sunday, November 3. The purpose of the meeting is to receive the report of the Nominating Committee.

**GIVE
Thanks
with a
GRATEFUL
heart**

NEWS AROUND THE CHURCH



Keep us up to date
E-mail your news to
the church office:
Jane.fpc@sbccglobal
.net or call
330-652-5712

Our sympathy to the family and friends of **Suzie Merz** who entered the Church Triumphant on Sunday, October 6. Suzie was a 24 year member at First Presbyterian and served as Elder here for five years.

Abbie Postlethwait is on the all A's honor roll this year. She attends Trumbull Career & Technical Center where she is studying Equine. She was nominated for the Mineral Ridge High School Beta Club and will be inducted on November 7. Abbie is the president of the FFA (Future Farmers of America) at Trumbull Career & Technical Center. WOW, Impressive!

Jaclyn Craver is a junior attending Trumbull Career & Technical Center. She is in the Animal Science/Health &

Technology Program. She received straight A's for the first and second grading periods. Jaclyn is a member of FFA, TCTC Roundtable to discuss issues at school with the dean. She is also treasurer of the class, and capstone representative for the Animal Science Program. Capstone project is a collection of all the work done their Junior and Senior year. She is also on the Mineral Ridge School danceline and varsity soccer team as well as the junior powderpuff team. *Jaclyn is one busy young lady!*

Congratulations to Tait Rummell and Samantha Myers on the birth of their baby girl, Aspen Noelle Rummell on October 29, 2019. She was 7lbs 3oz and 21in. The proud grandparents are Randy & Muffin Rummell.

Christmas Tree

Does anyone have a small (4-5ft) Christmas tree they would be willing to donate to the church? We would like to put a tree in the Narthex again this year for our prayer tree. Contact the church office if you have a spare tree!



Thank you!

This church continues to be a blessing to me and my family. We are thankful for the generous gift for Pastor Appreciation Month and all the kind words and support that we receive. We are thankful that God has called us to this place!

We are still collecting Recyclables:



- Clean plastic bags (basket outside office)
- Box Tops for Education (marked box on coat rack shelf outside office)
- Ink & toner cartridges (office)

The following can be placed in the bin in Fellowship Hall by elevator: hair care packaging, skin care packaging, cosmetics packaging, tooth brushes, tooth-paste tubes, drink pouches, laptops, net-books, notebooks, E-readers, tablets, I-Pads, I-Pods, cell phones.



Members to Remember

Jim Sewell June Keeley
Health Concerns
 Andria Crawford Abel Rios Joe Shoemaker
 Colby Simmons (Cravers' friend)
 Bob Hibler (Chelsea's father)
 Bob Hollowell (Gayle's cousin)
 Karen (Sue McCabe's friend)
 James Tincher (Marlene's son)
 Amos Rodgers (Marlene's friend)
 Rick Redmond (Tom's brother)
 Patricia McMahan (Sandy Larmey's friend)
 Laura & Brad Haines (Cravers' friends)
 Zac Weber (Kathy Graham's future son-in-law)
 Craig Colantone (Nicole Pugh's father)
 David Giudici (Emily Pugh's friend)
 Michael Scholl (Ted & Darlene Smith's brother-in-law)
 Gayle Rossi (Marty O'Neill's friend)
 Debra Miller (Debbie Rendes' friend)
 Justin Glaum (Mineral Ridge Firefighter)
 Clayton and Eileen (Bev Myers' family friends)
 Eric Gelsomino (Niles Community Services

board member)
 Kareen Craver-Angeloff (Rodney Craver's mother)
 Karen Perko & Larry Schmide (Meyers' friends)
 Steve Krall (Helen Redmond's brother)
 Karlene Adams (friend of Pugh & Postlethwait families)
 Mary Jean Garriss (Darren Garriss' mother)
Sympathy, Concern, Nurture, & Support
 Rev. Jamie Milton, Minister
 Eastminster Presbytery and staff
 Someplace Safe Needle's Eye
 Niles Community Services
 Warren & Youngstown Rescue Missions
 Disaster victims World Leader
 Refugees Homeless
 Casa de Buen Trato
 Jed and Jenny Koball (Peru)
 Rev. Kade Mastra (Indonesian Partner)
 Our PC(USA) coworkers Revs. Scott & Elmarie Parker

PRAYER LIST

Names will be kept on the prayer list for approximately six weeks unless the office hears otherwise.



Deacons
 Called
 To Serve

OUR DEACONS

Marnie Bonsall
 Lori Brendlinger
 Rusty Garland
 Darren Garriss
 Diane Koch
 Valerie Meyers
 Marty O'Neill
 Sue Rentz
 David Rummell
 Ken Wilson



**From our
 Parish
 Nurse**

Tooth Decay More Common Than Allergies!

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and prevention, dental caries—tooth decay—is five times more common than asthma and seven times more common than hay fever in children.

The American Academy of Pediatrics notes that children with dental caries in their baby teeth are at much greater risk for cavities in their adult teeth.

Fluoride is a naturally occurring mineral that can strengthen tooth enamel and make it more resistant to the acids that can contribute to tooth decay. Parents, even those whose children do not yet have any teeth, can discuss fluoride drops or chewable fluoride tablets with their youngsters' pediatricians.

Go Ahead and Workout Before Pillowtime!

Working out close to bedtime may not be as detrimental to sleep as previously thought. In fact, some sleep experts are now saying that workout sessions can be mutually beneficial for improving sleep duration and quality.

A study in the Journal of Sleep Research found that people who exercised vigorously for 35 minutes before bed slept as well as they did on nights when they did not exercise. The National Sleep Foundation's 2013 Sleep in America poll also showed the people who exercised reported they snoozed better than those who didn't work out, and exercising closer to bedtime did not affect sleep quality.

It is also notable to point out that adrenaline and cortisol only take an hour to regulate and return to normal levels after vigorous activity. So slipping under the sheets an hour or two after a workout may be the best advice for nocturnal fitness fans.

INTERPRETATION & STEWARDSHIP



Chicken & Biscuit Drive Thru Dinner

On October 27, the church hosted their second Chicken and Biscuit drive thru/take out fundraiser. The fundraiser was another success, bringing in over \$1000 towards the General Fund. A big thanks goes to Jill Fabian for organizing the event and to all the people who volunteered to help with the event.

It's not too late to
turn in your
Estimate of Giving
Card.

Update on Financial Status through September 2019

The month of September was a positive financial month for the church. The receipts totaled \$11,156 while expenditures were \$10,905. The was only the second month of the 2019 year that we met our \$11,000 monthly quota needed to meet the yearly budget. Despite the positive financial month of September, the church is still at a \$4,058 deficit for the year. Please keep in mind that the church has hosted 3 successful fundraisers this year that have supported the general fund (Approximately \$3500 raised). If not for the fundraisers, the deficit would be much greater than the current \$4,000. As the end of the year draws near, please keep in mind your financial contribution to our church.



GENERAL FUND ACTIVITY

	Beginning Balance	Add Receipts	Less Spent	Additions Adjustments	Under/(Over) Spent	Ending Balance
January	15,534.60	8,238.50	9,242.20	0.17*	(1,003.53)	14,531.07
February	14,531.07	8,668.82	11,469.28	0.17*	(2,800.29)	11,730.78
March	11,730.78	11,944.00	8,929.58	0.19*	3,014.61	14,745.39
April	14,745.39	10,934.00	11,249.82	0.18*	(315.64)	14,429.75
May	14,429.75	8,219.84	8,970.56	0.19*	(750.53)	13,679.22
June	13,679.22	10,329.00	10,501.00	0.19*	(171.81)	13,507.41
July	13,507.41	10,194.02	11,881.99	0.19*	(1,687.78)	11,819.63
August	11,819.63	7,237.34	7,831.66	0.17*	(594.15)	11,225.48
September	11,225.48	11,156.00	10,905.39	0.19*	250.80	11,476.28
Year to Date	15,534.60	86,921.52	90,981.48	1.64*	(4,058.32)	11,476.28
				*interest earned		

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

Living Nativity

Be on the lookout for an opportunity to sign up to be a part of this year's Living Nativity Scene. This year we will once again participate as part of Weathersfield Township's Annual Tree Lighting on **Saturday, November 30 from 6-8 pm.**

Zoo-2-Go will bring their animals back and we will set up our nativity scene at the township park (across from the Butcher Block and Jesy's Dairy Cove). We will be signing people up for 30 minute shifts to stand in costume and help us all kick off the holiday season.



Free Community Pancake Christmas Breakfast

Would you or someone you know enjoy a hot pancake breakfast on a Saturday in December while experiencing fellowship at a festive Christmas celebration? Please invite your friends, neighbors and others in our community to the FREE Community Pancake Christmas Breakfast on December 14, 2019 from 9 to 11 am at our church. EVERYONE is welcome! We have been awarded a \$1500 mission grant from Eastminster Presbytery to be used toward this event. The breakfast will be held in conjunction with our community Christmas food distribution.



There will be an activity for children and all children attending will receive a small gift and treat bag.

What you can do to make this event a success:

Invite your neighbors and other members of our community.

Mark the date on your calendar & plan to attend if you are able. Bring your Christian love, Christmas joy, warmth and compassion with you as we share in this celebration of Jesus' birth with others in our community.

Volunteer to cook, serve breakfast, wash dishes or clean up on Saturday, December 14, 2019. Please talk to Pastor Jamie or Sherry Gleason if you feel excited to help with this local mission project.

Donate a toy or two or three. Bring unwrapped new toys valued between \$5 & \$10 (for various ages) to our church and place on the designated table in the Fellowship Hall. Please have toys to the church by 12/9/2019. *Please note: This toy collection will be in place of buying Christmas gifts for specific children as we have done in the past.*

If you would rather not shop for a toy, you could make a monetary donation. To do this, place an envelope labeled "donation for toys for breakfast" or "donation for food for breakfast" in the offering plate.

Our church is blessed to be a part of the Mineral Ridge community and we are excited for this opportunity to invite our neighbors into fellowship with us during this Advent and Christmas season!

CROP Walk

On 10/13/19, nine members of our congregation enjoyed a beautiful fall day while walking in the Youngstown Crop Walk. Thanks to all of you, our team donated a total of \$722.00! Donations from the special offering, collected by the children, on October 13 were \$157.00. Money donated to the Crop Walk will be used to end hunger at home and around the world.



OUR CHURCH IN MISSION

Mineral Ridge Community Food Cupboard

We are preparing for our Thanksgiving food distribution which is one of the largest of the year. Here are some ways YOU can help!



Donating food: We are especially in need of pasta sauce, mashed potatoes, stuffing mix, pumpkin, sweet potatoes, and paper products.

Donating money: We give each family a voucher to Macali's Giant Eagle in Niles to buy a turkey, fresh vegetables, or other items we do not supply.

Sorting food: Following worship on November 17 we will sort the donated food onto the tables in the fellowship hall in preparation for packing.

Packing food bags: At 6:00 pm on November 18 we need help packing the food bags for distribution the following day. While a lot of work, with many hands, this event is usually completed in 30-45 minutes!

Distributing food bags: We need a few volunteers to help families load the food into their cars between 10 and 12:00 on Tuesday, November 19.



Seaborn Elementary Backpack Program

Beginning in October, the Mineral Ridge Community Parish Association began a backpack program at the elementary school. Each week we are able to send home a few items to 11 families who have need. So far, the response to this program has been great and we hope to continue sending food home every Friday! Please keep your donations of food and money coming so that we can continue to feed the children of our community!



Books for Seaborn Elementary First Graders

In October, we gave books to EVERY CHILD in the First Grade at Seaborn Elementary! The teachers selected the book which was used in their classrooms. They built an entire unit around the book, using it for vocabulary and spelling tests and group reading sessions. At the end of that time, the children were able to take the book home to keep! The teachers and students sent us a "Thank You" note.

The books cost \$4 and we purchased 69 books. If you would like to help with this project, you can sponsor one student for \$4, or 5 students for only \$20. Any amount you are able to give will help! You can place your cash or check (made out to First Presbyterian) in the offering plate and make sure to mark it for "First Grade books."

When you see something on Facebook about our church

SHARE IT!

This is a great way to let others know who we are and WHOSE we are!

Mineral Ridge Football Team

It is great to be a church known for its generosity!

Throughout the high school football season, the varsity boy's football team uses our facility every Thursday for their team dinner. We open our doors to welcome them and the Football Mom's do the rest. Throughout the season, Pastor Jamie has been occasionally invited to bless the meal and pray for the team.

On a recent Thursday, the team surprised him with an overflowing Rubbermaid tote filled with groceries for our food pantry! This was their way of saying thank you for letting them use our space and help out the community that supports them every Friday.



CHURCH LIBRARY

What Do Our Neighbors Believe?

What Do our Neighbors Believe is the title of a new book in our library. Within it there are questions and answers on Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. This book organizes the three belief systems, asking the same questions of each: When and where did each originate? What are the sacred writings? What kind of leaders does each have? What are their most essential beliefs? And there is even more.

These writings are contributed by Micah Greenstein a Rabbi, Kendra G. Hotz a professor of Religious Studies at Rhodes College and John Kaltner a Professor of Muslim-Christian Relations at Rhodes College.

For the time being you will find the book on the small table inside Fellowship Hall. Just sign a note and leave in the basket if you check it out.



**Check it
out!**

SESSION NOTES FROM OCTOBER 29, 2019

Approved September 2019 Treasurer's Report to be filed for audit.

Approve minutes from September 24, 2019 Session Meeting.

Heard that membership as of September 30, 2019 is 144.

Heard that we are overspent by \$5,400 for the year.

Heard that the new water line is in and we have water pressure.

Heard that an Advent dinner is being planned.

Heard that communion will be served on December 1, 2019 for Advent.

Approved calendar for Advent and Christmas 2019.

Heard that the church will participate in the Tree Lighting event at the township park.

Heard that the Football team donated a large box of food for the Pantry as a thank you for use of the church throughout the season.

Heard that we received a \$1,500 grant from the Eastminster Presbytery Mission Fund to help with the cost of the community breakfast in December.

Approved vacation time for Pastor Jamie.

Approved actions for the annual role review.

Heard that the next Presbytery meeting is scheduled for December 3, 2019, 10:00 AM FPC Columbiana and elected Elder Jane Meyers to attend meeting.

Heard that the next session meeting is December 3, 2019 and committees will meet November 19, 2019.



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

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330-652-5712 Fax 330-652-8145

PastorJMilton@gmail.com
Jane.FPC@sbcglobal.net

The *Church Mouse* is the monthly (except in July & August) newsletter of the First Presbyterian Church. All visitors are welcome to worship with us each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. (except Memorial Day through Labor Day when worship is at 10:00 a.m.)

CHECK US OUT
ON FACEBOOK &
WWW.FPCMR.ORG

**THIS IS GOD'S HOUSE
ALL ARE WELCOME!**

NOVEMBER 2019

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MISSION STATEMENT

Guided by the teachings of Jesus Christ, we joyfully strive to create a community of faith that welcomes and nurtures all who seek to experience God's love and grace.

With this as our mission, we willingly choose to develop a fellowship through which we will no longer be strangers, but friends in Christ.

Our church is hosting a Fall/Christmas



November 23

10:00am—3:00pm

The church will have its own table again.

If you're crafty and would like to make some things to donate to the table that would be great.

If you have any questions see Brooke Kaschak.