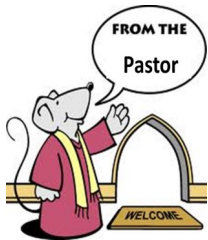


MARCH 2017

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF MINERAL RIDGE

VOL. 45 NO. 2

CHECK US OUT ON FACEBOOK



Beloved Partners in Ministry,

My journey to becoming ordained as a pastor was not an easy one, but was filled with grace, love, and reassurances from pastors, professors, and friends. There were obstacles in the way, a change of church and presbytery membership, ordination exams and a unit of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE). I impatiently waited for committees to meet and decisions to be made before I could put my resume (PIF) out and search for a call. This was certainly an inconvenience for me, but now I thank God for the delays that kept me from circulating my PIF until six months after my graduation from seminary. Those delays put my PIF in the hands of the Pastoral Nominating Committee (PNC) of this church at the right time. They were ready to meet me, and I was ready to meet them.

Five years ago this month, I stood on the floor of Eastminster Presbytery to be examined for ordination. In what was probably the most nerve-racking experience of my life, I passed the examination and was ordained as a Teaching Elder (Minister of Word and Sacrament) on March 18th, 2012, at the First Presbyterian Church of Highland, Indiana, surrounded by friends, family, and members of the PNC that brought me here.

Shortly after being ordained, Katie and I moved out of our Chicago apartment and began our move to Mineral Ridge. On Palm Sunday, April 1st, yes, April Fool's Day, I stood in the pulpit for the first time as your pastor. The overwhelming support that we have received from that day forward has been incredible. I continue to thank God that we are here and that our now 2 and 4 year old children have been baptized into this loving community.

I hope that you will join with us on Sunday, March 19th following worship as a brief reception will be held following worship to commemorate the 5th anniversary of my ordination. May God continue to bless our journey together.

*In Christ's peace,
Pastor Jamie*



March Responsibilities

Elder:
Randy Pugh

Deacon:
Aubrey Reese

Liturgists:
3/5 Bethany Glidewell
3/12 Lori Brendlinger
3/19 Carole Rummell
3/26 Brooke Kaschak

Greeters:
3/5 Ginny Gilmore &
Ken Wilson
3/12 Beverly Myers &
Gloria Murray
3/19 Paul & Debby
Wasilewski
3/26 Ginny Gilmore &
Sandy Larmey

Story Circle:
3/5 Brooke Kaschak &
Dillan Keeley
3/12 Matt Glidewell &
Caleb Reese
3/19 Bethany Glidewell &
Volunteer needed
3/26 Patty & Abbie



NEWS ABOUT OUR FOLKS



Share your news
with your church
family.

E-mail your news to
the church office:
Jane.fpc@sbcglobal.net
or call:
330-652-5712

Our sympathy is extended to **Muffin Rummell and Kelli Wieser** and their families on the death of their father Bruce Hawkins.

Our sympathy is extended to **Nancy Goddard** and son Vincent on the sudden death of her husband John on February 24. Nancy is our custodian and friend of our church.

Our sympathy is extended to **Terrie & Abel Rios** and family on the death of Terrie's brother Robert Gahagan on March 1.

Our students on the Honor Roll:
Mineral Ridge:

Ian Erb—all A's—5th grade

Ethan Erb—6th grade

Howland:

Olivia Meyers—all A's—3rd grade

Olivia Meyers will be competing in a Destination Imagination Tournament at Youngstown State University on March 11. She is on a Howland School team. Have a great time and Good Luck to your team!

Andrew Garris is currently attending the Youngstown Fire Department Fire Academy. God bless you on this journey.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NOTES



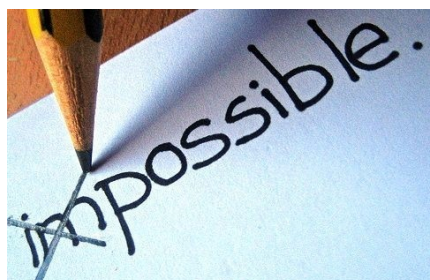
Souper Bowl of Caring

We have a wonderful congregation of caring persons. This year our Souper Bowl Offering received \$1115.34. This money has been sent to Niles Community Services. This organization serves those in need in Mineral Ridge, Niles and McDonald. Thank you to all that contributed.

As of March 2, 2017, there are 5,950 churches and schools who have donated \$9,513,539 to their local organizations. How wonderful is that?

Help us
Help our
Youth!

THE MOST
IMPORTANT THING
ABOUT GOALS IS ...
having one



Are you an explorer??

If you are an explorer you are invited to join others in working on the new goal of our Christian Education Committee. We will be exploring the idea of hosting children here for days such as Martin Luther King Day, President's Day, Good Friday and perhaps Black Friday. We will need to ask many questions and talk to churches that are doing this. The reason this is something we need to explore is because there are children who parents need to be a work on those days and they don't have anyone to take care of the children.

We have a lot of questions, but no answers as of yet. As we developed this goal we did some brainstorming of thoughts that might be answers but we really need to talk to others before we would decide if this is something we can do. If you would like to explore with us please talk to Carole Rummell, Debbie Rendes, Lori Brendlinger or Bethany Glidewell.

PRAYER LIST***Members to Remember***

Jim Sewell Dorothy Hood Katie Postlethwait
Bob Bowskill June Keeley

Health Concerns

Joan Williams Andria Crawford
Samara Fabian Katie Postlethwait
Joe Shoemaker Helen Lang
Terrie Rios Abel Rios
Jan Rambo Chuck Reinhart
Jason Fick (Emily (Pugh) Fick's husband)
Paul Rider (Marty O'Neill's friend)
Alan Jones (Dorothy's son)
Kathy Jones (Dorothy's daughter-in-law)
Paula Griffiths (Glenn's sister)
Colby Simmons (Cravers' friend)
Gordon Coombs (Suzie Merz's friend)
John Myers (Bev's husband)
Jerry Bianco (Shoemakers' friend)
Sean Reilly (Cindy Garriss' nephew)
Herb Gillespie (Postlethwaits' friend)
Andy Skelley (Brooke Kaschak & McKenzie Shaffer's uncle)
Laura & Brad Haines (Cravers' friends)
Maria Andrade (Billie Moore's friend)
Baby girl Enslee (Postlethwaits' friend)

Cheyenne Urbach & Jessica Fox (Rummells' friends)

Ransell Miller (Patty O'Malia's brother-in-law)
Greg Dominic, Jr. (Gayle Hollowell's relative)
Sean Brenner (Darryl & Jane Meyers' nephew)
Drew Brenner (Darryl & Jane Meyers' great nephew)

Kira Rendes (Debbie's daughter-in-law)
Anna Booth (8th grade student in McDonald)
Steven Jones (Dorothy's oldest grandson)
Dee Mazza Kempe
Bob Haid & Traci Asher (Don Hudzik's friends)
Virginia Natale (Ted & Darlene Smith's Granddaughter)

Sympathy, Concern, Nurture, & Support

Rev. Jamie Milton, Minister
Eastminster Presbytery and staff
Someplace Safe Needle's Eye
Niles Community Services
Warren & Youngstown Rescue Missions
Refugees World Leaders
Our PC(USA) coworkers Revs. Scott & Elmarie Parker



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

**BUILDING & PROPERTY—LOOKING GOOD!**

Our Building & Property Committee continues to give our building TLC!

The unisex restroom off Fellowship Hall has been painted and a new light has been installed in the ladies restroom.

They have checked all smoke detectors and replaced batteries in them. They have also checked all exit signs and emergency lights and replaced bulbs and batteries as needed. They also

replaced and cleaned the chandelier in the Narthex. Wow it looks beautiful!

They are continuing with a lot of these little projects as we get ready to host the March Presbytery meeting at the church on March 7.

We all love this church and are glad there are so many people so willing to take care of it.

Why not offer to lend them a hand with projects you are handy doing or even serve on the committee.

Look around next Sunday to see what has been done and don't forget to say thank you to our Building & Property Committee for their hard work.



MISSION CENTRAL—PIANO IN FELLOWSHIP HALL



MISSION PROJECTS

Mission:
Around the
world
—
Across the
street

Thank you for all your food donations in the month of February! We have so much food that the Deacons Cupboard is overflowing and they have run out of room for the food thanks to everyone's donations! We do still need paper towels, toilet paper, mashed potatoes, canned milk, and Easter egg dye kits.

We will be passing out trash bags on Sunday along with some instruction on our Lent mission project. We are asking everyone to put one item of clothing in the bag for everyday of Lent and then you can bring it back to the church or donate anywhere you would like.

We are looking into have a Mission Partner come stay with us for 3 weeks this fall. Before we sign up we are looking for a host family or families. If you are interested or would like more info on what all this would involve see Pastor Jamie or Brooke.

INTERPRETATION & STEWARDSHIP



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

We are still collecting:
Greeting cards
Clean plastic bags
Box Tops for Education
JoAnne Fabric coupons
Ink & toner cartridges
Hair care packaging
Skin care packaging
Cosmetics packaging
Tooth brushes
Toothpaste tubes
Drink pouches
Laptops, Net-books
Notebooks
E-readers, Tablets
I-Pads, I-Pods
Cell phones



This special offering our the Presbyterian Church (USA) is received during the season of Lent. It makes a difference in the world through three impactful programs:



Presbyterian Disaster Assistance works alongside communities as they recover and find hope after the devastation of natural or human-caused disasters.

It receives 32% of funds raised

Presbyterian Hunger Program takes action to alleviate hunger and the systemic causes of poverty so all may be fed.

It receives 36% of funds raised.



Self Development of People invests in communities responding to their experiences of racism, oppression, poverty and injustice and educates Presbyterians about the impact of these societal ills.

It receives 32% of funds raised.

Started in 1949, One Great Hour of Sharing is a long-standing ecumenical effort aimed at raising the funds necessary to provide relief and reconstruction for communities in the aftermath of disaster.



***You Shall Be Called
Repairers of the Breach***

— Isaiah 58 —



SESSION NOTES FROM THE FEBRUARY 28, 2017 MEETING

Heard that membership remains at 150

Approved two weddings for the fall



Received Financial Secretary and Treasurer's reports for Jan. 2017 and heard that the

Per Capita of \$32 per member is coming in very slowly. Members are encouraged to participate in this obligation of our church to the larger more inclusive church

Heard that the office will only be staffed on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays

Heard that many, many maintenance items have been completed

Itemized other maintenance items that are yet to be completed

Approved Church School dates through 2017

Approved a new goal for 2017 for the Christian Education Committee

Expressed thanks for Jeff Kaschak (with help from Ken Kaschak) for building new library shelves in the lounge

Heard that we were able to send \$1115.34 to Niles Community Service from the Souper Bowl Offering

Heard that Church Growth and Fellowship Committee are making plans for a welcome center in the narthex at front doors and are still working on updating our web site

Heard that the new Church Directories are now printed and can be picked up in Fellowship Hall and that the Church Pictorial Directories are yet to be received

Heard that Mission Committee is sponsoring a program where you give an item of your clothing each day of the 40 days of Lent.

There was a discussion of the Synod program "Mission to the USA." This is the program that brought at least five visitors (Sweden, New Zealand, Hungary, South Korea, and Zambia) to be in ministry with us for a few weeks in the fall. We would need three volunteers to host our guest each for one week. The guest would be either clergy or a lay person and will be from Indonesia. If you are interested in hosting please speak to Pastor Jamie

Heard that Pastor Jamie has been involved in many church, community and Presbytery events. He is now Moderator of Eastminster Presbytery and will be conducting their quarterly meetings

Heard that our Deacons will be in charge of the Presbytery dinner on March 7

Heard that Joe D. Lane is donating an Emergency Defibrillator to the church. A class will most likely be held to orient members to its use

Heard that an additional fire extinguisher was purchased and it will be located near the chancel

Ideas were shared on how we may raise funds for the General Fund since we no longer are having Lenten Fish Dinners. Ideas can be shared with the Pastor

Approved a cake and punch reception after worship on March 19 to mark the 5th Anniversary of Pastor Jamie's ordination

Heard information about a trip to Cleveland Zoo in coordination with an Arthritis Walk

Offered special prayers for Nancy Goddard (our custodian) and her son on the unexpected loss of her husband, Andria and Ron Crawford, and the family of Bruce Hawkins (Tracey Rummell and Kellie Wieser's father) among others

THE SEASON OF LENT

Wednesday Lenten Dinner and Study

Our study of the book “A World Worth Saving” began on Ash Wednesday and will continue throughout Lent. Each week we will gather in the Fellowship Hall following our weekly provided dinners to worship, to hear some excerpts from the book, and discuss ways in which we might engage in our community. Communion will also be served each week. The weekly dinner menu and discussion topics are as follows:



Wednesday, March 8—Hot dogs

WEEK 2: Serving God by Serving Others

Wednesday, March 15—Baked Potatoes

WEEK 3: Feeding Others and Starving Our Guilt

Wednesday, March 22—Soup Buffet

WEEK 4: Seeking Justice

Wednesday, March 29—Taco Bar

WEEK 5: Healing the World

Wednesday, April 5—Sloppy Joes

WEEK 6: Refining Friendship

The Christian Education Committee has purchased several copies of the book. Please see Pastor Jamie or Carole Rummell for details. If you miss a week and would still like the handout that provides daily recommendations for prayer and action, let Pastor Jamie know and he will mail/email them to you.



LENT — MARCH 1 THRU APRIL 16

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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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

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

MARCH 2017

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Return Service Requested

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.



<p><i>Our Lenten Prayer Wall</i></p>
--

Beginning on Ash Wednesday, you will find the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall transformed into a *Prayer Wall*. During the season of Lent, you are invited to deepen your connection with the community and your church family by praying for one another.

Write a prayer on a tag and hang it on the wall, you can be as specific or as anonymous as you feel comfortable. Take a prayer tag home and pray for this person or situation each day for that week, then return it to the wall.