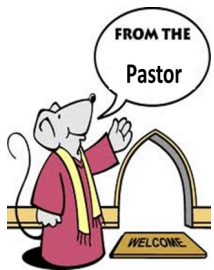


FEBRUARY 2019

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF MINERAL RIDGE

VOL. 47 NO. 1

WWW.FPCMR.ORG AND FACEBOOK



Beloved Partners in Ministry,

Last June, at the 223rd General Assembly of our denomination in St. Louis, a motion was approved to being the process toward amending the Book of Confessions to possibly include the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s "Letter from a Birmingham Jail." This sets in motion a lengthy process of study and discernment to see whether or not the PC(USA) will add Dr. King's letter to our constitutional documents.

The statements within the Book of Confessions "declare to its members and to the world who and what it is, what it believes, and what it resolves to do (Book of Order F-2.01)." It includes ancient creeds like the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds, as well as the "Westminster Confession of Faith" and "A Brief Statement of Faith" that was composed in 1983 when the PC(USA) was formed. Most recently, the Confession of Belhar was added to our confessions, a statement out of South Africa that condemns apartheid and calls for the church to continually work for racial unity and reconciliation.

With these conversations happening around our denomination, I encourage you to read this letter as we begin Black History Month (a copy of the letter can be found at the website https://web.cn.edu/kwheeler/documents/Letter_Birmingham_Jail.pdf). Dr. King writes this letter while jailed in Birmingham, Alabama, serving a sentence for participating in civil rights demonstrations in the city. It is an open letter written in response to criticism he had received by prominent clergy in Birmingham.

I do not know how many times I have read this letter, but every time that I do, I am struck by Dr. King's words and how much they still speak to the church today, fifty-six years after it was first written. The specific issues he address in the letter may manifest themselves in different ways in 2019, but his calls for equality and solidarity are as needed today as they were during his lifetime. This letter may have had intended recipients, but it continues to speak to us and the church today.

Dr. King writes, "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." As we hear Dr. King's words again, or for the first time, may we be reminded of the ongoing fight for justice and equality for all people, and know that our work as followers of Christ will not be done until injustice everywhere has been made right.

*In Christ's peace,
Pastor Jamie*

February Responsibilities

Elder:

Jill Fabian

Deacon:

Ken Wilson

Liturgists:

2/3 Debbie Rendes
2/10 Carole Rummell
2/17 Bethany Glidewell
2/24 Marty O'Neill

Greeters:

2/3 Chuck Hudzik &
Ginny Gilmore
2/10 Ken & Jan Rambo
2/17 Ginny Gilmore &
Marty O'Neill
2/24 David & Shelly
Rummell

Story Circle:

2/3 Matt Glidewell
2/10 Nicole McMullen
2/17 Valerie Meyers
2/24 Sherry Gleason

The Gift of Love



*"And now faith,
hope, and love
abide, these three;
and the greatest of
these is love."*

- 1 Corinthians 13:13

NEWS ABOUT AND FOR OUR FOLKS



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

Olivia Meyers placed second in the spelling bee at Howland Glenn School and will compete later this month in Hubbard for the district spelling bee. She also earned a spot on the Prep Bowl for the 5th & 6th grade team that represents Howland Local Schools and will compete later this month at the county. She is taking violin lessons through Warren Philharmonic Orchestra Strings of Joy Program with a grant that allows six students to begin violin lessons. She will continue with lessons throughout the year and will play with the orchestra later this year.

Mason Meyers is playing indoor soccer. He and Olivia are both on a Howland Destination Imagination Team and will be competing at Youngstown State March 16.

Anthony Rentz earned all A's on his report card. Anthony is in 9th grade at Jackson Milton.

Mason Meyers' report card shows that he has "mastered" almost all of his subjects so far in 2nd grade.

Olivia Meyers earned all A's on her report card.

Are you in need or do you know of anyone in need of a gas stove? Marlene Tinchler has one for sale for \$300. The stove is 3 years old and works great. If you are interested, please call 330-349-4488.

Congratulations to **Andrew Garriss** on being hired by Boardman Fire Department.

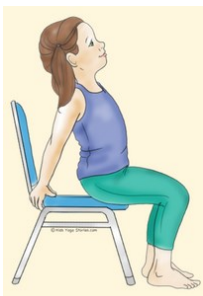
Congratulations to **Adrianna Reese** who graduated Geneva College on December 15 Summa cum laude with a bachelor degree in Communication Disorders. She will attend graduate school in August.

Our sympathy to the **Darren Garriss Family** on the death of his father Orvan Garriss on December 30.

Amazon Smile—How many of you order on Amazon? If you do, have you signed up for Amazon Smile. If not, please consider doing so. They will donate 0.5% of all eligible purchases made through the website to our church. If you have any questions, please speak with Nicole McMullen or Pastor Jamie.

amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

ATTENTION SHOPPERS!



If anyone would like to have some of the elementary size chairs that are not in use, they can be had for the asking. They are blue and are very sturdy chairs. We have 12 that we will be giving away. Our congregational members can have first choice then we will offer them to other churches if we have any left.

Just speak to Debbie Rendes, Lori Brendlinger or Carole Rummell to make arrangements to view them.

Members to Remember

Jim Sewell June Keeley Suzie Merz

Health Concerns

Joan Williams Andria Crawford Abel Rios
 Betty Garland Joe Shoemaker Ron Crawford
 Samara Fabian Brooke Kaschak Molly Carroll
 Kim Shuttleworth Anita Miller (our organist)
 Colby Simmons (Cravers' friend)
 Bob Hibler (Chelsea's father)
 Bob Hollowell (Gayle's cousin)
 Karen (Sue McCabe's friend)
 Martin Crawford (Marnie Bonsall's friend)
 Rick Redmond (Tom's brother)
 Patricia McMahan (Sandy Larmey's friend)
 Laura & Brad Haines (Cravers' friends)
 Sean Brenner (Darryl & Jane Meyers' nephew)
 Zac Weber (Kathy Graham's future son-in-law)
 Audra Stanford (Melissa Keeley's grandmother)
 Craig Colantone (Nicole Pugh's father)
 Grady Oprean (Ron & Andria Crawford's friend)
 David Giudici (Emily Fick's friend)
 Jessica & baby Easton Gillespie and family
 (Postlethwait's nephew)
 James Martini (Mary Jane Shaffer's friend)
 Cindy Renner (Michelle Meyers' neighbor)

Michael Scholl (Ted & Darlene Smith's
 brother-in-law)

Kathy Rozzo (Meyers' friend)
 Eileen Fabian (Jill's mother-in-law)
 Sam Clay (Debbie Rendes & Diane
 Reinhart's cousin)

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
 Disaster victims World Leaders
 Casa de Buen Trato
 Jed and Jenny Koball (Peru)
 Rev. Kade Mastra (Indonesian Partner)
 Our PC(USA) coworkers Revs. Scott &
 Elmarie Parker
 Brandon Groves and family (Marnie
 Bonsall's nephew)

PRAYER LIST

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

**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**

CHECKUP FROM A DERMATOLOGIST

The skin is the largest organ in the body. It provides a layer of protective armor against germs, a way for the body to regulate temperature, and an alert mechanism for your nervous system to signal pressure and pain. Dermatologists diagnose and treat illnesses or ailments that affect the skin.

Dermatology is often associated with skin cancer. In fact, one study found that 46% of people surveyed believe dermatologists spend most of their time seeing melanoma patients. But these doctors diagnose and treat skin conditions and diseases ranging from acne and age spots to rosacea, psoriasis, and yes, various types of skin cancer.

Some dermatologists have subspecialties, focusing on specific areas of medicine that require additional training. Common subspecialties include dermatopathology, cosmetic dermatology, and dermatologic oncology.

Dermatopathologists work in labs, viewing tissue samples to diagnose skin disorders and research the causes of skin conditions. Dermatologic oncologists specialize in skin cancers. Cosmetic dermatologists focus on improving the skin's appearance as opposed to treating disease and might do surgeries to remove scars or inject products to smooth wrinkles.

There are too few dermatologists to meet demand. Recent research indicates there are 36 practicing dermatologists for every one million people in the U.S., and shortages—which contribute to long wait times for appointments—are expected to continue through 2025. Reasons include increased demands for cosmetic procedures as well as skin cancer rates that have been rising for the last 30 years.

MISSION — AROUND THE CORNER & AROUND THE WORLD



The Board of Deacons has added the mission work of the church to its duties. We will be getting more information on their work in the upcoming months.

In the meantime, don't forget the Community Food Cupboard when you are doing your grocery shopping. The next food distribution will be for Easter. Thank you for helping us supply food to those in need.

INTERPRETATION & STEWARDSHIP



Greetings church family and Happy New Year! The I & S committee would like to keep the church members up to date with the financial status of the church in 2019. The church ended 2018 with the expenditures exceeding our receipts by \$1,159.03. While ending the year financially at a deficit is not optimal, we would like to thank those members who contributed to the church throughout the year and especially in the last few months. Throughout most of 2018, we were operating at a \$5500-6000 deficit, so to come out at the end of the year only \$1,159 overspent is commendable to those who stepped up to help close that financial gap.



At the beginning of each year, we also ask that church members pay Per Capita. Per capita is an amount of money per member (this year, \$32.00) that our congregation pays to our larger Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). ***This money is part of the glue that holds Presbyterians together.*** It is the money that enables us to work with other Presbyterian churches in our presbytery and across the country. It is also money that allows us to work with other churches to further the mission of Jesus Christ around the world.

We have a total of 143 members of the church resulting in \$4,567 that will be paid from the General Fund at the end of February to cover this cost. Each year, we receive about 1/3 of the total amount required. We are setting a goal of member contributions to reach at least half of the amount we are required to pay (\$2,288). You will notice that there is no longer a designated envelope for Per Capita, so the I & S committee has created envelopes that have been placed in the pews at church.

Per Capita
Distribution:

General Assembly
\$8.95

Synod
\$3.25

Eastminster
Presbytery
\$19.80

Please prayerfully consider paying Per Capita and helping to reach our goal.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS



BOOK GROUP WILL BE STARTING A NEW BOOK BY END OF FEBRUARY

The book we will be reading beginning the end of February has not yet been determined. If you are interested in helping to determine the next book for discussion join us at 4pm on Wednesday February 13. After the determination is made we will continue with our weekly meetings. The chosen book will be noted in the Sunday bulletin.

The book can be purchased for your Kindle or borrowed from the library or you can purchase the book. The group meets on Wednesdays 4:00 to 5:30. We read about 50 pages a week which makes it more doable for those who are busy and those who are employed. If you would like to join us in reading and discussing the coming book, it does not obligate you to stay with the group for the next book. If you have questions, call Carole Rummell, 330-652-4603.



Once again our congregation has given generously to the SOUPER BOWL OF CARING OFFERING.

Our congregation put \$448.17 in the soup pots held by our youngest members on February 4. As promised that and a little more was matched so that we have \$1000 to divide between Niles Community Services and the Community Pantry which is housed here at our building. Both of our chosen charities help those in need. Nationwide \$7,417,765 has been received and designated as of Tuesday, February 5 for their local charities. How great that we can be a part of such a wonderful exhibit of God's movement in the world. Thank you to all who participated. If you didn't get a chance to give you can mark an envelope "Souper Bowl" and leave it in the offering plate.



LENTEN DEVOTIONAL

This year's Lenten Devotional is titled Awakening to God's Beauty. This devotional is a Lenten invitation to pray with art. It is most inspirational. We have a limited number available for \$3.50 each. Once we run out others can be ordered at a cost of \$5.00 plus shipping. There is a copy for your perusal in Fellowship Hall on the table near the bulletin board. If you are interested in a copy you can fill out an order blank. Please speak to Carole Rummell for more information. You can also use the online devotional <http://blog.goshen.edu/devotionals/subscribe> and www.d365.org.



Join us on Sundays at 9:15am.
There is a Church School Class for you!



SESSION NOTES FROM JANUARY 29, 2019

Approved the minutes of the November 18, 2018 Called Session meeting, the December 4, 2018 Stated Session meeting, and the January 12, 2019 Joint Session/Deacon's meeting and Special Session Meeting.

Approved all reports contained in the 2018 Annual Report shared at the Congregational meeting.

Received the Treasurer's report for December and heard that spending exceeded giving in 2018 by \$1,159.

Received a letter from the estate of Robert Bowskill stating that he remembered us in his Will. However, the funds in his estate were exhausted in the last years of Mr. Bowskill's life.

Approved the use of the building for two days.

Approved the use of the church as a Safe Zone for the School and Weathersfield Police Department in the event of an active shooter at the high school.

Approved six special offerings for the 2019 calendar year.

Approved a quote from YesCo to change all the lights and fixtures throughout the church. Funds will be used from the Building Fund.

Approved the usage the Souper Bowl of Caring offering for the Community Parish and the Niles Community Services. Each receiving half of the donations.

Approved communion dates for 2019.

Heard that Pastor Jamie would like to act as a facilitator at the Presbytery for the Vital Congregations program forming. The consensus was that the Pastor's participation was a good idea. Session will discuss its participation in the program at the February Session meeting.

Organized the Elder duties for the month of March.

Approved use of the building fund for the repairs of the heat pump in the lobby.

Elected Jill Fabian as the church representative to the March Presbytery meeting.

Heard that next Committee Night will be February 19th and the Session meeting will be February 26th.

Prayers were offered up for those we know to be in need of prayer.

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

3654 Main Street
Mineral Ridge, Ohio 44440
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!**

FEBRUARY 2019

Non Profit Org.
US Postage Paid
Permit #11
Niles OH

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.

