

DECEMBER 2017 — JANUARY 2018

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF MINERAL RIDGE

VOL. 45 NO. 9

WWW.FPCMR.ORG AND FACEBOOK



Dear Pastor Jamie and Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Greetings from Bali, Indonesia...

It's been more than 3 weeks now that I have gone back from the United States, having spent time with you at the First Presbyterian Church in Mineral Ridge. It has been one of the highlights in my life...being in a warm loving Christian community of faith. Being hosted by a wonderful family and congregation. Witnessing your love being brought to the community by your gifts of food, banquet, voluntary works and hosting snacks for social events. And also myself being invited to lunch and dinner, enjoying a good meal and a wonderful conversation of getting acquainted with each other, strengthening and encouraging one another, or having a nice time together. It gave me a realization that food is very important, that it does bring people together.

Yesterday the Association of Women with Theological Education, of which I am chair for the Bali Chapter, organized a seminar campaign to stop abuse to women and children. I talked to an ex police officer who is now an activist for ministry to abused women and children. I asked what program would be beneficial for them and she replied that now is the time for action, no need for more seminars. So I came with the idea of having a social banquet for prostitutes, HIV AIDS patients and drug users in the future, to be hosted by churches in turns, and pastors and counselors as hostesses to sit side by side with them. I hope to realize it in 2018. And this idea came from having experienced your hospitality.

Pastor Jamie has asked me about the situation in Bali with the mountain eruption. Mount Agung had several erratic eruptions in the last 2 weeks, one quite a big one two days ago with volcanic dust and cold lava which caused the airport to be closed for one day. But it has opened again. The gift of clothes by the sewing club will be given at the inter-denomination Christmas celebration on the 29th of December, as a symbol of the gifts for the refugees. At the moment there are about 50,000 refugees spread around Bali. Please support us in your prayer that the Mount Agung situation will soon end without casualties. You all have a special place in my heart and are in my daily prayers.

Love and blessings from Bali,
Kade Mastra ten Veen



**December/January
Responsibilities**

December Elders:

12/3 Carole Rummell
12/10 Chuck Hudzik
12/17 Sue McCabe
12/24 Matt Glidewell
12/31

January: Ken Kaschak

December Deacons:

12/3 Church Growth
12/10 Debbie Rendes
12/17 Sherry Gleason
12/24

12/31 Rusty Garland

January: Sherry Gleason

Liturgists:

12/3 Darlene Smith
12/10 Ken Wilson
12/17 Brooke Kaschak
12/24 Cindy Kaschak
5:30 Scott Rentz
10:00 Marty O'Neill
12/31 Carole Rummell

Greeters:

12/3 Sandy Larmey &
Gayle Hollowell
12/10 Gloria Murray &
Mary Alice Seaborn
12/17 Matt & Bethany
Glidewell
12/24 Don & Chuck
Hudzik
5:30 Dianne Stoddard
& Mary Alice Seaborn
10:00 Ken & Jan Rambo
12/31 Jim & Dianne
Stoddard

Story Circle:

12/3 Jill Fabian
12/10 Matt Glidewell
12/17 Brooke Kaschak
12/24 No Story Circle
1/7 David Rummell
1/14 Melissa Keeley
1/21 Sue McCabe
1/28 Diane Reinhart

NEWS

Share your news
with your church
family.

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

Congratulations to our honor roll
students:

3rd grade: **Tyler Pugh**

4th grade: **Olivia Meyers**

6th grade: **Ian Erb** (all A's)

7th grade: **Ethan Erb**

9th grade: **Evan Erb** (All A's)

10th grade: **Abbie Postlethwait**

11th grade: **Kaitlyn Pugh**

12th grade: **Makayla Warrick**

Congratulations to Dillan Keeley who
received the following football honors:

All Trumbull County Defense

Honorable mention MVAC

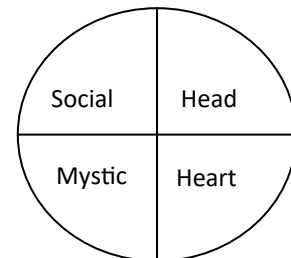
Honorable mention NE Inland

Well done!

Congregational Meeting

Session has issued a call for a
**Congregational Meeting for
Sunday, January 28,
immediately after worship.**

During worship that day we will lift
up some of the highlights from
2017, receive the Annual Report,
and vote on the Pastoral Call. Please
join us as we worship and celebrate
another year of ministry together.

**ANNUAL WORKSHOP FOR ALL****January 13th Workshop on Worship and Spirituality Types**

**This workshop is
open to the entire
congregation.**

- ⇒ Have you ever wondered why some people worship one particular way, while others choose a very different way of worshipping?
- ⇒ Do you find taking a walk through the woods a more spiritual experience than sitting in a pew?
- ⇒ Do you find listening to the choruses of Handel's "Messiah" more of a worship experience than sitting in silent prayer?
- ⇒ Do you experience God's presence more when you volunteer than when you read scripture?

On January 13, we will explore four different types of spirituality to help us better understand ourselves and our relationship to God and one another. This workshop is open to all! We will gather at 8:30 for breakfast. The workshop is scheduled to begin at 9 and end around 11:00 and will include different elements of worship from the four different spirituality types. Please contact Pastor Jamie if you would like more information or details.

There will be a short officer organizational meeting and Session meeting at 11am. Everyone else can leave.

**8:30
Breakfast
9:00 Workshop
Begins**

PRAYER LIST**Members to Remember**

Jim Sewell Bob Bowskill June Keeley

Health Concerns

Joan Williams Andria Crawford Helen Redmond
 Abel Rios Glenn Griffiths Randy Pugh
 Ted Smith Darren Garris Betty Garland
 Kathy Graham Ginny Gilmore Don Hudzik
 Alan Jones (Dorothy's son)
 Paula Griffiths (Glenn's sister)
 Colby Simmons (Cravers' friend)
 Wanda Burns (Vicki Williams' friend)
 Bob Hibler (Chelsea's father)
 Jerry Bianco (Shoemakers' friend)
 Laura & Brad Haines (Cravers' friends)
 Susan Crawford (Marnie Bonsall's friend)
 Sean Brenner (Darryl & Jane Meyers' nephew)
 Drew Brenner (Darryl & Jane Meyers' great nephew)
 Zac Weber (Kathy Graham's future son-in-law)
 Laurie Carl (Betty Garland's daughter)
 Audra Stanford (Melissa Keeley's grandmother)

Barbara Rambo (Ken & Jan's sister-in-law)
 Kathy Jones (Dorothy's daughter-in-law)
 Jim Flores (Marty O'Neill's boyfriend)
 Brenda Milton (Pastor Jamie's mother)
 Paul Stevens (Bev Myers' son)
 Michael McMahon (Sandy Larmey's friend)
 Glenn Weaver (Griffiths' friend)
 Thelma Snyder (Griffiths' friends)

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, Hurricanes, Mexico earthquake,
 California fires 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

PRAYER LIST

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

**OUR DEACONS**

Lori Brendlinger
 Rusty Garland
 Sherry Gleason
 Bethany Glidewell
 Melissa Keeley
 Valerie Meyers
 Marty O'Neill
 Aubrey Reese
 Debbie Rendes
 Ken Wilson

Back Pain Relief

At some point in their lives four out of five people will have back pain, the leading cause of disability among adults ages 45 and younger. More than 26 million Americans ages 20 to 64 report frequent back pain, which may lead to poor mental and physical health. Here are ten tips to prevent or ease back pain:

1. Go hot—try heating pads, heat packs and warm baths for acute pain.
2. Quit smoking—nicotine impedes blood flow to the back. So drop the habit to prevent or relieve pain.
3. Be mindful—practice meditation to reduce stress and ease chronic back pain.
4. Walk it off—even when in pain take a short walk every hour to maintain your back muscles.
5. Call your doctor if you have numbness, tingling or pain that persists despite rest.
6. Lose weight—shed extra pounds to take the pressure off your back.
7. Do the twist—practice yoga to stretch and strengthen back muscles.
8. Be supportive when seated or driving—place a lumbar roll or rolled towel in the hollow of your back.
9. Join a support group—don't endure chronic back pain alone. Seek out local or online support groups.
10. Fight back—eat foods that fight pain causing inflammation, like salmon, nuts, berries, and olive oil. Exercise and strengthen your core muscles, be patient, back pain is a very common problem and can get better with time, being active will help ward off chronic pain.



MISSION — AROUND THE CORNER & AROUND THE WORLD



Community Food Cupboard Food Distribution Tuesday, December 19 from 10am to noon

We will sort food on Monday, December 18 at 10am. Bags will be packed on Monday evening, December 18 at 6:00. Your help at either one or both of these times would be appreciated. We need peanut butter & jelly, pancake mix and syrup, spaghetti sauce, canned fruit, etc.



Gifts are due
back by
December 17.

Gifts for Community Parish Youth

We will also have tags available to buy gifts for the kids on the Community Parish list. There are over 80 kids!! Yes 80. So please when buying please try and keep the gifts to a **\$25 limit**. We ask if you want to or are able to spend more than \$25 please think about getting another tag. The gifts need to be back to the church by December 17.

Hats, Gloves & Scarves

We are also collecting new hats, gloves & scarves through January for Niles Community Services.



Hams for Community Parish

We are selling ham vouchers to be given out with the Christmas Food



The Craft Show was a success!

We made just over \$1,000!

Thank you to all who helped, came to shop, and helped spread the word.

We are looking forward to next year.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IS REACHING OUT WITH A HELPING HAND



Call
Carole Rummell
for more
information.
330-652-4603

The Christian Education Committee is leading us out into the community in a somewhat limited way. We know there are parents or guardians that have a difficult time when a school holiday is observed and they have to work and have no safe place to leave their child. Therefore we are offering to **host 10 to 12 students** in Kindergarten through Grade Six here at the church on ***Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Monday January 15***. Applications will be passed out to parents of Seaborn Elementary School students or anyone who calls the church for one.

We may be calling on **YOU** to give three or four hours on that day to help supervise high school students who will work with the children. We will have stations for crafts, videos, homework, etc. We are going to be open from 8:00am until 5:00pm. If you are able to help in a supervisory or hands on way, please let Carole Rummell, Debbie Rendes, Lori Brendlinger or Bethany Glidewell know that you are available and what section of time you could help out. Our shifts will be from 7:30 to 10:30, 10:15 to 1:15 and 1:00 to 5:00 or any portion of the shift.

SESSION NOTES FROM DECEMBER 5, 2017



Session Minutes of October 24, 2017 were approved

Membership went from 148 to 146, due to the passing of Catherine Postlethwait and the deletion of a member due to her request

Approved usage of building for a baby shower on December 9

Approved usage of Fellowship Hall for football team dinners for the 2018 football season

Approved congregational minutes from November 5, 2017

Approved to have a congregational meeting on January 28, 2018

Received the Treasurer's report for October and November

Approved salary and budget terms for the administrative assistant, custodian and organist

Evaluated Pastor Jamie's performance for 2017

Approved the terms of call for Pastor Jamie as recommended by personnel

Approved 2018 proposed budget

Approved 2017 Financial Review task force recommendations

Heard that Building and Property Committee ran a new cable for the manse for internet and cable

Heard that Christian Education is continuing their plans for Martin Luther King Day to open church up to offer care for students Kindergarten through Grade 6

Heard that Christian Ed is planning the officer training on January 13, 2018

Heard the Church Growth and Fellowship Committee is planning an outing in February

Heard that Mission Committee will pursue the possibility of inviting Jed and Jenny Koball for a return visit in March

Heard that Worship Committee worked on plans for the live nativity on December 17

Heard that committee chair reports for 2017 are due to the administrative assistant on January 16, 2018

Heard that all food in the pantry will be distributed on December 19

Heard that the financial review task force will review the financial records for 2017 in 2018

Heard that Pastor Jamie attended Presbytery meeting on December 5

Heard Elder of the Month for January is Ken Kaschak

Heard that next Committee Night will be January 16 and Session meeting will be January 23

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

**Memorial Gifts to the Glory of God
and in Memory of Dorothy Hood
have been given by:**

Carole Rummell
R. Thomas & Shirley Hood

**Memorial Gifts to the Glory of God
and in Memory of
Catherine Postlethwait
have been given by:**

Carole Rummell
Darryl & Jane Meyers
Marsha Brozier



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NOTES



Adults – listen up!!

Consider Sunday morning a time for not only worship but a time to gather with others to learn more about the Bible and a time to get better acquainted with others in the class. You may want to visit a class to see if it fits for you. We will begin meeting again on January 7, 2018. Church School begins at 9:15 and then we have a break before moving to the sanctuary to worship at 10:30. Marty O'Neill will be greeting all at the glass doors on the south side of the building. She can direct you to class.

Take the plunge and visit to see if the class doesn't spark your interest in learning. Growing in the faith never stops and these classes (it is not like school, but is much more casual) offer you a chance to not only listen but to ask questions and talk with others about your faith.

Have you heard of the "Book Group?"



Meets each
Wednesday
from 4:00 to
5:30pm
beginning
January 10

The Book Group meets on Wednesday afternoons from 4 to 5:30. They will begin meeting again on Wednesday, January 10. We are quite different than many book groups that read a whole book and then come together once a month to discuss it. We read a chapter or two each week and then come together and discuss what we have read. We often have diverse opinions about what we have read which makes our conversations quite lively. If you are interested you can talk to Carole Rummell, 330-652-4603 or bcrummell@aol.com to learn more.

We are now in the process of choosing a book. A polling will be done of those who had been attending and of any others that show interest. Carole Rummell will be leading the group. Let her know if you want to know more or to participate in the polling. We deliberately choose to use the words "Book Group" since we aren't a club. We are not an exclusive club, we are a group of Christians that choose to come together and we welcome all. People can choose to come all the time or only as they are available. Whatever book is chosen it most likely will be available on Amazon.com (where you can read the first section) and Barnes and Noble.com. The cost will depend if you want to order for your Kindle or if you want a paper copy. If you want to have an order placed for you, you can give Carole a call at 330-652-4603. There will be no shipping costs if Carole orders it with Amazon Prime. Why don't you consider bringing a friend and join us in the lounge on Wednesday afternoons? A promise to all attenders: we begin at 4:00 and finish at 5:30 sharp if not a little before that.

*On New Year's Eve
join us for
our annual
"Service of
Lessons and
Carols"
As we hear
the gospel
message accompa-
nied by our
favorite sea-
sonal hymns
and carols.*

Christmas DVDs, books and old VHS tapes are available in Fellowship Hall

Parents, grandparents and others are encouraged to borrow the children's DVDs, books and/or VHS tapes that are located on the narrow table near the west door of Fellowship Hall. You only need to sign an orange tag, write the name of the piece you borrow along with your name. During Christmas break you may enjoy sharing them with the young people in your life.



Church School takes a hiatus until January 7, 2018.
There will be no Church School classes on December 24 or 31.
10:30 worship will still be on my schedule.
Will it be on yours?

INTERPRETATION & STEWARDSHIP

Hello Church Family and Friends,

The Interpretation and Stewardship Committee continues to prepare for the upcoming 2018 budget and Stewardship Campaign. You received the Commitment Letters and Celebration of Giving Cards in early November. We hope that you are prayerfully considering your 2018 commitment.



Overall, the Church is financially healthy, but our general fund is overspent by \$2,600. However, as of the end of September, our year-to-date expenditures continue to be under budget.

God Bless,

Matt Glidewell, Chair

Customers shop. Amazon gives.

Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organization selected by its customers.



The First Presbyterian Church of Mineral Ridge could be that charitable organization. Watch for more information on how to make qualifying purchases coming in early 2018. Everyone makes online purchases these days and soon these purchases will be able to support the mission of our church. The I&S Committee is working with the Treasurer to get the account set up. You may ask yourself, "What is AmazonSmile?" AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon that lets customers enjoy the same wide selection of products, low prices, and convenient shopping features as on Amazon.com. The difference is that when customers shop on AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com), the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to the charitable organizations selected by customers.

More information will be coming in January.

***Offering Envelopes for 2018
are ready to be picked up.
They are in Fellowship Hall.***

Worship opportunities to end 2017 with your church family: We have a lot going on over the next two weeks and we hope your families will join us!

During our normal worship time this Sunday, December 17, our children will take part in the telling of the Christmas story through song and the reading of "The First Christmas Night" by Keith Christopher. Following the service, the Christian Education Committee will host a "Happy Birthday, Jesus" reception with cake in the Fellowship Hall.

ADVENT WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

At 5pm that afternoon we will hold our **annual Contemplative Christmas Service** in the sanctuary. This service of scripture, prayer, and song is intended to provide a quiet space to worship and reflect during what can be a busy, hectic season.



From 6pm to 8pm on December 17, there will be a **live nativity scene** set up in front of the church. Some of our families will don seasonal costumes to help us reimagine that first Christmas night. We will also have live animals! Hot chocolate and cookies will be provided in the Fellowship Hall and those that wish are invited to join us from 7-7:30 as we sing Christmas Carols and seasonal songs.



**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!**

DECEMBER 2017—JANUARY 2018

Non Profit Org.
US Postage Paid
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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.



*Christmas Eve, we will light the fourth Advent candle at our 10:30am service
as we celebrate the fourth Sunday of Advent.*

That evening we will host our usual Candlelight Services:

*The 5:30 service will include a special Children's message
and include special music by Aubrey Reese.*

*The late service will be at 10:00 this year (please note the time change)
where Professor Larry Harris will share his talents with us on the organ.*