

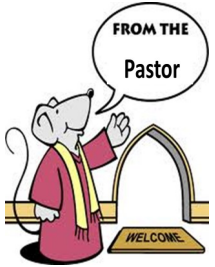
APRIL 2019

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF MINERAL RIDGE



VOL. 47 NO. 3

WWW.FPCMR.ORG AND FACEBOOK



Beloved Partners in Ministry,

I pray your Lenten journey has been grounded in the peace of God and that you have found moments of rest and silence as you have sought God's presence. Our Adult Church School class has spent most of the year looking at some of Jesus' parables found in the Gospel of Luke. We are hearing these parables anew from the perspective of someone who has lived in the Middle East for over 30 years and interprets them for us in a culture like the one in which Jesus lived. What has been most surprising to me is that almost every parable has an aspect of community to it. The community is perhaps the most important part of understanding Jesus' parables.

In retrospect, this should not have been that surprising to me. One of the first things Jesus does as he begins his public ministry is to call disciples to follow him, creating a community that would be with him in every story in the gospels. If that is not enough evidence for us of the importance of the community, we can go all the way back to the whole reason God covenants with Abraham to begin with, to create a community that was different from the world around him.

I have been thankful for this reminder, especially as I get a little nostalgic during this time of year. The anniversary of my ordination and my first Sunday in Mineral Ridge remind me of the communities of faith that have supported me my entire life. I would not be who I am today without those who taught me the faith and nurtured me along the way.

This is important for all of us to remember. This community of faith makes a difference in peoples lives, and we all need to do more to support one another. Each one of us has a role to play in the community and we are not complete unless everyone participates in the life of the church.

Over the next few weeks there will be many opportunities for you to get involved or reconnect with your church family. This Church Mouse is full of worship opportunities and places to interact with your friends from FPC. Being a follower of Jesus is about being an active participant in the church. Let us all make an effort to worship God together, sharing our gifts with one another, strengthening our community, as we serve God each and every day.

In Christ's peace,

Pastor Jamie

April Responsibilities

Elder:

Matt Glidewell

Deacon:

Valerie Meyers

Liturgists:

4/7 Tyler Crozier
4/14 Darren Garriss
4/19 Sue McCabe &
Valerie Meyers
4/21 8:30 Valerie Meyers
10:30 Muffin Rummell
4/28 Sue McCabe

Greeters:

4/7 Jim & Dianne Stoddard
4/14 Scott Rentz Family
4/21 8:30 Ken & Jan Rambo
10:30 Mary Alice &
Sandy Larmey
4/28 Billie Moore &
Gloria Murray

Story Circle:

4/7 Debbie Rendes
4/9 Adrianna Reese
4/14 Nicole McMullen
4/18 Carole Rummell
4/19 Jill Fabian
4/21 8:30 McKenzie Shaffer
10:30 Debbie Rendes
4/28 Billie Moore



NEWS ABOUT AND FOR OUR FOLKS



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



Welcome to FPC!

We are excited to welcome new members **January Johnson and Lisa Strange** to our congregation!

January grew up in Brewerton, NY, a little town north of Syracuse. She is the oldest of 3 siblings and has 3 awesome nephews. After graduating high school, January joined the Marine Corp and was honorably discharged after 5 years of service. She now works for Simon Roofing in the Customer Service Department and is working on her bachelor's degree in computer networking and programming at Strayer University. January loves playing sports (she was on our kickball team), returning to New York to visit her family and spoiling her nephews, going to craft shows with her future mother-in-law (Debbie Rendes) and relaxing with her fiancé (Mark Rendes) and their crazy dogs.

Lisa grew in Struthers and lived there until moving to Arizona in 2010. She started attending Brownlee Woods Presbyterian in 1992 where she was married and both of her children were baptized. She served as a member of the session and as clerk at Brownlee Woods Presbyterian Church. Lisa has two children, Zak (21) who resides in Vancouver, BC and Alyssa (16) who is a Junior at McDonald High School. Lisa enjoys walking, reading, spending time with family and attending Alyssa's band performances. She returned to Ohio in 2016, and is currently an insurance verification specialist at Southwoods surgical hospital.

Lisa and January joined the church on Sunday, March 31st. Make sure to say "hello" and welcome them to our church family!

Congratulations to Olivia and Mason Meyers and the rest of their Destination Imagination Team from Howland School. The team won 1st place at the Regional Meet at Youngstown State University and 2nd place at the state competition. Great job Imaginators!

Congratulations to Molly (Lukehart) Carroll who was accepted into The Puppet Arts Graduate Program at the University of Connecticut. Molly graduated from Youngstown State University in December of 2017 with a Bachelors of Fine Arts degree in Theater.

Molly found a passion for puppetry when she took the only puppetry class offered at YSU. Mentored and given opportunities by her teacher and supervisor Todd Dicken she continued to work on her skills using books, the internet, and teaching elementary school as well as college students about puppets. Molly's senior project before graduating from YSU was a ten minute puppet show that she not only made the puppets for but also wrote, directed, made and painted the set, and did the lighting. The ten minute play called *Puzzle Pieces* about Autism Awareness was centered around her niece Skye who is autistic, and Skye's younger sister Londen. When it came to

Molly's puppetry Skye and Londen where her biggest inspirations and still are to this day.

The process to get into The Puppet Arts Graduate Program is not an easy one considering it is one of the most exclusive programs in the country. A student must be formally invited to audition after passing a phone interview. The audition consists of a five minute audition piece, an interview, and an improve piece which is not given until the day of the audition. Because of limited space in the program only twenty-two students are given the opportunity to audition and only twelve make it into the puppetry program every fall. Graduates of the program that lasts two to three years find jobs on Broadway, the Disney Company, the Jim Henson Company, or many other reputable puppetry companies. After working on her audition piece for months in advance which was based on a Greek myth about soulmates using the shadow puppet style Molly auditioned in Connecticut January 26 and received her acceptance March 13.

Members to Remember

Jim Sewell June Keeley Suzie Merz

Health Concerns

Joan Williams Andria Crawford Abel Rios-
 Betty Garland Joe Shoemaker
 Lonnie, Dirk, Brooke, & Jeff Kaschak
 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)
 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)

Laurie Carl (Betty Garland's daughter)
 Gayle Rossi (Marty O'Neill's friend)
 Patty Ruby (Terrie Rios' sister)
 Joe Sinkovich (Beverly Myers' friend)
 Novalee Fisher (Bev Myers' great
 granddaughter)
 Josephine Minor (Pastor Jamie's grand
 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
 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 & Elma-
 rie 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



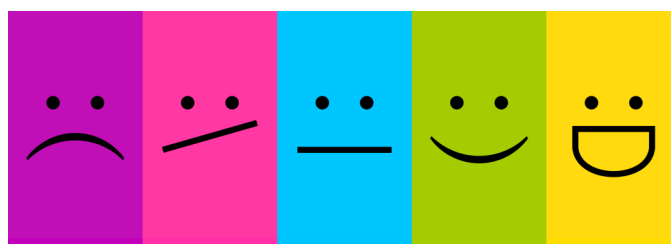
**From our
 Parish
 Nurse**

Feeling It

God the blues right now?

You'll feel better in the long run if you acknowledge your feelings, accept them,
 and then get on with your day.

Sadness, loneliness, anger and stress. These and other negative emotions make appearances in everyone's life. How you respond helps determine your overall psychological health. If you judge yourself harshly when you feel low or try to ignore these emotions altogether, you will feel even lower. Rather than resist your occasional dark moods, accept them but give them little attention. By not dwelling on them or criticizing yourself for having them, the researchers speculate, you may avoid a buildup of negativity. This mindful, non-critical approach to your mood may help you avoid depression and anxiety and contribute to a more satisfying and purposeful life.



MISSION — AROUND THE CORNER & AROUND THE WORLD



SEABORN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FIRST GRADE EASTER EGG HUNT

For two years now, our mission committee has been assisting the first grade teachers in providing activities for the children in their classes. The Deacons are hoping to provide 600 filled plastic Easter eggs for their Easter Egg hunt. Please bring plastic eggs filled with wrapped candy, stickers, erasers, etc. and place them in the bins that will be located by the main entrances of the church. (Nothing that has honey or rice in it, please!) If every worship attender brings at least 10 eggs, we will hit our goal in no time! Please place them in the bins that are located by the main entrances of the church. Please have eggs into the church by Palm Sunday, April 14.



We are still collecting:

Clean plastic bags (basket outside office)

Box Tops for Education (marked box outside office)

Ink & toner cartridges (office)

JoAnne fabric coupons (office)

The following can be placed in the bin in Fellowship Hall by elevator: 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

INTERPRETATION & STEWARDSHIP

Update on Per Capita.



I & S is happy to report that we have received \$2273 to date for our Per Capita contribution. We have met our goal of collecting at least half of the 4500 paid to Presbytery each year by our congregation. We have surpassed what was collected the previous two years (\$1882 in 2018 and 1753 in 2017). Great job everyone and thank you to all who contributed. If you forgot to pay Per Capita, it can be paid any time of the year. Just designate an offering envelope specifically to Per Capita.

First Quarter Update on Church Finances



Through the first quarter of the year contributions to the General Fund are down by approximately \$3000.00. In order to meet the budget for the year, each month we should be collecting approximately \$11,000. (January 8238.50, February \$8668.82). The I & S committee has been working hard to brainstorm ideas for financial growth for the church. We are taking any suggestions or ideas for fundraising opportunities. Our chicken and biscuit dinner fundraiser was a huge success and will help to decrease our financial deficit for the year. Thank you to all of the church members who helped out. A special shout out goes to Jim Postlethwait who stood outside in the freezing cold weather in a chicken suit ushering in the traffic from route 46.



You shop. Amazon gives.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



GenOn LIFT

There is an exciting educational opportunity waiting for us after Easter! For the final four weeks of our church school year, we are thrilled to be able to offer a different kind of Sunday School experience for everyone. GenOn LIFT (Living In Faith Together) will provide our entire church with an opportunity to learn about scripture and God's love for us all, from age 1 to 100! Everyone is invited to join us in Fellowship Hall beginning on April 28 at 9:15am.

The topics include:

- The Good New of Easter (April 28)
- April Showers Bring May Flowers (May 5)
- Earth Day (May 12)
- For the Birds (May 19)

Join us for one week or for them all! There will be music, prayer, scripture, play, and (of course) FOOD! Parents and grandparents will have the opportunity to learn and worship alongside their children. Those without children will be able to share their wisdom while witnessing our youngest generation engage in the joy that God's word gives to us all. Everyone has something to offer and something to learn.

SCOPE AND
SEQUENCE



If you are getting new furniture and plan on putting your used furniture at the curb - DON'T. You can call the Salvation Army and they will pick it up. Your donations will fund rehabilitation programs. Their phone numbers are 330-369-6603 and 330-779-3668.



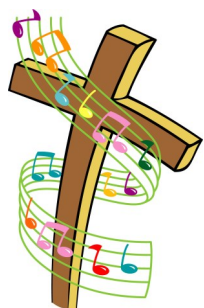
MVI Hospice Care

"Bringing Health Care Back Home"

One hour a month or a few hours a week can make a difference!
Be the reason someone smiles today! Volunteer with Hospice.
Training and orientation is convenient and is completed after a comprehensive screening process.

330-759-9487 ask for the Volunteer Coordinator

LENT & EASTER



A NIGHT OF SACRED SONGS

The Lenten Task Force is excited to offer an opportunity to worship with the McClellan family! On Tuesday, April 9th, Eric and James McClellan and Janeen (McClellan) Williams will be joining us for an evening of music. A light soup supper will be provided

beginning at 5:30pm in Fellowship Hall with worship following at 6:30pm upstairs in the sanctuary. This event is open to anyone so please invite your friends and family to join us for this uplifting worship service.



Holy Week and Easter

The church will be open daily from 8am-4pm and before and after the Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services for participants to connect with God through a series of guiding prayer stations that will be set up in the lounge



Palm Sunday—April 14

9:15am Church School for all ages

10:30am Morning worship will begin with a joyous procession into the sanctuary.

11:30am Fellowship in Fellowship



Maundy Thursday—April 18

7:30pm Worship with Communion in the Fellowship Hall



Good Friday—April 19

7:30pm Worship—This is a service of shadows. Special music provided by Anita Miller and Eric McClellan.

Easter—April 21 — *"Hallelujah, Christ Is Risen, He Is Risen, Indeed!"*

8:30am Early Worship—Communion

9:15am Breakfast in Fellowship Hall

10:00am Outdoor celebration

Decorate the Cross / Release of Doves

10:30am Worship—Communion



SESSION NOTES FROM MARCH 26, 2019



Approved the minutes of the February 26, 2019 scheduled Session meeting.

Heard that membership as of March 26, 2019 was 142

Approved building usage for a member on August 31, 2019

Approved building usage for a member on November 2, 2019

Approved building usage for friends of the church on October 3, 2020

Approved an investment with the Eastminster Presbytery

Approved a motion to purchase a lockbox for police and fire access

Heard that there was a new member class conducted and we will have two new members joining the church on March 31, 2019

Heard that we will have a musical worship on April 9, 2019 with proceeds from a freewill offering benefiting One Great Hour of Sharing

Motion approved to purchase a new yard sign for advertising

Motion approved to baptize Liam Joseph Bane on June 2, 2019

Motion approved to call a special session meeting on March 31, 2019 to examine new members

Motion approved to host a pancake breakfast in conjunction with the Weathersfield Flag Day Festival

Heard an update on the agenda for the March Presbytery meeting from Pastor Jamie and Jill Fabian

Heard that next committee night will be April 23rd and the Session meeting will be April 30th.

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



MISSION MINDED MOMENT—OGHS



In promoting the One Great Hour of Sharing offering throughout Lent, our focus has been on access to clean water. Our children heard each week from “Jerry Can” who traveled the world responding to disasters and droughts, helping people receive the clean water needed to survive. The statistics differ, but the Center for Disease Control (CDC) estimates that 11% of the world (almost 800 million people) do not have daily access to clean water.

One PC(USA) Synod is doing something about it. The Synod of the Living Waters started the non-profit Living Waters for the World (LWW) that partners with communities around the globe installing water filtration systems and training local people on how to operate and maintain them. The following is a story about one such local operator by LWW Volunteer, Joanie Lukins.

“[Meet] Ignacio Ramon Vazquez Colli. He has operated the water plant in Lerma, Yucatan, Mexico, every day for the 15 years since its installation in 2004.

“Rising each morning at 4 a.m. in order to walk to Filadelfia Presbyterian Church, where the system is located, Ignacio

begins each day by performing quality control checks on every aspect of the system. “I love this water system like it’s my own,” he says with pride! “I like knowing that my work helps people stay healthy – they depend on me to make sure their water is good!”

“The water meter on Ignacio’s system recently turned over 3,600,000 gallons! It is a reverse osmosis system, like all in the Yucatan network, so the water is very pure. Ignacio reports that some people have tried water from other distributors in the area, but “they always come back, because mine is better!”

“Carlos Arias MacGregor, pastor of Filadelfia Church and General Coordinator of the Yucatan Network, says he has complete confidence in Ignacio, and never needs to worry about the water plant or the quality of the water.

“When asked about the source of his faithfulness, Ignacio says, “God gave me this gift, and I take care of it!” How privileged we are to have operators like this as our partners in ministry! Thank you, Ignacio!”

To find out more about the ministry and mission of Living Waters for the World visit: <https://www.livingwatersfortheworld.org/>.

**Our Goal is
\$1,300.00**

*Give to
One Great Hour
of Sharing
to open our
doors;
to repair the
breach.*



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

SPECIAL OFFERINGS

HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

“You shall be called repairers of the breach.”

- Isaiah 58



**PRESBYTERIAN
DISASTER ASSISTANCE**

OUT OF CHAOS, **HOPE**

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

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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!**

APRIL 2019

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.



*An Evening of Sacred Music
with*

*Eric McClellan
James McClellan
and Janeen Williams*

*Tuesday, April 9
6:30pm*

*Join us for a light soup dinner
from 5:30 to 6:15*