



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
of
Mineral Ridge, Ohio



VOL. 51 NO. 05

May 2023

I love church traditions. Some are a bit silly, like the unassigned “assigned” pews we sit in on Sunday morning. I don’t know about you, but when I discover someone sitting in “my” pew, I might go sit in another seat, but I grumble a bit as I do it. Some church traditions have a lot more meaning, like the ways we celebrate baptisms and weddings and funerals points towards our Presbyterian faith and how we understand that faith. Each church I’ve been to does something a little different, whether it’s the doxology they sing or the prayers they pray, each church puts a spin on the way they do things.

One of the things that doesn’t really change however are the holy days celebrated by our church. Forty days after Easter, we celebrate the Ascension of the Lord, and 10 days after that, we celebrate Pentecost, the day the Holy Spirit came on the apostles. One of the church traditions we participate in is that we wear red.

Now, some fun facts about the color red. It’s my favorite color, first of all! Second, it’s a primary color, meaning it’s not made up of any other colors. In the Hebrew language, the words for “human” and “red” and “blood” all have similar origins, and the color red is often associated with fire, which is also a prominent biblical symbol.

We wear red on Pentecost as an outward sign of inward transformation by the Holy Spirit. As “tongues of fire” came to rest on these disciples on that first Pentecost long ago, we gather together and then leave still blazing with the fire of hope God offers all through God’s Spirit. The red is a sign that the good news of Jesus came to all who were there in a language they could understand from people with whom they would not otherwise have communicated.

Therefore, take this as an invitation: to wear red on May 28th. On that day, we will also celebrate New Member Sunday, welcoming several new members and baptizing others. You are invited into this body of Christ and also into proclaiming the reality of grace, hope, and salvation in Jesus.



Grace and Peace,
Pastor Kori

RESPONSIBILITIES FOR MAY

ELDERS: LISA SORG

LITURGISTS:

05/07 CINDY KASCHAK

05/14 DEBBIE RENDES

05/21 MUFFIN RUMMELL

05/28 BETHANY GLIDEWELL

DEACON OF THE MONTH:

SHIRLEY BRODIE



Church News

Keep us up to date. E-mail your news to the church office: admin@fpcmr.org or call 330-652-5712



Beginning Sunday May 28th, Worship will begin at 10am, and we will continue at that time through the summer!



Sunday, May 7th, following worship, there will be an emergency drill. After our final song please stay in your seats for further instructions.



The backpack program is still ongoing. We have a total of 23 families and 34 students in our backpack program! We are in need of fruit cups, boxes of macaroni & cheese, and snacks (snack bars, chips, pudding cups, packs of crackers or cookies, etc) for this program. The number normally rises during the school year so any help you can provide is greatly appreciated.

As we continue to provide free groceries to families in need within our community, our community food pantry needs Spaghetti Sauce, Peanut Butter, Jelly, Corn, and green beans. If you are able to donate, we greatly appreciate it. **Our next food distribution will be August 22nd, 2023**, for our Summer Distribution. Should you have any questions about either program please reach out to January or Debbie Rendes.



On May 14th, Communion Sunday, the Deacons are asking for donations of peanut butter and jelly for the Food Pantry and Backpack Program! We invite you to bring these items up to the front and place them in front of the Communion Table, on the steps.



Thank you to my church family for all the cards, phone calls, meals and prayers.

Love you all, Jane

Members to Remember

Mary Alice Seaborn Shirley Dull
Marlyne Young

Prayer List

Megan Taylor (Carole's cousin)
Amos Rodgers & Cody Tittle (Marlene's friends)
James Tincher (Marlene's son)
David Giudici (Emily Pugh's friend)
Clayton & Eileen (Bev Myers' family friends)
Barb and Alan (friends of Suzie McCabe)
Linda Lukehart (Betty Garland's Daughter)
Paul Stevens (Bev Myers' son)
Marty O'Neill
Karen (Sue McCabe's friend)
Matt Smith (Kathy Graham's friend)
Dennis Copanic (Val Copanic's father)
Dennis Eggert (January Rendes' father)
Graig Colantone (Nicole Pugh's father)
Dareen Craver-Angeloff (Rodney's mother)
Cheryl Fisher (Bev Meyers' Daughter)
Ella McBride (friend of Sherri Craver)
Bill Happney
The Keeley family
Shannon Poole (daughter of Sherry and Tim Gleason)
Dale Jaquin (January Rendes' Uncle)
Pam & Sam Clay (Cousins of Debbie Rendes & Diane Reinhart)

Cheryl Beanblossom (Val Copanic's sister)
Alan Bray (friend of Keeley Family)
Janiece Eischen (Melissa Keeley's Aunt)
The Family of Betty Garland
Jane Meyers

Prayers Around the World

Eastminster Presbytery and staff
Needles's Eye
Our Mineral Ridge Church Family
Niles Community Services
Warren & Youngstown Rescue Missions
Coronavirus caregivers and patients
World Leaders
Refugees
Rev. Kade Mastra (Indonesian Partner)
Peace and healing for our country
Casa de Buen Trato
Jed and Jenny Koball (Peru)
Someplace Safe
Our PC(USA) coworkers Revs. Scott & Elmarie Parker
Ukraine
The community of East Palestine

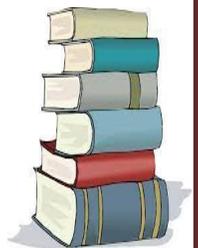


Please call the church office to add or delete names to our prayer list. Names will be kept on the list for approximately six weeks unless the office hears otherwise.

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

The worship committee met on April 18, 2023, for committee night. Church members have voiced that they would like the children's message to take place weekly. On Sunday April 23rd Pastor Kori resumed the children's sermon. Also, church members have stated that they would like more upbeat music. Pastor Kori has asked those on the worship committee to look through the hymnals and write down five songs that they enjoy singing. If any members have any song suggestions, please let Lisa Sorg know. Pastor Kori will be on vacation Sunday May 7th and Rev Meta Cramer will be worshipping with us. Communion was served on Easter Sunday. We had a beautiful service and wonderful turn out with 88 people in attendance. Communion will be served again on May 14th. Pentecost Sunday is May 28th and during this service we will have 2 baptisms, 1 confirmation candidate and two new members joining our congregation.

Our Little Free Library is still open all summer. Located in the lounge you can just come and take one, two or more books for your summer reading. We are always ready to accept used books to keep our shelves stocked with wonderful novels, etc.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

160 years
1863 – 2023

Brick & Mortar to Celebrate

large, frame structure – “the largest and best sanctuary in the area.” In addition to church activities, school functions, as well as community social events, were held there. The original manse was constructed in those early days as well. Though remodeled and added on to several times, our church is the oldest in Mineral Ridge.

The church is the body of Christ—all the people who accept Christ's gift of salvation and follow Christ's teachings. A church is much more than a building. However, 160 years ago the congregation of the First Presbyterian Church constructed a building in order to worship together. That first church was a



In 1948 a major renovation of the old structure was undertaken. The project took almost 6 months and the building was dedicated on Sunday, March 27, 1949. The entire building was brick veneered and the windows and steeple were replaced. The sanctuary was also completely remodeled. The Pulpit, Lectern, Communion Table, Baptismal Font, and Pulpit Chairs are still in use today.

The project cost approximately \$30,000 and was paid for by 67 families in three years. “With faith, prayer, and liberal gifts from our members, the church was rededicated debt-free.”



The next construction project was the new manse. The old manse was torn down in 1955 and the present one built in 1956.

The cornerstone for the Education Wing was laid in 1960. This two-story addition to the rear of the church included a ladies' parlor, six new classrooms, a pastor's study, an enlarged kitchen, and a new heating system.



In 1989, the Front Entrance was redesigned and the elevator installed to make our building handicapped accessible. The steeple was replaced in this renovation also; however, the one we see today was replaced after a wind storm several years later (the fourth steeple, if I count correctly!) The new concrete floor was poured in Fellowship Hall and the old bathrooms removed. The addition of a new unisex restroom and small classroom were also part of this project.



Smaller renovations have included the Kitchen in 2001 when the floor and stove were replaced and large cupboards added. And finally in 2002, Fellowship Hall got a remodel with carpet and sound proofing on the ceiling and walls.

FPCMR has gone through many physical changes but what remains unchanged is our steadfast faith in God and our “spiritual foundation of faith in Jesus Christ.”

Updated List of Officers

Elders

Sue McCabe Ted Smith
Brian Williams Lisa Sorg
Nancy Pugh Andy Konsol
Carole Rummell
Jane Meyers
Chuck Reinhart

Board of Deacons

Marnie Bonsall Patty Postlethwait
January Rendes Darlene Smith
Shirley Brodie Mary Rose Rebraca
Lori Brendlinger
Melissa Keeley
Debbie Rendes



Our last day of Church School classes is on May 21. The teachers of those classes are dedicated to their every Sunday commitment on behalf of the congregation. We give thanks to God for those who have taught this past year.

Teaching Adults – Ted Smith and Pastor Kori Robbins

Sr. Hi. Class – Michelle Meyers

Multi-age Class – Debbie Rendes and Lori Brendlinger

Tiny Tots – Bethany and Matt Glidewell

We also thank others who aid us in our mission of education.

Sunday Morning Greeter – Jane Meyers and substitute Marty O’Neill

Sending “Cards To Kids” (Birthday and Baptismal Anniversary) – Diane Reinhart

Serving on CE – Marnie Bonsall, Debbie Rendes, Lori Brendlinger and Carole Rummell

And we give a big shout out to our Story Circle staff member Olivia Meyers.



**Book Club is back! We will meet on
Tuesday, May 9th at 4:00pm. We will be reading
The Forest of Vanishing Stars, by Kristin Harmel.
Future meeting times will be discussed**

HERE IS HOW YOU CAN HELP!!

Planning for the 2024 Lent/Easter season has not yet begun but you can help the Task Force when they start their planning by answering a Feedback Sheet regarding this past Lent/Easter season. You will find the Feedback Sheets on the table at the back of the sanctuary. It should take you only a few minutes to express your thoughts. After filling one out you can leave it in the blue folder on the table where you picked one up.

APRIL SESSION HIGHLIGHTS



Motion prevailed to approve use of Fellowship Hall and kitchen by the MR Football moms on Thursday evenings: August 17, 24, 31, Sept. 7, 14, 21, 28, Oct. 5, 12. Darren Garris will be the member who sponsors them.

Motion prevailed to approve Baccalaureate Thurs. May 18 7:30 at the Gazebo or held in the sanctuary in case of inclement weather.

Motion Prevailed to approve Leave for Pastor Kori for Service to the Greater Church OGA Ecclesial Formation Dialogue in Minneapolis August 17, 18, 19.

General Presbyter Rev. Barry Chance will be pulpit supply on Aug. 20

Heard Ted Smith and Nancy Pugh were installed as Elders on April 23, 2023 during worship.

Heard that Jane Meyers is doing well after her surgery!!!

Heard we will have an Emergency Exit Drill on Sunday May 7 after church.

Heard we had 3 people attend New Members class.

Heard we will have 2 Baptisms, 1 Confirmation, and 2 possible Affirmations of Faith on Pentecost Sunday, May 28.

Heard Session is updating our Funeral Policy and our Media Policy.

Heard work is continuing on the Live Streaming/Media Update project. Please be patient.

The Pentecost Offering is one of the special offerings of the Presbyterian Church (USA). It will be dedicated on The Day of Pentecost, May 28.



**PENTECOST
SPECIAL OFFERINGS**

CHILDREN AT RISK • YOUTH • YOUNG ADULTS

A gift to the Pentecost Offering helps the church encourage, develop, and support its young people, and also address the needs of at-risk children. 40% of the Pentecost offering can be retained by individual congregations wanting to make an impact in the lives of young people within their own community. The remaining 60% is used to support children-at-risk, youth, and young adults through ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency.

The I&S Committee has chosen to give our portion to the Seaborn School Backpack Program. you can give to this offering by using the special offering envelope found in the pews or marking your check "Pentecost Offering." Please give generously.

The Pentecost Offering unites us in a church-wide effort to support young people and inspire them to share their faith, ideas, and unique gifts with the church and the world.

New Member Sunday



Sunday, May 28th is New Member Sunday. Please join us as we welcome several new members as well as baptize others.

See you in July



We will return with the Summer Edition of The Church Mouse in mid-July. Thank you all for your contributions to our newsletter throughout the year!

Have a great summer!

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

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

CHECK US OUT ON



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



Please feel free to take a look at our newly designed website @ www.fpcmr.org

YOUR FEEDBACK IS IMPORTANT TO US. IF YOU HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS FOR THE WEBSITE

**PLEASE SEND AN EMAIL TO
ADMIN@FPCMR.ORG**



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.

LETS STAY CONNECTED!

HERE ARE WAYS FOR YOU TO WORSHIP WITH US:

Our weekly worship service will be available In-person, via Zoom, Facebook, and YouTube at 10:30am and can be accessed in the following ways:

by joining a "Zoom" meeting at <https://zoom.us/j/8613610300?pwd=QnN2TUErMUVVQlRGalJ1c3A5QTRSQT09> (you may want to test this link ahead of time to make sure you have the necessary file downloaded to join the feed). If you already have the Zoom app, you can just enter the meeting ID# 861 361 0300 and the password 6525712.

calling 929-436-2866 and entering the meeting ID 861 361 0300 # and the password 6525712.

through Facebook at www.facebook.com/FirstPresMineralRidge (you do not have to have a Facebook account to watch, but you would need one to share comments)

through YouTube by searching for "First Presbyterian Church of Mineral Ridge" or at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQyB2URdu5Kxxkk62GXWipQ/>

We are also worshipping together in our sanctuary!

Masks are now optional!