

Every two years, the PCUSA as a whole gathers in a special meeting called General Assembly. It spans a whole week and covers a lot of important business and work for the church. It's typically where amendments and updates to the Book of Order are discussed, among other things that affect us as a denominational body. From the Office of the General Assembly:

The General Assembly is a council of the church, a discernment event, and a worshipping body. **As a council**, the General Assembly is made up of commissioners from the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)'s presbyteries, with teaching elders (ministers of the Word and Sacrament) and ruling elders represented in equal numbers. Young adult advisory delegates, ecumenical advisory delegates, theological student advisory delegates, and mission co-worker advisory delegates also constitute the assembly. These individuals gather for committees and plenary sessions to discern the direction of the church and make decisions that are implemented throughout the life of the PC(U.S.A.). **As a discernment event**, the General Assembly occurs every two years. It includes committee meetings, plenary sessions, meals, educational opportunities, and other planned and impromptu gatherings. **As a worshipping body**, the General Assembly is a time when people from across the PC(U.S.A.) and beyond gather to celebrate God's work in the world.

Each Presbytery is required to send two Commissioners, one Teaching Elder (pastor) and one Ruling Elder. As luck would have it, I was elected to serve as Eastminster Presbytery's Teaching Elder Commissioner later this summer in Salt Lake City. We have been hard at work preparing things for General Assembly, and how best to serve this Presbytery and the wider church community. I'm really looking forward to serving the wider church body and representing our great and wonderful community later this summer.

If you have any questions about the work of the church, or you think there is something of special note that I should know as I prepare for General Assembly, please let me know!



Peace, Pastor Kori

Church News

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

RESPONSIBILITIES FOR MAY

ELDERS: LISA SORG (May 5 & 12), CHUCK REINHART (May 19), ANDY KONSOL (May 26)

DEACON: MARTY O'NEILL

LITURGISTS:

05/05 VAL COPANIC 05/19 MELISSA KEELY 05/12 SUZIE MCCABE 05/26 DARLENE SMITH



Linda and Laurie are looking for staff to watch Rusty 7–3, 3–11, 11–7, 7 days a week. \$15 an hour. Help with meals, and general daily tasks. Training would be provided.

Contact Laurie or Linda at cell numbers



Reminder: Worship moves to 10:00am on Sunday, May 26th thru Labor Day.

See you then!

Worship Committee

During the month of May, we will be having the baptism of Alaya Brendlinger on May 5th. Communion will take place on Mother's Day, Sunday May 12th. Pentecost Sunday is May 19th, please wear red.

We will begin Summer worship on Sunday May 26th. Worship will begin at 10 am.

Do you have any ideas for worship? We'd love for you to join us at out next meeting on Tuesday May 21st at 630pm.

Anyone interested in being liturgist please contact Lisa Sorg at 480-427-9032.

<u>Members to Remember</u>

Shirley Dull Helen Redmond Marlyne Young

<u>Prayer List</u>

Amos Rodgers & Cody Tittle (Marlene's friends) James Tincher (Marlene's son) Clayton & Eileen (Bev Myers' family friends) Paul Stevens (Bev Myers' son) Dennis Copanic (Val Copanic's father) Graig Colantone (Nicole Pugh's father) Dareen Craver-Angeloff (Rodney's mother) Cheryl Fisher (Bev Meyers' Daughter) Ella McBride (friend of Sherri Craver) Chuck & Bonnie Jorza (Linda Frayer's Sister-in-Law) Cheryl Beanblossom (Valerie Copanic's sister) Joan Williams **Rusty Garland** Kathy Garland Vince Fazio (Marty O'Neill's friend) Jodi Jorgensen (Lisa Sorg's friend) Shirley Brodie Mary Jane Hileman Mason Blackburn (Mary J. Shaffer's friend) Jim Meyers (Darryl's brother) Terry Keeley Sr

KE SALF

Alan Bray (friend of Terry Keeley Sr.) Joe Scafuri (Terry Godman's father-in-law) Logan (Friend of Abbie Postlethwait) Family of Mary Alice Seaborn Family of Joe Koch Jeff Pitzer (friend of Jane Meyers)

<u>Prayers Around the World</u>

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 Victims of Natural Disasters Citizens of Israel/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.

The Deacons will be hosting a bake sale on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 12th. Pick up a gift for your mom, teacher, neighbor, friends – anyone with a sweet tooth.

All funds will be donated back to the church. If you are interested in donating any baked items, please reach out to Rosie Rebraca.



Our Deacons are looking to host a Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, June 8th. However, to be able to do this we need volunteers! If anyone is interested in volunteering, there is a sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall. We will need at least 12 people. We are

hoping you will want to help! All proceeds will be donated back to the Church. For additional information please contact any Deacon or Pastor Kori!





Clothes for Kids Drive

June 1 through August 11, 2024

* Mew clothes only * Kids of all ages and sizes

Garments may include: shirts, sweatshirts, long pants, socks, underwear

Each church should collect individually as they see fit. United Methodist will coordinate, store and organize the group effort

Clothes will be distributed at our summer food distribution on August 20 with the start of the new school year

Please drop off to one the following 4 churches in our Township:

- * Church of Christ
- * First Presbyterian Church
- * Ohltown United Methodist Church
- * St. Mary's Church

As we continue to provide free groceries to families in need within our community, our community food pantry needs Spaghetti Sauce, Peanut Butter, Jelly, canned fruit, hamburger/ chicken/ tuna helper, tuna, mashed potatoes, stuffing, cereal, ready to eat meals (raviolis, spaghetti O's, etc.), canned soup, Corn, and green beans. If you can donate, we will greatly appreciate it. If you have any questions, please reach out to Debbie or January Rendes.



Mark your calendars for a day at the Akron Zoo! The Church Growth Committee is planning a day at the Zoo for Sunday, June 2nd. We will depart after Church Service for the Akron Zoo. Bring lunch (or you can purchase lunch at the Zoo) and we can explore and have an afternoon lunch at the Zoo! We look forward to seeing you there! If by chance it rains that day, we will have a backup date for Sunday June 23rd! For additional information please reach out to Ted Smith, January Rendes, Melissa Keeley, or Marty O'Neil!

Please continue to be on the lookout for additional upcoming activities that our Church Growth Committee is working on. We are planning a day at a Scrappers game for another summer event. If anyone is interested in helping plan these activities or if you have an idea for an event, please reach out to a member of the Church Growth Committee!





We will have a church clean-up day on Saturday, May 11th beginning at 10am. We'll have lots of projects available and you are invited to bring tools, gardening supplies, or whatever else you may think of to help clean up the church for the summer! Any help is appreciated!



<u>Who are the unsung members</u> who carried out the teaching tasks on behalf of the congregation this year? Here they are.....

Adults - Pastor Kori Robbins and Ted Smith

Teens – Matt Glidewell and Rosie Gleason Rebraca

Multiage class – Debbie Rendes and Lori Brendlinger

Tiny Tots – January Rendes and Bethany Glidewell

Others who support and help CE with their responsibilities. Here they are.....

Sending cards to students – Diane Reinhart

Greeter during the Sunday School hour – Jane Meyers

Story Circle attendants – Olivia Meyers and Michelle Meyers.

Members of the Christian Education Committee are....

Debbie Rendes, Lori Brendlinger, Abbie Postlethwait and Carole Rummell.

There will be a small thank you gift in Fellowship hall on Sunday, May 12.

<u>The last day of church school</u> before summer break will be on Pentecost, May 19. We will be returning to classes on the Sunday after Labor Day which is September 8. We would like to encourage our children to attend a Vacation Bible School that is offered near you.

In all of our classrooms there is posted a wall chart that shows the exit children and/or adults should use in exiting the building in case of an emergency. Children would be led from the building by their teachers and taken to the parking lot west (down the hill) to the Garris parking lot to meet their parents. When warm weather shows up we may take a trial run at doing this. Parents will be notified when we plan to do the trial run.

<u>Our Little Free Library</u> as you know is located in the church lounge and all books are free for the taking. We also accept books as donated.

Our library is in need of children's books. If you have books to donate just leave them in the lounge on the table and someone will shelf them. The folks who come to get groceries at the food distribution of the Community Food Pantry are so pleased to be able to take a free book or two home for their children as well as themselves.





Suicide Prevention Workshop

Eastminster Presbytery is offering an opportunity that will help guide you in shining a light in the lives of individuals and families going through their darkest times.

Join us on Tuesday, May 21, 2024, 8:30a.m. at First Presbyterian Church (<u>3654 Main St, Mineral Ridge, OH 44440</u>

This is a one-day workshop designed to equip faith community leaders to minister to those impacted by suicide. This includes the creation of worship resource, training in suicide awareness and basic conversation skills, and how to extend the invitation to those who have been suicidal in the past to share their stories.

Soul Shop workshops address the primary obstacles to dealing with suicide such as stigma, fear, and shame; statistics/facts about suicide; and how ministries can create a supportive environment while shifting the culture around how people deal with this subject and one another.

While targeted to pastors and church leaders, Soul Shop trainings benefit counselors, first responders, and essentially anyone interested in learning how to effectively minister to suicide.

Workshop is free AND lunch will be provided!

To help with meal preparations, please register ASAP

At

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/soul-shop-for-leaders-mineral-ridge-ohio-tickets-875353625257?aff=oddtdtcreator



The May Session Meeting will be moved to

Wednesday, May 29th due to the Memorial Day Holiday



Interpretation & Stewardship Committee

Monthly Financial Report

Keeping you informed on the financial health of our church.

WE ARE DOING IT!

So far this year we have increased our giving from last year! Thank you all so much for stepping up! We have still not given the \$11,606 that we need to cover our monthly expenses but we are getting closer.

COMPARISON OF GIVING THE LAST 4 YEARS

	2020	2021	2022	2022	2024
	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>
January	\$10,593.00	\$ 7,073.00	\$ 7,986.00	\$ 7,918.00	\$10,732.00
February	11,850.00	11,733.00	8,646.00	7,241.00	8,729.00
March	11,729.00	7,303.00	10,355.00	7,931.00	10,872.00
April	9,302.00	11,643.00	9,874.00	9,736.00	
May	10,743.00	11,221.00	10,559.00	6,553.00	
June	10,144.00	7,348.00	7,941.00	9.019.00	
July	7,250.00	8,584.00	13,140.00	7,192.00	
August	10,079.00	8,052.00	8,027.00	7,053.00	
September	9,200.00	7,513.00	8,059.00	8,645.00	
October	8,850.00	10,319.00	7,584.00	8,770.00	
November	10,928.00	8,624.00	9,346.00	10,223.00	
December	18,218.00	<u>16,666.00</u>	<u>21,186.00</u>	<u>17,871.00</u>	
Year to Date	128,886.00	116,079.00	122,703.00	108,152.00	19,461.00

LOOKING AHEAD

Pentecost Sunday is May 19. This is the Sunday we dedicate the Presbyterian Church (USA) special Pentecost offering. Our church retains 40% of what is collected. Session has approved I&S's recommendation that our portion be used for at-risk Seaborn Elementary youth. Two needs have come to our attention and we are open to consider more. The ones we are considering are books for the school library and new clothing for our fall clothing drive which is being sponsored by our Community Food Pantry. Offering envelopes for this special offering will be in the pews or just mark "Pentecost offering" on the memo line on your check.

Remember this is the day we all wear red to worship!

Thank you for giving to One Great Hour of Sharing during Lent. We collected \$805.35.

Per Capita remains at \$32.50. Special envelopes will be in the pews throughout the year..This offering is used for the administrative work of Eastminster Presbytery and the Presbyterian Church, USA. Our church will pay \$4,518 this year for each active member we had in 2022 (139). **You can pay this anytime during the year!**

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 3654 Main Street Mineral Ridge, Ohio 44440 330-652-5712 Admin@FPCMR.org 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 CHECK US OUT ON Welcome YouTube



to God's house All Are Welcome

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, on Facebook, and on YouTube at 10:30am (10am from Memorial Day thru Labor Day) and can be accessed in the following ways:

In our Sanctuary (masks are optional).

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/

Please Join Us Sundays at 10:30am*

10am beginning May 26th