



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
of
Mineral Ridge, Ohio
December 2022



VOL. 50 NO. 10

Blessings to all during the Advent and Christmas Seasons!

Here we are in 2022 and we are facing yet our 3rd year of whatever season of the pandemic this is but Advent still comes. This poem by Mary Oliver struck me this week with her words

“Dear Lord, I have swept and I have washed but still nothing is as shining as it should be for you.” -Mary Oliver

While we might not be taking the same precautions we did even a year earlier, we are still forever marked by the events of the last several years. As people of faith, despite the world raging around us, we know the Christ Child will still be born anew. We’re bringing back our old traditions, even as we embrace new ones. As we embrace the idea of the world turning to “normal” we also reckon with the fact that things are different. Christmas tends to bring up all sorts of feelings, happiness at the joy on children’s faces and knowing that loved ones come visit. There might be sadness as we recognize the losses of the last few years. We live in some challenging times, emotionally, financially, and spiritually, but the work of Christ continues.

I want to take a moment to thank this community for embracing me over the last (almost) four months, and I can’t wait to see what the new brings us all. I invite you to step into this season of Advent as we wait and hope, as we pray for peace and joy and love and prepare for the birth of baby Jesus. I invite you to take the time to step back and reflect, think and pray.

As we continue our journey through Advent and Christmas, there are a number of upcoming worship services that I invite you to attend and participate in as you are interested and able.

December 4th at 10:30am – Christmas Program Day!

December 11th at 10:30am – 3rd Sunday in Advent

December 14th at 7pm – Blue Christmas Service in partnership with Guiding Light Presbyterian Church

December 18th at 10:30am – 4th Sunday in Advent

December 24th at 5:30pm – Christmas Eve Worship

December 25th – 10:30 - *there will be no regular worship, but come hear a Christmas story from Pastor Kori and enjoy some breakfast snacks!*

January 1st – 10:30 – *there will be no regular worship, but come hear about the genealogy of Jesus and enjoy some breakfast snacks!*

All are welcome to join in worship and fellowship. If there is anything that I can do or if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to give me a call at 406-560-5548. Christ’s blessing to you and yours this festive season.



Pastor Kori

RESPONSIBILITIES FOR DECEMBER

ELDER: JANE MEYERS

LITURGISTS:

12/04 OLIVIA MEYERS

12/11 JILL FABIAN

12/18 DARLENE SMITH

12/24 VAL COPANIC

DEACONS OF THE MONTH:

12/04 DAVID RUMMELL

12/11 SHIRLEY BRODIE

12/18 JANUARY RENDES

12/25 N/A



Church News

Keep us up to date. E-mail your news to the church office: fpc.ridge@gmail.com or call 330-652-5712



Congratulations to Hannah Heintl and Bret Warrick on the birth of their second son Brody John Warrick. Big brother, Brock Douglas was pleased to be introduced to baby brother. Others greeting him are grandmother Robin Warrick, Aunt Makayla, Uncle Chad and great grandmother Virginia Gilmore.

ALL ARE INVITED

On the second Saturday of January, January 14, in Fellowship Hall all are invited to join the officers in hearing from community leaders as we will be asking the to bring us information on “Who are our neighbors and what can we do to help them”. We may have had an idea of the needs before the COVID pandemic, but circumstances may have changed for some people. As a Matthew 25 Church we are called to serve those outside our doors in any way we can. We are inviting someone from the Weathersfield Trustees, The Weathersfield Police and Fire Departments, Weathersfield Schools, Niles Community Services and The Mineral Ridge Community Pantry to address us and we will be able to ask questions.

Come at 8:30 for a light breakfast and join us as we hear from these community leaders. Officers will be asked to stay beyond 10:30 as they will organize for the new year. Others may leave at that time.

The backpack program has resumed. We now have a total of 23 families and 34 students in our backpack program! We are in need of fruit cups, boxes of macaroni & cheese, canned soup, and snacks (snack bars, 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. If you



Our Holiday distribution food giveaways will be coming upon us soon. If you are able to donate items we are in need of the following items: Macaroni and Cheese, Canned soup, Cans of Fruit, Gravy Packets, Boxes of Jello / Pudding, Pasta, Spaghetti sauce, cereal, and mashed potatoes / stuffing. If you have any questions please reach out to January and Debbie Rendes. We appreciate any help provided. Thank you!

Hello, our deacons will be volunteering to help feed the community working with the United Way of Mahoning Valley for the Saturday of Caring on November 19th. If you are interested in volunteering please sign up in Fellowship Hall by November 1st. We will be unloading grocery trucks and packing food. This will be held at the parking lot behind Southwoods Surgical Hospital on Southern Blvd in Boardman to help unload the Save A Lot Trucks. We will then line up to pack the food bags - fresh meat, produce, and shelf stable items. You can help break down the tables at the end and/ or help load up the delivery cars. This will take place from 8:00AM - approximately 10:00 AM. If you have any questions please let January Rendes or Melissa Keeley know.

Satur-Day
Of
Caring

United
Way



Satur-Day
Of
Caring

PRAYER LIST

MEMBERS TO REMEMBER

Mary Alice Seaborn Shirley Dull
Marlyne Young Helen Redmond

Health Concerns

Betty Garland
Logan Morris (Infant Great-Grandson of Tom Morris)
Megan Taylor (Carole's cousin)
Amos Rodgers & Cody Tittle (Marlene's friends)
James Tincher (Marlene's son)
Bill Reddersen (Ted & Darlene Smith's friend)
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)
Jim Flores (Marty O'Neill's boyfriend)
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)
Tom Crozier
Bill Happney
The Keeley family
Shannon Poole (daughter of Sherry and Tim Gleason)

Sympathy, Concern, Nurture, & Support

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



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.

AND ANOTHER ONE!!!



As you read before both The Niles Silver Thimbles of The American Sewing Guild that meets in Fellowship Hall and their regional organization each have given \$50 for a sewing machine to be purchased for someone in a developing part of the world. Now we also have received a gift of \$50 from one of our members to purchase another one. That means three sewing machines are on their way to help provide a stable source of income for a family in a developing part of the world.

Newly Elected

At the recent congregational meeting the following have answered the call to serve as officers and members of the 2023 Nominating Committee.

Lisa Sorg will be returning for a second term on Session and for their first term **Andy Konsol** and **Ted Smith** were elected.

Elected to serve on the Board of Deacons was **Melissa Keeley** for her second term and for their first term were **Debbie Rendes** and **Lori Brendlinger**.

Those elected to serve on the 2023 Nominating Committee were Elder **Jane Meyers**, Deacon **Melissa Keeley** and congregational members, **Randy Rummell**, **Chuck Hudzik** and **Bethany Rouan**.

Congratulations to all who have answered the call to serve this congregation.

Where are you on Sunday Mornings? *by Suzie McCabe, Worship Comm.*

Seriously, where are you at 10:30 on Sunday morning? **We miss you!!!** We are approaching the 160th anniversary of our church and if you envision a future for our church then **YOU** need to be a part of it!! There are many ways to serve the church but attending on Sunday mornings is a significant one. What could be more important than being in worship, if you are able? The pandemic took a toll on some of us and we got out of the habit of participating in worship. I get it!!! But we are a church family and the family that prays together, stays together.
Come back to church...we miss you!



Another DID YOU KNOW?.....



All members of our congregation at one time or another had to profess their faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and renounce evil. They also had to agree to be governed by the PC (USA) polity. Those seeking membership come before the Session to be received into membership and then will take their vows in congregational worship. Our worshipping congregation is composed of members and non-members who work to serve God in the mission we carry out.



Our Little Free Library needs Children's books.

Those who come to the Holiday food distribution on December 13 are invited, as always, to come to the lounge to take a book or two. They seem most interested in taking children's books. Therefore we would always like to have on had many children's books. If you would like to donate books you can bring them to the lounge and place on the book shelf of the shelving. We also understand that Ollie's has inexpensive books in case you want to purchase any for our library.

You too are invited to stop in any time to take a book or several. No need to sign out, just take one you would like to read.



Amazon Smile – If you are ordering through Amazon try to use Amazon Smile where you can designate our church to receive some percentage of the spending. Would you believe that one of our members has designated their contribution which was \$27.35 for a three-month period. PRETTY GOOD I would say. Our congregation has given \$306.03 this year. THAT IS REALLY GOOD!!! Smile Amazon as given 377 million to US Charities and over 422 million to charities worldwide. Try to remember when ordering to go to Smile Amazon to make your purchase and designate our church for the rewards.

Upcoming Events at FPCMR



On December 14th we will be joining with Guiding Light Presbyterian Church in Girard for “A Blue Christmas” as many struggle to cope with grief and loss over the holiday season. The service will take place at 7pm at FPCMR.

The Community Parish Quarterly Food Distribution will be held:

Tuesday, December 13 from 10:00 a.m. to noon at



Do you have a prayer request? Contact the church at Fpc.ridge@gmail.com to let us know!

Pastor Kori is working on getting in touch with members who are unable to come to church, as well as those on the prayer list! Would you like a home visit or communion brought to you? While she works through the list of members and friends, she encourages you to reach out to her! She can be reached via phone or text message at 406-560-5548 or by email koriDrobbins@gmail.com.

MEMBERS TO REMEMBER



Mary Alice Seaborn - 11300 Farrah Lane, Apt. 618
Austin, Texas. 78748

Shirley Dull - 1370 Ohltown -McDonald Rd.
Mineral Ridge, OH 44440

Marlyne Young - 410 Washington Ave. Niles, OH 44446

Helen Redmond - 1274 Signature Dr. Austintown, OH 44515



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN

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 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!