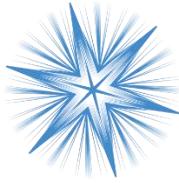


Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
 <h1 style="font-size: 4em; margin: 0;">JANUARY</h1>						
<u>Sundays</u> 9-10a Adult Sunday School 9:45-10:15 Coffee Hour 10:30 – 11:30 Worship	<u>Mondays</u> 1-3p Food Pantry 6:30p Boy Scouts	<u>Tuesdays</u> 6:30p Cub Scouts	<u>Wednesdays</u> 1-3p Food Pantry 6p Bells 7p Choir 7p AA 8p NA	<u>Thursdays</u>	<u>Fridays</u> 1-3p Food Pantry	<u>Saturdays</u> 7p AA
28	29 	30	31	1 	2  1-2:30p Produce Market	3
4  Communion  After Worship Trustees	5	6	7  6:30p Christian Growth	8  7p Mission Council	9  	10
11  During Worship Ordination & Installation of Officers  After Worship All Church Birthday Party!	12  	13	14	15  7p Hospitality & Fellowship	16	17  
18  During Worship Cents-Ability Collection	19  No Produce Market  Individual Reports Due!	20  11:30a Lunch Group @ Our Place	21	22  6p Session Meeting	23  	24
25  9a Youth Membership Class  During Worship Anointing Service  Annual Reports Available	26	27	28  	29	30	31

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thur Fri Sat

# February

Sundays	Mondays	Tuesdays	Wednesdays	Thursdays	Fridays	Saturdays
9-10a Adult Sunday School 9:45-10:15 Coffee Hour 10:30 – 11:30 Worship	1-3p Food Pantry 6:30p Boy Scouts	6:30p Cub Scouts	1-3p Food Pantry 6p Bells 7p Choir 7p AA 8p NA		1-3p Food Pantry	7p AA
1 <b>9a Youth Membership Class</b> <b>Communion</b> <b>After Worship Annual Congregational Meeting</b>	2 	3	4 <b>6:30p Christian Growth</b>	5 	6 <b>1-2:30p Produce Market</b>	7
8 <b>9a Youth Membership Class</b> <b>Scout Sunday!</b> <b>After Worship Fellowship Time</b>	9 	10 	11	12 <b>7p Mission Council</b>	13	14  <b>Boys Chrysalis</b>
15 <b>9a Youth Membership Class</b>  <b>Boys Chrysalis</b>	16 <b>1-2:30p Produce Market</b>	17 <b>11:30a Lunch Group @ the Willow</b>	18 <b>7p Ash Wednesday Service</b>	19 <b>7p Hospitality &amp; Fellowship</b>	20 	21
22 <b>9a Youth Membership Class</b> <b>1st Sunday of Lent</b>	23 	24	25	26 <b>6p Session Meeting</b>	27	28 



# The Pathfinder



January 2025

## Pastor Steve's Article – Questions: Who Do I Pray to?

*“This, then, is how you should pray: “Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.” – Matthew 6:9-13*

**Who do I pray to, the Father, the Son or the Holy Spirit?** That is an interesting question. The short answer is that you pray **to** the Father, **through** the Son, **by the power** of the Holy Spirit. That said, you most certainly can pray to any of the three, or the three as a whole (God). Especially, if you are talking to God about a role that has been predominantly given to a single member of the Trinity. For example, if you are thanking the Holy Spirit for sanctifying or the Son for redeeming.

In the New Testament Scripture, we can see that the Father is the typical recipient of prayer. Jesus teaches us this in the Lord's prayer: *“This, then, is how you should pray: Our Father...”* Jesus also lives out this example, addressing all of his prayers found in Scripture to the Father. This makes sense when you think about the Father's role within the Trinity. He is the creator, holder and keeper of time, space and all creation. It was by his command that all things were created, by his will that Jesus came, through his love that we are adopted into his family, and by his set timing all things will be made new. He is our Father, and just like most of our needs are met through a relationship with our parents. Most of our prayers should be addressed to him.

Our prayers are typically to the Father and through the Son. This is because Jesus is the mechanism through which we have access to the Father. We can pray and expect to be heard by the Father, only because of the Son. Here are a couple of scriptures. *“Very truly I tell you, my Father will give you whatever you ask in my name.”* – John 16:23b *“We have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus.”* - Hebrews 10:19 The Father initiates salvation and the Son accomplishes it. We often call Jesus our high priest because he is the mediator between God and Man. We can only ask the Father because of the Son. We can only approach the Father because of the Son. We can only pray to the Father because of the Son. Think of any priest type of relationship. The priest is not the object of our worship, but the one helping to lead us. (Not that we aren't to worship Jesus, of course we are.)

Our prayers are typically to the Father, through the Son, by the power of the Holy Spirit. *“Through him (Christ) we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.”* – Ephesians 2:8 In scripture we can see that the Holy Spirit helps us by leading us to pray, giving us words or translating our words when we have none, aligning our desires to the will of God and carrying our prayers to the Father as an offering. I always say that the Holy Spirit attaches us to the work of Jesus. Because of the Holy Spirit, what Jesus did and continues to do, counts for us. The Holy Spirit is why and how Jesus intercedes for us and so the Holy Spirit is why and how our prayers reach the Father.

Every time we pray, the whole Trinity is involved. Yet, it is our Father to which most of our prayers should be addressed.



Merry Christmas,

Rev Steven Brand

# January Activities



## Fellowship Lunch Group

January 20<sup>th</sup> @ Our Place  
February 17<sup>th</sup> @ the Willow

Everyone is invited to this fellowship group. This group meets monthly for lunch at a different restaurant around town. January 20, everyone is invited to Our Place. Then, in February, we will head over to the Willow for lunch. Sign-up sheets will be available in the sanctuary, or you can RSVP to the church office.



## All Church Birthday Party-Potluck

January 11<sup>th</sup> After Worship

Mark your calendars and save the date for this special all-church birthday party! We will be celebrating everyone's birthday. Bring a dish to share. Deserts will be provided. Birthday cake of course!



## Ordination & Installation of Officers

January 11<sup>th</sup> During Worship

Our new church officers will officially take office on January 11<sup>th</sup> with the service of ordination and installation. Let us celebrate and appreciate all of our congregation members who are willing and called to official church leadership. Diana Brand and Janet Robinson will be joining the Deacons. Diane Junk will join the session for a one-year term. Jeannie Johnson, Jeff Montgomery and Eric Wayne will all remain on Session for a second term. Jerry Butcher and Rick Mead will be joining Trustees. Thank you!



## Special Anointing Service

January 25<sup>th</sup> During Worship

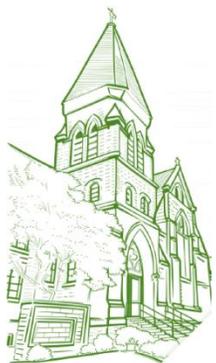
*"Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise. Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord." – James 5:13-14*

As Christians, we often suffer from a lack of wholeness due to the stresses of the day, physical ailments, sin, or distraction. Biblically and historically, the Church has used the anointing with oil and the laying of hands as a way to bring us back to wholeness and as a way to mark times of extreme change. This is a powerful tool that we seldom use in today's Church.

January 25<sup>th</sup>, at the end of worship we will have a service of anointing and laying on of hands. Pastor Steve and several church members will be up front for anyone who would like to be anointed. To take part, go up to Pastor Steve for the anointing and then see one of the prayer persons for a time of prayer and laying on of hands. You can be as specific or as vague as you want to be in your reason for taking part in the service. See Pastor Steve if you would like to be a person who prays with/for others.

# Annual Congregational Meeting

February 1<sup>st</sup> After Worship in the Sanctuary or On Zoom



The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held after worship on February 1<sup>st</sup> in the sanctuary and on Zoom. There will be a special Zoom link emailed out the week before. The Facebook livestream will NOT be active during the meeting. All active church members are invited to participate with voice and vote. At the meeting we will be reviewing and accepting our annual reports, electing a 2026 Nominating Committee, and placing new elders on the corporate board. [Individual Reports are due into the church office by January 19.](#) Annual Reports will be available in the sanctuary by January 25. Contact the church office if you would like an Annual Report emailed or mailed to you.

## Youth Membership/Confirmation Class

Sunday Mornings @ 9am, Beginning January 25th



We are excited to announce a new Confirmation Class for all of our middle and high school youth! This class is an opportunity for students to explore the foundations of the Christian faith, ask honest questions, and grow in their understanding of what it means to follow Jesus within the life of the church. The class will meet on Sunday mornings at 9am in the youth Sunday School class. The class will run from January 25-early May. The students will learn about our congregation, our denomination, and how to articulate their own faith. They will write their own statements of faith, participate in worship, volunteer in the life of the church, and hopefully, have some fun along the way. See Pastor Steve for questions or more information.



**Bad Weather** – It is that time of year again when bad weather and dangerous conditions can happen at any time. Even on a Sunday morning! Please use your judgment when bad weather strikes. Worship services will be automatically canceled if there is a level 3 Snow Emergency. All other church functions will be canceled during level 2 or 3 Snow Emergencies. This would include: the church office, all in-person meetings, Bible studies and social events. Any cancellation will be announced via email, Facebook or phone call (if you have requested a phone call in place of an email.)

The church wants you to stay safe. If it is too cold or the roads or your driveway looks too slippery; stay inside. Even if you are staff, or have volunteered for a specific job for the day; stay inside if the weather makes you feel unsafe. You can always watch on Facebook or YouTube.



## Sunday Morning Volunteers

Sunday mornings there are many activities that must take place for worship and fellowship to be possible and happen smoothly. **Greeters and ushers** are needed to welcome folks and assist others in getting situated. At **Mana** in the parlor, snacks and refreshments are helpful in encouraging fellowship and a cordial atmosphere. During worship **sound and video techs** make sure that everyone can hear worship and join in on Facebook or YouTube when they are unable to join in the sanctuary. The **liturgist** helps to lead people in worship, making sure that everyone can participate and follow along. Members of the **choir and bell choir** add so much to our experience of worship with their talents. Sign-up sheets for these positions can be found in the Hinde Street lobby.



## Preparing the Way

**Christmas Joy Offering** – This Advent we totaled \$1,035 for the Christmas Joy offering. This offering provides support for Presbyterian church workers and their families in their time of need and leadership development and education for communities of color at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges.



**This year's Adopt a Family is a hardworking family that cares for 9 children. Thank you all for being generous and making their Christmas that much better.**

**The Christmas Music Party is a celebration of Christmas time for all of those who take part in the church's music program and was held at the Penwell residence. A wonderful time was had by all.**

**On Christmas Eve we collected \$660 for the Fayette County Food Bank. If you missed the service, you can watch it on the church's You Tube or Facebook Channel.**





### November 2025 Financial Report



Total Income for Operating Expenses	\$16,338.37
Total Expenses	\$23,024.53
Year-to-date Income for Operating	\$183,647.0
Year-to-date Expenses	\$227,603.16

The four investment accounts totaled \$736,251.48  
 (General Fund, Scholarship, Deacons, and Perse Harlow – Capital Improvement)  
 All financial information is available upon request.

### January Birthdays

- 1/3 - Nick Preston 203 River Rd.
- 1/4 - Mary Ann Carr 407 E. Court St.
- 1/12 - Joel Craig 3291 Brentwood Ct.  
Powell 43065
- 1/17 - Rod Farmer 1392 Itawamba Trail  
London 43140
- 1/17 - Laura Garrison  
1142 Staunton Sugar Grove Rd.
- 1/18 - David Bishop  
3863 US Hwy 42 S  
Delaware 43015
- 1/21 - Cindy Sagar 123 W. Circle Ave.
- 1/24 - Alice Craig 500 Kathryn St.
- 1/25 - Laura Grover 2820 US Hwy 35 NW
- 1/27 - Janet Robinson 1239 Farmington Lane
- 1/28 - Christy Wall 225 Eagles Way
- 1/30 - Kitten Richards 640 Burdick Dr.



**Happy Birthday!**

### *Deacons Care List*

**Court House Manor Assisted Living**  
**555 N. Glenn Ave.**

Joy Heiny #110

**Court House Manor Nursing Home**  
**555. N. Glenn Ave.**

Faye Ann Persinger Bridle Way #37

**Hopewell House**

**17273 St. Rt. 104 Chillicothe, OH 45601**

Dan Isham #145

**At Home**

**Bonnie Kellenberger**

**Ruth Kellis**

**John & Polly Mason**

**Joanne Montgomery**





**First Presbyterian Church**  
 214 N. Hinde St.  
 Washington C.H., OH 4316

**Fayette County Food Pantry**  
 Mon., Wed., Fri., 1-3 pm

If you wish to donate -  
 Please make the check  
 payable to Fayette County  
 Food Pantry

<i>The Session</i>		
Clerk of Session – Jeff Montgomery		
Moderator – Rev. Steven Brand		
2026	2027	2028
Dianne Junk	Sara Creamer	Jeannie Johnson
Martha Cooper	Jill Roberts	Jeff Montgomery
Janelle Mead	Kristin Preston	Eric Wayne
<i>The Deacons</i>		
2026	2027	2028
Laura Garrison	Carol Halliday	Diana Brand
Josh Pickelheimer	Diana Melchiori	Janet Robinson
Alicia Tackage	Carol Waddle	
<i>The Trustees</i>		
2026	2027	2028
Rod Farmer	Melody Farmer	Jerry Butcher
Teresa Persinger	Ryan Garrison	Rick Mead

## First Presbyterian Church

Email – [fpwcho@yahoo.com](mailto:fpwcho@yahoo.com)

Sunday Services  
 Adult Sunday School 9:00 am  
 Worship 10:30 am  
 Live stream on Facebook  
[www.facebook.com/fpcwcho](http://www.facebook.com/fpcwcho)

Rev. Steven Brand  
[revstevebrand@gmail.com](mailto:revstevebrand@gmail.com)

**Church Office Hours**  
 Tues. – Fri. 10 am – 2 pm  
 Telephone: 740-335-2067

**Per Capita - \$44.00 per member**

WASHINGTON COURT HOUSE  
 CHURCH  
 PRESBYTERIAN  
 FIRST



214 N. Hinde St.  
 Washington C.H. OH 43160