

PRESBYTERIAN PRESS

First Presbyterian Church
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Welcome Reverend Kathryn Rivera Torea

The Pastor Nominating Committee over the past year has asked for your prayers and patience, and it has paid off! We are happy to announce that we have called Rev. Kathryn Rivera Torea to be our next full-time minister.

Pastor Katie has 17 years experience and actually started her ministry right here in our church. She was with us for a few months in 2003-04 until she accepted her first call. Some of you may remember her as Katie Rhoads.

Katie grew up in Lima and mentored under David Montgomery. Her extended family lives in Mentor, and they have a cottage at Wampler Lake in the Irish Hills. She is married to Juan Pablo, who grew up in Mexico. They have no children but do have two cats.

Katie's references were glowing: wonderful human, excellent minister, authentic, gifted in providing care, unflappable, powerful in the pulpit, strong administrative skills, high integrity, generous and funny, and passionate about ministry, mission, justice, change, and stretching the comfort zone. Based on the results of our Vital Signs Report (from the CAT survey) Katie is a perfect match for our church.

Katie has been examined by the Maumee Valley Presbytery and deemed fit to serve. She has accepted our Terms of Call, and those Terms of Call have been approved by our Session. We will have a Congregational Meeting after worship on December 5 to elect Rev. Kathryn Rivera Torea as our next minister, and to elect new Session members Class of 2024.

What a glorious way to start our holiday season with the anticipation of a new minister in 2022! Pastor Katie finishes her call in Haverstraw, NY on December 31. She and Juan Pablo will be moving to Perrysburg the first of the year. Rev. Rivera Torea's first Sunday to preach in our pulpit will be January 16, 2022.

The PNC would like to recognize Marty Sloan and the Worship & Music Team for filling our pulpit during this transition time. We are truly grateful. Well done and thank you!

The Pastor Nominating Committee has been honored to have the prayerful support of the congregation. It has been our pleasure to serve First Presbyterian Church.

Jo Salvage, Mike Cain, Rick Gilts, Julie Lindsey, Allison Mackin, Molly Miller, Jack Simmons

Christian Education

By Julie Lindsey

The main event for December is the Children's Christmas Pageant that will be held on December 12th during the worship service. The script is adapted from the book GREAT JOY by Kate DiCamillo, a lovely story with a surprise ending. There will be a dress rehearsal on December 11th at 1:30. We will be practicing during Jr. Worship along with our regular lessons leading up to the pageant.

There will be no Jr. Worship Dec 26th or Jan 2 but the Worship and Music committee has a quiet, creative project for the children to work on during worship.

Christmas blessings to you from your Christian Education Team

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

By Selinda Schultz

During the Month of November our Tuesday Morning Group has continued our thought-provoking Journey through the book, Holy Envy. After the great discussions we will be sad to complete it on Nov 23rd but will be ready to start our journey through Advent on Nov 30th.

This year for the Season of Advent we will use a new book of daily readings by Thomas G. Long and Donyelle C. McCray, A Surprising God. They remind us that the questions we are asking are the questions of Advent: Where do we find hope when it seems in such short supply? Where are the signs of God's peace in this divided world? Where do we find a deeper sense of joy?

Join us for meaningful Advent preparation for Christmas. The books are available now. Call Selinda 419 865-8383 with any questions.

ADVENT DEVOTIONAL RESOURCES

This year's Advent adult booklets and youth booklet with wreath poster and stickers are available just outside the Sanctuary. Please take them to prepare your heart and mind for the Coming of Jesus.



MISSION

Randy Phillips, Team Leader

The beauty of Christmas is not in the presents but in His Presence. Matthew 1:23



Wishing all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year!

DECEMBER'S PCU COLLECTION ITEM: Soup

HEIGHTS COMMUNITY CENTER: Hygiene & Cleaning Products.

Drop off site: Church vestibule. One site, helping those in need of items.

PCU UPDATE: There has been an increase in pantry business and a great increase within the "crisis fund". Perrysburg Rotary "Turkey Giveaway" is planned for the pantry. Zoar Lutheran Church Blood Drive: Saturday, January 2, 2022 from 8AM-2PM.

COFFEE CAKE MINISTRY: Eileen Phillips stoked up the oven again for one very special church family member. Thank you, Eileen, for both the food and the quality fellowship time you and Randy had.

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING: Your gift goes towards critical financial assistance to current/ retired church workers and developing future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges. Donations being collected from **November 28 – December 19, 2021**. Prices are going up, the stock market is going down, these are some challenging times. No gift is too small. When we all do a little, it adds up to a lot.



MISSION MEAL: Ham, scalloped potatoes, bean casserole, applesauce/fruit cup, dinner roll, Christmas cookies, and bottled water. We are in need of 7 dozen Christmas cookies, baker's choice. Sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board.

Wednesday, December 15 (Louisiana House) and Thursday, December 16 (Elm House)

Donated items need to be at the church on Tuesday, December 14th.

For the eighth consecutive year, Selinda Schultz, applied and obtained a \$250.00 grant from Thrivent, (meeting their guidelines), to help cover expenses for the Thanksgiving and Christmas Mission Meals. Thank you so very much Selinda and Thrivent for your generous and valuable support!

ANGEL TREE: We have thirty precious angels hanging in Fellowship Hall, ready to take flight! Choose an angel and have a candy cane or two. You don't have to adopt an angel to take a candy cane.

NOSA CARDS: Nov. total sales-\$2,545.00.00. Another record broken! THANKS CHURCH FAMILY!!!!

NEXT MEETING: December 1, 2021 at 6:00 PM

Author- Mary Beth Gilts

WORSHIP/MUSIC

By Marty Sloan



New Minister: Our prayers have been answered!! ***With God, all things are possible!***
Matthew 19:26 Our church community is grateful for our diligent and persistent Pastor Nominating Committee! Many thanks to each of you for your hard work and continuous prayers for direction from our Lord to eventually lead to our new Pastor Katie Rivera Torea! Thanks Be to God!

Worship: During December, we will welcome the following as our guest ministers:

- December 5 - Rev. Barbara Esterly / Rev. Katie Rivera Torea
- December 12 - Christmas Pageant
- December 19 - Rev. Barbara Esterly
- December 26 - Jim Boroff

Christmas: All are welcome to gather in the sanctuary (or online) for this year's Christmas Eve service. The service is scheduled to begin at 7:00 p.m. It will be similar to recent years with Lessons and Scriptures and Christmas hymns.

We will have church services on Sundays, December 26th and January 2nd. Children will be staying in church as there will be no Junior Worship. A small activity will be provided for the children to do in pews during these two worship services.

Music: We were blessed on Sunday, November 21, 2021 by Isla Davies (just 11 years old) performing a beautiful solo of "Gather Us In" during morning worship! Many thanks to Isla! We are working to locate additional special music to enjoy during this Advent Season! Please consider offering your musical talents as a solo, duet or even a few friends as special music during worship service. Our pianist, Jordan Karrigan, would be happy to work with you!

Flowers: Sincere thanks for all orders for Christmas Poinsettias! These flowers will add beauty to our sanctuary as we praise the Lord on Christmas Eve! Remember to take your poinsettias home after Christmas Eve service.



First Presbyterian Church Scholarship Program Information

The First Presbyterian Church Scholarship is available for graduating high school seniors and current college students who are members of the First Presbyterian Church of Perrysburg pursuing undergraduate degree at an accredited post-secondary institution. This scholarship is renewable for 3 additional years after the initial award (4 years total), provided the student meets the renewal conditions.

APPLICATION DEADLINE	AWARD AMOUNT	TOTAL TO BE AWARDED	NUMBER OF AWARDS	AWARD TYPE	RENEWAL TERMS
February 11	\$1,500	\$3,000	1-2	Renewal	3 additional years after initial award

APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

Applications are first carefully reviewed by the Greater Toledo Community Foundation (GTCF) staff to verify their eligibility.

1. Must be a U.S. Citizen.
2. Must be a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Perrysburg (Perrysburg, Ohio).
3. Must have a minimum 2.5 cumulative GPA or higher.
4. Must be pursuing an undergraduate degree.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Eligible applicants are reviewed by a Scholarship Advisory Committee (SAC) based on the following criteria, in order of significance.

1. Academic Achievements
2. Positive People-Centered Character
3. Extracurricular Involvement
4. Community Service & Volunteer Involvement
5. Financial Need
6. Work Experience

SCHOLARSHIP PROCESS & TIMELINE

November	Application Available: Click here to apply on the Scholarship Portal . Within the portal, complete the GTCF General/Universal Scholarships Application.
February 11	Application Deadline: Applicants are fully responsible for uploading required documents by the deadline.
March	Review Process: SAC reviews & evaluates applications.
April	Committee Meeting: SAC meets to discuss applicants & select recipients.
May 15	Decision Notifications: GTCF notifies applicants of the Committee's decisions (approval & denial).
July 8	Follow Up: Recipients must submit a Scholarship Recipient Form prior to payment to confirm students are in compliance with the scholarship conditions.
Late July	Payments: Scholarships are paid directly to post-secondary institution (never directly to student).

It's a Cookie Celebration!

Sunday, December 12
during Fellowship Hour



Bring *one dozen cookies* to
help celebrate the children's
pageant

(Leave cookies in kitchen or
drop off before church)

SERVING CHART FOR DECEMBER, 2021

	HEAD USHER	USHERS	MINISTER	LITURGIST	CHILDREN'S MESSAGE	JR. WORSHIP LEADER	POWER POINT
5	Don Youel	Doris Currie / Marty Sloan	Rev. Barb Esterly	Allison Mackin	Don Youel	Sarah Magoun	Stephen Potts
12	Don Youel	Carol Sprague / Marty Sloan	Christmas Pageant	Rusty Phlegar	N/A	Julie Lindsey	Kathy Jarosz
19	Don Youel	Chris Stuart / Marty Sloan	Rev. Barb Esterly	Molly Chalfin	Selinda Schultz	Julie Lindsey	Stephen Potts
24	Don Youel	Mary Beth Gilts / Marty Sloan		Stephen Potts			Nancy Gates
26	Don Youel	Lowrie Gilmore / Marty Sloan	Jim Boroff	Stephen Potts	Melinda Gallant	N/A	Marty Sloan

If you have a conflict with assigned date, please try to trade with another volunteer and inform Marty Sloan. Call 419.973.0623 or email mssloan107@me.com. If unable to resolve conflict, contact Marty as soon as possible. Thank you for your service to FPC.

SERVING CHART FOR JANUARY, 2022

	HEAD USHER	GREETERS / USHERS	MINISTER	LITURGIST	CHILDREN'S MESSAGE	JR. WORSHIP LEADER	POWER POINT
2	Stephen Potts	Marty Gluth/ Marty Sloan	Rev. Melinda Gallant	Molly Chalfin	Gretchen Downs	N/A	Nancy Gates
9	Stephen Potts	Carole Sprague/ Marty Sloan	Jim Boroff	Don Youel	Don Youel	TBD	Kathy Jarosz
16	Stephen Potts	Cecilia Richardson/ Marty Sloan	Rev. Katie Rivera Torea	Jay Salvage	Allison Mackin	TBD	Stephen Potts
23	Stephen Potts	Doris Currie / Marty Sloan	Rev. Katie Rivera Torea	Rusty Phlegar	Megan Merrell	TBD	Nancy Gates
30	Stephen Potts	Kathy Jarosz/ Marty Sloan	Rev. Katie Rivera Torea	Kathy East	Sarah Magoun	TBD	Stephen Potts

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December 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 6:00 pm Mission Team Meeting	2 6:30 pm Worship/ Music Team Meeting	3	4 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm OPEN HOUSE
5 10:00 am Worship/ Communion Congregational Meeting 5:00 pm Advent Gathering 6:15 pm 123Pray	6	7 10:00 am Bible Study	8	9	10	11 1:30 pm Pageant Dress Rehearsal
12 10:00 am Worship/ Children's Pageant Cookie Exchange	13	14 10:00 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Session Meeting	15 Mission Meal – Louisiana House	16 Mission Meal – Elm House	17	18
19 10:00 am Worship	20 4:30 pm Finance/ Stewardship Team Meeting	21 10:00 am Bible Study	22	23	24 Christmas Eve Service Church Office Closed	25 CHRISTMAS DAY
26 10:00 AM Worship No Jr. Worship	27	28 No Bible Study	29	30	31 Church Office Closed	

Birthday Wishes

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Dec. 2	David Sloan
Dec. 12	Sarah Crawford
Dec. 12	Megan Matthews
Dec. 14	Sue Williams
Dec. 17	Rick Gilts
Dec. 17	Pat Hayden
Dec. 20	Tom Mackin
Dec. 22	Eileen Phillips
Dec. 22	Cathy Robinson
Dec. 23	Abbie Youel
Dec. 23	Lizzy Crawford
Dec. 24	Walter Celley
Dec. 26	Jerry Walcher
Dec. 28	John Jarosz
Dec. 28	Kate Merrell
Dec. 28	Beau Merrell
Dec. 29	Rick Modrzynski
Dec. 30	Nancy Gates

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Jan. 1	Alexandria Hope
Jan. 2	Amy Konz
Jan. 3	Delbert Duckins
Jan. 12	Ross Martin
Jan. 14	Kay Traver
Jan. 16	Margot Quick
Jan. 18	Melinda Gallant
Jan. 18	Martha Gluth
Jan. 21	Helen Haas
Jan. 23	David Traver
Jan. 25	Pat Sheridan

If you have a birthday that is not listed, please contact the church office so that we can update our records.

PARISH CONCERNS

Please remember these members and friends in your daily prayers:

Joe Brainard
Eva Lengel
Fay Mitchell
Rick Modrzynski
Pat Sheridan

Dorothy Darr
Geraldine McGue
Barb Modrzynski
Diana Oliver
Ed & Sue Williams

December 2021 Newsletter

Service Times:

10:00 a.m.

Worship

Children are excused during the worship
service to attend Sunday School

Communion is served on the first Sunday of each month

Session Members

Jo Salvage – Clerk

Nancy Gates, Co-Clerk

Melissa Cain, Co-Clerk

Kathy East

Mary Beth Gilts

Jon Grimm

Allison Mackin

Randy Phillips

Stephen Potts

Jay Salvage

Marty Sloan

Staff

Pastor

Adult Education Director

Musician

Treasurer

Secretary

Financial Secretary

Custodian

Nursery Attendant

Selinda Schultz

Jordan Karrigan

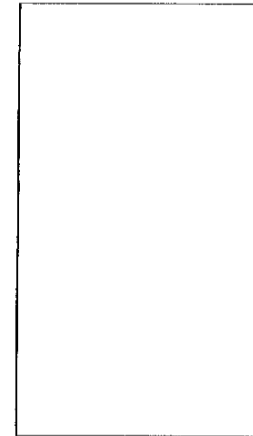
Don Youel

Linda Bristow

Tom Connolly

Kristin Burgoon

Kate Magoun



This Newsletter has been specifically prepared for:

First Presbyterian Church

200 East Second Street at Elm

Perrysburg, OH 43551