

# PRESBYTERIAN PRESS

**First Presbyterian Church**  
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**Perrysburg, OH 43551**  
**(419) 874-4119**

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## SESSION NEWS

***By Jo Salvage, Clerk***

As we say good-bye to 2020, I'd like to remember the great things First Presbyterian Church accomplished during the challenging months of the pandemic. We have a lot to be proud of!

- We completed a very successful PPP (Presby Potty Project) campaign and now have an ADA compliant restroom...much to everyone's relief!
- We quickly adapted to the coronavirus pandemic with Zoom worship and live streaming. We got creative with how communion was served. We enjoyed a beautiful Easter service, and we were entertained with a virtual Christmas Pageant. We continue to conquer the unexpected quirks of technology and improve the quality of our church service weekly.
- Mission continued their community outreach meal at The Table, taking meals to the people at Elm House and Louisiana House. A monthly logistical event to be admired.
- Even though we didn't sell brats at Harrison Rally Day, we did sell pies at the downtown Farmer's Market. Apparently, people needed lots of pies to help them get through the pandemic!
- We accommodated the lack of income from our two renters, Dancer's Pointe and Inspirations Day Care. We were able to secure a grant through the CARES Act to help our church financially, and to allow Dancer's Point and Inspirations to weather a few lean months of little income (with plans to pay late rent payments in the future).
- We accepted the resignation of Pastor Margaret Fox and helped celebrate her nearly four years of service with us. The socially distant COVID protocol send-off was a wonderful day for everyone involved.
- Worship & Music brought back 123 Pray as a way to help people connect with the physical church once a month safely with all COVID precautions followed.
- We undertook a survey involving a cow, cat, and monkey...what? Holy Cow! Consulting administered the CAT (Congregation Assessment Tool) via a Monkey Survey. The Vital Signs Report helped us discover our strengths and areas of growth to prepare us for the search for a new pastor.
- We have run a Stewardship Campaign, elected three new Session members, created a Pastor Nominating Committee, and hired an Interim Minister all within the last 2-3 months.

We are ready for a prosperous and glorious new year in 2021!  
Glory be to God for his many blessings.

## **News from the PNC Committee on an Interim Pastor**

The FPC Congregation approved a Pastoral Nominating Committee (PNC) to select a new, full-time called Pastor to replace Pastor Margaret. The PNC process is progressing but has considerable detail to follow and can take quite some time, perhaps 3-6 months optimistically?

Accordingly, a mini-team of Session was selected to identify and hire an Interim Pastor who can serve our Pastoral needs until a called Pastor is installed at FPC. Serving on this mini-team are: Jeff Kasza, Kathy East and Jack Simmons (all from Personnel); Marty Sloan (Worship & Music); and Jo Salvage (Clerk of Session).

After advertising the position, the Team interviewed the top candidate and exchanged information. A follow-up interview and work session followed and a tour of FPC took place. With positive vibes from all parties, another work session took place with the help of Rev. Karen VanderPloeg, Pastor of Waterville FPC and our liaison with MVP, and an Interim Contract was prepared.

This Interim Contract has been approved by your Session. We are awaiting final approval from MVP Committee on Ministry but expect that momentarily.

Accordingly, we are pleased to announce that we have extended an offer to Reverend Doctor Diane Christopherson, and she has accepted our offer under the terms of the Interim Contract. We hope to get the final T's crossed and the I's dotted yet this week or at the latest early next week. Pastor Diane is scheduled to start her Interim Ministry with us on 12/28/2020. Her first time preaching from our pulpit will be 1/3/2021. Please join us in welcoming Pastor Diane to the Perrysburg FPC family.

Her brief bio follows:

The Rev. Dr. Diane Christopherson was called to serve First Presbyterian Church, Perrysburg as the interim minister at the close of 2020. Her formative years were spent in the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul, MN where she earned a bachelor of science degree in music therapy from the University of Minnesota, a master of arts degree in theological studies from Bethel Seminary, and a doctor of ministry degree from United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities. Later she received training in mediation from the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center and Harvard Law School's Program on Negotiation.

Pastor Diane grew up in a Lutheran church but has been shaped from a young age to the present in ecumenical and interfaith contexts where shared values and the world's needs converge, inviting collaboration in the work of love and justice. She has attended World Council of Churches Assemblies in Zimbabwe, Brazil, and the Republic of Korea, and Parliaments of the World's Religions in Salt Lake City and Toronto.

Pastor Diane is ordained in the United Church of Christ and has worked as a youth minister in a United Methodist congregation; as a campus minister at the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor and Bowling Green State University; as a visiting lecturer at Eastern Michigan University, teaching courses on racial and cultural minorities; and as a trained interim minister, serving United Church of Christ congregations in Dummerston, VT, Binghamton, NY, Providence, RI, El Paso, TX, and Fresno,

CA. She has led service-learning/mission trips in the South Bronx, rural SC, Honduras, Haiti, Mexico, and El Paso. Along the way, Pastor Diane invested in five units of clinical pastoral education which she claims is “the next best thing to therapy.” She is a board certified chaplain with the Association of Professional Chaplains and has worked in hospital, hospice and long-term care settings and as an over-the-road truck driver-chaplain (!).

Pastor Diane adopted a son, Aaron, from Honduras when he was a toddler. He is married with three children and lives in the Toledo area. Diane lives with two sweet, rescued cats; a male, Angel, and a female, Rapunzel.

## Christian Education

***By Julie Lindsey***

## Youth Group

On Dec.5th and 6th the youth were busy setting up the stable for Mary, Joseph, sheep, and empty manger awaiting the arrival of Jesus. Between creating the manger scene we sold Christmas trees with expert guidance from Don Youel.

On Dec. 13th the unique virtual Christmas pageant was performed. Many thanks to all of the actors and tech crew for making this very Mixed-up Christmas a success.

As we move into the new year we will also be moving into a new curriculum. Please join us at the beginning of each worship service to see how we will be growing in Christ together.

## Adult Bible Study

***By Selinda Schultz***

Our faithful group of adults who zoom together Tuesday mornings at 10AM will meet again on January 5<sup>th</sup> after taking a day off on December 29<sup>th</sup>. While we are not able to travel, we will spend three weeks traveling with a variety of Bible characters, Jacob, Israelites, Elijah, and Jesus. We will see what they learn along the way and what we can learn from them.

Call Selinda at 419 865-8383 to get the digital readings and Zoom link and to join us on the journey.



# MISSION

## Randy Phillips, Team Leader

*“Give your hands to serve and your hearts to love.” (Mother Teresa)*

PCU COLLECTION ITEM: January’s item is canned vegetables.

HEIGHTS COMMUNITY CENTER: *Hygiene & Cleaning Products.*

Drop off site: The church vestibule.

The Mission Team voted to purchase \$200 of hygiene and cleaning products.



ANGEL TREE: We have beautiful angels among our congregation that we are honored to acknowledge for their generous support of the Angel Tree ministry! Fay Mitchell, Sarah Magoun, Julie Lindsey, Salvages, Olivers, Margot Quick, Marty Gluth, Richardsons, Beebe Boys, Youels, Merrells, Melinda Gallant, Gretchen Downs, Jamie Kreps, Crawfords, Phillips Family, Travers, Simmons Family, Marty Sloan, Kathy East, Gates Family, Selinda Schultz, Phyllis Witzler, Rusty Phlegar, and the Gilts Family.



MANOR OF PERRYSBURG FLYER: Posted December 11, 2020. “The blessings of **peace**. The beauty of **hope**. The spirit of **love**. The comfort of **faith** - **The Gifts of Christmas**. “Signs of Love” are posted on the church website, under Mission.

LINDA BRISTOW moved to the “Burg” on December 14th and was greeted by the “Welcome Wagon”, aka Mission Team, with dinner in hand. To show our appreciation for her boundless contributions, she also received gift cards to four local restaurants.

THE TABLE: We ended 2020 with the traditional Christmas Ham “mission meal” served to the Elm House and Louisiana House residents on December 17th and 18th. Check out the church website, under Mission, for photos of this year-end event!

THE “CHRISTMAS JOY” OFFERING: “Sharing our love with the leaders of our church – past, present and future.” Donation period for this offering is November 29 thru December 20. However, donations will be accepted throughout 2020! Please use the envelopes that were sent to your home to mail or drop off your donation at the church!

NEXT MEETING: January 6, 2021 at 6:00pm

By Mary Beth Gilts

# WORSHIP AND MUSIC



**By Marty Sloan**

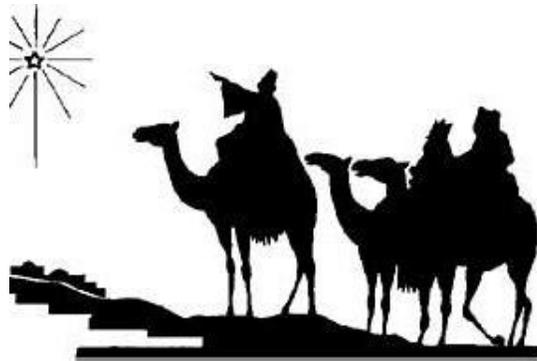
**Transitional Worship:** Rev. Dr. Diane Christopherson will join our congregation as guest minister for Communion Sunday, January 3, 2021. The Annual Christmas Pageant (virtual this year) was a big success and is still available for viewing on the church website.

**Advent:** Thank you to our church families who virtually invited us into their homes this season for weekly lighting of the Advent candles. We celebrated together the messages of Hope, Joy, Peace and Love while waiting and preparing for the celebration of the Nativity of Christ at Christmas and the return of Christ at the Second Coming.

On Christmas Eve, December 24, 2020 at 7:00 p.m., we will enjoy a wonderful Scriptures and Lessons Zoom service livestreamed into our homes. Sarah Magoun and Vinny will provide special music for the service. Be prepared with a candle for each member of your family to light at the end when we will all celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ by singing "Silent Night" together.

**123 Pray: (NEW HOURS)** 123 Pray service will offer quiet meditation and prayer in our worship sanctuary on Tuesday, January 5, 2021. Be reminded that 123 Pray is available through livestream and for viewing later which you can access through our church website front page. The service will run 6:15 p.m.- 7:00 p.m. Please note the service will begin running for 45 minutes. The church will be open at 6:00 p.m.

**Flowers:** Thanks to all who purchased Poinsettias for the Christmas season. The flowers will be beautifully displayed during our online worship celebration of Christmas Eve.



**Epiphany:** On Wednesday, January 6, 2021 we will begin to celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord. Epiphany, defined as the manifestation or visit from God, comes 12 days after Christmas Day and commemorates the visit of the Magi. Epiphany is an opportunity for us to focus on the events in Christ's life that reveal that God is incarnate, that he has come to save us, and that in seeing Jesus Christ, we are seeing God.

## **Contact Info for Rev. Dr. Diane Christopherson, Interim Pastor**

Cell phone: 559-312-3284; [pastor.fpcp@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.fpcp@gmail.com)

## **Free Online Symposium on Christian Worship**

**January 6–26, 2021**

You are warmly invited to [register now](#) for a free online learning experience held January 6-26, 2021, on key topics and themes in worship and the Christian life at the Calvin Symposium on Worship. This online experience is designed for all kinds of learners: students, faculty, artists, musicians, pastors, preachers, scholars, teachers, worship leaders and planners, and all interested worshipers around the world.

Join this free experience with participants around the world through online media to learn and connect together. Follow [#wsymp21](#) on Twitter.

### **Contributors**

We are grateful to welcome [more than 90 contributors](#) who add their wisdom and insights to this online experience.

### **Program**

The online Symposium on Worship offers [20 livestream worship services and 20 webinar sessions weekdays from January 6-26 as well as on-demand content](#) that allows you to access material at your own pace and time. We warmly encourage you to engage the content by posting your insights and wisdom on the content pages and to read and reflect on the responses posted by others. We look forward to being a global learning community.

The livestream worship services take us around the globe to a variety of worshipping communities. Six of these services feature texts from [Romans 8 on "The Renewed Life of God."](#)

### **Register Now**

There is no fee to register, but you must [register in order to engage the material](#), made available on January 6, 2021. The access code will be emailed in early January to all registered participants. Registration remains open until January 26, the final day.

<https://worship.calvin.edu/symposium/>

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- The Wood County Health Department is recruiting volunteers to administer the COVID vaccine when it becomes available. Volunteers must become members of the Wood County MRC. Please share this information with your congregation. If you are interested, please contact the church office for additional information.
- The 2021 Giving Envelopes are in the church office. You can either stop by and pick up your box (Tuesday thru Friday from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.) or contact the church office and a box will be set aside for you.
- Perrysburg Christians United will be holding a blood drive at Zoar Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall, 314 East Indiana Avenue on Friday, January 22, 2021 from 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. To schedule an appointment, please call 1-800-REDCROSS or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) and enter sponsor code:PCU

## SERVING CHART FOR JANUARY, 2021

<b>JAN</b>	<b>HEAD USHER</b>	<b>MINISTER</b>	<b>LITURGIST</b>	<b>CHILDREN'S MESSAGE</b>	<b>OFFERING</b>	<b>POWERPOINT</b>
3	Don Youel	Rev. Diane Christopherson	Rusty Phlegar	Sarah Magoun		
10	Don Youel	Rev. Diane Christopherson	Jon Grimm	Sarah Magoun		
17	Don Youel	Rev. Diane Christopherson	Kathy Jarosz	Sarah Magoun		
24	Don Youel	Rev. Diane Christopherson	Randy Phillips	Sarah Magoun		
31	Don Youel	Rev. Diane Christopherson	Allison Mackin	Sarah Magoun		

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](mailto:mssloan107@me.com). If unable to resolve conflict, contact Marty as soon as possible. Thank you for your service to FPC.

## SERVING CHART FOR FEBRUARY, 2021

<b>FEB</b>	<b>HEAD USHER</b>	<b>MINISTER</b>	<b>LITURGIST</b>	<b>CHILDREN'S MESSAGE</b>	<b>OFFERING</b>	<b>POWERPOINT</b>
7	Stephen Potts	Rev. Diane Christopherson	Fay Mitchell	Gretchen Downs		
14	Stephen Potts	Rev. Diane Christopherson	Melinda Gallant	Gretchen Downs		
21	Stephen Potts	Rev. Diane Christopherson	Molly Chalfin	Gretchen Downs		
28	Stephen Potts	Rev. Diane Christopherson	Rick Gilts	Gretchen Downs		

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](mailto:mssloan107@me.com). If unable to resolve conflict, contact Marty as soon as possible. Thank you for your service to FPC.

*The poinsettia flowers for the Christmas Eve Service  
where given as follows:*



*Poinsettia flowers are given in  
Loving Memory of:*

*Shirley A. Duckins  
From Delbert J. Duckins, Sr.*

*James & Johnie M. Duckins  
From Delbert J. Duckins, Sr.*

*Shirley M. Covington  
From Delbert J. Duckins, Sr.*

*Dennis East  
From Kathy East*

*Matt Gates  
From Mom & Dad*

*Loved ones  
From Robb & Nancy Gates*



*Andrea Hope  
From her daughters,  
Alexandria, Erica &  
Rebecca Hope*

*Our family  
From Jarosz/Archer Family*

*Richard Schultz  
From Selinda Schultz*

*Don & Jessie Simmons  
From Jack & Linda Simmons*

*Kathie Weaver  
From the Sloan Family*

# Birthday Wishes

## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Jan. 1 Alexandria Hope  
Jan. 2 Amy Konz  
Jan. 3 Delbert Dunkins  
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 Patrick Sheridan

## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Feb. 3 Ian Bova  
Feb. 4 Priscilla Bearden  
Feb. 5 Jack Simmons  
Feb. 6 Tom Stuart  
Feb. 6 Thomas Beebe  
Feb. 12 Julia Brown  
Feb. 13 Rachael Youel  
Feb. 15 Robert Duddy  
Feb. 15 Eva Lengel  
Feb. 17 Margaret Mackin  
Feb. 23 Sophia Walcher  
Feb. 25 Allison Mackin

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:**

**Betty Brainard**  
**Eva Lengel**  
**Rick Modrzynski**  
**Barb Modrzynski**

**Dorothy Darr**  
**Geraldine McGue**  
**Pat Sheridan**  
**Ed & Sue Williams**

## ADDRESS CHANGE

Linda Bristow  
120 W. 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Apt. 1  
Perrysburg, OH 43551  
419-873-5022

# January 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 10:00 am Worship/ Communion 11:30 am Christian Ed Team Mtg.	4	5 10:00 am Bible Study  6:15 123Pray	6 6:00 pm Mission Team Mtg.	7 6:30 pm Worship/ Music Team Mtg.	8	9
10 10:00 am Worship Service	11	12 10:00 am Bible Study  6:30 pm Session	13	14	15	16
17 10:00 am Worship Service	18 4:30 pm Stewardship/ Finance Team Mtg.	19 10:00 am Bible Study	20	21	22	23
24 10:00 am Worship Service	25	26 10:00 am Bible Study	27	28	29	30
31 10:00 am Worship Service						

# January 2021 Newsletter

## Service Times:

9:00a.m.                    **Adult Bible Study (Sept. thru May)**

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**

**Jon Grimm**

**Mary Beth Gilts**

**Stephen Potts**

**Amy Konz**

**Allison Mackin**

**Randy Phillips**

**Jay Salvage**

**Marty Sloan**

## *Staff*

**Interim Pastor .....**

**Diana Christopherson**

**Adult Education Director .....**

**Selinda Schultz**

**Youth Ministry Coordinator .....**

**Music Director .....**

**Vinny Sauer**

**Treasurer .....**

**Don Youel**

**Secretary .....**

**Linda Bristow**

**Financial Secretary .....**

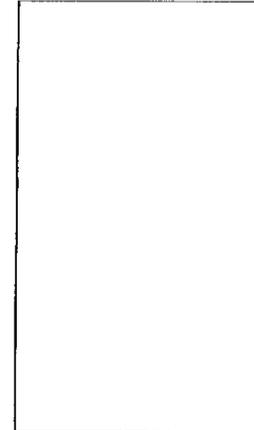
**Tom Connolly**

**Custodian .....**

**Jay Salvage**

**Nursery Attendant .....**

This Newsletter has been specifically prepared for:



First Presbyterian Church  
200 East Second Street at Elm  
Perrysburg, OH 43551