

PRESBYTERIAN PRESS

First Presbyterian Church
presby.pburg@bex.net

200. E. Second St.
Perrysburg, OH 43551
(419) 874-4119

Website: <https://1stpresbyterianperrysburg.com/>

Pastor's Page

¹⁰*It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. ¹¹For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, ¹²saying, "I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will praise you." ¹³And again, "I will put my trust in him." And again, "Here am I and the children whom God has given me." —Hebrews 2:10-13*



Beloved Siblings in Christ,

Doesn't it jangle a little bit on your nerves to see a Merry Christmas greeting arrive *after* Dec. 25th? I mean, it takes so much effort to get there that it is practically a relief to be past it and moving on. And this year, wow, with the triple-demic of Covid, the Flu, and RSV hitting us like a freight train as we all tried to make merry. Did any of you come through December without a sniffle or a two-week ride on your sofa and some antibiotics? Everybody seemed to be sick at one point or another. We ran the gauntlet, and we are heading into the new year now.

And yet, I bring a word of Christmas again because there are 12 days of Christmas. The church season of Epiphany does not begin until Dec. 6th. What could be the purpose of these 12 days? And how should we use our time and fill such days? Maybe we should rely on the guidance of Mary and Joseph in this, by staying put, being present, and enjoying one another. Thankfully, in most cases, when you give birth to a human child you get to take a little break and just be. People you know and love might come by to be with you, but usually in a not demanding way. We don't expect a lot from a person who has just given birth to a human child. The kitchen can be dirty, the laundry can be stacked up, they can tell us they need a nap now.

Maybe that is what 12 days of Christmas are for us to embody—cozy contentment and wonder, ample rest and happiness. Maybe any dressed up theological reasoning for such a stretch of time is just a fancy way of giving us all a breather. So check in on yourself, take stock, what can you take off of your plate right now and just be relieved of for minute or two? How can you live into the 12 days of Christmas and be a little more relaxed and rejuvenated?

God, through Jesus Christ, knows all about our suffering. The Holy One knows what burdens we carry, where it hurts, and where the scars ache. And God, through Jesus Christ, is bringing us through our suffering, the world's suffering, out into redeemed places and being. God, through Jesus Christ, is sanctifying your lived experiences, our lived experiences. To sanctify something is to make it holy. To make something holy is to set it apart, to dedicate it, to purify it. Suffering is not holy, but God entered into the same experience of human suffering as the pathway to redeem our lives from suffering and the effects of suffering. Sanctified, we are made siblings of Christ, the Son of God, our Redeemer, our Savior, our Teacher. We are given space to live in the blessing of God's way. Let us not neglect to do so.

Merry Christmas and blessed New Year, *Pastor Katie*

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

By Julie Lindsey

A parade, a pageant, and praising the birth of Jesus filled our December. Our parade participation was appreciated by the community. One spectator even shouted out "We love your pies!!!" How's that for positive recognition? The pageant was spectacular with 21 children sharing the Christmas story. It has been years since we had so many children involved. Such a blessing!

Mark your calendar for a movie night at the church on Friday, December 30th from 5:30-7:30. Food, games, fellowship and a movie will be provided. All children are welcome.

January 29th will be our Urban Air outing after the church service. We will start with sub sandwiches in fellowship hall then travel to Urban Air for a fun afternoon of air acrobatics by the children, most likely not the chaperones!

January 8th will resume regular Jr. Worship teaching. We will be studying a line of the Lord's Prayer each week. We hope to lead the congregation in reciting the Lord's Prayer when this lesson is completed. That will be a very proud morning for all.

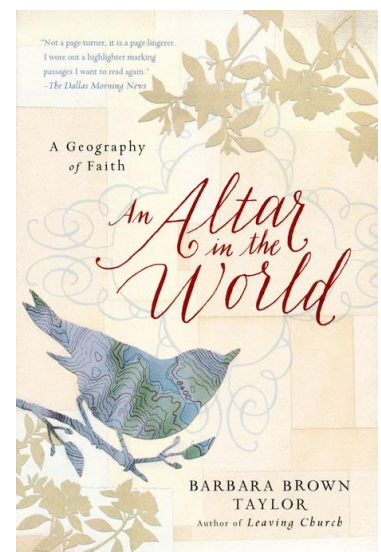


TUESDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY

By Selinda Schultz

To start the New Year and the Season of Epiphany our faithful Tuesday Morning Study Group is returning to one of our favorite authors, Barbara Brown Taylor. Her book, An Altar in the World, A Geography of Faith, explores twelve aspects of living in our physical bodies on this physical earth that connect us to God.

Come join us on this twelve-week journey starting Tuesday, January 10th at 10AM at the church and on Zoom. The books are on order and will be available at church soon. Call Selinda, 419 865-8383 for more details or with questions.



Men's Bible Study

Will be meeting January 8 and January 22, at 8:30 a.m. January 8, we will be in Ch. 10 of N.T. Wright's book, which covers Luke 8:26-9:17



MISSION

Mary Beth Gilts – Team Leader

“What the new year brings to you will depend a great deal on what you bring to the new year.” Vern McLellan



JANUARY'S PCU COLLECTION ITEM: Canned Vegetables.

HEIGHTS COMMUNITY CENTER; Cleaning products.

Donation receptacles located in the church vestibule.



PCU UPDATE: In November, they served 220 clients. Total of \$6000.00 spent towards “Crisis Assistance” for rent and utilities.

GOOD SAMARITAN FUND: In November, four gift cards were given for gas or groceries.

CHRISTMAS JOY: SPECIAL OFFERING: Mission team donated \$250.00. Congregational amount will be forthcoming.

DONATIONS MADE TO SPECIAL MINISTRIES: Cocoon (\$500), Safety-Net (\$250) NOSA cards for the Table (\$500)

FAMILY CHRISTMAS ADOPTION: A new Mission ministry. Tim Miller and his family (total of 8) received gifts (\$600) and a food card (\$100). David Nunn donated an additional \$300 towards gifts. Thank you David for your very generous donation and Lisa Nunn for the shopping help!

ANGEL TREE; A huge THANK YOU to our congregation angels that made a child's Christmas special! Jamie Kreps, Julie Lindsey, Megan Merrell, Margot Quick, Gates', Youels, David Nunn, Kathy Sienkowski, Cecilia Richardson, Gilts', Kathy East, Simmons', Mackins, Charlie and Myra Worthy, Melinda Gallant, Marty Gluth, Phillips', Michelle Chavez, Matthew Hollar, Crawfords, Sarah Magoun, and Marty Sloan.

THE TABLE: Forty-nine people attended the Thanksgiving dinner; thirty-one attended the Christmas dinner. In spite of the low attendance, both dinners were successful.

NOSA CARDS; Holy Batmobile Robin! Or closer, Holy Toledo! All time record high! In December \$6,775.00 cards were sold! An astronomical amount! Your support is extraordinary!

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, January 4, 2023 at 6:00PM in the conference room.

WORSHIP/MUSIC

By Marty Sloan



Many thanks to all who participated in the Christmas Eve Service! Although it was a record cold evening, our little church on East Second Street flowed with warmth and glowed with God's love. The service was beautifully orchestrated, delivered wonderful Christmas lessons and provided amazing and creative Christmas music! Special thanks to Music Director Steven Naylor for his hard work in preparation for the celebration and his absolutely excellent performance. Special thanks also to Sarah Magoun for playing the violin. Special thanks also to Isla and Fiona Davies for singing solos. We were blessed with the heavenly spirit on Christmas Eve bringing us together in praise of God and to worship the Christ child, our savior Jesus Christ.

Looking forward into January, Epiphany (also called Three Kings' Day) is the celebration of God's self-revelation to the world in Jesus Christ. This year Epiphany will be celebrated on January 6, 2023.

In our celebrations of Christmas and Epiphany we rejoice in the dawning and the arising of Light in darkness. Epiphany not only discloses the Savior to the world but also calls the world to show forth Christ, to be witnesses to God's true Light. The timeless mystery of the incarnation, God in flesh, leads us forth to show and tell of Christ as God's gift of grace and salvation for all persons. Some call this ongoing epiphany the work of Christmas.



SERVING CHART FOR JANUARY, 2023

	HEAD USHER	GREETERS / USHERS	LITURGIST	CHILDREN'S MESSAGE	POWER POINT	COMMUNION SERVERS
1	Stephen Potts	Marty Gluth / Marty Sloan				
8	Don Youel	Carol Sprague / Lowrie Gilmore	Rusty Phlegar	TBD	Kathy Jarosz	Jay & Jo Salvage / Matt Hollar & Michelle Chavez
15	Stephen Potts	Cecilia Richardson / Marty Sloan	Randy Phillips	TBD	Gretchen Downs	
22	Don Youel	Mary Beth Gilts / Eileen Phillips	Rick Gilts	TBD	Stephen Potts	
29	Stephen Potts	Sarah Crawford / Lizzie Crawford	Allison Mackin	TBD	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 FEBRUARY, 2023

	HEAD USHER	GREETERS / USHERS	LITURGIST	CHILDREN'S MESSAGE	POWER POINT	COMMUNION SERVERS
5	Stephen Potts	Marty Gluth / Marty Sloan	Sarah Magoun	TBD	Nancy Gates	Jack & Linda Simmons / Margot Quick & Julie Lindsey
12	Don Youel	Carol Sprague / Lowrie Gilmore	Gretchen Downs	TBD	Kathy Jarosz	
19	Stephen Potts	Cecilia Richardson / Delbert Duckins	Allison Mackin	TBD	Gretchen Downs	
26	Don Youel	Sarah Crawford / Lizzie Crawford	Kathy East	TBD	Stephen Potts	

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.

January 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10:00 am Worship	2	3 10:00 am Bible Study	4 6:00 pm Mission Team Mtg.	5 5:30 pm Worship/ Music Team Mtg.	6 Epiphany!	7
8 8:30 am Men's Bible Study 10:00 am Worship/ Communion/ Congregational Mtg.	9	10 10:00 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Session Mtg.	11 10:00 am Staff Meeting	12	13 7:30 pm Sarah Magoun – Chamber Concert @ Zoar	14
15 10:00 am Worship Service	16 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	17 10:00 am Bible Study	18 5:30 pm The Table	19 1:00 pm Congregational Care Team Mtg. 4:00 pm Finance/ Stewardship Mtg.	20 10:00 am Zoar Lutheran Church Blood Drive - PCU	21
22 8:30 am Men's Bible Study 10:00 am Worship Service 11:15 am Christian Ed Team Mtg.	23 5:00 pm Congregational Life Team Mtg.	24 10:00 am Bible Study 6:00 pm JoyBelles	25	26	27	28
29 10:00 am Worship Service Youth at Urban Air	30	31 10:00 am Bible Study				

Bereavement Support Group – 2nd Tuesday of the month

AIAnon – Every Wednesday night

Toastmasters – 3rd Friday of the month

Birthday Wishes

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

January 1	Alexandria Hope
January 2	Amy Konz
January 3	Delbert Duckins
January 12	Ross Martin
January 14	Kay Traver
January 16	Margot Quick
January 18	Martha Gluth
January 18	Melinda Gallant
January 21	Helen Haas
January 23	David Traver
January 25	Patrick Sheridan
January 27	Matthew Hollar

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

February 2	Jackson Grimm
February 3	Ian Bova
February 5	Jack Simmons
February 6	Thomas Beebe
February 6	Tom Stuart
February 12	Louis Kinney
February 13	Rachael Youel
February 15	Robert Duddy
February 15	Eva Lengel
February 16	James Beebe
February 17	Margaret Mackin
February 23	Sophia Walcher
February 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:

Joe Brainard
Jim & Helen Haas
Geraldine McGue
Mary Ellen Pratt
Chris Stuart

Dorothy Darr
Eva Lengel
Barb Modrzynski
Pat Sheridan
Ed & Sue Williams

AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Perrysburg Christians United Blood Drive will be held at Zoar Lutheran Church on Friday, January 20th from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The blood drive will be in Fellowship Hall, 314 East Indiana Ave. To schedule an appointment, please call 1-800-RED CROSS or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter sponsor code: PCU

January 2023 Newsletter

Service Time:

10:00 a.m. Worship Service

**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

Jack Simmons, Co-Clerk

Kathy East

Mary Beth Gilts

Jon Grimm

Allison Mackin

Randy Phillips

Stephen Potts

Jay Salvage

Marty Sloan

Staff

Pastor

Rev. Katie Rivera Torea

Adult Education Director

Selinda Schultz

Youth Director

Darcy Metcalfe

Music Director

Steven Naylor

Treasurer

Don Youel

Secretary

Linda Bristow

Financial Secretary

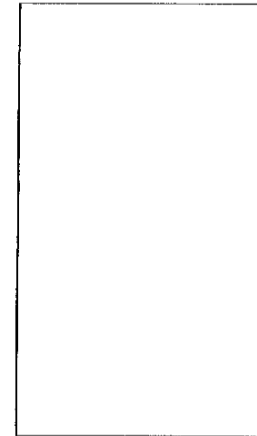
Tom Connolly

Custodian

Kristin Burgoon

Nursery Attendant

Kate Magoun



This Newsletter has been specifically prepared for:

Perrysburg, OH 43551

200 East Second Street at Elm

First Presbyterian Church