

# 1st Presbyterian Church Newsletter

August - September 2024



## JOURNEYS OF FAITH

FROM BELIEVING IN GOD TO TRUSTING IN GOD

THROUGH CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS, STATEMENTS OF FAITH, FELLOWSHIP ACTIVITIES, AND BIBLE/BOOK STUDIES WE SHARE OUR FAITH STORIES IN MANY WAYS. IN SEPTEMBER WE WILL CONTINUE SHARING THROUGH AN INSTALLATION OF "ART" REPRESENTING THE FAITH STORIES OF OUR SESSION MEMBERS. EACH PIECE OF "ART" (A 3-D OBJECT) WILL BE ON DISPLAY IN FELLOWSHIP HALL, ALONG WITH A SHORT STORY ABOUT ITS SIGNIFICANCE TO THAT PERSON. TAKE TIME TO READ, REFLECT, AND REMIND YOURSELF THAT OUR FAITH IS ROOTED IN OUR BELIEF TO LIVE IN CHRIST WITH COMPASSION, JUSTICE, AND LOVE.

First Presbyterian Church of Perrysburg

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*Celebrating Christ's love for all people*

# Pastor's Page:

“Jesus is Lord” — Romans 10:9

Dear Members and Friends of FPC,

I have recently been preparing for the annual meeting of the homeowners association of my condominium complex with a bit of chagrin. It feels difficult to get consistent information from the Board throughout the year. But I do not think the board members are maliciously keeping information away from residents. I imagine that they just get busy with “doing the work” and forget that as leaders they need to communicate with the rest of us so we know what is going on and how to participate. I had the thought, “Boy, they need to send out a short, monthly newsletter!” This made me chuckle just now, because I was just thinking I didn't have anything to write to you this month. And then I pivoted to wondering about what you all wish you had more information about.



Church finances are pretty good. We had some unexpected expenses due to the pipes and a water heater in the rental house across the street, but honestly, the house is in good shape, and continues to be a trusty source of income for the work of our church. You all have asked for multiple adult education opportunities, as well as good leadership for children and youth. We have a variety of adult education opportunities available this fall, and we are transitioning with our new youth leaders into meeting up with our young people when *they* are available, which is not necessarily traditional days and times anymore. Choir will be starting up fairly soon, and we are blessed to have seasoned and highly respected choral leadership available to us in our new music director.

As we continue to equip and be equipped for the callings to which we are called, the Session has endeavored to begin apprenticing new leaders into established roles held by trusted church leaders so those leaders may rest, and also so new leaders can be trained and empowered. We have tried to be very inviting to all church members to join in the work we do via various teams, and we still hope more of you will continue to present yourselves as co-workers for our common mission. Particularly, we ask for helpers on the Stewardship and Finance Team, Communications and Technology Team, and Facility Management Team. These have intimidating titles, but truly, being helpful is as easy as being the note-taker and agenda-maker, the question-asker, or the phone-caller. Wouldn't you love to learn how to run the worship recording on Sunday?

Stewardship is about to kick-off, because Session has moved forward the budget preparation for the coming year. We found that it hinders our work as the Session to have the budget be finalized in the year it is meant to resource. So, a congregational meeting to approve my 2025 Terms of Call will happen this fall, to aid in budget preparation. (Stephen Potts would LOVE it if you piped up and volunteered to help him with Stewardship!)

Session will be implementing upgrades to the overall safety of our building this fall, and we will be telling you all about them when we have them settled. We will focus on doors and access. And now I am just wondering what else you might want to know more about. I think we all feel a lot better when we know what is going on in our community, whatever size it is. And I do hope you feel like you know what is going on in our church and that you have a way to participate.

God bless you and keep you, Pastor Katie

The Hebrew word "shalom" is normally translated as "peace" and often used in our culture as an opposite to war. Or we use "peace" to describe what we are seeking in our spiritual lives.

But neither usage adequately captures the complexity and richness of shalom. In fact, shalom as the absence of war is only periodically used, and even then, it describes more about security than a lack of violence. And rather than it being an individual goal, shalom is most often used in scripture to describe the wealth of blessings found in relationship with God and one another.

The study will help us broaden and deepen our perspectives of what is required of us as "peacemakers" in our community as well as the blessings God promises as we work to restore life to wholeness. Using scripture, selections from the study guide, and lots of discussion, this study will explore the many meanings of the Hebrew word shalom and the Greek word eirene.

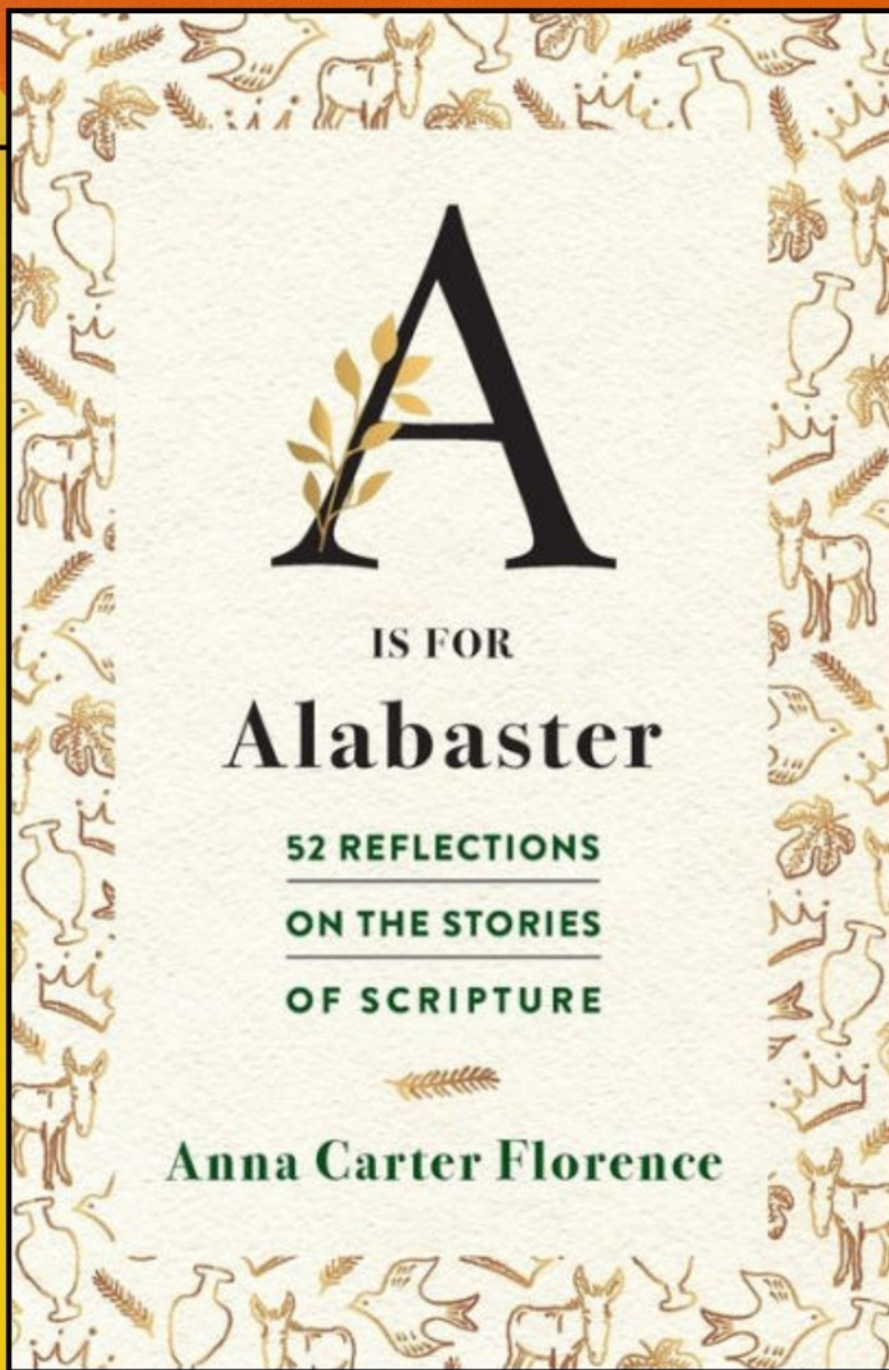
We will meet throughout the fall on Wednesday evenings from 7:00-8:30pm. There will be limited preparation with "assignments" which will be shared (but no book needs to be purchased).

The introductory gathering will be on Wednesday, August 28th. Bring a Bible (or find one in the church!) but no preparation is needed. If you didn't sign up yet and want to come, please do!

Other dates will be:  
September 11 & 25  
October 2, 16, & 23  
November 6 & 20  
December 4

# Shalom: A Biblical Study of Peace

# ADULT BIBLE STUDY NEWS



Our studies and fellowship will resume on Tue, Sept 10th at 10AM. Meetings will be at church, both in person & online.

We will start this study year with **A is for Alabaster**. Here is a description:  
*"Anna Carter Florence brings winsome insight to an array of characters & stories in the Bible—some celebrated & some overlooked. From courageous Abigail to Zelophehad's daughters, & from an alabaster jar of ointment to Zacchaeus in the sycamore tree, Florence takes readers on an enchanting tour of the Old & New Testaments with reflections that reveal ancient wisdom & spark imagination anew."*

Please come & join us for this fun adventure! Selinda will have books soon!

**Practical Skills for Christian Living:  
offered via the wisdom and experience of Stephens Ministry**

Sue Fyten writes:

“The first two-part discussion group about Distinctively Christian Caregiving has concluded. I want to thank the group for rousing conversation, practicing skills and laughter. I (*and I hope they*) came away invigorated and ready for more.”

Reflecting on the intersection of the Apostles' Creed sermon series and this two-part discussion group, she noted, “When we challenge ourselves, what we really believe (*our personal creed*) becomes clearer and we feel more prepared to care for others.”

Sue invites congregants and friends to gather around a new topic:

“The second of these discussion groups will be about ‘Active Listening.’ Let’s practice really hearing each other and responding well. As it says in James 1:19, ‘You must understand this, my beloved: Let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak.’”

Mark your calendars for **Sunday, September 29th at 2:00pm.**

There is a little bit of pre-reading.

Let Pastor Katie or Sue know if you want to participate.

Pastor Katie adds:

“This one matters a LOT to me! In terms of developing our identity and work of becoming a location where story is shared and peace abounds, developing good listening practices is front and center of what we want to be spending our time doing. I really hope you will be able to join in!”

**UPCOMING WORSHIP LEADERS:**

**August 18:** Stephen Potts, Cecilia Richardson & Delbert Duckins/Marty Sloan, Jo Salvage, Gretchen Downs

**August 25:** Don Youel, Sarah & Lizzie Crawford/Allison Mackin, Rusty Phlegar, Stephen Potts

**September 1:** Stephen Potts, Tom & Karen Lingeman, Jay Salvage, Nancy Gates

**Communion:** Kathy East & Kathy Jarosz / David & Susan Rowland Miller

**September 8:** Don Youel, Jay & Jo Salvage, Michelle Chavez, Kathy Jarosz

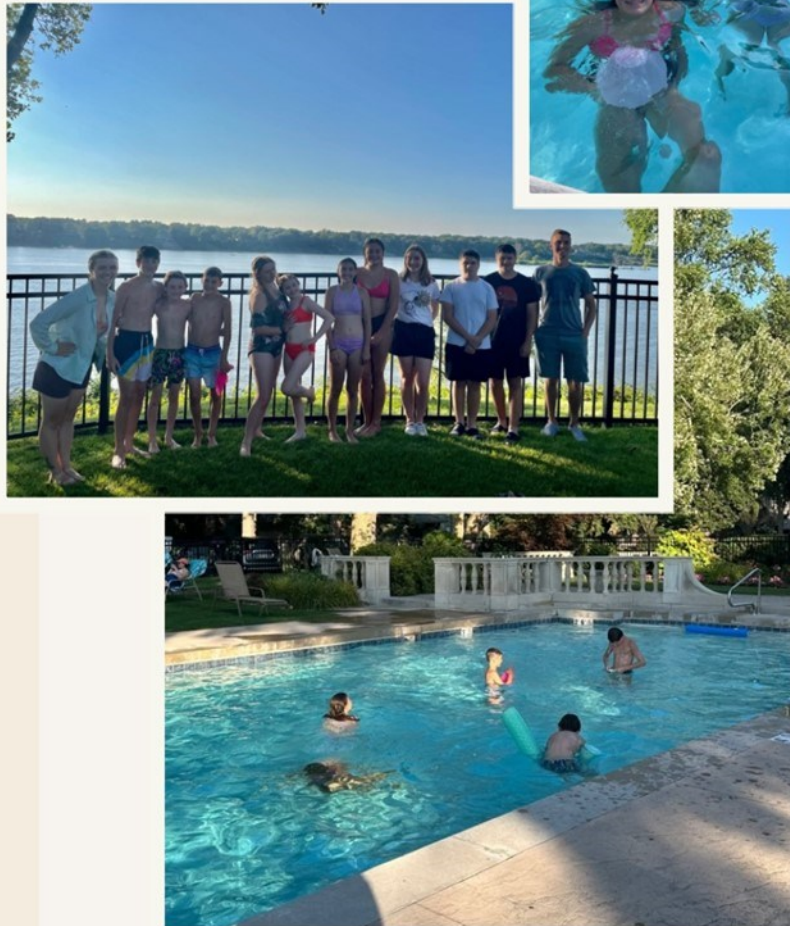
**September 15:** Stephen Potts, Rauscher Family, Rick Gilts, Gretchen Downs

**September 22:** Don Youel, Rick & Mary Beth Gilts, Megan Merrell, Stephen Potts

**September 29:** Stephen Potts, Carol Sprague & Allison Mackin, Allison Mackin, Marty Sloan

# Christian Education

The youth and parents gathered at the Hamlet pool to meet Claire and Nick Krabil, our new youth coordinators, and enjoy a wonderful night of swimming and pizza. A good time was enjoyed by all!



As Christian Education progresses, we are gearing up for engaging Sunday school sessions for our little ones, a comprehensive youth program for the older kids, and three distinct Bible study groups for the adults. Selinda Schultz will guide the Tuesday morning group through reflections on the stories of scripture. Susan Rowland-Miller will direct a Biblical study of peace. Meanwhile, Pastor Katie will oversee the men's Bible study. This promises to be fantastic!



# COMMUNITY OUTREACH

*"Give your hands to serve and your heart to love."*

*Mother Teresa*

PCU: collection items for August - SHAMPOO & for September - CRACKERS

**NOSA Cards: July Total = \$1,740.00**

Peace and Global Witness

Special Offering

Kickoff is August 18 and ends September 1

Peacemaking and Reconciliation

The Table: August 21. Theme - Mexico Entrée of Tacos. In need of desserts and special sides. No Table in September.

**Free Rummage Sale**

**Saturday, September 28th**

More information including a congregational email and printed copies (located in Fellowship Hall) will be available in the beginning of Sept.

# August 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p style="text-align: center;">PERRYSBURG, OH</p> <h2 style="text-align: center;">Perrysburg Hearts the Arts</h2> <p style="text-align: center;">August 16 - 18, 2024</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>Friday, August 16, 5pm - 8pm</p> <p>Saturday, August 17: 10am -10pm with 6pm , 6pm Soft</p> <p>Close for artists</p> <p>Sunday, August 18: 10am - 4pm</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p style="text-align: right;">16</p> <p style="text-align: right;">17</p> <p style="text-align: right;">5:45 Toast-masters</p> </div> </div>						
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>18</b></p> <p>10am worship <i>End of Apostles' Creed series</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>19</b></p> <p>Church office closed -&gt;</p> <p>5pm SFM Teams meet</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>20</b></p> <p>7pm Missional Vision Team</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>21</b></p> <p>5:30 THE TABLE</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>22</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">PIES</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>23</b></p> <p>Pastor Katie on Vacation -&gt;</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>24</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>25</b></p> <p>10am worship <i>Guest Preacher</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>26</b></p> <p>5pm Congregational Life Team meeting</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>27</b></p> <p>6pm Joy Belles</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>28</b></p> <p>7pm Shalom Study Group</p> <p>7pm AIAnon</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>29</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>30</b></p> <p>&lt;- Pastor Katie on Vacation</p> <p>5:45 Toast-masters</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>31</b></p>

If you are interested in buying pies - come early! We are usually selling by 3:30 and have many in line by that time. We are blessed to have a loyal customer base!

## PRESBY PIES 2024

Presby Pies is off to a great start. We are halfway through our season and we have sold 222 pies and made over \$2000.00!

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THE HARD WORK AND DEDICATION OF OUR BAKERS AND WORKERS, WHOSE EFFORTS MAKE THIS PROJECT SUCH A SUCCESS. IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN BAKING, WE WELCOME NEW VOLUNTEERS. PLEASE SPEAK WITH NANCY GATES OR JO SALVAGE IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS.





# September 2024

**SIGN UP FOR FELLOWSHIP HOUR!**

Lots of opportunities to host! Don't need to be a "cook" or "baker" to help share the joy of fellowship!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10am worship	2	3	4 5pm Worship & Music team meeting 7pm, AlAnon	5	6	7
8 8:30am Men's Bible Study 11:15am CE team meeting Our Story Through Art	9	10 10am Bible Study 6:30pm Session	11 7pm Shalom Study Group 7pm AlAnon	12 <b>PIES</b>	13	14
15 10am worship Our Story Through Art	16	17 10am Bible Study	18 7pm AlAnon	19	20 5:45 pm Toastmasters	21 Pastor Katie Study Leave ->
22 8:30am Men's Bible Study 10am worship Our Story Through Art	23	24 10am Bible Study	25 7pm Shalom Study Group 7pm AlAnon	26 <b>PIES</b>	27 <-Pastor Katie Study Leave	28 9am Free Rummage Sale
29 10am worship 2pm Intentional Listening practicum	30	<p><b>MEN'S BIBLE STUDY STARTS SEPTEMBER 8 @ 8:30AM</b></p> <p>"SMALL BOOKS OF THE BIBLE"</p> <p>Beginning with 1ST &amp; 2ND TIMOTHY</p> <p><i>Please read 1st &amp; 2nd Timothy before Sept 8th</i></p>				