

# 1st Presbyterian Church Newsletter

September - October 2024

## JOURNEYS OF FAITH



**From Believing in God to Trusting in God**

First Presbyterian Church of Perrysburg

200 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Perrysburg, Ohio, 43551

[www.1stpresbyterianperrysburg.com](http://www.1stpresbyterianperrysburg.com)

*Celebrating Christ's love for all people*



# PASTOR'S PAGE:

*"He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, 'Ephphatha,' that is, 'Be opened.'" —Mark 7:33-34*



Have you had an opportunity to check out the "Our Faith Journey" items and narratives, presented by the Session, that are on display in the Fellowship Hall? Please take an opportunity to do so! If you are not able to make it in to see them, consider requesting one of the beautiful booklets from the office that have pictures of the objects next to their stories.

Having seen them, what feelings and thoughts did the objects evoke in you?

Did it make you think about objects in your own home that mark parts of your faith story?

Would you be willing to bring something like that in to share with the congregation?

You would bless us if you did.

As we develop into a congregation that promotes peace through sharing sacred story, I want to make sure that I say to you all that our stories are indeed precious and our own. We share them when and where we see fit, and cannot and should not be coerced into putting our personal journeys and experiences on display when we do not want to. We are not entertainment for one another. We are companions on the journey.

The gospel writer Mark remembers that once, when Jesus was being thronged by interested people who wanted to see him heal someone, he stepped away with one man and restored his hearing and speaking in private, away from the audience. That man's speech was restored for when and where he felt called to employ it. Others who saw him healed went on and on about it, but we don't know what that man that day did with his own story. We know, simply, that he was opened. Praise be to God.

It takes a lot of work and a lot of intention to create and maintain space of trust, of listening, of freedom, not pressure, and of respect. We've been taught so well to argue, and size-up, and be ready for our turn to talk. We've been taught how to ask "smart questions" and how to quiz someone on what they are trying to transmit. So there's a lot of static, there's a lot of background noise if we are not careful and practiced in hearing with our eye as well as our ears, understanding with our souls as well as our brains. It takes intentional effort to let the Holy Spirit drive, to take our hands off the wheel of what we assume or what we project.

Sometimes people in our community need time to collect evidence from our sustained actions that prove us trustworthy to receive their stories. Sometimes people need to see others jump up and grab the mic, to get a sense of how it might be done. Sometimes people need there to be enough moments of quiet to get a word or a thought in. Sometimes people express their faith, their journey, their witness in ways other than words neatly strung together.

A tradition maintained and sustained is a story. A hoot and movement with a lively hymn praises God from whom all blessings flow. A remembered date honors the sacredness of life. An object on the shelf can be the key that unlocks the journal of experience. A cup of coffee or tea shared in a shop echoes communion. A place at the table and in the pew is a gift. And a word shared that fills your heart or lifts your hairs is holy. Thanks be to God! KERT



**FREE  
RUMMAGE  
SALE  
SAT., SEPT. 28**

Looking for gently used, good quality treasures to re-home

Looking for volunteers and helpers to set-up, work, and break-down the event

WED. OCT. 16  
THE TABLE  
HALLOWEEN  
*pulled pork &  
chicken sandwiches*

**Good News Updates  
from your  
Community Outreach Team**

YOUR MONEY AT WORK IN THE COMMUNITY:

The team made our congregation's 25% of the **Peace & Global Witness** offering a gift to the **Cocoon**.

On your behalf, the Team also made a contribution of eggs and hygiene and cleaning products to the **Perrysburg Heights Community Center**.

OUR PARTNERSHIPS:

Perrysburg Christians United (PCU) reports raising **over \$9,000** in the "**Meijer's Simply Give**" campaign!

The next PCU **Blood Drive** is set for **Friday, Sept. 13**, at Zoar Lutheran, 10:00am-4:00pm

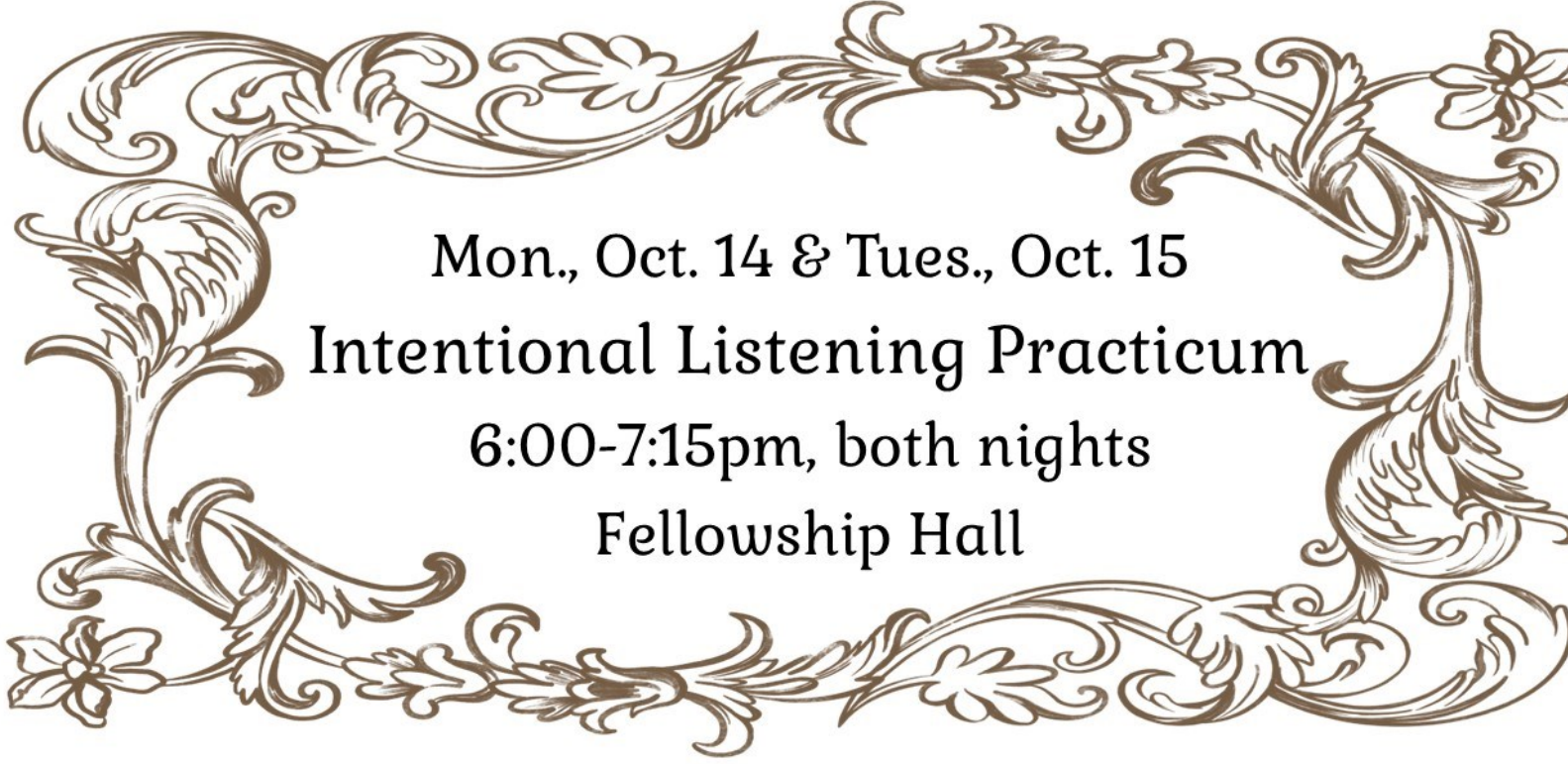
**Sunday, Sept. 15 (after worship)**

**COME TO CHOIR PRACTICE**

*You know who you are!*







Mon., Oct. 14 & Tues., Oct. 15  
Intentional Listening Practicum  
6:00-7:15pm, both nights  
Fellowship Hall



*Stewardship  
Season  
Is Upon Us!*

How can that be?!  
It's only September!

## **The FPC Stewardship Campaign**

*kicks off Sunday,  
SEPTEMBER 29*

*runs 3-WEEKS*

*concludes Sunday,  
OCTOBER 11*

*\*\**

*Why so early  
this year?*

Your Session and Church Teams have found that we need to set an annual budget for 2025 that is ready to go at the beginning of January, not part way into the year.

We are asking you to make a pledge for the 2025 church mission and ministry now.



# FPC CLEAN-UP DAY SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13

ARE YOU SKILLED IN WASHING, SCRAPING, & PAINTING? DO YOU TAKE PLEASURE IN CLEANING? DOES GARDENING & YARD WORK DELIGHT YOU? IF SO, WE ARE SEEKING INDIVIDUALS LIKE YOU TO HELP WITH ESSENTIAL MAINTENANCE TASKS FOR OUR BEAUTIFUL CHURCH BUILDING, ITS SURROUNDING GROUNDS, & OUR RENTAL PROPERTY.

WE WILL BEGIN THE TASKS IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING A LIGHT LUNCH DURING FELLOWSHIP TIME ON OCTOBER 13. EQUIPMENT & GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR EACH PROJECT WILL BE PROVIDED.

A LIST OF PROJECTS IS POSTED ON THE BULLETIN BOARD FOR THOSE WHO WISH TO START BEFORE OCT 13TH. ONCE A JOB IS COMPLETED, PLEASE PLACE A LARGE CHECK MARK NEXT TO THE TASK & GIVE YOURSELF A PAT ON THE BACK!

WE ARE THE STEWARDS OF THIS HISTORIC BUILDING, PROPERTY, & INCOME-PRODUCING RENTAL PROPERTY. LET'S WORK TOGETHER TO MAINTAIN THESE BLESSINGS WE HAVE IN OUR CARE.

PLEASE CONTACT ME IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS.  
JULIE ~ JLINDSEY1308@GMAIL.COM ~ 419-893-2639

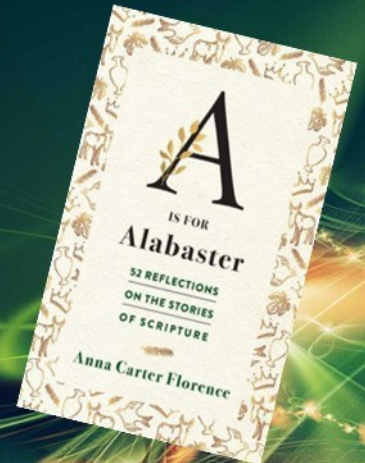
## ADULT BIBLE STUDY NEWS

Our Summer break is over! Our times of learning & community have resumed at 10AM with meetings at church, both in person & online.

We have started this study year with [A is for Alabaster](#). Here is a description:

"Beloved preacher & writer Anna Carter Florence brings winsome insight to an array of characters & stories in the Bible—some celebrated and 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 has books now. Call her with any questions.



## UPCOMING WORSHIP LEADERS:

**September 15:** Stephen Potts, Rauscher Family, Allison Mackin, 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

**October 6:** Don Youel, David Nunn & Marty Sloan, Mary Beth Gilts, Nancy Gates

**Communion:** Margot Quick & Julie Lindsey / Jack & Linda Simmons

**October 13:** Stephen Potts, Lowrie Gilmore & Carol Sprague, Matt Hollar, Kathy Jarosz

**October 20:** Don Youel, Cecilia Richardson & Delbert Duckins/Marty Sloan, Jack Simmons, Gretchen Downs

**October 27:** Don Youel, Sarah & Lizzie Crawford/Allison Mackin, Rhyn Davies, Stephen Potts



# Christian Education

## Junior Worship "All are welcome."

JUNIOR WORSHIP IS BACK IN FULL SWING AND WE ARE DELIGHTED WITH THE GROUP OF YOUNGSTERS WHO HAVE BEEN PARTICIPATING. WE ARE HAPPY TO REPORT THAT THERE HAVE BEEN SEVERAL NEW CHILDREN WHO HAVE JOINED OUR WONDERFUL REGULARS.



## Church Project Day



OUR YOUTH DIRECTORS, CLAIRE AND NICK, ARE PLANNING A "CHURCH PROJECT DAY" FOR OUR OLDER YOUTH. THEY WILL BE WASHING, SCRAPING, AND PAINTING THE WINDOW WELLS AROUND THE CHURCH. THIS IS A WONDERFUL GIFT OF TIME AND ENERGY TO OUR HISTORIC BUILDING. THE DATE WILL BE COMING TO YOU SOON.

Christmas Pageant  
Mark your calendar for December 15!



We are already reviewing scripts for the Christmas pageant. It's never too early to start planning for this special event!

## Awesome Adventures Series



We are continuing with our current curriculum "Awesome Adventures Series" which includes Jesus's teachings, travels and the friends who help spread His good news. These lessons are helping to make good disciples of our youth.



## Sunday Morning Youth Program

Join us for discussion and fellowship after the sermon

The starting date will be announced in the next few weeks.



Abbie & Pastor Katie invite You to a *SPOOKY*  
**HALLOWEEN PARTY**

At the Church

Thursday, Oct. 31 — 5:30-8:00pm

Pizza, chili, & pop provided

Please bring loads of candy to hand out to  
 Trick-or-Treaters

Costume preferred, but not required

# September 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>15</b> 8:30 Men's Bible Study 10am Worship 11:30am Choir practice	<b>16</b> 4pm Personnel 5pm SFM Teams	<b>17</b> 10am Bible Study 3pm Presbytery	<b>18</b> 7pm AIAnon	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 6pm Toastmaster	<b>21</b> Pastor Katie Study Leave →
<b>22</b> 10am Worship	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 10am Bible Study 6pm Joy Belles	<b>25</b> 7pm Shalom Bible Study 7pm AIAnon	<b>26</b> PRESBY PIES	<b>27</b> ←Pastor Katie Study Leave	<b>28</b> FREE SALE
<b>29</b> 10am Worship Stewardship Kick-off	<b>30</b> 5pm Cong Life					



# Shalom: A Study of the Biblical Concept of Peace

IN OCTOBER, WE WILL BE BUSY AS WE MEET THREE TIMES AT 7:00PM TO DELVE INTO THE NEW TESTAMENT MESSAGE OF *EIRENE* AND HOW THE WORK AND LIFE OF JESUS CAN BE UNDERSTOOD THROUGH THIS ONE WORD. WE WILL ALSO CONSIDER HOW JESUS' CALL FOR US TO BE PEACEMAKERS MAY REQUIRE US TO CHALLENGE AND CONFRONT INJUSTICE IN WAYS THAT OUR ENGLISH WORD FOR "PEACE" DOESN'T ALLOW.

We will be meeting:

September 25  
October 2, 16, 23  
November 6, 20



## Congregational Care September / October 2024

### UPCOMING IN NOVEMBER 2024



CONGREGATIONAL CARE TEAM IS HOSTING A WOMEN'S TEA ENTITLED "CELEBRATING THE PAST & PRESENT." IT IS OUR INTENTION TO CELEBRATE THE AMAZING DEDICATION & TALENTS OF THE MANY WOMEN IN OUR CHURCH (PAST & PRESENT) WHO HAVE BLESSED OUR CHURCH COMMUNITY! IT WILL BE AN AFTERNOON OF STORYTELLING & FUN! THE TEA PARTY WILL BE SCHEDULED FOR SOME TIME IN NOVEMBER, 2024.

MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW!



JOIN US FOR A PRESENTATION  
ON SCAM AWARENESS  
WAY LIBRARY  
OCTOBER 3, 2024 AT 1:00 P.M.

SARA GRAY, TECHNOLOGY TRAINER AT WAY LIBRARY, HAS GRACIOUSLY AGREED TO MEET WITH US AND TEACH US HOW TO BECOME MORE AWARE OF SCAM EMAILS, PHONE CALLS, TEXT MESSAGES, ETC. THE INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION WILL BE HELD AT THE WAY LIBRARY IN THE COMPUTER LAB. CLASS SIZE IS LIMITED SO PLEASE LET MARTY SLOAN KNOW IF YOU ARE PLANNING TO ATTEND.



# THANK YOU FOR A GREAT YEAR!

PRESBY PIES  
APPRECIATES  
YOUR SUPPORT

- • • • September Pie Dates:
- • • • 9/12/2024
- • • • 9/26/2024



## Celebrating Ordination Anniversaries

THE SESSION OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF PERRYSBURG INVITES YOU TO SHARE IN A SPECIAL CELEBRATION OF THE ORDINATION ANNIVERSARIES OF THE REV. KATHRYN RIVERA TOREA (20 YEARS), THE REV. MELINDA GALLANT (25 YEARS), THE REV. SUSAN ROWLAND MILLER (30 YEARS), AND THE REV. JEAN KISKADDON (45 YEARS). THESE EXTRAORDINARY WOMEN WILL BE RECOGNIZED DURING THE 10:00 WORSHIP SERVICE ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2024. A BRUNCH RECEPTION WILL FOLLOW IMMEDIATELY IN FELLOWSHIP HALL.

(CONGRATULATORY CARDS WOULD BE APPROPRIATE. PLEASE NO GIFTS)





# October 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 6 pm Commu- nity Outreach  7pm Shalom Study Group  7pm, AIAnon	3	4	5
6 10am worship  11:15am CE team meeting	7	8  10am Bible Study  6:30pm Session	9  7pm AIAnon	10	11	12
13 10am worship	14	15  10am Bible Study	16 5:30pm The Table  7pm Shalom Study Group  7pm AIAnon	17  1pm Congrega- tional Care Team Meeting	18  5:45 pm Toastmasters	19
20 10am worship	21	22 Pastor Katie Vacation->  10am Bible Study	23  7pm Shalom Study Group  7pm AIAnon	24  Pastor Katie Vacation->	25	26  9am Free Rummage Sale
27 10am worship  2pm Intentional Listening practicum	28	29 <-Pastor Katie Vacation  10am Bible Study	30  7pm AIAnon	31  5:30pm Halloween Party		