

1st Presbyterian Church Newsletter

November - December 2024



Join Us for the Perrysburg Home for the Holidays Parade!

The celebrations kick off on **December 6th at 6:00 PM**. We're looking forward to joining in with our usual float, which features the Holy Family, shepherds, angels, wise people, and a massive illuminated star and Christmas tree that will lead us through downtown Perrysburg. If anyone owns a van or truck and an open flatbed trailer, could you please inform Julie Lindsey? We'll provide more information as it becomes available.

First Presbyterian Church of Perrysburg

200 E. 2nd Street, Perrysburg, Ohio, 43551

www.1stpresbyterianprerrysburg.com

Celebrating Christ's love for all people

Pastor's Page



19Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. 2Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, "So may the gods do to me, and more also, if I do not make your life like the life of one of them by this time tomorrow." 3Then he was afraid; he got up and fled for his life, and came to Beersheba, which belongs to Judah; he left his servant there. 4But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die: "It is enough; now, O Lord, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors." 5Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, "Get up and eat." 6He looked, and there at his head was a cake baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank, and lay down again. 7The angel of the Lord came a second time, touched him, and said, "Get up and eat, otherwise the journey will be too much for you." 8He got up, and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God. —1 Kings 19:1-8

Beloved siblings in Christ,

Our mission as a congregation becomes very important now. God has work for us and it is the work of God's Kingdom. Now our practices become very intentional. We are those who are creating and holding space in our community for connecting with one another in truth and openness, for caring, compassion, and for loving-kindness. We are those standing at the gate of God's Kingdom, lamp in hand, showing the way into shared wholeness, regard, and recognition.

I ask you to mark your calendars now for a church event on the winter solstice, Saturday, December 21. It is an off-site event, in the evening, at the home of the Hollar-Chavez family. This gathering will include dinner and time for the practice of sharing story. We want you to be able to attend, so we ask that if you do not drive, or do not drive after dark, that you accept a ride from someone else.

The winter solstice is, of course, the longest night of the year. People often gather on this night around a fire for a ritual of divesting of something from the year now ending and holding hope for something in the year about to begin. The season of Advent holds the same elements. Advent begins with or at least includes, naming the great need of the world for a savior and then prepares for that savior to come. Our theme for Advent this year is **"From Generation to Generation: There is room for every story."**

The part of God's mission of healing the world that we have been given to pursue in this place at this time is peacemaking. Your church leadership have come to understand that by building on our longtime identity as a location of Christian hospitality, we can now begin to grow into a place and a people who indeed make room for every story. This is a long-term project. But we have already begun to adjust our attention and practices to living it.



FROM
GENERATION
TO GENERATION...

At the Dec. 21, church gathering there will be a story-telling component to the evening. **So! Storytellers!** Start thinking about this theme: **LEFT BEHIND/LEAVING BEHIND.** We are going to hold a Mock-Moth Story Slam at the gathering. **That means we need 10 among us to bring a 2-5 minute story,** that is (1) true, (2) autobiographical, and (3) has something to do with leaving something behind or once having left something (or someone!) behind. Ideally, your story will have a full arc of beginning, middle, and end. Be bold! Let's practice together telling and receiving stories. Bonus points if yours has a spiritual component (I mean, we are a church after all!). God provides. God calls us forward. Let's go where we are sent! *Pastor Katie*

UPCOMING WORSHIP LEADERS:

November 10: Don Youel, Jay & Jo Salvage, Kathy East, Kathy Jarosz

November 17: Stephen Potts, Rauscher Family, Jay Salvage, Gretchen Downs

November 24: Don Youel, Tom & Karen Lingeman, Kathy Jarosz, Stephen Potts

December 1: Stephen Potts, David Nunn & Marty Sloan, David Rowland Miller, Nancy Gates

Communion: Jay & Jo Salvage | Tom & Karen Lingeman

December 8: Don Youel, Lowrie Gilmore & Carol Sprague, Sarah Magoun, Kathy Jarosz

December 15: Stephen Potts, Cecilia Richardson & Delbert Duckins/Marty Sloan, Jo Salvage, Gretchen Downs

December 22: Don Youel, Sarah & Lizzie Crawford/Allison Mackin, Rusty Phlegar, Stephen Potts

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



ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17
AFTER WORSHIP



Join us for the Hanging of the Greens!

Kindly come together with the Joy Belles on Tuesday, November 26 at 6:00 pm for the "Hanging of the Greens"!

We'll be providing a light dinner. Together, we can make our Christmas celebration truly memorable!

PODCAST



Find the whole conversation at:

<https://storycorps.org/podcast/brave-enough-to-ask/>

** Teaser from the Story Corps podcast on election day**

Michael Garofalo (MG): Hey everybody. This is the last episode of our season called Stepping Up... and we're releasing it on Election Day 2024.

Jasmyn Morris (JM): And this *particular* election has been more stressful than most.

MG: And that stress has a way of bringing out the worst in us... and at times... it seems like it's tearing us apart.

V1: *The climate that we're operating under has everyone on the defensive.*

V2: *You see a person and you automatically put them in a box, and say, "Well, this is what this person should be like."*

V3: *All of this, ostracizing people, what are we afraid of?*

JM: So, StoryCorps does a lot of different things... but it's really all about connecting people... whether it's the participants in the interview... or someone even just listening on the radio or this podcast.

MG: And the thing that makes it possible to connect... even if it's a total stranger you're listening to... is that at StoryCorps... people talk about the very things that make us human.

V4: *We're called to love one another. It can't be, I reject you as a person.*

V5: *It was important for me to meet somebody who really didn't have horns and a tail. (Both Laugh)*

JM: The voices you're hearing are participants in our One Small Step program... where we pair strangers with opposing political views to have a conversation... NOT about politics... but just about their lives.

V6: *This country's been through so much, its people has been through so much. Why can't we fix this?*

V7: *Do we have issues we have to deal with? Yes, we do. But we're not going to be able to deal with them if we're fighting and yelling at each other and not listening.*

MG: So as you can imagine... It takes a certain amount of courage to sign up for one of these interviews... and when it comes time to sit face-to-face... it can be downright nerve-racking.

Leigh Ann: I've been shy all my life. I have terrible anxiety, and I just see this effort as so important. So even as my hands are clammy, and my face is turning bright red like a tomato, I'm gonna push through because this matters more to me than my discomfort.

JM: I'm Jasmyn Morris.

MG: And I'm Michael Garofalo. It's the StoryCorps Podcast from NPR.



TO ALL WHO ATTENDED
SCAM AWARENESS AT WAY
LIBRARY

OCTOBER 3, 2024

Paper handouts with the scam tips
are located in Fellowship Hall.



ANXIETY AND WORRY GRIP MY HEART,
THREATENING TO STEAL MY JOY. I
HUMBLY ASK FOR YOUR GRACE TO
QUIET THE ANXIOUS THOUGHTS THAT
TORMENT ME. REPLACE THEM WITH
THE ASSURANCE OF YOUR LOVE, LIKE A
WARM AND GENTLE EMBRACE. IN THE
STILLNESS OF YOUR PRESENCE, I FIND
REFUGE. I SURRENDER MY FEARS TO
YOU, KNOWING THAT YOU HOLD MY
FUTURE IN YOUR HANDS. THANK YOU
FOR THE PEACE THAT SURPASSES ALL
UNDERSTANDING, A PEACE THAT FILLS
MY SOUL AND LIGHTS MY PATH.



**UPCOMING IN MAY, 2025
Congregational Care Team
is hosting a Women's Tea.
More details to follow!**



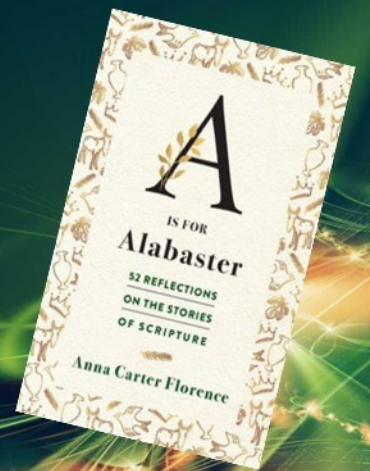
Christmas Pageant on December 15th

Soon, a questionnaire for children participating in the pageant will be distributed to determine the best day & time for a practice session. The rehearsal dates are expected to fall between December 12th & the 14th.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY NEWS

Tuesday Morning Study Group News - November/December

We are so involved in the alphabet readings in A is for Alabaster, that we have been spending our whole weekly time on one to two letters. Each reading seems to be crafted to speak to us today. So far we have considered A through N in the Old Testament section as we have encountered familiar and new stories. Please consider joining us for this enlightening adventure. Call Selinda for details or with questions.



Please note: **We will not meet Thanksgiving week!**



Thank you for joining us in celebrating our Ordination Anniversaries on Sun., Oct. 20th. It was a beautiful & meaningful day!

Pictured: Jean Kiskaddon, Melinda Gallant, KERT, Susan Rowland-Miller

Christian Education

Our youngest ones are still being taught about various individuals of God's community who are on the move, like Jonah and his journey to Nineveh. Keep an eye out for the whale! And Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem. We're all familiar with the miracle that occurred there! These tales serve to impart important life teachings on wisdom, faith, and the importance of choosing the right paths, and how these principles are relevant to our lives now.

Last week, we had a lot of young people, and several of the older ones even came down to assist with the lesson. It was delightful to observe everyone collaborating so affectionately.


From December 1st to December 29th, the lessons will align with the messages the congregation is receiving. Each week, a new craft project will be developed and shared with the congregation during the children's message. This shared learning time will offer a wonderful chance for families to talk about these topics together.



Thank You, Sarah!

Every member of the Christian Education team wants to express our deep gratitude to our cherished sister in Christ, Sarah Magoun, for her endless hours spent in the classroom, her gentle leadership, the motivational messages for children, and much more. Sarah is about to leave her CE duties after years of faithful service. Sarah, we will truly feel the loss of your guiding presence.

November 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
17 11:30am Nom Com meeting Annual Congregational Meeting	18	19 10am Presbytery Meeting 10am Bible Study	20 5:30pm The Table 7pm Shalom Study Group 7pm AlAnon	21	22	23
24 10am worship	25	26 10am Bible Study 6pm Hanging of the Greens	27 7pm AlAnon	28 	29 5:45pm Toastmasters	30

TRICK OR TREAT 2024 — ABBIE'S HALLOWEEN PARTY



Big Thank you!!!

to everyone who donated candy!

to Mary Beth for decorations!

To the Congregational Care Team (especially Allison) for dinner!

THANK YOU ALL!!

ANNUAL COOKIE GALA!

BRING 2 DOZEN COOKIES TO HELP
CELEBRATE THE CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS
PAGEANT DURING FELLOWSHIP HOUR!
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

"Thanksgiving is a time of togetherness and gratitude." - Nigel Hamilton

NOSA Cards: October's Total = \$2,455 Thank you!

PCU: Toilet Bowl Sunday - Nov 24th Donate a roll of toilet paper!

*Looking Ahead: Christmas Joy Special Offering (Dec 1-22);
The Angel Tree; Adopt a Family; Reverse Advent Calendar*

December 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <p>10am Worship</p> <p>Advent Begins</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>10am Bible Study</p>	<p>4</p> <p>5pm Worship & Music</p> <p>6pm Cong Outreach</p> <p>6pm AlAnon</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>6pm Perrysburg Christmas Parade</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p>10am Worship</p> <p>CE Meeting</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>10am Bible Study</p> <p>6:30pm Session</p>	<p>11</p> <p>6pm AlAnon</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>10am Worship</p> <p>Christmas Pageant</p>	<p>16</p> <p>S/F/M Team meeting</p>	<p>17</p> <p>10am Bible Study</p>	<p>18</p> <p>5:30pm The Table</p> <p>6pm AlAnon</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>5:45 pm Toastmasters</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Church Party at Hollar-Chavez House</p>
<p>22</p> <p>10am Worship</p>	<p>23</p> <p>5pm Cong Life Team meeting</p>	<p>24</p> <p>10am Bible Study</p> <p>7pm Worship</p>	<p>25</p> 	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>10am Worship</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p> <p>10am Bible Study</p>				