

# 1st Presbyterian Church Newsletter

## April - May 2025



*On Easter morning, we invite you to bring cut flowers to adorn the Living Cross. We would be grateful if you could have the flowers delivered by around 9:30.*

First Presbyterian Church of Perrysburg

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

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

*Celebrating Christ's love for all people*



## Pastor's Page

*As we find ourselves in Holy Week, facing our remembrance of Jesus' betrayal, trial, and crucifixion, we know these are the days that most clearly display God's love for us. In order to explain the Kingdom of God to us and welcome us into its fullness of life, Jesus did not flinch from all the trouble it brought him. He stayed true to us even as it cost him everything. The work of going more deeply into our own discipleship to Jesus, our own living of his ways is the challenge of our redeemed and reconciled lives in him.*

*I am providing for you here a reflection by Episcopal priest Adam Bucko, entitled "Gospel Instructions" that was posted on Father Richard Rohr's Center for Action and Contemplation website. Even as it challenges us, I hope it blesses us this Holy Week.*

*~Pastor Katie*

### GOSPEL INSTRUCTIONS

That is the heart of the challenge—what do we believe? What is our ground? What narratives have shaped us and are shaping us? We must have the clarity to name evil for what it is, yet without losing ourselves in othering, understanding that in some way or form, we are part of what we are naming. We must engage not just with what's out there but with what's within us as well. History is filled with revolutions that promised liberation only to replicate the cruelty they overthrew. Justice movements have struggled against the pull of ego. Institutions built to resist oppression have, over time, become oppressive themselves.

Jesus called his disciples to be fishers of people—to be caught up in love and drawn out of the world's illusions. Have we been caught? Have we been pulled out of a system that thrives on violence, on stepping over others to climb higher? Or are we still trapped in it, confused and disoriented?

If we have been pulled out, then we must see clearly. We must commit to both inner and outer work. We must say no to violence, no to greed, no to power that exploits and destroys. And we must do it even when it costs us—because that is what it means to live in truth. That is what it means to allow ourselves to be caught in the net of love.

Returning to the gospel and tending to our spiritual lives are essential practices in times of crisis and unknowing: It may not be in our power to determine how things will unfold, but it is in our power to decide how we respond. It is in our power to hold on to the practices that nourish us, inform us, and give us courage. It is in our power to remain in integrity, to choose nonviolence and noncooperation in the face of all the violence we are already seeing.

Jesus was clear: Love always. Bless those who persecute you. Forgive even the unforgivable. Turn the other cheek, not in surrender but in defiance of violence. Do not repay evil with evil, but overcome evil with good. This may not change the world, but sometimes it is important to do things simply because they are the right things to do. In the end, all we have is our integrity. So let us stand in it, grounded in the One who renews us each moment and calls us to a nonviolent witness of love—one that is big enough to hold both our friends and our oppressors, knowing that love endures beyond violence.

Retrieved from the Center for Action and Contemplation website on April 2, 2025,  
<https://cac.org/daily-meditations/gospel-instructions/>



# *Christian Education*

The Christian Education Team gathered at the beautiful home of Gretchen Downs to exchange ideas and discuss the committee's strengths, weaknesses, and our vision moving forward. The meeting was highly productive and reignited our dedication to fulfilling God's mission through teaching and mentoring our youth.

## JOIN THE EASTER EGG HUNT!

ON EASTER SUNDAY, AFTER  
THE SERVICE, WE WILL HOST  
AN EASTER EGG HUNT.

EVERYONE IS INVITED TO  
JOIN IN, BUT SQUIRRELS ARE  
NOT ALLOWED! A BIG THANK  
YOU TO CHRIS STEWART AND  
CAROL SPRAGUE FOR FILLING  
THE EGGS, AND TO EVERYONE  
WHO CONTRIBUTED CANDY.



**On April 27th, the children will stay in the service. They will have additional activities to engage in while they listen to the message.**



New this year! Appetizers and beverages provided by the Congregational Life Team.

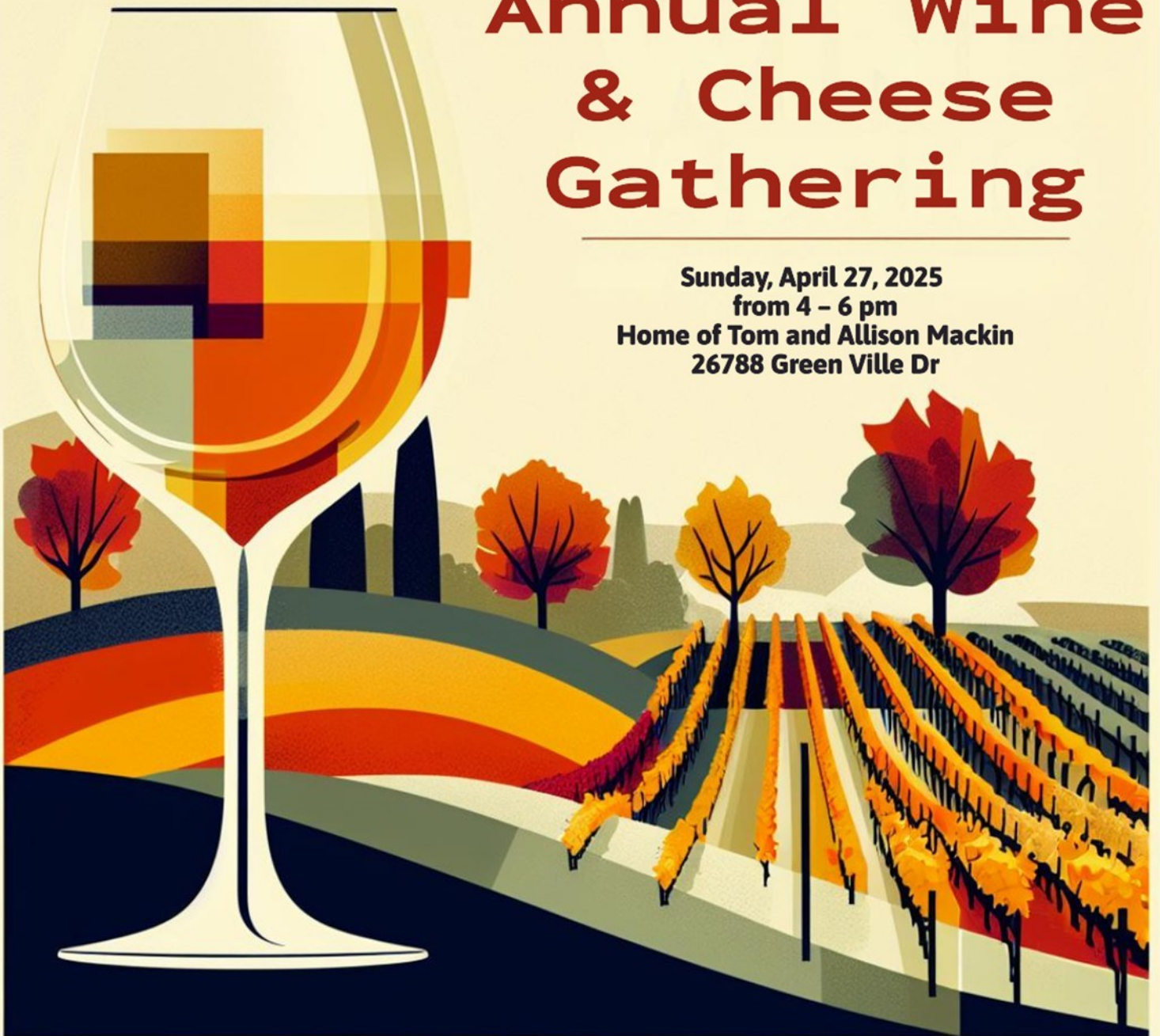
# Annual Wine & Cheese Gathering

Sunday, April 27, 2025

from 4 – 6 pm

Home of Tom and Allison Mackin

26788 Green Ville Dr

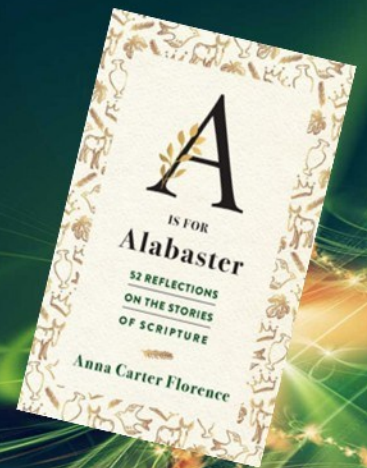


## ADULT BIBLE STUDY NEWS

*Tuesday Morning Study Group News - April/May*

We are progressing through A to Z with New Testament Readings as we continue to find meaningful conversations in each letter's story in our book, A is for Alabaster. Upcoming chapters include: I is for India, J is for John the Baptist, K is for King Herod and L is for Laodicea. If you are curious about these stories from the Bible join us on Tuesday mornings at 10AM.

We meet in person and on Zoom. Call Selinda 419-865-8383 for details.







# Delivering May Baskets

On May 4th, we will continue our cherished tradition of delivering May baskets to our friends and neighbors at Elm House. This marks the 43rd year of sharing the joy of Spring and demonstrating our care for those around us.

## SAVE THE DATES FOR VBS!

Save the dates for Vacation Bible School on June 5th, 6th, and 7th! The event will run from 9:00 AM to 12:30 PM each day. This year, we will focus on supporting those in need, ensuring access to clean water, and promoting the growth, preservation, and reuse of our natural resources. Stay tuned for more details in the coming weeks!







Presby pies start in June!



## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

*"He is not here; for He has risen, as He said."*

*Matthew 28:6*

**One Great Hour of Sharing – Grand Total  
\$2,299.53 Thank you for all the gifts!**

PCU: "ONE DAY SUNDAY" April 27th – Canned Fruit  
"FEED THE \$5,000" Donation of canned meat until the end of Lent.

**BLOOD DRIVE: May 16th, Zoar Church, 10am – 4pm**

**NOSA CARDS: March total: \$1,805**

**THE TABLE: APRIL 16TH**

**THEME: EASTER | ENTRÉE: FRIED CHICKEN**

**CABELL LINCOLN WORK CAMP**




**8 MEMBERS ATTENDING (SO FAR!):**

Pastor Katie, Thomas Beebe, Isla Davies, Rick Gilts,  
Lizzy Crawford, Michelle Chavez, Matt Hollar, Mary Beth Gilts

**There is still time to register!**



# April 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>13</b>  10am Worship	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 10am Bible Study 5:30pm Lenten Prayer 6:30pm Bldg Management	<b>16</b> 5:30pm The Table 6pm AlAnon	<b>17</b> 5:30pm Maundy Thursday Meal 6pm Maundy Thursday	<b>18</b> 	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b>  10am Worship	<b>21</b> Pastor KRT out of office →  5:30pm S/F Team meeting	<b>22</b> 10am Bible Study  6pm Joy Belles	<b>23</b>   6pm AlAnon	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> ← Pastor KRT out of office 10am Worship 4pm Wine & Cheese Gathering	<b>28</b>   5pm Cong Life Team Meeting	<b>29</b> 10am Bible Study	<b>30</b>   6pm AlAnon	<b>Maundy Thursday Service</b> April 17 at 6:00 pm There will be a light meal served before the service starting at 5:30 pm		

## UPCOMING WORSHIP LEADERS:

**April 13:** Stephen Potts, Lowrie Gilmore & Carol Sprague, Sarah Magoun, Kathy Jarosz

**April 20:** Don Youel, Cecelia Richardson & Delbert Duckins, Jo Salvage, Gretchen Downs

**Communion:** Jay & Jo Salvage, Isla & Fiona Davies

**April 27:** Don Youel, Sarah & Lizzie Crawford/Allison Mackin, Isla/Fiona Davies, Stephen Potts

**May 4:** Stephen Potts, Rick & Mary Beth Gilts, Fay Mitchell, Nancy Gates

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

**May 11:** Don Youel, Dennis & Jean Thayer, Matt Hollar/Michelle Chavez, Kathy Jarosz

**May 18:** Stephen Potts, Rauscher Family, Meagan/Jane Merrell, Gretchen Downs

**May 25:** Don Youel, Tom & Karen Lingeman, Marti Clayton, Stephen Potts

# May 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 10am Worship  11:15am Christian Ed Team Meeting	5	6 10am Bible Study	7  6pm Community Outreach 6pm AlAnon	8	9	10
11  10am Worship	12	13 10am Bible Study  6:30pm Session	14  6pm AlAnon	15	16  5:45 pm Toastmasters	17
18  10am Worship	19  5:30pm S/F Team meeting	20 10am Bible Study 5:30pm Bldg Management	21  5:30pm The Table 6pm AlAnon	22	23  5:45 pm Toastmasters	24
25 10am Worship	26 	27 10am Bible Study  6pm Joy Belles	28  6pm AlAnon	29	30  5:45 pm Toastmasters	31