

# 1st Presbyterian Church Newsletter

## August - September 2025

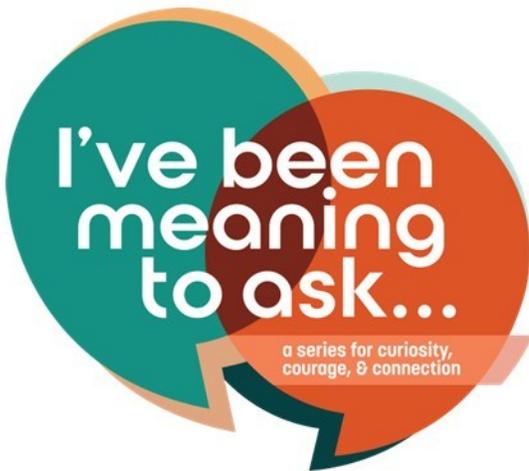


# SUMMER 2025



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:



*I am about to do a new thing;  
now it springs forth; do you not perceive it?  
I will make a way in the wilderness  
and rivers in the desert. —Isaiah 43:19*



Okay, Beloved, here we go! We're doing it! Sunday, September 14, 2025, our church is going to engage in a 9-week program that includes worship, study, and practice so that you, the congregants, can come to a practical understanding of what our mission and vision as a congregation is all about.

There are two primary resources for our 9-week engagement. First is worship and study materials provided by *Sanctified Arts*, entitled, "I've Been Meaning to Ask..." (That gets pretty laborious to write out over and over again, so you might see it referred to as IBMA.) The other is a book by Marshall Rosenberg entitled *Nonviolent Communication*. These two resources are so complimentary that we suspect one is based on the other. Thus there will be book groups offered to read and discuss *Nonviolent Communication*, and its four steps: observing without judgment, expressing feelings, identifying needs, and making clear requests. Meanwhile, the Bible studies, Sunday School and youth programs, worship, and even a little bit of committee meeting time will engage IBMA's four inquiries: Where are you from? Where does it hurt? What do you need? Where do we go from here? (See how they blend?)

There is a third leg to this stool, and that is Stephen Ministry. On Sunday, August 31, we are commission our first two Stephen Ministers in a long time—Selinda Schultz and Allison Mackin. These two women have been studying deeply the practices we as a congregation are going to try out in our 9-week series because they have a specific calling to be companions to those who need them in times of trial. They have been learning about holy listening and presence.

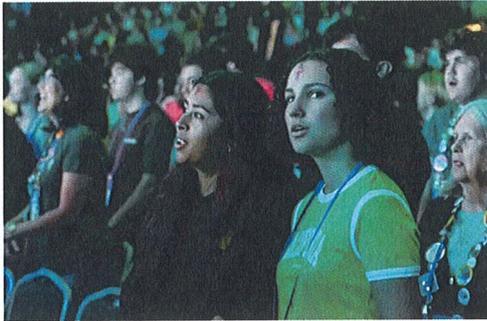
So, Beloved, Please find a meaningful way to engage the practice and study being offered this fall so that you can bring thoughtful reflection and questions to the congregational forum we will hold in November after the series concludes. That forum will be our check-in to reflect on how this is all working for us and to what degree we are feeling able to find ourselves within God's mission for us in the world.

If this is all making you very nervous, that isn't a bad thing or a reason to refrain from trying it out. The important things should give us pause and stretch us a bit. Here we are, a loving congregation of people who can absolutely trust one another and God. I'm nervous too! But also excited and hopeful!

For such a time as this, *Pastor Katie*

# ‘Your dreams are good, but God’s dreams are gold’

The Rev. Dr. Jerry Cannon closes Presbyterian Youth Triennium with  
thunder and wisdom gained from decades in the pulpit



Thursday's closing worship at the Presbyterian Youth Triennium featured the imposition of glitter ashes. (Photo by Rich Copley)

LOUISVILLE — The theme for the final day of [Presbyterian Youth Triennium](#) was “Wake Up and Dream,” and Thursday’s high-energy, thoughtful and feel-good worship service clearly had that effect on the youth and young adults gathered at the Kentucky International Convention Center in Louisville for one final time together.

Owing to how tired many people were, a pair of energizers were conducted from a seated position. The Nettletons 2.0 reprised “[Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing](#)” from the most recent Triennium, held in 2019. Scripture choices for Thursday’s worship were [Isaiah 55:12-13](#) and [Matthew 2:10-12](#).

The [Rev. Dr. Jerry Cannon](#), Vice President for Ministry Innovation at the Board of Pensions of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), offered up a traditional three-point sermon, infusing it with the fire and insight for which he’s known and loved.

“What day is this?” Cannon asked worshipers. Then he answered his own question: “This is the day the Lord has made!”

He asked everyone to tell the person beside them, “Neighbor, O neighbor, wake up and dream.”

“Tell them like ice cream is on sale for 25 cents,” Cannon urged.

Constructed after God’s likeness and reflected in God’s awesomeness, “You are somebody!” Cannon said, telling youth and young adults they were not made sluggish and lethargic, maladjusted and flawed. “You are bright and beautiful, caring and concerned,” he said. “You are a giver and receiver, mentor and student, parent and child, guardian and protector. You are athletic and stout, cosmopolitan and chic. You are anointed with love and dusted with power. You are a contributor and a supporter. You have common sense and life training. Your hair is silver and your wisdom is gold. You are God’s child, made from omnipotent power. You are the church, and you are somebody! Somebody say amen.”

“Let me drop my kickstand in Isaiah 55,” Cannon said, offering his first point, that “God’s dreams for you are bigger than your own.” He quoted the author Willie Jolley: “Your setback is a setup for a comeback.”

Consider the National Basketball Association’s all-time scoring leader, LeBron James of the Los Angeles Lakers. “His dream was to play in the NBA, but God’s dreams were so much larger — to impact the world beyond the basketball court,” Cannon said. Today James is a philanthropist and entrepreneur as well as a basketball superstar. His charity provides wraparound services for students attending the school he started.

“Don’t limit what God can do in your life based on what you see right now,” Cannon advised. “Pray about your future, your talents and your passions. It may be something you never considered. If it feels way too big for you, chances are it’s God’s dream.”

“Your dreams are good,” Cannon said, “but God’s dreams are gold.”

His second point was this: God’s guidance leads to unexpected joy. From the Matthew text, Cannon traced the joy the magi experienced after following “a celestial GPS.”

“God’s guidance often takes us on paths we didn’t anticipate. It might not be the easiest path, or the one your friends are taking. But when you follow God’s lead, it leads to true fulfillment, deep peace and exceedingly great joy.”

Take singer-songwriter Billie Eilish, he said. “Her music was dark and not mainstream. Many told her to change her style, but she followed her vision,” Cannon said. “Billie Eilish didn’t follow the typical path, but her authenticity led her to massive success. You’ve got to be open to where God is leading, even when it seems unconventional.”

“You’ve got to see what God is really doing,” he said. “You’ve got to look for counsel from parents, mentors and pastors, and listen for that nudge from the Spirit.”

That took Cannon to his third and final point: God’s protection guides you to a new way.

“God gave [the magi] a dream, warning them not to go back to Herod,” Cannon said. “God changed their direction, and they went home another way.”

“God sent you to Louisville,” he told the youth and young adults. “God placed you in this convention hall, to go home another way. Dreaming with God isn’t just about aspirations and following directions. It means listening to God’s warnings and being willing to change direction when God prompts you.”

Cannon encouraged those in worship “to be flexible and not to be so fixated on your way. I want you to recognize that God loves you too much to walk you into a trap. God’s dreams come with divine detours for your protection.”

His example here was the late sports commentator [Stuart Scott](#), who “had a vocabulary that was phenomenal,” Cannon noted, and yet one who famously battled cancer was noted for his enthusiastic “Booyah!”

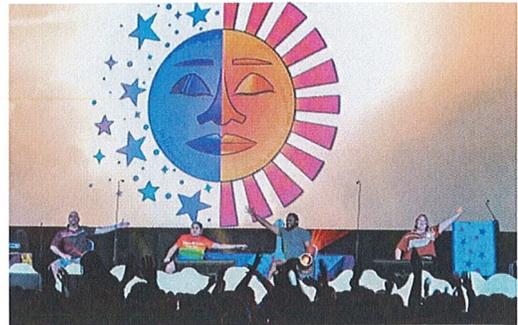
“You didn’t know what to expect at Triennium, and someone wrapped their arms around you. Booyah!” Cannon said. “You had no idea people would be smiling at you. Say booyah!”

“When you wake up,” Cannon said, “you will have some booyah moments.”

After an anthem by the Triennium Choir, youth and younger adults participated in a commissioning service where a cross was imposed using glitter ashes on their forehead. “From stardust you have come, and to stardust you shall return,” they were told. “Wake up and dream.”

As in previous services, some of the prayers offered during the week in the Prayer Center were lifted up, including wisdom and guidance for public officials; the protection of public lands; that hunger will end and peace will be known; for those going through loss or loneliness; for those who need peace, healing, happiness, forgiveness, healing and wholeness; for those going through change; for “our cities and for those who are unhoused and do not have opportunities,” and “finally, prayers for us, for amazing experiences we carry forward with smiles of joy and friendship. Make us brave and courageous in all we say and do as we are sent from here to bring hope to others. Amen.”

As the Nettletons 2.0 sang a benediction, confetti filled the Convention Center air as attendees offered one another hugs and best wishes for the journey home.



*During Thursday's closing worship, energizers were offered from a sitting position. (Photo by Rich Copley)*

*Randy Hobson contributed to this report.*



## Craft Sale

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who took part in the craft sale by contributing unique items & artwork. Despite the sweltering heat & minimal foot traffic at the Farmers Market, we achieved great sales. It was particularly delightful to engage with some of our younger members who were there for face painting & children's craft activities. Their enthusiasm was wonderful. The sale carried on into Sunday at Fellowship Hall, giving the congregation an opportunity to buy the leftover items. The total earnings from the sale contributed an extra \$300 to the Presby Painting Project.

## PRESBY PAINTING PROJECT

WE DID IT! This massive painting project fundraiser kicked off with great enthusiasm and kept the momentum going until we not only met but surpassed our goal. Thanks to the collective efforts of all of you, we raised \$10,940.00, exceeding our initial target of \$8,000.00 by \$1,940.00. This funding will enable us to hire professionals to paint the exterior of Fellowship Hall and the newly installed entry doors. Our congregation consistently discovers resources, energy, and leadership to achieve incredible feats in preserving our historic building and supporting our community. These efforts are a clear indication that God's work is being carried out among us.

## ADULT BIBLE STUDY NEWS

### *Tuesday Morning Study Group News*

Our group is preparing to gather again after a long summer break. We will be joining the rest of our church family in using "I've been meaning to Ask..." for 8 weeks to guide our weekly time together Tuesdays at 10AM. In November we will return to [A is for Alabaster](#).

Our first meeting will be at Selinda's house on September 9<sup>th</sup> at 10AM. Then we will continue to meet at church and on Zoom. Please join us as we learn, pray, share stories and support each other.

Contact Selinda with any questions or concerns.

The Junior Worship and Youth discussion sessions will carry on as normal throughout August.

## Christian Education

Beginning in the fall, we will launch a new worship series titled "I've been meaning to ask..."

This series, provided by "A Sanctified Art", aims to foster curiosity, courage, and connection. The lessons will correspond with the scripture readings, promoting family discussions throughout the week.

The CE team sincerely thanks everyone who has stepped in for the regular teachers during the summer. You are truly a blessing.

A+ Toastmasters Presents

# -YOU SPEAK\*

# -WE RESPOND

Friday Aug. 29, 2025 @ 6:30pm EDST

1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian Church

200 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> St. Perrysburg OH 43551

\*Your Speech or ***Take Our Table Topics Speech Challenge!***

Join us for a live

SPEECH

EVALUATION

EXTRAVAGANZA!

- Supportive & Incisive Feedback  
+ Round Robin Comments
- Novel Tips and Ideas
- Evaluation Info & Ideas to take  
back to your home club

Contact Lawrence Moebis 734-634-3241 (phone/text) for  
speaking slot, zoom link and more information

Register/Get Tickets at:

**(tickets required)**

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/you-speak-we-respond-tickets-1554196877699?aff=oddtcreator>





# COMMUNITY OUTREACH

PCU "One Day Sunday" - August 31 - SHAMPOO

**BLOOD DRIVE AT ZOAR - SEPTEMBER 12 - 10AM TO 4PM**

NOSA cards July total = \$1,690 Thx for the support!

Water for Ismael - Plan on joining the presentation on August 24th, in the Fellowship Hall.

*Simply Give Campaign - Meijer's proceeds go to PCU - ends Sept 29th*

## **FORTHCOMING EVENTS:**

Zoar - Pastor Paul would greatly appreciate help with 2 events!

1. **Sew Hope** - food packing event starting at 9am on Sat, September 6
2. **Build a Bed** - building beds event starting at 1pm on Sun, September 7. The CO team is requesting congregational support by donating twin size linens. Kindly place the linens in Fellowship Hall, on the PCU table, before the end of August.

**Peace and Global Witness** - Sep 14 thru Oct 5 (World Communion Sunday)

**Free Rummage Sale - September 13** The setup date is September 7th, right after Fellowship Hour. We need to stack the chairs, arrange all the tables we have, and move the furniture around. Please refrain from bringing in any items until September 7. You can place items on or in front of the pews in Fellowship Hall.



## SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER AT ZOAR LUTHERAN CHURCH DURING THEIR “God’s Work, Our Hands” WEEKEND—SEPT 6 & 7

Saturday, September 6th and Sunday, September 7th is Rally Weekend at Zoar Lutheran Church! And they have invited us to join them in a weekend of service!

### **Here’s why:**

1) *We are forging a community ministry partnership with Zoar. We want to show up and help them with their projects just as we want them to show up and help us with our project. So—Please—Show up!*

2) *Being able to live our faith together in activities that provide for those in need in our community will sooth your soul, deepen your faith in human-kind, and strengthen your discipleship journey.*

**Saturday, September 6th from 9am-12pm** - Food Packing event with Sew Hope! Stop by and spend the morning in the (air conditioned) Zoar FLC to help pack nutritious meals for those in need!

**Sunday, September 7th from 12pm-5pm** - Building beds for children in Northwest Ohio who are going without. We will be setting up in the parking lot with a goal to build at least 50 beds in 4 hours! Donations of twin sized bedding (sheets, comforters, blankets, pillows) will be collected at Zoar up until and during the event. Pizza, water, and shaded rest area will be available for volunteers.

Here is where you can sign up: <https://www.zoarlutheran.com/godsworkourhands>

Also here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4CA9AC2CA6FCC43-57703246-gods#/>

[Can't come help out either of those days?](#) You can still support by purchasing bedding! Amazon wish list for bedding: [https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3D6NX5XAE2AM7/ref=hz\\_ls\\_biz\\_ex](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3D6NX5XAE2AM7/ref=hz_ls_biz_ex)

### **ONE LAST REALLY IMPORTANT THING – DON’T FORGET!**

If you are signing up to help out that weekend, make sure to also mark your name on our list on the bulletin board outside my office. Register online with Zoar and then mark the signup sheet at the church, or have Amy in the church office mark it for you. Thank you so very much, *Pastor Katie*

# August 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>17</b> Pastor KRT vacation → 10am Worship 2pm Toledo Mud Hens	<b>18</b> 11am Sue Schiffman funeral	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 5pm The Table 6pm AlAnon	<b>21</b> 3:30pm Grass Roots	<b>22</b> ← Pastor KRT vacation	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> 8:30am Men's Bible Study 10am Worship	<b>25</b> 5pm Cong Life Team meeting	<b>26</b> 4:30pm Stewardship & Finance Team 6pm Joy Belles	<b>27</b> 6pm AlAnon	<b>28</b> Presby Pies	<b>29</b> 5:45pm Toastmasters	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b> 10am Worship						

## UPCOMING WORSHIP LEADERS:

**August 17:** Stephen Potts, Cecilia Richardson & Delbert Duckins/Marty Sloan, Jay Salvage, Gretchen Downs

**August 24:** Don Youel, Sarah & Lizzie Crawford/Allison Mackin, Isla/Fiona Davies, Stephen Potts

**August 31:** Stephen Potts, Carol Sprague & Fiona Davies, Allison Mackin/Lizzy Crawford, Marty Sloan

**September 7:** Don Youel, Rick & Mary Beth Gilts, Fay Mitchell, Nancy Gates

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

**September 14:** Stephen Potts, Jay & Jo Salvage, Michelle Chavez/Matt Hollar, Kathy Jarosz

**September 21:** Don Youel, Rauscher Family, Marti Clayton, Gretchen Downs

**September 28:** Don Youel, Dennis & Jean Thayer, Megan/Jane Merrell, Stephen Potts

# September 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
	<p>1</p>  <p>Church office closed</p>	2	<p>3</p> <p>5pm Worship &amp; Music Team 6pm Community Outreach 6pm AlAnon</p>	4	5pm Mission Vision Team	5	6
<p>7</p> <p>10am Worship Communion 11:15am Christian Education Team meeting</p>	8	9	10	11	12	13	
		6:30pm Session	6pm AlAnon	Presby Pies		Church Rummage Sale	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
10am Worship 11:30am Christian Education Team meeting			5pm The Table 6pm AlAnon		5:45 pm Toastmasters	Community Storytelling Event	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
10am Worship	5pm Cong Life Team meeting	4:30pm Bldg Management 6pm Joy Belles	6pm AlAnon	Presby Pies		Fall Grounds Clean-Up	
28	29	30					
10am Worship							