

1st Presbyterian Church Newsletter

October 2026

Sips and Stories

TROLLEY TOURS THROUGH HISTORY

Saturday, October 24



Historic Perrysburg will sponsor Sips and Stories: Trolley Tours Through History. First Presby will be featured as one of the historic sites visited throughout Perrysburg. Two historic reenactors, Tim and Kate Philabaum, will be in front of the church sharing information about early churches in our area.

Nancy Gates has created a handout about our historic building, and Don Youel will be in our sanctuary to answer questions.
Thanks to both of them!



Follow the link for more information.
Trolley tours require registration.
<https://www.historicperrysburg.org/>

First Presbyterian Church of Perrysburg
200 E. 2nd Street, Perrysburg, Ohio, 43551
www.1stpresbyterianperrysburg.com
Celebrating Christ's love for all people

A couple of years ago, I ended up taking my wife Barb to the emergency room (or department, as they're calling it these days) on a Saturday evening. Long story short, she fell, and we were worried that she may have separated her shoulder or broken her arm.

The woman behind the counter was as calm and collected as can be. Not a lot of warmth, but efficient. In the lobby a social worker was talking to a woman about anger management with children. I did not want to know what that story was about, but since they were sitting two feet from me, it was hard not to listen. A homeless man was stretched out over several chairs, getting a good night's sleep in that clean, well-lighted place. A small child was rushed in by a frantic parent with a bloody soaked towel wrapped around his foot, the child whimpering and moaning.

I spent a few hours waiting and thinking. Had I caught a glimpse of heaven or hell there in the lobby of the ER? As far as I could tell, everyone who came through those doors were treated equally – assessed, evaluated, left alone, tended to, cared for without a lot of warmth but cared for, nonetheless. Each of us who came through those doors needed help – for medication, for treatment, for sleep, for counsel. Each of us left our full stories at the door – who we were, what made us laugh or dance, who were the people we counted on, what our last meal was, and with whom. When we walked in, we were patients with a presenting condition. That's all.

Did I get a glimpse of hell in the lobby of the ER? There were people whose bodies were breaking down, people who didn't have a place to sleep or a community that would take them in, people who didn't know how to manage their anger or their immaturity. Were we a collection of souls in despair, cut off from the wholeness intended for us?

What I know is that Barb and I have a lot of resources and know a lot of people who would come to our aid in a heartbeat. We have Medicare now that will cover most of the bill that came our way. I know how to assert myself and ask for what I need. I am not an addict. I have a home. My life is good; heavenly, some of those people in the lobby might say.

When we left at around 11:30 that evening, the lobby crowd had cleared. The homeless man had found somewhere else to go. The staff was in the middle of a shift change, so I didn't get to thank the nurse practitioner or x-ray technician. But I wonder where that woman went, if the conversation with the social worker helped her, helped the situation. I wonder if the man made it to a shelter or found a kindly person who would buy him breakfast. I hope the young child was brave, if he got stitches. I wonder if the nurses and doctors crawled into bed after their shifts ended, knowing they had done some good in the night.

Heaven or hell? Maybe the difference between the two has less to do with judgment than with community. For all of us fall short of the glory of God – the addict, the angry mom, the spouse who fell; all of us might deserve condemnation.

Yet all of us are beloved too, and maybe hell is nothing more than not having someone who will drive you to the ER at night; not having someone who will take you in; not having someone who speaks that truth to you in love.

Maybe you and I will be the difference between heaven and hell for someone else.

Pastor Nominating Committee Report



THE PNC's WORK

The Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) has met three times and will continue meeting twice monthly. It's purpose is to seek candidates for the church's next full-time pastor and conduct an interview process to identify the person presented to the congregation for this position.

The committee is preparing a narrative about the church using results from the recent CAT survey in which the congregation participated, along with the compensation package to be offered.

NEXT STEPS

These materials will be submitted to Maumee Valley Presbyterian for review and approval, then posted through PCUSA for pastors seeking positions.

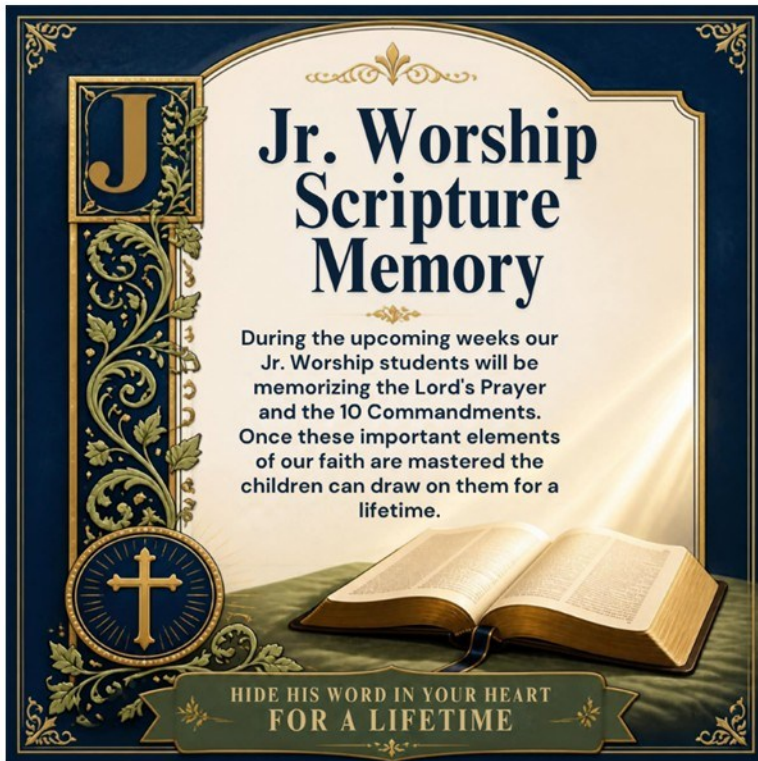
After resumes are received, the committee will begin interviews. We will keep the congregation informed as the process develops.



*Please keep us and our church in your prayers
as we do this work.*



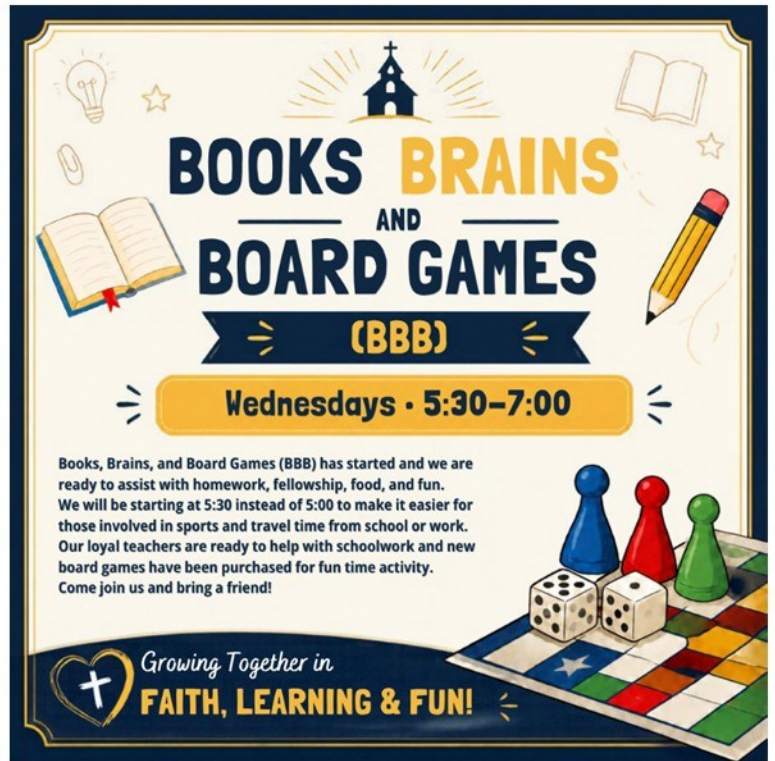
The members of the PNC are Allison Mackin, Rick Gilts, Marti Clayton, David Rowland Miller, Claire Krabill, and Jay Salvage (chairperson).



Jr. Worship Scripture Memory

During the upcoming weeks our Jr. Worship students will be memorizing the Lord's Prayer and the 10 Commandments. Once these important elements of our faith are mastered the children can draw on them for a lifetime.

HIDE HIS WORD IN YOUR HEART FOR A LIFETIME



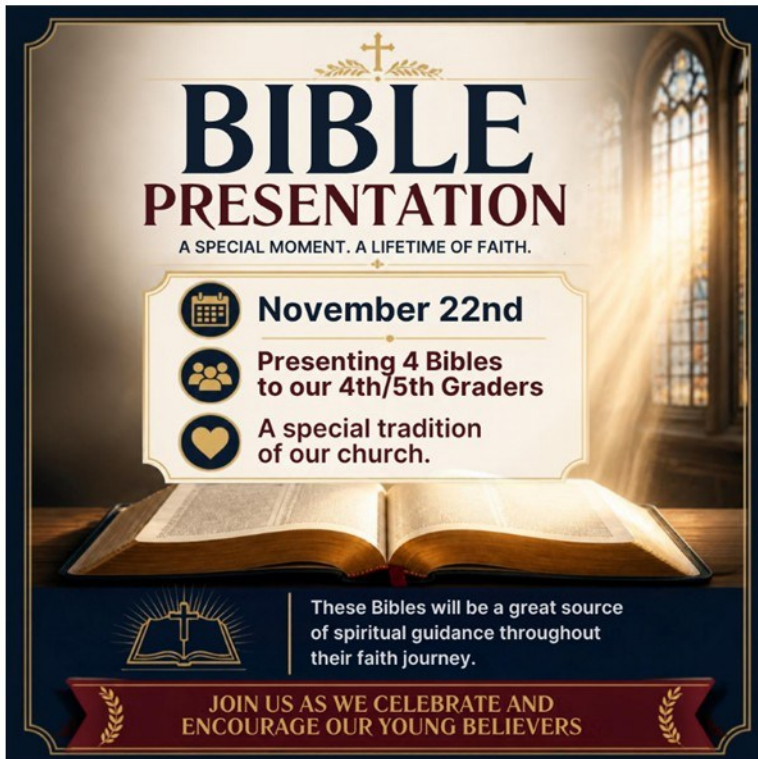
BOOKS BRAINS AND BOARD GAMES (BBB)

Wednesdays • 5:30–7:00

Books, Brains, and Board Games (BBB) has started and we are ready to assist with homework, fellowship, food, and fun. We will be starting at 5:30 instead of 5:00 to make it easier for those involved in sports and travel time from school or work. Our loyal teachers are ready to help with schoolwork and new board games have been purchased for fun time activity. Come join us and bring a friend!

Growing Together in FAITH, LEARNING & FUN!

Christian Education



BIBLE PRESENTATION

A SPECIAL MOMENT. A LIFETIME OF FAITH.

November 22nd

Presenting 4 Bibles to our 4th/5th Graders

A special tradition of our church.

These Bibles will be a great source of spiritual guidance throughout their faith journey.

JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE AND ENCOURAGE OUR YOUNG BELIEVERS



Christmas Pageant

December 13th

During the regular service

This will be an original program written by our very own Adam Rauscher.

All children and friends are encouraged to participate in this retelling of the birth of Christ so long ago.

TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY NEWS

Our faithful group continues to journey through the church calendar using *Diana Butler Bass's* wonderful book, **A Beautiful Year**.

As autumn arrives, the Church's Season of Ordinary Time moves into the Season of Creation. Throughout this period, Christians are encouraged to embrace the theological centrality of God as Creator, celebrate Creation itself, recognize the human vocation of caring for Creation, and commit to advocating for justice for the earth and all living beings. We'll dedicate the first half of October to exploring this Creation-centered theme. In the second half of October, we examine the lesser-known Psalm 1, followed by the beloved Psalm 23.

We'd love to have you join our lively discussions via Zoom or in person at Church on Tuesday mornings at 10AM.

Contact Selinda at
Selinda5971@gmail.com with
questions.



Presby Pie

2026 Wrap-Up

After a slower start this year, we had a great pie project again this year. We had 14 bakers who participated, along with a wonderful variety of creative bakers. We tried many new recipes, and our customers loved trying new pies. Many faithful customers returned, along with many new customers. Kathy East has a new sales outlet in Bowling Green and a very special salesperson—ask her!

Special thanks to the crew that makes this all happen! Rick Gilts set up tables for us, which is a huge help. Lowrie Gilmore was our faithful cashier, with Marty Sloan filling in. Mary Beth Gilts, Carol Sprague, and Chris Stuart organized and carried pies—a true gift to me. Without all this great help, this project would not be possible.

We made the decision to raise the price of the 9-inch pie to \$14.00 this year due to the rising cost of supplies. Despite this, our total income was not as high as we had hoped, perhaps due to a slower sales pace in June. Overall, we sold over 350 pies and deposited \$3,700.

Thank you to all our bakers, and thank you for all the support of the congregation.

~Nancy Gates



14 bakers

350+ pies sold

\$3,700 deposited



Community Outreach

NOSA CARDS: AUGUST = \$2,595 | SEPTEMBER = \$1,125

PCU: October item is Cereal - purchase a box the next time you go shopping!

The Open Door: A member of our church donated \$300. They cut the number from 24 to 20 clients, because of funding. They are currently housing 19. Cecelia and Mary Beth took 5 bags of clothing (from the rummage sale) and had a tour of the three houses, including information of the executive director, managers, and the clients themselves.

The Table: October 21 at 5pm | Theme is Halloween | Entrée is Sloppy Joe Sandwich - wear a costume if you choose!

OCTOBER 2026 WORSHIP LEADERS:

October 4: Don Youel, David Nunn & Marty Sloan, Rick/Mary Beth Gilts, Nancy Gates

October 4 Communion: Margot Quick, Julie Lindsey, Jack & Linda Simmons

October 11: Stephen Potts, Lowrie Gilmore, Nick & Claire Krabill, Carlee Campbell, Kathy Jarosz

October 18: Don Youel, Cecilia Richardson & Delbert Duckins/Marty Sloan, Jack Simmons, Gretchen Downs

October 25: Stephen Potts, Sarah Crawford & Paul Martell, Rhyn Davies, Stephen Potts

October 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 6pm AlAnon District meeting	2	3
4 10am Worship	5	6 10am Bible Study	7 5pm Worship & Music Team 6pm Community Outreach 6pm AlAnon	8	9	10
11 10am Worship	12	13 10am Bible Study 6:30pm Session	14 5pm AlAnon	15	16 5:45pm Toastmasters	17
18 10am Worship	19	20 10am Bible Study 4pm Facility Management Team meeting	21 5pm The Table 6pm AlAnon	22	23	24 11am Sips & Stories
25 10am Worship	26 5pm Cong Life Team meeting	27 10am Bible Study 12pm Joy Belles	28 6pm AlAnon	29	30 5:45pm Toastmasters	31 