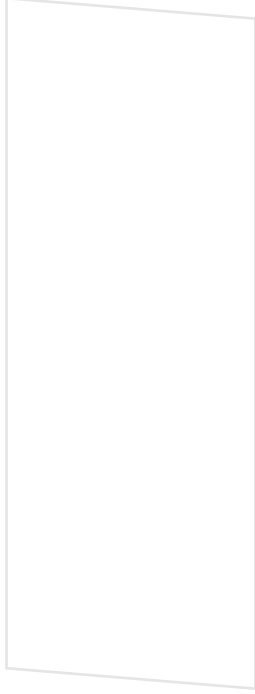


Nov. 2024



First Presbyterian Church of Parkersburg
GATHERING. GROWING. CARING. GOING

1341 JULIANA STREET
 PARKERSBURG, WV 26101

Phone: 304-422-5426

Fax: 304-428-0372

E-mail: office@fpcpborgwv.org

Visit us at:
www.fpcpborgwv.org
 facebook.com/fpcpborg

WE ARE A NURTURING, VIBRANT CONGREGATION, REACHING OUT TO THE COMMUNITY AND STANDING AS A BEACON OF CHRIST'S LOVE AND PROMISE.

Sunday Worship:
 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
 livestream on Facebook - 10:30 a.m.
 Children's Church
 & Sunday School 10:30 a.m.



Article Deadline: 15th of each month

If you would like to be added to either our email or postal mailing list, please contact the church office to leave your name and preferred contact information: 304-422-5426 or office@fpcpborgwv.org.



first things
FIRST

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

November 2024



Rejoice
 evermore.
Pray

without ceasing.
 In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, KJV

WE ARE A NURTURING, VIBRANT CONGREGATION, REACHING OUT TO THE COMMUNITY AND STANDING AS A BEACON OF CHRIST'S LOVE

First Presbyterian Church of Parkersburg
Church of Parkersburg
GATHERING. GROWING. CARING. GOING



1341 Juliana St. ■ Parkersburg, WV 26101 ■ 304-422-5426



Gratitude is such a popular theme this time of year. We're grateful for our veterans and those who are actively serving; they do so much for our country. We give thanks to God for family and friends, for food on the table and a roof over our heads.

Everyone wants to be considered grateful. And there are thousands of books out there to help us be more thankful, as well as gratitude journals for absolutely everyone. Man or woman, Christian or atheist, child or teen or adult- there is a gratitude journal just for you. There's one for the artist, one for the musician, one for the lawyer, the engineer, and the teacher. Gratitude can be transformational, turning what we have into enough. While we can't force our emotions to change, we can incorporate gratitude practices into our lives.

Some of my friends in college had such a practice; every night they named three things that they were thankful for. Some days there were far more than



three, and other days it was hard to find one. But they were sincere as they thanked God for at least three specific things every night.

Maybe thank you notes are something you love to write, whether pen and paper or electronically. Or you end up taking moments throughout your day to thank God for the blessings you experience. Ultimately, gratitude can shift our perspective. Is there a gratitude practice that works for you?



Blessings and Peace!

Pastor Annie

Join me on Facebook for a Thanksgiving Message at 10:30 a.m. Thanksgiving Day.

facebook.com/fpcpborg



**J Dollar Breakfast
November 20
9 a.m.**



Men! You are invited to the annual **J Dollar** fundraiser breakfast sponsored by the Deacons. Help them raise funds for their various ministries while enjoying a delicious home-cooked breakfast in Stevenson Hall.



Begin saving J Dollars now and bring them with you that day, or use the special offering envelopes located in the church foyer to place them in the offering plate.

Volunteers as well as food donations are needed. If you can help, please sign up in the foyer. Questions? Contact **Joyce Boso** at **304-428-2533**.



**MID-OHIO VALLEY RINGERS
IN CONCERT**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1
3:00 P.M.**

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
FREEWILL OFFERING**

*Sunday
November 24*

Please come to our annual Thanksgiving Dinner, in Stevenson Hall following 10:30 Worship.

Enjoy a turkey dinner with all the trimmings, hosted by The Deacons. To help us plan, please sign up in the foyer.



Happy Birthday!

Don Rymer	2nd
Donna Shaver	7th
Addison Mosso	9th
Sarah Townsend	11th
Mike Beckett	13th
Harriet Litteral	14th
David Kanalz	22nd
Mary Ellen Dearth	26th
Frieda Owen	26th
Melanie Thompson	30th



NOVEMBER CELEBRATIONS

Happy Anniversary!

Phil & Cyndy Essenmacher	4th
Annie & Lucian McMillan	5th
Wayne & Janet Duncan	23rd
Roy Schleicher & Senta Goudy	23rd



Special Dates in November

- All Saints' Day - 1st
- Daylight-Saving Time Ends - 3rd
- Veterans Day - 11th
- Bible Sunday - 24th
- National Bible Week - 24-30
- Christ the King Sunday - 24th
- Thanksgiving Day - 28th

GIVE Thanks



December / January issue

Because we publish a combined December/January issue of the newsletter, articles for both months must be submitted to the office no later than

Thursday, November 14.



**November 21
11 a.m.
@Mary B's**

Lydia Circle will meet at **Mary B's Restaurant** on Garfield Avenue, Thursday, November 21. Join us as we share lunch, have a lesson and socialize. If you can attend, text or call **Barbara Lucas** at **304-580-1274** so we will know how many seats are needed.

ALL WOMEN ARE INVITED!

The Lydia Circle meets each month on the third Thursday - save the date!

"FOR WHERE TWO OR THREE ARE



**GATHERED
IN MY NAME,
THERE AM I AMONG THEM."**

MATTHEW 18:20, ESV

With happy voices ringing,
thy children, Lord, appear,
their joyous praises bringing
in anthems sweet and clear.
For skies of golden splendor,
for azure rolling sea,
for blossoms sweet and tender,
O Lord, we worship thee.

—William Tarrant



Communion Servers

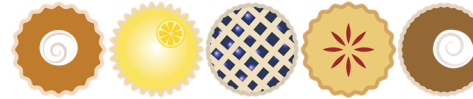


November 3rd

Mikki Bosley	Joe Foley
Kathy Hinkley	Deb Karr



The Gathering - November 13



The Gathering in November is on Wednesday, the 13th, **6:00 - 7:30 p.m. in the Harris Room.** Our theme is **PIES** and we are asking each family to bring a pie - any variety. Join us as we share yummy desserts and fellowship!

Each month's *Gathering* is hosted by a different church group or person(s). Currently we need volunteers to host *The Gathering* for: **February and April.** If you would be interested, please contact Carl Gheen, 321-527-8859.

November



3	Melanie Thompson
10	Lloyd Cowell
17	Greg Boso
24	Kathy Hinkley

DOLLARS & SENSE

Here and on the next page is the latest update on church finances from our Treasurer. Keep in mind, reports are a month behind due to the publishing date of the newsletter. If you have any questions, you may contact Chris Alfred at finance@fpcburgwv.org

In Awe of Everyday Joys

Maybe you've heard of making micro-resolutions for the new year. Similarly, health experts recommend becoming aware of — and thankful for — micro-joys we experience and encounter.

In *The Power of Awe*, Jake Eagle and Michael Amster describe the benefits of taking several brief A.W.E. breaks throughout the day:

- **A** is for Attention, as you focus on something that amazes you or seems valuable.
- **W** is for Waiting, as you pause to take a deep breath.
- **E** is for Exhaling, as you breathe out and feel joy and gratitude.

This simple practice reveals how profound the “ordinary” can be, thanks to the generosity of our **extraordinary God!**

Financial Statement as of September 30, 2024

2024 Budget	Budget	Actual
Income		
Sunday Offerings		
<i>Pledges</i>	\$ 126,175.00	\$ 81,721.00
<i>Contributions</i>	\$ 44,624.00	\$ 33,044.61
<i>Per Capita</i>	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 604.20
Sunday Offerings	\$ 172,299.00	\$ 115,369.81
<i>Facility Rentals</i>	\$ 41,000.00	\$ 29,113.46
<i>Other Income</i>	\$ 175.00	\$ 234.17
<i>Misc. Income</i>	\$ -	\$ -
<i>Interest from F. Trust</i>	\$ 50,000.00	20,000.00
Total Income	\$ 263,474.00	\$ 164,717.44
Expenses		
<i>Discipleship</i>	\$ 2,048.00	\$ 853.26
<i>Mission</i>	\$ 500.00	\$ 275.74
<i>Worship & Music</i>	\$ 7,100.00	\$ 4,643.36
<i>Salaries</i>	\$ 149,698.00	\$ 102,200.39
<i>Facilities</i>	\$ 81,630.00	\$ 55,018.85
<i>Per Capita</i>	\$ 3,273.00	\$ 510.42
<i>Communications</i>	\$ 1,225.00	\$ 368.05
<i>Office Expenses</i>	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 13,128.97
Total Expenses	\$ 263,474.00	\$ 176,999.04
Difference	\$ -	\$ (12,281.60)

ASSETS

FPC CHECKING	
Operating Fund	\$ (8,937.36)
Restricted Funds	\$ 44,903.59
Deacons Fund	\$ 3,208.09
Total Checking	\$ 39,174.32
PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN FUNDS	
Checking	\$ 829.25
Savings	\$ 1,627.84
Total PW Funds	\$ 2,457.09
INVESTMENTS	
Deacons CD	\$ 6,058.01
Morgan Stanley Stocks	\$ 632.29
United Bank Founders Trust	\$ 52,424.62
Wesbanco Founders Trust	\$ 1,490,879.82
Presbyterian Women Investments	\$ 163,467.19
Total Investments	\$ 1,713,461.93
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 1,755,093.34



Dear Lord, we beg but one boon more: peace in the hearts of all men living, peace in the whole world this Thanksgiving.

—Joseph Auslander

Session HIGHLIGHTS



In their effort to better communicate with the congregation, the Session has listed below the highlights from their **OCTOBER** meeting:

- Session voted to remove two trees near the Childcare Center entrance due to safety concerns.
- Once per quarter, we will celebrate the sacrament of Communion together in a joint worship service. This year, this will include worship at 9:30 a.m. on January 5th with our Star Words worship service, and during Maundy Thursday evening worship in April.
- The oven has been fixed.
- Larry Wiseman, our sexton of 20 years, will be retiring at the end of this year. At 6 p.m. on December 11, we will celebrate his many years of service at our monthly Gathering.

upcoming events **november**

- Nov. 3:** All Saints Sunday / **Stewardship Dedication**
Music Rehearsals begin - Women's Ensemble @11:30; Festival Choir @2:00; Juliana Ringers @3:00
- Nov. 10:** **Veterans Day Observance**
- Nov. 17:** **Congregational Meeting** - following 10:30 Worship, Sanctuary
- Nov. 20:** **J Dollar Men's Breakfast fundraiser** - 9 a.m., Stevenson Hall
- Nov. 21:** **Lydia Circle Lunch** - 11 a.m., Mary B's on Garfield Avenue
- Nov. 24:** **Christ the King Sunday**
Thanksgiving Dinner - following 10:30 Worship
Greening of the church
Actors Guild / "Beauty and the Beast" - 6 p.m.
- Nov. 28:** **Thanksgiving Day** / Pastor's message on Facebook - 10:30 a.m.

 **DECEMBER**

- Dec. 1:** **First Sunday of Advent / Communion**
Mid-Ohio Valley Ringers Concert - 3 p.m.
- Dec. 6:** **Cluster Youth Event** - 5 p.m., Stevenson Hall
- Dec. 11:** **The Gathering** - 6 p.m., Harris Room - Retirement Celebration for Larry Wiseman, our Sexton
- Dec. 15:** **Cookies with Santa** - 2:00 p.m., Friendship Park
- Dec. 22:** Children's Program - 10:30 a.m. Worship
Christmas Joy Offering received (PCUSA)
- Dec. 24:** **Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship** - 7 p.m.
- Dec. 25:** **Christmas Day** - Annual Community Christmas Dinner: 12 - 2 p.m.

On January 5th, Worship Services will be combined at 9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary / Star Words Sunday and Communion

Christmas Poinsettias 2024

To order a poinsettia for the Sanctuary this Christmas, complete this form and place in the offering plate with your donation, or return to the church office.

ORDER DEADLINE IS MONDAY, DECEMBER 2.

Suggested donation is \$10.00 per flower.

Make checks payable to: First Presbyterian Church and note "FLOWERS" on the memo line of your check.

In Memory of:

- ◆ _____
- ◆ _____
- ◆ _____
- ◆ _____

To Honor:

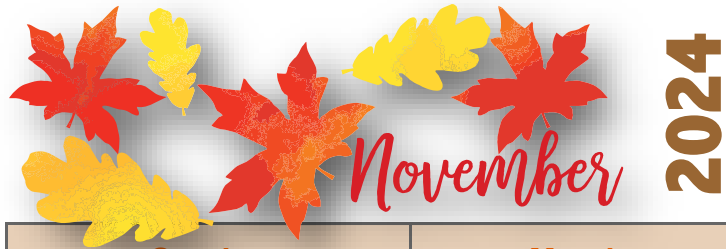
- ◆ _____
- ◆ _____

To Celebrate:

- ◆ _____
- ◆ _____






DONATED BY: _____

of flowers _____ **TOTAL ENCLOSED \$** _____



HAPPY
THANKSGIVING



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																										
 <p>A Guest at the Table For, after all, put it as we may to ourselves, we are all of us from birth to death guests at a table which we did not spread. The sun, the earth, love, friends, our very breath are parts of the banquet. Shall we think of the day as a chance to come nearer to our Host, and to find out something of him who has fed us so long? —Rebecca Harding Davis</p>					1 OFFICE CLOSED	2 8:30 AM Facilities Mgmt. / Saturday Stewards 12:00 PM HA Mtg.																																										
3 Communion / All Saints Sunday Stewardship Dedication 8:30 AM Worship 10:00 AM Coffee Hour 10:30 AM Worship 11:30 AM Women's Ensemble 2:00 PM Riverview Cemetery Mtg. 2:00 PM Festival Choir 3:00 PM Juliana Ringers	4 6:00 PM Deacons Meeting 7:00 PM KOM Knitters 7:00 PM Mission Committee	5 Election Day No School 6:00 PM Worship & Discipleship Comm.	6 6:00 PM Girl Scouts	7 7:15 PM Boy Scouts	8 OFFICE CLOSED	9 12:00 PM HA Mtg. 6:00 PM MOV Indian Assoc.																																										
10 Veterans Day Observance 8:30 AM Worship 10:00 AM Coffee Hour 10:30 AM Worship 11:30 AM Women's Ensemble 2:00 PM Choir / 3:00 PM Ringers	 11	12 6:00 PM Financial Mgmt.	13 6:00 PM The Gathering BRING PIES  6:00 PM Girl Scouts	14 6:00 PM Cub Scouts 7:15 PM Boy Scouts Newsletter Deadline	15 OFFICE CLOSED	16 12:00 PM HA Mtg.																																										
17 Cents-Ability Offering 8:30 AM Worship 10:00 AM Coffee Hour 10:30 AM Worship 11:30 AM Congregational Mtg. 11:45 AM Women's Ensemble 2:00 PM Choir / 3:00 PM Ringers	18 6:00 PM Session Mtg.	19 3:15 PM Staff Meeting	20  9:00 AM J Dollar Breakfast 6:00 PM Girl Scouts	21 Presbytery Mtg. 11:00 AM Lydia Circle Lunch 7:15 PM Boy Scouts	22 OFFICE CLOSED	23 12:00 PM HA Mtg.																																										
24 Christ the King Sunday 8:30 AM Worship 10:00 AM Coffee Hour 10:30 AM Worship 11:30 AM Thanksgiving Dinner Greening of the Church 2:00 PM Choir / 3:00 PM Ringers 6:00 PM Actor's Guild Outing	25 No school in Wood Co. thru 29th 7:00 PM Parkersburg Pride	26 4:00 PM MOV Ringers rehearsal 6:00 PM Worship & Discipleship Comm.	27 6:00 PM Girl Scouts	28 Thanksgiving Day 10:30 AM Pastor's Thanksgiving Message on Facebook 	29 December 2024 <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td></tr> <tr><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td></tr> <tr><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td></tr> <tr><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31					30 12:00 PM HA Mtg.
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