

The Presbyterian

A Newsletter of the First Presbyterian Church

April 2024

Exalting Christ. Denying Ourselves. Loving our Neighbors.

THE TERRITORY AHEAD

This is the first of the monthly updates we will be including in our Church Family Newsletter, in regards to the process of bringing on a new pastor. Unlike some denominations that simply “appoint” a new pastor for churches-in-need, in the Presbyterian Church (and our specific denomination the E.P.C.) a more democratic process is employed where we conduct a “search” -- much like a corporation would do.

We would encourage each of you to visit the following (2) websites to learn more about the workings of the E.P.C. Evangelical-Presbyterian-Church (nationwide) and the Midwest-Presbytery (our local representation)

www.epc.org

www.midwestpresbytery.org

Simply put, our Church-Family and your Church-Session-Elders are embarking on a three-phase journey as follows:

First - we temporarily need to line up speakers to present the sermon during each Sunday morning service. In addition to utilizing our own Elders (and other qualified local folks) we have been in communication with the Midwest Presbytery - Ministerial Committee to enlist their help. Our first approach will be to work with Gateway Presbyterian Church Findlay OH and tie into their “streaming” sermons on a fairly regular basis (which we would show on our two video screens) -- and -- also enlist our church’s elders and other local folks, as needed.

Second - we have been in contact with both the Midwest Presbytery and the Nationwide EPC; and they both confirm what we already knew, that permanent pastoral candidates are in short supply. So in the near term, our “best bet” and the mutual goal with both these organizations is to locate what’s termed a Transitional Pastor who would basically fill the role of our very own pastor, but only on a 12-month basis (with extensions possible in 2-3 month increments). This person would not be eligible to become our permanent pastor - because they have been specifically trained to help churches through interim times only.

Third - after those first two steps are rolling smoothly we would convene our own Pastor Nominating Committee -- with the goal of “advertising our vacancy” and going through the process of reviewing (and eventually choosing) a candidate as our Permanent Pastor.

That’s why I’ve chosen the title of THE TERRITORY AHEAD for these monthly newsletter updates. The overall process will take time and much patience. As always, if you have any comments or questions we strongly encourage you to reach out to either myself or any of our current Session Members.

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Group and Committee Dates



Please check with the
Committee Chairperson for information

Session Meeting

The Elders will meet on **Thursday, April 18, @ 6:00 PM** in the Welcome Center.

Gamma Delta

The Gamma Delta group will meet on **Thursday, April 18th at 12:30pm** at MiCerrito Restaurant, 741 Portland Way South, Galion.

Discipleship Group

The Ladies Discipleship group will meet **April 9 at 6:30 pm**. Please see schedule in the newsletter.

Table Toppers

The Table Toppers meet **Wednesday afternoons at 2:30 until 5:00**. All ages are welcome to join in for an afternoon of board games and card games. Bring your snacks and beverage.

Presbyterian Men

The Presbyterian Men's group meets each **Friday @ 7:00 AM, at the Pelican**. All men of FPC are invited to attend.

Deacon's Meeting

The Deacon's meetings are to be announced.

Finance Committee

The next Finance Committee meeting will be announced.





Happy Birthday

- 11 Tasha Nickler, Kaelee Britton
- 13 Sam Eichhorn
- 15 Mary Lou Hastings,
Beth Barton
- 17 Barb Price
- 19 Phylicia Dishon
- 20 Lauren Bishop
- 21 Shepherd Randall
- 24 Lori Rager
- 26 Kathy Byrne

Anniversary

- 23 Sam and Judy Eichhorn
- 25 Pete & Ronda Hoerig

Liturgist

- 07 – Al Fulton
- 14 – Kathy Bardon
- 21 – Lori Rager
- 28 – Tasha Nickler

Ushers/Greeters

- 07 – Lori Rager
- 14 – Gary Irwin
- 21 -

Flowers

- 07 – Dan & Barb Price
- 14 –
- 21 –
- 28 -

Elder of the Month: Marcia Stout
Deacon of the Month: Sue Irwin

Shut-Ins:

Mary Lou Hastings, Sue Headley, JoeAnn Johns

Cancer

Melody Fagan, friend of Sandy Britton
Annette Cheney, a friend of Kathy Bardon
Bruce Price, Dan’s brother

Surgery

Ben Hubble, Jan’s nephew, back surgery

Members, Family and Friends of Members:

Dan Price
Dave Hablitzel
Judy Eichhorn, waiting on MRI for pain in head, neck & shoulders
Kathy Hildebrand, Courtney’s Mother, waiting on liver transplant
Lou Ross, recovering from a, stroke, Lori Rager’s Dad
Whitney Hildebrand, Courtney Posey’s sister
Abigail Sutherland, recovering from heart surgery, Dishon’s granddaughter
Mike McKee, Heart problem. Friend of Kathy Bardon
Becky Bellamy, Parkinson’s, sister of Kathy Bardon
Mary Dunham, Kathy Byrne’s friend

Military:

Keagan Rios, Gennie Rios grandson
Levi Diebler, member and Carrie Diebler’s son
Grayson Robinson, Tami Robinson’s grand-nephew



First Presbyterian News



Kudos & Updates from Jan



Interior renovations continue at the church in Michelle's office, the parlor, restroom and Rensselaer Street entrance. Pitts Home Improvement is doing a great job. With renovation comes purging. I have furniture that is available for a contribution to the renovation project. First up is the green furniture and end tables in the parlor. Please see me if you are interested.

Rainman Roofing replaced the roof on the next door manse. This is the first step in the renovation of the house.

Deacons Prayer Chain As you know we continue to have a prayer list in our weekly bulletins. Also, the deacons have a very active prayer chain with more detailed prayer needs. They will be using this column in the monthly newsletter to keep you aware of more prayer needs. Feel free to let me know if you would like to add anything to our list. We ask for prayers for the following: prayers for **the family of Larry Stoney** who died of injuries in a motorcycle accident; prayers for **the family of Stan Walters** who died recently; prayers for **Ben Hubble** who is recuperating from major back surgery; prayers for **Dan and Barb Price** whose nephew, **Josh**, died; continued prayers for **Dave Hablitzel** as he battles a leg infection and tries to gain weight and strength, and for **Debbie** who is his main caregiver; continued prayers for **our friend Melodie Fagan** and her family –Melodie has fought the good fight against cancer and has made a life decision to choose quality over quantity... to enjoy the time she has left with her family and friends; continued prayers for **Dan and Barb Price** as they navigate the many stages of Parkinson's Disease; prayers for **Sam and Joe Rager** as they spread their wings and grow as young men outside of our community; prayers of compassion for **Gary Hess and others** who suffer depression AND live alone; **prayers for**

the McNeill family as they begin a new chapter in their life AND prayers for our congregation as we grieve the loss of our Pastor Jeremy, refocus our energy and talents to strengthen our congregation, begin the search for our new pastor and increase our outreach outside of our doors... **all for the glory of God!**



SCHOLARSHIPS

2024 Scholarship Applications are available in the office and on our website, www.firstpresbucyrus.org. Please have your applications turned in by April 30th. Let me know if you have any questions.

Kudos to those of you who gave spring flowers for Easter Sunday. Please take them home after the Easter Service.

Jan Fulton – 419/561-0263

First Presbyterian Church

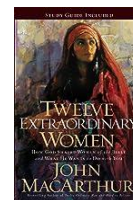
Women's Discipleship Spring Schedule 2024

12 Extraordinary Women

by John MacArthur

Tuesday, April 16 Ch. 2 "Sarah: Hope Against Hope" Tuesday,

May 14 Ch. 3 "Rahab: A Horrible Life Redeemed"



There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High. God is in the midst of her, she shall not be moved; God will help her when morning dawns. Psalm 46:4-5

