

The Disciple

Faith Presbyterian Church's Quarterly Newsletter
5555 Chambersburg Rd. Huber Heights, Ohio 45424



"Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you" (Ephesians 4:32.)

Can you believe it's almost time for Lent? Well, not quite, but Lent begins in about a month, on March 5. Easter is relatively late, on April 20. During Lent you're invited to come together on six Sunday mornings beginning March 9, to talk about a timely topic: forgiveness. I still remember when I was a senior in high school, dating my very first boyfriend. He and I spent a lot of time with a friend of mine from summer camp. She didn't attend our high school, but I had invited her to a school event. To make a long story short, my friend and my boyfriend went behind my back and started dating. That was my first tender experience of trying to forgive them both for doing that. It hurt a lot, to say the least! Especially when you're 18 years old.

There are so many times and situations in our lives where forgiveness comes into play. How do we let go and forgive when we feel we have been wronged? If we don't forgive, feelings of anger and resentment can work their way into us and affect our health and our relationships.

Marjorie Thompson, a Presbyterian pastor, has written a wonderful (not too long) book called *Forgiveness A Lenten Study*.

Here is a description. "Forgiving others and humbly asking for forgiveness are central disciplines for all Christian believers. Lent, a time to reflect on our Christian journey, is an appropriate time to deepen our understanding and practice of forgiveness..." In six brief chapters, Thompson addresses such questions as the following:



- Is forgiveness a Christian duty under all circumstances? Or are there situations when Christians do not need to forgive?
- Is forgiveness a matter between individuals, or is it meaningful only in the context of communities?
- Is forgiving the best route to healing for the injured?
- How do we get past emotional barriers to real forgiveness?

We'll meet Sunday mornings, 9:30-10:15, March 9-April 13. Books are available on Amazon for \$8.00. It's also available on Kindle. We'll be placing a group order, so if you'd like to order a book, please let Pastor Julia or Lynn in the office know.

Hope you'll consider joining us on March 9!

Pastor Julia

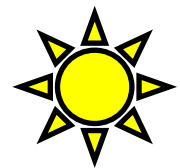
February is the month to honor Scouting. We are blessed to have both Scouts BSA and Girl Scouts meeting in our building weekly. On Feb 9, the Scouts BSA will join us for worship and take on several leadership roles. On Feb 16, the Girl Scouts will join us for worship and sell cookies afterwards. Everyone loves those cookies! Thanks in advance for your support.



Our thoughts and prayers are with the family of Cathy “Cat” Gonzalez who passed away December 15 , 2024 at the age of 87.

A background image of a field of white snowdrops in the foreground, with a soft-focus background of more flowers and a blue sky.

**Women’s Spiritual
Nurture Retreat**
April 25-27, 2025
Kirkmont Center
Sponsored by
Presbytery of the Miami Valley



Worship and Nurture

Our meetings are on the first Wednesday of the month at 9:30 at the church. Everyone is welcome to come and join our work of connecting the Worship and Nurture of the congregation. Our services are live, Zoomed and posted on our web site.



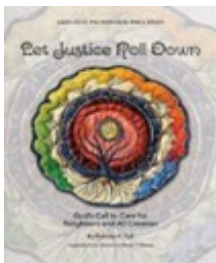
After service join our Coffee Hour for good food and conversations. If you wish to contribute with goodies or monetarily, sign up on the bulletin board and again Sami will be glad to help anyone with buying or fixing food.

Blankets by Faith meets on Wednesdays at 10:30. Consider coming and visiting with us to sew, tie blankets or just come to talk. We are always grateful for donations of money or material to continue our work.



Lent begins March 5th with an Ash Wednesday service. Our Lenten study will be Forgiveness: A Lenten Study, by Marjorie Thompson.

Lunch bunch continues to meet on the first Thursday of the month. We gather for a good time and good food. Join us at noon every month, watch the web site or bulletin for dates and places.



Presbyterian Woman meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 11AM. We are using "Let Justice Roll", Water, Air, Climate Change, Economic, Intergenerational and Sustaining Creation's Health for all. Each member takes a turn leading a lesson.

We urge you to call the pastor or send information to the prayer chain if prayers are needed for you or friends. We encourage you to call your friends and have a chat.

Cyndi Adams, Sami Adams, Chris TenBroeke, and Naomi Henry.



All are invited to a "Celebration of Music" at 2 PM on Sunday, March 30 at Faith Church..

This event was born out of the collaborative efforts of eight small churches in our region of the Presbytery. There will be prayers, a hymn sing, and a joint choir anthem performed. If you would like to be part of the choir, please let John know. There will be one rehearsal for everyone at 1:15 PM on March 30 as well as an opportunity to sing through the music before then.

Session Notes

SESSION

November 2024-January 2025

Session met in November, in person, the first time those not able to be with us She also continues to attend the preschool.



December, and January. The November meeting was since early 2020. Pastor Julia continues to care for on Sunday, including with visitations and communion. PMV and UCC meetings and has resumed chapel for

Faith continues to host discussions, now referred to as Collaborative Congregations, of several small churches in the Presbytery, led by the pastor at Springfield Covenant, Rev. Noble. The congregations are exploring ways to combine efforts to work together. Session also continues to monitor our financial situation and reduce expenses. A significant step was to change insurance companies resulting a savings of about \$6,000 a year. A second, significant, though regrettable, step was to reduce Pastor Julia's 2025 contract to 20 hours a week from the current 30 hours.

A Congregational Meeting has been scheduled for March 9 to review the annual reports and the 2025 budget.

Sweet Communion Book Group 2025

3rd Wednesdays at 1:30



February 19 -Kirsten Miller Lula Dean’s Little Library of Banned Books

March 19- Rececca Makkai I Have Some Questions for You

April 16- Amor Towles A Gentleman in Moscow

Administration Committee

Chairperson: Keith Williams
Financial Secretary: Don Niece
Treasurer: Diane Grycz
Support: Paul Brown
Support: Greg Hughes
Support: Harry Tompkins
Rev Julia Williamson
Meeting Notes/Updates



ADMIN

- Financial Audit for 2023 was completed without any issues.
- Completed work on the 2025 budget and submitted to Session for review.
- Thanks for turning in your pledge card so that we could build the budget for 2025.
- Because of the issues we have had with recycling being picked up consistently, we have cancelled the service and we are encouraging people to take recycling material home.
- We changed our insurance to Church Mutual, effective 12/31/2024. Saving of about 30%.
- Purchased new \$30,000 5-month CD for 4.4% after previously CD expired.
- We are planning a Dusting Saturday for March 8th, with a chili lunch afterwards. More information to come.

Financials



Financial Balances as of 12/31/24

General Fund	\$1,281.38
General Money Market Fund	\$23,984.41
CD for 5 months Earning 4.4%	<u>\$30,000.00</u>
Total Assets	\$55,265.79

Mission and Outreach



FEBRUARY-MARCH-APRIL—2025

February:

Donations continue for prescription bottles, clothing, eye glasses and women's toiletries.



Through the Collaborative Church Group, we are **collecting children's gloves, mittens, hats and scarves.**

Souper Bowl Sunday is **February 9, 2025**. Mission and Outreach along with the Boy Scouts will provide a soup luncheon following service. Please join us for delicious SOUPS!! A sign-up sheet, located on the bulletin board in the Parlor, is available to add what kind of soup you will bring, or bread, butter and crackers.



Help serve lunch at **St. Vincent's Women's Shelter**. The next opportunity for volunteering will be on **Thursday, February 13 from 10:30 to 1:30** at St. Vincent de Paul Shelter for Women and Families located at 120 W. Apple St in Dayton. Five volunteers are needed to serve lunch from 10:30-1:30. Please let Susie Tompkins know if you are able to participate.



March:

- Donations continue for clothes, prescription bottles, eye glasses & women's toiletries.
- A volunteer date to serve lunch at St. Vincent's Women's Shelter will be announced later in the church bulletin.



April:

- Donations continue for clothes, prescription bottles, eye glasses & women's toiletries.
- A volunteer date to serve lunch at St. Vincent's Women's Shelter will be announced later in the church bulletin.
- Easter Sunday is April 20, 2025.
- One Great Hour of Sharing is the special offering for Easter Sunday, which helps those in great need locally, across the nation, and around the world.
- Earth Day is April 22, 2025. A date to clean up our church property will be announced in the church bulletin.



Your service to Christ and the Faith Family is very much appreciated.

Without each volunteer we would not be able to perform even the most basic functions, and we on the Worship Committee are extremely grateful for your donation of your time and gifts.

February

Date	Worship	Children's message	Greeters	Usher
Communion Servers: Sheryl Williams, Susie Tompkins, Paul Brown, Mary Skare				
2	Sheryl Williams	Mary Skare	Cyndi Adams	Chris Adams
9	Scouts BSA	Jenny Davis	Scouts BSA	Scouts BSA
16	Harry Tompkins	Jeanne Johnson	Girl Scouts	Chris TenBroeke
23	Pamela Matheson Jones	Sami Adams	Bev Brown	Cyndi Adams

Nursery/Learning Center - Mary Skare/Sami Adams/Chris TenBroeke/Cyndi Adams

March

	Worship	Children's message	Greeters	Usher
Communion Servers: Paul Brown, Chris TenBroeke, Sami Adams Diane Grcyz				
2	Paul Brown	Mary Skare	Sami Adams	Jan Beams
9	Sami Adams	Jenny Davis	Vaughn & Jan	Chris Adams
16	Mary Skare	Jeanne Johnson	Pamela & Greg	Chris TenBroeke
23	Cyndi Adams	Sami Adams	Maria Beimly	Naomi & Dave Henry
30	Pamela Matheson Jones	Cyndi Adams	Bev Brown	Nat & Jenny Davis

Nursery/Learning Center - Mary Skare/Sami Adams/Chris TenBroeke/Cyndi Adams

April

	Worship	Children's message	Greeters	Usher
Communion Servers: Keith Williams, Sheryl Williams, Susie Tompkins, Cyndi Adams				
6	Keith Williams	Mary Skare	Maria Biemly	Cyndi Adams
13 Palm Sunday	Nat Davis	Jenny Davis	Susie & Harry	Chris TenBroeke
20 Easter	Sami Adams	Jeanne Johnson	Cyndi Adams	Greg Hughes
27	Harry Tompkins	Sami Adams	Nat /Jenny Davis	Chris Adams

Nursery/Learning Center - Mary Skare/Sami Adams/Chris TenBroeke/Cyndi Adams



If for any reason you cannot volunteer on the date listed, please try to find a replacement. If you still cannot find someone to fill in, please contact Cyndi Adams 937 252 7865

FAITH PRESCHOOL HAPPENINGS

We hope that the new year is finding you all well! It is such a blessing to start 2025 with Faith Presbyterian Church! You asked if you could bless any of our families with your Adopt-A-Family donations and our families were so appreciative! Thank you so much for sharing the love of Christ with our community.

TEACHER OF THE MONTH



November's teacher of the month was Ms. Elizabeth Paul. Elizabeth decided to go to Another Broken Café for lunch and then go to Cozy Melts to paint pottery! It was a great time getting to do something Ms.



Elizabeth loves to do and enjoying a meal together.

In December we celebrated Mrs. Linda Siefert with a carry-in lunch and craft time making Christmas ornaments! We are so blessed to have amazing teachers to celebrate.



Many blessings,
Kelley Britt



2025 Special Happenings at Faith



February



- Feb 5 - 9:30 Worship and Nurture
10:30 Blankets by Faith
- Feb 6 - Noon Lunch Bunch
6PM Mission and Outreach
7PM Admin Committee
- Feb 9 - BSA Scout Sunday and Souper Bowl
- Feb 12- 10:30 Blankets by Faith
- Feb 13- 10:30 St. Vincent Women's Shelter
7PM Session
- Feb 16- Girl Scout Sunday
- Feb 19- 10:30 Blankets by Faith
1:30PM Sweet Communion Book Grp
- Feb 25- 11:00 PW Bible Study
- Feb 26- 10:30 Blankets by Faith



March

- March 5- Ash Weds Eve Service
9:30 Worship and Nurture
10:30 Blankets by Faith
- March 6- Noon Lunch Bunch
6PM Mission and Outreach
7PM Admin Committee
- March 8- Dusting Saturday/ Chili and Lunch
- March 9- 9:30 Lenten Study (Sunday)
- March 12- 10:30 Blankets by Faith
- March 13- 7PM Session
- March 16- 9:30 Lenten Study (Sunday)
- March 19- 10:30 Blankets by Faith
1:30 Sweet Communion Book Gpr
- March 23- 9:30 Lenten Study (Sunday)
- March 25- 11:00 PW Bible Study
- March 26- 10:30 Blankets by Faith
- March 30- 9:30 Lenten Study (Sunday)
2PM Celebration of Music



- April 2- 9:30 Worship and Nurture
10:30 Blankets by Faith
- April 3 - Noon Lunch Bunch
6PM Mission and Outreach
7PM Admin Committee
- April 6- 9:30 Lenten Study (Sunday)
- April 9- 10:30 Blankets by Faith
- April 10- 7PM Session
- April 13- 9:30 Lenten Study (Sunday)
- April 16- 10:30 Blankets by Faith
1:30PM Sweet Communion Book Grp
- April 20- Easter Sunday
- April 22- 11:00 PW Bible Study
- April 23- 10:30 Blankets by Faith
- April 30- 10:30 Blankets by Faith

April



Happy Easter



BIRTHDAYS

February

- 3 Terry Harmeyer
- 7 Kyung-Hee Swihart
- 13 Denise Standley

Nat Davis

- 15 Barbara Ellis
- 18 Mark Jenks
- 29 Anita Melton

March

- 1 Dave Henry
- 2 Jenny Davis
- 3 Alice Dibo
- 5 Lorrie Brown

- 6 Cyndi Adams
Samantha Adams

- 14 Erica Jenks
- 18 Seth and Chad Turner
- 20 Chris TenBroeke
- 28 Daniel Brown

April

- 1 Sondra Derrickson
- 3 Robyn O'Bryan
- 4 John Derrickson
- 11 Julia Williamson
- 14 Chuck Duran
- 16 Ellen Mayhew
- 17 Britney Wonders
- 22 Don Niece
- 27 Diane Grycz



On the first Sunday of the month the Worship and Nurture committee places flower arrangements on the chancel in memory / honor of loved ones of the family of Faith.

If you would like to provide a flower arrangement in memory/honor of a loved one return the following form with your donation to Samantha. The arrangements cost \$18 for one and \$36 for two, make the checks payable to Faith Presbyterian Church. Your Gift will be recognized in the bulletin, unless you ask otherwise. Please check the form if you would like to pick up the arrangements after worship, otherwise it will be delivered to someone who needs a little cheer. For more information please contact Samantha Adams.

Memorial Flower Gift

Please accept my donation of \$18 _____ \$36 _____

For the Memorial flowers fund in Memory of / Honor of _____

Given By: _____

I would like to pick up the arrangement _____



Dave Henry, Debbie Moore, Roy Schroeder, Sharon Gologanoff and the family Cathy Gonzalez.



A psalm for us to enjoy.

children's message from 2024

1. O sing to God a POP song,
2. Sing to God, FORESTS and BAHAMAS and throughout the earth. Bless God's name.
3. Tell of God's CHOICES from day to day.
4. Declare God's glory among PARENTS, God's marvelous works among 5. JAPAN.
6. For GREAT is our God, and greatly to be praised.
7. The gods of the people are as VEGG MOLDY CHEESE, but our God made 8. DOGS. All praise and thanks be to God.
9. The world shall never FALL OFF A CLIFF.
- Let the heavens be 10. CARED FOR and let the earth 11. GIGGLE.
- Let the sea roar, and every 12. DOLPHIN be glad;
- Let the fields exult, and every 13. MOUSE praise God.
- Then shall all the 14. DEER AND WILD BERRIES sing for joy in honor of our God. For God comes to judge the world with
15. SELFLESS KINDNESS and all the peoples with
16. LOVE.



Prompts for children's psalm

on previous page

1. a kind of song (jazzy, slow, fast, classical, rock, country)
2. 2 places in the world
3. greatest thing God does (love, forgiveness, glory, beauty)
4. some people that you know (friends, classmates, neighbors, family)
5. some people you don't know or who are far away
6. a word that describes God (loving, giving, faithful, creative)
7. something yucky (spiders, frogs, rotten fruit, mud, sour milk)
8. the most wonderful thing you can think of (mom, elephants, the sun, flowers, nature)
9. something bad that can happen to a thing (die, get sick, be at war, fight)
10. how you feel when someone loves you (joyful, happy, at peace, loved)
11. a sound you make when happy (laugh, giggle, praise, shout)
12. something that lives in the ocean
13. something you might find in a field
14. something you might find in the woods
15. the best characteristic a person can have (honor, love, peace, faith)
16. The best feeling someone can have (love, joy)

