

**THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH**

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740-345-1480

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Web Address: [www.1stpresnewark.com](http://www.1stpresnewark.com)

Tara Lewellen, Music Coordinator

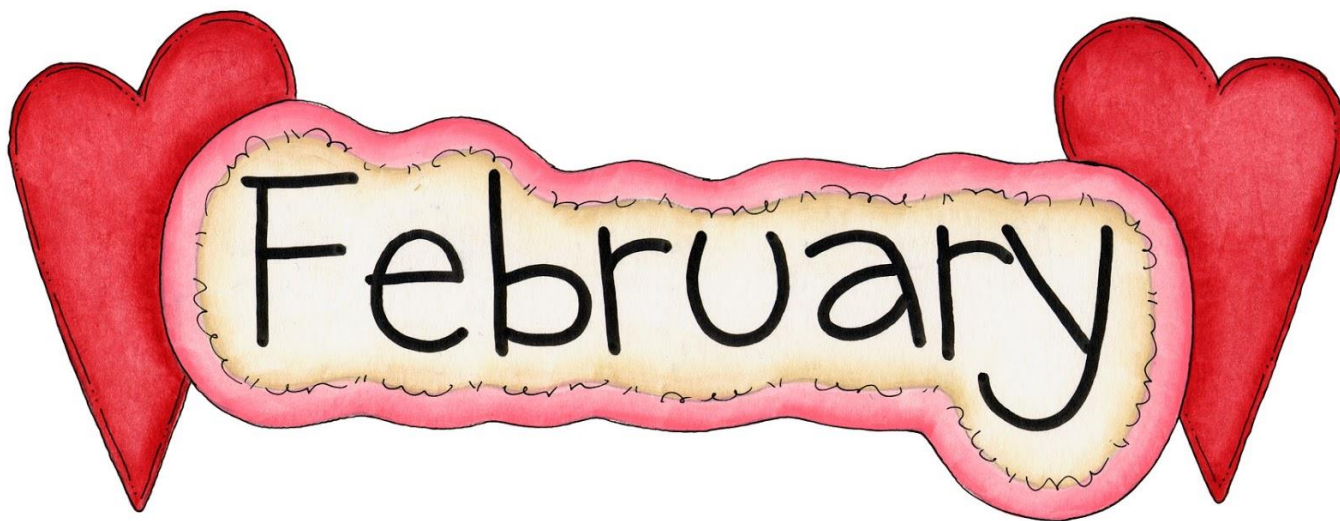
Jesse Ryals, Provisional Pastor

Hope Labutis, Secretary

Sheri Bogardus, Treasurer

Gary Collins, Maintenance

- Office hours: Tues, Wed, Thurs 9:00-2:00pm



**February – 2024**

## PASTOR JESSE'S INFORMATION

Jesse's contact information is:  
Cell (740) 507-5727 call or text  
[Jesse.ryals@gmail.com](mailto:Jesse.ryals@gmail.com)  
Text or email is preferred

## CHURCH ELDER INFORMATION

### Class of 2025:

Marilyn Johnston -Clerk- 2<sup>nd</sup> term  
Sarah Bowles -1<sup>st</sup> term

### Class of 2024:

Linda Smith - 2<sup>nd</sup> term  
Karen Fish - 1<sup>st</sup> term

### Class of 2023:

Sandy Noland - 2<sup>nd</sup> term  
Priscilla Hare -2<sup>nd</sup> term

## CHURCH OFFICE INFORMATION

### IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT –

**ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING is scheduled for Sunday, February 4 after worship. Please make plans to attend.**



**FPC Inclement Weather Policy:** We will cancel services if there is a *level 2* snow emergency issued by the Licking County Sheriff's Department. Please check your email before leaving the house, because there may be an all church email stating that the church is closed. If at any time you feel unsafe leaving home due to inclement weather, please feel free to stay home. We want you safe.

- Linda Smith, Property Elder



Thank you card received from a great and helpful neighbor:

Just a note to say thank you for the Christmas card and gift.

-Shawn @ Elks



This is the time of the year when we are seeing more activity at the blessings box. In this cold weather, hats, gloves, thick socks, hand warmers, and ready-to-serve, pop top canned soup are so helpful. We also request things that won't freeze easily like granola bars, fruit bars, and crackers. You can make a monetary donation and earmark it for the blessings box if you so choose. Thank you for being a blessing!



## WORSHIP

We will be serving Communion on Sunday, February 4.



We are taking orders for memorial Easter lilies or mums are due this month. The cost is \$11 and the order deadline is February 25<sup>th</sup>. Please fill out an order form and place it in the offering boxes if you wish to place an order.

## PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE

While we are still on hold for right now, I have some hope that we can get back to the pastor search soon. In the time we have been paused, I have gotten several updates from the site about changes and improvements they have made. Ideally all these changes will make the process better.

-Sarah Bowles

## SCRIP

The next Scrip order is February 4. Please consider ordering gift cards from our Scrip program. Remember that the funds generated are used for church needs. The fund recently provided \$2000 for fixing the roof. Thank you to all who order on a regular basis.

If you are interested in Scrip cards, please see Gaye Gibson.

## EVANGELISM AND OUTREACH MINUTE FOR MISSIONS



### ***An update from Mike and Nancy Mahon:***

We are officially halfway through our current Home Ministry Assignment here in Ohio, so we thought

this might be a good time to share highlights from our last term. WE PRAISE GOD FOR HIS PROVISION and for ALL OF YOU for your prayers and financial support that made our

service possible in Peru this past term! (2019-2023)

### **ANOTHER TRANSLATION FINISHED!**

For many years, a Wycliffe Bible Translator couple assigned to Peru had worked on the Ticuna language New Testament. Despite interruptions, this same couple (now in their 90s) finally saw the dedication of the Ticuna New Testament in a remote jungle village in northern Peru this past April. SAMAIR Peru played a vital part in this by transporting family members and dignitaries to and from the dedication.

**"NEW" FLOATPLANE:** Another highlight of our last term was watching God miraculously and rapidly provide a replacement for the SAMAIR PERU floatplane that was crushed in the windstorm of November 8, 2020! We dedicated to God's service the replacement in December of 2021.

**ANKLE FUSION SURGERY:** As some of you may know, the ankle I (Nancy) broke in 2016 had become very painful and was full of arthritis. We knew even while we were still in Peru that surgery would be needed ASAP once we were in Ohio. On September 28, I had ankle fusion surgery. An X-ray on November 7 showed enough healing that I could begin partial weight-bearing with a boot and crutches. I am very thankful for good care by a loving husband, your prayers, and meals brought in by folks from local churches. We are so very thankful for this surgery and an outstanding surgeon! This type of surgery is not available in Peru to my knowledge. I am now pain-free, praise the Lord!

**SUPPORT NEEDS:** During our visit to the SAM Home Office this past July, we looked at our current level of monthly support, which is at about 80% of the need. WE NEED TO MOVE CLOSER TO 100%. Please contact us if you know churches, groups, or individuals who might be interested in our ministry or if you would like to host a team or coffee get-together (where you invite your friends to hear about our ministry.)

**FAMILY:** Several of you have asked to see a recent photo of our granddaughter Lucy, now six months old. She is a very pleasant and happy child who blessed all with her smiles and



joy. Daniel continues to work at Belen Brick. He is enjoying working with Hispanic and other coworkers.

**GOD’S PERFECT TIMING:**

Living for thirty-one years in a country where there are fewer resources than in the U.S. causes us to reflect again on God’s PERFECT TIMING. HE has ALWAYS provided for us and for SAMAIR Peru in such a way as to accomplish His will at HIS time and place in the remote jungles of eastern Peru. In the same way, when the “fullness of time” had come, He brought a Savior into the world to reconcile a broken and sinful world to Himself. His mercy continues to this day, “...not wishing that any should perish, but that all should have eternal life.” May this fact cause you to praise and wonder thanking Him for His goodness.

**\*Please join us on Sunday, February 18th for a brunch with the Mahon Family after church in the Fellowship Hall.\***



**ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING**

Sharing has been defined as giving part of what we have to others, or not keeping everything we have but passing it around to others. It is often a difficult concept to learn, but

once understood can bring great joy to our lives as we bless others with our giving. During the Lenten season, our church has blessed the lives of others by participating in the One Great Hour of Sharing for more than seventy years. *The Session has again approved the receiving of this offering from Ash Wednesday, February 14 to Palm Sunday, March 24, 2024.*

This year, as we have for the past few years, we will be collecting our One Great Hour of Sharing offering to be divided equally among World Vision and the local Salvation Army. Please mark your check as One Great Hour of Sharing when you either mail it in or drop it off.

As you ponder what you will give, remember Hebrews 13:16 “And do not forget to do good and share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.”



Order your **Wilson’s Gift Cards** for spring planting season via the order form in the sanctuary. We get back \$5 from each gift card purchased and your support is greatly appreciated! Campaign dates are 1/25-3/17. If you have any questions, please see Sandy Noland.

**STARTING STRONG**

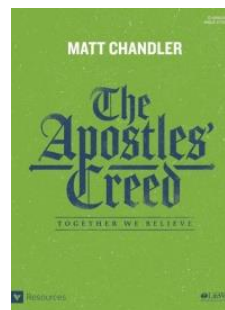
Starting Strong Apartment Kits:



Please see the sign up sheet in the back of the sanctuary to provide necessities for

foster youth transitioning into adult life. Our goal is to provide 5 full kits that include items such as: cleaning and paper products, hygiene and household items, and laundry supplies. This ministry of Fostering Further is a tangible way to be the hands of Jesus and to encourage a young person. The items you donate are due by April 21st. Any questions, please see Sarah Bowles.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**



Our 12 session study for Sunday School is on the Apostle’s Creed by Matt Chandler. This is being facilitated by Priscilla Hare. You won’t want to miss a week!

The Apostles’ Creed was born from the apostles’ teachings. It contains essential doctrines and beliefs that summarize the gospel and the foundation of our faith. The scriptural truths contained in the creed enable us to build our Christian lives on good theology, with the knowledge that our faith is rooted in truth and a rich history.

The lines of the creed aren't mere words. They are the essence of what we confess and believe. Repeating the creed doesn't make disciples. Incantations don't transform us into better, more effective Christians. Creeds don't hold any authority apart from Scripture, but they do point outside themselves to the authoritative Word of God.

The Apostles' Creed was traditionally used as a public confession before baptism. This confession of faith, given as a recitation of the creed, was understood as an act of turning away from previous pagan beliefs and fully accepting apostolic teaching. This profession identified new believers with the community of Christians.

## CONGREGATIONAL CARE

### *February Birthdays*

Rose Gibson 2/7

Peggy Lieb 2/8

Diane Dodson 2/11

Chris Rainey 2/13

Tracee Barr 2/18

Michael Frick 2/20

Donna Kinney 2/23

Darla Talbott 2/23

### *February Anniversaries*

Robert & Phyllis Fish 2/3



## CHURCH LIFE



On December 31st, we hosted Lighthouse Harmony Gospel Trio, featuring our treasurer Sheri

Bogardus for our morning service. It was a wonderful time of worship and praise! Thank you for sharing your gifts with us.

**Join us for a SOUP SUPPER at the ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING on Sunday, February 4th .**



\*For the next newsletter, share your favorite family soup recipe with the church office.\*

## GOOD MORNING BIBLE STUDY

The Bible study is currently taking their winter break. Stay tuned for what's coming in March.



## HEALTHY BACKPACK PROGRAM



For MLK day we had 6 kids from the

Granville Middle School youth group come in and pack some meals.



They were an absolute delight and helped pack 25 boxes and move some food and cardboard around.



Also, a shout out to Rooted Fellowship for lending a few people to move some boxes around and clearing

up some space so the youth group packing party could happen.

“When we all get to Heaven, what a day of rejoicing that will be! When we all see Jesus, we’ll sing and shout the victory!”

## IN MEMORIAL



**Elder Clarissa Ann Howard**

**May 6, 1929 – January 16, 2024**

Ann became a member of this church April 30, 1939 at the age of 9 and served this church and our community faithfully all her days. She was an ordained Elder and a member for 84 years.

## SENTIMENTS TO SHARE



## IN MEMORIAL



**Lovona Poulton Parkhill**

**July 16, 1933 - January 14, 2024**

Lovona originally became a member December 2, 1962. She left for 18 years to live and plant a church in Florida before she returned to Ohio. All told, she was a member of this church for 43 years.

