

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Newark, OH 43055-5522
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Church E-mail: firstpresofc@gmail.com
Web Address: www.1stpreshnewark.com

Gary Collins, Custodian
Sheri Bogardus, Secretary/Treas.
Tara Lewellen, Music Coordinator
Jesse Ryals, Provisional Pastor

March 2023



PASTOR JESSE'S INFORMATION

Jesse's contact information is:

Cell (740) 507-5727 call or text

Jesse.ryals@gmail.com

Text or email is preferred

WORSHIP

COMMUNION WILL BE
MARCH 5TH IN THE
MORNING WORSHIP.



The annual **Congregational Meeting** was held on February 19th after worship. We had a quorum present and the annual report for 2022 was presented, voted on and passed with one change. (We removed John Mattern's name from the Elder position and replaced that with the word vacant) as he has resigned from this position. Thank you to all that participated and for all that brought food for the potluck.



Liturgist in training!!

Prov. 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

Thank you Ed for this precious picture!



Easter is
April 9, 2023.

Please read!

Please do not touch the thermostats in the Sanctuary!

Someone has broken the cages that were added to keep this from happening. For the organ, the boiler and the plaster's sake the

thermostat must remain at a constant temperature.



PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE

We continue to receive Pastor Information Forms and review them carefully. As we find potential candidate matches, we will send them up to our Executive Presbyter to do a quick check with the candidate's Executive Presbyter. This quick check helps us to be a bit more informed about the candidates and may help us filter someone out before we invest time in talking to them.

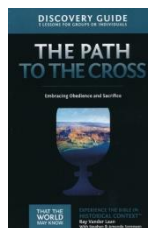
Please continue to keep our committee members and potential pastor candidates in your prayers. Pray for discernment and health.

Sarah Bowles,
PNC Chairperson

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Path to the Cross (Lent 2023) starting March 12th. Facilitated by Priscilla Hare

God's story culminates with the intense devotion of his people in this 11th volume of the Faith Lessons series. Discover how their passionate faith prepares the way for Jesus and his ultimate act of obedience and sacrifice at the cross. Then, be challenged in your own life to live as they did by every word that comes from the mouth of God.



Five sessions include: The Way of the Essenes, 2. The Way of John the Baptist, 3. Into the Desert to be Tested, 4. The Last Passover, 5. The Fifth Cup- Our Way of Hope

EVANGELISM AND OUTREACH Y-Healthy Kids Backpack Program

The Lions Club had a packing party on February 22, from 11:30am-12:30. There were 13 people that attended and they were able to fill 70 boxes. This makes a total of 350 meals. Thank you so much for your participation in this wonderful program. We appreciate your hard work!!



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Purchasing Power; for every \$1.00 donated the Food Pantry Network can purchase \$11.00 in groceries. If you are able to give you can mail a check to: Food Pantry Network of Licking County, 1035 Brice St. Newark, OH 43055

Fostering Further Apartment Kits

There are thousands of kids in central Ohio foster care, along with their families and social workers. This represents an enormous opportunity for a support system to help these youths be successful. In 2018, Fostering Further began partnering with Licking County Job and Family Services to mentor young people who were aging out of foster care. The mentoring relationships exposed Fostering Further to the many overwhelming challenges that emancipating foster youth face and inspired the board of Fostering Further to launch the Starting Strong programs in 2019. These programs are designed specifically to support youth as they navigate the challenges of transitioning from foster care into their adult lives. Please sign up in the back of the sanctuary if you can help purchase items for apartment kits. Let's help kids that are aging out of the system get set up for

success! Items will be due in the church by April 16th and will be housed in the Quilt room or you can give them to Sarah Bowles.

EVANGELISM AND OUTREACH

One Great Hour of Sharing Offering

As we turn our calendar to February and look down the page, Ash Wednesday appears and reminds us that the season of Lent will soon begin. Lent is a season of preparation to celebrate Easter. It is a season of fasting, prayer and sacrificial giving as we commemorate all that Jesus, our Savior and Lord suffered that we might be forgiven and spend eternity with Him.

As the church has been doing for more than seventy years, the Session has once again approved the receiving of the One Great Hour of Sharing offering from Ash Wednesday, February 22, 2023 **through Palm Sunday, April 2, 2023**. The offering will be equally divided between our local Salvation Army and World Vision. The total was \$1077.16 given in 2022.

World Vision, an international evangelical organization was founded in 1950. Their purpose is to help vulnerable children and their communities overcome poverty and experience a full life. Inspired by Christian beliefs, children of all backgrounds are helped, even in the most dangerous of communities. World Vision seeks to promote human transformation, seek justice and bear the good news of the kingdom of God to children and their communities by working with the poor and oppressed. These are not short term fixes, and World Vision often works in communities for many years until the communities can be self-sufficient.

The mission of the Newark Salvation Army is to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in His name without discrimination. It is an evangelical part of the universal Christian church, and its message is based on the Bible.

The Salvation Army provides a multitude of services to alleviate poverty in our community. Those services include: food giveaways, emergency assistance to prevent homelessness, emergency shelter, emergency food pantry, soup kitchen, combating addiction, youth, young adult and senior programs, back to school and summer feeding programs and the Christmas cheer program. Need knows no season, and the

CHURCH LIFE

Good Morning Bible Study will resume on March 2nd, 10:00-12:00 weather permitting. They will begin the book of Ezra/Nehemiah by John MacArthur. All are welcome!!



Blessings Box

The items for the blessings box are getting low. If you care to contribute there is a box on the floor outside the Sanctuary door in the hallway heading to the offices. Donation suggestions are: protein bars, pop top canned items, protein drinks, crackers, small jars of peanut butter and then Ritz crackers. Thank you for supporting this ministry. *You can also designate monies to be giving to the Blessings Box, just mark that in the memo line or on your envelope.*



Easter Flowers

Easter lilies and Easter Mums will be on sale through March 12th Please fill out a slip with the number of each type of flower that you want and who they are in honor or memory of. Place your order form and your money in the offering box. Checks are made out to the church. They are \$11.00 for each flower.



March 5th is SCRIP Sunday. Please see Gaye Gibson in the library before and after the worship service if you would like to purchase gift cards from the SCRIP program.

Salvation Army provides year round programs to help those with low income thrive. Of course, we need to remember that they are also a church and provide worship to the community.

Offering envelopes and coin banks will be available in the sanctuary. May you give generously to support these Christian charities.

“For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, which though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.” II Corinthians 8:9



Candlewick Commons Dinner

We will be serving dinner to the residents and staff at Candlewick Commons on March 14th starting at 4:00pm at their residence. If you would like to help serve the meal you can meet at the church at 3:30 and go with the team or meet at Candlewick at 4:00pm. This is always such a treat for the residents.



Fishing Kit Crafts for OCC
March 28th at 10:30-12:00
Fellowship Hall



If you enjoy crafts, please join us for a fun time making crafts for the Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes. If you have any questions you can contact Kenita Keck or Sandy Noland. Supplies will be provided.

Operation Christmas Child 2023

To make OCC shopping easier for church members this year, the E&O Committee will have monthly shopping list inserts in the Sunday bulletins beginning in March. The lists will have suggested items to purchase, children clothing sizes and shopping hints. See Kenita Keck or Sandy Noland if you have any questions.

PRAYER CHAIN

Prayer Chain – Please send all prayer requests to Kim Dershem at kdershem@windstream.net. Please state whether requests are for Prayer Chain Only or should also be distributed to the church body. You can also do a reply all on one of your prayer chain emails to get a quick prayer request sent to the prayer team.

Thank you to all that pray!!

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

March Birthdays

Nicholas Barr	March 7
Becky Mahon	March 16
Karen Fish	March 29



Lent

Why do people give things up until Easter Sunday?

Millions of people do this during Lent as a sign of sacrifice and to test their self-discipline.

Christians believe that this is to represent Jesus Christ's sacrifice when he went into the desert to pray and fast for the 40 days before later dying on the cross.

In the Bible's New Testament, while Jesus was there, Satan tempted him to turn away from God and worship him instead, but Jesus refused to, which is why people might give something up, in order to test their own self-discipline too.



A celebration of Life for John Mattern.

John E. Mattern, 86 of Heath, formerly of Cadiz, passed away on Friday, February 24, 2023 at Hospice of Central Ohio in Newark.

A handful of people, along with Pastor Jesse, attended the services down in Cadiz, Ohio. It was a beautiful service and there was a nice representation from our church.

Thank you to all that attended the services. Gideon Bibles are being purchased in memory of John if you would like to contribute to that worthy cause, please see Linda Smith.

Rest in peace, John. You will be missed!!
Our deepest sympathies to the family.




MINUTE FOR MISSIONS

We will be featuring one of our Ministry partners each month in the newsletter for a little while to keep you informed as to what your generous offerings are doing to help in our Community.

Please read the attached December Newsletter from one of our Mission Partners – The Coalition of Care.

March



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat.
			1	2 10:00am Good Morning Bible Study- Gold Circle Room (weather permitting)	3	4
5 SCRIP orders 2nd Sunday of Lent 9:15 Adult SS in FH & Zoom 10:15-10:45 Coffee Hr. FH 11:00 Church – Sanctuary/ Communion	6	7	8	9 10:00am Good Morning Bible Study- Gold Circle Room	10 4:30-6:30 Baked Steak at Woodside Presbyterian Church. Dine in or take out.	11  Daylight Savings Time Begins
12 – Daylight savings begins Last day to order Easter Flowers 3rd Sunday of Lent 9:15 Adult SS in FH & Zoom 10:15-10:45 Coffee Hr. FH 11:00 Church – Sanctuary	13	14 4:00pm Candlewick Commons Dinner	15	16 10:00am Good Morning Bible Study- Gold Circle Room	17	18
19 4th Sunday of Lent 9:15 Adult SS in FH & Zoom 10:15-10:45 Coffee Hr. FH 11:00 Church –Sanctuary	20	21	22	23 10:00am Good Morning Bible Study- Gold Circle Room	24	25
26 5 th Sunday of Lent 9:15 Adult SS in FH & Zoom 10:15-10:45 Coffee Hr. FH	27	28 10:30 – 12:00 FH Fishing Kit Craft for OCC Shoebox Ministry	29	30 10:00am Good Morning Bible Study- Gold Circle Room	31	

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Luke 24:1-8 On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. ² They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³ but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. ⁴ While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. ⁵ In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? ⁶ He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: ⁷ 'The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.' " ⁸ Then they remembered his words.