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# THE FORECASTER

[www.fpcyo.org](http://www.fpcyo.org)



## Greetings!

This month marks the beginning of the Lenten Season. It feels like we only now completed all the Christmas celebrations, and Lent is upon us. How does this happen so quickly?

Lent is determined by Easter, and the date of Easter is the Sunday after the first full moon on or after the spring equinox. This year the spring equinox is on Tuesday, March 19, the next full moon is Monday, March 25, and the next Sunday is March 31. We often think of Lent as 40 days, but if you count the days from Ash Wednesday to Easter you will find a total of 46. This is because of the inclusion of Feast days in the Lenten fast. Every Sunday in Lent is a feast day, so if you fast from something for Lent you can break the fast on Sundays. This isn't a Reformed understanding, but it is interesting to discover the reasons for why things are.

For Lent this year we will be exploring the idea of trusting God to meet us again and again along the journey of our lives and faith. God does this time and again, even through our brokenness, pain, sin, and fear. I invite you to join us for worship and Sunday school as we explore this theme. In Sunday school we will engage this theme through Visio Divina, or sacred seeing.

The Lenten season is one that may be difficult for us to fully engage in. In our modern world we often struggle with delayed gratification, with waiting, and with pursuing things that do not immediately change things in our life. This season calls on us to put our desires to the side and to pursue something that is much harder to grasp. I don't believe that we are called to fast. It is not a requirement of our tradition, but the concept is one that may help us live our lives more fully in God. I would like to ask you to consider the multitude of influences in your life, the various things that draw your attention, and may seem essential in our modern lives. Consider them in the light of the effect they have on your relationship with God.

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## FEBRUARY 2024

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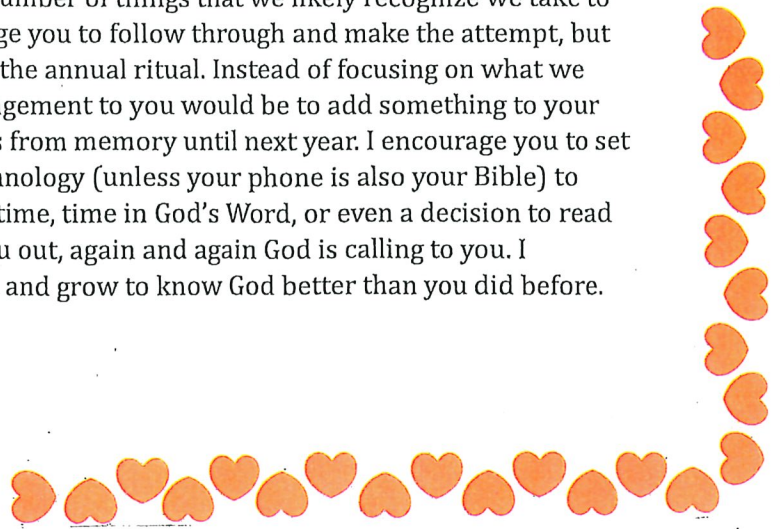


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We often think of the Lenten season as a fast. I am giving up social media, or foods with added sugar, or chocolate, or my TV watching time, or any number of things that we likely recognize we take to excess. If this is helpful for you, then I encourage you to follow through and make the attempt, but perhaps we can consider adding something to the annual ritual. Instead of focusing on what we know we need to give up anyways, my encouragement to you would be to add something to your day that you can continue long after Lent fades from memory until next year. I encourage you to set aside a period of time each day away from technology (unless your phone is also your Bible) to focus on God. This can be a designated prayer time, time in God's Word, or even a decision to read the entire Bible during Lent. God is seeking you out, again and again God is calling to you. I encourage you to find ways to answer that call and grow to know God better than you did before. God's blessings,

*Rev. M. Payne Warner*

Rev. M. Payne Warner



### SUPER SIX

The Mission Committee is once again sponsoring a food drive during Lent. We are asking for your help collecting the following items each Sunday:

**Sunday, February 18<sup>th</sup> - Boxed Cereal**

**Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup> - Peanut Butter**

**Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> - Canned Tuna**

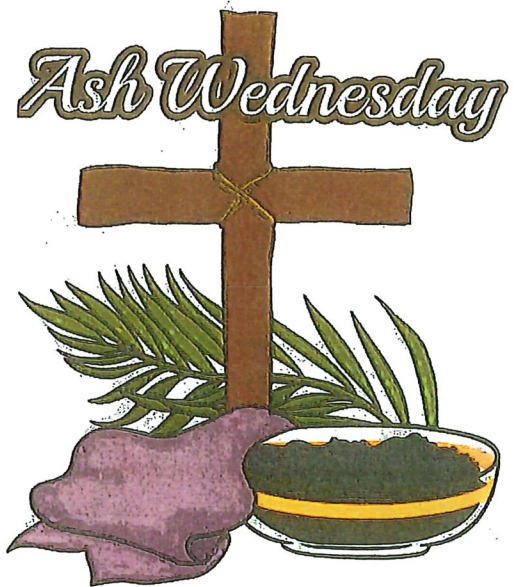
**Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup> - Canned Beef Stew**

**Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup> - Canned Vegetables**

**Sunday, March 25<sup>th</sup> - Canned Soup**

The food will be donated to Protestant Family Service to assist with their food pantry.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!**



Presbyterian Churches in the area  
will gather at the  
Canfield Presbyterian Church  
on

Wednesday, February 14  
at 7 p.m.

The church invites all coming for the Ash  
Wednesday worship service to join them at 6  
p.m. for a sandwich and salad dinner.

The church is located at  
140 West Main St, Canfield, Ohio.

## COMMUNION HAPPENS TWICE THIS MONTH

We will celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper on Sunday, February 5, 2024, the first Sunday of the month. We will also celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper on Sunday, February 18 which is the First Sunday of Lent. Please be part of these joyous feasts.



### ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Help us go fishing! Our church's Mission Committee has set a goal of \$1800. For every \$25 that is collected, a fish will be caught in our fishing net. For over 70 years, ***One Great Hour of Sharing*** has provided Presbyterians a way to share God's love with our neighbors around the world. The three programs supported by ***One Great Hour of Sharing*** – *Presbyterian Disaster Assistance*, the *Presbyterian Hunger Program*, and *Self-Development of People* – all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope.

There are three easy ways to give:

- Through our church (marked for OGHS)
- Mail your gift to ***One Great Hour of Sharing***  
Presbyterian Mission Agency  
P.O. Box 643700  
Pittsburgh, PA 15204-3700
- [presbyterianmission.org/give-oghs](http://presbyterianmission.org/give-oghs)



Won't you help us reach our goal?

The ***One Great Hour of Sharing***

offering will be dedicated

on Easter Sunday, March 31, 2024.





## MISSION COIN REMINDER

We are still collecting coins for the **Red Door Café and Food Pantry at St. John's Episcopal Church**. Your loose change helps provide a meal and groceries to our community neighborhoods in need. You can help by depositing your coins in the collection plates on Sunday mornings.. **THANK YOU!**

- The Mission Committee

### SCOUT SUNDAY

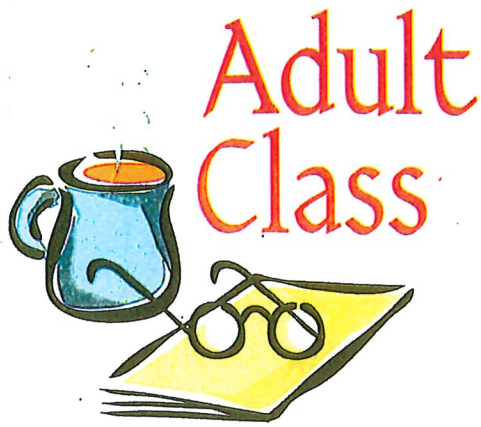
**FEBRUARY 4, 2024**

Please be sure to join us in worship on Sunday, February 4, 2024 which has been designated as Scout Sunday at FPCYO. Members of our Local Scout Troop #55 will participate in and worship with us.

### FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

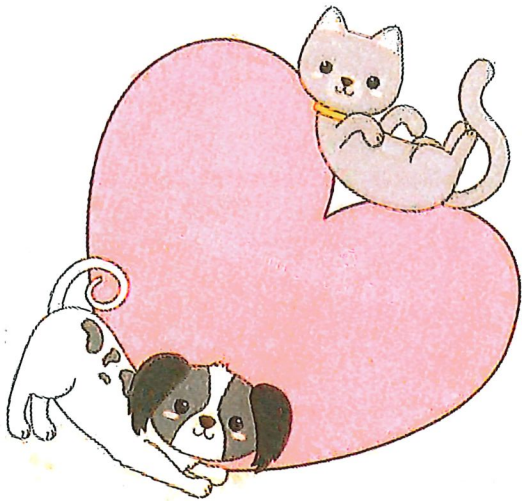
2	Jerry Fullum (staff)	15	Jessica Poteet Clark
7	Rick Benson	18	Lynn Toman
7	Konnor Clark (staff)	23	Chris Soller
7	Amanda Frederick	24	Heather Cooper
14	Becky Mallin	24	Rye Dalton
15	Derrick Amanor		





# Adult Class

Adult Sunday School is returning. We will meet for the Sundays of Lent (February 18 and 25, and March 3, 10, 17, and 24) in the Parlor to discuss our Lenten theme and engage in Visio Divina. Our theme this year is *Again & Again*, and we will be looking at how God brings us back and accepts us again and again. The classes will meet from 9:45 am – 10:45 am. Light refreshments, coffee, and tea will be provided. If you would like to participate and need childcare, please contact the church office so we can ensure we have volunteers on hand.



***Continue to pray for ...***

Lynne Pebworth, Hillary Hamilton, Terry and Becky Murray, Betty Bestic, Janis DePasqua, the family of Lois Bumback (Michael Shepherd), Pat and Bob Fitch, Mary, Nina Vass and family, Rev. Jim Ray, Jayne and Chuck Mansfield and their family, Michael Moon, Shannon Flauto, Rick Benson, Jackie Rogenski, Marion Kohler, NuShawn Moore (Jackie Rogenski's daughter), Patrice Hight (Carol Reed's sister), Julius Balogh, Tim Keenan, Bill Toman, Lila King (Lynn Toman's mother), Debbie Osman (Chet Cooper's sister), Cheryl (Lynn Toman's sister), Ron Strasik (Renae Scharf), the Sarver family (Lynn Toman), Caleb (Barb Altman's grandson), Mary MacGregor Neff (Wilma Miller), the Pickett family, Arlene Wright, Victor Wan-Tatah, Terry Gregory, Nancy Woodman, Marien Sue Martin, Cindy Milicich, Bridget Benson, the people of East Palestine, Ohio, the people of the Ukraine, the people of Israel and Gaza, our Mission Partners including Mahoning Valley association of Churches, Wick Transition Housing, Community Education & Schools (with Taft School), Ethiopian Children (EECMY), Protestant Family Services, CityScape, Needle's Eye, RAHAB Ministries, and Meals on Wheels, the City of Youngstown, our community, and for one another.







## FPW REQUESTS

We are going to be collecting essential items for **RAHAB Ministries** from January through May. On Sunday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, we heard from Hannah Howell, the Communications and Engagement Coordinator at **RAHAB**, about the work they are doing to assist Human Trafficking victims in northeast Ohio. Among their other services, they sponsor safe places where the victims can receive a hot meal, shower, and spiritual and emotional support. We can help by bringing the following items to church and placing them in the box by the sanctuary or the one in the office.

They are particularly in need of full-size conditioner, hairbrushes and combs.

Also needed are:

- Full-size shampoo, lotion, body wash, and deodorant
- New women's bras, underwear, and socks
- Ethnic hair care products (shampoo, conditioner, el and Curling Cream), Brands like Cantu, Edge, and Shea Moisture (can be found at A & A Beauty Supply and Walmart)
- \$50 Gift cards: Aldi, Save-a-Lot, Dollar General, McDonalds, and Walmart
- \$5 and \$10 Gift cards: Dunkin' Donuts, Starbucks, and Target

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!**



## Little Free Libraries



Our Little Free Libraries are still being used by adults and children.

**In fact, we need more children's books.**

We can barely keep the shelves filled before they are empty again. Please keep in mind books that help youth and children understand social justice, ways to be kind, anti-bullying, care of our earth and each other, etc. Also please be mindful that youth and children's books represent various cultures, skin colors and gender diversity. There are two large blue totes just inside the church doors off the parking lot. Thank you!

**FPC BOOK CLUB**  
**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2024 AT 10 A.M.**

Our February selection is a historical fiction called *Horse: A Novel* by Geraldine Brooks about the greatest racing stallion in American history. In 1850 an enslaved groom named Jarrett and the horse forge an understanding that will carry the horse to record-setting victories across the south. We hope you will join us on February 13<sup>th</sup>. Please join us even if you haven't finished the book. Call Becky Murray 330-360-7526, if you have any questions.

**Below is the rest of the books we are reading this year.**

MARCH – Fantasy/Genre defying – *The Invisible Life of Addie LaRue* – By V.E. Schwab. France 1714: in a moment of desperation, a young woman makes a Faustian bargain to live forever. Many Awards

APRIL – Memoir – *Rust: A Memoir of Steel and Grit* - By Elise Colette Goldbach. One woman's story of working in the steel industry to rebuild her life.

MAY – Historical Fiction – *The Flight Girls: a Novel*. By Noelle Salazar. Shining light on real woman pilots during WWII.

JUNE – Classic – *Great Expectations* by Dickens

JULY - Murder/Mystery – *The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store* – By James McBride. "A murder mystery locked inside a great American novel." Small town secrets and the people who keep them.

AUGUST – Memoir - *Inheritance: A Memoir of Genealogy, Paternity, and Love* – By Dani Shapiro. A DNA test tells Dani that her beloved father is not her biological father.

SEPTEMBER – Historical Fiction – *Foundling: a Novel* – By Ann Leary. In 1927 18-year-old Mary Engle is hired as a secretary to work at an institution for mentally-disabled women of child-bearing age. Based on a shocking and little-known piece of American history.

OCTOBER - Nonfiction – *Eat a Peach* – By David Chang and Gabe Ulla. Chang shares the amazing story of his coming of age from starting a little noodle place to a restaurant empire.

NOVEMBER - SciFi /Fantasy - *Fourth Wing* – By Rebeca Yarros. (Empyrean Book 1). An epic of a world-building story, this is a tale of a kingdom under duress, a deadly competition to become an elite dragon rider, and the woman who bucks the odds.





# January Brought A Dip in the Waters...

We welcomed Monroe Payne Warner III "Roey" to the Family of God. The Rev. Barry Chance baptized Roey under the watchful eyes of big sis Violet, and Mom and Dad.



## And Then We Ate Cake

A BIG Thank You to Margie Patterson and Karen Cooper, the FPW, Scout Troop #55, and the volunteers who baked, made soup and brought, providing the marvelous FPW Annual Birthday Lunch. There were soups and salads and rolls. And was cake mentioned? There were cakes and cupcakes. A grand time was had by all.







### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR CHURCH SCHOOL

Who would like to come up to the second floor and be part of church school with pre-k and kindergarten children? Volunteers are needed to read stories, help with craft projects, and play on Sunday mornings from 10:50 a.m. until worship ends. The rotation would be once a month, and less if more people volunteer. Please contact Patti Gruver at (330) 318-2637 or [xlacal@hotmail.com](mailto:xlacal@hotmail.com). Come play with us, and get to know the children in our faith community.

### The Vision Statement of the First Presbyterian Church of Youngstown

*First Presbyterian Church, an increasingly diverse faith community,*

- *opens its heart and doors to all,*
- *serves everyone with compassion,*
- *fosters spiritual growth through scripture-based worship and study,*
- *works for racial and social justice for all; and,*
- *models the principles of Jesus' life and teachings in the world.*

### COMMUNION DATES FOR 2024

In order to prepare for the celebration of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, the following dates have been approved by the Session of the First Presbyterian Church of Youngstown at its meeting held on December 19, 2023:

Sunday, February 4 – Scout Sunday  
 Sunday, February 18 – First Sunday in Lent  
 Sunday, March 3  
 \*Thursday, March 28 – Maundy Thursday  
 Sunday, April 7  
 Sunday, May 5  
 Sunday, May 19 -- Pentecost  
 \*Sunday, June 2  
 \*Sunday, July 7  
 \*Sunday, August 4  
 Sunday, September 1 – 225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of FPCYO  
 Sunday, October 6 – World Communion Sunday  
 Sunday, November 3 – All Saints Day  
 Sunday, December – First Sunday of Advent

\*Indicates that Communion will be served by intinction.







# FEBRUARY 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 1-2 pm – OL – Line Dancing – HC 12 pm – Staff Mtg MFHC PT 9 am – 2 pm PT 3 pm – 8 pm	2 1:30-2:30 pm – OL-YSU Fitness HC	3
4 Worship Service 11 am Communion Sunday Scouts Sunday	5	6 5:30-7 pm – NAMI – Yoga – HC  6 pm Scouts	7 11-1 pm Citizens Circle – Parlor 11:30-1 pm Lunch Time Learning - HC	8 1-2 pm – OL – Line Dancing – HC MFHC PT 9 am – 2 pm PT 3 pm – 8 pm Clinic 5 pm – 8 pm	9 1:30-2:30 pm – OL-YSU Fitness HC	10
11 Worship Service 11 am	12	13 10-11 FPC Book Club – Parlor 6 pm Scouts 6 pm BEG Mtg – Pastor's Office 6-8 pm – NAMI – Volunteer Meet & Greet Dinner - Hc	14 ASH WEDNESDAY HAPPY VALENTINES DAY 	15 1-2 pm – OL – Line Dancing – HC MFHC PT 9 am – 2 pm PT 3 pm – 8 pm 6-7:30 pm Tai Chi - HC 6 pm – Mission Mtg – Library	16 1:30-2:30 pm – OL-YSU Fitness HC	17
18 9:45-10:45 am – Adult Sunday School – Parlor  Worship Service 11 am	19	20 6 pm Scouts  7 pm – Session Mtg – Library	21 10 am – Saving Our Seniors - HC	22 11-1 pm Reentry Coalition Qtrly Mtg – HC MFHC PT 9 am – 2 pm PT 3 pm – 8 pm Clinic 5 pm – 8 pm 6-7:30 pm Tai Chi-HC	23 1:30-2:30 pm – OL-YSU Fitness HC	24
25 9:45-10:45 am – Adult Sunday School – Parlor Worship Service 11 am 12-3 pm – Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser – Mahoning Valley Sojourn to the Past - HC	26	27 6 pm Scouts	28	29 1-2 pm – OL – Line Dancing – HC MFHC PT 9 am – 2 pm PT 3 pm – 8 pm 6-7:30 pm Tai Chi- Parlor 6-8 pm NAMI-Chili Cookoff - HC		