

First Presbyterian Church  
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# THE FORECASTER

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



## Happy New Year!

As we move into concluding the Christmas season and into the New Year, it is a season of new beginnings. I have that in my family with Baby Roey. We have that in our church with my arrival and settling in as your pastor. In society we see it with the beginning of the year being a time of resolutions, and sometimes, perhaps even most of the time, a quick pivot back to the way things were before. The habits of several years, or a lifetime, are not easily broken. In the liturgical year we see it by following Jesus's birth with the ministry he grew into.

What we have done before, we do again. This is not because we need to be reminded, or that we are slow learners. We regularly engage and reengage with the Gospel story because when we read and hear the word again, when we listen to it proclaimed, when we engage with it with our current eyes, ears, and mind we find that it meets us where we are. God meets us where we are. That is the reason why God sent Jesus, and they sent the Spirit, to meet us where we are and recenter us in God.

This leads us to something special for this year, a recognition in the life of this congregation of what God has done for us, is doing for us, and will continue to do for us. This year is the 225<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of our church. This church was founded and began its ministry to Youngstown on September 1, 1799. As the year progresses, we will look at our past, where we have come from and what we have been through, as a lens through which we can look to the future and continue to build toward what God has planned for us into the future.

Please mark your calendars for September 1, 2024. In a quirk of the calendar, we will be able to come together for worship on the exact anniversary of the founding of our church. I'm telling you this now so we can all make our Labor Day Weekend plans to be together, here at 201 Wick Avenue to celebrate both our past and our future in God. In the build up to the event we will be bringing you new things every month to engage in our past, present, and future.

*Continued on next page*

## JANUARY 2024

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HAPPY NEW YEAR





Please send me an email at [pastor@fpcyo.org](mailto:pastor@fpcyo.org) if you would like to help make this celebration happen or if you would like to be a part of the events leading up to the anniversary celebration.

God's blessings,



Rev. M. Payne Warner

### MEETINGS OF THE CONGREGATION OF FPCYO

The Congregation of the First Presbyterian Church of Youngstown has two upcoming meetings.

**Sunday, January 7, 2024** after worship; a called meeting of the congregation will elect new church officers.

**Sunday, January 28, 2024** after worship is the annual meeting of the congregation, and the 2024 Terms of Call for the Pastor will be presented for approval.

Please plan on attending these two very important meetings of the congregation of FPCYO.

### COMMUNION ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 2024

The Sacrament of Communion will be celebrated

in the new year of 2024 on

Sunday, January 7, 2024

during the worship service.



### ANNUAL BIRTHDAY LUNCH

Join us on Sunday, January 28, 2024 for the All-Birthday lunch. It will take place in Helen Chapel following the church annual meeting that will be held immediately after worship that day. This (free) lunch is sponsored by First Presbyterian Women. You will enjoy homemade soup, salad, rolls and birthday cake. We ask that you sit at the table signifying the month of your birthday. This is a fun and popular event. If you are able to provide a homemade soup or a cake for one of the months, please see or call Karen Cooper.







# 2024 MLK COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

HOSTED BY THE MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. PLANNING COMMITTEE

## SUNDAY, JANUARY 14

5:00 PM

### Commemoration Service

Union Baptist Church  
528 Lincoln Ave.  
Youngstown, OH

Keynote Speaker:  
Bishop Timothy Clarke  
Senior Pastor  
First Church of God  
Columbus, OH

Featuring:  
The Singing Shepherds

### Contributions:

Mahoning Valley Association of  
Churches (MVAC)  
PO Box 1526  
Youngstown, OH 44501



## MONDAY, JANUARY 15

8:30 AM - 12:00 PM

### Community Workshop

First Presbyterian Church  
201 Wick Ave.  
Youngstown, OH

Discussion Topic:  
Human Trafficking

### Speakers:

- Senator Teresa Fedor
- Judge Renee DiSalvo
- Jeff Allen

### YOUTH WORKSHOP

Hear Survivor Stories  
Film Screening: Sound of Freedom  
Q&A Discussion

3

FOR MORE INFORMATION  
CALL: 330-747-2125

MLK PLANNING COMMITTEE CO-CONVENERS

JALADAH ASLAM

REV. KENNETH SIMON

PENNY WELLS





#### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR MLK DAY WORKSHOP

We are hosting the  
Martin Luther King Jr. Day Workshop on  
**Monday, January 15, 2024.** Volunteers are needed to assist. The program starts at 8:30 a.m. with a continental breakfast and ends at noon. Please contact Margie Patterson at (330) 507-2345 or [margiep6257@gmail.com](mailto:margiep6257@gmail.com) if you are available to help volunteer and make this a successful event.

#### 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.

## Our Church's Anniversary



As Rev. Warner indicated in his pastoral letter, on **September 1, 2024**, the First Presbyterian Church of Youngstown will celebrate 225 years of spreading the word of God through the love of Jesus Christ and the gifts of the Holy Spirit. All in this faith community can contribute to the anniversary festivities. How?

First, mark your calendars for **Sunday, September 1, 2024** as the anniversary celebration.

Second, continue to watch the *Forecaster* and the Sunday worship bulletins for upcoming events and requests.

Third, consider becoming part of the Anniversary Planning Team. Contact Rev. Warner at the church office or email him at [pastor@fpcyo.org](mailto:pastor@fpcyo.org).

Fourth, what are your moments to remember at First, Youngstown? What events, people, worship, music and more do you cherish in your heart when you think of "going to church" – be it Sunday morning or any other day of the week. Please write them down. The Anniversary Planning Team will benefit from those shared memories.

Happy Anniversary to FPCYO! And with God's grace, let's shoot for another 225.



## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

1	Nancy Hauser	23	Noah Funk
	Jeanne Goodman	24	Jayne Mansfield
2	Marion Kohler	25	Louisa Miller
4	Harper Fredrick	28	Robert Mossman
12	Pam Toman	31	David Burnette
13	Carolyn Albert		Simuben Wan-Tatah
21	Mike D'Amico		



**Martin Luther King, Jr. Workshop:** On Monday, January 15 from 8:30 a.m.- 12:00 p.m. We will be hosting this annual workshop in partnership with the Martin Luther King Day Committee. The focus of this year's workshop is human trafficking. The event will begin with a continental breakfast at 8:30 a.m. and the workshop will begin at 9:00 a.m. We are looking for volunteers to help make this a successful event. Call, text, or email Margie Patterson to volunteer. 330-507-2345 or [margiep6257@gmail.com](mailto:margiep6257@gmail.com).

**Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemoration Service:** In conjunction with the workshop we are hosting, there will be a worship service commemorating the life and vision of Martin Luther King, Jr. at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, January 14 at Union Baptist Church, 528 Lincoln Avenue, Youngstown, OH.

## 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, January 7 – Baptism of the Lord  
 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.





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

Terry and Becky Murray, Betty Bestic, Janis DePasqua, the family of Frances Reid, 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, Stacie Thomas (Margie and Glenn Patterson), Marion Kohler, NuShawn Moore (Jackie Rogenski's daughter), Patrice Hight (Carol Reed's sister), Julius Balogh, Tim Keenan, Bill Toman, Peggy Wells (Margie and Glenn Patterson), 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.



### **THE DEACONS CART**

The Board of Deacons are continuing to collect items for Protestant Family Services. These items include non-perishable food items, hygiene, and toiletry products. Look for the Deacons' Cart near the Wood Street entrance in front of the church office. Your donations are greatly appreciated.

### **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.*



**FPC BOOK CLUB**  
**TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2024 AT 10 A.M.**

We are starting off the new year with *Killers of a Certain Age* by Deeanna Raebourn. This mystery/humor novel involves 60+-year-old women who have spent their lives as the deadliest assassins in an elite organization called "the Museum." Think the Golden Girls meet James Bond. We hope you will join us on January 9<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.**

FEBRUARY - Historical Fiction - *Horse: A Novel* – By Geraldine Brooks – About the greatest racing stallion in American turf 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. March Pulitzer Prize

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.

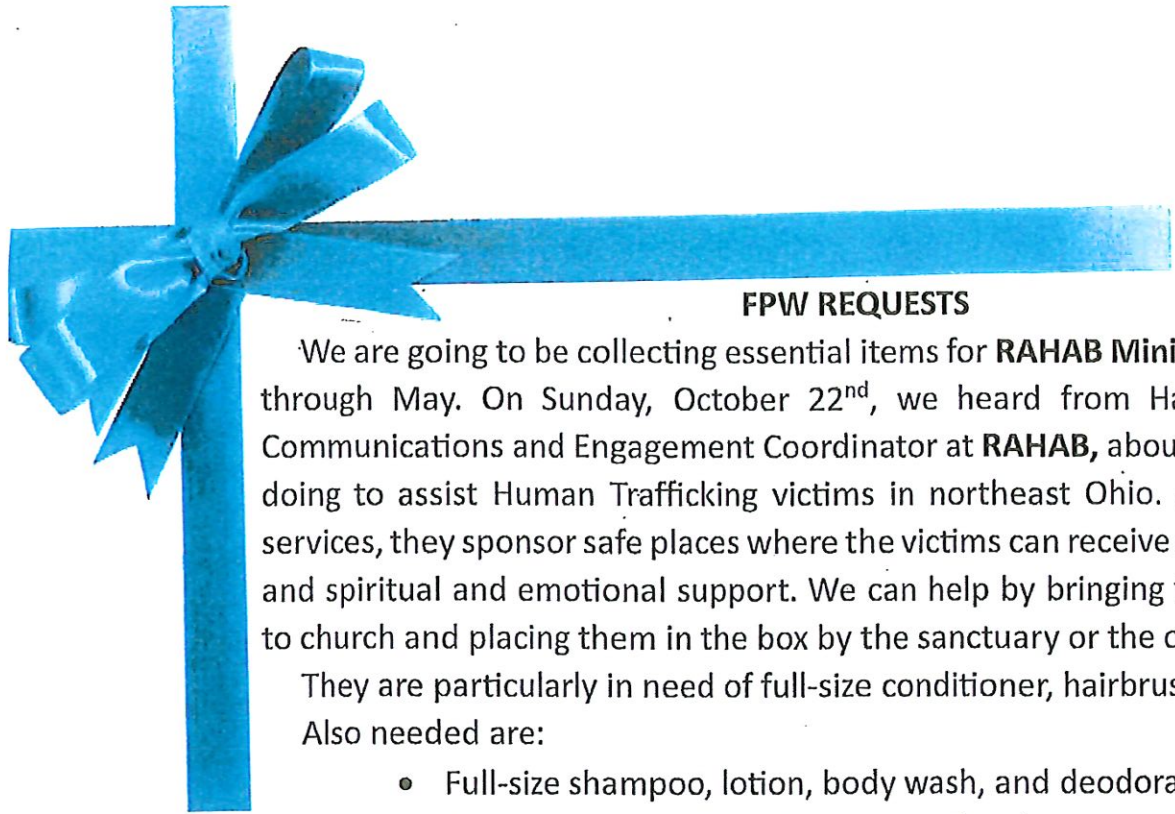
AUGUST – Memoir - *Inheritance: A Memoir of Genealogy, Paternity, and Love* – By Dani Shapiro. A DNA test tells Dani that her beloved father is not her biological father.

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.





### 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!



## 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.



## MISSION COIN REMINDERER

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.. **THSNK YOU!**

- The Mission Committee




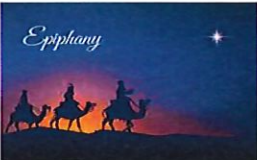

Happy New Year!





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# JANUARY 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 OFFICE CLOSED 	2 5:30-7 pm – NAMI – Yoga – HC	3 11-1 pm Citizens Circle – Parlor	4 12 pm Staff Mtg – Parlor Dining Rm 1-2 pm – OL – Line Dancing - HC	5	6
7 Worship Service – 11 am <i>EPIPHANY-Communion Sunday</i> 12 pm Congregational Mtg 	8	9 10-11 am – FPC Book Club - Parlor 6 pm Scouts 7 pm – Mission Mtg*	10	11 1-2 pm – OL – Line Dancing – HC MFHC PT 9 am – 2 pm PT 3 pm – 8 pm Clinic 5 pm – 8 pm	12	13
14 Worship Service 11 am	15 9-1 pm – Martin Luther King Workshop - HC	16 6 pm Scouts 6 pm BEG Mtg – Pastor's Office 7 pm – Session Mtg – Library	17 10 am – Saving Our Seniors – HC	18 1-2 pm – OL – Line Dancing – HC MFHC PT 9 am – 2 pm PT 3 pm – 8 pm	19	20
21 Worship Service 11 am	22	23 6 pm Scouts	24	25 1-2 pm – OL – Line Dancing – HC 4-6:30 pm – MVAC Annual Assembly Mtg - HC MFHC PT 9 am – 2 pm PT 3 pm – 8 pm Clinic 5 pm – 8 pm	26	27
28 Worship Service – 11 am 12 pm Congregational Mtg 12 -2:30 pm – Birthday Luncheon - HC 	29	30 6 pm Scouts	31			