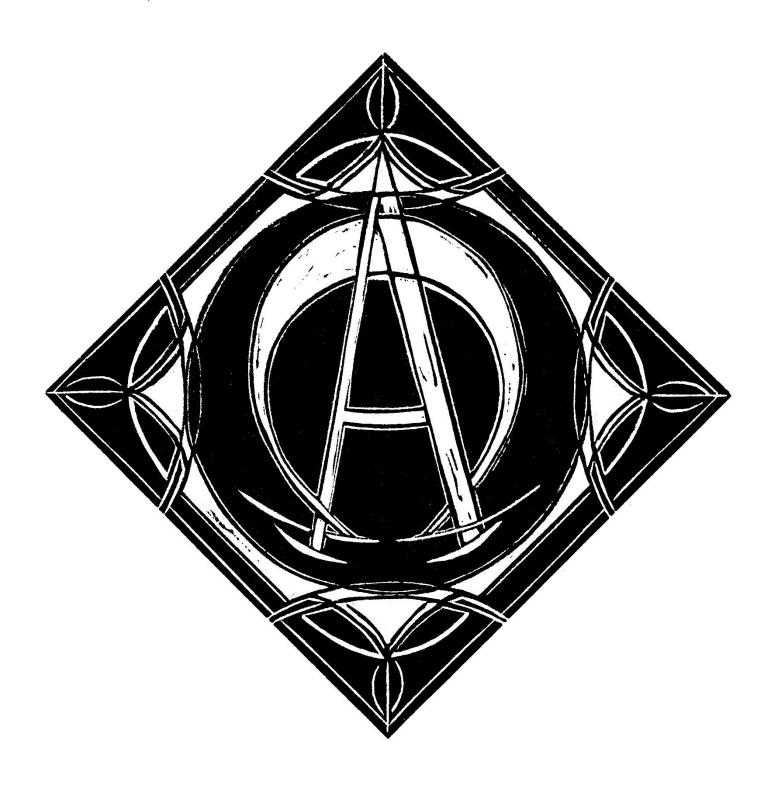
Christ the King

November 24, 2024



Christ the King November 24, 2024, 10:00 a.m. Service

WELCOME TO FPC

We are so glad you are with us on this day where we celebrate the gift of hope for ourselves and for our world. We invite you to follow us on Facebook, sign up for our weekly emails or check the website regularly to see the new things God is doing among us at FPC Findlay!

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP

Little Ones: Infants and toddlers are welcome to join trained caregivers in Room 333 on the third floor during worship.

Children's Worship Bulletins: These are available along with activity packets in the Narthex.

Ask a Greeter for one.

Godly Play: Children in preschool through elementary school-age are invited to attend Godly Play worship in Room 340 following the Blessing of the Children.

WORSHIP VIA FACEBOOK LIVE

As the prelude begins, we invite you to share your prayer requests in the comments section beneath the Facebook Live video.

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LITURGICAL ART

First Presbyterian Church follows the liturgical calendar to mark the seasons of our life together as Christians. Traditionally various colors are used for each season or special day. All our paraments are gifts from artist Don Beck, whose creative vision continues to shape worship at FPC.

TODAY we observe Christ the King Sunday which celebrates the full authority of Jesus Christ as ruler of the universe, whose kingship is one of humility, service, justice and love. The reign of Christ is observed on this final Sunday of the Pentecost season (Ordinary Time) before the Advent Season begins a new Church Year cycle next Sunday, waiting for the promised Messiah.



Honoring our heritage, we are a dynamic body welcoming all to Christ's spacious table, illumined to serve God with imagination and love.

Please turn off all mobile and electronic devices while in the Sanctuary.

*Indicates to rise in body or spirit.

The festival of Christ the King was first celebrated in 1925, in the midst of the European political turmoil of the 1920s and 1930s. It was intended to proclaim God's reign over a world wracked by one world war and facing another. That truth can still be proclaimed today. No human system is forever. None can claim absolute allegiance. Only Christ is sovereign.

GATHERING

We gather as a community and prepare our hearts to worship God.

Tolling of the Bells

Prelude Fugue in G minor J.S. Bach

Choral Introit He Is King of Kings African American Spiritual

He is King of kings; he is Lord of lords, Jesus Christ, the first and last, no one works like him.

*Call to Worship

Through the power of God,

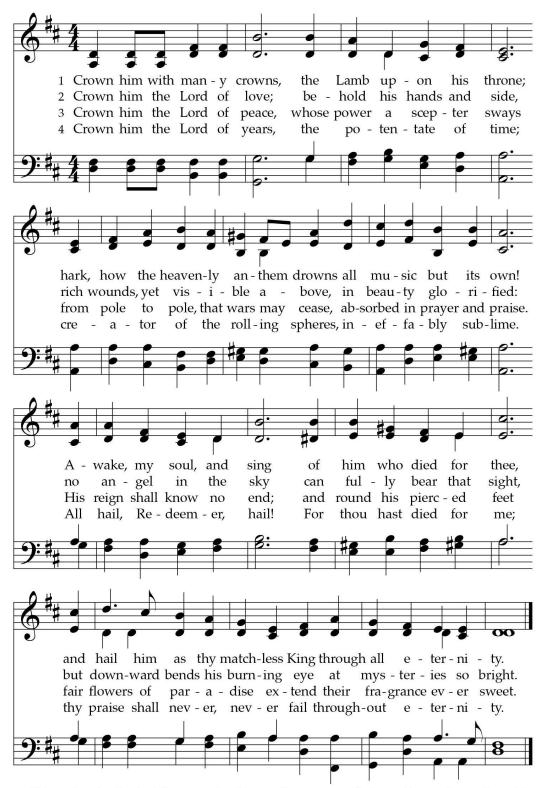
Christ our Lord sits on the throne of truth.

As we worship, may this truth guide our thoughts.

Christ our Lord sits on the throne of love.

May this love guide our hearts.

Let us worship our Lord who leads the way.



This text is so familiar that it is easy to miss all its paradox, mystery, suffering, and beauty; it rewards careful reading and meditation outside corporate worship. The tune's composer, chapel organist at Windsor Castle, had much experience in creating a royal sound.

TEXT: Matthew Bridges, 1851 MUSIC: George Job Elvey, 1868 DIADEMATA SMD

Blessing of the Children

Children are invited to come to the Chancel steps at this time for a Blessing.

Following the Blessing of the Children, children 3rd grade and younger may go to Room 340 for Godly Play.

The Seasons of the Liturgical Year in Scripture and Song

ADVENT

Scripture Lesson Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

²The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

³ His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see or decide by what his ears hear,

⁴but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth;

he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

- ⁵ Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist and faithfulness the belt around his loins.
- ⁶The wolf shall live with the lamb; the leopard shall lie down with the kid; the calf and the lion will feed together,

and a little child shall lead them.

⁷The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

- ⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.
- ⁹They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain,

for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

¹⁰ On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.



After attending a carol concert, the author and composer of this hymn was moved to create a contemporary, accessible carol that drew on the familiar images in a new way. There are echoes here of passages such as Isaiah 9:6, Isaiah 7:14/Matthew 1:23, Isaiah 35:5–6, Isaiah 2:4.

CHRISTMAS

Scripture Lesson Luke 2:1-20

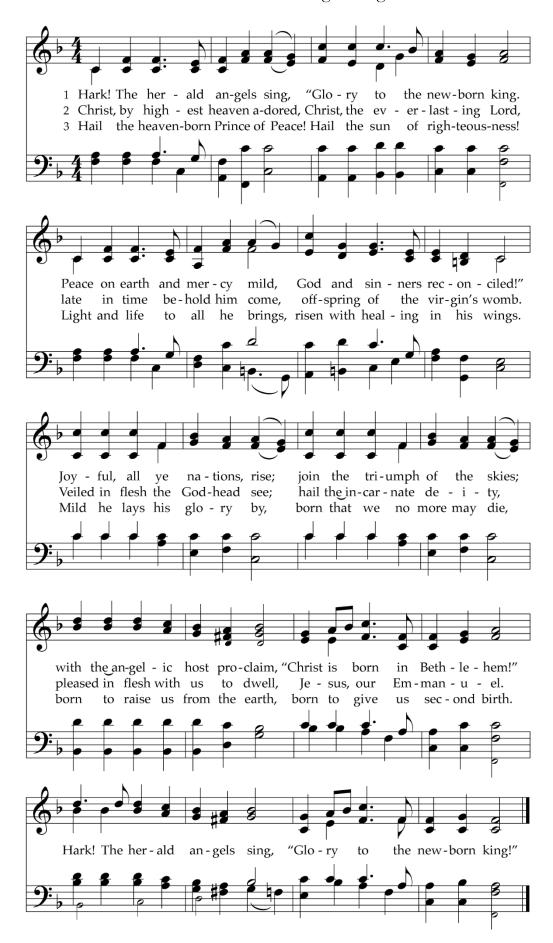
2 In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no place in the guest room.

⁸ Now in that same region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹ to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest heaven,

and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them, ¹⁹ and Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told them.



Scripture Lesson Psalm 51:1-13

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy, blot out my transgressions.

- ²Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.
- ³ For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.
- ⁴Against you, you alone, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment.
- ⁵ Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me.
- ⁶You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.
- ⁷ Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
- ⁸ Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.
- ⁹ Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.
- ¹⁰ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.
- ¹¹Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me.
- ¹² Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.
- ¹³ Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you.



EASTER - The Resurrection of Our Lord

Scripture Lesson Matthew 28:1-10

After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ² And suddenly there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³ His appearance was like lightning and his clothing white as snow. ⁴ For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. ⁵ But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. ⁶ He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷ Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." ⁸ So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹ Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers and sisters to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

Verse 3 – women and children



The good news of the Resurrection is retold in this lively hymn from Tanzania, blending 20th-century words with a traditional melody. In African call-and-response practice, the stanzas would ordinarily be sung by a soloist or small group and the refrain by the whole congregation.



PENTECOST

Scripture Lesson Acts 2:1-4

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. ² And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³ Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴ All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.



Reversing the usual order, this hymn began with the music rather than the words. The composer (from Singapore) sent this tune to the author (in New Zealand) to see what text it might inspire from her. She also suggested the tune name, a Maori phrase meaning "Holy Spirit."

TEXT: Shirley Erena Murray, 2004; Chinese trans. Ee Suen Wong, 2005 MUSIC: Swee Hong Lim, 2004

Text and Music © 2005 Hope Publishing Company

WAIRUA TAPU Irregular



TIME AFTER PENTECOST

Scripture Lesson John 15:1-5

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. ² He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³ You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴ Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵ I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing.

Concerns and Celebrations

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;

and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;

and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.



Call for Offering

Offertory Anthem

Christus Paradox

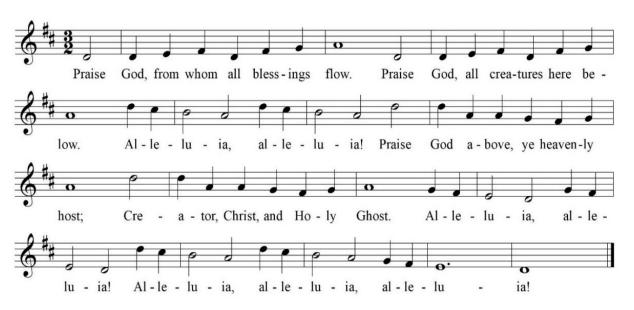
Alfred Fedak

You, Lord, are both Lamb and Shepherd. You, Lord, are both prince and slave. You, peace-maker and sword-bringer of the way you took and gave. You, the everlasting instant; you, whom we both scorn and crave. Clothed in light upon the mountain, stripped of might upon the cross, shining in eternal glory, beggared by a soldier's toss, you, the everlasting instant; you who are both gift and cost. You, who walk each day beside us, sit in power at God's side. You, who preach a way that's narrow, have a love that reaches wide. You, the everlasting instant; you, who are our pilgrim guide. Worthy is our earthly Jesus! Worthy is our cosmic Christ! Worthy your defeat and victory; worthy still your peace and strife. You, the everlasting instant; you, who are our death and life.

*Doxology

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

LASST UNS ERFREUEN



^{*}Prayer of Dedication

CHRIST THE KING

Scripture Lesson Luke 23:33-43

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁴ Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. ³⁵ And the people stood by watching, but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" ³⁶ The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine ³⁷ and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" ³⁸ There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews." ³⁹ One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" ⁴⁰ But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? ⁴¹ And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." ⁴² Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come in your kingdom." ⁴³ He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."



Each stanza of this enthronement text prepares for the final line of the refrain, based on Philippians 4:4. "Lord" is here a title of Christ rather than a reference to the undivided Trinity. The late 18th-century tune (first used with Psalm 148) captures the mood well.

TEXT: Charles Wesley, 1746, alt.

MUSIC: John Darwall, 1770; desc. Sydney Hugo Nicholson, 20th cent.

Music Desc. © 1985 Hymns Ancient & Modern (admin. Hope Publishing Company)

Postlude All Breathing Life J.S. Bach

WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor: Rev. Jessica Commeret

Director of Music: Clinton Miller

Lay Readers: Ellen Hugunin & Joe Niemeyer

Choreographer: Char Ebersole

Director of

Connectional Ministry: Leslee Kirkconnell

Musicians: Chancel Choir; GatherRing Handbell Choir;

Desra Dabney, flute;

FPC Choral Scholars: Joicy Carvalho, BK Riha,

Zach Sanford, Susan Roush

Guest Musicians: Brandon Ising, Matt Pileski,

Jeremy Ong, Bird Birmingham,

Sakda Pharchumcharna

A/V Technician: Robbie Riffle

ANNOUNCEMENTS

November 24, 2024

TODAY

Fellowship

We have coffee, snacks, and conversations starting at 9:30 a.m. and again following worship in the Parlor.

Godly Play today our children will explore receiving the light, based on John 8:12.

THIS WEEK

Hanging of the Greens

Monday, November 25, 3:00-5:00 p.m., Sanctuary, Fellowship Hall

Join us as we "deck the halls" for the Advent/Christmas season. We will gather and decorate throughout the church then share a meal following. A sign-up sheet is outside the Church Office.

Church Office Closed

The Church Office will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday on Thursday, November 28 and Friday, November 29.

HIGHLIGHTS

Onward and Upward

Thursday, December 12, 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall.

We will enjoy sounds of the season as we **Carol with Clint**. We will also have an ugly/funny Christmas sweater/shirt contest so wear your best holiday apparel. Lunch will be provided. RSVP outside the office and be sure to invite your friends!

Youth Advent Mission Project

November 17-December 15

Our youth will introduce our mission focus for December. We are collecting items and money for Church World Service Clean Up Buckets. Lists are available in the Narthex and weekly E-Newsletter. We have a goal of 15 buckets, with a value of \$1,200. Monetary donations are needed as there are particular items to be purchased and to cover the \$3 fee per bucket.

Contact: Beth Niemeyer

Bucket Brigade Packing Party

Sunday, December 15, 11:00 a.m. Fellowship Hall

Join us following worship as our youth lead us in assembling our Clean Up Buckets. We will have refreshments and pack our buckets. Everyone can help!

HIGHLIGHTS

Caroling Caravan

Following the Bucket Brigade Packing Party, we will divide into groups and go caroling to our at-home members. All ages are welcome. A sign-up sheet is outside the Church Office.

Parents Night Out - Third Sunday Family Faith Formation

Sunday, December 15, 5:00-7:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall.

This evening parents can "take the night off" from the kids to catch up on shopping or just catch your breath. Please RSVP for dinner by Thursday, December 12.

Contact: Leslee Kirkconnell

Advent/Christmas Décor

Please consider donating to the Sanctuary decorations of poinsettias and pines. There will be envelopes in the pews and your tributes will be included in the Christmas Eve worship bulletin.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Women of Faith

Mondays, 9:30-11:30 a.m., Parlor

This group is open to all women. The only requirement is a desire to continue your faith journey. We discuss a variety of spiritual studies.

Contact: Mary Alice Patrickson

MUSIC MINISTRY

Join a Choir for Christmas!

This is a great time of year to come be part of the Music Ministry. Whether singing, playing handbells, or playing a musical instrument, we have a place for you!

Chancel Choir

Wednesdays, 7:00-8:30 p.m., Choir Room

Lend your voice to the chorus! The Chancel Choir sings at the 10:00 a.m. worship services during the program year.

GatherRing Handbell Choir

Tuesdays, 1:30-2:30 p.m., Sanctuary

All you need to know is how to read rhythms and know your right hand from your left hand. This is a great way to work together as a team to create beautiful music for our worship services. Contact Clint Miller to get involved!

FELLOWSHIP

Fellowship "Hour"

Sundays, 9:30 a.m. and following worship, Parlor

Join us for coffee, water, treats, and social time to gather with friends and greet one another.

Contact: Suzi Healy

Lunch Bunch

Thursdays, 12:00 p.m., Room 113

Bring your sack lunch and join the fellowship with one another for a casual lunch time every week! On the second Thursdays, this group joins Onward and Upward.

Contact: Beth Niemeyer

Knit Wits

Fridays, 9:30-11:30 a.m., Room 113

Bring your needles, yarn, and great spirit to share time together knitting prayer shawls and other crafts. Don't knit, but do other crafts? Every crafter welcome!

Contact: Deb Watson

CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES

Sunday Morning Faith Formation

First, Third, and Fourth Sundays, 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., Choir Room

The first Sunday of each month is *Motion & Movement*—having sat in worship for an hour this is an opportunity to move our bodies and expend some energy with exciting games and activities. The third and fourth (and fifth) Sundays, youth and children will join *Worship Explorers!* where children and youth will learn about parts of our worship experience, creating musical ventures in our worship service, leading prayers and readings, and help tell our Biblical stories in creative ways. Contact Clint Miller for more information.

Second Sundays, 11:00 a.m., Great Room

Children and Youth have the opportunity to assist with preparing and serving the Community Dinner.

Third Sunday Family Faith Formation

Sunday, December 15, 5:00-7:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall.

We begin with dinner at 5:00 p.m. following food and reflection, we divide up and enjoy a time of Christian Formation for ALL ages. Jessica Commeret will lead adults, Leslee Kirkconnell will lead youth, and Meg Ramlow will lead children K-5th grade. Childcare will be provided for those 4 years old and younger following dinner.

Contact: Leslee Kirkconnell

Mom Co Meet Up Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, December 11, 9:00-11:30 a.m. Fellowship Hall; Child Care beginning at 8:45 a.m. in Room 107C.

We continue our monthly meet up of moms of all-age children. Childcare is provided. Refreshments, fellowship, community. Join us!

Contact: Leslee Kirkconnell

MISSION

Mobile Food Pantry

Saturday, December 7, 7:30 a.m., Great Room

FPC hosts four mobile food pantry distributions throughout the year in cooperation with Chopin Hall and other community service organizations to provide food for the hungry throughout our community. To get involved, contact Katie Abbott at katie.n.abbott@gmail.com.

Community Dinner

Sunday, December 8, 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Great Room

The Community Dinner outreach provides a nutritious home-cooked meal on the $2^{\rm nd}$ Sunday of each month to the Findlay community. Volunteers meet at 9:00 a.m. on the $2^{\rm nd}$ Saturday to prep the meal. The Community Dinner is a great way to show God's love through the gift of food and fellowship. Sign up to help outside the Church Office or contact Tracy Kennedy.

Darrel the Barrel

This month: Onion, Garlic, and Chili Powders

City Mission asks for donations for specific items each month to help feed, house, and care for the unhoused in our community. As we go deeper into partnership with them, particularly Martha's Home, filling Darrel will enable them to use their resources more efficiently for all those who seek their help. The Barrel is located in the Narthex.

ONLINE GIVING

To the right is a QR Code. You can open the camera on your smartphone and be connected to our Giving page via a link pop up. We encourage you to use this method to give as we pass the offering plate. Thank you!



Mom Co Needs Loving Arms

Wednesday, December 11, 8:45-11:45 a.m., Room 107C

We need one volunteer willing to rock babies during our Mom Co Meet Up. There is a sign-up sheet outside the office. Volunteers must have a current background check. Contact: Leslee Kirkconnell

GET CONNECTED

Scan the code to read our weekly E-News Connections.

You can also read in your email.



First Presbyterian Church Staff

Jessica Commeret, Pastor
Clinton Miller, Director of Music
Leslee Kirkconnell, Director of Connectional Ministry
Stephanie Bryan, Church/Financial Secretary
Kelly Sherrieb, Facility Manager
Carol Smith, Nursery School Director
Casey Risner, Head Custodian
Curt Hugunin, Evening Custodian
Marna Weaver, Church Accountant

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