

First Presbyterian Church
116 N. Third St.
Toronto, OH 43964-1416
Change Service Requested

US PSTG
PAID
Permit # 39
TORONTO, OH
43964

November Happenings:

Sunday, Nov. 4th
All Saints Day &
Communion

Wednesday, Nov. 7th
Last Chi-Rho

Thursday, Nov. 8th
Yarn Ministry, 10am

Monday, Nov. 19th
Session meeting, 6pm

Thursday, Nov. 22nd
Office closed
Happy Thanksgiving!

Sunday, Nov 25th
Congregational
meeting & Hanging of
the greens

Church Staff & Officers:
Rev. Tyler J. Bayless, Pastor
Rev.tyler.bayless@gmail.com

Deborah Close, Admin. Assistant
Deborah@torontopresby.org

Virginia Popson, Financial Sec.
VPopson@sbcglobal.net

Ben Beswick, Clerk of Session

Thomas L. Wilson, Treasurer

Craig McCasland, Director of Music

Karen Shell, Rehearsal Organist

Lisa Grable, Custodian

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Karen Petrosky 11/5

Paul Barnes 11/27

Rich Lewis 11/6

Jami Robertson 11/28

Ed Weidger 11/10

Maureen Cattrell 11/16

David Clegg 11/18

Rebecca Jones 11/23

Bob Bertram 11/24

Ben Beswick 11/26

Pam Thomas 11/26



GIVE ONLINE: WWW.TORONTOPRESBY.ORG

First News
NOVEMBER 2018
116 N. 3rd. Street, Toronto, OH 43964
740-537-3721 - Torontopresby.org
Rev. Tyler J. Bayless, Pastor

“Please Join Me In Prayer”

Sometimes in life, especially in ministry, you are led by the Holy Spirit to change some work that you have already completed. This is something we recently discussed during our Bible study on Revelation. As a minister, sometimes it is a sermon to be preached, sometimes it is a Bible study you've been preparing diligently for and sometimes it's a newsletter article that is ready to go to print. This is one of those moments.

Following the horrific mass shooting at the Tree of Life synagogue we are once again forced to face the reality that evil is at work in the world. Any violence is tragic; however, this particular act of violence has felt more personal to many, including myself. When I lived in Pittsburgh we would drive past this synagogue on a weekly, sometimes daily, basis to get to some of our favorite restaurants and shops on Murray & Forbes Avenues in Squirrel Hill. I've been inside this place of worship delivering flyers for events we were holding at the seminary. I watched friends, who knew members of the congregation, wait anxiously to hear if their friend was one of the victims. This senseless act of violence hit closer to home.

But yet even in this time of great tragedy, in the hours after the shooting, there were numerous prayer vigils taking place where the community came together to offer support to the victims, their families and one another. Then on Sunday there was another interfaith vigil that drew thousands of Pittsburghers to the Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall.

During this vigil the 23rd Psalm was read. In this time of great sadness, tragedy and mourning this well-known Psalm offers God's people comfort, hope and assurance of God's presence. With this Psalm, the forth verse rings pointedly in my ear. “Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff—they comfort me.” (NRSV) Even in the times of greatest darkest and when the world shows its greatest evil, we are assured that God is there seeking to rid our bodies of fear, evil and despair, offering us comfort unlike that which we can know outside of a life of faith. In the face of evil and violence these words become like a blanket to comfort us, surrounding us with the love of God.

As this community continues to mourn and grieve I invite you to join me in prayer that comfort would be close to them, that some normalcy could return, and that they could once again worship without fear. Our prayer should not stop there though, our prayer should be larger than just for these victims of this one act of violence, it should be that the evil behind all violence would one day be extinguished and the love of God would take its place, but until that time God's presence would remain with us as we are assured in the 23rd Psalm. Please join me in prayer.

Shalom,
Pastor Tyler

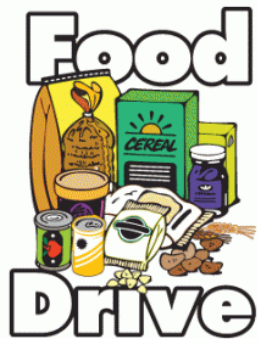
Bible Study
Tuesdays at 7pm

Choir rehearsal
Wednesdays at 7pm

Sunday School
10am

Sunday Worship
11am

Office Hours:
Monday- Thursday
9 - 2pm



Food Drive

Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts & Girl Scouts will be having a food drive in Toronto, **Saturday, Nov. 10th** 9am-noon. Please place non-perishable items in a bag on your front porch for pick up.



Congratulations

The Congregation would like to extend its Congratulations to Jennifer & Matthew Gooch who were united in marriage on October 13th, 2018.



Sunday, November 25th

We will have a congregational meeting after Worship. Please plan on staying after for "Hanging of the greens" to decorate for the upcoming Christmas season. Lunch will be provided. We appreciate all your help!

Donations Needed

Over the coming weeks we will be collecting toiletries for the homeless and less fortunate. Shampoo, conditioner, body wash, men's & women's deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, body lotion, razors, shaving cream, feminine pads, etc. Please bring these items to Worship on Sunday until the end of November and we will make sure they get to the Beacon House.



Come Celebrate with Us

You're Invite to celebrate Rich Lewis' "90th" Birthday on **Sunday, November 11, 2018** after worship.

Veterans Day Program

Toronto Jr.-Sr. High School would like to invite all Veteran's to our annual Veteran's Day Assembly on **Friday, November 9th, at 9am** in the gymnasium. Afterwards, Veteran's are invited to a reception in the THS Library. Please call the school office at 740-537-2442 to RSVP by November 7th.



Notes from Session Meeting:

- ♦ We are in need of nursery school attendants please contact the office if you'd like to help.
- ♦ Received a \$500.00 donation from The Toronto Coalition for Revitalization for the use of the church for summer concerts and the art exhibit. \$200.00 was designated to the Beaver Creek Church Camp fund & \$300.00 to the Chi-Rho fund.
- ♦ Bible Study & Chi-Rho continue.
- ♦ Approved to have trees trimmed in front of the Church.
- ♦ Approved to name Dolores Boggs as Director of Music Emerita of the Congregation.
- ♦ Approved a number of building use requests, including light up night, November 20, 2018.
- ♦ Approved to collect toiletries for the Beacon House until the end of November.

Bible Study

Tuesday evenings at 7pm, Hope to see you then!



VOLUNTEER BELL RINGERS NEEDED!

Ring a bell...help change a life

Lend A Helping Hand

Please contact the office, 537-3721, if you are interested in being a bell ringer for the Salvation Army on **November 16th.**



Expense report for September

Expenses: \$ 11,085.56

Income: \$ 10,454.51

Difference: \$ -631.05

\$5.00 Challenge Report:

Thank you to those who have given \$5.00 extra each week. We encourage you to keep giving this little bit extra each week to help financially with the mission of the church. So far we have raised \$3,151.00 in 2018! Thank you!

In The Community

Annual Fall Festival

Sunday, November 4, 2018

at St. Joseph Church Hall
1225 North River Ave. Toronto
Noon – 3:30pm featuring cabbage roll dinner, mashed potatoes, green beans, applesauce, dinner rolls, desserts, beverages.

Dear Friends at First Presbyterian Church,
We thank your congregation for its financial support. In August we received your contributions for the Pentecost Offering. It is through support like yours that your Presbytery, the Synod of the Trinity, and the General Assembly are able to carry out their part of our common mission through Jesus our Savior.

Connie Quinn (Treasurer)

Wishing you a Blessed & Happy Thanksgiving!