

FPC NEWS

A NEWSLETTER FOR FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



THE NEED FOR GROUPS

BY PASTOR ANDREW GILMAN

You are five times more likely to stay in a church if you join a group. Here are the facts. Eighty-three percent of people will stay in a church if they attend worship services and also join a group. However, only 16 percent of people will stay in the church if they attend a worship service only and never join a group. Most people start attending a church through the worship service, but most people stay in a church because of their connection to a group.

"Seven Basics of Belonging" author, Sam Rainer, highlights how crucial groups are to the church today. As we continue in this season of revitalization here at FPC, we have found Sam's words to ring true to our own experiences too. Throughout the summer we are going to be working hard, behind the scenes, to develop options for the congregation to get involved in various groups next fall. (Cont. pg. 8)

KEY DATES

JUNE 2

First Friday

JUNE 4

Niagara Send-off Breakfast

JUNE 12

First Volleyball Game

JUNE 18

Father's Day

JUNE 24

Niagara Trip Update

DEEPEN YOUR FAITH

THE WESTMINSTER LARGER CATECHISM

Q. 53. How was Christ exalted in his ascension?

A. Christ's exaltation in his ascension began after his resurrection when he appeared to the apostles a number of times, talked to them about the kingdom of God,¹ and commissioned them to preach the gospel to all nations.² Forty days after his resurrection, in our human nature and as our head,³ he visibly went up into the highest heavens, triumphing over enemies.⁴ There he receives gifts for men,⁵ raises our minds,⁶ and prepares a place for us,⁷ where he himself is and shall continue to be until his second coming at the end of the world.⁸

1. Acts 1.2-3.

3. Heb 6.20.

5. Acts 1.9-11, Eph 4.10, Ps 68.18.

7. Jn 14.2-3.

2. Mt 28.19-20, Acts 1.8.

4. Eph 4.8, Acts 1.9.

6. Col 3.1-2.

8. Acts 3.21.

Q. 54. How is Christ exalted by sitting at the right hand of God?

A. Sitting at the right hand of God exalts Christ as the God-man; he is advanced to the highest favor with God the Father¹ with all the joy,² glory,³ and power of this position over all things in heaven and earth.⁴ There Christ gathers and defends his church, subdues her enemies, provides his ministers and people with gifts and graces,⁵ and intercedes for them.⁶

1. Phil 2.9.

3. Jn 17.5.

5. Eph 4.10-12, Ps 110;

2. Acts 2.28, Ps 16.11.

4. Eph 1.22, 1 Pt 3.22.

6. Rom 8.34;



READING PLAN

WEEK 1 | JUNE 1-2

□ I Samuel 25-26

□ I Samuel 27-28

WEEK 2 | JUNE 5-9

□ I Samuel 29-30

□ I Samuel 31, II Samuel 1

□ II Samuel 2-3

□ II Samuel 4-5

□ II Samuel 6-7

WEEK 3 | JUNE 12-16

□ II Samuel 8-9

□ II Samuel 10-11

□ II Samuel 12-13

□ II Samuel 14-15

□ II Samuel 16-17

WEEK 4 | JUNE 19-23

□ I Samuel 9-10

□ I Samuel 11-12

□ I Samuel 13-14

□ I Samuel 15-16

□ I Samuel 17-18

WEEK 5 | JUNE 26-30

□ I Samuel 19-20

□ I Samuel 21-22

□ I Samuel 23-24

□ I Kings 1-2

□ I Kings 3-4

YOUR MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

EPHESIANS 2:1-5

And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved.

BIRTHDAYS

06/03 Peter Haviza
06/04 Terri Fryman, Brad Hare, Cora Ervin
06/09 Olivia Hounshell
06/12 Kathy Lockhart
06/15 Richard Martin, Natalie Milligan
06/19 Tina Smith
06/20 Carol Funderburg, Dale Dickerson
06/22 Thomas Funderburg
06/23 Randall Ervin
06/24 Bruce Stoltz
06/26 James Ward
06/27 Hugo van der Walt
06/30 Arlene Bankson

ANNIVERSARIES

06/04 Peter & Louann Haviza
06/05 Thomas & Glenna Funderburg
06/11 Randy & Jen Silvey
06/15 John & Karen Burkett
06/16 Keith & Janelle Koverman
06/21 Dale & Anna Lee Dickerson
06/24 Jim & Terri Fryman
06/26 Tyler & Emily Trick
06/28 Hugo & Bre van der Walt

FIRST FRIDAYS

Friday, June 2nd – Ice Cream – 6-9pm

Join us for a time of serving, loving, and engaging with our community! Our worship team will be playing live music and our Niagara Mission Trip team will be serving ice cream. We invite you to all come out and be a part of the evening, even if that just means sitting back and enjoying the music!

Friday, July 7th – Glowsticks – 6-9pm

Join us as we give away free glowsticks to the kids walking downtown and promote Stellar VBS, scheduled for July 24-27! There will be a large space themed photo-op setup on the street for kids to get pictures with. We will need volunteers this evening who are not playing volleyball, as we have a game at the same time! Please let Paige Ervin know if you are available to serve on First Friday. You are NEEDED!



SUMMER UPDATE

By Paige Ervin

With summer vacation approaching, the app is the best way to stay in the loop while away. Anyone participating in the worship services (i.e., communion ushers, scripture leaders, worship band, children's church etc.) can find their schedule on the app and will receive reminders for their role. The app also has all the latest prayer requests, newsletters, sign-ups, directory and more! If you have not yet created an account, I would encourage you to do so. The **church office** will be **closed June 4-9** as Pastor Andy and I are both away in Niagara for the week. The office will be open June 19-23. However, please call ahead as Andy is in Colorado at General Assembly that week. I will be in the office but working on VBS decorating throughout the building and not watching the door specifically.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NIAGARA SEND-OFF BREAKFAST

Help send-off our mission trip group with a breakfast before church at 8:00am. They plan to depart at 9:00am on Sunday, June 4th. We invite ALL of you to enjoy breakfast with them before sending them on their way. Worship will still begin at 9:30am that morning. Please join us!

CHURCH VOLLEYBALL

We will be teamed up with Beamsville Christian Church for the church volleyball league this summer! The full schedule can be found on the app and on page 9 of this newsletter, you will find June's game schedule. We ask that everyone wears their blue First Presbyterian Church shirts or another navy-blue shirt. We do have extra shirts in the office if you would like to buy one. Everyone is invited to attend the games as fans! If you have any questions, see Paige Ervin.

NIAGARA MISSION UPDATE

The Niagara group will present about their time away on Sunday, June 25th during worship. We encourage you all to attend; meet the families of those who attended the trip, hear the stories, and see pictures!

LOVE SHOWER

New members Dan Hawley and Elaine Snyder are about to be married and the Howell family is about to welcome another child into their home. We invite you to join us after worship on Sunday, July 16th for a Love Shower to celebrate these members of our church family as they begin these new chapters in their lives. We will celebrate with a fun coffee hour after worship. There will be no planned games or activities, but we do encourage you to bring cards for these families and a warm hug! If you would like to give a gift, gift cards or cash are best. Please join us for this fun time of socializing and fellowship!

GROW OPPORTUNITIES

MEN'S ISI BREAKFAST

The men will meet again on Saturday, June 3rd at 8:30am at the church. Please contact Augie Roestamadji (906-523-4459) for more details.

WOMEN'S STUDY

The women's study is on a break for the summer but will continue to meet outdoors once a month. We encourage all the women to come and take part in this ministry. Saturday, June 10th we will meet at the shelter at Shawnee Prairie, located to the right of the building. We encourage everyone to come at 8:30am. Those who want to walk will take off around that time and those who are not able to walk can enjoy time together at the picnic tables until we return. September will kick-off a new study for the women on the second Saturday every month! Please contact Jan Roestamadji (937-692-6404) for more details.

PASTOR'S STUDY

Every Wednesday at 10:30am, Pastor Andrew will continue his study through II Kings in the narthex. All are welcome to attend.



PRAYER

Please continue to pray for the following updates from last month.

5/15/23: Didi thanks you for your prayers last week as it did provide relief. However, the twinge in her hip started returning this morning, so that means she will need to try again. Didi is very thankful for the progress she is seeing, and truly appreciates all the prayers.

5/11/2023: Please pray for Don & Kathy Lockhart's daughter-in-law. She was scheduled for a C-section May 30 but is experiencing preeclampsia. She will deliver today or, if her blood pressure comes down, Sunday for sure. (See FPC Life)

Didi Howell would appreciate prayers for her chiropractor appointment today. She is experiencing some hip pain with the pregnancy that is making standing and walking uncomfortable. She is hoping that today's appointment will provide some relief!

5/10/2023: Fran Nord is back home after surgery. They did need to put a stint in where they found 80% blockage in an artery. It will take 30 days to 6 months to really know if the procedure was successful. Dick & Fran thank you for your prayers!

5/9/2023: Please pray for Bre van der Walt. She will have surgery Thursday to get her gallbladder removed. Prayers for the procedure and recovery are appreciated! (Update: She had successful gallbladder surgery and is back home resting. The procedure went as planned and your prayers were appreciated.)

5/2/2023: Fran Nord recently wore a two-week heart monitor and discovered that she has Ventricular Tachycardia. The doctor said her heart rate is at a lethal level. May 8th she is having a heart catheterization @ Reid Hospital. If they find a blockage, they will attempt to correct it at that time.

Dick and Fran Nord's son, Dan, is having surgery May 10th on his left lower leg in Springfield, Florida. He has two completely blocked veins. (You have three main veins in each leg.) The doctor will be attempting to clean out the blockage, insert a stent or replace the veins. Shortly after that surgery he will have the same type of surgery on his right leg which has one completely blocked vein.

May 9th Dick Nord is having a heart implant (Watchman) in his left Ventricular Appendage at Reid Hospital to eliminate the need to continue on blood thinners and to almost eliminate the possibility of having a stroke from clotted blood in that appendage.

5/1/2023: Please pray for Connie Hodson. She went to the ER yesterday and is still there waiting on some tests. Please also pray for her daughter, Tish, during this time. (Update: Connie is back home, but no answers were found as to why the health scare occurred.)

FPC LIFE

NEW GRANDSON

Don and Kathy Lockhart have a new grandson to celebrate! Nolan Joseph Lockhart was born on Thursday, May 11 to proud new parents, Matthew, and Kristen. He came a couple weeks early, but everyone is healthy and doing well. Thank you for your prayers!

FLOWER APPRECIATION

Thank you to Amanda Hines and her daughters, Maleah, and Mylee, for planting the beautiful flowers in the planters by the steps. They look lovely! Thank you also to Charlene Thornhill for providing the carnations for Mother's Day again this year.

SPRING LANDSCAPING

Thank you, Kale Conway, for the amazing job cleaning up our exterior. Kale trimmed the landscaping, laid a weed barrier down and spread all new mulch. It looks great!

NEW MEMBERS

Congratulations to Dan Hawley, Elaine Snyder, and Tish Shepherd on becoming our newest members. Welcome to the FPC family! We look forward to living out the Story of Redemption alongside you all.

More FPC Life submissions–Page 10

FPC KIDS SPECIAL

By Cora Ervin

Look to hear from another one of our FPC Kids next month!

Cora has been one busy girl these past couple months. She turns 4 in June and has her first dance revue! She has already received her costumes and is on Cloud 9! In May, she sang in her school concert at Memorial Hall, and competed in the Healthy Kids Running Series every Sunday. She is excited for VBS this summer, summer camp with Randall in July, and and for vacation in Branson, MO again with Mops, Pops, Aunts and Uncles!



First Presbyterian Church of Greenville Ohio
Minutes of the Session of
April 13, 2023

I. Opening

A. Call meeting to order with reading of the Word and prayer

The April 2023 stated meeting of the Session of First Presbyterian Church of Greenville was called to order on April 13, 2023, at First Presbyterian Church at 7 PM by Pastor Andrew Gilman. Pastor Gilman opening the meeting with prayer.

Members Present: Pam Bowman, Wes Jetter, Craig Leland, Randy Tester, Peter Haviza and Helen Miller (6)

Members Absent: Jan Roestamadji

Guests: Dan Hawley, Elaine Snyder, and Tish Shepherd

Approval of Agenda A motion was made to approve the docket. Peter Haviza made the motion seconded by Pam Bowman and passing 6-0.

Approval of Minutes Randy Tester motioned to approve the March 2023 minutes with a correction that sections of the minutes dealing with the voicing of concerns be eliminated. This motion was seconded by Peter Haviza. The motion passed 6-0.

II. Agenda Items

Testimonies of Faith At 7:15 the session turned its attention to testimonies of faith given by Dan Hawley, Elaine Snyder and Tish Shepherd. After hearing these statements of faith, the session then voted to accept all three individuals into our church. A motion was made by Peter Haviza to just make one vote accepting all 3 into the church body. This motion was seconded by Pam Bowman and passed 6-0.

Financial Report Craig Leland presented the financial report. Highlights of his report included mentioning that gift contributions were \$11,755.76 in March 2023. Year to date giving is \$36,945.76. Outside of those numbers, he had nothing out of the ordinary to report. Pam Bowman motioned to accept this report seconded by Wes Jetter and passing 6-0.

Renovation Project John Vehre briefly reported on the renovation project. I mentioned that after talking with Dustin Nealeigh, with Bruns Construction, that the project would not commence until late August. John also mentioned that the final plans had been submitted to the church incorporating changes made in the last meeting between the renovation committee, Bruns and Garman Miller.

Mission Committee Wes Jetter reported that Christa and Sam, who First Presbyterian helps support would like to visit our church on July 14, 2023. Wes also mentioned to help build up support for Missionary work that he would like to have a cookout for the Mission Committee at his house sometime this summer.

Worship Committee A schedule of communion days, ushers and servers has been drawn up for the next few months.

Education Committee (Randy Tester) A motion was made to create a scholarship commission by Randy Tester. The motion's wording went as follows: *The elders hereby grant authority to Randy Tester for the formation of a Commission of Scholarship Review and Award. The Commission is given authority to decide which applicants will receive the various scholarship awards through FPC. This Commission is established April 14, 2023 and its purview will conclude May 31, 2023. The following names are included on this commission: Elder Randy Tester, Congregants Paige Ervin, Amanda Hines, Kathy Lockhart and Elder Jan Roestamadji.* The motion was seconded by Pam Bowman and passed 6-0.

Pastor's Report (Andrew Gilman – written submission) Pastor Gilman submitted a written report of his activities for March. In addition, Andrew mentioned that he will now be heading the youth mission trip to Niagara Falls, New York that will be taking place from June 4-9, 2023. He is requesting to be able to prepare a sermon for the Sunday following the trip, that he be allowed to book a room for three nights. (The rest of the group, both adults and children, will be staying at a location provided by the church group we are helping, with rough and rather basic accommodations.) Wes Jetter motioned to accept this proposal, seconded by Craig Leland. The motion passed 6-0. After reviewing the Pastor's report, Peter Haviza motioned to accept it, seconded by Pam Bowman. The motion passed 6-0.

Deacon's Meeting The Deacon's did submit a written report. After reviewing it Randy Tester made a motion to accept it. His motion was seconded by Helen Miller, and it passed 6-0.

III. Closing

Prayer. A closing prayer was made by Pam Bowman.

Adjournment. Peter Haviza motioned to adjourn, which was seconded by Craig Leland. The motion passed 6-0.

John Vehre

Andrew Gilman

Clerk of Session

Moderator of Session

LEADERSHIP MEETINGS THIS MONTH

DEACONS	NO MEETING	N/A
SESSION	TUESDAY, JUNE 13, 2023	7:00PM
WORSHIP	THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 2023	10:00AM

THE NEED FOR GROUPS (CONT.)

Doing life together, as God's people, is best facilitated through small group ministries. To be certain, our main point of connection as a church body is our Sunday Worship time. However, there are opportunities provided by small groups that the larger church setting is not best suited for.

Here are 5 ways that small groups will help our congregation in our relationships and our ministry to invite others into our church.

1. Small groups foster close relationships and integral community. The small group atmosphere is ready-made for building friendships. People talk more in small groups of people. People are quick to recognize needs, and help to meet them. The relationships formed within small groups form a strong fabric within a church. Relationships that are formed outside of the (sometimes artificial) setting of a church service, are relationships that will endure and strengthen over time.

Relationships are such an important way that God works in the lives of His people. It is important to build strong relationships with fellow believers and to open our lives to each other as we pursue the Lord.

2. Small groups provide a comfortable atmosphere for openness. One thing I like about small groups is that we meet in homes, or living room settings. There are at least twenty-six references in the New Testament that talk about believers meeting in homes or being part of a household. (Not all are references in Acts: Romans 16:5; 1 Corinthians 16:19; Philemon 1:2). Homes are usually comfortable places—places devoid of pews, PA systems, and stages. They are places where people can open up, listen, learn, and grow.

The location of small groups can be just about anywhere. However, the idea of meeting together in each other's homes is a particularly nice way to get to know each

other in a setting that is welcoming and conducive to sharing life together.

3. Small groups encourage better learning.

Listening to a sermon is a great way to learn the Word, but it is easy to become detached or daydream during a sermon. We become passive listeners. Not so in a small group. When a few people are together, every individual is expected to be involved and to participate. This active involvement is an effective way to learn better.

Often, the Sunday sermons have enough to think about in them that it would be helpful to jot down some notes for later. Discussing your sermon notes and talking them over with others who are wrestling with the same ideas always provides more clarity. We all need more time engaging with God's Word than just Sunday morning for 30 minutes. This gives us a great chance to talk through our questions and learn more from other believers.

4. Small groups provide an ideal way to care for the needs of people within the church.

When one believer in a small group is struggling financially, emotionally, spiritually, socially, etc., it is much easier for the members of the group to notice and provide help. The structure of a small group is essentially a community of believing friends. Friends should help one another, especially Christian friends.

Caring for each other's needs is an important part of any church. The closer we are to people who love us—the easier it is for that group of people to pray for us, and to find resources to help in times of need. People who are outside of the church and who do not know God will find this way of being together particularly winsome and impressive. They too are looking for a place where real authentic relationships are being built.

5. Small groups help to cultivate leadership within the church. Small groups give opportunities for leadership development within the church. Through our small groups we will communicate the core ideas of membership at FPC and our mission to reach those around us with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

The purpose of our church is to reach people with the love of Jesus. God put us here, at this time, in this place, to accomplish the specific task of sharing our lives with those who we live among. We live among our families, our co-workers, our friends, and acquaintances. God wants to use you to reach these people with the good news of Jesus. The small group ministries of the church

will increasingly become the place where you can invite your people into a friendly and safe atmosphere where they can begin to meet other Christians and hear about Jesus for the first time.

This summer please pray about the need to be part of a small group ministry. We have groups that meet once a week, twice a month, and once a month. We have groups that meet at the church or in homes. We have groups that meet to do service and others that meet to study God's Word. We want every member of FPC to be a member of a small group.

Contact the office if you would like more information about Fall Small Group Offerings or if you are interested in leading/hosting.

A poster for a volleyball schedule in June 2023. The background is white with orange geometric patterns in the corners. Two volleyball images are on the left and right sides. The text is centered and uses orange and black colors. The title 'VOLLEYBALL SCHEDULE' is in large, bold letters. Below it is 'JUNE 2023'. The events are listed in orange boxes with white text, each followed by the date, time, and location in black text.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN & BEAMSVILLE

VOLLEYBALL SCHEDULE

JUNE 2023

FP&B @ DAYSTAR

MONDAY, JUNE 12, 2023 - 07.30 PM
10031 Hillgrove-Ft. Recovery Union City, OH

FP&B @ LIVING WATERS

FRIDAY, JUNE 16, 2023 - 07.30 PM
8140 Goffena Rd Versailles, OH

FP&B VS. BIBLE FELLOWSHIP

MONDAY, JUNE 19, 2023 - 07.30 PM
North Park sand court behind Kroger

FP&B VS. COMMON GROUND

FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 2023 - 07.30 PM
North Park grass court behind Kroger

FP&B @ ANSONIA FCOG

MONDAY, JUNE 26, 2023 - 07.30 PM
750 S Main St Ansonia, OH

FPC LIFE (CONT.)

SPECIAL OLYMPICS ACCOLADES

Congratulations to Jillian and Jocelyn Mumaw! They competed in the Special Olympics last month and received many awards. Jocelyn Mumaw (left) placed 1st in softball throw and long jump, 2nd in 200m run and 3rd in relay race. Jillian Mumaw (right) placed 2nd in softball throw and 200m run, 3rd in relay race and 4th in long jump.



Graham Milligan was the recipient of the Herb Stentzel Service Award this year.

Lilly Hayes was the first ever back-to-back winner for the Pete and Kay Brown Scholarship and Annie Hayes was the recipient of the Dianne Brown Memorial Scholarship (both pictured below with members of the Brown Family).

HEALTHY KIDS RUNNING SERIES

Congratulations to Philip (right) and Ruth (left) Gilmore for placing third in their respective age groups in the spring Healthy Kid's Running Series. Congratulations to Cora Ervin for placing first in her age group. (See FPC Kids Special for more.)



SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS 2023

Congratulations to all our scholarship recipients for 2023. Continuing Education (Mikesell Trust) Scholarship winners (pictured top right) include: Lilly Hayes, Annie Hayes, Lilly Hayes, Natalie Milligan, Graham Milligan, Jayden Mumaw and Ally Hayes (not present).

Clark Family Scholarship winners were Ally Hayes, Annie Hayes and Lilly Hayes.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION VOLUNTEERS

We recognized all our Christian Education volunteers on Sunday, May 21st, but if you see any of the following people, please thank them again!

Ginny Bertram, Marnelise van der Walt, Rebecca Detling, Louann Haviza, Jenna Gilman, Molly Mumaw, Beth Vehre, Holly Finnarn, Didi Howell, Jared Ervin, Paige Ervin, Jan Roestamadji, Augie Roestamadji, middle/high school student helpers

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2023

STELLAR
SHINE JESUS' LIGHT

JULY 24-27
6:15-8:30PM

FPC Church
114 E Fourth St
Greenville

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FPCGreenville.ChurchTrac.com

CHAPEL

Cover the Church
SUNDAYS 9:00AM

SEPT 10
FALL

IT'S THE PERFECT
TIME TO JUMP IN!

10:00am
new time

KICKOFF
KICKOFF
KICKOFF
KICKOFF
KICKOFF
KICKOFF
KICKOFF



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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WEBSITE: WWW.GREENVILLEPRES.ORG

LIVE THE

Story of Redemption

AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



COME



GROW



BECOME