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November
 2023

The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper will be celebrated Sunday, November 5.

All are welcome to the table.



Daylight Saving Time ENDS at 2:00am, Sunday, November 5. Many of our digital clocks automatically update, but our analog clocks do not. Remember to set your clocks back one hour before retiring Saturday evening, November 4.

A complete list of our veterans can be found on page 4.



See page 7 for details on how you can participate in this annual opportunity.

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From the Minister's Desk

Veterans Day is making its approach on the calendar. The occasion offers an opportunity to recognize those who have given of themselves in military service to the United States. While the sacrifices of service command profound regard and respect, one might wish that such sacrifice was not necessary.

The powers and principalities of this world seem lately to have forgotten the lessons of human history, and of the 20th Century's world wars, as regional conflicts and tensions on the borders of Europe, in the Middle East, and in the South China Sea suggest that local conflict could in short order become global rather than local. As the writer of Ecclesiastes opined, 'There is nothing new under the sun.'

I was introduced to the writer Frederick Buechner by way of his book, *The Hungering Dark*, long ago as a college freshman. In that text, Buechner reflects on the Christian faith. Some of his illustrations have stuck with me. Reflecting on the nature of sacrifice, Buechner draws on the sorts of self-sacrifice witnessed in war.

Buechner writes: "War is hell, but sometimes in the midst of that Hell men do things that Heaven itself must be proud of. A hand grenade is hurled into a

group of men. One of the men throws himself on top of it, making his body a living shield. In the burst of wild fire he dies, and the others live. Heroism is only a word, often a phony one. This is an action for which there is no good word because we can hardly even imagine it, let alone give it its proper name. Very literally, one man takes death into his bowels, takes fire into his own sweet flesh, so that the other men can take life, some of them men he hardly knows.

Who knows why a man does such a thing or what thoughts pass through his mind just before he does it. Maybe no thoughts at all. Maybe if he stopped to think, he would never do it. ...

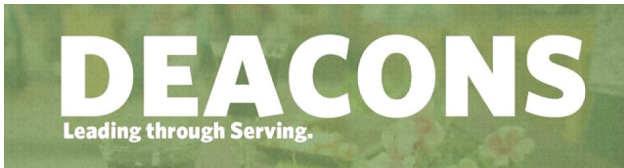
But I think that it is not so hard to imagine how the men whose lives are saved might react to the one who died to save them — not so hard, I suppose, for the obvious reason that most of us are more experienced at receiving sacrifices than at making them. ...

Because we have our pride, after all. We make our own way in the world, we fight our own battles, we are not looking for any handouts, we do not want something for nothing. It threatens our self-esteem, our self-reliance. And because to accept such a gift from another would be to bind us closer to him than we like to be bound to anybody. And maybe most of all because if another man dies so that I can live, it imposes a terrible burden on my life. From that point on, I cannot live any longer just for myself. I have got to live also somehow for him. ... My debt to him is so great that the only way I can approach paying it is by living a life as brave and beautiful as his death."

One who lives because another dies in his or her place knows what grace is; namely an unmerited, unearned gift. The gift calls for a response.

The New Testament explains in various ways that Jesus offered himself up for our sake, that he sacrificed his life so that we might have abundant life, a quality of life marked by joy, love, and peace that is so robust even death cannot bring it to an end. Rather that new life extends off into eternity.

(continued on page 5)



The Deacons offer prayer, companionship, rides, or meals, but don't always know where care is needed. If you know of a need (your own or another's), call the church office or any of our Deacons: Susan A, Marianna B, Jane J, and Susy S (moderator).



Mike B
William B
Levi C
Susan G
Gene M
Linda S
baby Michael
Brenda C
the people of Israel
the people of Palestine



... to the family of Donna L,
who died Friday, October 20, 2023.
At this time there are no plans for a service.

Meet the Staff
the Rev. Jeffrey Lang

Amy
Director of Music and Organist
Kate
Choir Director and Vocalist
Clara
Vocalist
Logan
Vocalist

Paisley
Videographer
Deborah
Administrative Assistant
the Rev. Dr. Dawn
Parish Associate

Items for the combined **December/January** edition of this newsletter are accepted in the church office through **9:00AM, Monday, November 13.**



Early submissions are joyfully accepted!
Submitted information will be edited for clarity, accuracy, and length.

A Veterans Day prayer

God of all nations, you are our Strength and Shield. We give you thanks for the devotion and courage of all those who have offered military service for this country ...

We ask that you would lift up by your Spirit those who are now at war; encourage and heal those in hospitals or mending their wounds at home; guard those in any need or trouble; hold safely in your hands all military families and bring the returning troops to joyful reunion and tranquil life at home. Give to us, your people, grateful hearts and a united will to honor these men and women and hold them always in our love and our prayers until your world is perfected in peace and all wars cease. Through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

—Rev. Dr. Jennifer Phillips



Mark B, United States Army Band,
Fort Knox and Germany; 1970-1973

Ken C, United States Navy,
active duty and reserves; 1964-1968

Addison C, United States Army,
Counter Intelligence Corp; 1953-1961

Stu C, United States Air Force

Dave C, United States Marine Corps,
Korean Conflict; 1951-1953

Mike F, United States Navy,
Cuban Missile Crisis; 1960-1962

Charlotte K United States Army Military Police
Germany; 1983-1987

James K, United States Army
1983-1995

Gene M, United States Navy Hospital Corps,
WW II; 1944-1946

Dick O, United States Air Force,
Korean Conflict; 1951-1955

Tom S, United States Navy
1966-1973

Rich S, United States Army,
Ryukyu Islands; 1969-1971

Craig W, United States Navy,
Vietnam

Please contact the church office if you wish to be included on this list.

*To the veteran who asked that
their name to be removed
from this list ...*



*You know you are a
hero in my eyes.*

*Thank you, and
welcome home soldier!*

~~d

From the Minister's Desk

continued

We respond to the sacrifices made by those who have served the country by living up to the highest ideals of America.

I can only imagine how someone whose life has been saved in combat by the sacrifice of another might respond to that heroic gift. The sacrifices human beings can make, one for another, help us to understand who Jesus is and what he did for us. The sacrifice of Jesus, the grace that comes to us by his self-giving on the cross, calls us to a life of gratitude by living up to his example.



There are numerous special services and events to look forward to in November and December. First on the list is an observance of All Saints Sunday to be held in the Church House on November 5. There is folk-inspired music service planned, with a soloist presentation and guitar accompaniment. This also happens to be the first day of Daylight Saving Time, as it is the first Sunday in November. Reset your clocks so that you don't miss out on all this fun!

Sunday, November 26, occurs on the last Sunday of the liturgical year. Once again, we will gather in the Church House for a worship service which will culminate in the singing of some of our favorite Christmas Carols. This has proven to be a favorite with the congregation in recent years, and we are ready to repeat that success.

On Saturday, December 9, First Presbyterian Church of Glendale will be hosting a Gingerbread House Contest which

"Not what we say about our blessings, but how we use them, is the true measure of our thanksgiving".

—W. T. Purkiser

"Those who are not grateful soon begin to complain of everything."

—Thomas Merton

"Life is a celebration. Consider everything that makes you happy as a gift from God and say,

"Thank you".

—Francis Lucille

"One moment of prayer, of weak worship, confused contrition, tepid thanksgiving, or pitiful petition will bring us closer to God than all the books of theology in the world".

—Peter Kreeft

is open to the public. Entries will be judged according to age and levels of experience. Even if you are not a baker please stop by and admire the gingerbread artistry on display in the Church House between 11:00AM and 3:30PM.

Mark December 10 on your calendars early, so that you won't miss our annual Lessons and Carols Service. Our sanctuary will be adorned with lovely seasonal accents. As is our tradition this service showcases special Christmas music presented by our choir, and further enhanced with instrumental music. Please plan to join us and invite a neighbor or a friend to enjoy the music and the readings of sacred Biblical passages that are synonymous with the Advent season.

Mission in Motion...



The Mission committee recently provided support totaling \$400.00 to the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Fund for victims of hurricane Idalia.



Dave C delivered your September food offering of 66 pounds of goods to Valley Interfaith Community Resource Center (VICRC) in early-October. This brings your 2023 contributions to 1789 pounds. Keep up the good work! The \$11.00 band-a-buck cash will be used to purchase items for the October food offering table.



Remember ...

...the monthly food offerings are now accepted any day of the month, not just on the third Sunday.

Dave will delivery your generous donations to VICRC early in the next month, and then new items will appear in the basket in the Narthex and on the table in the Church House.

Every day is a day to 'reach out'. Thank you to everyone who continues to help our neighbors in need!



If you haven't already done so, please return your Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes to the Narthex no later than Sunday, November 12.

Mission in Motion...

It's time to fill Thanksgiving Boxes!

On Sunday, October 29, you are invited to pick up a box from the Narthex. You'll find boxes in the Church House on Sunday, November 5. Inside each box you will find a list of items in the quantity needed to provide a traditional Thanksgiving dinner for a family of 5. We respectfully request that you followed the list exactly as printed.

Your Mission committee will tuck a \$35.00 Kroger gift card and a holiday greeting into each box.

Filled boxes should be returned to the Narthex on or before Sunday, November 12.

Remember to find the number on the box you select and write your name beside the corresponding number on the paper on the table.



It's Grape Jelly Time!

We will provide 350, 18oz jars of grape jelly to VICRC for their Holiday Food Baskets. If you would like to contribute to the jelly purchase, you may make your check payable to First Presbyterian Church, with 'grape jelly' on the memo line.

*Donations will be accepted
through Sunday, November 19.*



Thank you for your generosity as we help our neighbors who need a helping hand.

Mission in Motion...



VICRC is asking for \$25.00 Target or Wal-Mart gift cards instead of gifts for the children they serve.

You will find a clearly marked basket to accept your donations in the Narthex November 19 and 26, and December 3.

If you would like the Mission committee to purchase a card for you, please drop cash or a clearly marked check in the offering basket any time before December 3.

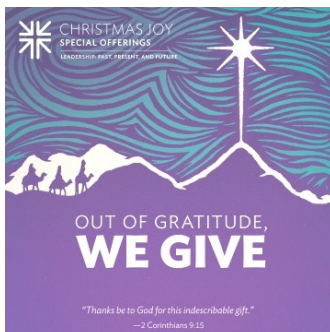


The Mitten Tree will be in the Narthex to collect hats, gloves, mittens, and scarves for the children served by GLAD House.

GLAD House is also accepting gift cards of any value from Target or Wal-Mart so the staff may purchase gifts for the children.

You will find a clearly marked basket to accept your donations in the Narthex November 26, and December 3 and 10.

If you would like the Mission committee to purchase a card for you, please drop cash or a clearly marked check in the offering basket any time before December 10.



You will have an opportunity to contribute to the *Christmas Joy Offering*, a church-wide Special Offering of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Special offering envelopes will be available in the Narthex to accept your offering on December 17 and 24.

50% of your gifts make it possible for students to learn and grow in faith at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.

50% of your gifts assist current and retired church workers and their families with critical financial needs.

Women's Book Club

All women are invited to bring your favorite morning beverage and gather in the church library at 10:00AM each month.



Wednesday, November 15

The Giver of Stars, by Jojo Moyes

Based on a true story, this is a breathtaking story of five extraordinary women and their remarkable journey through the mountains of Kentucky and beyond in Depression-era America. These heroic women refused to be cowed by men or by convention and became known as the Packhorse Librarians of Kentucky. They are committed to their job of bringing books to people who have never had any, arming them with facts that will change their lives.



Wednesday, December 13

Organizational meeting to choose books beginning with March 2024.



Wednesday, January 10, 2024

The Lost Apothecary, by Sarah Penner

Women across 18th Century London whisper of a mysterious figure named Nella who sells well-disguised poisons from a secret apothecary shop to use against the oppressive men in their lives. But the apothecary's fate is jeopardized when her newest patron, a precious 12-year-old, makes a fatal mistake which sparks a string of consequences that echo through the centuries. Meanwhile, in present-day London, an aspiring historian stumbles upon a clue to the unsolved apothecary murders that haunted London 200 years ago. *The Lost Apothecary* is a debut novel of secrets, vengeance, and the remarkable ways women can save each other despite the barrier of time.

Wednesday, February 14, 2024

A Gentleman in Moscow,
by Amor Rowles



This often humorous fictional book has an interesting cast of characters. A

Russian aristocrat, Count Alexander Rostov, is sentenced in 1922 after the Russian Revolution to spend the rest of his life inside Moscow's grand Metropol Hotel, across from the Kremlin. Rostov, an indomitable man of erudition and wit, has never worked a day in his life and must now live in an attic room while some of the most tumultuous decades in Russian history are unfolding outside the hotel's doors. Even though his personal interactions are limited to employees and guests of the hotel, unexpectedly, his reduced circumstances provide him entry into a larger world of emotional discovery as the Count endeavors to gain a deeper understanding of what it means to be a man of purpose.



September 2023

	<i>Month ending</i>	<i>Year to Date</i>	<i>Budget Year To Date</i>
Income	\$4,763.00	\$27,090.00	\$18,451.44
Expense	\$17,042.39	\$42,033.96	\$48,536.29
Net Income	-\$12,279.39	-\$14,943.96	-\$30,086.85



Men's Lunch



All men are invited to gather for lunch at Gold Star on Springfield Pike in Springdale, Wednesday, November 8.

Fellowship begins when you arrive; lunch begins at 12:30PM.



Birthdays and Anniversaries

Mallory C.....2
 Jane J.....4
Jane and Bob S.....4
Diane and Frank L.....8
 Amy D13
Donna and Dave C.....17
 Maya O18
 Susan A.....19
 Alison C.....22
 Susan G23
 Jean C24
 Donna C26

Fellowship Dinner

Tuesday, November 14; 6:00PM-8:00PM



Everyone is invited to Montgomery Inn!

We will gather in a private room, order from a special menu, and have individual checks.

We want to be sure there is a place at the table for *you*, so please make a reservation by entering this link into your browser

<https://fpcglendale.breezechms.com/form/432457> or by using the link you received in Thursday's e-blast.



Women's Book Club
Wednesday, November 15

The Giver of Stars, by Jojo Moyes.
 See page 9 for details.



NOVEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>This calendar is a living document subject to frequent changes.</p> <p>Check the website (firstpresbyterianglendale.org) for the most accurate calendar.</p> <p>Please contact the church office with calendar updates.</p>			<p>1</p>  <p>All Saints' Day</p>	<p>2</p> <p>6:30PM - Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>5</p>  <p>The Lord's Supper</p> <p>10:30AM - Worship (Church House)</p> <p>Thanksgiving Boxes <i>Available</i></p>	<p>6</p> <p>2:00PM- Squirrely Stitchers</p> <p>3:00PM- Mission committee meeting</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p>12:30PM- Men's Lunch (Gold Star)</p>	<p>9</p> <p>6:30PM - Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>  <p>IN HONOR OF OUR VETERANS</p>
<p>12</p> <p>10:30AM - Worship</p> <p><i>return</i> Thanksgiving Boxes and Christmas Shoeboxes</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9:00AM- Newsletter items <i>and</i> Session reports due</p> <p>10:30AM- Deacons meeting</p>	<p>14</p> <p>6:00PM - Presbytery Gathering</p> <p>6:00PM - Fellowship Dinner</p>	<p>15</p> <p>10:00AM- Women's Book Club</p> <p>6:00PM- Session meeting</p>	<p>16</p> <p>6:30PM - Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19</p> <p>10:30AM - Worship</p> <p><i>Sharing Tree</i></p>	<p>20</p> <p>2:00PM- Squirrely Stitchers</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Office CLOSED</p>  <p>HAPPY Thanksgiving</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26</p>  <p>Christ the King SUNDAY</p> <p>10:30AM - Worship (Church House)</p> <p><i>Sharing Tree</i> <i>Mitten Tree</i></p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>6:30PM - Choir Rehearsal</p>		



**First Presbyterian Church
of Glendale**

155 East Fountain Avenue
Glendale, OH 45246

513-771-6195
glenpres@fuse.net
firstpresbyterianglendale.org

the Reverend Jeffrey Lang

Worship begins at 10:30AM
Sunday, September 10, 2023 through
Sunday, June 2, 2024.

Worship begins at 10:00AM
Sunday, June 9, 2024 through
Sunday, September 8, 2024.

Church Office Hours

Monday, 9AM-3PM, Tuesday, 9AM-1PM
Wednesday, 9AM-1PM, Thursday, 9AM-3PM
The office is *closed* every Friday.

Shared with you in Christian love



When Giving Thanks Comes Hard

When giving thanks comes hard for you,
And things are grim,
And hope runs thin,
Recall:
Despair's a door to pass on through,
And not a home for living in.
When thanksgiving fills your cup,
And those you love are all about,
Look at your blessings, count them up,
and give back something to the world
without.

Go in peace.
Go in peace.
For all who see God,
May God go with you.
For all who embrace life,
May life return your affection.
For all who seek a right path,
May a way be found . . .

And the courage to take it
Step by step.
Amen.

A thanksgiving blessing by Robert Mabry Doss, Exaltation, 1987