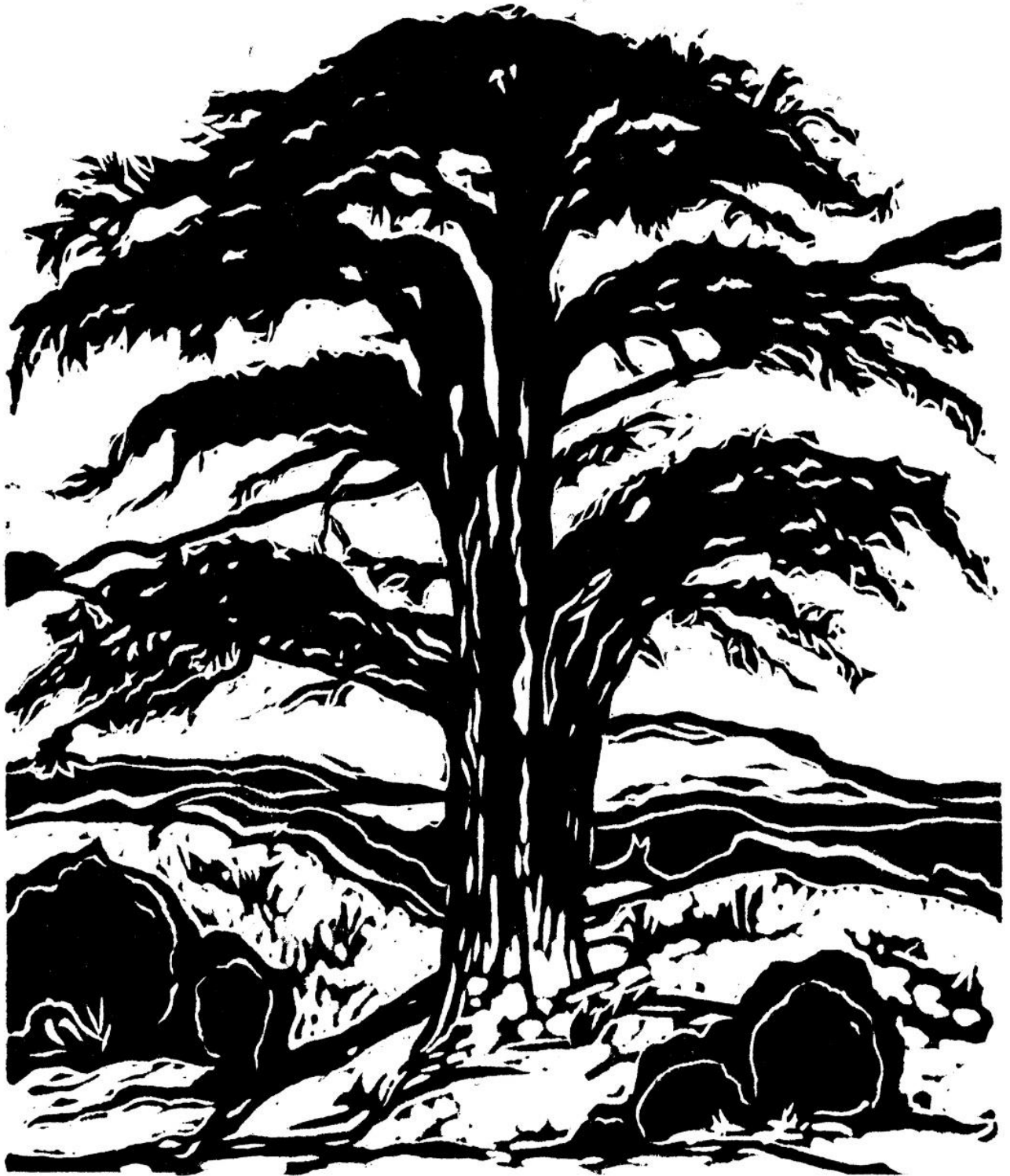


Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

October 13, 2024



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
2330 SOUTH MAIN STREET FINDLAY, OH 45840 FINDLAYFPC.ORG

Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

October 13, 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. We are currently in the season of Pentecost or Ordinary Time, which lasts from Trinity Sunday to the First Sunday of Advent. The color GREEN symbolizes the renewal of living things and the promise of new life and growth for the Church. The DOSSAL CURTAIN, behind the Cross, and the paraments on the pulpit and lectern visually depict a saying of Jesus: *"Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living waters"* -John 7:30. It also reminds us of the words *"Let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream"* -Amos 5:24. The TREE OF LIFE, on either side of the Chancel depicts Revelation 22:2 *"On either side of the river was the tree of life, and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations."* The vision of artist Don Beck remains a formative influence on the worship life of First Presbyterian Church.

***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.*

GATHERING

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

*At the sound of
the bells, please
prepare your
hearts and
minds for
worship.*

Tolling of the Bells

Prelude

Turkey Creek

Carol D. Critelli

Choral Introit

Cantate Domino

James Chepponis

Sing to the Lord a new song.

*Call to Worship

God's way is not always easy to see,
**so today we come, from many places, to expand our perspective
and broaden our hope.**

God's guidance is not always easy to trust,
so today we join our different journeys together to see the bigger picture.

God's call is not always easy to hear,
**so today we come to listen again, seeking in worship to discover
faithful life.**

Let us worship God.

*Opening Hymn #307

God of Grace and God of Glory

CWM RHONDDA

See page 9

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

**Compassionate God, you know that anxiety is our weakness.
In our worry, we become rigid, believing there is only one possible
way forward.**

**In our fear, we'll do anything to keep the peace, protect ourselves,
solve the problem.**

**In our nervousness, we replace you with something easier to focus on,
easier to control.**

**In our stress, we forget the wonders we have seen
and the gifts you have given.**

**Gracious God, forgive us our short memories and help us to trust
your goodness.**

Forgive us our controlling ways and help us trust your providing.

**Forgive us our narrow vision and help us trust you are at work
even when we can't see what you are up to.**

(Silent Confession)

We pray this all in the name of Christ. **Amen.**

*Assurance of Pardon

Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel.
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

*Passing of the Peace

Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

*Grateful Response

GLORY TO GOD

Glory to God Whose Goodness Shines on Me

Glo - ry to God, _____ whose good - ness shines on me,
World with - out end, _____ with - out end. A - men.

and to the Son, _____ whose grace has par - doned me,
World with - out end, _____ with - out end. A - men.

and to the Spir - it, _____ whose love has set me free,
World with - out end, _____ with - out end. A - men.

As it was in the be - gin - ing, is now and ev - er shall be. A - men.

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.

Blessing of the Children

Go now in peace, go now in peace, may the love of God sur - round you

ev - ery - where, ev - ery - where you may go.

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
²He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;
³he restores my soul.
He leads me in right paths
for his name's sake.
⁴Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil,
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.
⁵You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
my whole life long.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Scripture Anthem

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

Calvin Hampton

There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea. There's a kindness in God's justice, which is more than liberty. There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in heaven. There is no place where earth's failings have such kindly judgment given. For the love of God is broader than the measures of the mind. And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind. If our love were but more faithful, we would gladly trust God's Word, and our lives reflect thanksgiving for the goodness of our Lord.

Second Lesson

Exodus 32:1-14

¹When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered around Aaron and said to him, "Come, make gods for us, who shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him." ²Aaron said to them, "Take off the gold rings that are on the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters and bring them to me." ³So all the people took off the gold rings from their ears and brought them to Aaron. ⁴He took these from them, formed them in a mold, and cast an image of a calf, and they said, "These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!" ⁵When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it, and Aaron made a proclamation and said, "Tomorrow shall be a

festival to the Lord.”⁶ They rose early the next day and offered burnt offerings and brought sacrifices of well-being, and the people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to revel.

⁷The Lord said to Moses, “Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; ⁸ they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it and said, ‘These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!’ ” ⁹The Lord said to Moses, “I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. ¹⁰ Now let me alone so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them, and of you I will make a great nation.”

¹¹ But Moses implored the Lord his God and said, “O Lord, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? ¹² Why should the Egyptians say, ‘It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains and to consume them from the face of the earth?’ Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. ¹³ Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, ‘I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.’ ” ¹⁴ And the Lord changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Navigating the Wishy Washy

Rev. Jessica Commeret

RESPONSE TO GOD’S WORD

*Hymn #434

Restore in Us, O God

BAYLOR

See page 10

Call for Offering

Offertory Anthem


Adagio e piano, from Trio Sonata in G
Trio Voce

J.S. Bach

*Doxology

Praise to God the Father

DA N'ASE



Praise to God the Fa - ther; praise to God the Son;
praise to God the Spir - it; praise to the Three - in - one. Sing
praise, sing praise to the Lord on high.
Praise to God Al - might - y; praise to the Ho - ly One.

*Prayer of Dedication

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.**

Prayer Response #600

Amen

African-American



A - men, a - men.
A - men, a - men, a - men.

SENDING FORTH IN MISSION

*Closing Hymn #436

O QUANTA QUALIA

God of Compassion, in Mercy Befriend Us

See page 11

*Benediction

Postlude

A Mighty Fortress

Johann Gottfried Walther

Meeting of the Corporation for the Election of Trustees

The flowers for worship are given by Marilyn Meyers in memory of Norman Meyers.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor: Rev. Jessica Commeret
Director of Music: Clinton Miller
Lay Reader: Debbie Crow
**Director of
Connectional Ministry:** Leslee Kirkconnell
Musicians: Chancel Choir; GatherRing Handbell Choir;
Desra Dabney, flute; Marsha Pendley, cello
FPC Choral Scholars: Joicy Carvalho, BK Riha,
Zach Sanford, Cassie Wilson
A/V Technician: Robbie Riffle

HYMNS FOR WORSHIP

Opening Hymn #307

God of Grace and God of Glory

CWM RHONDDA

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on thy peo - ple
 2 Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us scorn thy Christ, as -
 3 Cure thy chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour thy power; crown thine an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry; bring its
 sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us free our
 thy con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness, rich in
 we de - plore. Let the gift of thy sal - va - tion be our

bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,


for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
 for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
 lest we miss thy king - dom's goal, lest we miss thy king - dom's goal.
 serv - ing thee whom we a - dore, serv - ing thee whom we a - dore.

This stirring hymn used at the opening of Riverside Church in New York in 1930 was penned by its widely-known and influential pastor, and it has gained a firm place in English-language hymnals around the world. The Welsh tune name honors the Rhondda Valley in Glamorganshire.

TEXT: Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1930, alt.
 MUSIC: John Hughes, 1907


CWM RHONDDA
 8.7.8.7.8.7.8

Capo 1: (Em) (Bm7) (Em)(Bm7) (Em) (C) (Bm)
 Fm Cm7 Fm Cm7 Fm D^b Cm



1 Re - store in us, O God, the splen-dor of your love;
 2 O Spir - it, wake in us the won - der of your power;
 3 Bring us, O Christ, to share the full - ness of your joy;
 4 Three - per - soned God, ful - fill the prom - ise of your grace,

(Am7) (Em) (Am) (Bm) (Em) (Bm7) (Em)
 B^bm7 Fm B^bm Cm Fm Cm7 Fm



re - new your im - age in our hearts, and all our sins re - move.
 from fruit - less fear un - furl our lives like spring - time bud and flower.
 bap - tize us in the ris - en life that death can - not de - stroy.
 that we, when all our search - ing ends, may see you face to face.

This text reflects the historic understanding of Lent as a time to prepare catechumens for Baptism and penitents for reconciliation at the Easter Vigil. The first three stanzas address one of the three divine Persons, while the fourth stanza implores the help of the full Trinity.

TEXT: Carl P. Daw Jr., 1987
 MUSIC: Hal H. Hopson, 1985
 Text © 1989 Hope Publishing Company
 Music © 1985 Hope Publishing Company

BAYLOR
 SM

1 God of com - pas - sion, in mer - cy be - friend us,
2 Though we are lost, you have sought us and found us,
3 How shall we stray, with your hand to di - rect us,

giv - er of grace for our needs all - a - vail - ing.
stilled our rude hearts with your word of con - sol - ing.
you who the stars in their cours - es are guid - ing?

Wis - dom and strength for each day ev - er send us,
Wrap now your peace, like a man - tle, a - round us,
What shall we fear, with your power to pro - tect us,

pa - tience un - tir - ing and cour - age un - fail - ing.
guard - ing our thoughts and our pas - sions con - trol - ling.
we who walk forth in your great - ness con - fid - ing?

By ending with questions rather than simple affirmations, this text conveys a strong sense of faith in God's presence and guidance without ignoring how much of the future remains unknown. The confidence of the text is well matched by its sturdy 17th-century French tune.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

October 13, 2024

TODAY

Fellowship

We have coffee, snacks, and conversations starting at 9:30 a.m. and again following worship every Sunday under the portico (weather permitting) or in the Parlor.

Godly Play

Today's Bible story: The Ten Best Ways (The Ten Commandments, Exodus 20:1-17)

Welcome Today

We welcome youth from three of our churches in the presbytery. We had a lock in with around 20 youth and adults from FPC, Christ Church, Toledo, Ottawa and Defiance FPC. Games, food, laughter, fellowship and worship were enjoyed (and even a little sleep). These youth will be helping serve the Community Dinner today!

Following Worship

Meeting of the Corporation

Today, following worship, Sanctuary

There will be a brief meeting of the FPC Corporation to elect three Trustees nominated by the congregational nominating committee to fill unexpired terms: Jeff Bury, Matt Croy and Nancy Wilczynski.

Community Dinner

Today, 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Great Room

All are welcome to gather at the table following worship in the Great Room until 12:30 p.m. Today's Lunch Menu: beef chili, chicken chili, relish platter, applesauce, cornbread, and cookies.

A Future with Hope

Stewardship Campaign

Commitment Sunday, October 27

We will dedicate our commitments to God and each other October 27 during worship. A letter, budget summary, pledge card, and prayer have been mailed and emailed. Your Stewardship and Finance Committee asks each of us to prayerfully consider our commitment. You can also fill out your pledge on-line at findlayfpc.org.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Fall Bible Study

Disciple: Remember Who You Are

Tuesdays, 7:00-8:30 p.m., Room 209

Facilitator: Pastor Jessie

Sermon on the Mount: a book by scholar Amy-Jill Levine

Tuesdays, 10:00-11:30 a.m., Room 209

Facilitators: Leslee Kirkconnell and Elizabeth Wright

It's not too late to join. Contact Leslee Kirkconnell.

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.

Women of Faith will join the Sermon on the Mount book study on Tuesdays beginning October 1.

FPC Men's Group to Start

Sunday, October 20, 11:15 a.m., Room 214

There's been interest in having a men's group at FPC, so we're having an initial meeting to determine a time to gather, as well as activities and/or study all men would like to see. The group is open to all men of any age. We will meet in Room 214. If you cannot come to the meeting but are interested, please contact Curt Hugunin.

MISSION

Mission Trip 2025 Informational Meeting

Sunday, October 20, 11:15-11:45 a.m., Room 211

Come and learn more about our intergenerational mission trip to Appalachia June 8-14, 2025. Handouts available if you can't stay!

Contact: Pastor Jessie

Darrel the Barrel

This month: Cream Soups: Mushroom, Chicken, Celery

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.

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.

NEWS & VIEWS

FPC Newsletter

Deadline for Information: Thursday, October 17

Our fall updates with important information ahead of Advent will be mailed Friday, October 25 (as well as available online). Deadline for items to be included is this coming Thursday, October 17! Please email Leslee Kirkconnell what is to be included as soon as possible.

OLDER ADULTS

Onward and Upward: *Special Edition*

Thursday, October 24, 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall.

Join us for a special edition brought to us by Findlay City Schools Superintendent Dr. Andy Hatton and Pam Harrington, treasurer, as they share facts around the financial health of the school district. Invite friends, come and learn, and of course, enjoy lunch!

Contact: Pastor Jessie

FELLOWSHIP

Fellowship “Hour”

Sundays, 9:30 a.m. and following worship. Under the portico (weather permitting) or in the Parlor.

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

Contact: Suzi Healy

Sarah Circle

Friday, October 18, 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., Room 112-113

A “circle” is a women’s group that meets for prayer, study, community building, giving and fellowship. Special projects raise funds for our church and mission work. First Presbyterian Church of Findlay has two circles that meet from September through May for fellowship and Bible study. Both support local charities and mission and welcome new members.

Contact: Peggy Lobb

Lunch Bunch

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

Bring your sack lunch and join the fellowship with one another for a causal 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

MUSIC MINISTRY

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.

Contact: Clint Miller

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!

GET CONNECTED

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

You can also read in your email.



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!



CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES

Halloween Spooktacular Family Concert

Saturday, October 26, 5:00 p.m., Sanctuary

Get into the Halloween holiday spirit prior to Findlay's Trick-or-treating with the sounds of the season. We will be joined by some spooky characters and fun music to get us in the holiday mood. You can help us spread the word by posting a flyer (or two!), sharing the Facebook Event to your Facebook feed, and doing good old-fashioned word-of-mouth advertising!

Contact: Clint Miller

Chili Cook Off Mission Trip Fundraiser

Sunday, November 3, 12:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall

Do you think you have a winning recipe?

Let's find out! Our Mission Team for next summer's trip is hosting a fundraiser. We need your best chili recipe, and we will award our first Chili Chef Champion! You can sign up on the board outside the office, go to PerfectPotluck.com and enter code 1311 to sign up, or use the QR code here. We'll gather and have a chance to try the different chili entries and then you will 'vote' for our champion with your dollars. All funds go to help offset the cost of the trip next summer and you get a delicious meal! Contact: Leslee Kirkconnell or Jessie Commeret



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.

CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES

(continued)

ReKindle Youth Retreat

Friday, November 8-Sunday November 10, Kirkmont Center

Registration for the annual Presbytery-wide youth retreat (6th-12th grade) is open! *The Language of Love* is our theme, and youth will enjoy fun, faith, and fellowship. Visit <https://maumeevp.org/rekindle-2024-youth-retreat/> to register. We will be going as a group this year.

Contact: Leslee Kirkconnell.

MomCo Meet Up Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, October 16, 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 with RSVP by Monday, October 14. Refreshments, fellowship, and community. Join us!

Contact: Leslee Kirkconnell

MomCo Needs Loving Arms

Wednesday, October 16

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

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

Third Sunday Evening Gatherings

Sunday, October 20, 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

First Presbyterian Church Staff

Jessica Commeret, Pastor	jcommeret@findlayfpc.org
Clinton Miller, Director of Music	cmiller@findlayfpc.org
Leslee Kirkconnell, Director of Connectional Ministry	lkirkconnell@findlayfpc.org
Stephanie Bryan, Church/Financial Secretary	sbryan@findlayfpc.org
Kelly Sherrieb, Facility Manager	ksherrieb@findlayfpc.org
Carol Smith, Nursery School Director	csmith@findlayfpc.org
Casey Risner, Head Custodian	crisner@findlayfpc.org
Curt Hugunin, Evening Custodian	
Jimmy Wilson, Sunday Morning Custodian	
Marna Weaver, Church Accountant	

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God Now in Peace Text: Natalie Sleeth, 1976 (Lk. 2:29). Music: Natalie Sleeth, 1976. Copyright © 1976 Hinshaw Music, Inc.

Praise to God the Father. Text: Anon. Music: Ghanaian melody; arr. Alfred V. Fedak, 2011. Music Arr. © 2011 Alfred V. Fedak.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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